



THE PIKES PEAK PINT

September 2018

A newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

To tolerate tolerance ...

In the early days and months of AA, for me, tolerance was the gift that held me together in the face of my guilt for years of unvarnished drinking. My family accepted me back into the circle of care and concern that I had abused. My friends respected the decision I made to abandon my old habits. They even curtailed or refrained from drinking when with me. But the greatest source of support came from the rooms of the AA meetings.

Here, I was with peers. Here, I was not with those whom I had hurt or shamed or wandered from commitments.

Here, I could open up the bitter wounds of sad memories.

Here, I could work the path of healing.

Tolerance for my past came with tolerance for others who were not my relatives, friends, or employers. It was a mutual acceptance without shame or new wounding ... *most* of the time.

Over the past few years of sobriety I have witnessed some behavior at AA meetings that borders on intolerance, and sometimes plain rudeness.

Meetings sometimes are places where new members are challenged to make moves in their lives that are difficult. These challenges can come off as brusque or confrontational. Sometimes these interactions are what we call “cross-talking,” (speaking directly to another member instead of making all statements in the first-person). Sometimes these incidents appear to be proclamations of a member’s personal beliefs that



See Tolerance, page 10



Steel Magnolias
 Connie R. 6 years

Walk The Talk

Bob O.	9/22/11
Stacey D.	9/20/07
Jeff F.	9/2/15
Margot	9/28/08
Stephen W.	9/23/92
Jesse S.	9/1/17!!!
David R.	9/11/03
Ray L.	9/28/13
Emily K.	9/15/17!!!
Dan R.	9/21/91
Larry Y.	9/20/98
Ron R.	9/11/17!!!

New Woman

Leigh T.	13 years
Cathy B.	7 years
Cindy S.	7 years
Laurel B.	28 years
Jeri R.	6 years
Linda Marie C.	28 years
Melissa S.	4 years
Valerie J.	22 years

Serenity Riders

Aaron D.	9/12/07
Amy S-M.	1/15/05
Dan the Man	9/1/87
Debora	9/26/01
Greg S.	9/22/88
Katie S.	9/23/09
Patrick S.	9/4/04
Tiny	9/10/10

Friday Women

Amy L.	10 years
Mary O.	10 years
Elsa L.	30 years
Senay M.	4 years
Eileen S.	34 years
Theresa	10 years
Bev C.	11 years
Cathy B.	4 years
Ellen S.	3 years
Jenny P.	1 year!!!

We Are Not Saints

Greg C.	4 years
Jeff S.	10 years
Joe S.	25 years
Larry Y.	20 years
Linda-Marie C.	28 years
Lori B.	1 year!!!
Mike P.	36 years
Mireille D.	35 years
Sarah S.	5 years

Sober!
 Tony R. 9/1/08

When is YOUR A.A. birthday?
 If you want your birthday listed here and you want us to celebrate God's (and your) accomplishments with you, please send your name, date, year, and home group to pint@coloradospringsaa.org.

Next Level Sobriety

SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

10 AM - 1 PM

Pizza

and

Surprise Speakers

4373 Galley Rd.

Colorado Springs, Co 80915

Workshop sponsored by District &
Intergroup

STEP 9:

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



CONCEPT 9:

The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

- Do we understand the relationship between the two corporate service entities (A.A. World Services, Inc., the A.A. Grapevine) and the General Service Board?
- How can the business term “custodial oversight” apply to the trustees’ relationship to the two corporate service entities?
- Does my home group subscribe to G.S.O.’s bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9? The A.A. Grapevine? Do I?

TRADITION 9:

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

TRADITION 9 CHECKLIST:

- Do I still try to boss things in AA?
- Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
- Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program – even if no one makes me do so – with a sense of personal responsibility?
- Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
- Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
- Why doesn’t every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
- Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully – and profit thereby – when the time comes?
- What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

Brotherly love, from sis



Brotherly Love is the AA Principal for August.

This started me thinking about my brother and our relationship. Wondering if my love for him is unconditional.

I've lost one brother. I miss him so very much. I watched him struggle to stay sober. I didn't understand how he could go back to drinking after he had quit. This was many years ago. This was before I was in the program. Now I understand.

I remember when he told me that I was an alcoholic. Right away, I began to justify my drinking to him, and that I didn't drink "that much." I am grateful he planted the seed.

I am extremely grateful he died sober.

I have one brother left. I believe

I love him unconditionally. At times, I wonder if my actions demonstrate this love. I have heard in the rooms how our families, our siblings, are able to irritate us and to bring out our lovely defects of character. (Note: They do this to me. Right.)

Maybe it is because it's all about me and what I want, and what I expect of my brother. I'm thinking this happens when I am self-centered and wanting my way.

When my brother doesn't respond or play the part as I have written the script for him, I blame him for what he is doing to irritate me.

I want to point out to him what he should do, and make him do the right thing from my point of view. In other words, I want to control him. It is absolutely irritating and

will drive us both crazy.

I must realize I cannot complain, criticize or judge him.

He knows I'm an alcoholic and in the program. He knows he is also an alcoholic, and has decided he will continue to drink.

That is his decision. My decision is to accept his choice and to let go.

Wow, I didn't know when I came into A.A. that one day I would recognize my part. I don't have to protect him. I don't have to control him.

He has a Guide and Helper who is much more powerful than I am.

My part is to love my brother unconditionally without expectations or judgments.

Brotherly love from his sis.

— Carolyn D.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting changes ...

Add 30 minutes of bliss

The Central Group's open, Tuesday 8 p.m. meeting at 309 S. Hancock (on the west side of Memorial Park) will extend the Big Book discussion a half hour. So, instead of closing at 9, the meeting will close at 9:30. Gotta love the new math, eh?

There's a kid-friendly room there, so bring your kiddos!

Saturday nights' September delights

*(notice the iambic pentameter???)
Pretty clever, eh?)*

Speakers for the 7 p.m. Saturday Night Live meeting at Walk the Talk will be:

- September 1, Jason T.
- September 8, Vince F.
- September 15, David R.
- September 22, Kevin M.
- September 29, James R.

Tolerance goes away frown emoji

The Love and Tolerance, "straight-friendly" gay meeting (discussion, open, handicap access) at Clean Slate, 1768 S. 8th St., Building P (as in PINT) is no longer meeting. This was the Monday 7 p.m. group.

All About Recovery deleted

The All About Recovery Big Book group that met Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 3 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 7 p.m. is no longer meeting. This is the group that met downstairs in the conference room at the Cedarwood Health Care Center, 924 W. Kiowa.

... and old news too

Youngtimers open new group

Young Lot, a new group for young people seeking sobriety, meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The open meeting takes place at the Rocky Mountain Recovery Foundation, 4360 Montebello Drive, Suite 700.

Meditate on *THIS*

A new meditation meeting called Seeking Serenity gathers Fridays at the Rocky Mountain Recovery Foundation, 4360 Montebello Drive, Suite 700. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Big Book group seeks support

The Thursday 6 p.m. Big Book study meeting could use some support for the newcomers who frequent this group. It takes place at the First United Methodist Church, 420 N. Nevada Ave., Room 135. The easiest way to get there is to enter through the (far left) door on Boulder Avenue. The meeting is at the top of the stairs to the left.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS, JULY 2018

GROUP NAME (2018-2019)	July	Fiscal YTD
A Common Solution		\$0.00
12 Steps From The Morgue		\$250.00
Apex	\$170.91	\$170.91
Back to Basics	\$158.93	\$604.04
Beacon Light Group		\$0.00
Big Book Action	\$300.00	\$300.00
Big Book Study UPH		\$200.00
Black Forest		\$0.00
Broadmoor		\$100.00
Brown Baggers		\$0.00
Central		\$0.00
Clean Air Group		\$238.47
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$198.97	\$603.41
Down By The Creek		\$0.00
Downtown Group		\$306.00
Drylander's Group		\$15.00
Easy Does It		\$556.00
Ellicott Group		\$0.00
Foxhall Group		\$200.00
Friday Night Live		\$0.00
Friday Women's Group		\$245.00
Good Ole Boys		\$100.00
Happy Destiny		\$0.00
Happy Heathens		\$0.00
Happy Hour		\$359.00
Happy, Joyous & Free		\$0.00
High Noon		\$87.50
H.O.W.		\$30.00
Into Action		\$225.60
Keystone to Recovery		\$0.00
Lake George Group		\$0.00
Limon AA		\$0.00
Little Log Church Group	\$79.10	\$79.10
Living Free	\$80.00	\$130.00
Living Sober South		\$171.62
M.A.G.	\$285.50	\$779.50
Meditation Tues. 5:30		\$0.00
Natural High		\$0.00
New Beginners		\$83.98
New Woman	\$175.00	\$323.00
Northwesters		
Off The Wall		\$30.97
Old North End Study Group	\$141.26	\$141.26

GROUP NAME (2018-2019)	July	Fiscal YTD
One Six Four Group		\$128.00
Pre-Dawn Group		\$280.00
Primary Purpose		\$0.00
Progress Not Perfection		\$0.00
Recovery in Action		\$229.00
Recovery, Unity, Service Group		\$0.00
Rule 62, Victor		\$0.00
Saturday Early Morning Mtg.		\$263.00
Saturday Morning Anonymous		\$0.00
Security Eye Opener		\$0.00
Serenity Hour	\$75.00	\$200.00
Serenity Riders		\$395.74
Serenity Sisters		\$187.45
Sober Sisters		\$69.63
Solutions at Noon		\$0.00
Sought Through Prayer & Meditation		\$77.55
Steel Magnolias		\$81.93
Stepping Stones		\$0.00
Sunday Morning Speaker		\$0.00
Sunlight of the Spirit		\$603.26
Taking Steps		\$0.00
The Doctor's Opinion	\$400.00	\$400.00
The Garage Meeting		\$15.00
Then and Now		\$0.00
Thursday Men's Group		\$0.00
Thursday Noon - WP		\$75.52
Traditions Only		\$0.00
Treating The Illness		\$0.00
Turning Point		\$0.00
Ute Pass Breakfast Group		\$0.00
Veterans for AA		\$25.00
Walk the Talk	\$850.00	\$2,125.00
Walking on Water		\$100.00
We Are Not Saints	\$187.42	\$518.01
Westside Eye Opener		\$0.00
Women of Grace		\$0.00
WP Beginners		\$0.00
WP Book Study	\$75.51	\$75.51
WP Women's Step Study		\$254.50
Young People		\$0.00
Total	\$3,177.60	\$12,434.46

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Hours: Tuesday/Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SAT./SUN./MON.: 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

CORRECTIONS:

9 a.m., 3rd Saturday of the month Sacred Heart Parish
Room 10, southeast corner of 21st & Colorado Ave.

PI (PUBLIC INFORMATION):

1 p.m., 4th Saturday of the month
Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.
large study room This group meets with CPC.

CPC (PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY):

1 p.m., 4th Saturday of the month
Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.
large study room. This group meets with PI.

PROGRAMS:

6 p.m., 4th Thursday of the month, Colorado Springs
Area Service Office, 1353 S. 8th St., Suite 209

TREATMENT:

5:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday of the month
Penrose Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada Ave., board room

NIGHTWATCH:

7 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month
Sacred Heart Parish, 21st and Pikes Peak Ave.
Room 10, following the New Beginners' meeting

DISTRICT 7:

7 p.m., 3rd Tuesday of the month
First United Methodist Church,
420 N. Nevada, Room 135 (Boulder Street access)

WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

For all, 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

• **CASH ACCEPTED IN PERSON ONLY** •

How much did
YOU pay to drink?

Please help others

Consider throwing \$2 into the basket when it comes around. Also, once a year, donate \$1 for each year of sobriety to the General Service Office, the Area Service Office, or both. It costs money to spread the hope of a new life worth living through AA.

Please see coloradospringsaa.org




We will be joined by:

Kirk Machin (Colorado
Dept. of Corrections),

Narva Courtney (Colorado
Dept. of Corrections).

Presentations, Panels, Q&A,
fun, food, and fellowship as
we explore service in
Corrections – a special
breed of service!



CORRECTIONS: A Special Breed of Service

**Saturday, October 20,
2018**


11am – 2pm

Central United Methodist Church

4373 Galley Road (Galley & Murray)

Colorado Springs, CO 80915

Your District 7 Corrections
Committee will provide a main
dish – Please bring sides and
desserts for a potluck lunch!





Sharing, not cross-talking

Tolerance, from page 1

have been, in some way, challenged by another member talking about their own journey. These personal beliefs and paths are a sacred rite of the individual to walk their own walk without attack or insult.

AA Co-founder Bill W. struggled with this during the formative days as the AA program was in its infancy. Tolerance for others was a constant source of evolving concern (Pass It On, 1984). Was AA for only down-and-out drunks? Was the Oxford Group too religiously rigid for AA? Were members of other races, creeds, ethnic groups going to be accepted? All good concerns in the early days.

Sometimes what happens in the evolving of any group program is an overprotection of the original concepts by the original or elder members. Bill noticed this balance between openness for new members while protecting the traditions and sensibilities held by the older ones.

This is the conflict I have seen. Sometimes the “elder states-

men” (who model the message of tolerance intact) are overridden by the “bleeding deacons” (who promote a more personal interpretation of the message of tolerance).

Bill recognized this conflict, and tolerated the will of the group even in this area. As much as the governing body of AA wanted Bill to rule the organization with an iron fist, he worked diligently for decades to turn this leadership over to the governing bodies. He did not want to carry the responsibility of future direction for Alcoholics Anonymous.

I have spoken to several elder statesmen (Bill’s term) and elder stateswoman about this concern. Do we risk the loss of a new member by these outbursts?

What are the rights of the person speaking out or cross-talking for tolerance? How do we compassionately deal with these incidents?

I have heard a few suggestions. One is to catch the person affected by the attack after the meeting and assure them that they are welcome, and to keep coming back.

Another suggestion is for another elder member (in sober years) to redirect the meeting peacefully back onto the topic.

A third suggestion was to ask the group consensus as to whether to pursue the current side-track as a new topic.

Of course, a member could also attempt to find other meetings not attended by the confronting member. This is a rather passive solution and not likely to work very well as all open meetings are open to all members. There are also other kinds of closed meetings that offer more specific direction for and study.

These can be considered.

I worry about the new member that is attacked for telling his or her version of their journey.

I worry that they will not return. That was me once. But I did return. The main consensus is that Tolerance cannot be given limits in AA.

Sometimes we have to tolerate intolerance ... and then move on. That has helped me.

— Ron C.