

NEW FRONTIERS

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL AA MEMBERS
IN WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER
WE REQUEST THAT THIS NEWSLETTER BE KEPT WITHIN THE FELLOWSHIP TO INSURE ANONYMITY

WHAT IS AA?

AA IS A SPIRIT. IT CANNOT BE TOUCHED, NOR CAN IT BE COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD. IT IS AS WIDE AS THE WORLD, YET SMALL ENOUGH TO FIT SNUGLY INTO THE HEARTS OF WOMEN AND MEN. IT HAS BROUGHT LIGHT WHERE ONLY DARKNESS DWELT. IT HAS GIVEN HOPE TO THE HOPELESS AND HELP TO THOSE WHO YEARNED IN DESPAIR. IT HAS NOURISHED FORGIVENESS IN THOSE THAT KNEW NO PITY. IT HAS GIVEN STRENGTH TO THE WEAK, AND HUMILITY TO THE STRONG. IT HAS SPURRED TO HIGHER GOALS THOSE THAT STROVE FOR NOTHING. IT HAS TAUGHT PATIENCE TO THE HURRIED AND ACTION TO THE LAZY. TO YOUTH IT HAS GIVEN VISION AND TO THE AGED PROMISE. TO THE LONELY, COMPANIONS, AND TO THE RESTLESS, REST. TO THE SICK IT HAS BEEN A DOCTOR, AND TO THE DYING IT HAS REVIVED THE DESIRE TO LIVE. IT HAS NO JUDGEMENT AGAINST THE UNTEACHABLES, NOR HAS IT PRAISE FOR THOSE WHO LEARN. TO THE OUTCAST IT HAS BEEN A FAMILY, AND TO THE CHILDLESS IT HAS GIVEN CHILDREN. TO THE IGNORANT, WISDOM, AND TO THE WISE, TOLERANCE. IT HAS GIVEN TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN THAT WHICH IS MOST PRECIOUS. IT HAS GIVEN A LOVE FOR TRUTH WITH ENOUGH LEFT OVER TO SHARE.

ANONYMOUS



IN MEMORIAM

THING WE CANNOT CHANGE...

**JERRY "STACK" STACHOWIAK
JUNE 23, 2000
REST IN PEACE DEAR FRIEND
YOU WILL BE MISSED**

"POLITICAL" SERVICE?

"Love and Gratitude in Action is many times known as service--and service takes many forms and requires many different talents. There are those who suggest they won't be involved in service because it is too "political." Yet all of us take our turn arranging and cleaning the meeting rooms; making coffee; greeting the newcomers; leading a discussion; sharing our experience, strength, and hope, and making a twelfth step call. All of these acts are service, and definitely not "political."

(Welcoming address of Jim E. Chairman of the General Service Board, at the 14th World Service Meeting, October, 1996r)

TO MAKE GOD REALLY LAUGH, TELL HIM "YOUR" PLANS.

STEP EIGHT

"MADE A LIST OF ALL PEOPLE WE HAD HARMED, AND BECAME WILLING TO MAKE AMENDS TO THEM ALL."

I have gone back as far as I can remember to where I have done harm, so I can repair the damage and set wrongs right. I took myself back to the mainstream of life and more usefulness to others. I am no longer hiding from life. I go to meetings to get well. The God of my understanding keeps me from a drink. I am learning that this lifelong process will allow me to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. It is not so hard once I've done my best to repair the broken pieces of my past. I am grateful today for my two years of sobriety. My life has changed for the good. When the opportunity presents itself, I say a prayer, go to a meeting and enjoy another day without a drink.

Carl K.

Downtown Men's Discussion

The *New Frontiers* is published monthly by the Central Office of Western New York. We are self-supporting by your subscriptions and Central Office donations. 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 should be approximately 250 words. We do not accept poetry. 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. Editor

"WE ARE NOT A GRIM LOT..."

There's a wonderful power of example at my home group; her name is Jan. She always reminds us of the saying "We are not a grim lot!" Thank God because I've taken myself much too seriously long enough. For as long as I can remember, people told me to stop looking at my shoes, to lift my chin up, lighten up, and smile more. So, with the help of many more powers of example, I'm starting to get the gift of humor. I am able to laugh at myself (the best medicine, they say.) My fondest memory of my early meetings is that they told me I didn't have to live that way anymore. That way was miserable, self-centered, and self righteous, I'm sure I was a joy to be around!

Then came people like 'Florence' who said, "I didn't know what I didn't know", she made me laugh because I understood what she meant. I remember 'Jessie', who wore the funniest hat for people who wanted to sit on the pity pot. That was good for many chuckles. I know that whenever my friend 'Pete' calls, I am going to laugh—thanks 'Pete!

I have been to many meetings and I've met the most entertaining people and had some very interesting conversations. People who like to have a good time were put in my path, to remind me that this journey is progress, not perfection. They showed me how to be human and allowed me to be

myself. The number of people who have enriched my life are too numerous to mention, but my gratitude goes out to them all. Their friendships go beyond words.

I just returned from the International Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota, what a blessing that was. To Linda, Tony and Jim, thanks so much for an awesome experience. The laughs we shared will warm my heart for many years. Can you picture 60,000 alcoholics in one place (The Metrodome), singing, dancing, crying, laughing, and hugging? What an amazing power that was! My faith in Alcoholics Anonymous and my Higher Power's healing love, and the gift of laughter that I have been blessed with, is stronger than it has ever been.

During the Convention, Linda and I were walking through the convention center and we saw someone being carried to his destination. It was amazing! We couldn't believe our eyes! It was "Bernie, the happy alcoholic!" Now, that's what I'm talking about.

Finally, I thank God for my soul mate who has taught me to not take myself too seriously. Jim, I love you for all you do for our family and me; especially for making us laugh. (Harvey is very proud, I know!)

Cookie L.

Sunday Morning Breakfast



TRADITION EIGHT

"ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SHOULD REMAIN FOREVER NONPROFESSIONAL, BUT OUR SERVICE CENTERS MAY EMPLOY SPECIAL WORKERS."

Our membership changes every year. People join and leave the fellowship. We keep no records. Because of our ever-increasing membership, we need service centers to carry the message, and service people to man them.

**"SNOWFLAKES ARE ONE OF NATURE'S MOST FRAGILE THINGS,
BUT JUST THINK OF WHAT THEY CAN DO WHEN THEY STICK TOGETHER."**

Vista M. Kelly

RECOVERY IS A SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE, NOT AN INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE.

"A leader in AA service is a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us naturally want to back him up and help him with his job. When a leader power drives us badly, we rebel; but when he too meekly becomes an order taker and he exercises no judgement of his own--well, he really isn't a leader at all."

Twelve Concepts P. 40

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SEX IN SOBRIETY

"We treat sex as we would any other problem." Alcoholics Anonymous Pg. 69

The Big Book is very careful to be sensitive to this topic. This is not a subject to be treated lightly, for we all have varying degrees of problems in this area. We must be careful when sharing about sex in a meeting. There are a few 13th steppers who might take advantage of the vulnerable nature that this topic tends to bring out in people. We are not all as well as we make you think.

The Book talks about how we turn lust into love. I've done it a few times myself. Over the years it has gotten easier to detect and deflect; however, early on I was so enraptured with the thought of "Him" I couldn't see the forest for the trees. I remember when "He" first captured my heart and after 2 weeks I was convinced "He" was the "One." "We will live happily ever after" I'd say and think over and over again. A week later I couldn't figure out what I saw in "Him" as I sleazed into another relationship.

In today's time I might have been called a "bunny boiler." Back then, however, in the early days of sobriety, we called it "Love."

Sound familiar? Your heart races when you see "Him" and every minute away from "Him" leaves you obsessing on when you'll get to see "Him" next, what you'll say, wear or do.

We plot and plan the next calculated move every step of the way when we are emotionally stunted. How appropriate that Bill W., Bob S. and the first hundred members thought like we do. Intentional or not, Flip from page 69 to the top of page 96 and you'll have the pages of the Big Book you need to address these problems.

Sex in sobriety is something that has to be dealt with, especially when the end goal is spirituality. Sponsors can help bridge the gap that most people find when trying to deal with the subject. Talk to your sponsor and you might be surprised to find out that what you're so embarrassed to reveal was on your sponsor's fourth step as well.

*Valarie T.,
Hillsboro Road Group
Nashville, Tennessee*

Taken from "The Messenger" July 2000

TRUSTED SERVANTS

"They are servants. Theirs is the sometimes thankless privilege of doing the groups chores."

12&12 p 134

HUMILITY vs. HUMILIATE

I was confused about humility: Humility vs Humiliate. What is the difference? The dictionary defines humility as being without pride or arrogance, to be modest and respectful and polite. On the other hand, humiliate is to lower self-respect, embarrass in public. The key to our sobriety is humility. We must think about how we can contribute to other people's lives, instead of what we can get out of the deal. The Big Book reminds us that self-centeredness is the root of all our problems, knowing that, the well being of others is paramount to the solution of our problems. Our words are important also and we need to remember that what we say can effect people like fire, "fire can either burn us or warm us." Today my life depends on the right actions. The right actions must be consistent in all areas of our lives: AA, work, home and in the community.

We need to remind ourselves that our thinking is for entertainment purposes only. My life is so much better today not having to always make amends and knowing that I am welcomed back. It's called being a mature adult.

John H.
Editor



THERE IS A SOLUTION

"We, of Alcoholics Anonymous, know thousands of men and women who were once just as hopeless as Bill. Nearly all have recovered. They have solved the drink problem. We are average Americans. All sections of this country and many of its occupations are represented, as well as many political, economic, social, and religious backgrounds. We are a people who normally would not mix. But there exists between us a fellowship, a friendliness, and an understanding which is indescribably wonderful. We are like the passengers of a great liner the moment after rescue from shipwreck when camaraderie, joyousness and democracy pervade the vessel from steerage to Captain's table. Unlike the

feeling of the ship's passengers, however, our joy in escape from the disaster does not subside as we go our individual ways. The feeling of having shared in a common peril is one element in the powerful cement which binds us. But that in itself would never have held us together as we are now joined.

The tremendous fact for every one of us is that we have discovered a common solution. We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree, and upon which we can join in brotherly and harmonious action. This is the great news this book carries to those who suffer from alcoholism."

Alcoholics Anonymous, p.17

SORROW LOOKS BACK. WORRY LOOKS AROUND. FAITH LOOKS UP.

WARNING:

Consumption of alcohol may lead you to believe
that ex-lovers are really dying for you
to telephone them at 4 a.m. to profess your undying love.

SPEAKING OF BEING ANONYMOUS!

My husband had an amusing and memorable entrance into the Fellowship. He asked for help at the time his sponsor was all engrossed in arrangements for the convention,* so he found himself five days sober, reeking of paraldehyde, scared to death and driving Sister Ignatia and Sister Brigid from the airport to Long Beach. He fell in love with the sisters and the program and has never found it necessary to drink again.

He was assigned to drive Bill W. and to escort him to the dance. He blushes to remember that, not knowing about the program nor its founders, he asked Bill if he had a ticket to the dance and when the reply was negative, he promptly steered him to the waiting ticket line so our founder could purchase his way in!

P.M.E.

* The third International Convention was held in Long Beach, California in July 1960

A MIND ONCE STRETCHED BY A NEW IDEA, NEVER REGAINS ITS ORIGINAL DIMENTIONS

THE OLD-TIMERS

My fondest memory is that of my Sponsor, Leon K. who passed away in 1996 with 30 years of sobriety. The year was 1976. My job was very important to me and my family of five. My employer promoted my boss and brought in a "hot shot" from out of town, who decided to change everything, including my job. Fortunately, for me, he did not have the unilateral authority to hire or fire anyone. However, it was within his power to make life very difficult for me. One night, filled with fear and anxiety and finding it very difficult to sleep, I called Leon. Both he and his charming wife 'Aggie' came to my house. Exactly what Leon said escapes me now, but he reassured me that based on his experience as a successful business man and his knowledge of me in my three years of sobriety, my new boss had no justification to terminate my employment. Leon's act of love that night taught me a lot about the love of God and AA.

Dave K. was a frequent participant at the UMDG. At a discussion table one day, I was



sharing some of the war stories about my new boss. Dave, chewing on his ever present cigar, growled out something like this, "Just because we get sober in AA doesn't mean we will be spared some SOB who comes into our life to make it miserable, just hang in there until he goes away!" He called the shot, I did hang in. Shortly after that, my "Hot shot" boss was

fired and my employment was blessed with a number of success stories.

Charlie G. affectionately nick-named "Charlie The Baker", passed away in the 1980's with 25 years of sobriety. Charlie and I went to meetings every week. One night, while we were driving some others home from a meeting, we passed the "House of Quinn." One of the guys mentioned that the House of Quinn was scheduled for demolition, as part of some urban renewal project. Charlie responded with "my, how tragic--thousands will be left homeless." Just a sample of Charlie's Irish humor. Rest in peace Charlie.

Anonymous AA Member
From WNY

LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

On an evening in the middle of June, as I travel south by air from the Canadian Arctic, the sun high in the sky. Ice is still solid on Great Slave Lake. I marvel at it all- the beauty of nature, the changing seasons, the midnight sun.

Yes I marvel most at the fact that by one drunk talking to another, AA is here, throughout the arctic. For the past three days I have shared in meetings and workshops on the Steps, Traditions, sponsorship, service, the importance of having a home group, and, foremost, our primary purpose.

In the north, like in most places I've been, there is concern regarding our primary purpose and how to keep AA meetings focused on AA information and AA language. There is a need

for willing servants at all levels of service work. There are long-timers, middle-timers, and newcomers full of enthusiasm.

Last night, with my weekend hosts, I visited a couple who live in isolation- their home and fishing lodge sit on a barren arctic rock. As we left their yard, I noticed a bumper sticker on their pick up truck: "Another friend of Bill."

As we celebrate fifty years of AA in Canada, let us not forget the pioneers in the north who traveled by dog sled, plane, skidoo, on foot, or by truck to carry the message in the best way possible- one drunk talking to another.

Elaine S.

Reprinted from the "Grapevine"

June, 1993

WARNING!

Consumption of alcohol may leave you wondering what the hell happened to your pants.

ARE YOU 'INVOLVED' WITH AA OR 'COMMITTED' TO AA?
LOOK AT A PLATE OF HAM AND EGGS...
THE CHICKEN WAS INVOLVED - THE PIG WAS COMMITTED.



AN INVITATION...

To become involved and make the "NEW FRONTIERS" a true form of activity and recovery by sharing your ideas, suggestions; and your experience, strength and hope. Make sure it is about alcoholism, and that it is your experience, strength, and hope that is expressed. You have a story to tell? Tell us about it. Send your submissions to:

Buffalo Central Office
845 Ellicott Square Building
295 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14203-2412
Attention : New Frontiers

ANNIVERSARIES

Acceptance

Linda V. 9 m
Lisa M. 13 y

Amherst/Snyder

Karen W. 3 m
Mark C. 3 m
Ray O. 6 m
Jim S., Jr. 9 m
Larry B. 9 m
Ed S. 9 m
Bob V. 9 m
Nancy R. 1 y
Chuck N. 2 y
Carolyn D. 3 y
Ralph M. 4 y
Ed M. 5 y
Mike E. 8 y
Mickey G. 10 y
Lynn L. 11 y
Lisa N. 12 y
Julie J. 14 y
John L. 17 y
Tom C. 18 y
Bernard A. 20 y
Eliot L. 40 y

Any Age

Joe C. 3 m
Chuck T. 6 m
Mark W. 6 m
Chris F. 1 y
Ray L. 18 y
Debbie M. 21 y
Lucky 24 y

Book Meeting

Bill K. 13 y

Cold Springs

Lynette S. 2 y
Lorenzo B. 3 y
Thomie C. 7 y
Edith H. 7 y
Barbara H. 7 y
Dorothy M. 8 y

Winston M. 8 y
Carmen S. 10 y

Courage

Scott G. 3 m

Faith

Mae H. 4 y

Fireside

Kim K. 1 y
Bruce P. 1 y
Russell F. 2 y
Connie S. 2 y
Patty W. 4 y
Gregg C. 5 y
Judy M. 5 y
Pete W. 11 y
Ed M. 12 y
Paul H. 14 y

Honesty

Ronney V. 1 y
Lisa M. 13 y
Sidney R. 24 y

Kensington

Rita 7 y
Ellie 22 y

Main & High

Rasheena C. 9 m

Matt Talbot

Miracle

Thomas B. 3 m
Shauna H. 6 m

North Buffalo

Don B. 3 m
George F. 3 m
Peter L. 3 m
Sandy L. 3 m
Francine F. 6 m
Dennis S. 6 m
David S. 6 m
Paul M. 6 m
Linda F. 1 y
Julie T. 1 y

Elena W. 1 y
Jerry N. 1 y
Donna H. 2 y
Bob H. 2 y
Jake J. 3 y
Jim L. 3 y
Barbara C. 3 y
Rachel E. 5 y
Lisa G. 6 y
Lisa Y. 9 y
Deb A. 10 y
Kathy T. 10 y
Bernie R. 11 y
Chuck B. 11 y
Kevin C. 17 y
Jeanie A. 25 y
Barbara B. 27 y

Powerless

Jim K. 6 y

Reformers

Joseph A. 3 m
Kevin B. 3 m
Paul B. 3 m
Miseal A. 3 m
Mike C. 3 m
Dale K. 3 m
Al O. 30 m
David P. 30 m

Renewal

Dan S. 5 y

Sunday Morning

Breakfast

Phyllis N. 9 m
Susan D. 1 y
Gene K. 3 y
Jim K. 6 y

Thruway

Julieann H. 6 m
Gene K. 3 y
Joelle D. 9 y
Bob K. 10 y
Lee R. 20 y
Dave B. 22 y
Bernie S. 28 y

We Care

Darlyn 3 m
Mary Ann J. 6 m
Mike T. 9 m
Joe G. 9 m
John Z. 1 y
Gordon W. 3 y
Rita K. 7 y
Shain E. 11 y
Marcie S. 14 y

Women's Westside

Discussion

Jennifer T. 3 m
Mona J. 3 m
Carmella I. 6 m
Thomasina S. 9 m
Jenny S. 3 y
Karen H. 4 y
Mary A. 4 y
Kim S. 11 y

Group Anniversaries

Age Doesn't Matter
Anybody's
Another Chance
As Bill Sees It
Big Book-Lockport
Community Center
Derby
Grand
Lockport Ladies
Marilla
Reneacion
St. Barnabas
Sober and Proud
Sunday Morning
Breakfast
Varieties of Spiritual
Experiences
We Care
Youngstown

Please remember to have the anniversaries submitted by the 10th of the month previous.

BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
(716) 853-0388
(716) 853-0389 FAX

845 ELLICOTT SQUARE
295 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203

AUGUST 2000

NOTE: ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
ARE OPEN TO ANYONE IN THE FELLOWSHIP.

FALL 2000 MEETING SCHEDULES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

PLEASE NOTE

FIRST THINGS FIRST – needs support, Monday, 10:30 am; 261 East Main St., Hamburg.

NORTH JAVA MORNIN' AFTER – Wednesday, St. Nick's, Rte. 98, now meets at 12 noon.

SERENITY ON THE LAKE, Thurs., 8 pm, Tri-County Outpatient, 6775 Erie Rd., Derby, needs support.

ST. ANTHONY'S – Fri. 7 pm, no longer meets.

THE PRESENT and THE PRESENT II – Sundays at 2 and Fridays at 7, St. Martin in the Field, Grand Island no longer meets.

VALLEY – Wed., 8 pm, Woodside Methodist Church, 675 Abbott Road, is updating their membership list. If you are a member, be sure to contact the group secretary or your name will be removed.

WILKSBARRE – Tues. 7 pm, no longer meets.

COMING EVENTS

- ~ August 4-6, **NYS Informational Workshop.**
- ~ August 6, Sunday, CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING, St. Michael's Church Hall, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ August 6, Sunday, Correctional Facility Committee, St. Michael's Church Hall, 6 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ August 6, Sunday, Niagara Intergroup Annual Picnic 11-5, speakers, food, \$3.
- ~ August 12, Sat., New Frontier Committee, Central Office, 845 Ellicott Square, 10 am.
- ~ August 13, **General Service Assembly**, Hamburg Town Hall, S6100 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, 1:00 pm.
- ~ August 15, Tues., Treatment Facility Committee, St. Paul's, 49 Indian Church 6:30 pm.
- ~ August 20, Sunday, **7 Clan Day of Sharing**; Suzy Lane & Upper Mountain Road, Tuscarora Indian Reservation. Bring a Dish; Speakers start at 9; plenty of fellowship, fresh air, open air, shade, corn, etc. Don't forget camping on Saturday night.

- ~ August 20, Sunday, **Tri County Annual Picnic**. Fellowship starts at noon, open discussion at 7 pm. Family and a dish to pass are more than welcome. Gowanda Firemen's Park, Route 39, 298½ feet from McDonald's. More info in New Frontier.
- ~ August 25-27, **Tri-State Assembly**, Chautauqua Institute, pre-registration \$10, first meeting 7pm Friday. Flyer at Central Office.
- ~ August 26, Sat. **Archives Committee**, Maryvale Pres. Church, 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.
- ~ August 28, Mon., members of **St. Barnabas** will be celebrating their group's 20th anniversary with a speaker and desert, 8 pm, Masonic Lodge, 63 Johns St., Akron.
- ~ Sept. 3, Sunday, **CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ Sept. 3, Sunday, **Correctional Facility Committee**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 6 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ Sept. 9, **Coop.w/Prof.Community**, Maryvale Pres. Church, 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.
- ~ Sept. 16, Sat., **New Frontier Committee**, Central Office, 845 Ellicott Square, 10 am.
- ~ Sept. 16, Sat., **Public Information Committee Meeting**, Church of the Holy Communion, S5381 Old Lake Shore Road/Route 5, 10 am.
- ~ Sept. 19, Tues., **Treatment Facility Committee**, St. Paul's, 49 Indian Church 6:30 pm.
- ~ Sept. 23, Sat. **Archives Committee**, Maryvale Pres. Church, 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.
- ~ Sept. 26, Tues., members of **H.A.N.D.** will be celebrating their group's 20th anniversary with a speaker and lunch. Bring a dish if you wish, Cleveland Hill Lutheran Church, 261 Cleveland Drive, 10 am.
- ~ October 1, Sunday, Western New York Intergroup Sharing Meeting, 6pm, St. Michael's Parish Hall, 651 Washington.
- ~ October 8, **General Service Assembly**, 511 Club, 511 E. 2nd St., Jamestown.

CONCEPT VIII: THE TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD ACT IN TWO PRIMARY CAPACITIES: (A) WITH RESPECT TO THE LARGER MATTERS OF OVER-ALL POLICY AND FINANCE, THEY ARE THE PRINCIPAL PLANNERS AND ADMINISTRATORS. THEY AND THEIR PRIMARY COMMITTEES DIRECTLY MANAGE THESE AFFAIRS. (B) BUT WITH RESPECT TO OUR SEPARATELY INCORPORATED AND CONSTANTLY ACTIVE SERVICES, THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE TRUSTEES IS MAINLY THAT OF FULL STOCK OWNERSHIP AND OF CUSTODIAL OVERSIGHT WHICH THEY EXERCISE THROUGH THEIR ABILITY TO ELECT ALL DIRECTORS OF THESE ENTITIES.

BUFFALO CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting, August 6, 2000

Dick L. opened the meeting at 7:04 with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Wally, of Main and High, read the preamble followed by the reading of the Purpose of Central Committee by George, of North Buffalo, and Mark, of the Wilson group read the twelve traditions.

The minutes from the July 2nd meeting were not read, they were dispensed Clarifications of note: Joanne M. asked about the paying of taxes mentioned in the minutes, Griff N. explained that the reference was to tax forms not taxes. A motion to accept the minutes as typed and corrected was made by John, came to Believe, and was seconded by Mel of the Renewal group.

34 GROUPS ATTENDED: District #1: Downtown Men's, Main and High, Miracle, Sunday Nighter's, Sunrise Court, Those too, and the Easier, Softer Way. District #2: Chapter IX, Early Bird, How it Works, Kenmore, and North Buffalo. District #3: Came to Believe, Courage, Iron Horse, Rainbow, Ridge, Victory, and We Care District #4: Action, eternal Vigilance, The Lakeshore Group, and St. Mark's. District #5: Lockport #1, Niagara Frontier Men's, and Wilson. District #6: Dunkirk. District #7: Cold Spring, Ellicott, Last Days Fellowship, Let Go & Let God, and Spirit of Hope District #8: Amherst Snyder, Renewal, and Wehrle. District #9: & District #10: No groups in attendance.

There were 4 new group members. Marie of Courage, Don of Eternal Vigilance, Jolie of St. Mark's, and Sandy of Those Too.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1). ENVELOPE SYSTEM: Karen of the Ridge Group read the report. \$534.00 was received for the month of July 2000. That made the total for the year 2000 of \$3,991.00. A comparison of June's total to prior months and to 1999 and 1998 can be seen in the chart below:

	2000	2000 ytd	1999	1999 ytd	1998	1998 ytd
January	\$1,319.00	\$1,319.00	1,540.00	1,540.00	1,795.00	1,795.00
February	981.00	2,300.00	337.00	1,877.00	580.00	2,375.00
March	169.00	2,469.00	469.00	2,346.00	592.00	2,967.00
April	407.00	2,876.00	538.00	2,884.00	540.00	3,507.00
May	242.00	3,118.00	572.00	3,456.00	388.00	3,895.00
June	339.00	3,457.00	263.00	3,719.00	134.00	4,029.00
July	534.00	3,991.00	783.00	4,502.00	772.00	4,801.00
August			282.00	4,784.00	540.00	5,341.00
September			527.00	5,311.00	373.00	5,714.00
October			375.00	5,686.00	356.00	6,070.00
November			154.00	5,840.00	817.00	6,887.00
December			418.00	6,258.00	341.00	7,228.00
TOTAL	\$3,991.00	\$3,991.00	\$6,258.00	\$6,258.00	7,228.00	7,228.00

2). STEERING COMMITTEE: Christine Z., of the Miracle Group, gave the report. The topics discussed were: The nomination of Pat M. of the Rainbow group for Co-Chairperson of the 2001 Fall Convention. Lee M. Downtown Men's was nominated Co-chairperson for Central Committee. John H. of Came to Believe was nominated for District #3 Steering Committee representative. We still need a District #6 Steering Committee rep.

3) TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE: Pete F., Courage Group, Chairman of the committee read the report. The committee met on July 18th at 6:30 pm at St Paul's church, on Indian Church rd., South Buffalo. (Where the Iron Horse group meets). Nine (9) people attended. The status of the regular meetings at treatment facilities is as follows: Sunday ECMC - 3:45 pm ok; Sunday VAMC - 7:00 pm ok; Monday Sheehan- 7:00 pm. Need someone for the fourth Monday of the month. Monday Salvation Army - 8:00 pm ok; Tuesday ECMC - 7:00 pm ok; Tuesday VAMC - 1:00 pm ok; Thursday ECMC - 7:00 pm ok; Thursday Reflections Lockport Memorial Hosp.- 8:00 pm ok; Friday ECMC - 7:00 pm ok; Saturday ECMC - 7:00 pm ok.

"Bridging the Gap" received two calls from 7/1 to 7/18 New Business. The Treatment, Cooperation with Professionals, and Archives committees gave brief presentations to the staff members who deal with the rehab at Tri-County hospital in Gowanda. The Presentation went well. The staff seemed most interested in the "Bridging the Gap" temporary contact program. Treatment Facilities Committee at the intergroup and area levels was represented to meet and exchange ideas with others from across New York State at the Informational workshop at UB on Aug. 4, 5, &6.

4) FINANCIAL REPORT: Jim B. of the Ridge group reported that the beginning checkbook balance was \$2,006.18. Total revenue was \$5,733.55. There were disbursements of \$7,583.88, leaving a closing balance of \$155.85. The full report with all the details is available in writing attached to the minutes.

5) CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE: Bill L., gave the report. The meeting was held on Aug. 6 at 6:00 pm before the Central Committee Meeting. 4 people attended and discussed The following: The meetings at Attica, Niagara County Men and Women, Erie County Men and Women, And Gowanda are all being covered. Wende could use help on Sat. 1:00 pm. There were no reports from Brocton or Buffalo work release. Old Business: The date for the 5th annual "Corrections Connections" will be Sept. 15 at 9:00 am, the meeting will take place at the Attica Facility in Attica. Lunch will be served and of course donations are accepted. New Business:

6) SCREENERS: John B., Lakeshore, gave the report. 1 call was received from an individual looking to talk to someone and maybe go to a meeting. Had trouble getting mostly machines. One person did return a call and took information about the gentleman. Attended the Informational workshop at UB and learned that if help is needed, asking is the best way to get it.

7) CENTRAL OFFICE: Our Executive Secretary was on vacation.

8) NEW FRONTIER; John H., Editor gave the report. Due to lack of interest the 'New Frontiers Committee' no longer meets. The 'New Frontiers' is in need of an assistant Editor, someone familiar with editing skills, an understanding of journalism, and some computer knowledge. As always, we need articles on recovery, stories of the fellowship, and social announcements. Stories must be on the subject of Alcoholism. "IN MEMORIUM" notices should be sent to the Central Office. Please include the full name of the deceased, home group, and years of sobriety.

9) PAST CONVENTION (FALL 1999): No report was given.

10) PRESENT CONVENTION: Charles L. of Spirit of Hope, Chair of 2000 Convention gave the report. 59th Buffalo Fall Convention, Nov. 10, 11, and 12, 2000. The committee met on July 16th at the Marriott. The following topics were discussed: The program and panels are set. All of the speakers are confirmed. Flyers are ready and have to be filled out individually due to choices in the menu. Coffee donations, greeters, and hospitality positions are all needed. Next meeting is Aug. 20.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1) AD HOC COMMITTEES: Convention Site: Adolph I. gave the report. Comparisons were made between The Marriott, The Buffalo Convention center, and The Adam's Mark in the areas of: Price, discounts for commitments, prices for coffee, cost of meals, seating capacities, access to other services, and parking. WEBSITE:

SERVICE REPORTS:

1) GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: Elvester M. gave the final report for the New York State Informational Workshop. Joanne M. Thanked all the Chairpeople and all others that made it the success it was. Maybe next time our area will have a better turnout.

2) PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE; Terry B. PIC Chairperson gave the report. Last meeting was on 7/15/00. There were 3 in attendance. The Public Information workbook was read. On 7/26/00 we had a presentation at WHRD.

3) COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE; Griff N. CPC Chairman, gave the report. There are four spots left to fill the Fair schedule. The booth has been moved to the Agricultural Center. We have maps to help people locate it. The CPC gave a presentation at Tri-County. We would also like to thank The General Service for donating literature for the Fair. 4) ARCHIVES: No report.

RECAP: Regarding the Financial report: Joanne M. says we are getting to the point where we might have to start asking groups for money as our receipts are low. Mel L. of Renewal, wanted to know what the \$1103.77 in outstanding invoices was for, and is there a policy for collecting. Griff explained that we have it under accounts receivable because it is money that the groups owe back to the Central Office for literature etc. There is no overall policy in collecting these debts, however the Central Office sends reminders to the groups. Mel L. says there is something amiss with groups having picnics before sharing with the Central Office. Regarding the Treatment Facility: Mel L. asked when the Salvation Army and the Sheehan meetings are, Pete responded that they are 8:00 pm and 7:00 pm respectively. Regarding the Corrections Committee: Mark of the Wilson group asked about the 'Corrections Connection'. Donna of the Wehrle group and a member of the Corrections Committee stated that it is an opportunity for AA and State officials to get together on communication and paperwork issues to make it easier for us to serve them and them to serve us. Regarding New Frontiers: Charles L. spirit of Hope, questioned using last names in death notices and its effect on the family's anonymity. John H. Editor, says that it is entirely up to the family, however it only makes sense for clarification that the last name be used.

OLD BUSINESS: On the issue of our area website, Terry B. Lakeshore brought with her brochures of another website that she is looking into for us to join. She pointed out its accessibility, confidentiality of closed meetings, and its links to GSO in New York. She also mentioned that we are already on the Internet, however very poorly done. She suggested that it might be good for us to have our own official site. However there would need to be some sort of body approval for her to move forward. John H. Came to Believe asked about the cost. Terry said that as a self-supporting entity we would have to donate something. Mel L. further asked for a dollar amount and Terry said that the HMB area pays \$200. She can ask for a specific dollar amount but we first need a commitment. Joanne M. made a motion to proceed with going online for a nominal fee, after allowing the groups ample time to express exemption; as in keeping with group autonomy. George B of North Buffalo seconded the motion. Griff iterated that all groups would have to be contacted individually. Donna of Wehrle says we also need a deadline for groups to respond. The motion passed with no one opposed. The next issue was Co-chair for Central Committee. Lee M. had been nominated, he gave his qualifications. A motion was made to accept the recommendation for Lee M. as Co-chair of this body by John H., Chuck W. of Amherst/Snyder seconded it. All voting were in favor. On the issue of electing a Co-chair for the 2001 Fall Convention. Joanne M. made a motion to accept the recommendation of Pat M. to be the next Co-chair of the 2001 Fall Convention, John H. seconded the motion, everyone voting was in favor. John H. had been previously nominated for District #3 Steering committee rep. All were in favor. As for District #6 Steering

committee rep, no one was nominated. On other issues, Lee M. says District #1 will hold a Day of Sharing on Oct. 14th, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main St. Buffalo, NY. There will be a three-dollar donation, it starts at nine in the morning.

NEW BUSINESS: Adolph I, chapter IX, asked if we wanted to vote on the Convention site now. There was a motion to vote on the site now by Chuck W. and seconded by Christine Z. Mel L. suggested that the motion be withdrawn and the decision be left to the Convention Committee. It was said that that is passing the buck, that our groups send us here to make these decisions. Griff said that our guidelines always allowed for the Committee to choose the next site. John H. says that the person in charge of the Ad Hoc committee should make the decision. Jim M. of Willing says that we should abide by the guidelines or vote to change them. Find out the right way and follow it. After looking at the guidelines there wasn't enough specific detail to render which is the right way. The original motion was withdrawn, and a new motion to let the convention Committee pick the next site was made by Pat M. and seconded by Mel L. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:53 with no motion to close.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark S., Lakeshore Group
Recording Secretary

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2000

GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Abbott Men		260.00		260.00		260.00
Acceptance/Welcomè	200.00	600.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Achievement		500.00				
Action	20.00	135.00				
After Midnight		20.00				
Age Doesn't Matter		130.00		10.00		10.00
Amherst/Snyder		273.00				
Amsdell/Lakeshore		157.65				
Any Age		200.00				
Any Length	30.00	240.00				
Anybody's Group	40.00	120.00				
Attitude Adjustment		200.00				
Attraction		200.00				
Beginning In Sobriety II.			30.00	30.00		
Beginning Women		50.00		25.00		25.00
Bidwell Monday Nite		100.00		75.00		75.00
Big Book/Lockport		50.00				
Blasdell Monday Nite	25.00	65.00				
Boulevard Women		225.00				
Brass	25.00	80.00				
But For The Grace of God		35.00				
Came To Believe		14.75				
...sting	50.00	150.00		10.00		10.00
Cathedral Park		48.25		15.00		15.00
Caz		64.00				
Chapter IX		40.00		40.00		40.00
Cheektowaga		160.00		50.00		
Clarence Men's Disc. Wednesday		100.00				
Common Problem	25.00	50.00				
Courage		320.00		30.00		30.00
Crossroads		217.50				
Crosstalk Big Book	18.00	78.00				
Daily Reflections	20.00	110.00				
Derby	75.00	75.00				
Downtown Men	25.00	25.00				
East Aurora		100.00				
Easy Does It		25.00				
Ellicott		70.00		10.00		10.00
Emergency		20.00				
Eternal Vigilance		250.00				
Everybody's	25.00	125.00				
Express		176.00				
...opener		200.00				
...ner Baker		500.00				
Fireside	100.00	1,267.12				125.00

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2000




GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Fireside PM		700.00				
First Things First		220.00				
Fredonia Discussion		60.00				
Freedom	25.00	175.00				
Frontier/New Frontier		262.00				
Gardenville		100.00				
Georgetown	200.00	800.00				
Getting Better		7.00				
Giving				50.00		
Golden Slipper		50.00				
Grand Group	20.00	80.00				
Grand II Joy of Living		100.00				
Grateful		100.00		40.00		40.00
H.A.N.D		180.00				
Hamburg		75.00		25.00		25.00
Handicappers		150.00				100.00
Harmony		225.00				30.00
Helping Hand	20.00	100.00				
High Noon		250.00				
HillBilly		150.00		25.00		25.00
Holiday Village		550.00				
Holland		90.00				
Honesty	30.00	240.00	10.00	80.00		
Hope-Big Book Study		10.00				
How It Works/Men		150.00		150.00		150.00
Inspiration		50.00		25.00		25.00
Intoxicated On Life		50.00		10.00		10.00
Ironhorse		451.25		58.95		58.95
IT		30.00				
Journey		80.00				
Just For Today/Albion		5.00				
Just For Today/Cheektowaga		100.00				
Keep It Simple, Sister		75.00				
Kensington Discussion		40.00				
Lake Shore	40.00	135.00	20.00	121.00	20.00	95.00
Lakeview	25.00	75.00				
Let Go and Let God		70.00				
Lighten Up		502.50				
Live and Let Live		120.00				
Living In The Solution		700.00				
Lock City	60.00	60.00				
Lockport Ladies	66.50	66.50				
Lockview		150.00				
Lovejoy		60.00		10.00		30.00
Main & High	5.00	50.00				

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2000

GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Main Street/Arcade/Monday	50.00	50.00				
Marilla	50.00	175.00				
Matt Talbot	50.00	250.00				
Medina New Life		60.00				
Miracle		20.00				
Morning After		75.00				
New Beginnings	25.00	55.00				
New Outlook/Albion		60.00				
Niagara Frontier Men's		300.00				
North Buffalo	100.00	800.00	25.00	200.00	25.00	200.00
North Java Groups		80.00				
North Java Mornin' After		10.00				
One Day At A Time		275.00				
Pathway To Peace		40.00				
Perry Discussion		40.00				
Pioneer		60.00				
Positively Living/Linwood		44.20				
Positively Living/Renaissance I		1000.00				
Powerless		25.00				
Progress		30.00				
Purpose	200.00	400.00				
Rainbow		100.00		50.00		75.00
ay of Hope		90.00				
Reformers (Prison)				30.00		
Remember When		60.00				
Renewal		300.00				
Ridge		302.00		81.11		75.00
Rochester Group		300.00				
Rural Is Plural		100.00		10.00		10.00
Searching for Serenity	100.00	350.00				
Serenity	75.00	315.65				
Serenity Circle	10.00	51.00		2.00		2.00
Serenity Trail		27.50				
Sheridan		160.00				
Sober Saturday		24.60				
Southgate		10.00		30.08		10.00
Southtown Women's		62.50				
Southwestern	110.25	180.25				
Spirit of Hope		24.00		8.00		8.00
Spiritual Progress		150.00				
Starting Over		196.40				
Stepping Stones	20.00	160.00				
burban	10.00	120.00				
Sunday Morning Breakfast		300.00		100.00		100.00
Sunday Third/Sheridan		55.00				

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2000

GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Sunrise Court				6.25		
Surrender & Hope	100.00	350.00	25.00	25.00		
Thankful		50.00				
The Book Meeting	18.01	71.62				
Those, Too	5.00	20.00				
Thruway	100.00	1,750.00	20.00	160.00		140.00
Thursday Afternoon Discussion	100.00	400.00				
Trail's End		45.00				
TriCounty/Gowanda	10.00	130.00				
Try Again				25.00		
Tuesday Men's Discussion	40.00	140.00				
Tuesday Women	20.00	110.00	20.00	60.00	20.00	60.00
Unity		320.00				
University Men's Discussion		625.00				
Valley		30.00				
Varieties of Spiritual Experience	30.00	124.00				
Victory	15.00	30.00	15.00	30.00	15.00	30.00
Wake Up Call		36.00				
We Care	30.00	110.00	10.00	70.00	20.00	140.00
Wehrle		50.00		10.00		
Westfield		81.00				
Westminster		60.00				
Why		90.00		15.00		15.00
Williamsville		100.00				
Willing to Grow		200.00				
Wilson	25.00	50.00		25.00		
Wilson Smith University Alumni	60.00	120.00				
Women's West Side Discussion		47.50				
You'll Never Walk Alone						
Dick's Tees		10.00				
Pink Can			4.00	85.43		
Memoriam BK				20.00		
Anonymous		55.00				
Back To Basics/Canada		10.00				
Perry Wed. Night Meeting		20.00				
Group Contribution Total	\$2,522.76	\$28,043.74	\$ 229.00	\$2,242.82	\$ 150.00	\$2,103.95

Beginning Balance 7/26/00			\$155.85
RECEIPTS			
Groups Contributed	\$2,502.76		
Joint Meeting 8/6/00	47.00		
New Frontier Subscriptions	21.00		
Envelope System	294.00		
Literature	1,526.20		
Mail/Copies/Miscellaneous	58.00	\$4,448.96	4,604.81
EXPENSES:			
Ellicott Court Corporation <i>Office Rent</i>	\$636.00		
St. Michael's Parish <i>Meeting Room Rent</i>	35.00		
Salaries	1,661.84		
Charter One/Federal Withholding	572.80		
Health Insurance	141.20		
Secrephone (Answering Service)	155.05		
Minolta Leasing/Copier	187.00		
Bell Atlantic	238.12		
Vermont Pure Springs	46.75		
Postage	400.00		
Bank Charge	17.00		
Balance 8/25/00		\$4,090.76	514.05
Money Market 7/26/00	\$1,109.67		
Interest Credit	1.66		
Balance 8/25/00			\$1,111.33
Certificate of Deposit 8/25/00			8,000.00
Outstanding Invoices			914.78
TOTAL CENTRAL OFFICE			
			
<i>Correctional Facilities 7/26/00</i>	151.02		
<i>Donations 7/26/00 - 8/25/00</i>	229.00		
<i>Bank Charge</i>		8.00	
<i>Balance 8/25/00</i>			372.02
			
<i>Treatment Facilities 7/26/00</i>	261.99		
<i>Donations 7/26/00- 8/25/00</i>	150.00		
<i>Expenses</i>		316.88	
<i>Bank Charge</i>		8.00	
<i>Balance 8/25/00</i>			87.11
			

I declare this statement to be true subject to review. James Brumbaugh, Financial Secretary.