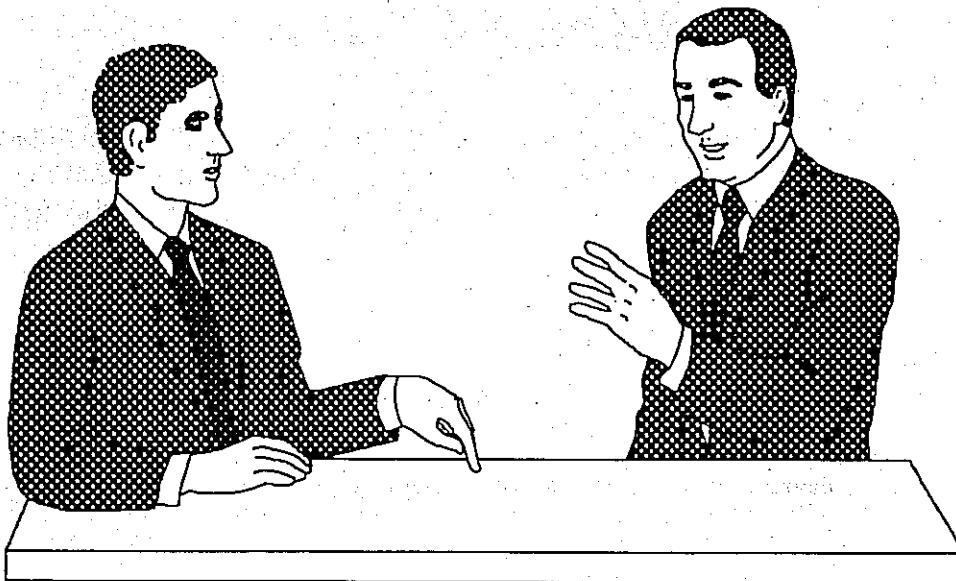
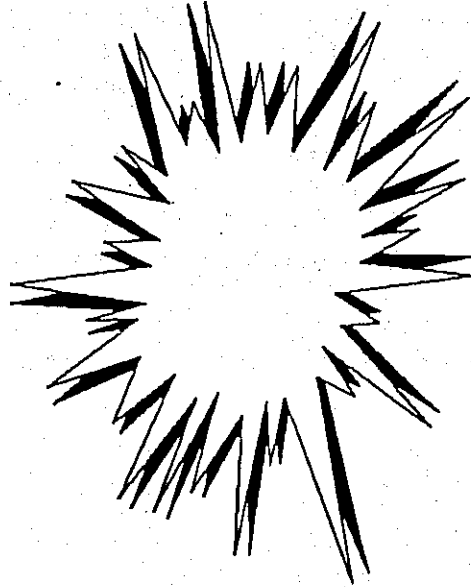


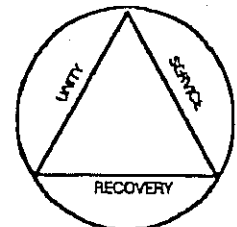
MAY 1996

NEW FRONTIERS

A CENTRAL COMMITTEE JOURNAL FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS
OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER



**STEP 5 - ADMITTED TO GOD, TO OURSELVES
AND TO ANOTHER HUMAN BEING THE EXACT
NATURE OF OUR WRONGS.**



THE LEVELS OF WILLINGNESS

The concept of willingness as it pertains to A.A. is not a static one. There are, in fact, different kinds that shift and deepen as we get further into the program.

The first is informational - the willingness to accept a fuzzy bit of knowledge. At some point in our drinking careers, all of us become aware of A.A. and its message. And many of us, perhaps with some vague suspicion that we were having trouble with our drinking, filed away the pertinent information deep in our brains. Perhaps it was a thought like this: "Alcoholics Anonymous has something to do with keeping people sober, and it's listed in pretty much every phone book in the country." That's about what I filed away, years before I decided I needed it.

The second is physical - the willingness to pick up the phone and call someone, or to set down the drink and drag myself to a meeting. This is where my knowledge gets a little more in-depth, and where it applies to the task of seeking sobriety. This is the point at which I gather enough information to decide whether I want to get sober now or not.

The third is emotional - the willingness to surrender, to give up my own notions of control and turn my life and will over to a Higher Power. It is here that I can change my life, setting out on a path that offers freedom from the ravages of alcohol.

The fourth is spiritual - the willingness to make my surrender continuous, to weave my entire life around the principles of surrender and spirituality. This is the day-to-day awareness that my salvation lies in making all twelve steps a working part of my life.

Willingness feeds on itself - a little here can lead to a little more there. As a prelude to the action of the program, it is the key to my spiritual future.

The Editor of *The Messenger*
Nashville, TN, March 1996

SURRENDERING SELF-WILL

"The matter of will (self-will or God's will) is the more difficult part of the step for me. It is only when I have experienced enough emotional pain, through failed attempts to fix myself, that I become willing to surrender to God's will for my life. Surrender is like the calm after the storm. When my will is in line with God's will for me, there is peace within."

Courtesy Daily Reflections

The New Frontiers is published monthly by the Central Office of Western New York. We are self-supporting by your subscriptions. The New Frontiers presents the experience and opinions of members of Alcoholics Anonymous on the disease of Alcoholism. The staff reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and length. Articles will not be returned. Opinions expressed here are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: Quotations from ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS and other A.A. books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. Art and articles reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are subject to the GRAPEVINE copyright.)

John H., We Care, Editor

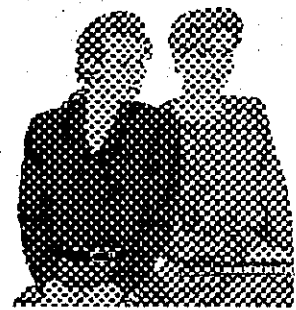
Ron S., Powerless, Assistant.

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN WHY I GO TO WOMEN'S MEETINGS

When I first came into the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in February 1989, I don't remember hearing much more than "keep coming back." That instruction was simple enough, but wrapped in a ball of confusion, I thought, "keep coming back for what?" didn't make sense then, but I was desperate and hopeless enough to do just that. I had nowhere else to go. Evidently, they knew something I didn't because they said they were alcoholics, yet they weren't drinking and they were happy. That fact piqued my curiosity and kept me coming back-- that and the men.

I had been holed up in my Harlem apartment so long, trapped inside myself and trapped inside the bottle that I barely noticed people around me, especially men. My shame, guilt and below-zero self-esteem made me feel less than human and way less than attractive to any man, save one that was in the same pitiful state I was.

But, when I came to AA and hadn't picked up a drink in about a week, I began to see things in color, rather than in gloom and doom of the past years. The men were beautiful, clean -- and friendly. They told me things like, "You have eight days before you can have eight years," and "you don't have to drink again, even if you want to." So profound. I love smart men. They told me to get a sponsor, preferably a woman, but naturally I thought one of these smart, worldly men could help me better. What could a woman tell me that I didn't already know? I got numbers. Men's numbers. When I went to a party of a non-AA friend at a bar, I took a male A.A. member. When I needed advice on my broken marriage, I called a man.



Of course as a newcomer, women reached out to me also. One woman I had never seen before bought me a Big Book; another gave me her phone number and invited me to go bowling after a meeting, but I just didn't know how to respond to attention from other women. I didn't know

my "place." But, thank God for "keep coming back."

At some point between 30 and 90 days, God led me to a woman's meeting. It was a small group of

women that met every Friday night in a church basement. I began to identify with issues that these women shared about -- health, family, jobs, sponsors, lovers and spouses. Week after week I heard women share their stories, heartache, pain, triumphs and victories with an honesty I had never heard. (Sometimes, I really thought they were lying.) Nonetheless, I longed for that freedom to speak from the heart and the gut-- that level of truth, and looked forward to that Friday night meeting like I had longed for the Friday night happy hour at J.J. Applebaum's.

Listening to them I began to feel that maybe, just maybe I was in the right place and that there was hope for me to. If they could go through all they had gone through drinking, then go through difficult life situations, sober, with the help of A.A., then maybe I could also. They told me I could, if I did what they did. They told me to chase those meetings like I chased a drink. They didn't baby me and gave me the same kind of attention that male members did, but they did give me love and courage to stay sober one day at a time.

When I moved to Washington, D.C. at about four months clean, I again sought out women's meetings. I found my sponsor there and the process of recovery really began for me. Today, I cherish my women's meetings. It is in those rooms that I have felt the safest, shared many "secrets", learned most about myself and made the deepest connection to this program and other people. I go to as many as three women's meetings a week, and at each I am fortified with faith, hope and courage. It's no longer so scary to look at me, because I know there are other women dealing with many of the same issues I do--being a mother, a daughter, a lover, an employee and just being a woman in recovery.

Of course, I also know that we are all more alike than different, so mixed meetings most certainly have their place in my life. And I'd be the first to admit that men in recovery have taught me many valuable lessons and opened my mind to other perspectives. But as a woman friend of mine recently said at a meeting, "even when I don't want to look at me, I can listen to another woman share and hope and I see me." For that, I am eternally grateful to the women of Alcoholics Anonymous.

By Dari. G.

New Reporter, Washington, D.C. March, 1996

FROM THE DELEGATE
W.N.Y. #50 - Panel 46



On April 20th, your elected Delegate will be off to New York City to attend the 46th Annual Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

This year there are 55 Conference items to be discussed among 12 Committees. After 2 or 3 days of Committee discussion, many of these items will be brought to the Conference floor, to be discussed or debated by 133 voting members of the Conference. The items receiving unanimity (2/3 votes) will then proceed to the General Service Board for approval, and/or review before becoming part of our working principles.



My Committee is Finance, (chosen from the hat.) This year we will be discussing:

- 1.) The New Pamphlet "Where Spirituality & Money Mix."
- 2.) How our groups allocate their funds after expenses, such as (60%-30%-10%) and G.S.O.- Central Office- Area General Service Assembly.
- 3.) This year there has been a 30% discount on literature in order to reduce our prudent reserve at General Service Office (not local.) This could change if literature sales and group donations don't show a substantial increase. Hopefully our area groups will take a closer look at how their group funds are spent, after expenses.

Your donations made out directly to the Central Office, unless specified as to who the donation is for, stays there. Our Central Office Executive Secretary can not forward any donation to our area G.S. Assembly or General Service Office unless directed to do so, by a notation on your check. Checks made out directly to G.S.O. or Area G.S. Assembly are forwarded to their proper destination.

Donations may be sent directly to: World Services, Grand Central Station, Box 459, New York, NY, 10163. Donations to our area G.S. Assembly may be sent to: Marcia Walker, Treasurer, Tonawanda Towers, Apt. 801, 5 Main St. Tonawanda, NY.

Our area, W.N.Y.- #50 has drastically reduced their group donations. A total of 96 out of the 300 registered groups in the Western New York Area have sent donations. Total group donations have decreased from 47% to 33%. Our overall donations have shown an increase of 10% over last year, (\$9,980.00.) We need to take a serious financial inventory at the group level.

Best in A.A.
Jack B., Urban Group



CONCEPT III

"To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of AA - the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations staffs, committees, and executives -- with a traditional "Right of Decision." Knowing that the groups have final authority, they are "sometimes tempted to instruct their Delegates exactly how to vote upon certain matters in the Conference. Because they hold ultimate authority, AA groups have the right to do this. If they insist, they can give directives to their Delegates on any and all AA matters. " Nevertheless the "instructed" Delegate who cannot act on his own conscience is not a "trusted servant at all; he is just a messenger.

"The right AA solution for this problem is the latter part of Tradition Two, which provides for "trusted servants." This really means that we ought to trust our responsible leaders to decide how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises. This sort of leadership discretion should be the essence of "The Right of Decision."

AA SERVICE MANUAL

ALONE; BUT NOT ALONE



I sit in my apartment alone again, but not really alone because I have found a better understanding of my Higher Power.

It's been 6 years since my last drink. As I reflect back over the years I have been in A.A., I can see, in retrospect, that my Higher Power was there, even when I thought I was alone, especially before coming to A.A. Before I came to believe in a Higher Power, He was taking care of me, when I couldn't or wouldn't take care of myself. Even when I rejected Him, He was already on the job of caring and loving me.

He loved me, you loved me, before I could or would love myself. Today, I still let Him take care of me, but it's different now, because I know and believe that He loves me and provides my needs and some of my wants.

My Higher Power has given me exactly what I need, when I need it and when it was right for me.

Patty V.
Serenity Group

THE SERENITY PRAYER

(As some people read it.)

God grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change—
Courage to change the person I can—
And the wisdom to know that person is me.

Submitted by Dave W.
Giving Group

HELP AT HAND

Please try to be patient,
understand if you can.
Just what is wrong with,
this unfortunate man.

My illness is made up
of physical things.
Frightful emotions,
bad habit's and things

These feelings and thoughts,
all run through my brain
like a plane with one wing,
a runaway train.

Happiness, sadness,
flowers and trees
Friendship and sorrow,
robbed by this disease.

I must be reminded,
of thing I have lost.
I must have them back,
no matter the cost.

All of these things
HE will gladly restore.
Ask just for toddy,
not one moment more.

At night before bed,
just as I retire
I ask for HIS help,
to put out this fire.

I've faith that this flame,
HE will help me smolder
by resting HIS hand
upon my weak shoulder.

From a former client at Stutzman ATC

"STILL GOING TO THOSE MEETINGS?"



A few Wednesdays ago, I sat in a church basement. It was my home group. A long time member, (whose Loving Spirit lives on in that room), told me to make it my business to be there every Wednesday. I have; that was over 10 years ago.

My Spirit has been touched many times at these meetings. To share my life with others, and have others share their life experiences with me, in a medium of love and tolerance is a great gift. Through all of these changes we are staying sober, (working The 12 Step Program of Action) and staying connected to the Power that makes that miracle possible.

Yet on this Wednesday night, my Spirit was so moved, that tears rolled down my cheeks. To say I could feel the love in that room is insufficient, it surrounded me and wrapped around me, like a warm blanket on a cold night.

Perhaps it was because my sponsor was taking a pin for 24 yrs. Perhaps it was because I had the privilege of giving a man a pin for 9 mos. Perhaps it was because there was a person there for their very first A.A. meeting ever, and I saw some longtime members put their "stuff" (some of it very serious), on the back burner and extend the loving hand of A.A. to someone who didn't yet realize how serious his problem was (the terminal, progressive disease of alcoholism) and what a tremendous opportunity he was given that day.

I like what it states in the pamphlet, The Home Group, The Heartbeat of A.A. "If you've ever loved a home group, no explanation is necessary, and if you haven't, none is possible."

I know that I can't experience that kind of unconditional love sitting in front of the TV. So, yes, I'm still going to those meetings. Thank God!

A very grateful member of
The Living Sober Group

TWO GUYS

Don went to an A.A. meeting. He frowned when a member mispronounced a few words while reading HOW IT WORKS. He was appalled when someone else stood up and said he was an alcoholic and an addict. Another person talked too long, Don felt. Slipping out the door immediately after the meeting, he muttered, "That was terrible, I should have stayed home."

Jim went to an A.A. meeting. He bowed his head as he listened to the PREAMBLE and HOW IT WORKS. He listened intently as members told their stories. He was grateful for being able to attend the meeting. After cleanup and a little socializing, he paused as he locked the meeting room door and thought, "Thank God for a beautiful meeting."

Both men were at the same meeting. Each found what he was looking for.

THE BEGINNERS TABLE

"The beginners table should forever remain just that, a beginners table, with a sprinkling of old-timers to guide the newcomer along their perilous road to sobriety."

The most important person at the beginners table is the newcomer, or the person in early sobriety. For these people, the message we convey is a life or death connection. We must listen carefully to their pleas for help. We can see the pain in their eyes, hear the hopelessness in their voices and the confusion in their questions. We must offer them a solution, one with compassion and depth.

The beginners table, should provide a kind of momentum towards sobriety. They are open to anyone who has a drinking problem. The beginners tables are simply question and answer sessions. Newcomers who utilize these tables find out that they are excellent places to ask questions, to make new friends, and to begin to feel comfortable in the company of other alcoholics, not drinking.

Newcomers fare best by getting into a home group and regularly attending these meetings, as well as visiting other groups from time to time. This concept provides the newcomer with a choice of differing ideas, also a sense of orderliness, which helps them combat their alcoholism. They need to be as persistent in attending meetings, as they were in their drinking.

Some beginners tables have become sounding boards for AA's with many years of sobriety. In these groups the old-timers seem to have forgotten what it was like for them in their early sobriety. They should allow the newcomer to share the burdens of his or her disease freely, even if it's only a brief drunk-a-log. Every AA member at a beginners table should vividly remember how they felt at their first meeting!

The newcomer finds the wisdom and power of AA difficult to grasp when they are chastised and rudely interrupted by the old-timers. We shouldn't coddle the newcomer, however, we must remember that they are

sick people in a strange environment, and full of fear. Patience and tolerance are the key words to remember when dealing with the newcomer. Is it absolutely necessary for the old-timers to punctuate their message to the newcomer with their many years of sobriety, is this sharing experience, strength and hope with them, or is it ego surfacing?

It is ludicrous to assume that the newcomer can identify with the old-timer who glaringly boasts about his or her many years of sobriety. Simply lay out the AA tool kit for their inspection, and explain how it worked for them, and offer friendship and understanding.

The beginners table should forever remain just that, a beginners table, with a sprinkling of old-timers to guide the newcomer along their perilous road to sobriety.

Keep the beginners table AA, not rehab, with talk about out-patient therapy, counseling, phase1, phase2. We are not therapists, counselors, we are not a self-help group, we are alcoholics! We are members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

We welcome the rehab people, for they are just as sick as we were; what we don't need is the false beliefs they bring with them. The belief that after counseling they will be fine, their 90 in 90 is finished, their phase 2 is ended. They think they are cured. Alcoholism is a disease, progressive, incurable, and often times fatal.

Let's bring AA back to the table, forget about the bad hair days, lost puppies, rebellious children, divorces or bad landlords. Let's talk AA, our Higher Power, One Day at a Time, the importance of meetings, and the Twelve Steps of Recovery. This is the true spirit of AA at work at the beginners table!

John H.
Any Lengths

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

AMHERST/SNYDER

John L. 1 yr.
 Mary McD 2 yrs.
 Paul B. 3 yrs.
 John D. 5 yrs.
 Dawn W. 5 yrs.
 Kate McD. 8 yrs.
 Claire S. 9 yrs.
 Maryellen M. 11 yrs.
 Dick M. 13 yrs.
 Edmund L. 14 yrs.
 Betty C. 15 yrs.
 Richard M. 17 yrs.
 Frank D. 38 yrs.
 Virginia O. 42 yrs.

ANY LENGTHS

Artie G. 6 mos.
 David W. 1 yr.

COLD SPRING

Tina A. 9 mos.
 Warren H. 9 mos.
 Albert McF 1 yr.
 James L. 2 yrs.
 Vanessa M. 2 yrs.
 Ray B. 2 yrs.
 Pearl H. 2 yrs.
 Denise R. 3 yrs.
 Betty R. 6 yrs.
 Willie G. 7 yrs.
 Lynn C. 15 yrs.

FAITH

Leon T. 9 mos.
 Shonia C. 1 yr.

FIRESIDE

Ann H. 6 mos.
 Gregg K. 6 mos.
 Sharon N. 6 mos.
 Fred B. 9 mos.
 Gregg C. 9 mos.
 Judy M. 9 mos.
 Dan V. 9 mos.
 Cindy D. 1 yr.
 Kevin B. 3 yrs.
 Gretchen F. 5 yrs.
 Scott S. 7 yrs.
 Karen O. 8 yrs.
 Mark P. 11 yrs.
 Catherine P. 12 yrs.
 Terry A. 13 yrs.
 Doris S. 13 yrs.
 Walter K. 14 yrs.
 Carol S. 16 yrs.

FRESH START

Winston F. 4 yrs.

GIVING

April:
 Lorne J. 6 mos.
 Neil E. 1 yr.
 May:
 George F. 6 mos.

HAPPY HOUR

Andrew S. 3 mos.
 Harry G. 3 mos.
 Wanda I. 6 mos.
 Michael A. 6 mos.
 Dick S. 6 mos.
 Akmal S. 1 yr.
 John C. 3 yrs.
 Chris M. 5 yrs.
 Elais R. 7 yrs.
 Chris B. 8 yrs.
 Marcus W. 10 yrs.

IRONHORSE

Brian C. 3 mos.
 Jack W. 3 mos.
 Jim C. 3 mos.
 Angle H. 3 mos.
 Kevin W. 6 mos.
 John A. 6 mos.
 Phil D. 6 mos.
 Sandy B. 9 mos.
 Joe J. 9 mos.
 Ed O'D. 9 mos.
 Andy B. 1 yr.
 Colleen H. 1 yr.
 Mike B. 1 yr.
 James S. 1 yr.
 Bill H. 1 yr.
 Bill R. 3 yrs.
 Shirley C. 4 yrs.
 Dave H. 10 yrs.
 Paul C. 13 yrs.
 Helen B. 14 yrs.

LET GO & LET GOD

Elvis 7 yrs.
 Bill L. 8 yrs.
 Marcus 10 yrs.

NORTH BUFFALO

James W. 3 mos.
 Roy P. 3 mos.
 Robert S. 2 yrs.
 Carol B. 3 yrs.
 William D. 3 yrs.
 Liz S. 4 yrs.
 Monique P. 5 yrs.
 Donald H. 6 yrs.
 Dennis L. 11 yrs.
 Terry A. 13 yrs.
 Roger P. 15 yrs.
 Dave P. 17 yrs.
 Mel R. 19 yrs.

RISE & SHINE

Pat C. 3 mos.
 Wayne W. 3 mos.
 Mark M. 3 mos.
 Nathan G. 9 mos.
 Bennie P. 9 mos.
 Tammie C. 9 mos.
 Frank J. III 9 mos.
 Derrick D. 9 mos.
 Kim K. 9 mos.
 Jerome L. 1 yr.
 Rebia B. 1 yr.

RISE & SHINE (CONT)

Pat K. 2 yrs.
 Luis C. 2 yrs.
 John M. 2 yrs.
 Donna D. 2 yrs.
 Robert D. 4 yrs.
 Elvis R. 7 yrs.

SHERIDAN

Nat C. 3 mos.
 Joe T. 6 mos.
 Anthony R. 9 mos.
 Carol R. 1 yr.
 Sarah D. 3 yrs.
 Mark H. 6 yrs.
 Chris B. 9 yrs.
 Dick L. 13 yrs.
 Chuck S. 15 yrs.
 Carol R. 16 yrs.
 John T. 25 yrs.

SOUTHTOWNS

April:
 Kurt S. 9 mos.
 Adam W. 2 yrs.
 Robert J. 2 yrs.
 Gene B. 14 yrs.
 May:
 Shawn P. 1 yr.
 Joe R. 4 yrs.

SUNDAY MORN. BREAKFAST

Karen S. 3 mos.
 Ken G. 3 mos.
 Carol W. 6 mos.
 Daryl C. 6 mos.
 Linda J. 6 mos.
 Bob R. 9 mos.
 Dan W. 9 mos.
 Jeff K. 5 yrs.
 Kitty C. 19 yrs.
 Mary R. 20 yrs.

THRUWAY

Gary G. 2 yrs.
 Rick S. 2 yrs.
 Keith A. 4 yrs.
 Sue M. 5 yrs.
 Diane LaV. 8 yrs.
 Diane Z. 11 yrs.
 Mark P. 11 yrs.
 George L. 12 yrs.
 Judy F. 16 yrs.
 Mary Ellen S. 16 yrs.

WE CARE

Bryan D. 3 mos.
 Stephan P. 1 yr.

WHY

George S. 6 mos.
 Anthony R. 9 mos.
 Marg J. 9 mos.
 Toni J. 4 yrs.
 Robin T. 6 yrs.

**BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
295 MAIN STREET
ROOM 845 ELLICOTT SQUARE BUILDING
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203
853-0388**

MAY 1996

ANY ARTICLES, ANNIVERSARIES OR ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE IN BY THE 10TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE MONTH YOU WISH THE ARTICLE TO APPEAR.

MEETING CHANGES:

WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY - THE SOBER at the Brighton Community Church, 1225 Brighton Road in Tonawanda now meets at 6:00PM.

NEW MEETINGS:

SATURDAY - THERE'S A SOLUTION - 7:00PM - meets in Tonawanda at the Seneca Indian Reservation Tribal Office on Meadville Road.

SEASONAL MEETINGS:

MAY 6 - MONDAY - SERENITY IN THE PARK - 7PM - Delaware Park Rose Garden.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

TREATMENT FACILITIES MEETING - 3rd FRIDAY of the month - 7PM - St Simon's, 200 Cazenovia

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES MEETING - 1ST SUNDAY of each month 5:30PM, Community Mental Health Center, 80 Goodrich (just before Central Committee)

COMING EVENTS:

SATURDAY - MAY 4 - A VISION FOR YOU will be celebrating their FIRST ANNIVERSARY, at Peter's United Church of Christ, 1208 Oliver Street, North Tonawanda. Doors open at 7PM - Speaker from 8 - 9PM, Dance from 9PM to 1AM. If you wish, bring a dish to share. Only 150 tickets will be sold-\$5 donation

MAY 5 - SUNDAY - 7:00PM - CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER - 80 GOODRICH, BUFFALO

MAY 11 - SATURDAY - 1996 SPRING NY-PENN INTERGROUP WORKSHOP
Lutheran Church, North 4th Street, Allegany, NY. Registration begins at 9AM. Theme: "Three Legacies: Recovery, Unity, Service." A suggested \$3.00 donation to help with Workshop expenses is asked. Coffee donations can be sent to: 1996 Spring Workshop, PO Box 142, Killbuck, NY 14748. Panels discussing the three legacies within the "Home Group - Intergroup - General Service."

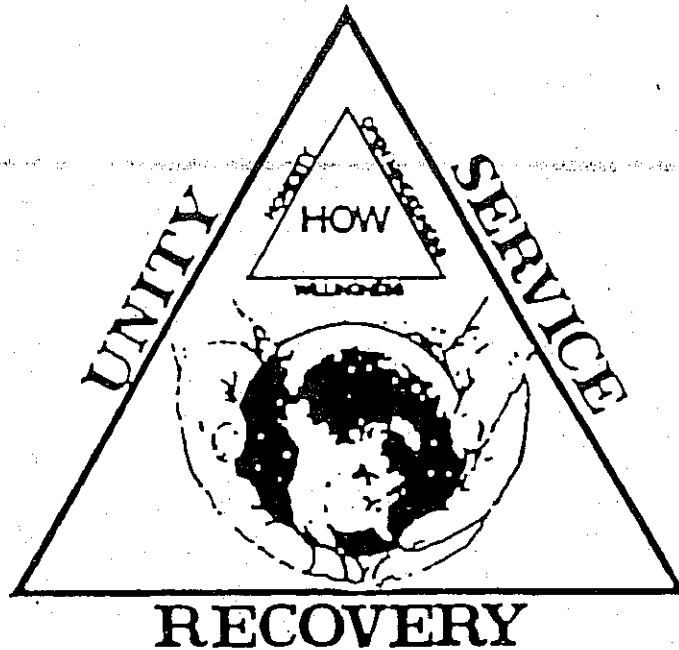
TUESDAY - MAY 28 - FAITH GROUP at St John Baptist Church, 184 Goodell at Michigan, will be celebrating their FIRST GROUP ANNIVERSARY. This will be an eating meeting. Please bring a dish to share. It starts at 7PM.

JUNE 2 - SUNDAY - 7:00PM - CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING-CENTER - 80 GOODRICH.

JUNE 7,8,9. is the 61st FOUNDERS' DAY WEEKEND at Akron University in Ohio. Package plan is \$125 per person including meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast; lodging for Friday and Saturday nights and the registration fee. For info. write: Founders' Day Committee, P.O.Box 12, Akron Oh, 44309-0012

JUNE 14, 15, 16 - LONERS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE at Akron University in Akron, Ohio. For registration forms write: LIM Conference, PO BOX 360446, Columbus Ohio 43226

Alcoholics Anonymous
"The Hand of AA"



Central Committee of the Niagara Frontier
Presents

The 55th Buffalo AA Fall Convention

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

OCTOBER 18, 19 & 20, 1996

• PANELS • FELLOWSHIP • DANCES •

5th MONTH - 5th STEP "ADMITTED TO GOD, TO OURSELVES, AND TO ANOTHER HUMAN
BEING THE EXACT NATURE OF OUR WRONGS."

5th MONTH - 5th TRADITION "EACH GROUP HAS BUT ONE PRIMARY PURPOSE---TO CARRY
ITS MESSAGE TO THE ALCOHOLIC WHO STILL SUFFERS."

YOURS IN THE SPIRIT OF A.A.
Delphine

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

May 5
~~APRIL 7, 1996~~

Tina F, The Journey Group, Chairman, opening the meeting at 7PM with a moment of silence followed with the Serenity Prayer. Elizabeth G of Delaware Discussion read the Preamble The traditions were read by Mitch D from the Urban Group.

Motion to accept the minutes was made by John H of We Care, seconded by Ron S of Powerless.

37 GROUPS ATTENDED: DISTRICT#1 - DELAWARE, F.U.N., GIVING, HAPPY HOUR, ODAT, THE JOURNEY DISTRICT#2 - ACCEPT/WELCOME, CHAPTER IX, GRAND, KENMORE, MOD/LIVING IN THE SOLUTION, NORTH BUFFALO, SEARCHING FOR SERENITY, WHY. DISTRICT#3 - ABBOTT MEN'S, IRON HORSE, MATT TALBOT, NEW LIFE, RAINBOW, RIDGE, SOUTH BUFFALO, THRUWAY, URBAN, WE CARE. DISTRICT#4 - ACTION. DISTRICT#5 - DISTRICT#6 - CASSADAGA, SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE. DISTRICT#7 - CASTING, FAITH, FRESH START, LOVEJOY, POWERLESS, SPIRIT OF HOPE. DISTRICT#8 - AMHERST-SNYDER, COMMON PROBLEM, EYE OPENER. DISTRICT#9 - EVERYBODY'S. DISTRICT#10

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVELOPE SYSTEM - Mel L, Renewal (Delphine)

APRIL receipts	1995	1996
Average monthly receipts (per month) for the previous 3 months	\$435.00 636.67	\$374.00 617.00

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - JANICE O, District #1

The meeting was opened at 6:05pm by Tina F, with the Serenity Prayer. Others present were Delphine H, Central Office Executive Secretary, Gary S, Matt Talbot, treasurer, Lisa S, Acceptance, Dist#2, Janice O, ODAT, Dist#1 Joanne McM, Action, Co-Chairman Larry S, Cold Springs District#7 Pat M, Rainbow, Disytrict#3 and Dick L, Everybody's, Dist #9. Guests were Mike E, Amherst-Snyder, Darlyne S, Matt Talbot and of Everybodys' group.

District#4 - Hamburg, Orchard Park, etc, will need a Steering Committee representative. Nominations will be needed at this time.

Mike E from District #8 came to observe as a possible Steering Committee Representative from that district.

There is no replacement from District#6 for the Buffalo Fall Convention Co-chairmanship, as a result it was decided to move to the next District. Larry S, (Cold Springs, District#7) was nominated. We will ask for Central Committee approval.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 6:30PM after a motion was made to adjourn.

(A correction from last month is that Pat M, Rainbow, District#3 was in attendance.)

FINANCIAL REPORT - GARY S, MATT TALBOT: see attached

TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE - RICHARD F-IRON HORSE

Noted that there is a new acting Chairman, Wayne W from Abbott Men's. Warren H has to resign because of his work schedule.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE - none

They did have a Committee meeting before the Central Committee Meeting but no one stayed to report.

SCREENERS - LISA Y - NORTH BUFFALO

Because of personal issues the meeting with the Answering Services did not occur. Lisa will be turning over the Chairmanship to the Co-Chair Adam B, The Journey. He will be asked to come to Central Committee next month.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Delphine H

APRIL '96

AA information	448	12 Step	4
PIC	2	literature requests	46
CPC		Refer to other agencies	16
Alanon	12	Refer from other agencies	21
Alateen	2	Central office	
ACOA	2	Outgoing calls	42
Answering Service		Mail costs	\$163.96
Incoming calls 367 - Out going 76		Visitors	72

NEW FRONTIER -John H, We Care, Editor

* Any member of AA encouraged to write an article or persona; experience for the New Frontiers. The only requirement is that the article pertain to AA and recovery.

* Length of sobriety is not important. If you have an article that will help other AA's, please share it, remember, in order to keep our sobriety we must give it away.

55th FALL CONVENTION - '96 - Joan: Treasurer.

Minutes for April 2nd.

Changes: No Co-chairman due to illness.

Decision about whether to get a new Co-chairman is pending. The decision is to be made by the Steering Committee.

New Sales Representative at the Marriott.

The next meeting is at the Marriott, May 7th at 7:00 PM at which time there will be a tour of the salons and the layout of the rooms.

Stamped and addressed envelopes will be handed out to the groups for coffee donations.

Will the members please begin to approach groups about coffee donations?

Flyers went out for the Spring Convention and the final flyers were printed.

COURTESY REPORTS: GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

Public Information Committee - Guy H, Common Problem

Gave report of Committees activities.

Went to Amherst High School, Medaille College, Spring Convention Panel.

Attended the 17th Annual New York State Informational Workshop meeting.

Elected literature chairman.

Coming events: Sweet Home High School, Erie County County Fair, Buffalo State College Health Fair.

Mention was made of the Workshop coming on August 9, 10, and 11th at Daeman College in Williamsville at which time the Special Needs Committee will be addressed. Other cities already have such a Committee in the works so we hope to draw from their experiences.

Cooperation with the Professional Community - Dave B, Thruway

Stated that they meet in the Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Drive in Cheektowaga on the second Saturday of the month.

The County Fair will be coming up. Individuals or perhaps groups are needed to volunteer their time. You would be receiving an entrance pass

RE-CAP:

OLD BUSINESS:

Gary B, F.U.N., brought up the subject of the Hearing Impaired having encountered a 12 step call with a need for an interpreter. His suggestion was to have a list of signers at the Central Office and as needed ask them to be at a specific meeting when a hearing impaired person will be in attendance. There are individual available who will possible work for \$20 a session which would be paid

The Chairperson ask for a vote of approval for the appointment by the Steering Committee of Larry S, Cold Springs, as the Co-chairman for the '96 Fall Convention. Because there was no acceptance of the Chairmanship by any one in District#6 and we felt we had waited as long as we could for anyone else in the area to respond. As a result we moved on to the next District.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill C, Thruway, General Service Achivist, announced that their were trying to establish a Archive Committee and were in need of a Chairman. They will be meeting on May 21st at the Infant of Prague Church at 921 Cleveland Drive in Cheektowaga at 7PM. If you are interested in WORKING on the Committee you are welcome.

John H. We Care, told of having been given the history of AA in Buffalo, transcribed from a tape by Vince M. He would like to make it in booklet form and available to those who would like one.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea S, Fresh Start Recording Secretary

RE-CAP		4/25/96-5/25/96			
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES ACCOUNT *484-185-4					
EXPENSES		CHECK*			
AA Central Office	Wyoming	1126	105.61		
AA Central Office	Gowanda	1127	176.15		
			281.76		
Balance pr checkbook	4/25/96			1542.30	
Add Receipts	4/25/96-5/25/96			243.00	
Deduct expenses	4/25/96-5/25/96			-281.76	
Balance per checkbook	5/25/96			1503.54	
Operating debit for 5/25/96		(-38.76)			
TREATMENT FACILITIES ACCOUNT *602-089-5					
EXPENSES		CHECK*			
AA Central Office	ECMC	325	39.37		
Mike B	locks	326	7.50		
Robert K	coffee-VA	327	100.00		
			146.87		
Balance per checkbook	4/25/96			648.54	
Add receipts	4/25/96-5/25/96			283.00	
Deduct expenses	4/25/96-5/25/96			-146.87	
Balance per checkbook	5/25/96			784.67	
Operating credit for 5/25/96		136.13			

CENTRAL COMMITTEE		#604-771-7	4/25/96-5/25/96		
RECEIPTS					
35 Groups Contributed				2438.76	
Joint Meeting (expenses \$6.00)				26.35	
New Frontiers subscriptions				21.00	
Envelope System					
Literature				2253.85	
		Total Receipts		4739.96	
#10 Ellicott Court Corporation		rent		608.00	
Community Mental Health Center		rent		35.00	
World Services, Inc		big books		779.00	
Secrephone		answering service		198.26	
M & T Bank		fed withhold tax		596.60	
The Grapevine		literature		402.40	
Postage by Phone				300.00	
World Services Inc		Books		779.00	
Happy Spring Water				51.90	
World Services, Inc		phamplets		398.00	
World Services, Inc		book bal due		311.60	
NYNEX				183.31	
AT & T				5.38	
Salaries				1783.68	
cash				50.00	
Bank Charges				74.20	
		Disbursements		6556.33	
Balance pr checkbook 4/25/96				2881.63	
Add Receipts 4/25/96-5/25/96				4739.96	
				7621.59	
Deduct expenses 4/25/96-5/25/96				-6556.33	
Balance per checkbook 5/25/96				1065.26	
Operating debit for 5/25/96		(-1717.37)			
MONEY MARKET		4615.25		15539.96	savings
CERT OF DEPOSIT		10924.71		1065.26	checking
		15539.96		16605.22	

pg 1		Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities		
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
12 Step - Holiday Village						
1st Step						
3rd Step						
6th Step						
A Day At A Time						
A Vision for You						
Abbott Mens Discussion		10.00		10.00		10.00
Accept/Welcom		100.00				
Achievement						
Action						
Age Doesn't Matter	100.00	100.00				
Albion						
Alexander						
All Women						
Amherst Tree of Life		75.00				
Amherst Snyder	182.00	343.57				
Amsdell Lakeshore						
Any Age		20.00				
Any Length	20.00	50.00				
Anybody's Group	25.00	25.00				
Arcade						
As Bill Sees It						
Attitude Adjustment						
Attraction		100.00				
Awakening						
Beginner's Table						
Beginning in Sobriety I						
Beginning in Sobriety II						
Beginnings-Women's						
Better Days (Bilingual)						
Bidwell						
Bidwell Monday Disc						
Big Book - Lockport						
Big Book Study (Thursday Night)						
Big Book Workshop		10.00				
Blasdell						
Blasdell Monday Nite						
Boulevard Women's		30.00				
Brass						
Broadway-Balley						
Brocton Discussion		50.00				
But for the Grace of God		161.00		5.00		5.00
By The Book-Buffalo						
Campus (Buffalo State College)						
Casting	25.00	50.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

Pg 2		Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities		
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
Cathedral Park	20.00	58.00				
Caz Manor		54.50				
Cazenovia		77.00		38.50		38.50
Central Park						
Central Park II						
Chapter IX		40.00		40.00		40.00
Cheeklowaga	250.00	250.00				
Chevy #1						
Clarence Men's Disc II		50.00				
Clarence Men's Disc		150.00				
Cold Springs						
Common Problem						
Community Center						
Cornplanters Again						
Courage						
Decision, Choices, Changes						
Delaware Discussion						
Derby		25.00				
Design For Living						
Desire						
DeVeaux Discussion						
Discovery						
Downtown Discussion						
Downtown Men's Discussion						
Dunkirk						
Earliest This Area						
Early Bird						
Earlybird - Saturday						
Easier Softer Way						
East Amherst						
East Aurora		100.00		4.50		10.00
Easy Does It		60.00		20.00		25.00
Eden-North Collins						
Ellicott						
Ellicottville						
Emergency						
Eternal Vigilance						
Everybody's		50.00				
Eye Opener	212.88	888.88				
F.U.N.						
Faith		15.00				
Faith in Action						
Father Baker	300.00	375.00	75.00	150.00	75.00	150.00
Fellowship in the Spirit						
Fireside	164.68	1053.11		50.00	25.00	125.00

pg 3			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
Fireside PM						
First Things First		50.00				
First Ward						
Fredonia Disc						
Freedom	25.00	150.00		25.00		25.00
Fresh Start						
Friday Nite Disc						
Friday Step Beginners						
Friendly						
Friendship						
Friendship Fireside						
Frontier		110.00				50
Gardenville	50.00	50.00				
Gay, Lesbian, Sober & Proud						
Getting Better						
Giving		25.00				
Go to Any Length						
Golden Slipper		50.00				
Good Life						
Grand		15.00				
Grand II Joy Of Living						
Grateful						
Guiding Light						
H.A.N.D.		110.00				10.00
H.D.W.						
Half & Half						
Hamburg						
Hamburg Big Book						
Handicappers Sat. Nite						
Happy Hour						
Harmony						
Helping Hand	20.00	60.00				
High Noon						
High View		150.00				35.00
Higher Powered						
Hill Billy		140.00		50.00		50.00
Hold On						
Holiday Village		535.00		45.00		20.00
Honest Desire						
Honesty	30.00	150.00	10.00	50.00		
Hope - Big Book Study						
How It Works		210.00		105.00		35.00
Humbly Willing						
Ignatia						
In the Solution						

pg 4			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
Inner City						
Inspiration						
Intoxication on Life						
Iron Horse	53.00	157.00	53.00	157.00	53.00	157.00
IT						
It's About Time						
Just for Today						
Keep It Simple Sister		10.00				
Keep on Comin'						
Kenmore						
Kensington		40.00				
Ladies Night						
Lake Shore	70.00	130.00				
Lake View		48.00				
Let Go & Let God		20.00				
Let's Talk About It						
Lew-port		15.25				
Liberty Women's						
Life Today		50.00				
Lighten Up		120.00				
Live and Let Live						
Living in the Solution						
Living Sober						
Lock City						
Lockport #1						
Lockport Discussion						
Lockport Ladies						
Lockview				12.75		
Lovejoy	20.00	60.00				
Lower River	50.00	50.00				
Lunch Bunch						
Main Street						
Marilla	25.00	100.00				
Matt Talbot		160.00				
Mc Kinley Winners						
Medina New Life						
Medina-Big Book Meeting						
Mercy						
Mid-day						
Midnight						
Miracle						
Morning After						
New Awakening						
New Beginnings	25.00	25.00				
New Freedom						

pg 5		Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities		
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
New Frontier						
New Frontier Womens						
New Life	10.00	30.00	5.00	15.00		
New Life - New Beginning						
New Westside		25.00				
Niagara Frontier Men's						
Nite People						
North Buffalo		600.00		150.00		150.00
North Java-Monday						
North Java-Sunday						
One Day at a Time (ODAT)						
Open Arms						
Open Mind						
Opportunity						
Orchard Park Step		25.00				
Page 30						
Pass It On						
Patchin						
Pathway to Peace						25.00
Pendleton-Chapter V						
Perry						
Pioneer						
Positively Living II						
Positively Living III						
Powerless						
Primary Purpose						
Progress		30.00				
Purpose		100.00				
Rainbow		25.00		25		25
Ray of Hope		45.00				
Remember When						
Renalssance I		200.00				
Renewal		150.00		25.00		25.00
Restored to Sanity						
Ridge		100.00				
Ripley's "Believe It Or Not"						
Rise & Shine	30.00	120.00		30.00		
Rochester Meeting						
Rur-al is Plural						
Rush Hour						
Sally						
Salvation Army						
Saratoga						
Saturday Night Alive						
Saturday Night Disc						

Pg 6		Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities		
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
Searching for Serenity		75.00				
Second Chance						
Seneca 12 & 12						
Serenity	60.00	180.00				
Serenity Circle	10.00	30.00				
Serenity Trail						
Sheridan	20.00	100.00				
Silver Creek Friendship						
Sober Trail						
Sober Winners						
Sobriety Men's Disc						
Sobriety on Saturday Night						
Somerset						
South Buffalo	10.00	90.00	10.00	90.00	10.00	90.00
South Town		15.00				
South Town Women's						
Southgate		60.00				
Southwestern		50.00		10.00		
Spirit of H.O.P.E.						
Spiritual Progress(women's)						
Springville						
Springville Saturday Afternoon		36.00				
St. Barnabas		60.00				
St. Mark's		120.00				
Starting Over	15.00	15.00				
Step						
Stepping Stones						
Suburban						
Sunday Morning Bkft.		250.00		100.00		100.00
Sun night St Mary's		50.00				
Sunday Niters						
Sunday Third						
Sunrise Court	100.00	300.00	50	150.00	50	150.00
SUNY-Amherst Campus						
Surrender & Hope		75.00				
Survivors						
TnT		100.00				
T.P.H.						
TGIF						
Thankful						
The Journey		120.00				
The Pax Group		25.00		25.00		25.00
The Present						
The Way						
Thruway	100.00	600.00	20	40.00	20	40.00
Thursday Afternoon Disc		175.00				

pg 7			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.	MAY '96	Accum.
Today						
Today's Woman						
Trail's End		25.00				
Tri-County						
Tri-Step Beginners						
Try Again	23.00	23.00				
Tuesday Men's		50.00				
Tuesday Women's Disc						
Turning Point		20.00				
Twin Cities	100.00	175.00				
Twin Cities II						
Unlty		60.00				
University	150.00	600.00			20.00	60.00
Urban		10.00				
V.I.P.						
Valley		20.00				
Varysburg						
Veterans						
Victory						
Vision of Hope (women's)						
Wake Up Call	13.20	83.85				
We Admitted						
We Are Not Saints						
We Care	30.00	120.00	10.00	40.00	20.00	80.00
We Choose Life						
We Need You						
Wehrle						
Welcome Home						
West Seneca Sat. Nite						
Westfield						
Westminster						
WHY						
Williamsville	100.00	400.00				
Willing To Grow		62.50				
Wilson						
Wilson Smith Un Alumni		25.00				
Women's Inner Growth						
Women's Westside Disc.						
Working						
You'll Never Walk Alone						
Youngstown						
James K				53.00		
Grps contributed	2438.76	12811.66	243.00	1495.75	283.00	1535.50
Last Month		10372.90		1252.75		1252.50
This month		2438.76		243.00		283.00
Total year to date		12811.66		1495.75		1535.50

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