

~The Pikes Peak Pint~

NOVEMBER
TWENTY
THIRTEEN



A Newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

EDITORIAL

My idea for this month was that we would think about, maybe even write about groups... or did I say meetings? I have a sense that there may be a difference between the two. At one point in my sobriety I could even tell you the difference between a meeting and a group. As I spoke to my friend about this month's topic, he asked me which one I meant. At that point I knew I had made a big mistake in kind of announcing the topic for this month's PINT. Without getting technical about the two, here is what I meant when I suggested the topic.

I meant we are all part of this one BIG group / meeting called Alcoholics Anonymous. We are all part of this one thing. We have the same objective, you know, to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. We are built on the idea of unity. Go to one place or another for gathering under the auspice of AA and we hear the same preamble. We read the same general texts. We count on being accepted as a member just on our say so. There is actually more similarities than differences. We are one whether we want to agree to the idea of oneness.

But there are differences. As many of you have, I have been to meetings / groups all over this United States and a few overseas and even on a U.S. Navy ship. There are differences! Some of the gatherings were more comfortable than others to me. I don't like being the only woman in a meeting of men. But I was generously accepted. At a time

I liked speaker meetings best. Now I go almost without an exception to women only groups. No insult or disrespect meant to my brothers. It's just what suits me now. (See, without meaning to I have used the terms meeting and group interchangeably!) My point? AA saved my life. So I wanted us to think about how special groups / meetings have been to us in our getting and staying sober.

So, whether you go to meetings or groups or state, or national or international gatherings, I am sure you are as grateful for them as I am. And this PINT has wonderful input from us for us speaking of this gratefulness.

Enjoy!

Local Service Office

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SAT. - SUN. - MON: CLOSED

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

719-573-5020

E-mail: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

Web site: www.coloradospringsaa.org

Contact the Service Office for Intergroup Information.

SUBMISSIONS for The Pikes Peak Pint including all articles, stories, announcements and flyers along with questions, comments and constructive criticism are always welcomed at pint@coloradospringsaa.org.

You will receive a prompt reply and appropriate consideration for publication. Please note that submissions for publication must be made by the 20th of the month prior to the month desired for publication in order to be considered.

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~ Group Unity ~

I am an alcoholic, an individual with a disease that when left unchecked controls all I am through every fiber of my being. Not only did alcohol have a grip on all that is physical but it destroyed all things spiritual. I was alone in a fight for my life.

Then one morning after a brief moment of clarity I made a decision, said a prayer then made a phone call. The person I called is an alcoholic, the prayer was to a God of my understanding and the decision was a commitment to change the things I could. I've been sober from that day forward.

I started attending meetings, getting involved and slowly things began to change. I was finding a new type of friendship filled with understanding and compassion. I was getting sucked into a life of sobering reality that pulled me into a fellowship of men and women who share the same problem as me. I found the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I continued to attend meetings and started to learn the ways of the fellowship. The way our three legacies of structure holds us together. I began to see the importance of service, commitment and accountability, fellowship, leadership and unity. I began to feel I was a part of something unexplainable and the need to give back became overwhelming.

Slowly my circles widened and the number of meetings I attended grew. As I heard the voices of recovery echo opinion, my need for clarity increased. Working with my sponsor, talking with long timers, attending board meetings and getting more involved afforded me some of the answers I was looking for.

For instance, I learned that as an individual I attend meetings. The meetings I attend are part of a group. The groups form an intergroup, which falls into a district. The districts come together to form an area and collectively it all makes up our fellowship united to help one another help anyone who wants to stay sober.

Getting involved in your group and the various committees helps all of us stay sober with one common unifying bond. A bond that allows us to do things together we can't do alone. My home group is where I attend most of my meetings, get involved in events and give back that which was given to me. Recovery, Unity and Service alive at the group level allows me the opportunity to stay sober one day at a time. Today, I have ceased fighting and I'm no longer alone.

For this, I am grateful...

~anonymous

YOUR SERVICE OFFICES

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO HAVE

BOULDER: 303-447-8201

DENVER: 303-322-4449

(N COLORADO) FORT COLLINS: 970-224-3552

(S COLORADO) PUEBLO: 719-546-1173

Coming Home

Having a home group is a key piece of my sobriety; it is where Unity and Service and Recovery, our 3 legacies, intersect. I was told that a home group is a meeting I would attend regularly, without fail, that it is a place where I would get to know other A.A members and where there would be some accountability in my life. I had not had anyone in my life for years who cared whether I showed up or not, so that seemed appealing to me.

I started going to the Big Book Action group that meets on Monday nights at Sacred Heart and made that my home group. I chose a big book study as my home group, because I wanted to have the solution as described by the first 100 recovered A.A. alcoholics. At one of my first meetings there, the greeter shook my hand and said that he was glad to see me and hoped I'd keep returning. I had not felt like I belonged anywhere in years, so I did keep returning because of the friendliness he showed me. I not only learned about the program of action that is outlined in the Big Book, but I made friends, too, true friends who share the solution with me and do not just tell me what I want to hear to feel better. They assure me by their words and actions that if I want to recover from this fatal illness, all I need is the willingness to follow directions.

Early on, I became a coffee maker there, and that gave me a sense of belonging and responsibility. I've also been a Reader, leading the group for a month by reading aloud to the group the chapter for the week. Two months ago, I became the Secretary/Treasurer, which is a huge deal for me since I came into A.A with total wreckage financially, but am now entrusted to manage the group's money.

I found my current sponsor at this group, too. She works right out of the Big Book and encourages me to 'stay with the pack', that is, to embed myself in the fellowship of A.A, which is the Unity side of the triangle on our chips. She also encourages me to pick up service commitments with the group as they come along, since that is the Service side of the A.A. triangle. The group helped me to find a power greater than myself. Now I share in being a channel for my Higher Power in sponsoring women at this group and welcoming the newcomer just as I was welcomed in. I strongly encourage others to find and stick with a home group - it's a place to call home, a home in which we all grow. The Big Book says that watching the fellowship of A.A grow is an experience not to be missed - that is so true! The place I find that awesome experience is in my weekly A.A home group.

Cris

Why I like My Home Group

Before I found my home group, I did do some room visitings to other AA meetings around town. Clean Slate, Fellowship Hall, and a couple others I just can't seem to recall their names. I felt comfortable visiting others looking for a home base and I just couldn't bring it to myself to feel at home anywhere except in my bed with my head in my pillow!! :(

With me recovering from my bottom and searching for help to stay sober I had to find a place that I felt would take me broken, beat up, and tore up. I had nothing left to offer anybody. All I knew was that I needed help in fighting my disease. I wasn't going to stop til I found what I was looking for. I walk into Walk the Talk and I was greeted, hugged, welcomed, and damn it, I felt loved, they also had really good coffee waiting for me!! How did they know I was coming?

My home group now is Walk the Talk, and I just absolutely love the 6 am "jerks" that go. They are an amazing group of mainly men but that's not usual for me. I go to class with 15-20 other guys and I am 1 of 2 women in there. I'm used to being pushed aside for certain things, but I take my AA by the horns and tear it up whenever needed. I'm the first to send a "Good Morning" text during the meeting then it goes all day!! These wonderful people help me so stinking much. I haven't had a drink since 6/3/2013 and I owe a lot of my sobriety to these fellas and a few chicas for keeping me on the right track. I can only hope I can be of service to a newcomer when he/she walks in the doors. I've made a tremendous AA family. I've got bruthas from otha muthas, sistas from otha mistas, cousins from da sticks, and it's so cool that we all help each other outside these walls as well as within these walls. You know who you all are!! Stay safe, be kind, and accept what requires acceptance.

Suzanne W.

Concept 11: The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

Step 11:

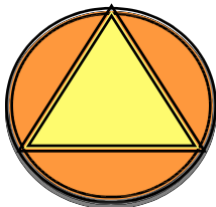
Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition 11:

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

**TRADITIONS CHECKLIST
Tradition Eleven**

- 1) Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
- 2) Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
- 3) Am I careful about throwing AA names around – even within the Fellowship?
- 4) Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
- 5) What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
- 6) Is my sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?



Primary Purpose: Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

**WALK THE TALK GROUP
SATURDAY SPEAKER LINE•UP**
Nov 2nd – Kenny H.
Nov 9th Keith J.
Nov. 16th – Ron C.
Nov. 23rd – TBD
Nov. 30th Sean M.

~ NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY MILESTONES ~		
SOLUTIONS	NEW WOMAN GROUP	WALK THE TALK
Anne M. 7 yrs.	Puddi K. 30 yrs.	Ron C. 27 yrs.
Annette B. 16 yrs.	Nancy R. 33 yrs.	Debbie C. 21 yrs.
Shanna G. 3 yrs.	Nora M. 5 yrs.	Chuck S. 28 yrs.
Valere C. 1 yr.	Francine 4 yrs.	Karen N. 29 yrs.
Bart B. 8 yrs.	Taylor 3 yrs.	Janet S. 25 yrs.
Buck B. 8 yrs.	Sydney 1 yr.	Nancy 39 yrs.
Dick N. 15 yrs.	Robin S. 4 yrs.	Judy R. 20 yrs.
Dina S. 4 yrs.	Julie B. 1 yr.	ELLI COTT GROUP
Don R. 1 yr.	Shannon G. 1 yr.	Ray S. 33 yrs.
Robert T. 24 yrs.	FRIDAY WOMEN'S	
HAPPY HOUR	Nancy B. 23 yrs.	
Paula W. 9 yrs.	Phyllis C. 43 yrs.	
Deanna S. 26 yrs.	Stacey 3 yrs.	
*NOVEMBER	Kathy H. 5 yrs.	
Totals 544 yrs.	Gretchen 37 yrs.	
	STEEL MAGNOLIAS	
	Anne M. 7 yrs.	

Reminding us of our Primary Purpose.....

“At this point i am not so much ashamed as enmeshed in the disease. Though i still know the shame that is inevitable and hidden, i pursue the ghost. My feeling that i cannot stop from hurting people and, of course, me, is what keeps me going to the left. I hurt you and then you, my best friend, and found that it is too hard to live the way I know. I know AA teaches us to live 'right' but while learning, I am still hurting and then unable to forgive myself. I suppose patience, love and tolerance for oneself must come before others. I want and need to forgive myself. Don't know how. Resentments I know nothing about run too deep, God runs away and abstractly. Yeah, yeah I know 'who moved'. I'm in a quandry and afraid to turn right. STUCK IN LEFT OF CENTER. Put me in coach, i'm ready to play today???” Signed LCW

In the month of September
the Service Office received
5 Grateful Giver contributions
1 Personal contribution &
1 Birthday contribution

**THANK YOU!!
WE VERY MUCH**

• COMMITTEE INFORMATION •

Public Information:

Committee Meeting: 1st Saturday, 2:00 p.m., 1st floor Penrose Main Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada in Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room.

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

Committee Meeting: 5:30 p.m., 2nd Sunday of the month at the Downtown Group, 210 N. Corona St.

Corrections:

Committee Meeting: 9:00 am-10:00 am, 3rd Saturday of the month, Sacred Heart Catholic Church 2021 West Pikes Peak Ave, Room #6, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

District 7:

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

Treatment:

Committee Meeting: 12-1 pm, 2nd Saturday of the month, at Penrose Hospital Volunteer Conference Room, 2222 N. Nevada.

Nightwatch:

Night Owls Committee Meetings: 7:00 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month at Sacred Heart Parish, 21st and Pikes Peak Room 10 - Following the New Beginners meeting.

For more committee information including intergroup committees please go to coloradospringsaa.org

• CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES •

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~ Colorado

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

(Include group name and number on check)

~ GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ~ P.O.

Box 459 - Grand Central Station New
York, NY 10163

(Include group name and number on check)

~ AREA 10 ~ Area

10 Treasurer
12081 West Alameda Parkway #418
Lakewood, CO 80228

(Include group name, number and District 7 on check)

~ DISTRICT 7 ~

District 7

P.O. Box 26252

Colorado Springs, CO 80936

(Include group name, number and district 7 on check)

~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Pink Can Contributions

P.O. Box 40368

Denver, CO 80204

(Make checks payable to Area 10 Corrections
Committee)

(Include group name and number on check)

• CASH ACCEPTED IN PERSON ONLY •

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pint@coloradospringsaa.org**

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**or you can get a copy for only \$1.00
at the Area Service Office**

~Shout Out~

~•~

Central Group

[309 S. Hancock Avenue](#)

Many Meetings Daily!

Monday/Friday at 9:30 pm

“The Dirty Nine Thirty”

Help support this and all the groups or meetings in our fellowship. Be adventuresome and attend a meeting other than your home group and take a friend or two. It’s a great way to serve, meet new people and add some depth to your sobriety.

***Special Needs
Committee***

~•~

Does your group or meeting have members needing special accommodations?

If so we need to know!

Contact: The ASO at 573-5020 or
specialneeds@coloradospringsaa.org

~•~

There are three meetings with interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired every week.

These meetings currently are:

Wednesday: 6:00 am Walk The Talk

Friday: 7:00 am Walk The Talk

Saturday: 5:30 Speaker
Meeting

GROUP NAME (2013-2014)	Fiscal Yr. to date	September	Group	Fiscal Yr to date	September
Above the Bar Group	\$111.50		Northwesters	\$200.00	
Apex	\$120.13		Oasis Group	\$100.00	
Back to Basics	\$0.00		Off The Wall	\$108.15	
Big Book Action	\$200.00		Old North End Study Group	\$63.15	
Big Book Study UPH	\$0.00		Penrose Discussion	\$0.00	
Black Forest	\$340.03		Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$0.00	
Broadmoor	\$0.00		Primary Purpose Men's Group	\$175.00	\$75.00
Brown Baggers	\$150.00		Progress Not Perfection	\$183.83	\$61.51
Central	\$0.00		Recovery in Action	\$189.00	
Clean Air Group	\$160.00		Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$224.40	
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$310.00		Security Eye Opener	\$0.00	
Down By The Creek	\$0.00		Serenity Hour	\$175.00	\$25.00
Downtown Group	\$1,978.66	\$627.65	Serenity Riders	\$202.10	
Drylander's Group	\$54.00		Serenity Sisters	\$0.00	
Easy Does It	\$0.00		Solutions at Noon	\$186.79	\$14.31
Ellicott Group	\$0.00		Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$49.00	
Eye Opener	\$0.00		Steel Magnolias	\$150.00	
Foxhall Group	\$113.25		Stepping Stones	\$0.00	
Friday Night Live	\$350.00		Sunday Morning Speaker	\$716.28	\$515.34
Friday Women's Group	\$167.50	\$167.50	Sunday Night Big Book Study (Clean Slate)	\$0.00	
Garage Meeting	\$0.00		Sunlight of the Spirit - Women's 12x12 (Monument)	\$518.50	\$518.50
Good Ole Boys	\$100.00		Taking Steps	\$0.00	
H.O.W.	\$80.96		Contributions	\$100.00	
Happy Destiny	\$149.95		The Sober Jokers	\$0.00	
Happy Heathens	\$185.00		Then and Now	\$75.00	
Happy Hour	\$120.00		Thursday Mens	\$0.00	
Happy, Joyous & Free	\$166.00		Thursday Noon--Woodland Park	\$50.00	
High Noon	\$173.00	\$29.00	Turning Point	\$120.00	
Into Action	\$480.00	\$240.00	Ute Pass Breakfast Group	\$60.00	
Keystone to Recovery	\$75.00	\$75.00	Veterans for AA	\$0.00	
Lake George Group	\$0.00		Walk the Talk	\$2,040.00	\$340.00
Living Free	\$45.50		Walking on Water	\$100.00	
Living Sober	\$0.00		We Are Not Saints	\$694.14	\$340.11
Living Sober South	\$130.68	\$24.93	Westside Eye Opener	\$0.00	
M.A.G.	\$183.63		Women of Grace	\$193.00	
Meditation Group	\$50.00		Woodland Park Beginners	\$56.59	
Natural High	\$0.00		Woodland Park Book Study	\$260.00	
New Beginners	\$185.00		Woodland Park Women's Step Study	\$108.00	
New Woman	\$322.85		Young People	\$782.69	
			Totals:	\$14,383.26	\$3,053.85



"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."



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Why We Need Nightwatch...

On the night of February 12, 1988 after a good night of drinking at the usual stops. My world turned upside down. I lost control and the anger and rage within me was coming out like never before. I had no control of my actions and my girlfriend was in fear for her life. Having been in AA before we called Nightwatch looking for some direction that night but never got an answer.

I made several more attempts to get through to Nightwatch but NO one ever called. My girlfriend was left to figure it out on her own. Luckily I found an old phone number from way back. We called and the gentleman told my girlfriend to get me out of the house. I left as I had already done so much damage, breaking things up and hurting my girlfriend. Maybe if someone had been on the other end of the Nightwatch line and answered that night it would have worked out different and I would not have gone elsewhere. Others might not have contacts or anyone to call; therefore we need help answering the phones when the alcoholic calls for help. I went into Treatment as was suggested by the gentleman; he called and set it all up for us. I have now been sober for more than 25 years, and have done Nightwatch most of those 25 years. If anyone ever calls Nightwatch I want the hand of AA to be there so no one has to live that way if they don't want too. If anyone out there is looking to serve and wants to keep this thing working try giving us one 6-hour shift a week to pass it on...

Happy to Serve,
Mark.



**Get in the
trenches with us!
be a...**

Hello Night Owls,

Wow!!! The first half of this year has gone by really fast, it's the month of November already. As most of you know, November is gratitude month. I know that I'm grateful for many things in my life today. Most of all I would like to give thanks and gratitude for the women in my life that encouraged me, since early sobriety, to have a service position. I have been Nightwatch chair for six months now. As we all know AA runs on the spirit of rotation. As I will rotate out in May 2014, Tom rotates in to the chair position. I am so very grateful to Tom our vice chair and Sabrina our secretary for doing a wonderful job the last six months!!!!

The Nightwatch volunteers have really come up with some really big changes to improve Nightwatch, I'm so proud of all the work that we have done. I know that they will do a fantastic job the next six months and for many years to come!!!! I have really high hopes for Nightwatch!!!

We really are on the front lines of AA, and in the October Nightwatch meeting one of our volunteers shared his story of a phone call he received with us, it really touched us all. So much so that he was invited to the October Intergroup meeting to share his story with the Intergroup reps and other committee members. If you are interested in sharing your experience of being a Nightwatch shift volunteer, or a 12 step call you been involved in, please contact me or Tom at nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

Please, other people really need to hear your experience strength and hope!! Hope to see you at the gratitude dinner on November 24!!!!

Grateful to be of service,
Nightwatch Chair,
~~~~Crystal~~~~

We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.  
(BB pg. 89)

**NIGHTOWL!**



## A.A. Gratitude Supper

Your Colorado Springs Area Intergroup invites you to Sunday Supper! Come in out of the cold for hot soup, salad & bread.

*Mmm.*

Supper and dessert is a suggested \$5 contribution at the door.

Open mic! Got a poem to share, a song to sing, or a story of gratitude? Share it with us! 3-7 minutes, sign-up at the door!

**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2013

**Where:** Fellowship Hall at First United Methodist Church  
420 N. Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs

- 3:00 pm: Dinner - ham & potato or potato soup, salad, bread
- 4:00 pm: Speaker - Andy E.
- 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm: Talent Show | Open Mic - sign-up at door
- 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm: Ice Cream Social

Grateful to Have It;  
Grateful to Give It!