

August 2021

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.

The Area Service Office is **\$3,752.82** short of our budget as of August 1st 2021. Many groups have not contributed anything this year. Please help us get caught up. If your group or meeting is waiting to contribute please let us know so we can make needed adjustments.

I have heard some interesting statements about what the Colorado Springs Area Service Office and Intergroup are and are not over the last few months. While I would understand if the misinformation was just coming from folks who are new to the area or AA, but alas, this is not the case.

Just a bit of history, the ASO was incorporated in 1982 for the purpose to :

- (a) To provide a legal entity for the use of The Colorado Springs Area Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in conducting its business and legal transactions.
- (b) To provide a central office through which workers are available to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the alcoholic.
- (c) The corporation is to be a service entity only and is not a governing entity of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Central Offices are different -because they fill a different need

G.S.R.'s, D.C.M.'s, area committees, area assemblies and the General Service Conference are concerned with only AA's worldwide affairs.

Central offices (C.O.'s), intergroup and answering services are entirely separate. They handle local services only -such as coordinating local Twelfth Step calls, printing meeting lists and in some places furnish public information speakers for non-A.A. groups and for A.A. meetings in institutions. Our ASO also provides a local storehouse of AA approved literature, tokens and other items of interest. They provide 24/7 phone coverage, they host the area web site and are a clearing house for current AA meeting times and locations.

The central office is a service that AA requires and that we would gladly pay an outside agency to preform.

Tradition Eight

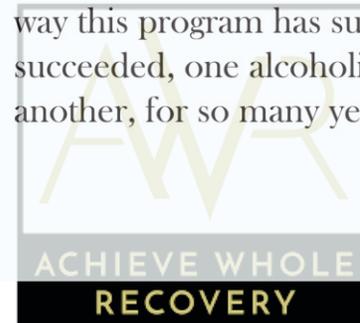
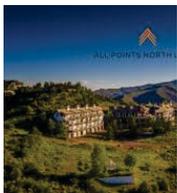
With so many members that have compiled so much recovery over so many decades, one could imagine AA being the leading name in counseling and rehabilitation services by now, easily paying for itself with the fees (and perhaps insurance funds) of the desperate, sick, and suffering. For a brief moment there might not seem anything wrong with that, or that it might even be desirable. What a mercy that even early on, AA's founding members had the foresight to see the danger inherent in branding ourselves "professionals" in this sphere. The Long Form of the 8th Tradition clearly states "We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fee or hire."

Our work with other alcoholics and the program's emphasis on altruism should be inextricably linked. It might even be required for keeping ourselves sober, and it definitely affects our usefulness to the still-suffering alcoholic. We cannot be truly altruistic if expecting remuneration, and our experience, strength, and hope is cheapened in others' ears if a price is put upon it.

The work with others that we do, as part of our personal program, and to give back to AA what we have freely received,

could not have the same urgency, potency, or sweetness, if it were passed along by contract. The method of "one drunk helping another drunk so the other drunk doesn't get drunk", an arrangement where both are equals, no one is "an expert", and the reward is not monetary, has many advantages over AA as a monopoly on Alcohol/Addiction Therapy.

There is an immeasurable difference between someone taking an hour of their time to work with a newcomer, with that newcomer knowing that it comes only from love of sharing the message and love for those still suffering, and any situation in which our passing on the message becomes a financial transaction. Besides the difference in experience for the one being helped, there is also a vastly different experience for the alcoholic who is in the position TO help: working with others keeps US sober, regardless of the effect on those with whom we share. This is "working out our salvation on... an altruistic plane" (p. xxvi), with "an entire absence of profit motive" (xxvii), and it is the way this program has survived and succeeded, one alcoholic to another, for so many years.



Happy A.A. Birthday!

New Beginner's Meeting

David S.	1992
Dave M	2015
Karen H.	2000

Friday Women's

Becky T.	5 yrs
Lyn I.	38yrs
Lauri B.	34yrs

Walk The Talk

Peggy S	1996
Sarah L.	2020
Haley	2014
Lori C.	2015
Victor	1991
Lana	2020
Peggy	2020
Sandy S.	2018
Dean A.	1995
Kimo H	1991
Jaime	2016
Clarissa	2019
Mark	2020
Anna Marie T.	2019
Sandi S.	2017

New Woman's Group

Rhonda	18 years
Karen S.	34 years
Linda C.	36 years
Sharon H.	3 years
Kathleen G.	13 years
Rita M.	2 years
Tammy M.	2 years
Audrey	1 year

Please send your groups birthdays to: pint@coloradospringsaa.org

A God Shot

My first home group was in a church in Oakland CA, hidden away among the Redwoods, in the Oakland hills. Views of the Bay and evening light streamed through high windows. It was a gorgeous setting. But the beauty of the hills was lost of me in my last days of drinking, obscured by the misery of alcoholism. I really thought moving from Wisconsin to California would “cure me,” but by the time I hit Iowa I was drunk again. I had no friends, the boss hated me, I lived in a crappy house, it all stunk.

Hiking with my dog was the only thing I liked to do, but eight months after the move, I couldn't even do that anymore. My moment of clarity happened in a trailhead parking lot. Immediately after getting out of the car, I doubled over with dry heaves. I looked at my dog in the back seat, tail wagging, eager to get going, knowing we weren't going anywhere that day. I looked up at the beautiful California sky. I knew there was an AA meeting up the hill. I had looked it up online. I'd even driven up there a few times. But each time I got to the parking lot a voice in my head chanted, 'What's the use, your life is crap and it's never going to get better,' sending me back down the hill to the liquor store.

This time, though, as I looked up at the sky, another voice in my head said, “Look at how beautiful this place is. You don't have to live this way anymore. Go to that meeting up the hill.”

The next day I drove all the way up that hill, parked the car, and was met at the door by a nice man named Andrew who said, “Welcome to the Lincoln Square group! We're glad you're here!” I sat in the back hoping nobody would talk to me, and raised my hand when they asked if anybody was in their first thirty days. A woman gently

approached me, handed me a meeting schedule with phone numbers, and said, “We often find as newcomers it's easier in the beginning if we go to a meeting every day.” I thanked her, but thought to myself, 'Really? You're kidding. A meeting every day? Not gonna happen.'

Well the next day I got a lesson in what she meant. I had no idea how to survive the day without the promise of a drink after 5. By early afternoon my body was practically humming with cravings. I remember thinking maybe I should go to another one of those meetings. And oddly, it was the cravings that kept me going to meetings every day. That one hour in the meeting was the only time of the day when I felt any relief!

They talked a lot about God at the meetings. I was an atheist, but they told me not to worry about that, just be open minded and keep coming back. More than once, someone recommended I ask “whatever higher power there might be” in the morning to help me stay sober during the day, then thank “whatever higher power there might be” at night for helping me stay sober that day. They said this would work, even if I didn't believe it. I figured I had nothing to lose, so I did it.

One day, a few weeks sober, the relief I got from that meeting on the hill didn't happen. I still felt totally miserable. Driving down the hill I thought, 'What's the point? My life is a sack of crap, and it's never going to change. Nothing I try to do works, I might as well drink tonight and hope I don't wake up the morning.'

In my wallet was a twenty dollar bill. I thought, 'I'll stop at the gas station on the way home, put the gas on the card and use the twenty to get the booze.' (I was paranoid about putting booze on a card. In my alcoholic mind, I figured if I didn't put my drinking

A God Shot

on a card, I could hide it from the world!). Better still, at that hour there was never anybody there, so I'd be able to sneak in and out unseen.

Just as I finished filling up, out of nowhere, this young man approached me saying, "Excuse me ma'am, I am not a beggar! My truck broke down on Monterey, and I'm \$16 short of a tow. If you could lend me \$16, I will pay you back tomorrow. I'll give you my journeyman's card til so you'll know I'll pay you back. I need to get my car to the shop so I can go to work tomorrow." He didn't seem like a beggar. And such a specific amount to ask for? It seemed legit. So without a second thought, I pulled the twenty out of my wallet, and handed it to him and said, "Keep the change." He pulled a card out of his wallet, saying, "I am going to pay you back!" as he held it toward me.

I waved it away. "Don't worry about it," I told him. "You're doing me a favor. And good luck with your truck."

And he did do me a favor, because I didn't drink that night. What's more, on the way home, it occurred to me the odds of someone being at that gas station at that exact moment, asking for a such a specific amount of money, offering proof they'd pay

it back so it seemed legit, and giving me a perfect reason to get rid of that twenty, well, it just seemed beyond coincidence.

I told some people in the meetings about this. They all shrugged their shoulders as if it were no big deal and said, "Oh, that was a God Shot. A little miracle where God wants to remain anonymous. Happens to us AAs all the time. If you make a habit of asking for help every day, you get it right when you need it."

Since that time, I've had many more God shots, and have heard other AAs share theirs. So now, when I talk with a newcomer, I pass along that wonderful advice given to me. I recommend they go to a meeting every day. Then, each morning, ask "whatever higher power there might be" to help them stay sober during the day, and each night thank "whatever higher power there might be" for helping them stay sober that day. And I make sure to mention they shouldn't worry if they don't fully believe it. Just doing the asking seems to do the trick.

Step Eight

When I was first introduced to the general idea of the twelve steps, the eighth step seemed completely unrealistic to me. "There is absolutely no way I will ever be willing to make amends to the people who were only wronged by me because they wronged me first." I thought to myself. I was certain that I would be able to prove that my actions were justifiable, making most of my potential amends unnecessary.

As I started to work the preceding steps thoroughly and honestly, I realized how wrong I was. Throughout the step work process, I became much more aware of how much damage I had caused over the years - I became much more open minded to the upcoming amends process. At some point I noticed things I had never felt before - feelings of remorse, a genuine desire for change and betterment, a care for others, a conscience. By the time I arrived at the eighth step, enough change had occurred in me and my life to have me fully convinced that these steps created miracles - I was completely willing to do whatever I was suggested to do to continue through this process.

Some names felt incredibly hard to write down. Logically, I knew I needed to make certain amends - I even truly wanted to be willing - but I just couldn't find the willingness in my heart. I spent many hours talking to a God of my understanding, asking for the willingness to make these amends until I was finally granted the courage to do so.

DISTRICT 7 COMMITTEES ARE MEETING AGAIN!**INTERGROUP MEETING****2ND TUESDAY****5:30 PM****DOWNTOWN MEETING ROOM****210 N. CORONA****ZOOM:****MEETING ID 895 839 8739****PASS 040 352****TREATMENT COMMITTEE****2ND SUNDAY****10:00 AM****BLACK BEAR COFFEE SHOP****6550 S. ACADEMY BLVD.****DISTRICT 7 MEETING****3RD TUESDAY****7:00 PM****LEGACY WESLEYAN CHURCH****502 N. WALNUT STREET****ZOOM:****MEETING ID 741 7625 8437****PASS 928 532****COOPERATING W/ PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY****3RD SATURDAY****3:30 PM****AREA SERVICE OFFICE****1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209****CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE****4TH SATURDAY****10:00 AM****AREA SERVICE OFFICE****1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209****BRIDGING THE GAP****NO MEETING YET****NIGHTWATCH****NO MEETING YET****PUBLIC INFORMATION****NO MEETING YET****Meeting Updates:**

Living Free meeting is meeting in person at a new time: 5:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 1515 N. Cascade Avenue.

Turning Point 11th Step meets Sundays at 8:30 a.m. at Church in the Wildwood, 10585 Ute Pass, Green Mountain Falls.

Fountain Valley Group NOW has two weekly meetings: Wednesdays, Big Book Study, 6:30 p.m. at 1003 N. Santa Fe Avenue, Fountain and on another meeting on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at Restoration Church, 9355 Peaceful Valley Road, Fountain.

Serenity Hour Meeting at noon in Friday, August 6 is cancelled for that one day due to a church commitment.

Red Cloud Saturday meetings located at 10400 Ute Pass Ave in Green Mountain Falls, now has a potluck at 6 p.m. and a speaker meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Woodland Park Tuesday Meeting will be via zoom only at 5:30 p.m. Meeting ID: 221 229 087 passcode: 231 151

Hopefully will have an updated location and date for the Longtimer's Event by our weekly email next week.

Colorado State Convention pre-registration price deadline is September 1, 2021.

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

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

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

Area news:

There is an opening at Service Office
Volunteer needed Tues 9am-11am

The Colorado State Convention is the annual social event for Area 10, and will be held September 3-5, 2021 in Keystone, CO. Log onto their website for more information regarding lodging and speakers: convention.coloradoaa.org

Nightwatch Needs Help! 1 Year sober.
call Area Service Office

GSO will no longer be printing a pie chart of suggested donations percentages as it can be found in the Self-Support, Where Money and Spirituality Mix Pamphlet.

Longtimer's Luau Event
Saturday July 17th
11:00AM - 1:30PM
Location to be announced.

AA Grapevine is looking for a new publisher. For more information about the position please contact the Service Office.
Deadline for Applications is June 16th

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



JOIN THE
FELLOWSHIP

LONGTIMERS LUNCHEON

200 person maximum with Longtimer priority seating

Menu: Chicken salad on croissants & fruit salad

Please bring desserts!

Longtimers are free

Suggested Donation: \$10

ODDFELLOWS HALL

575 S. Union Blvd.

Colorado Springs, CO

80910

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

LUNCH AT 12:00

SPEAKER AT 1:00

BILL M. 2/4/92

Call the Service Office to reserve a spot!

(719) 573-5020

WHAT IS THE STATE CONVENTION?

The convention is the annual social event for Area 10. Come for a weekend of speakers, meetings, workshops, food, dancing, and fellowship with AA's from all around the state.

WHEN is it?

September 3 – 5, 2021
The festivities start at 3 PM Friday and don't stop until noon on Sunday.

AA Speakers

Scott S: Philadelphia, PA
Kate R: Cincinnati, OH
Brad M: Buena Vista, CO

Al-Anon Speakers

Corrie L: Wietumpkan, AL
John L and
Dorothy L, Denver, CO



Colorado State Convention Keystone 2021

WHERE IS IT?

Keystone Resort and Conference Center
633 Tennis Club Rd, Dillon, CO 80435

REGISTER EARLY

We love it when people register early. You save money and we stay organized. Win Win! Register today at convention.coloradoaa.org or via check (see form below).

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact Allison at 303-981-3625 or a10conventionreg2021@gmail.com

Stay in Keystone

Rooms are close, convenient, comfy and sell out fast. Book your room today!

Keystone Lodge and Spa:

Group Code: CP3ARE1
King \$129.00
2 Queens \$129.00

Conference Village:

Group Code: CP3ARE1
Studio \$125.00
1 Bedroom \$149.00
2 Bedroom \$189.00
3 Bedroom \$289.00

Hyatt Place Keystone:

Group Code: G-ARE1
2 Queens (View) \$129.00
2 Queens \$129.00

Reservations:

800-258-0437

Lodging prices do not include taxes and applicable fees. \$50 Deposit upon making the reservation to hold room and will be credited towards bill or will be refunded if paid in full by a different payment method on date of check in. Cancellation of reservation within 24 hours will result in forfeiture of deposit



Attendee Info

Name

Name on Badge

Home Group

City/State

Phone

Email

I'd like to volunteer (please contact me)

Registration Options

Pre-registration = \$40 (\$45 at the door)

- AA Admission
- Al-Anon Admission
- Alateen Admission

- Al-anon Luncheon (Sat) = \$42
- Dinner Banquet (Sat) = \$57
- Dessert Social (Fri Night) = \$15
- Bottomless Coffee with Mug = \$20
- Buy the TOTAL PACKAGE for \$120 (\$134 if bought separately).
Does not include registration.

Sponsor an attendee \$

Donate to a member who can't afford to go

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

payment Information

Detach & mail this form with check. No cash. One form per attendee. Must be received by 9/1/2021 to get reduced pre-registration price.

Make checks payable to:
AREA 10 Convention

Mailing address:
Area 10 Convention
P.O. Box 21184
Boulder Co 80308

For more information or to register with a credit card please visit convention.coloradoaa.org.

Accessibility/translation needs (please list):

Main Speakers

- Karl M., Covina, CA
- Judy K., Ashtabula, OH
- Skip P., Taos NM
- Margo G., Alb. NM
- Myron T., San Felipe P, NM
- Tory A., Acoma P., NM
- Kathy H., Cincinnati, OH

What you can expect:

- Inspirational speakers
- Fri, Sat pm Entertainment
- Talent Show, Alcañon,
- Art Raffle, Ice Cream Social Young People's Events



September 17-19 2021

**38th Annual
Taos Mountain Fiesta
"Staying In the Moment"**



To Register:

Online:

<https://taosmountainfiesta.org>

Mail in:

TMF
PO Box 750
El Prado, NM 87529

Important!

This year's TMF in-person event will be **limited to 300 persons!** Register early! Virtual registration is not limited.

Contact Us: taosmountainfiestatmf@gmail.com 575-224-2183

Mail in Registration Form: PO Box 750 El Prado, NM 87529

Name (s) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Make Checks Payable to "TAOS MOUNTAIN FIESTA "

Please add me to the 2022 Taos Mountain Fiesta Mailing List

This year's TMF, being limited to 300 in-person will be a stretch financially for us! Your generosity is MUCH appreciated.

If mailing in and you do not have a way to print or obtain a physical copy of this form, please email us and we will get you a form.

In-Person Registration _____ x \$25 = _____

Virtual Registration _____ x \$10 = _____

Fiesta Mug (in person only) _____ x \$12 = _____

Fiesta T-Shirt (in person only) _____ x \$15 = _____

Fiesta T-Shirt (shipped)* _____ x \$15 + \$7 shipping = _____

*\$7 shipping for 1-2 shirts. Add another \$7 for 3+ shirts

Banquet Ticket (in person only) _____ x \$35 = _____

TMF Package (in person only) _____ x \$80 = _____

*Package includes Registration, T-shirt, Mug, Banquet Ticket and 5 Art Raffle Tickets

Scholarship _____ x \$1 = _____ Donation _____ x \$1 = _____

TOTAL for Order \$ _____