

NEW FRONTIERS

SEPTEMBER 2010

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.

A Reluctant AA

gets a reminder of how it works

DURING my three years in AA I have made quite a few Twelfth Step calls and have spoken often at different meetings. I have said that I would help anyone at any time or place if I was asked to do so.

As an engineer on the railroad, I have seen the boys along the tracks taking their pulls on the jug in the hobo jungles on the right of way. Before AA I was often in worse shape at the throttle of an engine than the canned-heat boys along the track.

I work nights, and at about four A.M. recently a member of my crew came up to the engine to tell me that a fellow down in the shanty wanted help. This was the first time that this had happened on the job and I was reluctant to go. All of the men I work with knew I was in AA but didn't know much about how the program worked. The first thought that came to mind was what my fellow workers would think of me. I began reverting to my alcoholic thinking. I was now sober and happy and, I guess, a little complacent. What would my fellow workers think about the great "me" trying to help a hobo? Who was I but a bum a few short twenty-four hours ago?

When I reached the shanty I found a shaking, dirty, sick version of the former me, with a small difference. This man was a sick person in need of help and I was in a position to try to help him if I wished. He told me that he had been in AA years ago but now had lost everything and needed help.

What are the thoughts that went through my mind? I am ashamed to say that I didn't want to help him. I even asked God to get me out of it. There were two hours left to work on my shift and so I told the man to wait for me. I left the shanty praying that he would be gone when I returned.

When I finally did return, there was my boy as big as life and twice as shaky and sick. With the change of shift there were more of my coworkers on hand who might ridicule me.

I asked the guy to be patient a little longer while I called a friend about a bed for him. After being assured that there was a bed at the Terrace House, I returned and helped him to my car, under the watchful eyes of all my pals, still feeling that they were making fun of me.

As we started for the Terrace House, he told me his story. He also mentioned that this was Father's Day. He said he had a family and that he hoped his son would think enough of some other person to try to help as I was helping him. You can imagine how I felt inside!

His story brought tears to my eyes and also opened them to the realization that I was trying to help another human being. I was trying to carry out the purpose for which all of us were put on this earth: to be of some help to our fellow man. It was the start of one of the best days that God has allowed me to live.

When my boy was in bed and settled, I started for home. The sun was just coming up and with it I received a feeling too wonderful to put into words. The privilege of helping a fellow alcoholic was one of the greatest blessings that I have received since coming to AA.

I don't know how this man made out, but I do know the help he gave to me- for he gave me the will to grow a little on this program.

G. S.
Buffalo, New York
Printed in Grapevine; June 1964

A “Singleness of Purpose” Amend

I recently completed the Eighth Step and have decided that my first amends should be to Alcoholics Anonymous itself, which I believe I have harmed to some extent by violating its singleness of purpose.

I used to identify myself as an alcoholic and an addict. I do not anymore because I now believe other addictions are irrelevant at A.A. meetings. But, aside from that, I also used to insist on talking about my other addictions beyond what was necessary to relate them to alcohol. I justified this by saying that alcohol was just another drug and so it was unfair to expect me not to talk about all my addictions. And refused to attend any other fellowship because I claimed to prefer the wisdom and sobriety in AA.

I realize now how inconsiderate and self-centered this position was. It is not a question of what is fair or whether alcohol is just another drug. The Traditions and Primary Purpose of A.A. are what they are whether I agree with them or not.

In the past, when I was active, I often had dinner at the homes of people who did not use drugs, but who did drink. I never considered insisting that I had the right to smoke a joint at their dinner table because they were drinking wine.

And imagine if I had, and then added insult to injury by saying: “And not only do I have a right to use any drug I want to around here if you’re going to drink, but I’m going to keep coming back and I’m going to keep using any drug I want to in your home because I like the food you serve and your company better than the food and company I find in the homes of my drug addict friends.

And I have the right to do this because all drugs are the same and I don't care what the rules or customs of your home are. Such a gross abuse of hospitality sounds preposterous, but that is essentially what I was doing by insisting that I had a right to violate A.A.'s singleness of purpose. I was abusing the hospitality of this Fellowship.

This is not an apology. I was too sick to realize how selfishly I was acting, and a mere apology is not necessarily an amends. I am hoping to amend the harm I did by stating clearly what I did, for the benefit of others, and, further, by not doing it again.

H.D., New Medford. N.J.

Eastern Idaho Sobriety Corner Sept. '09

Step 9— Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Tradition 9 - A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

The Long Form - Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

Concept IX - Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

Step Nine Promises:

"If we are painstaking about the phase of our development,

- ◆ We will be amazed before we are half way through.
- ◆ We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.
- ◆ We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.
- ◆ We will comprehend the word Serenity and we will know peace.
- ◆ We will see how our experience can benefit others.
- ◆ That feeling of uselessness and self pity will disappear.
- ◆ We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows.

- ◆ Self seeking will slip away.
 - ◆ Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change.
 - ◆ Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us.
 - ◆ We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us.
 - ◆ We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.
- Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us — sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly.

They will always materialize if we work for them.

Alcoholics Anonymous Pages 83 & 84

Emotional Sobriety

Tradition Nine is about giving up my need to control, about letting go of my fear of others. It's the lack of control over what they might or might not do that concerns me. If I trust the Traditions to be my guide on all matters having to do with the Fellowship, then I'll trust our trusted servants to serve us in the best way they can at this moment. That will never be perfect, but it will usually be good enough. A guy I know is always saying something like "Good is the enemy of the best" but there is another saying, from Voltaire, "Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good." As long as our trusted servants are not really messing up, I think we and A.A. will survive. I'll try not to worry that newcomers will drink and die because they see someone with human frailties, someone who is not perfect, leading a meeting or making the coffee. When I let go of that worry, my life is much more serene and easy because I don't have to be the director of everything. Letting go of control opens me to greater acceptance and tolerance. Instead of beating my friends up for not being perfect, I can love and accept them for who they are really. Therefore, Tradition Nine encourages several high spiritual principles. It frees me up take my own inventory while I let you serve our group. Nice concept.

In one of my home groups we have a rule. Sure, A.A. is not supposed to have rules but "it is equally clear that we shall always need to authorize workers to serve us." So we do have a rule which we believe is necessary to our group functioning. The rule is this: In order to have a service position you have to be elected and you must have a desire to stop drinking. We have no fear about this. Maybe our treasurer will get drunk and run off with the money. Maybe the Secretary will come in drunk and need some help reading through the format. Maybe the coffee won't get made. Oh, the horror! But then, I guess that can happen in any group; no matter what the service requirements are. But "unless each AA member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve Steps to recovery, he a most certainly signs his own death warrant. His drunkenness and dissolution are not penalties inflicted by people in authority; they result from his personal disobedience to spiritual principles... Great suffering and great love are AA's disciplinarians; we need no others."

Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 174, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

The occasion to actually come face-to-face with this problem will hopefully be rare; but if it does, our group is ready. In this group we give our love to those who have a desire to stop drinking. Whenever a newcomer is present we invariably turn the meeting into a First Step meeting and share our experience, strength and hope on how we got through the first days of sobriety. We would do the same if our Secretary or coffee maker or treasurer came in drunk or, yes, high on drugs. We would gather round that person, share our experience strength and hope and welcome them back into the fold without punishment, humiliation or shame.

We would give them any help they wanted to achieve sobriety. I am mindful that this rule might not work in your group or at all levels of service but we have faith that we will endure and succeed in our recovery if we trust each other. If not, another experiment in A.A. will have been tried and new lessons will be learned. Next, maybe we will discuss a rule about the crosstalk.

-Rich H.

Note: Willingness to let go of old ways of thinking and behaving seems to be what emotional sobriety is.

Maui Serenity
Reprinted from; Gazette September, 2009

THE ISOLATOR GOES TO A CONVENTION

When I drank, I drank alone. No bars for me! Too much trouble, and I couldn't drink in public the way I wanted to anyway. So I drank alone. And since I drank all the time, I was always alone.

When I finally got to the point where I couldn't go on anymore, it had been a very long time since I had been around people, so coming to AA was a huge change. I sure wouldn't have done it if I hadn't been so desperate. I was more afraid of drinking than I was of you, but only a little. I was afraid of your friendliness, and of your laughter. I didn't understand your language, didn't understand your Steps, and certainly didn't understand how anyone could refer to himself or herself as a "grateful alcoholic". I was separate and unique, you know. Fortunately, I got a sponsor who understood my fears and had the patience to lead me slowly, not just into the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, but also into the fellowship.

When I was about seven months sober the AA Convention was coming up, and my sponsor was the Volunteer Chair. Guess who he thought ought to volunteer? By that time, I had begun to feel a little more comfortable being around people, and had even made a few new friends, but that was in the small, familiar discussion groups I attended on a regular basis. The idea of mingling with 800 or 1000 sober alcoholics wasn't high on my list of things I wanted to do.

In spite of all my attempts to convince my sponsor I didn't have the time to go to the convention, (you know how busy you are when you're new), on Saturday morning I found myself paired up with Wayne at the Memorabilia table, selling T-shirts and coffee mugs. We weren't very busy, so we spent most of the three-hour shift talking, one

alcoholic to another. To my surprise, I found I had made a new friend. And I was trusted enough to handle the moneybox - that made me feel good.

When our shift was over, I didn't go home as I had planned to do. Instead, I went to a marathon meeting and met more members of AA. I sat in the hospitality lounge drinking coffee with them, talking about recovery. I watched the Saturday night speaker on closed circuit TV. I even went to the dance with a woman I had met in the program. Though it wasn't a real date, we both had a lot of fun, and I learned I didn't have to have a drink in order to get out on the dance floor.

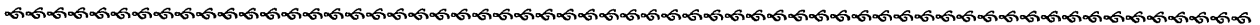
Finally, I went to the Sunday morning "spiritual meeting". What a wonderful way to complete a weekend of growth for me. I felt connected to AA and to the many people who are part of our sober community. I felt newly committed to my recovery. I had begun to understand what a gift this program is.

Only a few months before, the highlight of any given day was when I would get home, pull the shades, and pull my bottle out of the cupboard - the only companion I thought I needed. At the convention, I discovered I am truly not alone any more. I don't have to go back to that empty house, to that empty life.

I eventually married the woman I took to that first convention dance, by the way, and today we have a wonderful life together. None of that would have happened had my sponsor not gotten me involved in service, or if I had done what comes naturally to me - sitting home alone. I'm grateful to that sponsor, and I'm grateful to AA for giving me a life.

~ Anonymous in SB

September 2004, The Messenger, Santa Barbara



Children of Alcoholics at Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Many Alcoholics Anonymous groups have struggled and are struggling with the issues that arise when A.A. members bring their children to meetings. I first became aware of this problem in approximately 1990 when a large group in the area was being threatened to lose the use of a very nice facility due to the havoc that unsupervised children were raising, especially in the adjoining cafeteria, while the meeting was in session.

Over the years I have also heard members state that they escape the building if children of a certain age arrive due to anonymity issues. I've heard this most commonly from school teachers but many professions can become affected when children know of a person's membership in A.A. Picture the difficulty children can cause for school bus drivers and their aids, crossing guards, police, nurses, pediatricians, etc.

Groups have tried to manage this issue by installing door guards and hallway monitors. They have issued statements prohibiting children on doors or in the A.A. schedule. Babysitting ser-

New Frontiers

vice has been offered by one group to my knowledge and the idea has been tinkered with by other groups. A babysitting service is a troublesome solution in my opinion.

After many hours of research and meditation regarding the use of a babysitter during a meeting I've found a few statements of Bill W.'s from "Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age" that are pertinent to the problem. Please keep in mind that examples at a global level tend to be taken from the most exaggerated cases. This makes for interesting reading but does tend to give license to situations that are less extreme. So with this caveat in mind, consider this discussion of difficulties with Tradition Four.

As you recall Tradition Four states that "Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole." The quickly established rule of thumb was that groups wanted to have the "right to be wrong." They were given it.

From page 103: "To illustrate: Years ago in a certain town a super-promoter got sobered up in A.A. At once he got very big ideas, all for the good of A.A. of course. As he saw it, the right set-up would require a very big building and would take an awful lot of money. On one floor there would be a club. On the next, a clinic and rehabilitation center. Upstairs, there would surely have to be a loan agency where the indigent alcoholic could borrow a little spare cash."

The man successfully promoted the idea to the townspeople and group dissenters could not believe it when A.A. in New York allowed the project to proceed as long as it did not hurt surrounding groups. Of course, the project failed hugely but was lucky to have people with the character to pick up their bruised egos and carry on.

Now a babysitting service is at nowhere near the extravagance of this extreme example. However, consider these points. When we receive permission from a church or other institution to use their facilities, intrinsic in their understanding of this use is the idea of adult use only. Failing to inform the management is not honest. There are insurance issues involved in having children using the building without appropriate and perhaps licensed care. Imagine the ramifications of a child falling down the stairs or choking on some object.

Now consider Tradition Five: "Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." I think that the members of women's groups are especially torn when we see someone who needs a meeting struggling with childcare issues. Many of us have had those issues ourselves. However, for all the above stated reasons, the meeting itself does not, to me, seem the best place to address them.

Individuals, if they are especially called to babysit for a newcomer's child inside the home, may of course do so. Individuals, if so called, may help with the expense of a hired babysitter. Sometimes the newcomer is connected to other agencies or persons that would help but they simply find it easier to bring the child along to the meeting. These persons need to be gently informed that it would be better to use the other facilities. Keep in mind that children of alcoholics may have severe behavior or emotional problems too. Solving these problems, as heartless as it may seem, is not the A.A. group's purpose.

In response to all this, some may state that the traditions are suggestions not rules. To quote from again from "Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age" page 106: "Then comes the final level of obedience, the best of all. We obey A.A.'s Steps and Traditions because we really want them for ourselves. It is no longer a question of good or evil; we conform because we genuinely want to conform. Such is our process of growth in unity and function. Such is the evidence of God's grace and love among us."

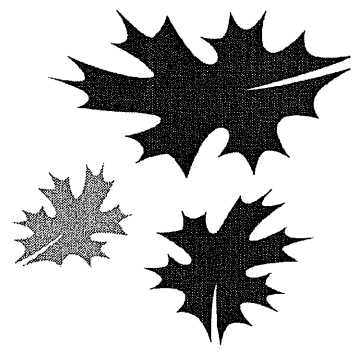
*J.H.
Buffalo, NY*

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Alexander
 John R. 2y
 Mark C. 3y
 Jim P. 9y
 Howard W. 27y
 Bill A. 28y
Amherst/Snyder
 Jen R. 3m
 Robert W. 9m
 Linsay H. 9m
 David Z. 6y
 Dennis K. 26y
 Dan J. 34y
Big Book Lockport
 Amanda S. 2y
 Maureen M. 9y
 Joe W. 38y
Carry The Message
 Kathy W. 10y
Easy Does It
 Sean O. 3m
 Veronica J. 6y
 Theresa B. 15y
 Joe E. 21y
Fireside AM
 Amy C. 2y
 Sue S. 4y
 Jill P. 5y
Fresh Start
 Reggie 14y
 Margaret 32y
Golden Slipper
 Jim S. 3y
 Bob A. 23y
H.A.N.D.
 Dennis S. 3y
Helping Hand
 Francis 20y
Holland
 Marcy M 24y
 Jim F. 47y
How It Works
 Mike M. 3m
 Rich B. 6m
 Dave R. 6m
 Rich B. 6m
 Jeff F. 1y
 John W. 1y
 Kamron A. 3y
 Gary B. 7y
 John T. 18y
 Adolf I. 20y
 Bill L. 30y

Ironhorse
 Brandon B. 3y
 Mike B. 12y
 John H. 12y
Lakeshore
 Bob D. 1y
 Leslie K. 2y
 John H. 30y
 Dan J. 34y
Lighten-Up
 Jill P. 5y
 Marilyn N. 8y
 Mary P. 11y
 Bob R. 18y
 Steve B. 19y
 Marybeth 23y
 Laura R. 25y
 Howard W. 31y
Lockport #1
 J.R. 9y
LoveJoy
 Suzanne T. 3m
 Bill T. 6m
 Eugene J. 6m
 Kenny J. 9m
 Chissie C. 1y
 Harry P. 24y
North Buffalo
 Molly D. 3m
 Chuck S. 3m
 Todd S. 3m
 Chris M. 3m
 Maria C. 3m
 Andrew C. 3m
 Paul C. 6m
 Kim S. 6m
 Deborah W. 6m
 Mike G. 6m
 Chris D. 6m
 Eugene S. 6m
 Charlesl. 1y
 Brian H. 1y
 Anne Marie 2y
 Jeff H. 2y
 Chris K. 3y
 Larry A. 3y
 Carrie R. 4y
 John S. 5y
 Dawn H. 5y
 Kevin S. 7y
 Tony R. 21y

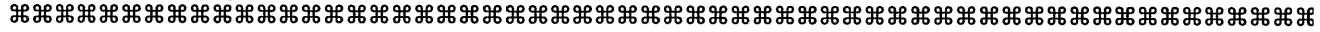
Orchard Park Step
 Laura D. 10y
Remember When
 Wendy A. 2y
 Rebero P. 6y
 Annette L. 6y
 Karen B. 6y
 Andrew S. 8y
 Yolanda S. 8y
 Jacqueline P 10y
 Randy H. 10y
 Yovonne D. 24y
Rise & Shine
 Patrick S. 3m
 Tracy N. 6m
 Keith L. 3y
 Tamika C. 3y
 Larry A. 3y
 Thomas L. 3y
 Robert G. 13y
Sheridan
 Butch C. 9m
 Chere' 1y
 Brian H. 1y
 Betsy E. 10y
 Dan M. 20y
 Jean M. 25y
 Butch H. 30y
Springville
Tuesday
 Steve H. 22y
 Larry S. 29y
Spiritual Progress
 Kathy 2y
 Michelle M. 3y
 Barbara C. 3y
 Carrie R. 4y
 Terrie W 5y
Sun. Morning Br.
 Bob K. 2y
 Chris S. 5y
Surrender & Hope
 Cindy S. 3y
 Gary Z. 12y
Thruway
 Paul P. 1y
 Tiffany G. 2y
 Leo 22y



Group Anniversaries

11:45 Noon; 13y
 Acceptance; 35y
 Action; 41y
 Arcade; 17y
 Boulevard Women's; 43y
 Cathedral Park; 21y
 Cornplanters; 37y
 Easter Softer Way; 17y
 Fireside PM; 28y
 Fredonia Discussion; 39y
 Fresh Start; 27y
 Frontier; 43y
 Golden Slipper; 36y
 H.A.N.D.; 28y
 Honesty; 36y
 Iron Horse
 Main Street
 North Buffalo; 69y
 Orchard Park Step; 22y
 Recovering Women & the Big
 Renewal; 38y
 Step Work; 20y
 Sobriety For Women; 10y
 South Town; 26y
 Today's Women; 15y

 N. F. Policy:
*Anniversaries must
 be submitted by
 the 1st of
 the month previous*



PLEASE READ AT YOUR MEETING...HELP KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED:-)

*BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
(716) 853-0388
9:00 AM- 12:30PM, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM
Schedule on line at: www.ny-aa.org &
www.buffaloaany.org*

*681 SENECA STREET (Lower)
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14210
Fax: 853-0389
www.buffaloaany.org
buffalooa@hotmail.com*

SEPTEMBER 2010

MEETING CHANGES

- **New Meeting: Women in Recovery;** Stuyvesant Apts, Community Room, 245 Elmwood, Buffalo, 6:00 pm, closed meeting, open last week of the month.
- **ST.Mark's** meeting on Saturday's; **NO LONGER MEETS.** St. Marks Episcopal Church, 6596 E. Quaker Rd., Orchard Park.8 PM.
- **Gahada Goh,** Tuesday's & Thursday's, 8 PM, **has Resumed.** 12698 Southwestern Blvd(Rt. 20).
- **NEW MEETING; Abbott Corners,** Lakeshore Behavioral Health Building, 3176 Abbott Rd, Bldg A., Orchard Park. Wednesday's at 12 Noon..
- **NEW MEETING; Angola Early Bird,** Most Precious Blood Church, 192 Prospect St.(off Lake St.), Angola. Thursday's 7 AM.
- **Main & High Group needs fellowship support.** Thursday's 6PM. Lifetime Health Care Center. 876 Main St. Buffalo(between Carlton & Virginia St's).
- **Honest Solutions Group** in Gowanda that closed after flooding is **resuming.** Meet in the St. Mary's Rectory behind church. Monday's & Friday's. 12 Noon.
- **Living In The Solution Group is in need of support!** We meet Wed. (OD), Thurs. (Big Book Study), and Sat. (OD) at 8:00pm. 340 Military Road, corner of Hertel Ave. The facility we meet at has not closed its doors as per rumors around the rooms... we are STILL MEETING! Come out and share with us.
- **Friends of Bill W.** group is adding meeting day's, they will now meet **Wednesday's @ 6:00 PM & Sunday's @ 7:30 PM,** also. Grove St. Christian Church, 85 Grove St., Tonawanda.
- **SUNY-AMHERST CAMPUS; has moved** to the Newman Center, 495 Skinnersville Rd., Amherst. *pm Thursday's. Closed Meeting.
- **Living Clean Group has resumed; Tuesday's 7 PM.** Sisters Hospital, Conference Rm C on 3rd Floor. 2157 Main St., Parking \$1. Open Meeting.
- **Victory Woman's Group is changing their starting time to 6:30 PM. Wednesday's,** OLV Basilica basement. Lackawanna, Parking behind church.
- **Central City Cafe' Group; Needs Support.** Monday @ 1PM,Durham Memorial Outreach Center, 200 E. Eagle St.
- **New Westside on Serenity Group DID NOT MOVE.** Tuesday night at 8 PM. First Presbyterian Church, 1 Symphony Circle, Bflo West.
- **Happy Faces Group,** has **changed** its meeting **time to 10:30 am.** Tuesdays & Fridays; Faith Temple C.L.G., 461 Rhode Island St., Buffalo, 14213. Open Discussion.
- **Thursday PM Discussion is restarting with a new name and place;** Sprout into Sobriety, will resume meeting on August.12; 1pm, Living Faith Church, 1907 Center Rd. (corner of Center & Seneca), West Seneca. Open Discussion.
- **IF YOUR GROUP IS NOT MEETING, PLEASE INFORM THE CENTRAL OFFICE. THIS ALSO INCLUDES THOSE MEETING DAYS WHEN YOUR SITE IS CLOSED FOR A HOLIDAY.**

COMING EVENTS

- ~ Sept 3-5, **57th Annual Tri-State Assembly, "Acceptance is the Key"**. Chautauqua Institute. Flyer's at Central Office.
- ~ Sept. 11, **69th Buffalo Fall Convention Meeting**, Saturday, 12 NOON Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street .
- ~ Sept. 12, **Steering Committee**, SUNDAY 5 PM, Central Office, 681 Seneca
- ~ Sept. 12, **Central Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 7 pm, Buffalo Central Office, (hosted by Sobriety Men's Group)
- ~ Sept. 12, **Corrections Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca
- ~ Oct 10, **General Service Assembly**, 12 Noon. Hamburg Town Hall, 711 Club in Jamestown.
- ~ Sept. 13, **GSA, Area 50, District 11 Business Meeting**, Monday, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. Niagara Branch Library, 280 Porter Ave, Buffalo. Contact Maureen M., 716-310-5885 for more info.
- ~ Sept. 18, **Area 50, District 11, 2nd Annual Day of Sharing**. 4-7 PM. Speaker, Panel, Food & Fellowship. Lafayette Presbyterian Church, 875 Elmwood Ave (corner of Lafayette). "the G.S.R. "Maybe the Most Important Job in A.A. "
- ~ Sept. 18, **Archives Committee Meeting**, SATURDAY, 9 am.
- ~ Sept. 21, **Public Information Committee meeting**, Tuesday, Anyone interested in helping the community understand who we are, what we do, and what we are not to do, PLEASE come out and get involved. Help keep A.A. around for your children. Buffalo Central Office, 6 PM.
- ~ Sept. 18, **Archives Committee Meeting**, SATURDAY, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office.
- ~ Set 20, **Treatment Facilities Committee**, MONDAY, 6 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street. Please if you or your group are taking a meeting into a treatment facility , could you please send a rep to this meeting.
- ~ Sept 25, **The High Noon** group is having a **Day of Sharing** on Saturday at the Unitarian Universalist Church (where they usually meet), 6320 Main St. in Williamsville. The theme for this event is "Hitting the Wall." We will start at 1:00 pm and end at 5:00 pm. Come and join us as we share with speakers, panels and step work as we continue our journey toward *contented* sobriety. Snacks and refreshments will be served.
- ~ Sept 26, **Action Group 42st Anniversary**. Speaker with food to follow. Bring a dish if you wish. Orchard Park village hall, 4295 S. Buffalo St.
- ~ Oct 1-3, **Women's Fall Spiritual Weekend Retreat**; We will be back at the Columbian Center, Derby, NY. We will enjoy a weekend centered around the AA Promises. More information to follow. Contact: Ruthie M. 825-5642 or Laurie M. 480-9680
- ~ Oct. 6, **An Introduction To the 12 Steps Workshop**. To acquaint members with the 12 Steps in 5- 1-hour sessions. Sponsored by East Aurora Group, 8 PM., St Matthias Episcopal Church, 374 Main Street @ Maple. Journey through the 12 steps in 5/ 1 hr sessions. Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 & Nov 3.
- ~ Oct. 15-17, **AA Men's Spiritual Retreat**, Sponsored by University Men's Group, Stella Niagara Renewal Center. For information call Lee M.- 587-1875 or Carl S.- 479-4859.
- ~ Jamestown 65th AA Anniversary Weekend. Clarion Hotel, 200 3rd St., Jamestown.
- ~ Oct 29-31, **69th. BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION:** Buffalo Marriott Hotel, 1340 Millersport Hwy. Amherst.

9th STEP: "Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others."

9th TRADITION: "A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

9th CONCEPT; Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM...

Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit...Terry B..... Executive Secretary

IN MEMORIAM
Things We Can Not Change

To all our members who have lost family & loved ones our prayers are with you.

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope

Please submit your announcements by the **12th** for next month's issue.
Articles can be submitted at any time.

Buffalo Central Office

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"Let me know when you take your inventory. You'll need my help!"

AA Grapevine, Vol. 36 Issue 2, July 1979

Buffalo Central Committee Minutes August 1, 2010

Cindy Orchard Park Step Committee Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Jennifer Amherst Snyder read the Preamble, Raeanne Three Legacies Group read the Purpose of Central Committee and Pat Thruway Group read the Twelve Traditions. It was moved by Bob Any Lengths and seconded by Tom North Buffalo to accept the July minutes as written by MaryKate Three Legacies Group.

New Groups were greeted and 32 groups were represented: Dist #1 Main and High; Dist #2 Living Sober, North Buffalo, Sober Train, Step Action, Friends of Bill W, Common Solution; Dist #3 Abbott Men's Disc, Any Lengths, Courage, Iron Horse, OLV Women's, Ridge, Sober Saturday, Thruway, Valley; Dist #4 Action, Orchard Park Step; Dist #5 Big Book Lockport, Lockport #1; Dist #6 Amsdell Lakeshore, As Bill See's It, Derby, Sobriety Men's Disc, We Group; Dist #7 Coldspring, Fresh Start, Solidarity; Dist #8 Amherst Snyder, Eyeopener, Williamsville, Women Making the Effort.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ENVELOPE SYSTEM:** Jennifer reported that \$202.00 was brought in by Envelope System.
- STEERING COMMITTEE:** Gilbert reported that District # 1,4,8 and Co-Chair Were absent. Quorum present. Dist #2 would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the groups who have sponsored or will sponsor special events, like days of sharing, picnics and simple eating meetings this summer. This enhances our fellowship and shows the newcomer AA is not just meetings. The smaller groups that could not easily setup events like these also benefit, thank you. Dist # 3 and 5 reported new meetings, By the Wayside and Newfane Living Sober. Dist #6 requesting seed money for Day of Sharing, Sept 18 in Town of Sheridan at The Old St. John Bosco Fellowship Hall. Discussion with Corrections Chair, mutual understanding reached regarding overlap and disruption of meeting.
- FINANCIAL REPORT:** Rick gave verbal report.
- TREATMENT:** Brian reported that TFC will be meeting the next 3 months on the 3rd Monday at 6 PM at Central Office. Promise House Woman's Inpatient Facility asked for a meeting which will start in August on Saturday at 1 PM. Looking for female facilitators. Transitional Services on Elmwood up and running looking for groups or individual AA's to cover Tuesday at 5 PM.
- CORRECTIONS:** No report
- SCREENERS:** No report
- CENTRAL OFFICE:** AA Info: 320, 12-Step: 2, Alanon: 4, PIC: 0, Visitors: 139, Volunteers: 19. Groups we are in need of contacts from are, Beginnings Women-8, Boulevard Women-2, Look to this Day-6 and University Men's-2. As I previously stated, known vacation days this year, August 26, 27, 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3 and 8.
- NEW FRONTIERS:** No report
- PIC:** Patrick reported that there is a health fair scheduled for August 7th at the Amherst Senior Center that is being put on by NYS Assemblyman Jim Hayes. We have been given a donation of table cloths from Lockport #1 for our display

and we will be working to get graphics put on them. We also have a separate donation of a Spanish Big Book and 12 and 12 from Abbott Men's that we plan to use as part of our display. Our letter to the Buffalo News requesting that they produce an article with our assistance will be going out this week. Dist #11 TFC has requested our CPC services in speaking to the staff of the facilities they end up servicing. Our co-chair is meeting with their committee today. Restocking of the libraries has begun again.

- CURRENT CONVENTION:** Not present
- AD HOC COMMITTEE:** No report
- GSA LIASON:** Not present
- ARCHIVES:** Pat reported that Archives is in the process of buying a new TV which will be 32 inches to show our DVD's at conventions or upon request. As always we need 30 days notice from groups to make sure we will be available for that date. We like to thank all groups for your donations. Please make checks payable to Archives at Area 50 WNY.
- OLD BUSINESS:** Motion was defeated to give Executive Secretary 0% raise.
- NEW BUSINESS:** A motion was made to allow By the Wayside and Newfane Sober Living into the schedule, all in favor, adopted. Motion was made by Pete to give Dist #6 Day of Sharing on Sept 18, \$250 seed money, seconded by Troy Abbott Men's Disc. In Favor-25, Opposed-1. Minority opinion heard, motion carries. Milt Lakeshore Group made motion of 2% pay raise for Executive Secretary, seconded by Brian Sober Train. Motion was tabled for next month's meeting. Convention Co-chair nominations from Dist #7, Stanley Coldsprings Group and Tina Fresh Start, vote tabled till next month.

Cindy Orchard Park Step Committee Chair thanked Derby Group for this month's refreshments and September's to be provided by Sobriety Men's Group.

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 12TH 2010

It was moved by Angel Lockport #1 Group and seconded by Vernon Solidarity Group that we adjourn; adopted. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted by MaryKate Recording Secretary Three Legacies Group

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

DISTRICT	GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
		JULY	YEAR	JULY	YEAR	JULY	YEAR
	11:45		60.00		0.00		0.00
	12 Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
	12 Steps/12 Traditions	50.00	150.00		0.00		0.00
	4th Step Stumblers/F. U.N.		0.00		0.00		0.00
	6th Step	37.50	37.50		0.00		0.00
	A Day At A Time		48.00		0.00		0.00
	Abbott Men's	130.00	535.00	130.00	230.00	130.00	230.00
	Acceptance/Welcome		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Achievement		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Action		50.00		25.00		25.00
	Age Doesn't Matter		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Akron Awareness		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Alexander		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Amherst/ Snyder		650.00		0.00		0.00
	Amsdell Lakeshore		250.00		0.00		0.00
	Any Age		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Any Length	35.00	275.00	15.00	90.00	15.00	90.00
	Arcade		50.00		0.00		0.00
	As Bill Sees It		250.00		83.00		20.00
	Attitude Adjustment		50.00		25.00		25.00
	Attraction		300.00		0.00		0.00
	Backdoor		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Back To Basics		60.00		0.00		0.00
	Beginners Group (NF)		20.00		0.00		0.00
	Beginning In Sobriety II		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Beginning's Women		150.00		75.00		75.00
	Big Book Lockport	75.00	275.00		0.00		0.00
	BB Spiritual Studies		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Big Book Study		60.00		0.00		0.00
	Biasdell		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Biasdell Monday Night		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Bodhisattva		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Boulevard Helping Hand		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Boulevard Women		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Brass		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Building Hope	50.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
	By The Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Carry the Message		200.00		0.00		0.00
	Casting		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Cathedral Park		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Cayuga Wake- Up Call	210.00	660.00	20.00	35.00	20.00	20.00
	Caz Manor		215.00		0.00		0.00
	Central City Cafe'		15.00		0.00		0.00
	Chapter IX		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Cheektowaga	125.00	425.00		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
	Commitment	200.00	300.00		0.00		0.00
	Constant Vigilance(Varysburg)		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Complanters		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Courage		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Daily Reflections		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Daily Reprieve		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Dawn of Hope	25.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
	Derby		180.00		0.00		0.00
	Derby Lunch		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Desire		500.00		0.00		0.00
	Desperate		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Downtown Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Dunkirk Monday Night		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Eagle Street		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Early Bird South		93.42		0.00		0.00
	Early Bird Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Early Rising Obliging		0.00		0.00		0.00
	East Amherst		0.00		0.00		0.00
	East Aurora		300.00		0.00		0.00
	Easy Does It	30.00	280.00	30.00	180.00	30.00	180.00
	Ellicottville		25.00		0.00		0.00
	Everybody's		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Express		14.00		0.00		0.00
	Eyeopener	210.85	1219.28		0.00		0.00
	Eyeopener South	75.00	475.00	25.00	75.00		0.00
	Father Baker		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Feelings		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Fireside PM		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Fireside	163.00	993.50		0.00		0.00
	First Things First		250.00		0.00		0.00
	Forestville Sunday Serenity		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Fredonia Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Freedom		250.00		0.00		0.00
	Fresh Start	45.00	90.00		0.00		0.00
	Friendly		0.00		0.00		0.00

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

DISTRICT	GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
		JULY	YEAR	JULY	YEAR	JULY	YEAR
1	Frontier(New)	45.58	1835.78		0.00		0.00
3	Gardenville		220.00		0.00		0.00
8	Georgetown		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Getting Better		0.00		0.00		0.00
6	Gettin With It	15.00	38.00		0.00		0.00
7	Gifted		0.00		0.00		0.00
1	Giving		0.00		0.00		0.00
6	Go to Any Length	516.50	921.50	34.43	61.43	34.43	61.43
5	Golden Slipper		50.00		0.00		0.00
2	Grand		70.00		0.00		0.00
2	Grand II Joy of Living		62.22		0.00		0.00
2	Grateful		50.00		0.00		0.00
3	H.O.V.		0.00		0.00		0.00
6	Hamburg		0.00		0.00		0.00
6	Hamburg Early Bird		0.00		0.00		0.00
8	Hand	40.00	80.00		0.00	10.00	20.00
2	Handicappers		150.00		0.00		0.00
1	Happy Faces		0.00		0.00		0.00
7	Harmony		0.00		0.00		0.00
3	Helping Hand		75.00		0.00		0.00
8	High Noon	300.00	950.00		0.00		0.00
8	High View	150.00	300.00		0.00		0.00
7	Higher Power		0.00		0.00		0.00
4	Hillbilly		360.00		0.00		0.00
6	Holiday Village		1325.00		125.00		100.00
4	Holland	70.00	120.00		0.00		0.00
6	Honest Solutions		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Honesty		105.00		0.00		0.00
2	How It Works/Men's		472.00		0.00		0.00
7	Humbolt		0.00		0.00		0.00
3	Inspiration		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	Intoxicated on Life		0.00		0.00		0.00
3	Ironhorse		708.00		70.80		70.80
8	IT		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	Johnson Creek Big Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
1	Journey		300.00		0.00		0.00
3	Just For Today/ Cheektowaga		100.00		0.00		0.00
5	Just For Today/ Albion		15.00		0.00		0.00
4	Keep It Simple Sister	30.00	60.00		0.00		0.00
2	Keep On Coming		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Kenmore		50.00		0.00		0.00
8	Kensington		0.00		0.00		0.00
6	Lake Shore		250.00		50.00		0.00
6	Lakeview	75.00	230.00		0.00		0.00
3	Lancaster Dailey Reprieve		113.25		0.00		0.00
	Lawyers		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	LewPort		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Liberty Women	50.00	160.00		0.00		0.00
4	Life Today		25.00		0.00		0.00
8	Lighten UP		300.00		0.00		0.00
1	Living Clean		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Living in the Solution		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Living Sober		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	Lock City	100.00	300.00		0.00		0.00
5	Lockport #1	250.00	600.00	25.00	50.00	25.00	50.00
5	Lockport Discussion		50.00		0.00		0.00
5	Lockport Ladies		50.00		0.00		0.00
5	Lockport Tuesday		150.00		48.00		0.00
5	Lockview		736.00		112.00		112.00
6	Look To This Day		0.00		0.00		0.00
7	Love		0.00		0.00		0.00
7	Lovejoy		25.00		0.00		0.00
5	Lower River		0.00		0.00		0.00
1	Main and High	20.00	46.84		0.00		0.00
4	Main Street		390.00		0.00		0.00
8	Maple Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
4	Marilla	50.00	145.00		0.00		0.00
3	Matt Talbot	50.00	410.00		0.00		0.00
6	McKinley Winners	30.00	60.00		0.00		0.00
5	MEDINA STEP WORK/BIG BOOK		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	Medina New Life		30.00		0.00		0.00
8	Mercy		100.00		0.00		0.00
3	Mid-day		80.00		0.00		0.00
8	Midnight Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	Miracle Happen		0.00		0.00		0.00
7	Monday CO	8.00	105.05		0.00		0.00
5	Monday Big Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
2	Morning After		100.00		0.00		0.00
7	New Awakening		0.00		0.00		0.00
3	New Beginnings/St. Vincent		30.00		0.00		0.00
	New Freedom		25.00		0.00		0.00
	New Hope		25.00		0.00		0.00
5	New International		20.00		0.00		0.00
3	New Life		100.00		0.00		0.00
5	New Outlook		0.00		0.00		0.00
1	New Westside		0.00		0.00		0.00
5	Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.	70.00	120.00		0.00		0.00
2	North Buffalo		800.00		200.00		200.00
4	North Java Monday		0.00		0.00		0.00
4	North Java Sunday		0.00		0.00		0.00

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