

NEW FRONTIERS

July 2002

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.

The Serenity Prayer

How many of us say this little prayer at the start of an AA meeting and promptly forget it? This is the most powerful short prayer in the world today. Nothing can replace the Lord's Prayer, of course, but these words of the Serenity Prayer pack a lot of power and punch.

God

With the saying of this word we are admitting the existence of a higher power.

Grant

With the repeating of this second word we are admitting that this higher power is an authority who can BESTOW or GIVE.

Me

We are asking something for ourselves for the Bible states: "Ask and it shall be given." It is not wrong to ask for betterment of yourself, for with the improvement of your character people around you will be made happier.

Serenity

We are asking for CALMNESS, COMPOSURE, and PEACE in our lives which will enable us to think straight and govern ourselves properly.

To Accept

We are resigning ourselves to conditions as they are right now.

Things I Cannot Change

We are accepting our lot in life as it is. Until we have the courage to change any part of our lives we don't like, we must accept it and NOT ACCEPT IT GRUDGINGLY.

Courage

We are asking for quality of spirit to face conditions without flinching.

To Change

We are asking for conditions to be different.

The Things I Can

We are asking for help to make a right decision. If you have to make a decision consider carefully the worst that could happen to you IF YOUR DECISION TO CHANGE DID NOT WORK OUT. If you can accept the worst and your decision will get you out of a rut, then proceed.

Wisdom

We are asking for the ability to form sound judgments in any matter.

To Know

We want to understand clearly a truth of fact.

The Difference

We want to see things differently in our lives so there can be some distinction. We need to sense a definite value in sobriety over drunkenness if we are to stay sober.

Submitted by Bill R. - Gardenville Group

Founders' Day

I feel richly blessed after attending Founders' Day this past weekend. I am especially grateful for the beautiful fellow AA member who joined me on this journey, I believe the peaceful feeling we left with will remain with us for a very long time.

There were many outstanding meetings and panel discussions, The speaker at the "Big" Speaker Meeting reminded me of what it used to be like when I picked up that first drink -- like never knowing where I'd end up or who I'd be with. Then there was a 12 Traditions Skit that had us laughing so hard we cried. The important messages I received at the skit were about the importance of anonymity, that there are no leaders - but only trusted servants, that the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking, and that it is important to stay out of outside issues, including politics. In other words, when we start playing God ourselves we are in grave danger.

I met a lot of great people in Ohio and some were even from Buffalo, NY. We shared our stories about how bad it got out there and how thankful we are for having found this new way of life. My friend and I enjoyed touring historic AA sites and on our final day we attended a motorcycle procession and graveside memorial tribute to Dr. Bob and his wife, Annie. I could not believe there were over 1700 motorcycles and thousands of people visiting from as far away as Los Angeles and even all the way to Italy.

I must say the visit to the cemetery was my favorite part of this weekend, A silence fell over the crowd as the speaker addressed the audience. Then moments later we all heard a recording of Annie's voice and she told us how important it is to live One Day at a Time. Then, Dr. Bob spoke to us on tape as if he were right there in front of us. He welcomed us all and thanked us for coming out that day, He went on to say that it is important to keep life simple, to live a life of love and service and to go out into the world and pass it on.

So I want to pass it on to you and let you know that I believe from my own experience that I have a shot at another rich and rewarding day tomorrow as long as I do not pick up a drink today. I want to thank my fellow AA members for sharing your hope, strength and experience. This is a beautiful way to live and it just keeps getting better and better. Thank you God, Dr, Bob, Annie, and all of those men and women who have gone before us and cared enough to share their new way of live with us, One Day at a Time.

Kathy H. - Thruway Group

Dear God,

Hi!! My name is Jim and I am an alcoholic. I am presently locked up in Erie County Correctional Facility. Alcohol and my alcoholism has brought me to a lot of bad places, this is just one of them. Over the years it has caused a lot of pain, not just to myself, but to my family and friends too. Alcoholism has taken everything from me many times.

I have struggled with this AA program for many years because I want to turn my life and my will over to the care of Jim. God, I have finally made a conscious decision that I want to live, I don't want to die from this disease. And so today I turn my will and my life over to the care of You, God. And I will continue to do so 'One Day at a Time' because I want to live.

Never Alone

Sometimes, Oh Lord when I cannot pray,

I sit very still with nothing to say.

But never the less I know you are there.

I whisper your name 'cause I know that you care.

You know that I'm troubled, with things on my mind.

And you know I've been weak, so often unkind.

But your sprit is with me right here in this home,

And I know that I never am walking alone.

Unknown

Help me, O Lord, when I want to do the right thing, but know not what it is.
But help me most, DEAR LORD, when I know perfectly well what I ought
to do, but can't find "the will to do it."

"Go to Any Lengths"

This is said in the second paragraph of "How It Works" pg. 58 of 'The Big Book.' Does it mean any length as long as I agree with it, or it is easy? We see men & women who come in the doors of the meeting get their coffee, buy a 50/50 ticket and day dream for the next hour. We who go to any length aren't any different than them, except we get involved, even though we don't know how to perform an office or duty. If we don't know, we ask. We pick up after ourselves (and others) because we want to be able to meet in the same location week after week. And guess what? Doing these things has kept me from going back to a life of self-pity, loneliness, lying etc. If you know this life, why not try a better one? If you want what they have you must do certain things and 'going to any length' is only a part of getting and staying sober, 'One Day At A Time!'

Barry R. - Victory Group

What I have learned in AA

I have learned, first of all, there is a God and I'm not it. I can't control people, places or things. I don't even control my own destiny; I just do the best I can and the rest I turn over to my Higher Power. No pain, no gains, but the misery is optional. I don't have to be miserable, that is up to me. I have learned to stay away from the four-R syndrome, which is Revenge, Retaliation, Resentment, Relapse. I learned that there is no such thing as a bad AA meeting. If you stay at one you don't like, you learn patience, tolerance and understanding.

I've learned to keep my temper in check. Just because someone acts like a jerk doesn't mean I have to be one. I've learned not to be prejudiced. To deny anyone equality is to deny my higher power, since we are all his children and are equal in his eyes.

I learned the difference between loving and liking. I don't like everyone all the time, not even members of my family, but nonetheless, I love them. What I mean is that I must love everyone. God does, and I'm not better than he is. I don't have to like a person or what he does or does not do, but nonetheless, I must have love and compassion for him.

I learned how to forgive and make amends. Forgiveness lets yesterday be gone, tomorrow come, and today be.

Smitty - WinnebagoLand Compass WI

We are not failing as long as we are trying.

Heard at a meeting:

- We can't think our way into acting good. We act our way into good thinking.
- Happiness is an inside job.
- God forgives all things. Man forgives some things. Nature forgives nothing.

Rule 62

- AA is not something to join - it is a way of life.
- A self-sponsored person is a good example of unskilled labor.
- Pray to ask God's help, meditate to hear God's answer.

ASK ONLY IN LIFE FOR WISDOM, ALL OTHER THINGS FOLLOW IN LINE.

I am more powerful than combined armies of the world. I have destroyed more men than all the wars of the nation. I have caused more accidents and wrecked millions of homes than all floods, tornadoes and hurricanes put together. I am the world's sickest thief. I steal billions of dollars each year. I find my victims among the rich and the poor, the young and the old, the strong and the weak. I loom up to such proportions that I cast a shadow over every field of labor. I am relentless, insidious, and unpredictable. I am everywhere; in the home, on the street, in the factory, in the office, on the sea, and in the air. I bring sickness, poverty and death. I give nothing and take everything. I am your worst enemy.

I AM ALCOHOL!

Submitted by Dennis W. - Abbott Men's Group

IT WORKS

Although it has not always been easy to reach out to a Higher Power and to surrender my self-centered will, I feel I'm living proof that it's worth it. *This program works!*

In my early thirties I went to an alcoholic rehabilitation program. Upon completion of the program it was suggested to me to attend AA meetings by one specific counselor and I reluctantly did so. I was not ready, I was not hurt enough, I wasn't willing to admit my powerlessness and unmanageability until several years later,

Today I'm grateful to be sober in Alcoholics Anonymous and to my fellow alcoholics in the groups that I attend on a regular basis. They are patient with me and my mess.

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem with alcohol. (Preamble)

New members are encouraged to stay away from a drink One Day at a Time, so their bodies can get well. But they also need to work on their minds, emotions and spirituality.

Following the Alcoholics Anonymous 12 Steps to recovery is a guide to a better way of living.

Winston F. - Main & High Group

Step Seven: "Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings."

Excerpts from 12 & 12 pg. 70-76:

The basic ingredient of all humility is a desire to seek and do Gods will.

Indeed the attainment of greater humility is the foundation principle of each of AA's Twelve Steps. For without some degree of humility, no alcoholic can stay sober at all. Nearly all AA's have found, too, that unless they develop much more of this precious quality than may be required just for sobriety, they still haven't much chance of becoming truly happy. Without it, they cannot live to much useful purpose, or in adversity, be able to summon the faith that can meet any emergency.

It was only by repeated humiliations that we were forced to learn something about humility. It was only at the end of a long road, marked by successive defeats and humiliations, and the final crushing of our self-sufficiency, that we began to feel humility as something more than a condition of groveling despair.

But when we have taken a square look at some of these defects, have discussed them with another, and have become willing to have them removed, our thinking about humility commences to have a wider meaning. By this time in all probability we have gained some measure of release from our more devastating handicaps. We enjoy moments in which there is something like real peace of mind. To those of us who have hitherto known only excitement, depression, or anxiety – in other words, to all of us – this newfound peace is a priceless gift.

Seventh Step Prayer

"My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength as I go out from here to do your bidding. Amen.

Alcoholics Anonymous p. 76

For myself, I try to seek out the truest definition of humility that I can. This will not be the perfect definition, because I shall always be imperfect.

At this writing, I would choose one like this: "Absolute humility would consist of a state of complete freedom from myself, freedom from all the claims that my defects of character now lay so heavily upon me. Perfect humility would be a full willingness, in all times and places, to find and to do the will of God."

When I meditate upon such a vision, I need not be dismayed because I shall never attain it, nor need I swell with presumption that one of these days its virtues shall be mine.

I need only to dwell on the vision itself, letting it grow and ever more fill my heart. This done, I can compare it with my last-taken personal inventory. Then I get a sane and healthy idea of where I stand on the highway to humility. I see that my journey toward God has scarce begun.

As I thus get down to my right size and stature, my self-concern and importance become amusing.

Bill W. - Grapevine June 1961

Tradition Seven: "Every AA group ought to be fully self supporting, declining outside contributions."

Excerpts from 12 & 12 pg 160-165:

It was soon apparent that while alcoholics would spend lavishly on Twelfth Step cases, they had a terrific aversion to dropping money into a meeting-place hat for group purposes.

"There *was* a place in AA where spiritually and money would mix, and that was in the hat!"

We had to recognize the fact that AA had to function. Meeting places cost something. To save whole areas from turmoil, small offices had to be set up, telephones installed, and a few full-time secretaries hired. Over many protests, these things were accomplished.

On the question of accepting outside contributions Bill (in part) writes:

"The groups weren't sending in enough for the support of the office; we had been tossing in all the book income and even that hadn't been enough. The reserve was melting like snow in springtime. 'Maybe,' some said, 'the groups will never fully support the office. We can't let it shut down; it's far too vital. Yes, let's take the money. Let's take all such donations in the future. We're going to need them.'

"Then came the opposition. If outside donations weren't declined, absolutely cut off, then the Foundation would one day become rich. Where would that land us? Whoever pays the piper is apt to call the tune, and if the AA Foundation obtained money from outside sources, its trustees might be tempted to run things without reference to the wishes of AA as a whole. The pressure of a fat treasury would surely tempt the board to invent all kinds of schemes to do good with such funds, and so divert AA from its primary purpose.

Then our Trustees wrote a bright page of AA history. They declared for the principle that AA must always stay poor. Bare running expenses plus a prudent reserve would henceforth be the Foundation's financial policy."

Happiness

Happiness is not a matter of good fortune or worldly possessions. It's a mental attitude. It comes from appreciating what we have, instead of being miserable about what we don't have. It's so simple – yet so hard for the human mind to comprehend.

John Luther - Carl Sterner, Scriba
Submitted by Bill R. - Gardenville Group

It is never too late to become what you might have been.

George Eliot

Interested in receiving the New Frontiers?

Name: _____

Address: _____

Enclosed is a check or money order made payable to the AA Central Office earmarked the "New Frontiers" for \$ _____ for _____ copies.

Rates:

1	Copy	\$10.00	20 Copies	\$57.00
2	Copies	13.00	30 Copies	75.00
5	Copies	24.00	40 Copies	95.00
10	Copies	33.00	50 Copies	120.00
15	Copies	43.00	60 Copies	135.00

Mail to the Central Office:

845 Ellicott Square Building

295 Main Street

Buffalo, New York 14203-2412

A HUGE 'thank-you' to all who contributed this month. 'Keep those cards & letters coming!

IN MEMORIAM

Things We Can Not Change

To all our members who have lost family or loved ones, our prayers are with you.

Let's remember them and all the others who passed on in our prayers

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope.

Please submit your articles to Central Office by the 15th for next months issue.

E-Mail address: buffalooa@hotmail.com

New Frontiers committee meets the 3rd Thursday of every month - 7:00pm - St Michaels, corner of Warsaw & Electric in Lackawanna.

The Central Office of Western New York publishes the *New Frontiers* monthly. We are supported 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 will not be returned. Opinions expressed here are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply the endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: Quotations from ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS and other AA books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc. Articles reprinted with permission of AA Grapevine, Inc. Are subject to the GRAPEVINE copyright.)

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Amherst/Snyder

Glen G. 6m
 Jay M. 6m
 Michael R. 1y
 Mark S. 1y
 Colleen H. 1y
 Joe F. 1y
 John F. 2y
 Kevin B. 4y
 MaryAnn L. 4y
 George P. 8y
 Dave P. 8y
 Dave Y. 8y
 Kevin M. 8y
 Rick S. 8y
 Tina D. 13y
 Holly M. 13y
 Guy M. 15y
 Bob L. 17y
 Dave F. 19y
 Charmaine D. 19y
 Rich H. 21y
 Don H. 30y

Courage Group

Harry G. 3m
 HJohn W. 1y
 Tim J. 1y
 Jerry F. 11y
 Mary M. 11y
 Donna P. 23y

Fireside

Amy K. 3m
 Sam V. 6m
 Megan M. 1y
 Nicki C. 4y
 Elaine C. 9y
 Rosann P. 16y
 Jack W. 22y
 Dorothy F. 23y

Ironhorse

Mark M. 3M
 Jim K. 6M
 Lisa A. 2Y
 Steve K. 16Y

Kensington

Brian J. 2y
 Jeffrey L. 14y
 Jerry McM. 18y

Lakeshore

Charles H. 35y

LoveJoy

Kanyom J. 3m
 Marty L. 6m
 David K. 6m
 Tom W. 3y
 Joe K. 3y
 Theresa S. 7y

North Buffalo

Cathy B. 2y
 Ann L. 2y
 Greg G. 3y
 Mathew W. 3y
 George B. 4y
 Peter H. 4y
 Todd S. 12y
 Karen R. 18y
 Joanne W. 21y

Remember When

Steve 3m
 Marcus T. 6m
 Belinda E. 9m
 Billie W. 1y
 Rudy C. 2y
 Will B. 5y
 Joe A. 5y
 Virgil D. 5y
 Janice H. 6y
 Mona W. 12y

Renewal

Dbi Sue S. 1y
 Jeff N. 1y

Rise & Shine

Richard P. 3m
 Justin B. 3m
 Yvonne P. 6m
 Dianne C. 6m
 Roberta R. 1y
 Peggy M. 1y
 Jerry T. 2y
 Camen C. 3y
 Johnny F. 4y
 Tangry F. 4y
 Doug G. 5y
 Faith B. 6y
 Vicky 6y
 Jack G. 9y
 Kim C. 15y

Thruway

Maria L. 3m
 Mark M. 6m
 Jim R. 9m
 Alex K. 1y
 Craig C. 3y
 David H. 4y
 Doug G. 4y
 Sandee W. 16y
 Dorothy F. 23y
 Richard S. 29y

Turning Point

Dan H. 2y
 Donna C. 14y
 Jerry D. 23y

Sun. Morning Br.

Andrew B. 3m
 Laura Z. 9m
 Carl B. 3y

Victory

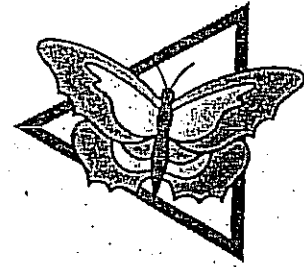
Greg D. 3y
 Ross M. 18y
 Tom G. 21y

We Care

Craig W. 9m
 Cheryl K. 1y
 Morreen B. 2y
 Ron D. 4y
 Tom S. 6y

Womens Westside

Yolanda M. 1y
 Kim M. 1y
 Cheryl T. 3y
 Melanie H. 3y
 Karen W. 15y



Group Anniversaries

Alexander
 Inspiration
 Courage
 Ladies Night
 Suburban
 Positively Living
 Giving
 Feelings
 Blasbell Monday Nite
 Willing to Grow
 Hillbilly
 How it Works/Men's
 Brass
 Ellicottville
 Freedom



BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
(716) 853-0388
(716) 853-0389 FAX: 9-4:00 Monday - Friday

845 ELLICOTT SQUARE
295 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203
Schedule on line at ny-aa.org

JULY 2002

PLEASE NOTE

- IF YOUR GROUP IS NOT MEETING, PLEASE INFORM THE CENTRAL OFFICE. THIS ALSO INCLUDES THOSE MEETING DAYS WHEN YOUR SITE IS CLOSED FOR A HOLIDAY.
- If your group would like to E-Mail Articles or Anniversaries for the New Frontiers, they can be sent to buffalooa@hotmail.com
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE ERIE COUNTY FAIR: AUGUST 8th- 18th. CONTACT MARGE M. at 731-5047 or WENDY M. at 648-1967.
- MOBILE MEETING- ARE YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, HOMEBOUND OR CONFINED IN A NURSING HOME AND UNABLE TO GET TO A MEETING? IF SO, AND YOU WANT A MEETING BROUGHT TO YOU, CALL CENTRAL OFFICE AND LEAVE YOUR NAME AND NUMBER, SOMEONE WILL GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.

MEETING CHANGES: The New Schedules are in.

ANOTHER CHANCE: Meets on Thursday's at 5:30 PM, not Monday at 8 PM.

ANY LENGTHS GROUP: 8 PM Friday's; Lancaster Presbyterian Church, has moved across Lake Ave to The Red Brick Bldg. (Potter's House) Use Front Door. 5477 Broadway.

CAME TO BELIEVE: Monday's at 8:00 at Alden BryLyn, is no longer allowing people from the outside.

COURAGE GROUP: Meets at 10:00 AM, Saturday's at Maryvale Presbyterian Church, Cheektowaga

LAKESHORE GROUP: Meets at 8:30 PM, not AM on Monday's

EAST AURORA GROUP: Meets at 8:00 PM on Wednesday's

UNITY GROUP: has moved back to, Sts.Peter & Paul/Newman Rm. In the church basement, 5480 Main Street, Williamsville at 10:00 AM.

F.U.N. GROUP: will be changing their meeting time from 7:00 PM Tuesday's to 6:30 PM .104 West Ferry (we still have our great coffee, see you then)

NEW FREEDOM Group: Lockport, Monday's at 9:00 PM, NO LONGER MEETS

NEW MEETINGS:

BUFFALO NEWS: open meeting, Tuesday's at 6:30 AM, 1st Floor Auditorium at Washington and Scott Sts.

GAHADA: GON: Tuesday's at 8:00 PM. 12698 Southwestern Blvd, Irving

NEW HORIZON: Thursday's at 11:45 AM. Horizon Boulevard Facility, 1370 Niagara Falls Blvd., Tonawanda, Open Meeting.

COMING EVENTS

- ~ July 1, I Don't Know Group Dance, Doors open at 5:30 pm, Speaker at 7 followed by food and dance. Bring a dish to share. \$3.00 at the door. St. Francis Church, 175 East Street, Buffalo. No smoking in the building.
- ~ July 6, 5th Anniversary, Main & High Group Day Of Sharing, Saturday, 9:00 AM- 3:30 PM. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main Street, Buffalo. Panels & Speaker - 50/50 - Hot Meal - Refreshments - Registration \$6.50. Flyers available.

~ July 7, **Central Committee Meeting**, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street, St. Michael's Parish. (Hosted by Main & High).

~ July 12-14, **NY State A.A. Convention**, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Albany, NY 12207. Flyers available at the Central Office.

~ July 13, **CPC Meeting**, 10:00 am, Bacon memorial Presbyterian Church, 166-59th St., Niagara Falls.

~ July 14, **Gowanda Area Picnic**, 12 Noon until ??, Gowanda Fireman's Park, Rt 62 North of McDonald's in Gowanda across from VFW. Speakers at 2 pm & 4 pm. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Soda & Coffee. PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS!! Sponsored by the: Tri- County, Everybody's, Sober Trails, Anybody's & Stepping Stones Groups.

~ July 17, **New Frontiers Committee**, 7:00 PM. St. Michaels Parish Center, Electric And Warsaw, Lackawanna, before the Victory meeting.

~ July 20, **The Remember When Group**, at 291 Elm St. will be giving our annual Anniversary Picnic at Lasale Park, Shelter #4. All the food is **FREE**, but you may bring a dish to share if you wish. Come on out and help us celebrate our 40th Anniversary.

~ July 20, Buffalo **Fall Convention Committee Meeting**. Anyone interested in getting involved is welcome. Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Drive. 9:00 AM before the Courage Group.

~ July 20, **Public Information Committee** will meet at Deerpark Presbyterian Church at 9:00 am.

~ July 19-21, **Freedom on the Lake**, A.A. Men's Spiritual Weekend. Speakers, Meetings, Incredible Fellowship, Food & Accommodations, Campfire Sharing Session. Registration \$110.00, \$25.00 nonrefundable deposit. Flyers available at Central office.

~ July 26,27 & 28, **Any Age Annual Family Summer Campout**: Don Miller Park, 1601 Sweeney St., N. Tonawanda. Speakers, Music, Campfires, Games & Fellowship, Giant 50/50. Tickets are \$8.00/ person/day, or \$15.00 for the weekend. Children 8 and under are free. We provide Hot dogs, hamburgers, pop and coffee. Bring a dish to pass.

~ July 27, **Archives Committee Meeting**, 9 am, Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Drive. Archives are still available for group functions or Anniversaries; call Dick K. 668-8358, with 30 days notice.

~ August 11, **General Service Assembly**, 511 Club, JAMESTOWN. (Hosted by 511 Group) 511 E. 2nd Street.

~ August 17, **ONE DAY AT A TIME GROUP PICNIC**: Sprague Brook Park, corner Rt 240 @ Foot Rd. From 11 AM-7 PM, **SPEAKER** at 5:00 PM. Cookout from 2 -4. Please bring a dish to Pass. All are welcome, families included.

~ August 23,24 & 25, **49th ANNUAL TRI-STATE ASSEMBLY**: Chatuequa, NY. Flyers in the office. \$10 gate fee + \$10-\$12 Registration.

~ Oct. 4-6, **NERC 2002**. Sheraton South Portland Hotel, South Portland, ME. Information at the office.

~ November 8,9 &10, **BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION**: Buffalo Marriott Hotel, 1340 Millersport Hwy. Amherst. Registration: \$18, Registration & Banquet: \$43. Flyers are out, for more information call, Registration Chair: John C. (716) 884-0962 or Convention Chair: (716) 894-1199

7th STEP: "Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings."

7th TRADITION: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

7th CONCEPT; The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

... Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit...

Terry Bateman

Executive Secretary

Buffalo Central Committee

July 6, 2003

The meeting was opened at 7:00PM by Mike D., with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Mark McB. from Abbott Mens' read the purpose of Central Committee, Steve H. of Springville Tuesday Night read the traditions. There were two new group representatives, Rita from Lovejoy and Ryan from Williamsville. John H. from Gardenville moved to dispense with the reading of last months minutes, seconded by Pat M. of Rainbow.

40 Groups Attended: **District #1:** Cornplanters Again, Journey, Main and High, Sunday Niters, Sunrise Court, Those Too, You'll Never Walk Alone. **District #2:** Early Bird, North Buffalo, Three Legacies. **District #3:** Abbott Men's, Cazenovia, Gardenville, Iron Horse, New Life, Rainbow, Ridge, Southgate, Sunday Morning Breakfast, The Book Meeting, Thruway, Victory. **District #4:** Action, Holland, Patchin, Springville Tuesday Night. **District #5:** Big Book Lockport, 5th Tradition, Lockport #1, Lockport Ladies'. **District # 6:** Go To Any Lengths, Lakeshore, Serenity on the Lake. **District #7:** Buffalo, Ellicott, Let Go & Let God, Lovejoy, Remember When. **District #8:** Amherst Snyder, Williamsville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ENVELOPE SYSTEM: Karen S. gave this report. \$220.00 has been donated as of June 15th.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Charmaine D., Amherst Snyder gave this report. The central office will be getting a new copier. Costs will remain the same. The ad hoc committee gave a report on moving the Central Office.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Joanne C. gave this report. Joanne encouraged groups to continue donations during the summer. We are looking for someone to take over the job of Financial Chair. The position requires going to the Central Office 2x a month to reconcile financial accounts.

TREATMENT: Tom C. gave report. There have been some changes in meeting coverage. Also, moving the monthly Treatment meeting from Iron Horse to the Main and High group is being considered.

CORRECTIONS: Bob G. gave this report. The group is focused on generating ideas to encourage AA members to attend prison meetings.

SCREENERS: Dave P. gave the report. A new answering service, AAA Abbott Answering will be operational as of 7/14/03.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Terry B. gave the report. AA info 221 calls; 12th step – 10 calls; Alanon: 8, Visitors, 30, Volunteers; 18. Thank you. Office is pursuing getting not for profit status with the post office, to cut down postal costs. All checking accounts have been upgraded to free checking. As a reminder, if you wish to have a flyer included in the bulk mailing, there is a cost of \$25, to cover postage. New copier is being installed with no increase in cost.

PIC: No report

NEW FRONTIER: Debbie C. gave this report. Please continue to send in articles.

62nd BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION: Terry B. gave this report. The committee is working hard. Flyers have been distributed at many events. There are some changes in the registration form and individuals will now be able to pre-order souvenirs from the convention. Next meeting is 8/28/03.

ARCHIVES: Frank M gave this report. All is well.

RECAP: Several items were discussed during recap. Steve H. wanted clarification regarding the postage issue. Terri B. asked for info regarding the "Man in the bed" idea proposed by ECMC. The Treatment Committee is working on this and will bring a report back to Central Committee. Questions were also asked regarding the \$25.00 cost to groups re: flyers in the mailing.

OLD BUSINESS: We are still looking for an alternate to learn the treasurer's job.

NEW BUSINESS: Mike D. opened with a statement of what we would be voting on in August. 1st: Should we move the Central Office to the Tri-Main building? 2nd: If we vote to move then there will be a vote on the following options: 1.) Renovate the space ourselves, at an approximate cost of \$12,000. The rent will then be between \$585 and \$625 per month. 2.) Have the Tri-Main building do the renovations, resulting in a monthly increase in rent to \$775 indefinitely. The ad-hoc committee presented their report regarding the use of the space. Scott T. and Lee M., explained that the owners of the Tri-Main would work with us regarding having to pay rent in two places. Many questions were asked and much discussion was generated. Here is a list of the questions and concerns: If we do the work ourselves, does the committee think we will be able to find enough volunteers to do the work? How would we raise the money, if we do the renovations ourselves? Have we looked for other sites? Will there be room for Central Committee to meet where the new office will be located? Have we investigated staying in the Ellicott Square Building under a new lease? Do we have someone experienced to do the negotiating with the Tri-Main building if we decide to locate there? Are we aware of various liabilities we might incur were we to do the work ourselves? What happens if we don't generate enough money to complete the renovations if we do the work ourselves? Most of these questions were discussed and the committee in general seemed clear as to what to bring back to each home group. We appreciate the work the ad hoc committee is doing. Thanks.

We also spent time generating ideas for the Corrections Committee. Bob asked for help in finding ways to increase participation in prison meetings. Several suggestions were made: New Frontier, visiting meetings not represented at the Central Committee, contacting individuals on 12th Step list. Peter L., District 5 Steering Committee rep requested applications be brought to CC.

Thank you for the Seventh Tradition donations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM Motion to close by Pat M.second, Lee M.