



~THE PIKES PEAK PINT~

Why Are We Anonymous?

Anonymity and humility walk hand-in-hand—My Sponsor

Before I came to A.A., I believed that being an alcoholic was a very shameful thing. I think that my family felt the same way, which would explain why they held so many secrets around my drinking. And that's what I thought Anonymity was about: Hiding the shameful secret of my alcoholism.

My perception of anonymity had not changed much when I made my first real attempts to get sober in A.A. I remember being enraged when a sponsor told members of our group that I had relapsed. Of course, he was wrong to share my struggles with others when I wouldn't approve—even if he had the best of intentions. It is a good thing that his violation of my confidence did not damage my confidence in A.A.

Years later, when I was finally in the correct position to receive recovery, I didn't care much who knew that I was an alcoholic, or if I had relapsed. I just wanted to stop hurting and I knew that I couldn't manage to make that happen on my own. I was beginning to see anonymity from a different perspective: If I would recover, I couldn't take any of the credit.

On my two-year sobriety birthday, I remember thanking my sponsor for saving my life. He replied, "Working with you has done as much to keep me sober as it has done for you. I thank God every day that He sent you into my life." Here was a new nugget about anonymity: When I began to recover, my sponsor couldn't take any of the credit either.

When I began to take step twelve, I was really excited to help someone get sober. However, after working with about a dozens alcoholics, not one of them had stayed sober. When I went over my disappointment with my sponsor, he told me that the purpose of working with others is for me to stay sober myself. Yet another facet of anonymity: The outcome of my work with others is in God's hands so He gets all the credit, not me.

Some more time passed and a few drunks I worked with stayed sober and, by God's grace, some of them really started to recover. Sometimes, they would bring their problems to me and I wouldn't have any good advice to give. I remember discussing one of these situations with my sponsor. He wondered why I was handing out advice in the first place. He said that the point of the steps is to strengthen our relationship with God to the point that we can rely on our intuition (our book calls this our vital sixth sense). A real gem about anonymity: Our problems get solved when we focus on our relationship with God and allow Him to guide us—no human power gets the credit.

Principles before personalities is the basis of anonymity in A.A. This means that we don't have any gurus other than God and nobody gets the credit for recovery but Him.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DOWNTOWN:	
Jess L.	7-02-12
Joe Q.	7-04-11
Tena	7-04-12
Chris V.	7-06-09
James W.	7-06-12
Heather S.	7-09-12
Daniel K.	7-10-13
James P.	7-11-15
Richard G.	7-4-12
Sharon S.	7-5-15
Tom R.	7-12-12
Lindsay H.	7-14-06
Marc U.	7-16-12
Lynn F.	7-21-08
Glen R.	7-22-11
Crystal S.	7-22-06
Roger C.	7-23-11
Dan H.	7-23-14
Chuck S.	7-22-14
Dan A.	7-24-63
Neal H.	7-24-87
Cynthia P.	7-25-88
Eric A.	7-25-04
John B.	7-28-12
Stephen N.	7-24-00

NEW WOMAN:		FRIDAY WOMEN'S:		EASY DOES IT:	
Donna B.	30 Years	Eve B.	7/11/04	Larry W.	07/01/2014
Denise J.	37 Years	Liz R.	7/11/09	Richard G.	07/04/2012
Renee	9 Years	Yvette W.	7/14/91	Elizabeth	07/05/2013
Jane C.	23 Years	Maxine R.	7/18/92	Adam	07/07/2013
Teresa E.	7 Years	Connie Sue	7/19/89	Christian R.	07/07/2014
Wendi P.	6 Years	Diane H.	7/24/94	Craig H.	07/08/2001
Olivia F.	4 Years	Linda G.	7/29/11	Barb T.	07/10/2004
Marilyn T.	26 Years	Nancy	7/30/84	Jason J.	07/10/2013
Susan V.	13 Years	STEEL MAGNOLIAS:		Curt W.	07/11/1990
Carol J.	11 Years	Jessie G.	5 Years	Cindy G.	07/12/2003
Erika G.	1 Years	Kathy T.	20 Years	Brian S.	07/13/2003
Karen T.	21 Years	Susan S.	22 Years	Yvette W.	07/14/1991
HAPPY DESTINY:		Tracey D.	3 Years	Donnie O.	07/18/2001
Mark K.	7-5-93			Ed J.	07/20/2007
Kristen K.	7-6-94			Ken H.	07/22/2013
				Mike R.	07/23/2013
				Chad	07/29/2013

You Never Know...

In the summer of 1988 I was full throttle head on into disaster. My favorite drug was 'more' and I didn't seem to have any trouble getting it. I would indulge to the max then get some 'more' to indulge even more still. This cycle was brutal and seemingly endless. My drinking was out of control and, as a baseline high, it blinded me to the rest of my insanity. Fortunately my wife had it together enough to see what was coming while she tried to shield our kids from my self-centered unmanageability.

One morning after a three-day bender, as I sat nursing my wounds, my wife said something that stopped me in my tracks. I watched the kids play in the living room as these words echoed to the core of my soul. "Are we really going to raise our kids like this?" BOOM the pain of this reality coupled with the anguish of the moment was more than I could bear and I began looking into finding help. I entered the Care Unit Of Tacoma near the end of October.

I entered a world of loving, caring and understanding people that were committed to helping me learn to help myself. They were committed to introducing me to a lifestyle and a fellowship that would allow me to grow out of myself and become a productive member of society. A by-product of this commitment was the friendships built on a spiritual foundation that holds true today.

I got a sponsor, read the book, worked the steps, worked with others and continued to help with whatever I was asked to help with. I went to a lot of meetings all over Tacoma and the friendships continued to grow. Eventually I started to experience the reality of the promises. I had to go more than half way through and none of them happened quickly but, they were real and I knew it, I could feel it. As I got farther and farther away from my last drink, my family got closer and closer to me. I was sober, happy and blessed.

We moved back to Colorado in 1995 and everything in and around us changed. I was separated from my A.A. family but still sober. I made a few meetings here and there but found them very different, awkwardly different. Being busy caring for mother, working full time, a wife and teenage kids strangled my time and impeded my efforts to get back involved in the fellowship. I began to drift away, then started drying out. Roughly three years later I found a small bottle of rum and it took ten years to finish drinking it.

In June of 2008 I went back to Washington and looked up one of the guys I met twenty years prior. I had a couple of drinks on board but that didn't stop me from visiting an old friend. I'm certain Vic knew I had a few and he proceeded to twelve step me with a loving, honest and open dialog that would have impressed Bill himself. The spiritual waters of another alcoholic telling his truth had nourished my seed of sobriety and, renewed an old friendship in the process. Six months later I found my way back to the rooms.

A little over a year ago I received a hand written letter from another old friend. A man that came to the rooms in 1989 struggling as many of us do. He was in and out but he kept coming back. We became friends and attended many meetings together. As time past I slowly lost track of him and he faded from memory when I moved away. In the letter he brought back some of those old memories. He shared his story of the last twenty years. He mentioned a meeting in 1994 where I said something that resonated with him and, he's been sober ever since.

I met with this man last month and we had a nice visit. We talked about a number of the persons in those circles back then. We shared a little about what it was like, what happened and where we are today. We rekindled an old friendship that was built on that spiritual foundation. I asked him what it was I said in that meeting so long ago to which he replied "Rod, that was a long time ago", he simply didn't remember.

So, I guess the lesson in all this is when you share from the heart you never know who might be listening, who you might touch and who's life you might save.

Keep going to meetings, share your truth and be well...

_ROD Q

CONCEPT 7:

The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

TRADITION 7:

Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

TRADITION 7 CHECKLIST:

1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

STEP 7:

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP NAME (2016-2017)	YTD	MAY	GROUP NAME (2016-2017)	YTD	MAY
A Common Solution	\$62.73		Off The Wall	\$63.43	\$63.43
Above the Bar Group			Old North End Study Group		
Apex			Pre-Dawn Meeting		
Back to Basics	\$156.34	\$50.36	Primary Purpose		
Beacon Light Group	\$100.00	\$100.00	Progress Not Perfection	\$47.75	\$31.00
Big Book Action	\$300.00		Recovery in Action	\$80.35	
Big Book Study UPH			Recovery, Unity, Service Group		
Black Forest	\$153.42		Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$106.80	
Broadmoor			Security Eye Opener		
Brown Baggers			Serenity Hour	\$150.00	\$75.00
Central			Serenity Riders		
Clean Air Group	\$80.00	\$80.00	Serenity Sisters		
Don't Worry Be Happy			Solutions at Noon		
Down By The Creek			Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$71.40	\$50.70
Downtown Group			Steel Magnolias	\$59.63	
Drylander's Group			Stepping Stones		
Easy Does It			Sunday Morning Speaker		
Ellicott Group			Sunlight of the Spirit		
Foxhall Group	\$250.00		Taking Steps	\$231.00	
Freedom From Bondage			The Doctor's Opinion	\$100.00	\$100.00
Friday Night Live			The Garage Meeting	\$46.00	\$46.00
Friday Women's Group			Then and Now		
Good Ole Boys	\$100.00	\$100.00	Thursday Men's Group	\$340.00	
Happy Destiny	\$87.76		Thursday Noon--Woodland Park	\$72.00	
Happy Heathens			Traditions Only		
Happy Hour			Treating The Illness		
Happy, Joyous & Free			Turning Point		
High Noon	\$20.00		Ute Pass Breakfast Group		
H.O.W.			Veterans for AA		
Into Action			Walk the Talk	\$75.00	\$50.00
Keystone to Recovery			Walking on Water		
Lake George Group			We Are Not Saints		
Little Log Church Group	\$81.00		Westside Eye Opener		
Living Free	\$57.00		Women of Grace		
Living Sober South	\$94.40	\$63.40	Woodland Park Beginners		
M.A.G.	\$367.97		Woodland Park Book Study	\$157.33	\$157.33
Natural High			Woodland Park Women's Step Study		
New Beginners	\$205.39	\$205.39	Young People		
New Woman	\$167.34		Totals:	\$4,115.53	\$1,404.10
Northwesters	\$231.49	\$231.49			



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING CANCELLATIONS:

PROGRESS NOT PERFECTION (WOMEN'S)

Peakview Church of God
Saturday at 10am
401 West Bijou, 80904

CANCELLED

WEB COMMITTEE

1:00pm second Saturday of the month
5965 N. Academy Blvd. #203
Pikes Perk Coffee & Tea House

CANCELLED

TRADITIONS ONLY

third Sunday of the month
Breakfast 9-10am, discussion meeting 10am-12pm
Village Inn on Circle Drive @ I-25

CANCELLED

NEW MEETINGS:

FRIDAY NITE 'BAR EXAMS' (OPEN, HANDICAP ACCESS)

Discussion
Friday at 5:30pm
(Broadmoor Community Church,
East Side, Lower Level)
315 Lake Ave., 80906

NEW NOON MEETING

Be part of a new meeting
Service Positions Open
Organizational Meeting, July 18th @ NOON
1515 N. Cascade
Contact the Service Office for Linda P's number

In the month of **MAY**

the Service Office received

6 Grateful Giver contributions,

2 Personal contributions,

and

1 Birthday contributions!

Thank You!

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TURNING POINT SPEAKERS (OPEN)

Saturday Speaker Meeting
Potluck @ 6pm, Speaker Meeting @ 7pm
10400 Ute Pass Ave, Green Mountain Falls, 80819

July Speakers:

7/02/16—Kristy H. (Happy Destiny)
7/09/16—Keith J. (Walk the Talk 6am)
7/16/16—(Al-Anon)
7/23/16—Steven B. (College Park Group, MD)
7/30/16—Becca S. (Woodland Park Book Study)

WALK THE TALK HAS MOVED!

Now located at:
2334 Vickers Drive
(West Of Academy at Vickers and Tuckerman Lane)

DO YOU HAVE A SUBMISSION FOR THE PINT?

PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

HEY.!?!

ALL YOU'Z DRUNKS OUT THERE.!

I just wanted to remind you that *YOUR* Area Service Office sells books! **THAT'S RIGHT FOLKS, BOOKS!!**

Imagine that!! ...and, that's not all...

For *YOUR* convenience they also stock medallions, stickers, pamphlets and (...wait for it...) **BOOKMARKS! WOW!!**

Did you know that if you buy five or more Big Books you'd get a discount? Yup, it's true...

Not only that, if you buy five or more select books, you'll get the same break. (call or come by for details)

So, why support the big corporate machine? You can keep your money working for YOU right here in YOUR backyard. By purchasing your books 'n stuff locally you help keep Nightwatch answering phones, you help Programs organize events and most importantly, you help keep the Service Office doors open to help the alcoholic that still suffers. Now, isn't that what we're all about?

**Colorado Springs
Area Service Office**

1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209,
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
~ (719) 573-5020 ~

**Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed: Saturday and Sunday**





2016 STATE CONVENTION • SEPT 2-4, 2016 • WESTIN WESTMINSTER

75 Years of Colorado AA

REGISTER TODAY AT CONVENTION.COLORADOAA.ORG

Want to be a part of Colorado's AA 2016 State Convention? Host one of the continuous meetings!

If you or members of your Home Group are planning on attending this year's State Convention, September 2-4, 2016, at the Westin Hotel in Westminster, CO; please consider bringing your group's meeting format with you and Host/Chair one of the continuous meetings.

These meetings will be held throughout the weekend beginning at 5:00PM on Friday through 11:00AM on Sunday. The meetings end at Midnight on Friday and Saturday and begin at 6:00AM on Saturday and Sunday. There will be no meetings held during the Speaker Meetings so no one will have to miss those events.

These will all be open meetings allowing everyone to attend.

Additionally, for scheduling purposes, it would be great if groups would sign-up generally for this opportunity, however, if your group needs a specific date or time, I will try to accommodate everyone on a first come, first serve basis.

It would be wonderful to have Home Groups represented from all over the State to share their style of meeting with everyone at the convention. Please consider this important service opportunity.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I'll see you all at the State Convention.

In order to sign your group up or get more information please CONTACT:

David G. at (720) 550-7384 Home or (503) 913-0343 Cell

E-Mail: DLOgee630@gmail.com

If you're directed to voicemail please leave your name and a contact phone number and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Additional information about the convention can be obtained by going to

convention.coloradoaa.org

SAVE THE DATE
2016 OcSoberfest

Oct. 7-9, 2016

Pueblo Convention Center - Pueblo, CO



★ Speakers

Friday night - Kathy H., Taos, NM

Saturday morning - Longtimers trio of speakers

Saturday lunch - Laurel L., Wichita (AIAnon)

Saturday night - John K., Dallas, TX

Sunday morning - Ericka M., Cedar Rapids, IA

Workshops & Continuous Meetings
Saturday Lunch, Dinner & Dance
Hospitality Room & Ticketed Drawings

If you attended last year's OcSoberfest, you will receive a registration form by mail or email. To request a registration form, email your name and address to boos_964@yahoo.com
Online registration at www.ocsobberfest.org after Aug. 1, 2016

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
SAT.-SUN.: CLOSED

Location: 1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Contact the Service Office
719-573-5020

E-mail: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ARCHIVES:

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

2:00pm, 1st Saturday of the month
1st floor Penrose Main Hospital
2222 N. Nevada

in Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

C.P.C.:

6:00pm, 2nd Wednesday of the month
Vertec, 1123 Elkton Dr.

District 7:

7:30pm, 3rd Tuesday of the month
First United Methodist Church
420 N. Nevada, Room 135 (Boulder St. Access)

TREATMENT:

12pm, 2nd Saturday of the month
Penrose Hospital Volunteer Conference Room
2222 N. Nevada.

SPECIAL NEEDS:

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NIGHTWATCH:

7:00pm, 1st Tuesday of the month
Sacred Heart Parish
21st and Pikes Peak
Room 10 - Following the New Beginners meeting

For more committee information,
please go to coloradospringsaa.org

CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: Colorado Springs Area Service Office
1353 South 8th St., Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
(Include group name and number on check)

~ GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: GSO
P.O. Box 459 - Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
(Include group name and number on check)

~ AREA 10 ~

Payable to: Area 10 Treasurer
12081 West Alameda Parkway #418
Lakewood, CO 80228
(Include group name, number
and District 7 on check)

~ DISTRICT 7 ~

Payable to: District 7
P.O. Box 26252
Colorado Springs, CO 80936
(Include group name, number
and district 7 on check)

~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Payable to: Area 10 Corrections Committee
P.O. Box 40368
Denver, CO 80204
(Include group name and number on check)

• CASH ACCEPTED IN PERSON ONLY •

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