

# NEW FRONTIERS

## CLASSIC GRAPEVINE

### Can God Believe In Us

by Katherine H., Hollywood, Calif.  
January, 1970

Many years ago, a terribly discouraged and desperate young woman went to an eminent clergyman with her problems, simply because she had promised to do so; she had no hope or expectation that he would help her. She concluded her long, sad recital of her situation with the words "I'm not sure just now that I even believe in God."

His reply was: "At this point, it's not very important whether you believe in God. The important question is whether God believes in and has faith in you. If you will conduct your life in a manner whereby God can have faith in you, then the time will inevitably arrive when you will return the compliment and have faith in Him."

Down through the years, this advice has recurred to my consciousness many times. Only lately have I realized why it so impressed me and stayed with me. Now I know that, way back before I ever drank, I was subconsciously searching for faith in God. At a recent discussion meeting, the topic suggested was "spiritual experience or awakening," and in the course of the meeting I suddenly understood. By trying to practice the principle of the program as best I can, I have found a conscious contact with God and an understanding of Him.

I, personally, could find this only through AA, for reasons known only to the Master Planner. The Twelfth Step guarantees a spiritual experience or awakening as a result of the other eleven steps, providing we conduct our lives in such a manner that God can have faith in us. The rewards or bonuses, I have received as a result of trying to live by these principles would completely fill an issue of Grapevine. Were I to sum them all up in one word, they would be best described as "comfort." I have a really comfortable feeling most of the time. For this, I thank God for bringing me to AA and I thank AA for bringing me to God.

Volume 3 No. 11  
November 1989  
BASIC PRINCIPLES: STEP 11  
Awareness of God

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*"Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood him"*

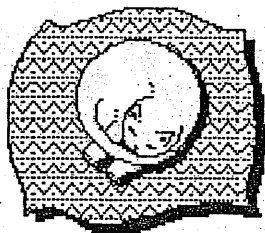
### SUBMISSIONS

We were asked at the Central Committee meeting to print the Topics for the Coming issues of this paper for the next few months. Here they are:

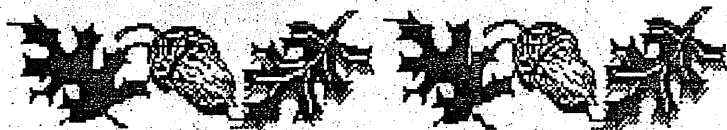
December: Service  
January: 'We' Power  
February: Came to Believe  
March: Decisions

We hope that this will spur each of you to think about writing an article or some other demonstration of your thoughts on the Steps.

# Helen's Corner ...



November has always been a time of reflection for me. The leaves of summer are gone - the year is drawing to a close. I think about my gains and losses, my hopes and dreams, my fears, what is and what isn't a part of my daily life. So much is beyond my ability to control that I can feel really depressed over my powerlessness. But, the AA Program has given me a gift of power this month in the form of Step 11 - "Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out." The message of this Step lies in the words to seek conscious contact with a God we can understand and live with. The desire, one day at a time, to touch and communicate with a Power greater than ourselves, can give purpose and meaning to life. It's an inner journey that no outside influence can take for us.

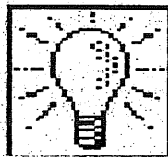


I admit to having a need to have just one part of my life remain constant and unchanging. In the past I tried to fill this need using people, places and things. What an emotional rollercoaster that course of action turned out to be. Step 11 answered this need by telling me to make the search for conscious contact with God the one constant and unchanging fact of my existence. The lesson I learned was worded wonderfully in the July 16 entry in the 24 hour book: *"We can believe that God is in his heaven and that He has purpose for our lives, which will eventually work out as long as we try to live the way we believe He wants us to live. It has been said that we should 'wear the world like a loose garment.' That means nothing should seriously upset us because we have a deep, abiding faith that God will always take care of us. To us that means not to be upset by the surface wrongness of things, but to feel deeply secure in the fundamental goodness and purpose of the universe. Like the shadow of a great rock in a desert land, God is your refuge from the ills of life. Try to feel His divine power - call on it - accept it - and use it. Armed with that power, you can face anything. God can be your refuge."*

To close I would like to share thoughts which the search has given me:

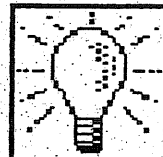
- (1) This life is not a rehearsal. Today is all I have.
- (2) The only one holding me captive is myself.

Happy Turkey Day  
Yours in the Spirit of AA  
Helen



## "Enlightenment"

Bill W., in The Way AA Of Life



"You are asking yourself, as all of us must:

'Who am I?' ...

'Where am I?' ...

'Whence do I go?'...

The process of enlightenment is usually slow. But, in the end, our seeking always brings a finding. These great mysteries are, after all, enshrined in complete simplicity. The Willingness to grow is the essence of all spiritual development."

## *Bill's Experience*

from the book "Pass it On"

*Editor's note: In 1990 the fellowship will be celebrate 55 years of existence. What many of us neglect to appreciate is the event in Bill Wilson's life which was the actual birth of AA. It changed his life and ours forever. So here it is.]*

Bill felt a strong desire to return to Towns Hospital and to Dr. Silkworth. Leaving a note for Lois, he set out for Towns. He had only six cents, and that left a penny after the subway fare. Along the way, he managed to obtain four bottles of beer from a grocery store where he had a little credit. When he reached the hospital, he had finished three of the bottles. Dr. Silkworth met him in the hall.

Bill was in high spirits. Waving the bottle around, he announced that he had "found something". Silkworth remembered that Bill was carrying two books on philosophy, from which he hoped to get a new inspiration. It was December 11, 1934 a month to the day since he had started drinking again.

He received the then-current Towns treatment: barbituates to sedate him and belladonna for reducing stomach acids.

As the effects of the alcohol wore away - had not been one of his worst binges - he fell into a deep depression and rebellion. He wanted the sobriety Ebby had found, but he couldn't believe in the God Ebby talked about.

In a few days, Ebby visited him. Again, they talked as they had at the kitchen table. Ebby's visit made Bill momentarily less depressed, but after Ebby left, Bill slid into a very deep melancholy. He was filled with guilt and remorse over the way he had treated Lois, Lois who had stood by him unwavering through-out. He thought about the miraculous moments they had shared: standing on the Newport cliffs the night he sailed for England, the camping trips, the wonderful years as motorcycle bums, the triumphs and failures on Wall Street. He thought about Winchester Cathedral, and the moment he had almost believed in God.

Now, he and Lois were waiting for the end. Now, there was nothing ahead but death or madness. This was the finish, the jumping off place. "The terrifying darkness had become complete," Bill said "In agony of spirit, I again thought of the cancer of a holism, which had now consumed me in mind and spirit, and soon in body." The abyss gaped before him.

In helplessness and desperation, Bill cried out, "I'll do anything, anything at all!" He had reached a point of total, utter deflation - a state of complete, absolute surrender. With neither faith nor hope, he cried, "If there be a God, let Him show Himself!"

What happened next was electric. "Suddenly, my room blazed with an indescribably white light. I was seized with an ecstasy beyond description. Every joy I had known was pale by comparison. The light, the ecstasy - I was conscious of nothing else at the time.

"Then, seen in the mind's eye, there was a mountain. I stood upon its summit, where a great wind blew. A wind, not of air, but of the spirit. In a great, clean strength, it blew right through me. Then came the blazing thought 'You are a free man.' I know not how long I remained in this state, but finally the light and ecstasy subsided. I again saw the wall of my room.

As I became more quiet, a great peace stole over me, and this was accompanied by the sensation difficult to describe. I became acutely conscious of a presence which seemed like a veritable sea of living spirit. I lay on the shores of a new world. 'This,' I thought, 'must be in the great reality. The God of the preachers.'

"Savoring my new world, I remained in this state for a long time. I seemed possessed by the absolute, and the curious conviction deepened that no matter how wrong things seem to be, there could be no question of the ultimate rightness of God's universe. For the first time, I felt that I really belonged. I knew that I was loved and could love in return. I thanked my God, who had given me a glimpse of His absolute self. Even though a pilgrim upon an uncertain highway, I need be concerned no more, for I had glimpsed the great beyond."

Bill Wilson had just had his 39th birthday, and he still had his life ahead of him. He always said after that experience, he never again doubted the existence of God. He never took another drink.


 ANNOUNCEMENTS

# MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS.

## NEW MEETINGS:

ORCHARD PARK STEP GROUP - TUESDAY - 8:00 PM - Closed Step Meeting with and Open Speaker meeting the last Tuesday of the month - Orchard Park United Presbyterian Ch., 4369 So. Buffalo Street, Orchard Park.

SPIRITUALLY WILLING - SUNDAY - 7:00 PM - Open Women's Discussion - 95 Johnson Pk. - upstairs in back.

SENECA 12 & 12 - SATURDAY - 8:00 PM Open Discussion - St. Teresa's RC Ch. Seneca & Heyden Sts. - one block from Mineral Springs Road. Meeting held at the Parish Center. (Use side entrance at the rear of the church.)

GAH NEE GOIN GEH (Of the Mind) - THURSDAY - 7:00 PM - Open Discussion - American Indian and Family Services, 29 Main St., Akron.

BY THE BOOK - MONDAY - 5:30 PM - Closed Discussion - St. James Ch., 415 East Main St., Batavia.

ST. MARK'S - SATURDAY - 8:00 PM - Open Discussion - St. Mark's Epis. Ch., Rte. 20A, Orchard Park. **NON-SMOKING.**

## PLEASE NOTE:

COMMON HOUR - THURSDAY - 12:05 PM - ECC CITY CAMPUS, RM 570. Bring your own coffee for now. This meeting is being reorganized.

SOUTH BUFFALO group, which meets on Monday and Fridays, would like its' members to get more active and support their group. The secretary would appreciate any help in updating the records as to its' membership.


 ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE - WEDNESDAY - 8:30 PM - will be starting a Step Table. The meeting needs support. Please come and share.

FREDONIA BREAKFAST - SUNDAY - 11:00 AM - this group is meeting at the same locality 10455 Bennett Road, Fredonia, the facility, however, is now known as the Day's Inn.

ANY AGE group is updating its membership list. They would appreciate any one who still wishes to be considered a member of this group to attend on a Wednesday night to let the secretary know.

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS - the new meeting in Varysburg, has a name change. It will be known as WE HAVE A DREAM GROUP.

MAINVIEW MANOR - WEDNESDAY - 10:00 AM - 2704 Main St. - downstairs - (near Amherst) needs support.

## MEETING CHANGES

WHY GROUP - SUNDAY - will always be a closed meeting.

MID-ERIE GROUP - TUESDAY - 1:30 PM has moved to 563 William and will now be known as the DENIAL GROUP.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE DISCUSSION GROUP which meets on Fridays, 200 Albany St., at 7:30 PM is now a **NON-SMOKING MEETING.**

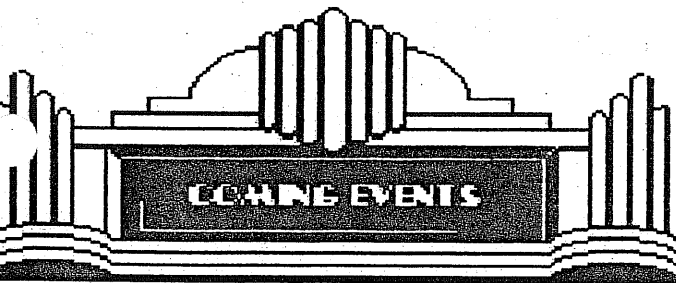
NORTH BUFFALO GROUP which meets on Sunday and Wednesday is **NON-SMOKING.**



## REMEMBER



CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
SUNDAYS - Nov 5 and Dec 3, 7:00 PM.  
at 80 Goodrich Street behind Buffalo General. **Don't forget Nominations for NEW 1990 Offices of Chairperson and Recording Secretary will be held in NOVEMBER.**



NOVEMBER 3 - FRIDAY - TWIN CITIES - will be celebrating its' 46th Anniversary at Domolski Hall, 576 Oliver Street, No. Tonawanda. Dinner at 7:00 PM. Speaker at 8:00 PM. Dancing from 9:00 PM to 1:00 AM to the "Sound Waves Unlimited". Tickets are \$5.00 per person. Come and help us celebrate. There will be no scheduled meeting at 33 Spruce St. on this date only.

NOVEMBER 8 - WEDNESDAY - WORLD CONVENTION - An information meeting for those interested in flying to Seattle for the WORLD CONVENTION, July 5th - 8th will be held after the Living Sober meeting at 150 Delaware Road in Kenmore. Be prepared to complete a registration form with \$55.00 and make a deposit of \$100.00 on the airfare which will be \$350.00 round trip departing on July 2, 1990 and returning early morning in Buffalo on July 9, 1990. If you cannot attend or have questions call Bill L. at 838-135 or John L. at 632-0452.

NOVEMBER 18 - SATURDAY - SUNDAY NIGHTS is sponsoring a dance-check slinger for details.

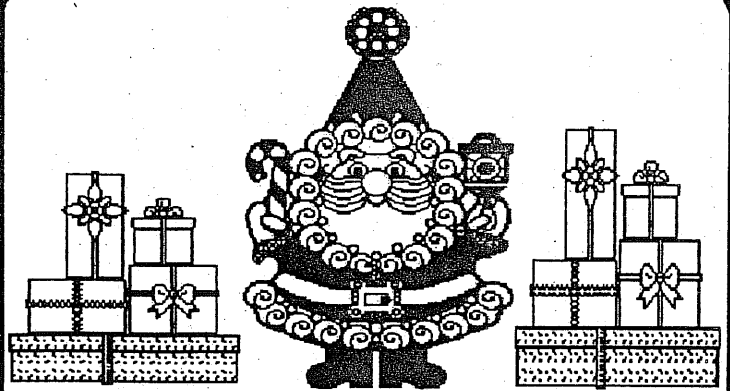
NOVEMBER 21 - TUESDAY - NEW ZION - will meet in the Jewish Center Building at 187 Delaware Ave. corner Summer St - this day only.

NOVEMBER 24 - FRIDAY - AMHERST/SNYDER will be celebrating its' 30th Group Anniversary and will be starting at an earlier time of 7:30 PM for this celebration at the Cleveland Hill Lutheran Ch., 261 Cleveland Drive.

DECEMBER 16 - SATURDAY - FRONTIER group will hold its annual Christmas Party, at the St. Gerard's Hall, Bailey at Delavan.

DECEMBER 24 - SUNDAY - CHRISTMAS VIGIL - Holy Cross School, 341 7th Street. Send monetary contributions to the Central office.

DECEMBER 31 - SUNDAY - NEW ZION'S 4TH ANNUAL NEW YEARS GALA DINNER & DANCE advance tickets are \$12.00 each - see group members for tickets and GIANT 50/50 tickets.



## CHRISTMAS VIGIL

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
JOIN US AT 80 GOODRICH  
AT 6:30 PM EVERY FRIDAY.  
SHARING IS CARING.

## Are you grateful?

*I have often heard it at meetings, "I am grateful to God for my sobriety." I have also heard it said at meetings that gratitude is an action word. So here is an appeal to you out there to put the action into your gratitude.*

*People are needed to be on the 12 Step list. Those of you who have never done this work will find much reward to your own sobriety. If you would like to do some and start to gain the kind of sobriety for which we all have a desire.*

*Please contact Central Office at 853-0388, and give us your name and phone number and you will be put on the list. Perhaps your group would like to be on the list you might want to bring this up at your next group business meeting.*

## AN OPEN HEART AND AN OPEN MIND

by C.O., Trumbull Conn.  
March 1979

For over twenty months, I have been graced with the fellowship of AA meetings, gradual growth and maturation, and the ability to stay away from alcohol and other mind changing drugs one day at a time. My participation in the Aa program of recovery has made me aware of how little I know and how limited my powers of understanding are.

Until I could reach out from my wall of artificial defences, which had been under construction since my earliest years, and say very simply, "Please help me," I was doomed to loneliness, alienation, and pain that even alcohol and drugs could no longer alleviate.

True sobriety is a hard won virtue I must practice on a day-by-day, sometimes minute-by-minute basis. Emotional highs and lows rob me of sobriety and turn me toward an eventual chemical drunk as surely as a well nurtured resentment or unresolved guilt.

Serenity is like a butterfly: When furiously pursued, it is elusive; but in quiet, peaceful moments, it will light on my shoulder and grace me with its presence for an unpredictable time. Any attempt to enclose it or hold it selfishly will result in its immediate escape or destruction.

Humility has been even more elusive. The words that come closest to expressing my feelings about humility were heard at a church service when the clergyman said, "Blessed are those who know they need God."

Because I consciously choose each day to place my life and my will in the care of God, I am then free to choose to accept my dependence on the AA program and the suggested 12 Steps of recovery, on my sponsors, on my AA oriented therapy leaders, and on all those on whom I must be dependent at a very complicated stage in my life. Rather than struggle with this dependence and resent the forces that have placed me in this situation, I try to accept gracefully and gratefully whatever comes my way, knowing the eventual result will be for the greater good.

With each passing day, I have come to realize that I don't have to define the undefinable — I merely have to be open and aware in mind and heart and spirit. Then, I'll recognize the undefinable when it comes along.

## WE HAVE GAINED A PARTNER

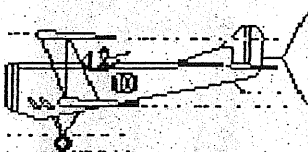
by F.G., Queens, NY.  
October, 1978

How many times in the past few years I have felt the warmth, friendship and intense love that can be expressed only by one alcoholic for another as we attend our meetings and share. Yet something was bothering me. I wasn't losing any ground, but by the same token, Mt. Sobriety was getting harder to climb. The meetings were starting to lose some of the original luster, and at the same time, paradoxically, the periods between meetings were longer. I knew from past experience that the answer had to be in the 12 Steps, so I carefully went back over them. If the Second Step had had neon lights, it couldn't have been any more obvious. I, who had been turned off hundreds of times by the religious nuts in the program, gleaned a ray of hope from this Step: "Came to believe that a Power greater than myself could restore us to sanity."

The simplicity of the Second Step became overwhelming. My ego retreated as soon as I became aware that I had relied on a power greater than my self most of my life — namely alcohol, as expressed in the 1st Step, "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol..." The substitution of another power, a Power greater than myself, became even easier when I realized that the 2nd Step did not ask me to identify this Power, only that I accept it on blind faith and allow it to work for me. There would be plenty of time before I got to the 11th Step to improve my conscious contact with it.

This, then, became the key that unlocked the spiritual side of the program for me. Now that I had the wrinkles out of my belly, as the saying goes, was I willing to accept, on blind faith, that which the first AAs had to do in order to maintain their sobriety? The only rational answer I could come up with was yes. Today I am extremely grateful.

Each of the Twelve Steps has its own reward for those who practice it and accept it for what it is. The 2nd Step offers us a partner, to aid us both in times of joy and in times of despair. The loneliness that only an alcoholic can feel, whether by oneself or in a crowd, slowly but surely dissipates as a Higher Power is more fully employed in our times of need. We never again have to be alone, for in surrendering a small bit of our ego, we have gained a powerful partner.



# Movin' On In Sobriety

## SHERIDAN/ HONESTY

Dave C. 9yr.  
 Alice S. 7yr.  
 Patricia V. 6yr.  
 Keith B. 3yr.  
 Lori H. 2yr.  
 Timothy L. 2yr.  
 Darlene G. 1yr.  
 Michael R. 1yr.  
 Gregory F. 6mo.  
 Tina H. 6mo.

## CORNPLANTERS AGAIN

Hank W. 11yr.  
 Nancell K. 7yr.

## WE CARE

OCTOBER  
 Paul K. 5yr.  
 Wanda H. 3mo.  
 Mark B. 3mo.

NOVEMBER  
 Shirley McC. 8yr.  
 Stuart C. 5yr.  
 Jackie McC. 4yr.  
 Arlene K. 9mo.  
 Betty C. 6mo.

## NORTH BUFFALO

Bill G. 20yr.  
 Deborah O. 20yr.  
 Nancy P. 5yr.  
 Jim M. 3yr.  
 Bernard B. 3yr.  
 Lorie L. 3yr.  
 Lauren C. 3yr.  
 Susan B. 1yr.  
 John B. 1yr.  
 Michael K. 1yr.  
 Charles B. 3mo.  
 Daniel S. 3mo.  
 Marilyn M. 3mo.  
 Michael C. 3mo.

## GRAND

Reg B. 8yr.

## HAPPY HOUR

Rita K. 13yr.  
 John S. 10yr.  
 Helene R. 5yr.  
 Robert G. 3yr.  
 Brian N. 3yr.  
 Sheila S. 3yr.  
 Mark B. 3yr.  
 Patricia L. 2yr.  
 Bob F. 2yr.  
 Narcellas L. 1yr.  
 Chris B. 1yr.  
 Mack R. 1yr.  
 Stefon W. 1yr.  
 David C. 9mo.  
 David J. 9mo.  
 Alice O. 9mo.  
 Willie G. 6mo.  
 Irene P. 6mo.  
 Bill W. 6mo.  
 Linda M. 6mo.  
 Joanne W. 3mo.  
 John S. 3mo.  
 Donald A. 3mo.

## AMHERST SNYDER

George G. 19yr.  
 Joan B. 12yr.  
 John M. 12yr.  
 Jane A. 9yr.  
 Harriet W. 8yr.  
 Ste. Mark 8yr.  
 Patrick L. 7yr.  
 Tish R. 7yr.  
 Pat V. 6yr.  
 LuAnn C. 4yr.  
 Monica M. 1yr.  
 Jennifer S. 1yr.  
 Mike P. 1yr.  
 Bob G. 9mo.  
 Bob D. 9mo.  
 Brian T. 9mo.  
 Scott H. 6mo.  
 Steve H. 6mo.  
 Carl C. 3mo.  
 Mike M. 3mo.

## BIDWELL

Bob D. 9mo.  
 Sharon H. 3mo.

## HARMONY

Mark S. 1yr.  
 John H. 4yr.

## WOMEN'S WESTSIDE DISC.

Bernice D. 2yr.  
 Debbie N. 2yr.  
 Beth M. 9mo.  
 Pat C. 6mo.  
 Judith H. 3mo.

## EYEOPENER

Cam G. 4yr.  
 Cindy D. 2yr.  
 Tom P. 6mo.  
 Marv W. 6mo.  
 Joan C. 3mo.

## KENMORE

Gloria N. 8yr.  
 Steve J. 1yr.

## NEW ZION

Dave F. 6yr.  
 Mike M. 2yr.  
 Michael B. 1yr.  
 Jim M. 1yr.  
 Paul S. 9mo.  
 Joe V. 6mo.  
 Greg B. 3mo.

## CHAPTER IX

Dave T. 6yr.  
 Paul H. 4yr.  
 Tim L. 3yr.  
 Steve T. 2yr.  
 Dick S. 2yr.  
 Kevin K. 2yr.  
 Jim C. 9mo.  
 Mark R. 6mo.

## NORTH JAVA

Mike B. 3yr.  
 Mike R. 1yr.  
 Bruce G. 1yr.  
 Dean M. 1yr.  
 Mike C. 9mo.

## GRATEFUL

Lucille O'K 13yr.  
 Joe L. 13yr.  
 Mary Lou Z. 11yr.  
 John 11yr.  
 Jeanie C. 7yr.  
 Pat V. 6yr.  
 Darlene 1yr.  
 Joe K. 3mo.

## GIVING

Jerry B. 24yr.  
 Roger D. 18yr.  
 Richard F. 17yr.  
 Linda H. 6yr.  
 Bill B. 4yr.  
 Dan T. 4yr.  
 Ron P. 3yr.  
 Pam S. 3yr.  
 Mark P. 2yr.  
 Roy 1yr.  
 Beth B. 9mo.  
 Larry S. 3mo.

## THRUWAY

Bob P. 9yr.  
 Dick F. 8yr.  
 Norma F. 8yr.  
 Jack H. 5yr.  
 Jim B. 4yr.  
 Ellie K. 4yr.  
 Susan K. 3yr.

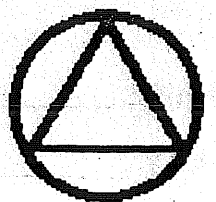
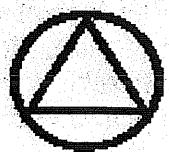
## COLD SPRINGS

OCTOBER  
 Lena S. 16yr.  
 Annie S. 17yr.

NOVEMBER  
 Freddie R. 14yr.  
 Willie H. 12yr.  
 Ralph P. 10yr.  
 Louise B. 8yr.  
 Darlene T. 7yr.  
 Nick S. 6yr.  
 Yvonne S. 5yr.  
 Helene R. 5yr.  
 Major A. 4yr.  
 Phyllis W. 3yr.  
 Mark P. 2yr.  
 Marcellus L. 1yr.  
 Robert A. 6mo.  
 WillaDean W. 3mo.

## SOUTH BUFFALO

Krystyna T. 5yr.  
 Don R. 4yr.  
 Chris P. 1yr.  
 Vivian C. 3mo.



## AA CENTRAL OFFICE

845 Ellicott Square Bldg  
295 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203

(716)853-0388

Executive Secretary - Delphine H.  
Clerical - Helen B.

## Our Co-Founders



Dr. Bob  
1879-1950



Bill W.  
1895-1971

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Chairman - Larry B.  
Recording Secretary - Lue S.  
Financial Secretary - Roger P.

Central Committee meets on the **first Sunday of every month** at 7:00 PM at the COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, 80 Goodrich Street (behind Buffalo General Hospital). **OPEN TO ALL AA MEMBERS.**

## SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Correctional Facilities - Martha C.  
Treatment Facilities - Dan M.  
Buffalo Fall Convention - Lloyd E.  
Screeners - Lynn C.  
New Frontiers - Larry B.  
Editorial - Helen S. and Don H.  
Envelope System - Roger P.

**AA MEMBERS** are encouraged to share the fellowship by volunteering for any of these committees. Call the Central Office at **853-0388**.

**REMEMBER: WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.**

## STEERING COMMITTEE

DISTRICT 1 - Central Buffalo: Jack C.  
2 - Northwest Buffalo: Sue G.  
3 - South Buffalo: Gigi P.  
4 - Southtowns: Gary H.

DISTRICT 5 - Northern Tier: Paul H.  
6 - Southern Tier: Dick L.  
7 - Northeast Buffalo: Carol R.  
8 - Eastern Tier: Bernie A.

**WESTERN NEW YORK GENERAL SERVICE** meets the last Sunday of February, June, September and November. Meetings are held at the ORCHARD PARK MUNICIPAL BUILDING at 2:00 PM. June meeting will be in Jamestown. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THE GSO MEETINGS.**

The **NEW FRONTIERS** is your AA newsletter. Our purpose is to present personal stories and subjects directly related to the recovery from alcoholism. For inclusion in the next issue, material must reach the Central Office by **November 15th** for inclusion in the December issue. Your artwork, poems, articles etc. are also welcome.

**NEXT MONTH'S THEME: Step 12 - Service**

The **NEW FRONTIERS** will be mailed to you monthly for a yearly cost of \$6.00.

To subscribe EITHER 1) call the Central Office at 853-0388

OR 2) fill out this form (please print)  
and send to the Central Office.

Make checks or money orders payable in  
American funds to: NEW FRONTIERS

c/o Alcoholics Anonymous  
845 Ellicott Square Bldg  
295 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203-2544

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



Chairman, Larry B. opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Preamble, Purpose of Central Committee, and the Twelve Traditions were read.

## 46 GROUPS WERE REPRESENTED:

ABBOTT MENS DISC	GIVING	SECOND CHANCE
AGE DOESN'T MATTER	HARMONY	SECURITY
AS BILL SEES IT	HIGH NOON	SHERIDAN
ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT	HONESTY	SOUTH BUFFALO
BIDWELL	HUMBLY WILLING	SOUTHGATE
B.M.D. BIDWELL MONDAY	INNER CITY	SPIRITUALLY WILLING
BOULEVARD WOMENS	IRON HORSE	SUNRISE COURT
BRASS	KENSINGTON DISC	TUESDAY WOMENS DISC
CASTING	LOVEJOY	UNIVERSITY MENS
CAZENOVIA	MATT TALBOT	URBAN
COLD SPRINGS	NEW LIFE	VETERANS
COMMUNITY CENTER	NEW WESTSIDE	WE ADMITTED
DELAWARE DISC	OPEN MIND	WEDNESDAY LUNCH
ELLICOTT	PERRY	WHY
FEELINGS	REMEMBER WHEN	WILLIAMSVILLE
FIRESIDE		

The Chairman called for the various reports:

## ENVELOPE SYSTEM:

Roger P.

	1988	1989		
OCTOBER	\$ 840.00	\$ 851.00	\$ 11.00	( 1.3%) INCREASE
YEAR TO DATE	\$7,476.00	\$6,750.00	\$726.00	( 9.7%) DECREASE

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OCTOBER 31, 1989 - Carol R.

Meeting opened at 6:07PM. Present were Jack C., Dick L., Delphine H., Larry B., Paul H., Roger P., Bernie A., Sue G., Carol R., and Gigi P.

Old Business:

1. Envelope System - Chairman will be needed in the near future. Any one interested should speak with the Central Committee Chairman. This is an appointed position by the Chairman with the Central Committee approval.

2. Treatment Facility Committee - this committee should be co-chaired.

3. Twelveth Step Committee and Screeners are being sought. Suggestions were made to increase the number on the 12 step list. A letter will go back to the groups next month. (Sue G.)

New Business:

1. New schedule will be out by the first of the year.

2. Treatment Facility Workshop covered issues which have sprung up as a result of the interface between A.A. and the facilities such as referrals to meeting and proof-of-attendance. An "open meeting only" schedule has been compiled and will be printed for distribution to the facilities outside of A.A. Again, groups and individuals are entirely autonomous in their decision to sign/not sign attendance slips.

3. Discussion insued concerning the Fall Convention.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 PM.

## FINANCIAL REPORT:

Roger P. (See Attached)

TREATMENT CENTERS: Don H.

A report on the Treatment Facility Workshop was made. Copies of the report were made available to all the group representatives.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: No report

SCREENERS REPORT: Lynn C.

1. 12 Step and Screeners list now on computer.
2. There is a dire need for volunteers on both lists: 1. Only 3 screeners for Saturday and Sunday, which are the heaviest days. 2. The city of Buffalo, which is the largest area has approximately twenty seven 12 step volunteers.

CENTRAL OFFICE Helen B. (for Delphine H.)

A.A. INFORMATION	923		
PIC	8	12 STEP	10
CPC		LITERATURE REQUESTS	74
ALANON	59	REFERRAL TO OTHER AGENCIES	40
ALATEEN	10	REFERRAL FROM OTHER AGENCIES	26
ACOA	32		
McCALLS SERVICE GROUP		CENTRAL OFFICE	
OUTGOING CALLS	44	OUTGOING CALLS	115
INCOMING CALLS	447	OUTGOING MAIL	\$160.79
		VISITORS	198

NEW FRONTIERS: Larry B

1. Added topics being sought for future issues.
2. Note request for volunteers (Vigil, 12 Step, and screeners.)
3. One reponse for Screeners- Delphine has names and numbers.

BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION: Liz G.

The wrap-up meeting will take place next Tuesday. There will be a full report at the next Central committee meeting.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL: Helene R.

Minutes of meeting on Friday, November 3, 1989

All committee members present and 4 volunteers at the 10/27, and 11/3 meetings.

OLD BUSINESS:

Holy Cross is available for our use from 6:00 P.M. Christmas Eve to 6:00 P.M. Christmas day. We are allowed to decorate a real or artificial tree, by Fr. Bossi. Toni H. has donated a tree. Flyers have been distributed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasury Report: all will submit supplies needed and budget for their individual committees to Maureen. We will work within our budget guidelines. At the present time we have \$50.00. Program coordinators are getting speakers. SANTA - suit costs are high for one day use, Bill L. maybe able to get one. Bill L. has submitted a complete greeters list. Committee heads are Bill L.-Greeters, Lu S.-Kitchen, Jeanette-Coffee. We need a decorations, set-up, clean-up and baby-sitting volunteers, which leads us to the main focus of group and individual involvement.

COURTESY REPORTS:

G.S.A. - GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: Elvester McR.

The Western New York Area #50 full body meeting will be on Sunday, 11/26/89 at the Orchard Park Town Hall at 2:00 p.m. All officers and G.S.R.'s should be present.

P.I.C. - PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE: Marcia W.

Officially took over P.I.C. Chairmanship as of 10/7/89.

10/11/89 Williamsville North High School 5 Health classes.

10/17/89 E.C.C. Downtown - mini Health Fair.

10/19/89 J.N. Adams Center, Gowanda Health Fair

10/24& 25 Maryvale High School - 5 Health classes, a.m. & p.m.

10/17/89 Given to C.P.C. Aldenview Manor - 2:00 p.m. lunch, talk and questions with Social Workers. No calls for November.

12/5/89 IT&T Standard - table with literature and A.A. to answer questions during lunch hours and breaks.

C.P.C. - COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY: No report.

#### RE-CAP

#### TREATMENT FACILITIES:

Elizabeth G. said that two people attended the Sheehan meeting. It was run by A.A. people, but the topic was not alcohol related. Treatment Facility Committee can approach facility regarding A.A. Tradition of speaking on alcohol related subjects.

#### SCREENERS:

1. Larry S. asked if a current 12 step & screener's list is available to screeners. Should be mailed this month.
2. Larry received a call from the Answering Service to call Erie Pa., regarding area treatment facilities and medical coverage.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Chairman for the Treatment Facility Committee (tabled last month) - Larry B. stated that he was aware of two people interested in the position, and suggested co-chairmanship between Don H. and Guy (recommended by Dan H. as replacement). A motion was made by Hiram S. Inner City and seconded by Jim H., Perry Discussion. The motion was voted and accepted.
2. Don H. reported on the Treatment Facility Workshop and each person had a copy of his report.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Nominations for Central Committee Officers were as follows:

CHAIRPERSON: LYNN C., Cold Springs, nominated by Elvester McR., seconded by Gigi P., Casting. Larry B. called three times for further nominations. A motion was made by Elizabeth G., and seconded by Larry S., Veterans' to close nominations. Motion accepted. RECORDING SECRETARY: LUE S., Cold Springs, was nominated by Larry S., Veterans', to succeed herself again. Seconded by Mark B., Cazenovia. Larry B. called three times for further nominations. Motion was made by Lynn C., Cold Springs and seconded by Hiram S., Inner City to close nominations. Motion accepted.

3. Ron W., Open Mind, suggested forming an event, like a dinner/dance commemorating A.A.'s 55 years in 1990. Motion to do so was made by Linda Z., High Noon, and seconded by Larry S., Veterans'. Motion accepted.

4. Ron also suggested compiling a history of A.A. in our area to present the night of the event. Motion to do so was made by Maureen H., Bidwell Monday Night, and seconded by Barry R., Feelings. Motion accepted.

A motion was made to close the meeting at 7:59 p.m. by Maureen H., Bidwell Monday Night, and seconded by Ralph K., Sunrise Court. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lue Summers,  
Recording Secretary

Cold Springs, New York

Treatment Center Account		Financial Statement	602-089-5	OCT. 25, '89 -NOV. 25, '89	
		This Month	Check Number	Expenses	Accum Totals
Abbott Men's Disc					20.00
Amherst-Snyder		10.00			30.00
Beginnings					50.00
Bidwell Monday Discussion					50.00
Broadway Bailey		10.00			45.00
Chapter IX					25.00
Cold Springs					25.00
Community Center					25.00
Cornplanters Again					10.00
Courage					100.00
Delaware Disc					10.00
East Aurora		10.00			95.00
Eternal Vigilance					20.00
Father Baker					55.00
Fireside					205.00
Hill Billy					60.00
Lakeshore					20.00
Let Go & Let God					60.00
New Beginnings					30.00
New Zion					75.00
Pass It On					15.00
Patchin					25.00
Remember When					10.00
Rush Manor					100.00
South Buffalo					65.00
Spirit of Hope					5.00
Sunday Niters		10.00			45.00
TGIF					75.00
Turning Point					50.00
Twin Cities		30.00			30.00
University Mens		20.00			220.00
We Admitted					15.00
We Care					120.00
Why					70.00
Seminar					675.00
		90.00			2530.00
	Robert Haefner-cgts-ECMC		113	50.00	
	Central Office-schedulesECMC		114	5.00	
	Robert Haefner-coffee pot-ECMC		115	27.65	
	EXPENSES			82.65	
RE-CAP					
Balance Pr Chec	book 10/25/89		481.92		
Add Receipts	10/25/89-11/25/89		90.00		571.92
Deduct Expense	10/25/89 -11/25/89				-82.65
Balance Pr Chec	11/25/89				489.27
	Operating Credit for 11/25/89		7.35		

## CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FINANCIAL STATEMENT #484-185-4 OCT 25, '89 - NOV. 25, '89

		THIS MONTH		ACCUM TOTALS
ABBOTT MEN'S DISC		10.00		30.00
AMHERST-SNYDER		15.00		45.00
BROADWAY BAILEY		10.00		45.00
CHAPTER IX		20.00		115.00
CHEEKTOWAGA		50.00		50.00
CORNPLANTERS AGAIN				10.00
COURAGE				100.00
DELAWARE DISC				10.00
EAST AURORA				30.00
ETERNAL VIGILANCE				20.00
FATHER BAKER				55.00
FIRESIDE				50.00
GRAND				25.00
HAND				60.00
HILL BILLY				60.00
HONESTY				80.00
IRON HORSE				15.00
LAKESHORE				20.00
LAKE VIEW				60.00
LET GO & LET GOD				60.00
LIVING SOBER		25.00		30.00
MC KINLEY WINNERS				60.00
NEW BEGINNINGS				30.00
NEW ZION				75.00
NO BUFFALO		10.00		100.00
PASS IT ON				15.00
PATCHIN				25.00
REMEMBER WHEN				10.00
RUSH MANOR				490.00
SHERIDAN		10.00		110.00
SO. BUFFALO				45.00
SPIRIT OF HOPE				5.00
STEP				20.00
SUNDAY NITERS				50.00
TUESDAY WOMENS DISC				20.00
TURNING POINT				50.00
TWIN CITIES		30.00		30.00
WE ADMITTED				20.00
WE CARE				80.00
WHY				90.00
WORKING				50.00
		180.00		2345.00
RE-CAP				
BALANCE PR CHECKBOOK 10/25/89			180.82	
ADD RECEIPTS 10/25/88 - 11/25/89			180.00	360.82
DEDUCT EXPENSES	10/25/89-11/25/89			
BALANCE 11/25/89				360.82

Central Committee Account Financial Statement #504-771-7 OCT 25, '89 - NOV 25, '89				
42 Groups Contributed				2203.30
Joint Meeting (expenses 8.45)				23.78
New Frontiers Subscription				22.00
Envelope System				713.00
Literature				1291.07
Miscellaneous				
	Vigil	425.00		
	Printing	20.00		465.00
		Total Receipts		4718.15
DISBURSEMENTS				
	* 10 Ellicott Square Court Corp - mth rt			431.00
	Community Mental Health Center - mth rt			35.00
	Helen J. Brady			107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy			281.00
	Helen J. Brady			107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy			281.00
	The Buffalo News-mth			282.00
	Copies, Inc. - Expo lamp			59.78
	Copies, Inc. - balance			5.20
	Helen J. Brady			107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy			281.00
	Delphine A Hoy - Blue Shield			590.81
	U.S. Postmaster-meter refill			500.00
	Helen J. Brady			107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy			281.00
	A.A. World Svc., Inc. bal			15.60
	New York Telephone			134.19
	M&T Bank-federal with			489.44
	A.A. World Services, Inc.			1706.00
	Helen J. Brady			165.64
	Delphine A., Hoy			281.00
	Copies, Inc. - paper			360.00
	Petty Cash			50.00
			Disbursements	6659.42
RE-CAP				
	Balance Pr Checkbook 10/25/89		11771.45	
	Add Receipts 10/25/89 - 11/25/89		+ 4718.15	16489.6
	Deduct Expenses 10/25/89 - 11/25/89			- 6659.42
	Balance Pr Checkbook 11/25/89			9830.18
	Operating deficit for 11/25/89		(1941.27)	
		M&T Savings Accounts		11311.16
		M&T Checking Accounts		+ 9830.18
		Total Monetary Assets		21141.34
		Projected Prudent Reserve-1yr.		-36000.00
		Reserve debit		(-14858.66)

GROUP			Common Hour			Giving	10.00	10.00
1st Step	40.00	80.00						
2nd Step		47.50	Common Problem		236.55	Golden Slipper		400.00
1st. Things 1st.		45.00	Common Problems at VA			Good Life		
3rd Step			Community Center	25.00	100.00	Grand		
6th Step			Cornplanters Again		110.00	Grand II Joy Of Living		120.00
A Day At A Time		240.00	Courage		465.00	Grateful		75.00
A Helping Hand		22.50	Delaware Discussion		245.00	H.A.N.D		245.00
Abbott Mens at VA			Derby	30.00	285.00	Half & Half		
Abbott Mens Discussion	10.00	70.00	Desire	100.00	185.00	Hamburg		175.00
Acceptance		375.00	DeVeaux Discussion		25.00	Handicappers Sat. Nite	50.00	100.00
Achievement		210.00	Downtown Discussion		60.00	Happy Hour		140.00
Action		50.00	Downtown Men's Disc.	30.00	75.00	Harmony	5.00	35.00
Active Achievement			Dunkirk		20.00	High View		
Age Doesn't Matter			E.C.M.C.			Hill Billy		480.00
Albion			Early Beginnings		25.00	Honesty		270.00
All Women			Early Bird			Humbly Willing		
Amherst Snyder		500.00	Early Start			Ignatia		30.00
Amherst Tree of Life		60.00	Easier Softer Way			Inner City		160.00
Amsdell Lakeshore			East Amherst			Inspiration		100.00
Any Age		25.00	East Aurora	35.00	385.00	Iron Horse		95.00
Arcade			East Aurora		25.00			
Attitude Adjustment			Eden-North Collins		240.00	Kenmore		100.00
Attraction		205.00	Ellicott		215.00	Kensington		120.00
Dinner's Table			Ellicottville			Ladies Night		
Beginnings			Emergency			Lakeshore		110.00
Bidwell		70.00	Eternal Vigilance		115.00	Lakeview	60.00	120.00
Bidwell Monday Disc.		50.00	Everybody's		40.00	Lazy Bee Ranch		
Big Book			Eye Opener		200.00	Let Go & Let God		175.00
Blasdell						Lew-port		20.00
Boulevard Women's	20.00	80.00	Father Baker		140.00	Liberty Women's		52.00
Brass	10.00	70.00	Feelings			Live and Let Live		325.00
Broadway-Bailey	20.00	110.00	Fireside		2595.00	Living Sober	30.00	280.00
Brocton Discussion		30.00	Fireside PM		101.00	Lock City		100.00
Came to Believe		212.00	Ford	200.00	650.00	Lockport #1		
Campus			Fredonia Bkft. Meeting			Lockport Discussion		
Casting		100.00	Fredonia Discussion			Lockport Ladies		
Cathedral Park		90.00	Freedom	25.00	250.00	Lockview		200.00
Caz Manor		50.00	Fresh Start			Lovejoy		20.00
Cazenovia		160.00	Friday Nite Disc.			Main View Manor		45.00
Central Park			Friendly	185.80	460.80	Marilla		
Chapter IX	20.00	145.00	Friendship Fireside			Matt Talbot	30.00	165.00
Chapter V								
Cheektowaga	120.00	240.00	Frontier		100.00			
Chevy #1						Mc Kinley Winners	40.00	120.00
Clarence Men's Dis		180.00	Gardenville		300.00	Medina		
Gold Springs	25.00	175.00	Getting it Together			Medina Sunday		

Mercy		60.00	Saturday Night Disc		20.00	University Men's	150.00	1650.00
Mid-day			Saturday Night Alive			Urban	120.00	300.00
Mid-Erie AA Grp.		4.00	Saturday Nite Live		20.00	V.I.P.		
Midnite			Second Chance			Valley		
Miracle			Security			Veteran's Hospital		
MOD			Serendipity			Victory		
Monday Nite			Serenity	25.00	125.00	We Admitted		50.00
Morning After			Sheridan	30.00	330.00	We Are Not Saints		
NDH-Tonawanda Forge			Silver Creek			We Care		230.00
Never Too Late			Sober Trail			We Choose Life		
New Awakening						We Need You		
New Beginnings		50.00	Sobriety Men's Disc			Wed. Lunchtime	20.00	164.65
New Direction			Somerset			Welcome		
New Frontier		100.00	South Buffalo		225.00	Welcome Home		200.00
New Frontier Womans		25.00	South Town	100.00	340.00	West Seneca Sat. Nite		500.00
New Life		40.00	Southgate	12.50	30.50	West Valley		
New Westside			Southwestern		80.00	Westfield		120.00
New Zion		500.00	Spirit of H.O.P.E.		40.00	Westminster		
Niagara Frontier Men's		20.00	Springville		90.00	WHY		260.00
North Buffalo	80.00	880.00	Springville-no smoking		5.00	Williamsville	50.00	234.00
North Java			St. Barnabus		160.00	Wilson		
One-Day at a Time (ODAT)			Step		40.00	Women's Westside Disc.		150.00
Open Arms			Stepping Stones		60.00	Working		
Open Mind		110.00				You'll Never Walk Alone		
Pass It On		40.00	Sunday Niters	20.00	180.00	Youngstown		30.00
Patchin		100.00	Sunday Third		15.00	Native American		22.21
Peaceful			Sunrise Court		50.00	We Have A Dream		20.00
Perry		50.00	SUNY - Amherst Campus		50.00	42 GRPS CONTRI.	2203.30	29866.21
Positively Living			Surburban		50.00			
Positively Living II			Swinging Door		50.00	LAST MONTH		27662.91
Primary Purpose			T'n'T			42 GROUPS		2203.00
Progress		600.00	TGIF		150.00	ACCUM TOTAL		29866.21
Purpose		289.00	Thankful	50.00	231.00			
Rainbow	20.00	120.00	The Way		170.00			
Ray of Hope	50.00	260.00	Thru-way	60.00	2280.00			
Remember When	50.00	100.00	Thursday Afternoon Disc.					
Renewal			Thursday Nonsmoking					
Rush Hall	25.00	275.00	Today					
			Tri-County					
Rush Manor		160.00	Trinity Monday Night	150.00	575.00			
S. S. Sobriety		98.50	Tuesday Men's Disc.					
Salamanca			Tuesday Women's Disc.		30.00			
Salamanca-Freedom			Turning Point		50.00			
Sally Group			Twin Cities	25.00	300.00			
Salvation Army			United Brotherhood					
Saratoga		200.00	Unity	45.00	325.00			