

NEW FRONTIERS

May 2005

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER
We request that this newsletter be kept within the Fellowship to insure anonymity.

THE HISTORY OF A.A. IN BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Parts of this history were taken from a tape recording by Vince M. on Father's Day June, 29th 1971, and later transcribed to paper by an unknown source. This article was edited for content and clarity by the Archives of WNY. The original Vince M. document remains untouched in the WNY Archives.

My name is Vince M. and I am an Alcoholic I thought it only proper to record on tape, the history of A.A. in the city of Buffalo, N.Y. In the early part of 1941, an article appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post* written by Jack Alexander and was entitled "The Freed Slaves of Drink - Now They Free Others." The story told about a group of men meeting in a hospital room in Philadelphia. Three men sitting around the hospital bed of a sick, deep-fogged alcoholic. Anyone in A.A. can read it, for it is today the oldest pamphlet published by A.A. World Services.

In response to that article, four people in the city of Buffalo wrote letters to the New York Office inquiring about Alcoholics Anonymous. Helen Hock, the then secretary of A.A. in New York, responded by sending hand written letters to the four. In her letters she referred them to a doctor's office or the Family Services Society located on Elmwood and Bidwell Parkway in Buffalo.

The New York Office, at that time was contacting other cities around the country, sending letters to Family Services Societies advising them to use their "good offices" and their knowledge and experience for anyone who wished any information about Alcoholics Anonymous.

A "Big Book" was mailed to the Family Services Society in Buffalo. The Society then contracted with a psychiatrist in Buffalo, Dr. Sam Y., who was also given a copy of the "Big Book." The Doctor scheduled his AA "therapy classes" to be held in his home and some in his office at a cost of from five to ten dollars per visit.

The wife of Bob C., one of the four people who wrote New York, when informed of the charge per visit, sent a complaining letter to New York stating that A.A. was a fraud. She reminded New York that as was stated in the *Saturday Evening Post* article there were to be dues or fees for AA membership. A copy of that letter was immediately sent to Dr. Bob, the co-founder of AA in Akron, Ohio. Dr. Bob contacted Ernie C. in Cleveland, who had six months sober, and was soon to be transferred to Buffalo by his company. He was told of the four people attending these "therapy classes" and was asked to investigate. Ernie moved to his new Buffalo address, 358 Davidson St, and one Thursday night set out to visit the doctors' office with his copy of the "Big Book."

He was met by a nurse who recorded his personal information and asked who referred him and was charged five dollars. There were eight people at this meeting, six men and two women and Bob C. was among them. Ernie C. recognized him from Dr. Bob's description. During the "therapy session" the doctor spoke of "Chapter Five". No "Big Book" was seen;

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from front page)

he evidently memorized the passage. After the session was over, Ernie met with the others outside the building and discussed what had taken place at the meeting. Ernie mentioned the letter Bob's wife had written to New York about the fees collected by the doctor. Later that night the men decided to have a meeting at Arnie's home. They learned that the New York Office had contacted the Family Service Society of Buffalo, and asked them to help provide services to anyone seeking help from Alcoholics Anonymous. It was also stated that, under no circumstances would these professionals charge any fees to alcoholics who sought help. The "therapy sessions" at the doctor's office were discontinued. The date was April 8, 1941, the first meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous in Buffalo, N.Y.

The group met at Arnie's home until they outgrew the small room and then moved to a church on West Ferry Street in Buffalo. In the summer of 1942, a member of AA suggested the group move into his funeral home for meetings at 299 Highland Avenue.

On November 15, 1944, the *Buffalo Evening News* wrote the first article about Alcoholics Anonymous. It stated...."

140 Alcoholics Join Group in Four Years

"In less than four years Alcoholics Anonymous has obtained the membership of 140 in the Buffalo Area. The three AA Groups announced today in a statement commemorating the tenth Anniversary of the founding of the movement to restore Alcoholics to a happy and normal life. Three meetings are held twice a week at 95 Johnson Park, 2387 Fillmore Avenue, and and 116 Tremont Street in North Tonawanda. Of the 140 members, 67 have been successful in leading a life of sobriety for over 6 months, 28 of the 67 for over 1 year and 13 well over two years, the joint statement declared. The remaining members are on their way to a happy and successful life."

A Toronto man named Doug W., after attending meetings in Buffalo, started the first meeting in Toronto. A man by the name of Mike P., while on a terrible drunk somewhere in New Germany, as it was called, stopped in a "speak easy" and found a recent copy of the *Buffalo Evening News* classified section and cut out an article from the personal column that stated anyone having a drinking problem should contact a certain telephone number. Weeks later Mike found the article and made the call. He came to Buffalo with his wife and met with Tom McG. at the Ellicott Square Building. After several meetings with Tom McG., Mike arranged with the owners of the I.O.B.E. Hall in Port Colburn, Ontario to have AA meetings there. This was the very first Canadian meeting in our Niagara-Frontier Area.

Well friends, today is Sunday, Fathers Day June 29th, 1971. The City Court Group, which is my home group, is holding its 17th Annual Breakfast meeting. I am coming to the end of this tape and it is my wish to all who listen to it, that you remember as long as alcohol is made there are people who drink it and there will be problems with the alcoholic.

Today, we as AA members, have a responsibility to those who still suffer. We need to remember "what we were like, what happened, and what we are like now". One Day At A Time.

Footnote

Today AA in Buffalo and Western New York has over 300 meetings to help the still sick and suffering alcoholic. We continue to grow and to serve the alcoholic. One Day At A Time.

WNY Archives 2005

Step Five ~ Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

When I was finally done with my 4th step inventory I re-read what I had written and wondered if I could go through with the next step – could I tell ANYONE my faults and all the horrific things I had done to my family, employers and those that loved me.

I was determined to do what I was told in the rooms and I was confident I had picked a sponsor who would not blab to the world my secrets. So one evening I took the plunge and 'admitted to my sponsor the exact nature of my wrongs.'

Through my tears and after a slow beginning I blurted it all out. My loving sponsor listened without interruption and then asked me what I had done right. Hey I thought this was about my faults not my non-existent assets! But my sponsor pointed out some things that could qualify as assets. She also reminded me that we are sick people trying to get better, NOT bad people trying to get good.

So if you are stalled on finishing your 4th ask God for help, find someone you trust and get it over with. I found that a great weight was lifted and God's grace and peace entered my life. And I never have to revisit those wrongs (except to make amends), but can focus on being the best person I can be TODAY – One Day At A Time.

dc in S Buffalo

Tradition Five ~ Each group has but one primary purpose. . .to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

OUR broad, wide-open requirement for membership brings us many with just an honest desire to stop drinking, and some who even delete "honest."

There are those who after severe birth pains come up with "I am an alcoholic," but some are in danger of breaking their arm patting themselves on the back for their accomplishments. Others latch on to only part of Step Twelve and join the eager beavers. So we have all kinds of members to make up AA groups. . .good, bad or indifferent.

Forty per cent of AA groups do not contribute to our General Service Headquarters. Only twenty-five per cent of the groups contributed to the Third General Service Conference last April.

I like the old story. A minister visiting a poor country church to conduct service one Sunday noticed on entering the church a small box with the card: "Give what you can." He put in a half-dollar. After services he was informed that there was no money to pay any part of his expenses but he could take the contents of the little box. He found it to be a half-dollar. On the way out his son said, "See Daddy, if you'd put in more you'd taken out more."

Bill ~ Jensen Beach, Florida *Grapevine* Volume 11 Issue 5 November 1953

My Moment of Truth

I am an alcoholic. Thanks be to the grace of God and Alcoholics Anonymous, over 32 years of continuous sobriety has been mine to enjoy.

When I was first drying out, I found myself at AA for the second time around, following my brief visit about a year prior. I could not and would not admit or accept the reality that I am an alcoholic. Regular and frequent attendance at meetings, both closed and open, and the loving patience of many people in our fellowship and the grace of God kept me dry for many weeks. There was an old-timer back then, Ralph T., well known in our fellowship at the time and generally well liked and loved. Following one of those early closed meetings, Ralph said to me; "Mel, when you admit that you are an alcoholic, I want to be there." I thought to myself, but did not say it; "Sure Ralph, in a pig's eye I'll ever say I am an alcoholic."

A few weeks after that brief interchange with Ralph T., I was attending a speaker meeting at the Serenity Group. Back in those days, we usually had 3 meetings – the meeting before the meeting, the meeting, and then the meeting after the meeting. Aggie K. was the speaker and there were about 40 people in attendance. During Aggie's lead, she shared how, for a long time, she could not admit and accept the fact that she was an alcoholic. Then, one day, the thought came to her, that God had forgiven her and, if she could not and would not forgive herself, was she not, then, putting herself before God? That, dear friends, was my moment of truth. I thought, my God, that is exactly what I was doing! For a few moments, it was as though there was no one else in the room but Aggie and myself, and, though it was Aggie's voice, it was not Aggie, but God Himself speaking to me – my moment of truth. After Aggie completed her lead, everyone left the room and went upstairs for coffee and the meeting after the meeting. I stayed there alone and cried my eyes out. At the time, I did not understand the flood of tears and emotion. Since then, I have come to understand that there was a lot going on with me at that instant. A goodly part of it was grief over the loss of what I thought was a dear friend, lover, mentor, higher power – booze. I was about to make a commitment, to myself, to God and to AA. I was about to verbalize to myself and others the fact that I am alcoholic – step 1, if you will. Following the flood of emotion, I regained my composure and went upstairs to join the group for coffee and the meeting after the meeting. I sought out Ralph T. and sat directly opposite him, face to face, eyeball to eyeball. Now Ralph had the well deserved reputation for handing out zingers to people from time to time. For the first time in my life, I said to Ralph, and the others around; "Ralph, I am an alcoholic." I fully expected and deserved one of Ralph's zingers – something like – "I've known that for a long time, what took you so long?" But he did not say that. Instead, he held out his hand and shook mine and said; "Welcome Mel, I am one too." Others around did the same thing. It was a few moments of great joy, almost like rejoicing. For a fleeting instant, I felt as though the hand of God had touched me and embraced me. That, my dear friends in our fellowship, was my experience with step 1 – "We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol – that our lives had become unmanageable."

As an addendum to the foregoing, please realize that my journey, over the years, has consisted of continuing practice of our twelve steps. In the beginning, it was absolutely essential, for my recovery, that these steps be taken in order, as they are written, without any modifications or adjustments. Prayer, the 'Big Book', the 12 and 12, counsel of sponsors and many meetings was, and still is, indispensable.

May God bless you and continue to be with you as you travel your journey.

Alienated By Alcohol

Alienated by Alcohol I could not face
myself in the mirror.

The face I saw, who was that?

Was it the Devil or me?

Possessed by evil spirits from a bottle,
who I called my only friend.

Alone we would talk about the future
never to be.

Alienated! No friend, family or lover –
for you were my only love.

The one who robbed me, hurt me, and
tried to kill me.

Now I alienate you!

Anonymous 3/30/05

I thought of the Drink

I thought of the drink

In a wink of an eye

I was no longer dry

Near death I could die

For myself I would cry

In the morning I would shake

When I was half awake

I thought what will it be today?

Maybe gin or some wine

On liquor I'd dine

It was all mine

Liquid divine

I thought of the drink

In the abyss I did sink

Knowing death was my only friend

Anonymous 3/30/05

Your Group Can Help Our Area Archives

Your area Archives is asking for your Home groups (the most important group in AA) help. What we want is someone to take a picture of your meeting place. We are not asking for a portfolio, just a few pictures of the entrance, your main meeting table, maybe even your coffee or literature table – just enough to identify the place that means so much to us and the new comer. Your Home group pictures will then have a permanent place in our areas AA history.

For those of you who don't already know we know have a repository at our new Central Office, and that is where you can send you pictures.

The Address is: Archivist
 C/O AA Central Office
 681 Seneca Street, Lower
 Buffalo, NY 14210

Yours in service Tom B. Archivist Area 50

Literature at Central Office

Why is it important to order literature from an AA Office?

Tradition 7 states "We are self supporting through our own contributions" it is important to make your purchase from an AA office because that office purchases literature from GSO in New York. Therefore, you are supporting Alcoholics Anonymous. If you wish to purchase literature, please call the office @ (716) 853-0388.

Do You Just Belong?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?
Do you attend meetings, and mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay away and criticize and knock?
Do you take an active part to help the work along,
Or are you just satisfied to be the kind that "just belong?"
Do you ever go to visit or call a member who is sick,
Or leave the work to just a few, and then call them "the Clique?"
There's quite a program scheduled, that we are sure you've heard about;
And we'll appreciate it if you too, will come and help us out.
Some come to meetings often and help with hand and heart -
Don't be just a member, take an active part.
Think this over with friends, you know right from wrong!

Anonymous member of AA Heart to Heart Regina, SK Canada

Heard at a meeting:

The quality of your recovery is proportional
to the quality of your surrender.
Untreated alcoholism without the steps on a
daily basis will make my past my future.
Uncover...Discover...Discard.
Acceptance is a blissful state from which all
things can change for the better.

Rule 62

MY REALITY CHECK JUST BOUNCED.
LIFE IS SHORT. . MAKE FUN OF IT.
EARTH IS THE INSANE ASYLUM OF THE
UNIVERSE.
MY MIND WORKS LIKE LIGHTNING. ONE
BRILLIANT FLASH AND IT'S GONE.

Submitted by Peter C

IN MEMORIAM

Things We Can Not Change

Larry T. ~ Matt Talbot Group ~ 31 years
Tim P. Courage & Sunday Morning Breakfast Groups ~ 1 year

Let's remember them and all the others who passed on in our prayers.

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope.

Please submit your articles by the 12th for next months issue.

Buffalo Central Office
681 SENECA STREET
BUILDING 1-H (LOWER)
Buffalo, New York 14210

or

E-Mail address: buffalooa@hotmail.com

New Frontiers committee meets the 3rd Thursday of every month - 7:00pm - St Michaels,
corner of Warsaw & Electric in Lackawanna.

The Central Office of Western New York publishes the *New Frontiers* monthly. We are supported by your subscriptions and Central Office donations. The *New Frontiers* presents the experience and opinions of members of Alcoholics Anonymous on the disease of Alcoholism. The staff reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and length. Articles will not be returned. Opinions expressed here are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply the endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: Quotations from ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS and other AA books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc. Articles reprinted with permission of AA Grapevine, Inc. Are subject to the GRAPEVINE copyright.)

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Alexander

Lee Ann B. 1Y

Courage Group

John W. 3m.

Arin McN. 1y

Kathy W. 2y

John C. 8y

Erika F. 18y

Amherst Snyder

Joey C. 2y

Laura G. 2y

Chris F. 3y

Joe S. 3y

Karen W. 5y

Mark C. 5y

Roger A. 6y

Michelle S. 6y

Rick S. 11y

Gretchen L. 14y

Eva H. 14y

Don B. 19y

Mary Elan M. 20y

Dick M. 22y

Betty C. 24y

Dick M. 26y

Virginia O. 51y

Cold Springs

Lemezo B. 8y

Eyeopener

Greg E. 6m

Mike L. 1y

Mark C. 2y

Robert G. 2y

Robert G. 2y

Linda K. 3y

Peter S. 3y

Joan K. 4y

Karen M. 4y

Frank C. 4y

Judee F. 5y

Carolyn W. 5y

Judee F. 6y

Jack M. 6y

Kathy K. 7y

Jim C. 7y

Debbie S. 8y

Joanne C. 8y

Barry R. 9y

Tom B. 10y

Cindy D. 10y

Sue S. 10y

Barb F. 11y

Mark H. 11y

Barbara W. 11y

Michelle S. 13y

Terrence L. 16y

Doug P. 16y

Ivan 20y

Bill K. 20y

Dennis L. 20y

Dianne C. 22y

Jim L. 23y

Fireside

Jill J. 8y

Mark P. 20y

Kathryn P. 21y

Fresh Start

Sandra B. 1y

Giving

George B. 6m

Jim M. 6m

Marty M. 6m

Mac M. 9m

Mike T. 9y

Holland

Joe G. 3m

Tom W. 3y

Don S. 15y

Gahada Gon

Jack M. 6y

Ironhorse

Ginny F. 6m

Cindy B. 1y

Bill R. 12y

Dave C. 13y

Helen B. 23y

Kensington

Ron W. 28y

Lakeshore

Gary P. 2y

Living Sober

Joe Z. 1y

Jim M. 1y

Laue K. 9y

Barbara C. 26y

LoveJoy

Jerry S. 2y

Mary H. 3y

Jim R. 15y

Main & High

Winston F. 13y

Rise & Shine

Ann Marie C. 3m

Diane C. 3m

Gayle C. 6m

Andre G. 6m

Catrina 9m

Carl F. 2y

Denise F. 3y

Ana M. 4y

Katherine G. 4y

Ron W. 5y

Jack M. 6y

Bill P. 7y

Faith T. 7y

Vicky W. 9y

Bob O. 10y

Willie D. 15y

Willie G. 16y

Remember When

Robert W. 1y

Edward W. 2y

John A. 2y

Toyolene M. 2y

Jose R. 2y

Robert A. 2y

Anthony M. 2y

Willie F. 2y

John L. 3y

Alicia W. 3y

Deborah F. 3y

Jeffery B. 3y

Bobby B. 4y

Dorothea A. 4y

Lawrence P. 5y

Renee R. 6y

Harold T. 6y

Deborah T. 7y

Sonia C. 8y

Linda O. 10y

Cassandra 10y

Michel C. 10y

Jerry C. 11y

Arthur E. 13y

Chris B. 15y

Throway

Mike B. 11y

Sue M. 14y

George L. 21y

MaryEllen S. 25y

Sobriety On

the Canal

Sandy Z. 1y

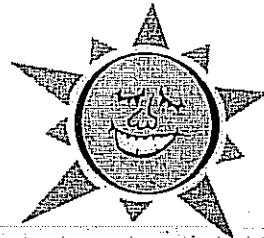
Gino N. 27y

Sun. Morning Br.

Alex S. 4y

Andrea B. 4y

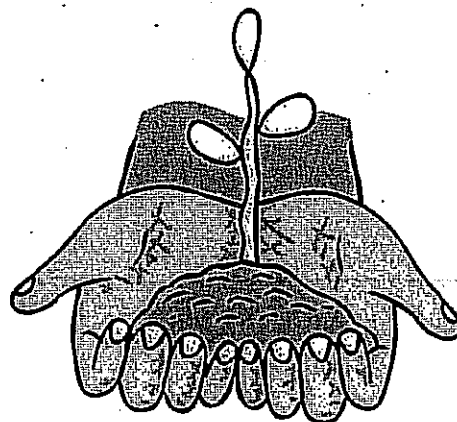
Don F. 6y

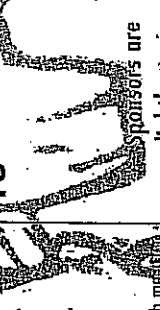




Group Anniversaries

- AFTER MIDNIGHT
- BOULEVARD HELPING HAND
- COMMON BOND
- FAITH
- FIRESIDE
- HIGH VIEW
- HOLIDAY VILLAGE
- JUST FOR TODAY
- LIBERTY WOMEN
- LIVING SOBER
- LOCKPORT #1 GROUP
- MORNING AFTER
- REMEMBER WHEN
- SEARCHING FOR SERENITY
- SOBRIETY MEN'S DISC.
- SOUTH BUFFALO
- SOUTHTOWN WOMEN'S
- SPRINGVILLE WED. NOON
- T.G.I.F.
- UNIVERSITY MEN'S DISC.
- WHY
- YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE

Please remember to
have the anniversaries
submitted by
the 12th
of the month
previous



<p>1</p> <p><u>Central Committee</u> ME, 7 pm, <u>Sections Committee</u> ME, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Office, 681 Seneca St. DAY</p> <p>First Wisconsin AA meeting is held in a Milwaukee</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1941: Jacksonville, FL, newspaper reports the start of a new AA group.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1943: <i>Democrat Chronicle</i> in Rochester, New York, reports first annual AA dinner at Seneca with 60 attending.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1946: Marty M. explained Alcoholics Anonymous and the Nat'l. Committee for Education on Alcoholism on the "We the People" radio show.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1946: Long Beach, California, AA group is published in <i>Star</i> for the first time. AA group in the national, "Way to Recovery" format.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1946: Long Beach, California, AA group is published in <i>Star</i> for the first time. AA group in the national, "Way to Recovery" format.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1956: The first English AA Convention is held in Cheltenham, England.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>SPONSORS DAY</p> <p>Akron, Ohio, AA group has anniversary with 500 it and sober.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>*May 1951: Al-Anon was founded by Lois W. and Anne B.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Give your phone number to a newcomer today!</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>1955: Frances Mayflower Hotel, Bill W. and Dr. Bob meet with the first Al-Anon group who introduces Bill to Dr. Bob.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>1955: Frances Mayflower Hotel, Bill W. and Dr. Bob meet with the first Al-Anon group who introduces Bill to Dr. Bob.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Sponsors are lighthouses, not foghorns.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>1948: Long Beach, California, Central Office is opened.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>General Service Committee, 1 PM., Hamburg Hall, 5999 South Park Hamburg.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Treatment Facilities Committee, 6 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1942: <i>The Journal-Herald</i> in Dayton, Ohio, runs a huge story on AA with photos of members in Halloween masks to protect their anonymity.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>*May 1938: Bill W. and other AA's started writing the Big Book.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>New Frontiers Committee, 7:00 PM. St. Michaels Parish Center, Electric Apd Warsaw, Lackawanna.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>May 1949: The AA Grapevine article "The man group" is published in "The Grapevine".</p>	<p>21</p> <p>ARMED FORCES DAY</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Atlantic City Group celebrates its second anniversary. Dr. C. Nelson Davis of St. Hospital from Philly, PA, then AA's speaking.</p>	<p>23</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>"I'm not going to drink today and if you stick with me, maybe you won't either."</p>	<p>25</p> <p>*May 1949: Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Bob's sponsors were headed to the Oxford group meetings in Akron and will start an AA meeting in Cleveland.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>*May 1949: Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Bob's sponsors were headed to the Oxford group meetings in Akron and will start an AA meeting in Cleveland.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>*May 1949: Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Bob's sponsors were headed to the Oxford group meetings in Akron and will start an AA meeting in Cleveland.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Archives Committee Meeting, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St.</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Dr. Bob and the Good News, an AAMS biography of founder and a history of Midwest AA, is published.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>MEMORIAL DAY (Observed)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>SPONSORS: have one... use one... be one...</p> 	<p>Buffalo Central Office 681 SENECA STREET (LOWER) Buffalo, New York 14210 (716) 853-0388, (716) 853-0389 (Fax) E-MAIL: buffalooaa@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Buffalo Central Office 681 SENECA STREET (LOWER) Buffalo, New York 14210 (716) 853-0388, (716) 853-0389 (Fax) E-MAIL: buffalooaa@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Buffalo Central Office 681 SENECA STREET (LOWER) Buffalo, New York 14210 (716) 853-0388, (716) 853-0389 (Fax) E-MAIL: buffalooaa@hotmail.com</p>	<p>1974: The first World Service meeting of AA outside America is held in London.</p>

*BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
(716) 853-0388
9:00 AM-4:30 PM
Schedule on line at ny-aa.org*

*681 SENECA STREET (Lower)
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14210
Fax: 853-0389*

buffalooa@hotmail.com

MAY 2005

MEETING CHANGES:

Hope- Big Book Study, Sunday at 7:30 PM will not meet until further notice.

OLV Woman's discussion is moving back to Tuesday's! Will now meet at Woodside Methodist 675 Abbott Rd at 7:30 PM.

NEW MEETING: Carry The Message; Sunday's @ 7:30 PM in Hamburg. Open Speaker. Trinity Episcopal Church, 261 E. Main Street

Pass It On Group, Tuesday's, **NO LONGER MEETS**, 1081 Broadway.

Progress Men's Group, Thursday's in East Aurora. 10:30 Am, First Presbyterian Church of East Aurora; 9 Paine. **NEEDS SUPPORT.**

Miracle Group, starting June 1st, will begin at 8:00 PM. Trinity Parish Hall, 371 Delaware Ave.

Kenilworth Group, 8 PM, Thursday's, **NO LONGER MEETS**. United Church of Christ, 45 Dalton Rd, Tonawanda.

Service Opportunities:

~ May 1, **Central Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 7 pm, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (Hosted by Blasdell Monday).

~ May 1, **Corrections Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).

~ May 15, **General Service Assembly**, 1 PM., Hamburg Town Hall, 5999 South Park Ave., Hamburg. (Hosted by Lovejoy)

~ May 16, **Treatment Facilities Committee**, MONDAY, 6 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street.

~ May 19 **New Frontiers Committee**, THURSDAY 7:00 PM St. Michaels Parish

~ May 28, Archives Committee Meeting, SATURDAY, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).

~ May 12, 64th Buffalo Fall Convention Meeting, Thursday, 7:00 PM @. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main Street, Buffalo. E-mail address 2005BuffaloFallConvention@gmail.com. Website: please send comments/suggestions): <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzeeivob/>

COMING EVENTS:

5th STEP: "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

5th TRADITION: "Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

5th CONCEPT; Throughout our structure, a traditional Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that the minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

... Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit...

Terry Bateman.... Executive Secretary

"If anyone who is showing inability to control his drinking can do the right-about-face and drink like a gentleman, our hats are off to him."

—Big Book, Chapter 3, "More About Alcoholism," page 31.



**Buffalo Central Committee Minutes
APRIL 2005**

Gary J., Committee Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM, with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer and the Preamble. Joe S., Living Sober Group, read The Purpose of the Central Committee. Andrew K., Three Legacies Group, read the Traditions. Motion to dispense with the reading of last months' minutes was made by Bob H., Williamsville Group, seconded by John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast Group. Motion passed.

Groups were represented: **District 1:** Cornplanters Again, Main and High, Miracle, Sunday Niter's. **District 2:** Living Sober, North Buffalo, Three Legacies. **District 3:** Blasdell Monday Night, Just For Today, Iron Horse, Sunday Morning Breakfast, Valley. **District 4:** No representatives present. **District 5:** Big Book Lockport, Lockport #1, Niagara Frontier Men's, Redeemers. **District 6:** Amsdell Lakeshore, Go To Any Lengths, Lakeshore. **District 7:** Fresh Start, Spirit of Hope, Community Center. **District 8:** Wehrle, Williamsville, Eye Opener.
24 Groups represented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ENVELOPE SYSTEM: No representative present

STEERING COMMITTEE: No report

FINANCIAL REPORT: FEBRUARY 2005

Income

February 2004	February 2005	Variance	% Change	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	Variance	% Change
Avg	Actual			Avg	Actual		
\$7,565.00	\$7,731.00	\$166.00	2.19%	\$15,130.00	\$14,457.00	(\$673.00)	-4.45%

Narrative

None

Expenses

February 2004	February 2005	Variance	% Change	YTD 2004	YTD 2005	Variance	% Change
Avg	Actual			Avg	Actual		
\$7,586.00	\$6,319.00	(\$1,267.00)	-16.70%	\$15,172.00	\$15,266.00	\$94.00	0.62%

Narrative

None

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Respectfully,

Patty S., Going To Any Lengths Group

TREATMENT: Report given by Tom C. TFC Chair: ECMC Monday night 7:00 PM – 4th week may need coverage. Salvation Army Thursday 8:00 PM – 4th week needs coverage. ECMC issues: Dr. Blondell no longer has a list of 12th Steppers' names. The TFC coordinator calls the Detox Nurses Station directly. Independent living issue is not an issue because they are not involved at ECMC as yet. Winston F. and I have chosen not to be involved at ECMC any longer.

CORRECTIONS: Report given by Andy K., Chair: Corrections Committee is in need of support. Mike B. of Abbott Men's Discussion who is also the contact person for Erie County Correctional Facility, was told that according to new regulations, members who participate must supply their names, date of birth and social security number in advance and be cleared before attending meetings at the Facility. Meetings for the Alden Correctional Facility are Wednesdays at 8:00 PM.

CENTRAL OFFICE: AA INFO: 273; 12-STEP: 3; ALANON: 14; VISITORS: 60; VOLUNTEERS: 12. Beyond the anticipated shipping charge for literature, we have been informed that as of July 1, 2005 all books with the exception of the Big Book, will go up \$1.00 each; our prices will also add the \$1.00 as of July 1st. There is a \$15,43 escalator fee added to our rent. This increases the rent to \$768.47. I am taking vacation days on May 20th and May 27th.

Yours in the fellowship of the Spirit,
Terry B., Executive Secretary

PIC: No representative present.

NEW FRONTIERS: No representative present.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE: No representative present.

COURTESY REPORTS:

ARCHIVES: Report given by Frank M., Chair: Our past display was at the Lockport #1 Group anniversary on March 18, 2005 and Rural Is Plural in East Otto on March 30, 2005. Our future displays will be at Jamestown 60th Anniversary of AA at the Holiday Inn on May 6, 7, 8, 2005. The Boulevard Helping Hands requested our presence at their anniversary, but due to our commitment in Jamestown, we will not be able to display. We would also like to thank the Lakeshore Group for their generous donation to the Archive Committee. Members of our committee will be attending Hamilton's and Districts Archives Breakfast on Sunday, April 10, 2005 at 9:00 AM in Hamilton, Ontario.

GSA: No report.

RECAP: Much discussion on TFC meeting at ECMC. See TFC report.

Financial: John C., Complanters Again Group asked why financial statement wasn't read. He was told that the Financial Secretary was not present and written copies of the financial statement were presented to the members in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Derrick of How Group made a presentation for the young people of AA "EACYPA". They hope to have an open convention in Buffalo and need financial support. Their first meeting is planned for the third week in April. More info forthcoming.

Donna E., Wehrle Group, stated there was disruptive behavior at Serenity Shack meeting over money matters. All groups meeting at Serenity Shack have been asked to turn over all AA group money to the Serenity Shack. District Steering Committee representative asked to investigate.

Motion to adjourn by Joe S., Living Sober, seconded by John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast. Meeting closed at 7:50 PM with The Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Recording Secretary, John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast.

Income Statement		31-Jan-05	2/29/2005	31-Mar-05
Beg Bal Cash on hand		4,397.21	4,981.86	6,394.11
Contributions				
	Groups	4,241.86	3,539.40	4,638.87
	Joint Meeting	42.05	25.70	37.31
	Envelope System	617.00	674.00	392.00
	New Frontiers Subs	106.00	20.00	148.00
	Literature	1,678.57	3,193.57	3,810.75
	Archives Room Rent	50.00	50.00	50.00
	Meetings at CO	150.00	228.50	171.00
	Mail/Misc			
	"Gratitude Month" (NOV)			
	Conventions/Day of Sharing	1,190.89		
Monthly Income		8,076.37	7,731.17	9,217.93
Expenses				
	Office Rent	753.04	753.04	768.47
	Electric	90.00	90.00	90.00
	Payroll			
	Salaries (Net)	1,696.16	-1,696.16	1,696.16
	Federal Withholdings	588.60	735.75	441.45
	NYS Withholdings	365.81		
	Insurance			
	State Ins Fund			301.56
	Health	304.00	304.00	304.00
	Liability	973.73		
	Postage	248.83	561.61	452.69
	Phone	104.98	137.01	127.89
	Accounting			
	Advt			
	PIC Lit			
	Talking Phone Book			428.40
	Verizon	98.50	98.50	107.00
	website			
	white directory			
	Yellow Pages			296.00
	Literature Expenses			
	Grapevine		434.80	35.00
	World Services Inc	1,028.85	1,021.00	2,519.52
	Hazeldon			553.30
	"In All Our Affairs"			
	Printers	2,232.50		
	Office Supplies		112.02	181.41
	Answering service	119.29	114.58	
	Minolta leasing (copier)	260.45	260.45	260.45
	Minolta Copies	80.30		
	Seminar			
Monthly Expenses		8,945.04	6,318.92	8,563.30
Monthly Income (Loss)		(868.67)	1,412.25	654.63
CD		8,039.22	8,039.22	8,039.22
End Bal Cash on hand		4,981.86	6,394.11	7,048.74
Literature Assets:				
Literature Receivable (outstanding)		9,350.98	7,382.40	7,145.65
		1,936.24	1,487.14	1,044.35
Corrections Facilites		835.45	988.72	1,013.72
Donations		153.27	121.12	414.00
Expenses			96.12	550.00
Balance		988.72	1,013.72	877.72
Treatment Facilities		385.79	473.41	501.79
Donation		178.27	106.12	459.00
Expenses				
AT & T Bridging The Gap		35.15	36.24	27.70
AAA Abott Answering Service		42.00	41.50	
Literature		13.50		
Balance		473.41	501.79	933.09

Self-support: The Seventh Tradition

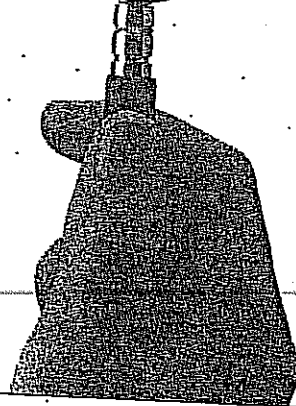
There are no dues or fees for membership in A.A., but we do have expenses. In keeping with the Seventh Tradition a group may "pass the basket" in order to cover expenses such as rent, refreshments, A.A. Conference-approved books, pamphlets and meeting lists, and contributions to services provided by the local intergroup (central office), district and area, and the General Service Office of A.A. worldwide. A.A. members are free to contribute whatever they wish, up to a maximum of \$2,000 each in a given year.

Reprint from "THE AA GROUP" Pamphlet.

PRAYER FOR STEP 5

God, I thank you from the bottom of my heart that I know you better. Help me become aware of anything I have omitted discussing with another person. Help me to do what is necessary to walk a free man at last.

(pg. 75 BB)



GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
	MARCH	YEAR	MARCH	YEAR	MARCH	YEAR
11:45		0.00		0.00		0.00
12 Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
4th Step Stumblers		0.00		0.00		0.00
6th Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
A Day At A Time		0.00		0.00		0.00
Abbott Men's	122.50	178.94	122.50	178.94	122.50	178.94
Acceptance/Welcme	150.00	350.00		0.00		0.00
Achievement		0.00		0.00		0.00
Action	100.00	100.00		0.00		0.00
Age Doesn't Matter		0.00		0.00		0.00
Alexander		0.00		0.00		0.00
Amherst/ Snyder	36.43	182.96		0.00		0.00
Amsdell Lakeshore	20.00	60.00		0.00		0.00
Any Age		0.00		0.00		0.00
Any Length	30.00	90.00		0.00		0.00
As Bill Sees It	15.00	55.00		0.00		0.00
Attitude Adjustment	100.00	100.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Attraction		200.00		0.00		0.00
Backdoor		0.00		0.00		0.00
Balavia Friday Night		0.00		0.00		0.00
Beginning In Sobriety II		0.00		0.00		0.00
Beginning's Women		0.00		0.00		0.00
Bldwell Monday		0.00		0.00		0.00
Big Book Lockport		50.00		30.00		0.00
BB Spiritual Awakening		0.00		0.00		0.00
Big Book Study		0.00		0.00		0.00
Big Book Workshop		0.00		0.00		0.00
Blasdel		- 0.00		0.00		0.00
Blasdel Monday Night	20.00	20.00		0.00		0.00
Bodhisattva		0.00		0.00		0.00
Boulevard Helping Hand		- 0.00		0.00		0.00
Boulevard Women	40.00	90.00		0.00		0.00
Brass		50.00		0.00		0.00
Brocton AA		0.00		0.00		0.00
But For the Grace of God		0.00		0.00		0.00
By The Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
Came To Believe		0.00		0.00		0.00
Casting		0.00		0.00		0.00
Cathedral Park		0.00		0.00		0.00
Caz Manor	20.00	60.00		0.00		0.00
Cazenovia		0.00		0.00		0.00
Central Park		0.00		0.00		0.00
Chapter IX		0.00		0.00		0.00
Cheektowaga		200.00		0.00		0.00
Chevy #1		0.00		0.00		0.00
Clarence Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
Clarence Men's II		0.00		0.00		0.00
Cold Spring		0.00		0.00		0.00
Common Bond		0.00		0.00		0.00
Common Problem		0.00		0.00		0.00
Common Solution		0.00		0.00		0.00
Commlment		0.00		0.00		0.00
Community Center		0.00		0.00		0.00
Complenters		0.00		0.00		0.00
Courage		0.00		10.00		0.00
Arcade		0.00		0.00		0.00
Crossroads	75.00	75.00		0.00		0.00
Cross Talk Big Book	25.00	25.00		0.00		0.00
Daily Reflections		0.00		0.00		0.00
Daily Reprieve		0.00		0.00		0.00
Derby		0.00		0.00		0.00
Desire		0.00		0.00		0.00
Downtown Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
Dunkirk Monday Night		100.00		0.00		0.00
Early Bird		0.00		0.00		0.00
Early Rising Obliging		0.00		0.00		0.00
Easier Softer Way		0.00		0.00		0.00
East Amherst		0.00		0.00		0.00
East Aurora	150.00	150.00		0.00		0.00
Easy Does It	25.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
Ellicott		0.00		0.00		0.00
Ellicottville		0.00		0.00		0.00
Emergency		0.00		0.00		0.00
Eternal Vigilance		100.00		0.00		0.00
Everybody's	40.00	40.00		0.00		0.00
Express		0.00		0.00		0.00
Eyeopener	138.54	239.94		0.00		0.00
F.U.N.		0.00		0.00		0.00
Faith		0.00		0.00		0.00
Father Baker		100.00		0.00		0.00
Feelings	50.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
Fireside	160.80	929.39		0.00	25.00	75.00
First Things First		0.00		0.00		0.00
Fredonia Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
Freedom		0.00		0.00		0.00
Fresh Start		30.00		0.00		0.00
Friendly		0.00		0.00		0.00
Frontier(New)		0.00		0.00		0.00
GAHADA GON		0.00		0.00		0.00
Gardenville		0.00		0.00		0.00
Georgetown		0.00		0.00		0.00

GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
	MARCH	YEAR	MARCH	YEAR	MARCH	YEAR
Getting Better		0.00		0.00		0.00
Glving	50.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
Go to Any Length		0.00		0.00		0.00
Golden Slipper		500.00		0.00		0.00
Grand		48.00		0.00		0.00
Grand II Joy of Living		50.00		0.00		0.00
Grateful		0.00		0.00		0.00
Guiding Light		0.00		0.00		0.00
H.O.W.		0.00		0.00		0.00
Hamburg	107.75	107.75		0.00		0.00
Hand		0.00		0.00		0.00
Handicappers		-200.00		0.00		0.00
Happy Hour		0.00		0.00		0.00
Harmony		0.00		0.00		0.00
Helping Hand	25.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
High Noon	70.00	210.00		0.00		0.00
High View		0.00		0.00		0.00
Higher Power		0.00		0.00		0.00
Hillbilly		0.00		0.00		0.00
Holiday Village	250.00	350.00		0.00		0.00
Holland		0.00		0.00		0.00
Honest Solutions		0.00		0.00		0.00
Honesty	40.00	40.00		0.00		0.00
Hope Big Book Study		20.00		0.00		0.00
How It Works		0.00		0.00		0.00
How It Works/Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
Inner City		0.00		0.00		0.00
Inspiration		-0.00		0.00		0.00
In The Solution		0.00		0.00		0.00
Intoxicated on Life		45.00		0.00		0.00
Ironhorse	23.85	43.10	9.50	17.20	9.50	17.20
IT		0.00		0.00		0.00
Jamestown Groups		0.00		0.00		0.00
Johnson Creek Big Book		60.00		0.00		0.00
Journey		0.00		0.00		0.00
Just Do It		0.00		0.00		0.00
Just For Today/ Albion		0.00		0.00		0.00
Just For Today/Cheek		0.00		0.00		0.00
Keep It Simple Sister		40.00		10.00		10.00
Keep On Coming		0.00		0.00		0.00
Kenmore		0.00		0.00		0.00
Kensington		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lake Shore	180.00	180.00	25.00	25.00	75.00	75.00
Lakeview		0.00		0.00		0.00
Last Days Fellowship		5.00		0.00		0.00
Lawyers		0.00		0.00		0.00
LewPort		0.00		0.00		0.00
Let Go and Let God		0.00		0.00		0.00
Liberty Women		50.00		0.00		0.00
Life Today		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lighten UP		0.00		0.00		0.00
Live and Let Live		0.00		0.00		0.00
Living In the Solution		100.00		0.00		0.00
Living Sober		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lock City		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lockport #1	250.00	500.00	25.00	60.00	25.00	60.00
Lockport (no name)		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lockport Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lockport Ladies	25.00	25.00		0.00		0.00
Lockview		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lock To This Day		0.00		0.00		0.00
Love		0.00		0.00		0.00
Lovejoy		20.00		0.00		0.00
Lower River		0.00		0.00		0.00
Main and High	10.00	10.00		0.00		0.00
Main Street		0.00		0.00		0.00
Maple Meditations		0.00		0.00		0.00
Manila		0.00		0.00		0.00
Matt Talbot		100.00		0.00		0.00
McKinlay Winners		100.00		0.00		0.00
Medina Big Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
Medina New Life		0.00		0.00		0.00
Mercy		0.00		0.00		0.00
Mid-day		54.50		0.00		0.00
Midnight Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
Miracle		0.00		0.00		0.00
Morning After		0.00		0.00		0.00
New Awakening		0.00		0.00		0.00
New Frontier		0.00		0.00		0.00
New Beginnings/St. Vincent		0.00		0.00		0.00
New Life		0.00		0.00		0.00
New Outlook		0.00		0.00		0.00
Niagara Intergroup		0.00		0.00		0.00
New Westside		0.00		0.00		0.00
Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.		70.00		0.00		0.00
North Buffalo	100.00	300.00	25.00	75.00	25.00	75.00
North Java Monday		0.00		0.00		0.00
North Java Sunday		0.00		0.00		0.00
One Day At A Time		0.00		0.00		0.00
Open Arms	50.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
Open Mind		0.00		0.00		0.00
Orchard Park Step	34.00	172.00		0.00		0.00
Pass It On		0.00		0.00		0.00
Patclin		0.00		0.00		0.00

AA of the Niagara Frontier
 BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
 681 SENECA STREET
 (LOWER)
 BUFFALO, NY 14210

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1 Copy	\$10	20 Copies	\$57

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Enclosed is a check or money order made payable to AA Central Office earmarked
 the "New Frontiers" for \$ _____ for _____ copies.

Mail To: AA Central Office
 701 Seneca Street
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Interested in receiving the NEW FRONTIERS?
 NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____

The Men of Alcoholics Anonymous Welcome You To:

"Life Will Take On New Meaning"

-An AA Men's Spiritual Weekend-
July 15-17, 2005

- ❖ Speakers
- ❖ Meetings
- ❖ Superb Food and Accommodations
- ❖ Warm Fellowship
- ❖ Campfire Sharing Session
- ❖ Awesome Conversations

Registration Fee is: \$120.00

_____ Yes, I want to attend, enclosed is my \$25.00 non-refundable deposit
Payable to: St. Columban Center

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

(Home)

(Work)

**Mail To: Spiritual Weekend
St. Columban Center
P.O. Box 816
Derby, New York 14047-0816**

If you special needs or questions, contact: Dan E. @ 646-3987 or Scott N.. @ 563-3366

52nd Annual Tri-State Assembly

AA Conference with Alanon participation

September 2, 3, and 4, 2005

HAPPY, JOYOUS AND FREE

Held at Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY

*All Lodging and Meetings will be in Bellinger Hall on the grounds.
Enter at the North Gate. Free parking, No Gate pass required, Handicap accessible.*

Registration opens at 2:00 p.m. Friday; 9:00 a.m. Sat. – First meeting at 7:30 p.m. Friday

Registration Form

Must be received by August 22, 2005 (if ordering meals or lodging)

REGISTRATION:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Advance registration</u> | \$15.00 |
| Meetings only, no meals | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>On sight registration</u> | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Registration & Banquet</u> | \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Commuter with 5 meals</u> | \$70.00 |
| No lodging – advance only | |
| No Refunds/Transfers O.K. | |

WEEKEND PACKAGES: (includes registration)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>One person 2 nights</u> with 5 meals | \$145.00 |
| Must share a room | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Two people 2 nights</u> | \$290.00 |
| One room, 5 meals each | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Single occupancy, 2 nights</u> with | \$195.00 |
| 5 meals – advance only | |
| No Refunds/Transfers O.K. | |

Name: _____ Roommate: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____ Special Needs or Diet: _____

BANQUET CHOICE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian |

Questions? Contact Len C., PA (814) 899-7610 ; David G., OH (216) 289-4033 ; Jerry J., NY (585) 682-3215

Please enclose non-refundable payment with registration payable to: **TRI-STATE ASSEMBLY**
Mail to: Bob Kroon, Sr., 7 Wildwood Ave. Jamestown, NY 14701
If you need a confirmation, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope w/registration.

