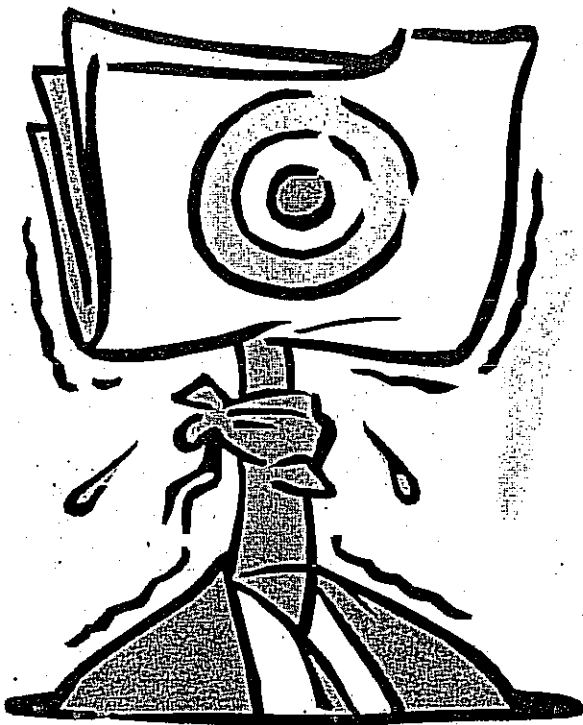


# NEW FRONTIERS

June 2000

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS OF  
WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER  
We request that this newsletter be kept within the Fellowship to insure anonymity.



## Came to Believe

Once I became entirely ready to accept complete change and have an honest desire to stop the insanity of life; I had to learn to ask for, and "accept" help. I became open minded, willing to ask the God "of my understanding" for help on a daily basis. When I finally came to believe and accept that God would help, surprisingly enough the obsession to drink was lifted. I honestly believe that God reveals Himself through people inside and outside AA on a daily basis.

Lee B., Bidwell Monday Nite

## Imagine Life Without Faith

I can't tell myself what life is really, because since I was a kid I have been drinking and drugging. If my mother was alive today she could probably help me with this, she lived life on life's terms with a lot of faith.

I know that faith in my higher power has gotten me through a lot, since 4/29/00. My faith in my fellow AA's experiences, strengths and hopes as well. Everyday that I've been sober I had to have faith, that's what got me through the little struggles and the big ones especially. I have a 20-year-old son who is reliving my alcoholism. Everyday I chose to watch him and not turn him away. Probably of the guilt and shame from me deserting him or the love I have for him. OR the need to be a useful mother after 10 years of not.

Maybe because God never gave up on me or turned his back on me, how can I do that to my only child. I know my faith proves that if I pray for something and God wants me to have it I will get it. If not, then there's a reason and I have to learn to accept this.

Michelle M., Sunrise Court

## From Behind the Walls

Greetings from the **Annex Group** of AA, at Wyoming Correctional Facility. Thank you from all of us for responding to our request for AA material. We received the books today and we are grateful to the Correctional Committee for the effort. AA works because we help each other receive the message. Thank God!

In the Spirit  
The Annex Group

### **A Blast From The Past and Still a Good Message**

I was introduced into service with six months sobriety. Wende Correctional was the first facility I was taken in by a man with Cerebral Palsy, Ron E. When I got behind the walls and had to go through paperwork, I had fear because of what I did in my past might catch up with me. But we finally got into the meeting and I was introduced to the inmates by fellow inmates. Even though I was still scared, they made me feel at home. When the meeting was over, there was no difference between that meeting and any meeting with good quality sobriety that I had been to.

But I didn't stick with it because I didn't feel service was important at that time. After a couple of years of thinking that I was okay again and I don't need this fellowship, I had to go through an awful lot of pain. One night I attempted suicide. I climbed through a barbed wire fence and scaled a tower. I contemplated jumping for a couple of hours. There was nobody around. It was just me and God. After a while, I climbed down and called a suicide prevention hotline. They got me in touch with a helpful friend to the fellowship who got me on the right track. I learned through this experience that contented sobriety is absolutely essential to my continuing a sober life.

A year or so later, I got involved with Sonny J. and the Powerless Group. Getting involved with people in this fellowship that are involved with service helps show me God's intent is that I've got to give it away in order to keep it. So I attempted service again through General Service. I had to search a little until I found my place in service was with corrections. Even though my story is all about Corrections Service Work, I'm also involved to some

degree in Treatment Facilities. I make coffee for Central Committee, greet people at meetings and work for "New Frontiers." These are all essential forms of service work.

My co-chairmanship in Corrections is up at the end of this month. Next month I begin chairmanship of Corrections. I found my place in service. Each person's role in service is different. But, *you* can't find out what that is until you give it a shot. I feel most comfortable doing prison work because I thought I knew how the inmates felt, based on my own experience. When I went back to the Wende Correctional and although the same fears occurred, the results were different.

I listened to people that were in there for murder, sober for a long period of time, even though alcohol and drugs are just as accessible behind the walls, (only a little harder to get). These people were talking about God, their service to God and their recovery in the fellowship through the twelve steps. They were smiling serene, happy and contented people. One individual had already been there eighteen years, and still happy, joyous and free. I was capable of seeing through them that freedom is an inside job. It comes from the heart and not from the head. At that particular moment I finally realized that the program of recovery, as outlined in the twelve steps, could work for me. Another time, when my sponsor's wife was in the hospital for surgery, the inmates made her a get-well card, and kept her in their prayers.

I learned the "I am responsible" slogan doesn't mean I have to wait for people come to me. Six months later I became employed at a local junkyard. One morning at work I grabbed my partner's coffee by mistake, which had

some alcohol in it.

The obsession to drink didn't fall into place until after I got out of work. And I knew that the best meeting for me to go to would be that facility. I raced to get there and had to pull over and pray. I did my meditation. When I got to the desk I still wanted to drink. Just as much as I did when I left work.

When we got to the meeting it was not my scheduled night. And the chairman, Ron E., didn't have a Speaker. So one of the inmates who had just completed reading the first 164 pages of the Big Book wanted to share his experience, strength and hope. As he was doing so I totally forgot the obsession even existed.

I knew this man when he was active in the fellowship. Through a relapse, and other situations in his life he wound up behind the walls. At any time if I forget who I am or where I came from I could pick up a drink. In addition, the twelve steps of AA tell me that I too can be happy, joyous and free.

Ron's disability doesn't prevent him from giving it away either. Another form of

incarceration, and yet free. With my involvement in Correctional Facilities I have a hard time getting people to come in to speak because they have to be cleared by the facility. But I see that other types of service, Treatment Facilities, for example, have the same problems. A lot of people refuse to share because they think they don't have enough sobriety, or they were scared like me of going in there in the first place. But when we share our experience strength and hope we receive one more day from freedom from the bondage of self.

Any one wishing to get involved, or more importantly just sharing a lead, it's not hard to get cleared. And we are in desperate need of speakers for these facilities.

The Correctional Committee meets the first Sunday of every month at 6:00 PM, St Michael's Parish Hall, 651 Washington.

Also anyone with an experience on service who would like to share it in this paper please submit it to Central Office.

Ron S., Powerless

## TREATMENT FACILITY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Treatment Facility Committee had an informational table at the Spring Convention, in Jamestown, to answer any questions on what the TFC is and what we do and to inform people about Bridging the Gap. We had two people sign up as temporary contacts for Bridging the Gap. I would like to thank all the people who volunteered to help out.

There is a definite need for volunteers to help bring meetings into Treatment Facilities as there are always people rotating in and out. If you would could spare 2 hours a month to help bring some hope into the lives of the still suffering alcoholic. Please get in touch with Pete F. Buffalo Intergroup TFC or Richard F. Area 50 TFC coordinator.

## YOU CAN'T GET HERE THERE BUT WE CAN

You can't get here from there. To paraphrase a statement a fellow member often makes - speaking of the miracle of recovery. I couldn't get from the life I was living, to the life I have today, without HELP. There's a definition of a "miracle" I've heard and adopted for my *own* that a miracle is "simply" a change in perception. That change in perception is beyond my capability to achieve, without the help of my Higher Power, and the program of A.A. There are very few similarities between my life today, and my "existence" before coming into the program. There are some circumstances, which remain the same, but the comparison stops there. Today, I

am able to take responsibility for my actions, to give and to receive love, to contribute help and inspire hope. Before A.A., I viewed my life as a tragedy, a soap opera, and believed with all my heart that people were "out to get me", to "take advantage", this view being very much the way I operated. I was not capable of relating to others in an equal way, as human beings everyone was perceived by me as either superior or inferior to the great (or inconsequential) "I" ... depending on my "side", which I was constantly trying to alter. Today, I can honestly say that through using the tools afforded to me by A.A. (where I have found a Higher Power of my understanding), the view I have of my life and have the people around me has changed miraculously. I owe it all to my Higher Power, and to *you, and you, and you.*

With love and Gratitude  
Pat S., Honesty Group

### STEP 6

### **WERE ENTIRELY READY TO HAVE GOD REMOVE ALL THESE DEFECTS OF CHARACTER.**

Step 6 is AA's way of stating the best possible attitude one can take in order to make a beginning on this lifetime job. This does not mean that we expect all our character defects to be lifted out of us, as the drink was a few of them may be. But with most of them we shall have to be patient for improvement. The key words *entirely read* underline the fact that we want to aim at the very best we know or learn. Only God can remove the defects of character. Times I tried to do with them my own way and that gets me in trouble all the time. GOD could and would if he were sought.

My experience was when I woke up the next morning and I could walk and look the world in the eye and suddenly realized not only had God as I understood him removed me from the things that got me in trouble all the time. The obsession to drink was gone; the rest God takes care of for me a day at a time. Every time I walk into an AA meeting and someone says I can't stop drinking, I remember but for the grace of God there go I. I am in the right place.

Carl K., a grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous  
Downtown Men's Discussion

### *Serenity*

I believe willingness is something that comes from the heart. It is a power that is so great and so strong, that if you find it you can conquer your largest obstacles. Willing is something that you have to be, to accomplish just about everything you do. The program of AA in my mind, totally, in every aspect revolves around willingness. Once I am, willing to let God take over I am halfway to victory.

Bob, Abbot Men

### Rochester Loss

Tim P., (son of Paul P., Rochester Intergroup Office Manager), died recently after an accident. Tim was a member of the fellowship. We would like the Rochester Intergroup family know that our hearts and prayers are with them in their loss.

## TRADITION 6

**AN AA GROUP OUGHT NEVER ENDORSE, FINANCE, OR LEND THE AA NAME TO ANY RELATED FACILITY OR OUTSIDE ENTERPRISE. LEST PROBLEMS OF MONEY, PROPERTY AND PRESTIGE DIVERT US FROM OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE.**

"...We tried A.A. hospitals-they all bogged down because you cannot put an AA group into business; too many busybody cooks spoil the broth. AA groups had their fling at education, and when they began to publicly whoop up the merits of this or that brand, people became confused. Did AA fix drunks or was it an educational project? Was AA spiritual or was it medical? Was it a reform movement? In consternation, we saw ourselves getting married to all kinds of enterprises, some good and some not so good. Watching alcoholics committed willy-nilly to prisons or asylums, we began to cry, 'There oughtta be a law!' AA's commenced to thump tables in legislative committee rooms and agitated for legal reform. That made good newspaper copy, but little else. We saw we'd soon be mired in politics. Even inside AA we found it imperative to remove the AA name from clubs and Twelfth Step houses."

"These adventures implanted a deep-rooted conviction that in no circumstances could we endorse any related enterprise, no matter how good. We of Alcoholics Anonymous could not be all things to all men, nor should we try." Twelve & Twelve, 156-157

PRIMARY PURPOSE - ONE ALCOHOLIC HELPING ANOTHER. THAT'S IT PLAN AND SIMPLE. PLEASE HELP MAINTAIN THE SIMPLICITY OF THIS PROGRAM AS IT HAS BEEN FROM THE BEGINNING, SO THAT IT WILL BE THERE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, WHO MAY NEED THE HELP OF THIS PROGRAM SOME DAY AND FOR THAT WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.

Cindy N.

**CONCEPT VI: ON BEHALF OF A.A. AS A WHOLE, OUR GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE HAS THE PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF OUR WORLD SERVICES, AND IT TRADITIONALLY HAS THE FINAL DECISION RESPECTING LARGE MATTERS OF GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE. BUT THE CONFERENCE ALSO RECOGNIZES THAT THE CHIEF INITIATIVE AND THE ACTIVE RESPONSIBILITY IN MOST OF THESE MATTERS SHOULD BE EXERCISED PRIMARILY BY THE TRUSTEE MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE WHEN THEY ACT AMONG THEMSELVES AS THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS.**

"You know, Bill has always said that one of the great good fortunes in his life, and perhaps A.A.'s life, turned out to be the fact that he was a jack of all trades, and a master of none. He had a little bit of knowledge about public relations, a little bit of knowledge about finance, a little bit of knowledge about law and so forth. This meant that all of this accumulated experience of his could be utilized -- as it has been so magnificently in the creation of our whole A.A. structure. But, I must confess that I wish that Bill had had a little less of that experience with "Law" when he was writing these Concepts! Such legal language, and you know how confusing lawyers can be.

So, let's take a look at Concept VI which reads: "on behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility (or the maintenance of our world services, and it

traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous." Now let's look at a regular group business meeting. Doesn't that business meeting delegate to its officers or to its Steering Committee the weekly or daily operations of the group's affairs? Don't we feel fairly sure that the speakers will be arranged for and that they will show up somehow, that the coffee and cake will be available after each meeting? And as the officers of the group are trusted by the group, so are they observed and guided by the group's wishes. So, too, do the Trustees assume responsibility for the

operation of their service corporations -- A.A. World Services and the A.A. Grapevine. The objective is a spiritual one -- but this service aim can only be achieved by means of an effective business operation. Like any other business Board of Directors -- our Trustees must be given the chief

initiative and the active responsibility to effectively manage the principal world affairs of our fellowship."

Eve M  
4th NYS Convention  
submitted by Cindy N.

Funny...

Funny how a \$100 looks so big when you give it to central service,  
but so small when you spend it at the mall.

Funny how long a couple of hours spent at a service meeting can seem,  
but how short they are while watching a movie.

Funny how hard it is to sometimes read a chapter in the service manual,  
but how easy it is to read 100 pages in a best selling novel.

Funny how people scramble to get a front seat at a concert or game,  
but scramble to get a back seat at a service meeting.

Funny how some people complain when a meeting goes into extra innings,  
but rejoice at the prospect of the game going into overtime.

Funny how we need two or three weeks advance notice to fit in a family members request into our schedule,  
but can adjust our schedule for other events at the very last minute.

Funny how hard it is for people to learn a simple spiritual principle well enough to demonstrate to others,  
but how simple it is for the same people to understand and repeat gossip.

Funny how we believe what the newspaper says,  
but question what God says.

Funny how everyone wants to get sober and everyone wants to grow to a level where we lead productive lives,  
better loving and serving our families and fellows, provided we do not have to believe, or think or say, or do  
anything different than what we presently do or don't do.

*Anonymous*

## Fellowship Announcements

### *June 15, Thursday*

Members of Let Go & Let God are celebrating their group's 13th anniversary with an eating meeting and speaker; join us at 416 Louisiana, Perry Complex (Aud. Rear), 8:30 pm.

### *June 17, Saturday*

Members of 1110 Group are celebrating AA's 65th birthday with an eating meeting and speaker at 8 pm, please bring a dish to pass (no smoking during speaker).

### *June 18, Sunday*

Members of Sunrise Court respectfully request you join them in the group's 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Father Day Breakfast and speaker 11:30, Holiday Inn, 620 Delaware Avenue, tickets \$11.

### *June 18, Sunday*

Members of Lovejoy Group are having their annual picnic, noon to dusk, Como Park, Shelter #1, Lancaster. Lots of great food.

### *June 24, Saturday*

Sheridan Group's 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic, Fun, Food and Sharing. Lincoln Park, Shelter #1, Noon to ????. Please bring a dish to pass. Bring the kids. (If you have any kid games, those would also be appreciated).

### *June 26, Monday*

Beginnings Women's will have its fourteenth anniversary at 8 pm at St Michael and All Angels Church at Burke and Huntley (near Kensington and Eggert), panel of 3 speakers on the 10th, 11th and 12th steps. Desserts and snacks. All women are invited; please join us in this celebration.

### *July 28-30, 2000*

Any Age "Living Sober Weekend". Don Miller Park, 1601 Sweeney, North Tonawanda. \$8/weekend, \$5/day, children under 12 free. Bring a dish. Have some sober fun in the sun.

### *A Meeting In The Sky*

A man died and went to heaven. St. Peter asked "What denomination are you?" and the man said "I don't belong here, I don't go to church" St. Peter said "Well, we don't make mistakes, you belong here, let's just walk around and you can see where you'd like to stay"

So they walked down the hall, and St. Peter opened a door and there were all these people kneeling and praying and crossing themselves. "Who are they?" asked the man. "Those are the Catholics," answered St. Peter "well, I don't want to stay here," said the man and they walked on down the hall.

St. Peter opened the next door. Inside were all these people sitting straight up staring ahead. "Who are they?" asked the man. "Those are the Protestants," answered St. Peter. "Well, I don't want to stay here," said the man and they walked down the hall.

The next room they came to, St. Peter opened the door and a big puff of smoke came out and the man smelled coffee. The man looked inside and there were all these people laughing and hugging and they got in a big group hug and said the Serenity Prayer. The man said "I like these people, who are they?" St. Peter said, "I don't know, they won't tell us"

Author Unknown

# ANNIVERSARIES

## Acceptance

Tom G. 9 m  
Julie J. 25 y  
Tony J. 25 y  
Jack G. 28 y  
Mary Jo B. 29 y

## Amherst/Snyder

Ray H. 3 m  
Haley D. 6 m  
Cecile M. 6 m  
Dan M. 6 m  
Leah N. 6 m  
Colleen D. 6 m  
Scott P. 9 m  
Jeff G. 9 m  
Amy M. 1 y  
Dan R. 3 y  
Tim K. 3 y  
Keith C. 3 y  
Michael B. 3 y  
John B. 4 y  
Chris H. 5 y  
Richard C. 5 y  
Marty P. 5 y  
Elizabeth S. 7 y  
David L. 11 y  
Patti S. 12 y  
Barb M. 17 y  
Harriet G. 17 y  
Whitey D. 17 y  
Bill O. 20 y  
Mary-Ann C. 21 y

## Any Age

Walne H. 5 y  
Camille .13 y

## Cold Springs

Christine F. 6 y  
Arnold S. 9 y  
Mona W. 10 y  
Fannie B. 10 y  
James W. 14 y

## Courage

Debbie McE 6 m  
Rudy B. 10 y  
Peter F. 12 y  
Roger H. 16 y  
Mary Jo 17 y  
Bill O. 20 y  
Donna B. 25 y

## Ellicott

Charlene J. 6 m  
Bobby C. 12 y  
Mary M. 23 y

## Fireside

Erik I. 1 y  
Amy M. 1 y  
Lynn S. 1 y  
Jim W. 1 y  
Pam C. 2 y  
Stuart S. 3 y  
John L. 3 y

John B. 4 y  
Liz E. 5 y  
Peter M. 5 y  
Jack K. 7 y  
Debbie D. 9 y  
Jim H. 9 y  
John S. 12 y  
John M. 14 y  
Marlene C. 18 y  
Bill O. 20 y

## H.A.N.D

Al K. 6 y  
Paul G. 23 y

## Journey

Vic D. 6 m  
Belinda 9 m  
Daryl L. 1 y  
Salli 1 y  
Tina F. 12 y  
Sandy H. 18 y

## Kensington

Jeff L. 12 y  
Jerry M. 16 y

## Lighten Up

Renzo T. 3 m  
Mike C. 2 y  
Kathy R. 2 y  
Betsy A. 6 y  
Bernie B. 6 y  
Jim H. 10 y

## Lovejoy

Marcy M. 1 y  
Mark W. 3 y  
Tom K. 4 y  
Kathy W. 7 y  
Jim M. 10 y  
Paul G. 23 y

## Main & High

Denise B. 9 m  
Mae B. 9 m  
Steve J. 1 y

## North Buffalo

Romeo R. 3 m  
Michael W. 3 m  
Aaron S. 6 m  
Joe G. 6 m  
Lynn W. 6 m  
Courtney R. 1 y  
Paul L. 1 y  
Mary Rose K. 2 y  
Judy P. 3 y  
Colleen N. 3 y  
Kathy M. 4 y  
Frank Z. 8 y  
Nelson G. 8 y  
Gerry S. 11 y  
Peter M. 18 y  
Bob G. 24 y

## Powerless

Mike W. 6 y  
Ron S. 13 y

## Remember When

Tony Z. 3 m  
Brian W. 6 m  
Joe A. 3 y  
Will B. 3 y  
Virgil D. 3 y  
Janice H. 4 y  
Patrick M. 4 y  
David G. 4 y

## Ridge

John H. 2 y  
Jack L. 9 y

## Rise & Shine

Carl B. 3 m  
Don S. 1 y  
Suzi D. 1 y  
Sandra C. 1 y  
Joe A. 3 y  
James Q. 4 y  
Rosa A. 4 y  
Sean S. 4 y  
Shirley J. 5 y  
Wanda R. 5 y  
Floyd C. 5 y  
Jerry S. 6 y  
Darryl L. 6 y  
Walter C. 7 y  
Orlando D. 8 y  
James M. 10 y

## Sheridan

Mike C. 3 m  
Matthew V. 9 m  
Michael S. 1 y  
Joe K. 2 y  
Ann K. 2 y  
Len D. 2 y  
Joe K. 2 y  
Patrick N. 4 y  
Mark H. 10 y  
Chris B. 13 y  
Richard L. 17 y  
Carol R. 18 y  
Chuck J. 19 y  
John T. 29 y

## Sunday Morning

### Breakfast

Lisa B. 9 m  
Suzie D. 1 y  
Lance B. 1 y  
Sue M. 4 y  
Rudy B. 10 y  
Jim Mc. 10 y  
Cookie L. 15 y

### Thruway

Brian J. 3 m  
Pat Q. 6 m  
Tom F. 6 m  
Bruce D. 6 m

William G. 1 y  
Mike C. 1 y  
Mary H. 1 y  
Kimberly K. 2 y  
Liz R. 2 y  
Ed K. 2 y

## Women's Westside

### Discussion

Patricia R. 3 m  
Lannette S. 6 m  
Natalie A. 6 m  
Linda B. 6 m  
Margo H. 6 m

## Group Anniversaries

### Spiritual Progress

Sunrise Court

Helping Hand

DeVeaux Disc.

Kenmore

Downtown Men's

Chevy #1

Lovejoy

Beginner's Table

Beginnings-Women

We Choose Life

Let Go & Let God

North Java Monday

Mercy

North Java Sunday

Victory

Golden Slipper

Guiding Light

Eden-North Collins

High Noon

Starting Over (Evening)

North Java Mornin' After

Ripley's "Believe It Or Not"

Matt Talbot

Any Age

Springville Tuesday Night

Spirit of Hope

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



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*ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS*  
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(716) 853-0389 FAX

*845 ELLICOTT SQUARE*  
*295 MAIN STREET*  
*BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203*

June 2000

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

**PLEASE NOTE**

**ACHEIVEMENT** – Wednesday, 8 pm, effective June 7, will be meeting at Cleveland Hill Lutheran Church, 261 Cleveland Drive until further notice.

**EASIER SOFTER WAY** – Wednesday, 9 am, has moved to the Statler Towers, 107 Delaware Avenue, suite 555, Buffalo.

**GAY, LESBIAN, SOBER & PROUD** – is moving May 6, to St. John's Grace, 496 Lafayette Avenue, 10:30 pm

**JUST DO IT** – Fridays 11 pm; Faith United Church basement, 3150 Elmwood, Tonawanda.

**LAST DAYS FELLOWSHIP** Wind Ministries Motor Club, 1526 Clinton Street Coffee House, Bailey at Clinton, parking across the street, has moved to Fridays at 7 pm same site.

**LOVE** Fridays, 1 pm, St. Louis, 35 Edward at Main, Open Meeting.

**LOWER MOUNTAIN WOMEN** – Thursday, Cambria, no longer meets.

**RAY OF HOPE** – Tues. 1 pm; Pine and E. Filmore, Emmanuel Lutheran, East Aurora, invites you to take a lovely ride in the country and help support their meeting.

**SERENITY CIRCLE** – Tuesday, YWCA, North Street, no longer meets.

**SERENITY IN THE PARK** – Delaware Rose Garden, Monday, 7 pm BYOC.

**TFC-12 STEP CALL** – Lockport Memorial Hospital is not a meeting that can be attended without being cleared through the Treatment Facility Committee.

**TWIN CITIES** – Now meets on Mondays and Fridays at 7:30 pm, 1208 Oliver St., N. Tonawanda.

**VALLEY** – is up and running, Wednesday, 8 pm, Woodside Methodist

**VIP** Thursdays, Veteran's Hospital, no longer meets.

**WORKING** – Thursday, 10 am is temporarily moving to St. John's Grace, 496 Lafayette Avenue.

**COMING EVENTS**

~ June 4, Sunday, **CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street.

~ June 4, Sunday, **Correctional Facility Committee**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 6 pm, 651 Washington Street.

~ June 10, Sat., **Coop.w/Prof.Community**, Maryvale Pres. Church, 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.

~ June 10, Sat., **New Frontier Committee**, Central Office, 845 Ellicott Square, 10 am.

- ~ June 15, Thurs., members of **Let Go & Let God** are celebrating their group's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an eating meeting and speaker, please join us.
- ~ June 17, Sat., **Public Information Committee Meeting**, Church of the Holy Communion, S5381 Old Lake Shore Road/Route 5, 10 am.
- ~ June 17, Sat., 8 pm, members of **1110 Group** are celebrating AA's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday with an eating meeting and speaker, please bring a dish to pass (no smoking during speaker).
- ~ June 18, Sun., **FALL CONVENTION** planning committee, 1 pm, Millersport Marriott.
- ~ June 18, Sun., members of **Sunrise Court** respectfully request you join them in the group's 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Father Day Breakfast and speaker 11:30, Holiday Inn, 620 Delaware Avenue, tickets \$11.
- ~ June 24, **Central Committee's 4<sup>th</sup> District Mini Convention**, St. James Church, 76 Main St. Hamburg, call 649-1967 for more information.
- ~ June 20, Tues., **Treatment Facility Committee**, St. Paul's, 49 Indian Ch., 6:30 pm.
- ~ June 26, Mon., **Beginnings Women's** will have its fourteenth anniversary at 8 pm at St Michael and All Angels Church at Burke and Huntley (near Kensington and Eggert), panel of 3 speakers on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> steps. Desserts and snacks. All women are invited, please join us in this celebration.
- ~ June 29 - July 2, 2000, **International Convention**, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- ~ July 2, Sunday, **CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ July 2, Sunday, **Correctional Facility Committee**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 6 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ July 8, Sat., **Coop.w/Prof.Community**, Maryvale Pres. Church, 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.
- ~ July 8, Sat., **Main and High's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Day of Sharing**, 960 Main St. parking and entrance in rear.
- ~ July 15, Sat., **New Frontier Committee**, Central Office, 845 Ellicott Square, 10 am.
- ~ July 15, Sat., **Public Information Committee Meeting**, Church of the Holy Communion, S5381 Old Lake Shore Road/Route 5, 10 am.
- ~ July 15, Sat., **NYS Informational Workshop** planning committee meeting, 10 am. Ellicott Square conference room 117, 295 Main Street.
- ~ July 16, Sun., **FALL CONVENTION** planning committee, 1 pm, Millersport Marriott.
- ~ July 18, Tues., **Treatment Facility Committee**, St. Paul's, 49 Indian Ch., 6:30 pm.
- ~ August 4-6, **NYS Informational Workshop**.
- ~ August 13, **General Service Assembly**, Hamburg Town Hall, S6100 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, 1:00 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.

## BUFFALO CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting, June 4, 2000

Dick L. opened the meeting at 7:03 with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Jay H. read the preamble followed by the reading of the Purpose of Central Committee by John of the Lovejoy group and Charles L. of Spirit if Hope read the twelve traditions.

The minutes from the May 7th meeting were read and a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was made by Lee M. of the Downtown Men's group, and was seconded by Dave, Remember When group.

43 GROUPS ATTENDED: District #1: Downtown Men's, Giving, Journey, Main and High, Miracle, Sunday Nighters, and Sunrise Court. District #2: Chapter IX, How it Works- Men's Disc., Kenmore, North Buffalo, Why. District #3: Any Length, Courage, Iron Horse, Rainbow, Ridge, Tuesday Women's, and Victory. District #4: Action, Hamburg, and The Lakeshore Group. District #5: Johnson Creek Big Book, Lockport #1, Niagara Frontier Men's, and Wilson. District #6: Dunkirk. District #7: Cold Spring, Ellicott, and Fresh Start, Let Go & Let God, Lovejoy, New Awakening, Spirit of Hope District #8: Amherst Snyder, Renewal, and Wherle. District #9: Anybody's, Courage to Change, Freedom Now, and Rural is Plural. District #10: North Java Monday.

New group representatives were: John M. of Lovejoy, Jim L. of Why, Phil G. of New Awakenings, and John B. of Abbott Men's Discussion.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1). **ENVELOPE SYSTEM:** The written report was submitted and read by Jim B. of the Ridge Group. \$242.00 was received for the month of May 2000. That made the total for the year 2000 of \$3,118.00. A comparison of May'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			263.00	3,719.00	134.00	4,029.00
July			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	\$3,118.00	\$3,118.00	\$6,258.00	\$6,258.00	7,228.00	7,228.00

2). **STEERING COMMITTEE:** Bob S. of Amherst Snyder read the report (no written report was submitted). The Steering committee nominated Lee M. for District #1 rep., Districts #6, and #10 still need to be filled. Mod Living in the Solution will stop its "Fundraisers", and Central Committee will stop accepting donations from said fundraisers. Also discussed the idea of an AA website. Also discussed was the idea of allotting each committee head 10 minutes to share their duties and ideas with the body, and also to help out new group reps. We also need a new Frontiers chairperson.

5) **TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE:** Pete F., Courage Grp, Chairman of the committee read the report. The committee meets at 6:30PM at St Paul's church, on Indian Church rd., South Buffalo. (Where the Iron Horse group meets). Ten (10) people attended the May 16th meeting. The status of the regular meetings at

treatment facilities is as follows: Sunday ECMC - 3:45 pm: okay Sunday VAMC - 7:00 pm: okay Monday Sheehan- 7:00 pm: okay Monday Salvation Army - 8:00 pm: Need people for the first and second Mon. Tuesday ECMC - 7:00 pm: okay Tuesday VAMC - 1:00 pm: Need people for the 2nd Tue. Thursday ECMC - 7:00 pm: okay Thursday Reflections Lockport Memorial Hosp.- 8:00 pm: okay Friday ECMC - 7:00 pm okay Saturday ECMC - 7:00 pm: okay

There was no Old Business. New Business. Talked of the importance of attending and participating in the Day of Sharing on June 24th. And the NYS workshop Aug. 4,5,6.

**5) CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE:** Pete L., Johnson Creek, gave the report. The meeting was held on June 4th at 6:00 pm before the Central Committee Meeting. 6 people attended and discussed the following: The meetings at Attica, Niagara County Men and Women, Erie County Men and Women, And Alden are all being covered. Gowanda is being covered on the 4th and 5th weeks with the 2nd and 3rd weeks to be covered starting next month. Please let it be known that the committee is looking for both members and groups to carry the message of recovery inside the jails. Old Business: Waiting for the State to set a date for the Corrections Connection. Discussed presentation for June 24th Day of Sharing. Mike s. and Bill L. will attend. New Business: Discussed sponsoring a cruise on the Miss Buffalo with donations going to the Corrections fund. Details will be further discussed at next meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

**6) SCREENERS:** John B. Lakeshore, gave the report. Had one person call to be added to screeners list. Need to call screeners and 12 step people to be on panel for the June 24th Day of sharing. Anyone interested in becoming a screener or being on the 12-step list call John at 549-7068.

**7) CENTRAL OFFICE:** Cindy N., Exec. Sect. gave the report.

AA Information	570	<u>Mail</u>	
PIC	2	597 Pieces	
CPC	3	\$424.30 Total Mail Cost	
Al Anon	20		
Ala Teen	4	<u>Answering Service</u>	
ACOA	3	Incoming Calls	282
12 Step	5	Outgoing Calls	31
Literature Requests	3		
Fax In	6	Visitors	130
Fax Out	6	Volunteers	67

**8) NEW FRONTIER;** No report was given..

**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 May 21st at the Marriott. The following topics were discussed: There will be a choice of chicken or beef (prime rib). The banquet committee had a taste test and approved. Registration was also discussed. The prices decided on were \$113.00 for registration and \$40.00 for both registration and banquet. The program has been set and the panels are half set. Pre-registrations can be mailed to Box 571: Buffalo NY 14213 and Coffee donations can be mailed to: Box 714, Kenmore NY, 14217. Their next meeting will be on Father's day June 18th @ 1:00 pm at the Marriott Hotel.

#### AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**1) AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION SITES;** Adolph I. reported.

## COURTESY REPORTS:

1) **GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY;** Joanne M. gave the report: Western NY Area 50 will host the 21st annual New York State Informational Workshop. It will be held August 4, 5, and 6 2000 at The University of Buffalo, Amherst Campus, Ellicott Complex. There will be a variety of panels and speakers from our own area and the other three areas in New York. There are also several different registration and pre-Registration packages offered. Joanne reminded us of how important it is for us to support our area and to register promptly as UB needs a lump sum up front in July. Coffee donations are appreciated.

2) **PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE;** Terry B. PIC Chairperson gave the report. Last meeting was on 5/20/00. Two presentations were done at Deltacraft Paper Co. on 5/11 and 5/18. On 5/30 we had a table at the Jewish Family Services Health Fair. Upcoming: 6/5 another presentation at Deltacraft Paper. Starting in July presentations will be given at Family Shelter Units at Main and Humboldt. 6/24 is the mini-convention panel, and 8/5 the Workshop panel. Literature has been ordered. Literature requests have been made and will be filled once the order arrives. Next meeting is 6/17/00.

3) **COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE;** Griff N. CPC Chairman, gave the report. The committee meets the 2nd Sat. of every month, at the Maryvale Presbyterian Church at 9:00 Am just before the Courage group meeting. There will be a large PTA meeting here next fall. The GSA will help cover the cost of literature but might not have enough to cover the exhibitor's table. Group contributions are always welcome from the GSA. Buffalo General Hospital has shown an interest in having the CPC come out to visit and also bring literature. This is a great opportunity to inform the doctors and counselors on what AA does and does not do. We also need to man the table at the Erie County Fair in Hamburg this August. Volunteers receive free tickets for admission. Shifts are four hours long.

4) **ARCHIVES:** Tom B., Archives Chairman, gave the report. The committee met on June 3rd, 2000 due to the regularly scheduled meeting last month was postponed because of the holiday. The committee asks that groups requesting an archives display at group functions to contact Archives committee at least one month prior to function to allow for preparation. The Archives scheduled displays are: The Main and High groups Day of Sharing July 8th, 2000 at the Salvation Army 960 Main St. Also the NY State Informational Workshop to be held August 4, 5, and 6th, 2000 at the UB Amherst campus. The next Archives meeting will be held June 24th, 2000 at 9:00AM before the Courage group meeting at the Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale dr. Cheektowaga.

## RECAP:

Financial report, Tom of Rural is Plural asked what the \$130 for Treatment was for. Pete F. says it goes for literature that is itemized by each facility. Dick L. asked about outstanding invoices for literature that hasn't been paid for yet being added to assets. Griff N., Sunrise Court, says that the money owed is to replace literature that was already part of our assets.

Treatment Bob of Amherst/Snyder asked what time the Monday night Salvation Army meeting is held that needs help on the first and second Monday's of the month. Pete F. responded 8:00 PM.

Corrections, Tom of Rural is Plural wanted to know if the second and third Wednesdays of the month were being covered at Gowanda. Bill L. Correction's chair was not available for the update. Rich F. of Iron Horse wanted to mention that volunteers for Attica Corrections can be processed June 21st for admission to the facility. Anyone interested in getting involved with corrections can contact Rich F., Bill L., or the Central Office. Scott T. Lakeshore group, inquired about the corrections fundraiser cruise. Is it in violation with our traditions? and if not maybe it should be brought back to the central body for discussion as it is this body that will have to bear the financial burden for any lapse in funds.

Cooperation with the Professional Community, Rich F. of Iron Horse who is the area 50 Treatment coordinator, expressed concern about the lack of help in covering the requests made by hospitals for AA presentations. There is a need for people that are free during the day to help out in this area. He asked that we inform our home groups of this need.

### OLD BUSINESS

Jay H. of the North Buffalo group expressed a concern with something printed in the minutes read at the beginning of the meeting. As regarding to the May meeting discussion on people who don't have a desire to quit drinking attending closed meetings. It was printed that Jay said these people don't belong at closed meetings. He iterated if that is in fact what he did said then he was wrong. It is not his personal opinion as to who does and does not belong at a meeting.

The Chairman mentioned that we still need a committee co-chair. No one was interested.

We still need a 2001 Convention co-chair from district #3. We had one person apply to the Steering committee, Pat M. of the Rainbow group. She gave her qualifications and Lee M. made a motion to accept her nomination, the motion was seconded and passed.

The chairman also mentioned we need a steering committee member for district #1. Christine Z. of the Miracle group nominated Lee M. It was seconded by Jay H. and it passed unanimously. Dick L. of Dunkirk, will be the rep. for district #6.

Regarding an area website. The chairman says we would like to set up an Ad Hoc committee to find out the feasibility's of having one, including someone to chair the committee. ~~Terry~~ Terry B. chairperson of Public Information, says she thinks that the Public Information and the Co-operation with Professional community committees could work together as a whole. She also said people on her committee are interested in helping.

There still is a need for someone to handle the Envelope System. Karen from the Ridge group asked what that entails. Cindy N. offered to explain and Karen volunteered for the job.

The New Frontiers needs someone to see that it is put together and formatted every month. The chairman says the Executive Secretary shouldn't have to do that. No one volunteered. Bob from Amherst Snyder suggested that we take it back to our home groups.

### NEW BUSINESS

Griff N. reiterated the lack of service and message carrying. We need to talk up and support the Informational workshop coming up this August 4, 5, and 6th.

There were conflicting views on the subject of having a website. Terry B. said that the Internet is a strong tool for accessing information about alcoholism and meeting schedules. Cheryl from the giving group offered that some people can't afford computers. The subject was tabled until the July meeting.

John B., Lakeshore Group made a motion to close, Tom of Rural is Plural seconded the motion and the meeting closed at 8:32 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark S., Lakeshore Group  
Recording Secretary

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2000

GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Abbott Men		90.00		90.00		90.00
Acceptance/Welcome		400.00				
Action		115.00				
After Midnight	20.00	20.00				
Age Doesn't Matter	80.00	130.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Amherst/Snyder	67.00	225.00				
Amsdell/Lakeshore	25.00	132.65				
Any Age		200.00				
Any Length	30.00	180.00				
Anybody's Group		80.00				
Attitude Adjustment		150.00				
Attraction		100.00				
Bidwell Monday Nite	50.00	100.00	25.00	75.00	25.00	75.00
Big Book/Lockport		50.00				
Blasdell Monday Nite		40.00				
Boulevard Women	75.00	225.00				
Brass		55.00				
But For The Grace of God		35.00				
Came To Believe		14.75				
Casting		100.00		10.00		10.00
Cathedral Park	20.30	48.25	10.00	15.00	10.00	15.00
Caz		64.00				
Chapter IX		40.00		40.00		40.00
Cheektowaga		100.00		50.00		
Clarence Men's Disc. Wednesday		100.00				
Common Problem	25.00	25.00				
Courage		320.00		30.00		30.00
Crossroads		217.50				
Crosstalk Big Book		60.00				
Daily Reflections	30.00	90.00				
East Aurora		100.00				
Easy Does It		25.00				
Ellicott		70.00		10.00		10.00
Everybody's	20.00	100.00				
Express		176.00				
Eyeopener		200.00				
Father Baker		400.00				
Fireside	175.00	1,167.12			25.00	125.00
Fireside PM		700.00				
First Things First		120.00				
Fredonia Discussion		60.00				
Freedom	25.00	150.00				
Frontier/New Frontier	262.00	262.00				
Jardenville		100.00				
Georgetown	200.00	600.00				




GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2000

GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Getting Better		7.00				
Living				50.00		
Golden Slipper		50.00				
Grand Group	20.00	60.00				
Grand II Joy of Living		100.00				
Grateful		40.00		40.00		40.00
H.A.N.D		180.00				
Hamburg	50.00	50.00				
Handicappers		150.00				100.00
Harmony		225.00				30.00
Helping Hand	20.00	80.00				
High Noon		150.00				
HillBilly	150.00	150.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Holiday Village	150.00	550.00				
Holland		90.00				
Honesty	30.00	180.00	10.00	60.00		
Hope-Big Book Study		10.00				
Inspiration		50.00		25.00		25.00
Intoxicated On Life		20.00		10.00		10.00
Ironhorse	29.25	335.25	11.70	47.35	11.70	47.35
Journey		80.00				
Just For Today/Albion	5.00	5.00				
Just For Today/Cheektowaga	100.00	100.00				
Keep It Simple, Sister		75.00				
Kensington Discussion		40.00				
Lake Shore		95.00	35.00	101.00	25.00	75.00
Lakeview	25.00	50.00				
Let Go and Let God	20.00	70.00				
Lighten Up	200.00	502.50				
Live and Let Live		120.00				
Living In The Solution		700.00				
Lockview		150.00				
Lovejoy		60.00		10.00		30.00
Main & High		30.00				
Marilla	25.00	125.00				
Matt Talbot		200.00				
Medina New Life	40.00	60.00				
Miracle		20.00				
Morning After		75.00				
New Beginnings		30.00				
New Outlook/Albion		60.00				
Niagara Frontier Men's		150.00				
North Buffalo	100.00	600.00	25.00	150.00	25.00	150.00
North Java Groups		80.00				
North Java Mornin' After	10.00	10.00				



GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2000

GROUP	Central	Accum.	CFC	Accum.	TFC	Accum.
Unity		320.00				
iversity Men's Discussion	125.00	500.00				
Valley		30.00				
Varieties of Spiritual Experience		69.00				
Victory		15.00		15.00		15.00
Wake Up Call		36.00				
We Care		150.00		50.00		100.00
Wehrle		25.00		10.00		
Westfield		45.00				
Westminster	10.00	60.00				
Why		90.00		15.00		15.00
Willing to Grow		200.00				
Wilson		25.00		25.00		
Wilson Smith University Alumni		60.00				
Women's West Side Discussion		47.50				
You'll Never Walk Alone						
Dick's Tees		10.00				
Pink Can			6.65	75.08		
Memoriam BK				20.00		
Anonymous		55.00				
Back To Basics/Canada		10.00				
Berry Wed. Night Meeting		20.00				
<b>Group Contribution Total</b>	<b>\$3,113.55</b>	<b>\$21,687.78</b>	<b>\$ 198.35</b>	<b>\$1,447.87</b>	<b>\$ 196.70</b>	<b>\$1,404.35</b>

Beginning Balance 5/26/00			\$1,610.72
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
45 Groups Contributed	\$3,113.55		
Joint Meeting 6/4/00	49.80		
New Frontier Subscriptions	98		
Envelope System	339.00		
Literature	1,391.54		
Mail/Copies/Miscellaneous	40.00		
Mini Convention (300 seed + 122)	422.00		
		\$5,453.89	7,064.61
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
#10 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)	132.80		
Minolta Leasing/Copier	187.00		
Image Toner Delivery	5.00		
Bell Atlantic	235.87		
Vermont Pure Springs	27.40		
World Services, Inc.	752.15		
Hazelden	70.001		
Office Depot	27.36		
Williamson UPS	56.26		
Postage	500.00		
Bank Charge	17.75		(5,058.43)
<b>Balance 6/25/00</b>			<b>\$2,006.18</b>
Money Market 5/26/00	\$1,105.96		
Interest Credit	1.81		
Balance 6/26/00			\$1,107.77
Certificate of Deposit 6/25/00			8,000.00
Outstanding Invoices			1,091.40
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL OFFICE</b>			<b>\$12,205.35</b>
			
<i>Correctional Facilities 5/26/00</i>	79.02		
<i>Donations 5/26/00 - 6/25/00</i>	198.35		
<i>Expenses</i>		161.00	
<i>Bank Charge</i>		8.00	
<i>Balance 6/25/00</i>			108.37
			
<i>Treatment Facilities 5/26/00</i>	\$333.94		
<i>Donation 5/26/00- 6/25/00</i>	196.70		
<i>Expenses</i>		\$395.09	
<i>Bank Charge</i>		8.00	
<i>Balance 6/25/00</i>			127.55
			

I declare this statement to be true subject to review. John Hughes, Financial Secretary.