



The Pikes Peak Pint is a monthly AA-oriented newsletter proudly serving Colorado Springs and its surrounding communities.

# Pikes Peak Pint

## December

### 2011



#### AREA MEETING CHANGES, DELETIONS, ADDITIONS

- **SERENITY HOUR MEETING** (open, handicap access) Discussion, 219 E. Bijou, Room #003. Enter on Weber **CHANGED** it's name from **SILVER KEY SENIORS GROUP**.
- **THERE IS A SOLUTION** that meets Thursdays at 6:45 at the 11894 Grand Lawn Circle has been **CANCELLED**.
- **WEST-SIDE EYEOPENER GROUP** (open, handicap access) that meets daily at 7 a.m. is **CHANGING** it's **FRIDAY TOPIC TO LIVING SOBER BOOK STUDY, IT'S THURSDAY TOPIC TO 12 X 12 STUDY AND IT'S TUESDAY TOPIC TO BIG BOOK STUDY**, Clean Slate Meeting Place 1769 S. 8th Street, Bldg. P.
- **WALK THE TALK GROUP** (open, handicap access) that meets daily at 6 a.m. **CHANGED** it's name from **SUNRISE SOBRIETY**, Erindale Shopping Center 5975 N. Academy Blvd. #210.
- **EARLY BIRD** (open) is a **NEW MEETING** that gathers everyday at 6 a.m. at 7 E. Bijou, Room 205. Enter and exit through rear of building.
- **THE PENROSE DISCUSSION GROUP** that meets Mondays at 7 p.m. has been **CANCELLED**.



*The Grapevine online, [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org), started a new feature asking readers to suggest the caption for cartoons. What Caption would you suggest?*

### Glass Bottom

*By Skyler C.  
Colorado Springs*

*Editor's Note: This submission was written in June as the writer's sister was battling cancer.*

It's been five weeks now. I've been thousands of miles away from my husband, my home and my entire support system in AA. My five year old and I came to visit my younger sister, who's 29 and is losing her fight against cancer.

I've been sober 11 years now by the grace of God, sponsorship and the 12 steps. This is the toughest "life on life's terms" experience I've had to face without a drink. And my experience has been that when I suit up and show up, no matter how I feel, God shows up for me through the program.

It's been another really, really hard day. My son and I got in another huge fight. My mom and sister, Rachel, have been at the doctor's office all day because Rachel needed a blood transfusion. I'm feeling really beat. Totally worn out and, what feels like, at the end of my rope.

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#### LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Hours: T-F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,  
SAT 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: 1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905  
719-573-5020

E-mail: [serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org)  
Web site: [www.coloradospringsaa.org](http://www.coloradospringsaa.org)

*Contact the Service Office for Intergroup Information or Chair phone numbers.*

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES

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CORRECTIONS  
Renee J.. - Chair  
Stephen P. - Vice Chair  
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org

PUBLIC INFORMATION  
Beth G. - Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
pi@coloradospringsaa.org

CPC  
(COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY)  
Larry S. - Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
cpc@coloradospringsaa.org

TREATMENT  
Mike H. - Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

## LOCAL SERVICE COMMITTEES

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PROGRAM  
Betty A. and Jan I.. - Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

PINT  
Adrienne A. - Chair  
Rod Q. - Vice Chair  
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

VOLUNTEER  
Adrienne C.- Chair  
David U. - Vice Chair  
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

NIGHTWATCH  
Bob M.- Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

WEB SITE  
Dana E.. - Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
webmaster@coloradospringsaa.org

ARCHIVES  
OPEN. - Chair  
OPEN - Vice Chair  
archives@coloradospringsaa.org

## CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES\*

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AREA SERVICE OFFICE  
Make check or money order payable to:  
Area Service Office  
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:  
Colorado Springs Area Service Office (CSASO)  
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE  
Make check or money order payable to: General Fund  
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:  
General Service Office (GSO)  
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

AREA 10  
Make check or money order payable to: Area 10  
Include Group Name, Number, and District #7 on check.

Send to:  
Area 10 Treasurer  
12081 West Alameda Parkway #418  
Lakewood, CO 80228

DISTRICT  
Make check or money order payable to: District #7  
Include Group Name, Number, and District # on check.

Send to:  
District 7  
P.O. Box 26252  
Colorado Springs, CO 80936-6252

PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS  
Make check or money order payable to:  
Area 10 Corrections Committee  
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:  
Pink Can Contribution  
P.O. Box 1949  
Carbondale, CO 81623

*\*Cash accepted in person only, please do not mail.*

Please e-mail sobriety anniversaries,  
announcements, letters to the editor, and e-mail  
subscription requests to the Pikes Peak Pint before the  
20th of each month!  
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

*Your Area Service Office and Intergroup would like you to know how very much we appreciate your personal contributions!*



**THANK YOU!!**

In the month of October  
we received  
**5 Grateful Giver contributions &  
8 Personal contributions!**

## GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS - THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT!!!

GROUP NAME (2011-2012)	Yr. to date	October
Above The Bar Group	\$0.00	
Apex	\$235.00	
At The Inn	\$0.00	
Back to Basics	\$239.77	
Beacon Light	\$0.00	
Big Book Action	\$206.38	
Big Book Study UPH	\$391.51	\$141.51
Black Forest	\$254.91	
Breath of Life	\$0.00	
Broadmoor	\$50.00	
Brown Baggers	\$150.00	
Celebrating Diversity	\$0.00	
Central	\$5.00	
Clean Air Group	\$0.00	
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$106.80	
Down By The Creek	\$45.00	
Downtown Group	\$197.61	
Drylander's Group	\$111.11	\$78.65
Easy Does It	\$225.00	
Ellicott Group	\$100.00	
Eye Opener	\$0.00	
1515 Meditation Group	\$75.23	
1st 164 Pages	\$0.00	
4th Dimension	\$0.00	
Far North Group	\$0.00	
Fountain of Sobriety	\$0.00	
Foxhall Group	\$210.88	\$60.87
Freedom From Bondage	\$0.00	
Friday Night Live	\$300.00	
Friday Women's Group	\$471.50	\$471.50
Gals of Woodland Park	\$0.00	
Garage Meeting	\$160.00	
Gift of the Heart	\$0.00	
Good Ole Boys	\$150.00	
Happy Destiny	\$382.33	
Happy Heathens	\$0.00	
Happy, Joyous & Free	\$60.00	\$60.00
Half Pint Group	\$117.00	
Happy Hour	\$86.50	
Hilltop AA Meeting	\$0.00	
High Noon	\$156.00	\$27.00
H.O.W.	\$94.69	
Hugo Group	\$0.00	
Into Action	\$390.00	\$120.00
Keep it Simple	\$0.00	
Keystone to Recovery	\$200.00	
Lake George Group	\$90.00	
Last Chance	\$0.00	
Little Log Group	\$0.00	
Living Free	\$208.06	
Living Sober	\$150.00	

M.A.G.	\$442.70	
Motherlode	\$0.00	
Natural High	\$0.00	
New Beginners	\$336.63	\$141.50
New Woman	\$575.39	\$168.41
Northwesters	\$260.00	
Not A Glum Lot	\$150.00	\$150.00
Oasis Group	\$217.61	
Off The Wall	\$128.83	\$28.86
Old North End Study Group	\$131.50	
Outright Mental Defectives	\$0.00	
Pass It On	\$0.00	
Passed The Bar	\$0.00	
Pathfinders	\$0.00	
Penrose Discussion	\$0.00	
Plug in the Jug	\$200.00	
Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$100.00	\$100.00
Progress Not Perfection	\$220.83	\$36.01
Recovery in Action	\$197.27	\$70.40
Rule #62	\$0.00	
Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$386.84	
Security Eye Opener	\$0.00	
Serenity Hour	\$175.00	\$50.00
Serenity Riders	\$299.14	
Serenity Sisters	\$0.00	
Silver Key Seniors	\$95.00	
Solutions at Noon	\$228.24	\$18.48
Steel Magnolias	\$156.31	\$76.81
Stepping Stones	\$0.00	
Sunday Morning Speaker	\$420.00	
Sunday Night Big Book Study (Clean Slate)	\$40.00	
Sunlight of the Spirit - Women's 12x12 (Monument)	\$106.35	
Taking Steps	\$400.00	
The Doctor's Opinion	\$0.00	
Then and Now	\$0.00	
Thursday Mens	\$650.00	
Thursday Noon--Woodland Park	\$50.00	
12@12 Group	\$32.67	\$32.67
Ute Pass Breakfast	\$0.00	
Veterans for AA	\$200.00	
Walk the Talk	\$1,140.00	
Walking on Water	\$200.00	
We Are Not Saints	\$604.26	\$165.66
Wed. Westside Womens	\$150.00	\$150.00
Westside Eye Opener	\$275.73	\$60.07
Womens Step Study-WP	\$0.00	
Woodland Park Beginners	\$120.00	
Woodland Park Book Study	\$150.00	
Young People	\$976.00	\$296.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$15,436.58</b>	<b>\$2,504.40</b>

*Step 12 : Having had a spiritual awakening has the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and practice these principles in all our affairs.*

# 12

*Tradition 12:* Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

*Concept 12:* The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

## ALCOTHON UPDATE!

It seems there is some confusion about the time line with the Alcothon and the church mass on New Years Eve.

Please know that the church only asked that we leave the parking lot open for the parishioners between the hours of 5 and 7 p.m. There is parking available all around the church and on the far east end of the big parking lot. This is only a small concession honoring the request of our host.

The Alcothon will be in full swing during this time with the continuous meetings, live acoustic music, door prizes and good old fashion fellowship. So please don't be discouraged during these hours and help make this the best Alcothon ever!

Fire up your crock-pots and assemble your best chili recipes because the Alcothon planning committee voted to offer a \$100 Grand prize for the best chili entered. Entry has to be in by 11:30 a.m. Dec. 31 with an entry fee of \$10. The prize will be awarded as a cash gift card later in the event.

We are in need of coffee donations for the Alcothon. Donations are being accepted at the ASO or contact program chairs Jan or Betty to find out how.

We are looking forward to a New Year and celebrating The Joy of Living!

## Coming Back and Coming Clean

*After a relapse, a member tells his homegroup that he took money from the basket*

I thought I knew what grace was till just a few hours ago. I had it confused with gratitude.

Up until 21 days ago, I was coming up on 16 months that I thought were pretty solid but I should know by now from listening to thousands of shares in meetings that when I think my recovery is solid, it's actually in jeopardy. I'm not going to go into the details of my relapse but rather the recovery of it.

I have heard since I came in the rooms that this is a progressive disease. I can vouch for that. I went down fast and in a very short period of time and caused

more wreckage in a few short weeks than a clear head could have ever imagined. In the last 21 days I have come to learn that recovery is also progressive.

As soon as I told the truth to the people closest to me, I dove back into the first 164 pages. Something was really different this time. Reading the first few chapters, I realized that I never noticed how much our

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founders focused on letting newcomers know that this works. I know it works. I saw things that I had never seen before. When I first came into AA, I was a suicidal mess and, in a relatively short amount of time, I got relief. With an open mind and no hope of me getting myself better, I listened, got a sponsor and did what was suggested. It worked. So this time I didn't need to be convinced but I did have some tools that were in a drastic need of sharpening.

In my first six months, I told myself I would never go back out. I thought I was done and people who went back out were weak. I had gone through a custody battle, break-up, and even testicular cancer and didn't drink or use but when my guard was down I slipped and slipped hard. Now I raise my hand and thank God that I get to raise it for a second time.

I was scared of what people were going to think of me when I told the truth and admitted to relapsing. I found out there was nothing to fear. I have never felt so much love and support from my extended family. We really don't shoot our wounded, at least not at my home group.

My girlfriend is coming up on 5 years and she is truly a gift from God. I was so afraid she was going leave me because of the horrible things I had done in my self-will run riot episode. She is the treasurer for our home group. While living in my disease, I took about \$500 from the group's collection. This group saved my life. When I told this my girlfriend everything I had done, she just kept on loving me and gave me suggestions about how I could get through this. I called my sponsor and told him. He suggested I call a few guys in the program that I trusted and tell them about the relapse and the money thing and I did. With every phone call it got easier and more relief came.

Last weekend my girlfriend had to attend the business meeting and give a report on the finances. She had expressed to me that she

would like me to be there to say something. I agreed since her only part in this was trusting me and I knew it was the next right thing to do. At the time, I had paid half of it back and am still making restitution on the rest. As the business meeting drew nearer, fear started to consume me. The humiliation and judgment I would face when I told them what I had done was certain in my mind. I talked to my sponsor a lot and other men in the program and felt I was ready.

The day of the business meeting, I went to a very early meditation meeting so I could listen to my Higher Power and try to find some comfort. It worked. As I drove to my home



group, I started getting excited because I was no longer doing this for myself or my girlfriend who had trusted me.

I had decided I might help someone else by admitting my wrongs and being honest. I knew, or rather told myself that right after I confessed to this horrible act that I was going to feel great and experience a freedom I had never known. Boy was I wrong at first.

As I sat there waiting for the meeting to start, any serenity I had vanished. The chairwomen and secretary knew what I was going to do because I had called them a couple days prior to let them know what had happened and they were both very supportive. My girlfriend suggested it might take away some of the fear, and it did. When the meeting came to the treasure's report the chairwomen looked at me and asked if I had anything to say. I did.

I said, "My name is Scott and I'm an Alcoholic.

As some of you know, I recently went back out and while I was out I took money from the 7th Tradition. I have paid half of it back and am going to pay the other half back as soon as I can."

That was all I could say through the rush of emotions that came over me and what was said by the group after that was kind of a blur because that freedom I had thought would rush over me never came. I was humiliated sitting there while this room of people discussed what I had done. I felt like a parasite under a microscope. Towards the end of the meeting, a woman I had come to love and respect spoke up and said it took a lot of courage to do what

I just did and I could see out of the corner of my tear-filled eyes that many people agreed. Someone motioned to keep the things discussed with regard to this issue limited to the attendees. The vote was unanimous. My tears of shame for a brief moment turned to gratitude.

About three quarters of the way through the meeting after I had done my part, I went to the parking lot to call my sponsor because I couldn't find this freedom I had thought I deserved and was very emotional. He said

exactly what he was supposed to. I looked up to see the meeting members coming out. Several people came up to me, some I had never spoke to wrapped their arms around me and told me they loved me. I was shocked how many people had told me they had done similar things and that it took courage to do what I just did. About an hour after the meeting while I was at home, it hit me, "I don't have to ever do that again, God willing, and the hard part is over!" Here came the freedom. This was one week ago.

Last night, as I lay in bed, grace overcame me. I could see how blessed I was to have God working in so many facets of my life. It was overwhelming in the best way possible. I owe these last 21 days and the awesome gifts I have received to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and the wonderful men and women inside the rooms. They have showed me how to find my Higher Power.

## STEP UP INTO SERVICE!

CPC/PI COMMITTEES WANT YOU!



Both committees are very busy and always have opportunities for service! Please go to either of their monthly meetings to get involved!

Cooperation with the Professional Community meets the first Saturday of every month at 1:30 p.m. at 7 E. Bijou. Public Information meets the 1st Saturday - 2 p.m. - Penrose Main, 2222 N. Nevada Ave., Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

The following Service Positions are currently OPEN and NEED to be filled! Please contact the Service Office or come to the next Intergroup Meeting Tuesday November 9th to learn how you can become involved!

Co - DCM (District Committee Member)  
Public Information Committee - Vice Chairperson

NIGHTWATCH has OPEN POSITIONS!!!

Contact Bob at [nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org)

The TREATMENT COMMITTEE NEEDS volunteers!  
Contact Michael at [treatment@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:treatment@coloradospringsaa.org)

To submit your group's sober birthdays to The Pint, please e-mail a list of names and the amount of years each person has to: [PINT@COLORADO-SPRINGSAA.ORG](mailto:PINT@COLORADO-SPRINGSAA.ORG).

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Walk the Talk	
Paula R	23 years
Mike C.	1 year
Rod Q	3 years
Chris	4 years.
Adrian	16 years
Susi L	7 years
Joann M.	36 years
Lynn W.	6 years
Mi-Lou	21 years
Dennis S.	4 years
Rick G	20 years
Kevin M.	2 years
Andy	1 year
Diane	7 years
Jerry F.	3 years

Friday Women's	
Jeri H.	20 years
Larue G.	21 years
Kathy H.	3 years
Linda F	3 years
Mi-Lou	21 years
JoAnn M.	6 years
Steel Magnolias	
Cora J.	9 years
Jeanne S.	20 years
Ellicott Group	
Peggy	7 years

Tuesday New Woman	
Ashley C.	18 years
Nan P.	28 years
Eva H.	26 years
Carol H.	16 years
Joan B.	16 years
Lee B	2 years
Lindsay A.	5 years
Judy B.	21 years
Becky C	1 year
Daphne B.	1 year
Maria G.	1 year

# AA AT A GLANCE ~ DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 CPC(Downtown) 1:30 p.m. PI (Penrose) 2 p.m.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Treatment Committee 1 pm Penrose
11	12	13 Intergroup Meeting 7pm First United Methodist	14	15	16	17 Corrections 9 a.m. Sacred Heart
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Submit Milestones & Letters to the Editor to The Pint
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Alcothon! 12 p.m. to 12.m. Sacred Heart

## Monthly Committee Meetings

### The Board

1353 S. 8th St. - Suite 209  
1st Monday - 6:30 p.m. - Service Office

### Corrections

2021 W. Pikes Peak Ave. - Room 6  
3rd Saturday - 9 a.m - Sacred Heart

### CPC

7 East Bijou St. - Room 205  
1st Saturday - 1:30 p.m. - Downtown Group

## District 7

3rd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - First United Methodist Church,  
420 N. Nevada - Room 135 (access Boulder St.)

### Intergroup

2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m. - First United Methodist Church,  
420 N. Nevada - Room 135 (access Boulder St.)

### Public Information

1st Saturday - 2 p.m. - Penrose Main, 2222 N. Nevada  
Ave., Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

### Treatment

2nd Saturday - 12 to 1 p.m. - Penrose Main, 2222 N.  
Nevada

THE *Joy* of  
LIVING



ALCOTHON

TWENTY/TWELVE

NOON DEC 31<sup>ST</sup> TO NOON JAN 1<sup>ST</sup>

AT SACRED HEART PARISH

2021 WEST PIKES PEAK AVE

HEATED OUTDOOR SMOKING LOUNGE

*"The joy of living we really have, even under pressure and difficulty" (pg. 15)*

Sacred Heart asks that **NO ONE PARK IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT FROM 5pm to 7pm for their mass, that NO ONE PARK IN CLERGY PARKING, and NO ANIMALS be brought to the Alcothon.**  
Thank you...

CONTINUOUS MEETINGS  
NOON TO NOON

CHILI COOKOFF/POTLUCK  
12 AM TO 4 PM

SPEAKERS  
7 PM TO 9 PM

DANCE  
9:30 PM TO 12:30 AM

NEW YEAR'S DAY  
TWENTY/TWELVE

**\$10**/\$15 FOR COUPLES  
NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY

Wanna volunteer? Call Boni: (719) 623-9179 Questions or donations? Call Betty: (719) 633-2534

# Meeting in Print

**Continued  
From Page 1**

the doctor's office all day because Rachel needed a blood transfusion. I'm feeling really beat. Totally worn out and, what feels like, at the end of my rope. I'm feeling anxious, frustrated, discouraged, full of fear and resentment. I'm up in my head. You could almost say I feel completely hopeless and crazy.

I tell my mom, hesitantly, I need to go to an AA meeting tonight. I'm feeling half guilty for not staying home to be with Rachel because I know how important it is for her to have me home with her at night. I decide to get directions and head out to find the meeting place. I'm always getting lost around here. I drive through downtown. It's cute with all the little shops and a Starbucks on the corner. Looking around at the addresses to figure out where I'm, I take my last turn to the right. I'm close. It's 400A East Church St. I pass a few more nice shops and then, a little ways down, are the projects. The little houses are all run down and stacked on top of one another. This looks like it's it. I see a huge abandoned, looking brick building. The parking lot has a rusty fence around it with a sign that says tow away zone, but there are cars there so I park. I walk around the corner and there's a guy sitting under an old sign that says The Club. I ask him if there's a meeting in there. He says "Yeah, upstairs." I say, "Is it a men's meeting?" He says, "No, it's open." I say "Ok, thanks."

I walk through the door into a stairwell that looks like a place homeless heroin addicts would go to shoot up. The carpet is stained beyond recognition. The light is really dim. The stairs feel like they're made of cardboard under the carpet and could cave through at any moment. I'm totally freaked out. This is a scary place, I should leave, I think to myself. But I keep climbing. At the top is a glass door. I walk through it into a big room with couches and lots of folding chairs all set up in rows. There's a lady in the corner, a guy on a couch in the corner opposite of her, and a man at the table in the front of the room. There's an AA sign on the wall behind him. I'm still feeling like I should get the heck out of there. They're all just staring at me. The guy at the table is probably in his fifties, although he looks a lot older. He's got a trucker looking hat on with longish hair falling out, no bottom teeth, and a big beer belly hiding under a very dirty shirt. He looks like he hasn't showered. Then the chair person comes in late, makes his

way to the front table and very casually opens the meeting with the serenity prayer. He says to another man, "Read the preamble. We don't read any of that other crap at this one." Then we open the 12 steps and 12 traditions book to page 96 and the five of us begin reading about the 11th step. We read how we need God and that His will is what we should pray for. As we read I begin to laugh at myself. How stuck up my thinking has become. Do you remember where you came from? I think to myself. Do you remember that you're just like that guy at the table who hasn't bathed in days? And then that man begins to share his God story. His experience with his Creator, he says. And how he just lost a dear friend to breast cancer, and how she is with God now and he doesn't need to ask why.

The whole time I'm overwhelmed with the thought, with the certainty, that the God of us all is right here in this dimly lit room with the five of us. We have all come as we are, broken and in need of a power greater than ourselves.

These are my people, I think to myself. These are the people God has put in my life at this very moment, in this difficult time, to remind me He is with us all.

## **Last month's winning caption from Colorado Springs fellowship**



*"Honey, I don't need a crystal ball to see that you are an alcoholic."*

**~Adrienne A. Big Book Action**