

February 2022

THE PIKES PEAK PINT

A Newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

Please remember the Area Service Office is open only

because of your continued financial support.

Our Primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

Contributions can be made on the homepage of our CSASO website: www.coloradospringsaa.org or mailed or dropped off at the Area Service Office located at 1353 S 8th Street Suite 209, Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Or feel free to call the office and we can take your contributions over the telephone and charge manually whatever amount you wish to your debit or credit card. This option is available Tuesday—Fridays 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

INTERGROUP MEETING

7:00 PM DOWNTOWN MEETING ROOM 210 N. CORONA
ZOOM NEW MEETING ID: 895 839 8739. PASSCODE: 040352

2ND TUESDAY

TREATMENT COMMITTEE

9:00 AM SERVICE OFFICE 1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209

2ND SATURDAY

DISTRICT 7 MEETING

7:00 PM LEGACY WESLEYAN CHURCH
ZOOM: NEW MEETING ID 849 9031 0914

3RD TUESDAY

502 N. WALNUT STREET
NEW Passcode: X147BG

COOP W/ PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

3:30 PM AREA SERVICE OFFICE 1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209

1ST&3RD SUNDAY

CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

10:00 AM AREA SERVICE OFFICE 1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209

4TH SATURDAY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

2:30 PM AREA SERVICE OFFICE 1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209

2ND SATURDAY

BRIDGING THE GAP

Please call the Area Service Office 719.573.5020

NIGHTWATCH

Please call the Area Service Office 719.573.5020

Step Two

Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

When I came into the program, I was 25yrs old.

Though I wouldn't say I was fully at Step One in the depth it takes to make a true beginning, I didn't have any qualms with the idea of powerlessness and unmanageability. Every bit of my life told me this each day. I could look at Step three and readily embrace the idea of turning my will and my life over to a power greater than myself. This too was all I had ever known. I had been dependent on others to provide for basic needs, but also, someone had to keep me supplied with drink. The powerlessness and unmanageability were a natural consequence of this vulnerable life plan. And it was my plan. Well, it was the only thing left standing, in the absence of any other ideas. Eventually, even that idea, my only one, fell to pieces. It is hard to find willing participants in a plan that required a full investment from them to ensure I had what I needed, while my ability to offer anything in return was virtually none, unless you count occasionally cleaning the carpets where I had peed. This often put me on a path which included almost no discretion in the choice of my

provider, though it did jive nicely with my complete lack of standards or expectations for a thriving and good life. Good life was for other people. I didn't even want my bad life, but it was all I had, and I wasn't sure how to get out of it without being sure I could really end and be erased. One scary thought I often had was, what if the soul was truly eternal and depending on the day, either anguish or apathy would simply be the state of my soul forever. What if I had to keep living this awful experience somehow, but on a plane of existence I couldn't be sure wasn't waiting for me after my physical body was discarded.

So, I was completely out of ideas. I had a bit of the social services system propping me up, but they were reluctant to put me in housing, give me a monthly check and keep me drunk. It would have been nice to have their help, until I could figure out how to be done with this terrible experiment: my life. I ended up without a place to live, so I came skidding into AA on my rear, completely out of ideas. Thank God. After my arrival, I have a story that is not terribly unlike many of us in the rooms. I suppose we are endlessly unique in some ways, even though a

Continued on P. 4

Continuing information from the GSC Literature Advisory Committee Report to 2021 General Service Conference:

The paragraph containing the suggestion that sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex on page 12 in the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be revised as follows:

The paragraph on page 12 currently reads:

In most instances, A.A. custom does suggest one limitation, already noted on page 10: If the group is large enough to allow a choice, sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex. The reasons are the same from both viewpoints; we A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from "our primary purpose." entanglement might arise between sponsor and sponsee. We A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from "our primary purpose."

Be revised to read:

A.A. custom does suggest one limitation: sponsorship should be avoided whenever a romantic sponsee. We A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from "our primary purpose."

It brings misunderstanding, fierce resentment, financial insecurity, disgusted friends and employers, warped lives of blameless children. sad wives and parents – anyone can increase the list.

Alcoholics Anonymous P. 18

I once, several years ago, hated you people.
 I hated a large book I had never read
 I hated some dude named Bill whom I had never met.
 I blamed AA and everyone, everything associated with it for turning the love of my life against me.
 We had met in 1982 at a drunken, smoky college party in Missouri. 'A' was at a junior college 30 miles away and I was at the state college where it all began. She was standing against the wall, by herself, and it was - for me - absolute love at first sight. She had me from that very first look and I fell hard. She was and still is the love of my life.
 We dated for a few months until I guess she wised up and figured I wasn't the Mr. Wonderful she was looking for in life. I got dumped on a cold December night on the steps of her dorm. I never ever forgot her and I never will.
 So life goes on for the next 23 years...always thinking about her, always wondering where she was, always being in love with her.
 It was a slow day at work and so I was looking for a place to stay in the Colorado mountains while on a planned motorcycle trip and I came across a listing that had her name as a contact.
 Has to be someone else I said to myself, even with her rather unusual name. So one thing led to another and in the correspondence back and forth about this short term rental it came out that yes...YES...it was her! I just couldn't believe it, the one and only holder of my heart was there in Colorado, single, no kids and more beautiful than I remember her.
 We got back together and it was everything I'd dreamed it would be....it was her, my one and only....and she was now in love with me too.
 Then it came, my orders for Afghanistan and after our whirlwind of everything wonderful and amazing I was gone.
 We wrote every day, talked as often as we could and planned for the future...a future with HER...the love of my life.
 I eventually came home and it was even better than before until one night she grew quiet and said 'I have something to tell you, I'm an alcoholic'.
 Well OK, I'm here, I love you no matter what and

we'll live this new normal one day at a time. I'd known the death of her mother, who had died when 'A' was just a young girl, had been alcoholism related and this had a profound impact on her. She was very much a child of an alcoholic and worked hard to understand all of it.

But, and there's always a 'but' isn't there...it all changed.

She now had a new clarity, a new outlook on life with this realization that she too, just as her mother, was an alcoholic.

She looked at everything differently, she had an immense load lifted from her shoulders.

Life for her was better now as so many things that had confused her were now totally understood.

With this came an understanding that the reasons she had allowed me back into her life were not the reasons that fit into her new life of clarity, of her new outlook, and most importantly of her sobriety.

So she said goodbye....again...31 years later. And it was, and is, of a magnitude of pain that I still can't talk about.

And so I blamed all of you...all of you who are AA.

That damned Big Book, Bill and everything else in your organization that I - in my unimaginable pain - blamed for changing her, for turning her against me.

It's taken me many years to understand that I was not the best thing in her life and in fact was toxic for her and although I 100% supported her sobriety I was, in fact, her greatest threat to it.

Me staying in her life would have killed her...and she needed her sobriety much more than she needed me.

Oh I still love her and always will. She was, is and will forever be the Love of My Life. I may not be hers but I also will never be another's.

Thank you Alcoholics Anonymous for saving my 'A'. Thank you for helping her one day at a time. Thank you for saving her life...even if it means I will never be a part of it.

Well, guess that's it. Like I said if this doesn't fit what you want to print then I understand and it's ok.

But thanks for listening and thanks for doing what you do.

Dean - alone but thankful out here on the plains of Kansas.

Step Two

Continued from P. 4

mere mention of the phrase will send people into sober convulsions. I do think our stories are all unique in the details that end up not mattering very much. The ways we are not unique at all, if indeed you are a real alcoholic, turn out to be the exact details which form the basis of recovery. I am an alcoholic and when I take a drink, I am completely unable to control and enjoy my drinking. I might be able to stop on a varied number of drinks, but I can't count on it. Sometimes I would run out and just fall asleep. Sometimes I would run out and awaken from a blackout in the middle of a sentence with someone I didn't know, who I presume was my plan-B for more booze. Sometimes I would even have a few drinks at a bar with some unsuspecting stranger, only to have my next conscious moment be in the passenger seat of a van heading who knows where. Luckily very crazy women occasionally can get thrown out of a van, before you get to the desert and a shallow grave.

So, without flinching I understood steps one and three, but two? Oh man, that was more of a leap. I didn't have a God of religion and I didn't have a single person on earth I could turn to for help or understanding. I could only fathom powers greater than myself who would take care of me, until they decided not to anymore. But a power greater than myself which would restore me to sanity? Would I have to say I believe in the God people found in church or some other personal belief that no one can give me anyway? I knew that much, no one can give someone faith, otherwise I'd likely be filled to the top from all the hopeful people who wished it for me. How was I ever going to get through these steps which seemed to hinge of this idea of faith in a higher power. As I said before, I had known dependence on a higher power that was a person, but I certainly had no faith in them.

I am so grateful for the single meeting with Bill and Ebby where the acquisition of faith was given a path to come from the yearning of the alcoholic's own heart. Thank God Bill's friend told him to choose a God of his own understanding. That meeting made this program broad, roomy, and all inclusive. I just wouldn't be here today if it had gone any other way. So, as I haltingly approached the second step in all its promise of a beginning approach to this strange idea, I read the sentence that drew me through the door and put me in a seat:

“Do I now believe, or am I even willing to believe, that there is a power greater than myself”? As soon as a man can say that he does believe, or is WILLING to believe, we emphatically assure him that he is on his way. ~ Chapter to the Agnostics, Big Book

I didn't, I couldn't, believe that there is a power greater than myself that could restore my sanity, but running completely out of ideas through the living out of Step one in my drinking life, gave me willingness. I did not then believe, but I could say I was willing to believe. This was finally the beginning of my own faith.

Tradition Two

Sooner or later, every AA comes to depend upon a Power greater than himself. He finds that the God of his understanding is not only a source of strength, but also a source of positive direction. Realizing that some fraction of that infinite resource is now available, his life takes on an entirely different complexion. He experiences a new inner security together with such a sense of destiny and purpose as he has never known before. As each day passes, our AA reviews his mistakes and vicissitudes. He learns from daily experience what his remaining character defects are and becomes ever more willing that they be removed. In this fashion he improves his conscious contact with God.

Every AA group follows this same cycle of development.

We are coming to realize that each group, as well as each individual, is a special entity, not quite like any other. Though AA groups are basically the same, each group does have its own special atmosphere, its own peculiar state of development. We believe that every AA group has a conscience. It is the collective conscience of its own membership. Daily experience informs and instructs his conscience. The group begins to recognize its own defects of character and, one by one, these are removed or lessened. As this process continues, the group becomes better able to receive right direction from its own affairs. Trial and error produces group experience and out of corrected experience comes custom. When a customary way of doing things is definitely proved to be best, then that custom forms into AA Tradition. The Greater Power is then working through a clear group conscience.

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Happy A.A. Birthday!

Walk the Talk Group

Ron S. 2004
 Adem H. 2019
 Dave A. 2013
 Paulette. 2008
 Sean P. 2011
 Bec H. 2009

APEX

Patsy P. 2016
 Linda P. 2016
 Karen M. 1990

Sunset Sobriety

Zach H. 2021
 Brittany. 2021
 Anthony B. 2021
 Kathleen P. 01/2021

Friday Woman's

Lynn E. 12yrs
 Lori W. 5yrs
 Dana R. 25yrs
 Alysa F. 1yr

New Beginners Group

Dan W. 2021
 Linda P. 2015
 Patsy P. 2016

New Woman Group

Caren L. 16 years
 Amy M. 13 years
 Starr W. 33 years
 Sharon H. 2 years
 Julie M. 31 years
 Shawne G. 39 years

Steel Magnolias

Dana R. 24yrs

January Friday Womens

Molly W. 16yrs
 Marti B. 37yrs
 Dolores N. 33yrs
 Maile L. 16yrs
 Beth L. 4tyrs
 Mica. 16yrs
 Aja 1yr

January New Womens

Sharon W. 22yrs
 Cathy P. 3tyrs
 Kristen F. 10yrs
 Beth H. 8yrs
 Jazmin M. 2yrs
 Whitney B. 1yr
 Katheleen P. 9yrs

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Open: Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed: Saturday - Monday
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209

Tradition Two

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are by trusted servants; they do not govern.

As an example of the group conscious in action, let us look at another example from the literature Committee Recommendations from the GSC in 2021!

The following recommendation was made to the Conference by the Conference Committee on Literature and **did not** pass with substantial unanimity nor simple majority:

The pamphlet, “The A.A. Group... Where it All Begins,” be revised to omit the line on page 13, “attend open meetings as observers,” as follows:

The paragraphs on page 13 currently read:

Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and “have a desire to stop drinking.” Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous’ program of recovery from may attend open meetings as observers.

Be Revised to:

Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and “have a desire to stop drinking.” Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous’ program of recovery from alcoholism.

The groups clearly voted to maintain the non-alcoholic attendance at open meetings as observers.

WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please include your group name and group number on the check

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: Colorado Springs
Area Service Office
1353 South 8th St., Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

~ GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: GSO
P.O. Box 459/Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

~ AREA 10 ~

Payable to: Area 10 Treasurer
12081 W. Alameda Parkway, #418
Lakewood, CO 80228

~ DISTRICT 7 ~

Payable to: District 7,
P.O. Box 26252,
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Payable to: Area 10 Corrections Committee
P.O. Box 40368,
Denver, CO 80204

How much did YOU spend on a drink?

Please help others.....

Consider putting \$2 in a jar/cup/basket each time you log onto a Zoom Meeting. Then consider splitting the money accumulated and give 1/2 to your group when they begin meeting again, and 1/2 to your Service Office.

Contribute Here
coloradospringsaa.org

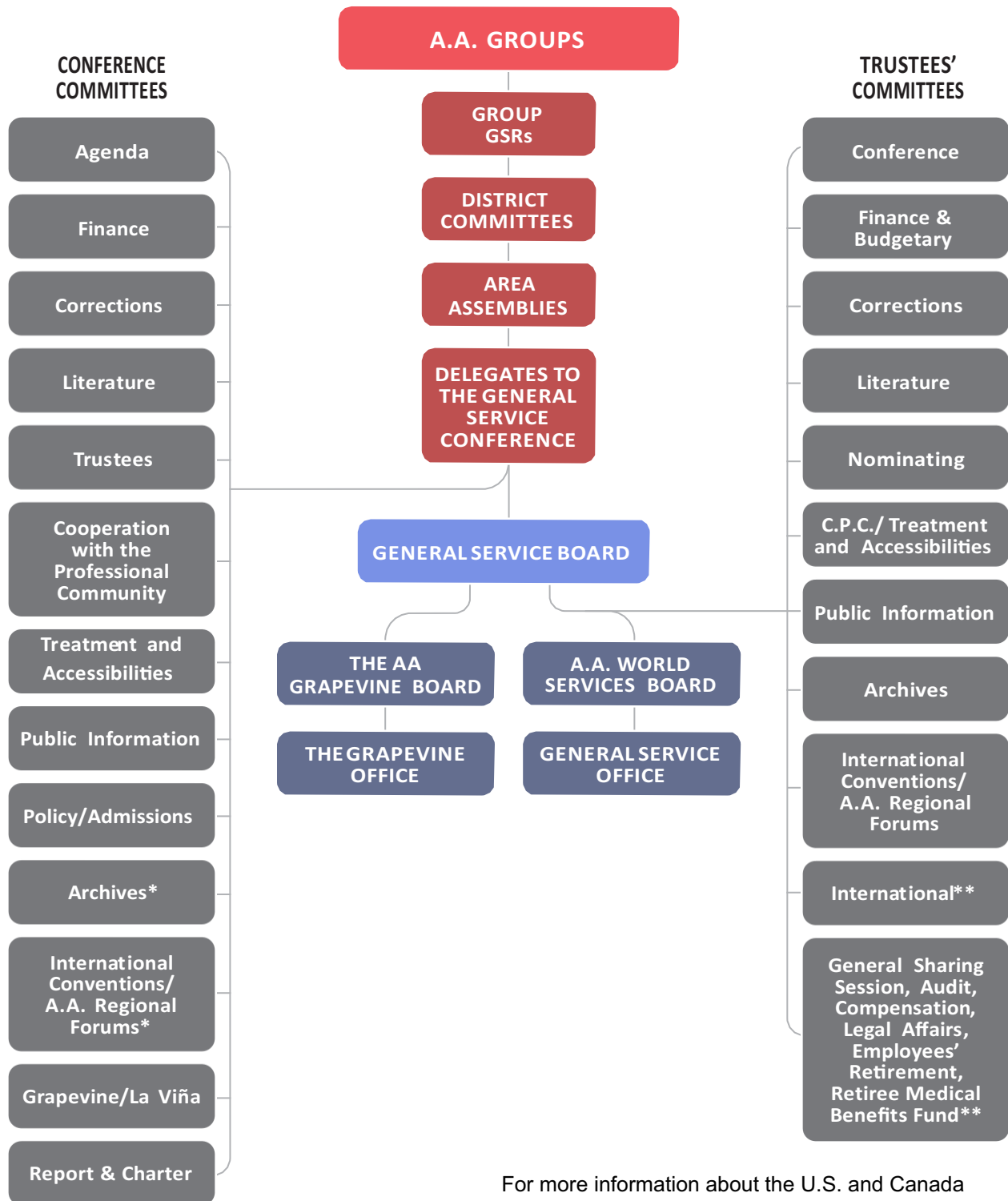
NIGHTWATCH 12-Step Signup Sheet

Requirement of Minimum of 6 Months Sobriety

Sobriety Date	Name	Phone #	Gender	Age	Zip Code

Questions: nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org or serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org Telephone: (719) 573-5020

THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE STRUCTURE *U.S. and Canada*



For more information about the U.S. and Canada General Service Conference Structure please see [The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service \(BM-31\)](#).

* Secondary committee
 ** No corresponding Conference committee.

12-Step List

Please consider volunteering to be available for NighWatch and the Service Office to reach out to you to talk to a newcomer.

Call us and we'll add you to the list!

ASO 719-573-5020
Tuesday - Friday 9-5

District 7

Public Information Workshop

Saturday, February 19

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Central Methodist
Church
4373 Galley Rd

Coffee and Snacks

NightWatch

This is a committee where a volunteer answers their personal phone for a few hours a week when the Area Service is closed. Anyone calling the office number will be transferred to your personal number during your shift. When someone reaches out we want the hand of A.A. to always be there, for that we are responsible.

Nightwatch has these available openings:

Mondays 1 - 5 p.m.

Thursdays Midnight to 9 a.m. Friday

Saturdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturdays Midnight to 8 a.m. Sunday

Contact the ASO:

serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

Intergroup Elections

The Intergroup Board elections are
Tuesday, March 8th.

Come join us at the meeting: 7 p.m. at
210 N. Corona Street (The Downtown
Meeting Place) or via zoom meeting ID:
898 7282 2388 and password: 0404352

District 7 Public Information Committee presents

Public Information Workshop
Saturday, February 19th, 2022
2:30pm - 4:30pm



Coffee and snacks provided!

Central Methodist Church
4373 Galley Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80915

For more information, contact our Public Information chair at
pi@coloradospringsaa.org
719-232-1046