

NEW FRONTIERS

May 2003

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.

Neither Chase nor Chastise

Editor's Note: As we near AA's 68th anniversary (June 10, 2003) it seems an appropriate time to reprint part of Time magazine's article written in 1960 when AA turned 25.

Uncrowned but undisputed head of AA is Bill W., a tall Vermonter in his early 60's, who drank himself out of a lucrative career as a high-risk stock operator. "In 1934," he recalls, "my doctor told my wife that if I didn't stop I'd have to be locked up because I'd either go mad or die."

Bill W. didn't stop until he drank himself into a hospital and realized that he must stop or die. He had to find another drunk in the same predicament so that by helping each other they would insure their own survival.

In Akron, in June of 1935, he found his friend, Dr. Bob (who died of cancer in 1950). Together they founded AA and laid out the basis for its famous twelve tenets.

Last week, in his unofficial presidential address, Co-Founder Bill W. noted that the organization today [1960] counts 300,000 members in more than 8,000 groups in about 80 countries. Yet AA did not congratulate itself for any wholesale success.

"In the U.S. alone there are still at least 5,000,000 active alcoholics, and perhaps 25 million worldwide. It is an awesome number that AA would be glad to help.," said Bill W. "We are not going to chase them, chastise them, or campaign for them. All we can hope is that they will come to us for help when help is what they want." AA's wait-and-accept philosophy is the key to its success to date. About 50% to 75% of all alcoholics will respond to AA, many of the toughest cases simply never enroll.

Singleness of Purpose

Reprinted from *About AA* Fall/Winter 2002

"Singleness of purpose" is essential to the effective treatment of alcoholism. The reason for such exaggerated focus is to overcome denial. The denial associated with alcoholism is cunning, baffling, and powerful and affects the patient, helper, and the community. Unless alcoholism is kept relentlessly in the foreground, other issues will usurp everybody's attention.

Mental health workers, however, have great difficulty with AA's Fifth tradition: "Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." Since mental health workers often admire the success and geographic availability of Alcoholics Anonymous, they understandably wish to broaden its membership to include other substance abusers. They also note that pure alcohol abuse is becoming less frequent, and poly-drug abuse more common. In addition, mental health workers sometimes view singleness of purpose as outmoded and exclusionary. They worry that the Tradition is a holdover from the early days of AA and that the young, the poor and the minority with a criminal record will be barred. Besides, when there is no professional drug treatment center or Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group easily available, mental health workers find it hard to understand why AA, with its tradition of Twelfth step work, won't step in and fill the breach.

As both a mental health worker and a researcher, it seems to me that there are two arguments that trump these concerns. First, the Third Tradition of AA, "The only requirement of AA membership is a desire to stop drinking," renders AA non-exclusionary. Each year AA welcomes many thousands of minorities, many thousands of poor, many thousands of alcoholics with coexistent drug problems and tens of thousands of convicts into its membership. Nobody with a desire to stop drinking is excluded.

The second argument, that "Singleness of Purpose" is necessary to overcome denial, is even more compelling. Given a choice, nobody wants to talk about alcoholism. In contrast, drug addiction commands newspaper headlines, research funding and the attention of clinical audiences.

In short, the greatest single obstacle to the proper treatment of alcoholism is denial.

I first began my psychiatric career at a deeply dedicated community health center. The community had voted alcohol abuse as their biggest problem. After its first ten years of operation the center was still confining itself to addressing the community's most pressing second, third, and fourth problems. No resources at all were devoted to alcohol treatment.

... The experimentally documented success of AA in the treatment of alcoholism is in part because AA groups are the only place in the world where the focus is on alcoholism and nothing but alcoholism. There is simply no other way to overcome the denial.

George E Vaillant M.D. Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee AA General Service Board

Welcome to Your New Life

I was recently asked by my first sponsor in Alcoholics Anonymous to be the Greeter's Chairperson for the Buffalo Fall Convention for 2003. I found this to be a privilege and an honor, especially considering that when I was newly sober I was in awe of the people who ran the convention. It seemed, and now I know, it is quite a large event to pull off. Much work goes into that one day.

Ironically, being a greeter was one of my favorite and longstanding jobs in one of my first home groups at Lakeshore. It was the perfect job for me considering I loved the attention and it made me feel like I was actually welcoming someone to my "home." The importance of a home group could be written as a whole other article.

I have been sober for almost fourteen years and as a result I was a little skeptical at first because of a changing work schedule as a nurse. Not to mention the full life that I have thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous. However, I had just been saying I have to find a way that I can get more active in A.A. Watch what you pray for!

There are many ways for a person to be of service in Alcoholics Anonymous. A nut for every bolt. I am a firm believer in the absolute necessity of service despite length of sobriety. We are never too sober to help. God uses our talents and strengths in many ways to be of service. I also believe in keeping an open mind for new ways to reach out to an alcoholic.

If you are looking for a way to be of service, and identify at all with this article, come join us. My hope is to find volunteers to greet from all around the Niagara Frontier. I will be scouting soon. You are never too new or too sober to hold out the hand of Alcoholics Anonymous. If you are interested please contact me at Tinadono@msn.com, include a number you can be reached at and we will sign you up. There are many slots to be filled. I am confident that we can find a time convenient for you.

Till then, may God Bless you and keep you.

Tina D. ~ Amherst/Snyder

Heard at a meeting:

- AA is an opportunity to give God a chance.
- The past is like a rear view mirror. You have to glance at it on occasion, but if you focus on it you won't see what is right in front of you.
- It's hard waking up with someone you don't like when your sleeping alone. SO wake up with GOD. (Brad)
- I can't choose how I feel, but I can choose what I do about it.

RULE 62

- The Lord didn't do it in one day what makes me think I can?
- Pride is tasteless, colorless and size less - yet is the hardest thing to swallow.
- If we don't learn to laugh at ourselves, there may not be much to laugh about when we are old.
- Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

A Truly Unique Event

In February 2004, the "lady alcoholics" of Western New York will have the opportunity to participate in the 40th International AA Women's Conference. This event attracts over 2000 female alcoholics from North America and other areas of the world.

We will host this event at the Buffalo Convention Center on February 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2004. There are many positions to fill such as greeters, registration, hospitality, panels and talkathons. It is hoped that every woman alcoholic in our area will participate in some way.

You can get full information and the registration form on our website which is www.iwc2004.org. Registration forms are in the Central Office and many committee members have them.

Yours in love and service, Joanne McC. Chair

Hope for Tomorrow

We all face these seasons, of heartache and pain.
We find our dreams shattered, and prayers seem vain.
With hope disappearing, the heart has no song.
We're waiting for daybreak, but the night is so long.
There is hope for tomorrow, God is still in control.
He will not forsake us, but keep watch o'er our soul.
God holds our tomorrow, why should we despair?
He counts every teardrop and hears every prayer.

Anonymous
E-Mail from Bill O. - Holland Group

Step Five: "Admitted to God, ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

If we skip this vital step, we may not overcome drinking. We must be entirely honest with somebody if we expect to live long or happily in this world, ... We search our acquaintance for a close-mouthed, understanding friend.

We pocket our pride and go to it, illuminating every twist of character, every dark cranny of the past. Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing, we are delighted. We can look the world in the eye. We can be alone at perfect peace and ease. Our fears fall from us. We begin to feel the nearness of our Creator. We may have had certain spiritual beliefs, but now we begin to have a spiritual experience. The feeling that the drink problem has disappeared will often come strongly. We feel we are on a Broad Highway, walking hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe.

Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter 6

Somehow, being alone with God doesn't seem as embarrassing as facing up to another person. Until we actually sit down and talk aloud about what we have so long hidden, our willingness to clean house is still largely theoretical. When we are honest with another person, it confirms that we have been honest with ourselves and with God.

12 & 12 p. 60

"We reacted more strongly to frustrations than normal people. By reliving these episodes and discussing them in strict confidence with somebody else, we can reduce their size and therefore their potency on the unconscious."

As Bill Sees It p. 111

Provided you hold back nothing in taking the Fifth Step, your sense of relief will mount from minute to minute. The dammed up emotions of years break out of their confinement, and miraculously vanish as soon as they are exposed. As the pain subsides, a healing tranquility takes its place. And when humility and serenity are so combined, something else of great moment is apt to occur.

12 & 12 p. 62

Tradition Five: "Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Better to do one thing well than many badly. The life of our Fellowship depends on this principle. The ability of each AA to identify himself with and bring recovery to the newcomer is a gift from God ... passing on this gift to others is our one aim. Sobriety can't be kept unless it is given away.

12 & 12 p 10

.... Firmly bound by obligation are the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who have demonstrated that they can help problem drinkers as others seldom can. The unique ability of each AA to identify himself with, and bring recovery to the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety. These legacies of suffering and of recovery are easily passed among alcoholics, one to the other. This is our gift from God, and its bestowal upon others like us is the one aim that today animates AA's all around the globe.

It is the great paradox of AA that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away. For us, if we neglect those who are still sick, there is unremitting danger to our own lives and sanity. Under these compulsions of self-preservation, duty, and love, it is not strange that our Society has concluded that it has but one high mission – to carry the AA message to those who don't know there's a way out.

12 & 12 p.150-151

My Mind Is Out To Get Me

Submitted by John H. – Sunday Morning Breakfast

"Live like this is the last day of your life."

"When I have a dollar more than I need, I'm rich. Before I quit drinking, I was always a dollar short."

"There's nothing wrong with pursuing happiness, just don't get angry if it eludes you."

"Ten out of ten people die, so don't take life so seriously."

"When tragic things begin to seem funny, health has begun."

Doctor, Alcoholic, Addict Paul O., MD, Laguna Niguel, California.(p.439 3rd edition)

"The physician wasn't hooked, he thought - he just prescribed drugs medically indicated for his many ailments. Acceptance was his key to liberation. "Paul's story is one of the most frequently quoted in the 3rd edition because it talks so much about acceptance (pages 449-450).

His original date of sobriety was December 1966, but he slipped until July 1967. He didn't think he was an alcoholic, he just had problems. "If you had my problems you'd drink too." His major problem was his wife. "If you had my wife you'd drink, too." He and his wife, Max, had been married twenty-eight years when he entered A.A. He said she was a natural Al-Anon long before they heard of either A.A. or Al-Anon.

His story in the Big Book, and tapes of his talks, show that Paul had a great sense of humor, and was a very humble man. Paul had begun to drink when in pharmacy school to help him sleep. He went through pharmacy school, graduate school, medical school, internship, residency and specialty training and, finally went into practice. All the time his drinking kept increasing. Soon he began taking drugs to pep him up and tranquilizers to level off.

On occasion he tried to stop completely, but had convulsions from withdrawal. When he went to Mayo Clinic he was put in the locked ward. Another hospitalization was in the psychiatric ward of a hospital, on which he was on the staff. But there he was introduced to A.A. It took him awhile to get off the alcohol and pills, but when he wrote his story he said: "Today, I find I can't work my A.A. program while taking pills, nor may I even have them around for dire emergencies only. I can't say 'Thy will be done,' and take a pill. I can't say, 'I'm powerless over alcohol, but solid alcohol is okay.' I can't say 'God could restore me to sanity but until He does, I'll control myself - with pills.

He started Pills Anonymous and Chemical Dependency Anonymous, but did not attend them because he got all he needed from A.A. He did not introduce himself as an alcoholic and addict, and was irritated by people who want to broaden A.A. to include other addictions.

He wrote an article for the Grapevine on why doctors shouldn't prescribe pills for alcoholics, and because he had a dual problem was asked to write his story for the Big Book. It was originally published in the A.A. Grapevine with the title "Bronzed Moccasins" and an illustration of a pair of bronze moccasins. It was eventually renamed and included in the Big Book. His book, "There's More to Quitting Drinking than Quitting Drinking," was published in 1995 by Sabrina Publishing, Laguna Niguel, CA.

Paul complained in an interview with A.A.'s Grapevine that the story might have "overshot the mark." One of the most uncomfortable things for him was people run up to him at a meeting and tell him how glad they are the story is in the book. "They say they were fighting with their home group because their home group won't let them talk about drugs. So they show their group the story and they say, 'By God, now you'll have to let me talk about drugs.' And I really hate to see the story as a divisive thing. I don't think we came to A.A. to fight each other."

But he denied that there is anything in the story he would want to change. The story "makes clear the truth that an alcoholic can also be an addict, and indeed that an alcoholic has a constitutional right to have as many problems as he wants! But that doesn't mean that every A.A. meeting has to be open to a discussion of drugs if it doesn't want to. Every meeting has the right to say it doesn't want drugs discussed. People who want to discuss drugs have other places where they can go to talk about that."

How did he work his program? "Pretty much every morning, before I get out of bed, I say the Serenity Prayer, the Third Step Prayer, and the Seventh Step Prayer. Then Max and I repeat those prayers along with other prayers and meditations at breakfast. He had a special meeting format for early morning meetings. He called them Attitude Adjustment Meetings. They consisted largely of readings from the Big Book, prayers from the Big Book and 12 & 12, and a short session of positive pitches. The meetings were at 6:30 am or 7:00 am each day.

Paul died on May 19, 2000. Max, died on July 1, 2001.

Some of the information about Dr. Paul is taken from his book "There's More to Quitting Drinking than Quitting Drinking," and from his tapes. E-Mail from Michael Barnes

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

<p>IN MEMORIAM Things We Can Not Change</p> <p>Frank Tourjie 34 Years</p> <p>To all our members who have lost family or loved ones, our prayers are with you.</p> <p>Let's remember them and all the others who passed on in our prayers</p>
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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.)

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

ACCEPTANCE

Marge B. 2y
Paul M. 6y
Ivan O. 17y
Janet M. 22y
Barb C. 24y

Courage Group

Chris B. 6m
John C. 6y
Erica F. 16y

Eyeopener

Mark C. 9m
Sam C. 9m
Jason 1y
Karen M. 2y
Joan K. 2y
Gary B. 3y
Joe F. 3y
Carolynn W. 3y
Jack M. 4y
Jim C. 6y
Joanne C. 6y
Debbie S. 6y
Robert G. 7y
Barry R. 7y
Tom B. 8y
Cindy D. 8y
Sue S. 8y
Barb F. 9y
Mark H. 9y
Barbara W. 9y
Michelle S. 11y
Terry L. 14y
Doug P. 14y
Dennis L. 18y
Ivan O. 18y
Marion P. 19y
Dianne C. 20y
Jim L. 21y

Fireside

Carrie L. 3m
Bernard Mc. 9m
Jill J. 6y
John L. 6y
Mark P. 18y
Catherine P. 19y

Giving

Mike T. 7y

Kensington

Ronold W. 26y
John T. 32y

LoveJoy

Mike C. 6m
Kevin S. 1y

Main & High

Winston F. 11y

North Buffalo

Lonnie W. 6m
Michael P. 1y
Keith C. 1y
Mary Z. 1y
Mike H. 2y
Brian S. 2y
David C. 2y
Becky S. 2y
Amanda P. 3y
Peter L. 3y
Craig C. 11y
Liz S. 11y
Terry A. 20y
Dave P. 24y
Mel R. 26y

Rise & Shine

Linda O. 6m
Thomas D. 9m
Sandra M. 9m
Don S. 9m
Rene O. 9m
Blanca S. 9m
Gregory H. 9m
Denise 1y
Ana M. 2y
Katherine G. 2y
Cameron B. 2y
Jack M. 4y
Bill P. 5y
Faith T. 5y
Vicky W. 7y
Bob O. 8y
Willie D. 13y
Willie G. 14y

Remember When

When

Kennedy T. 1y
Richard P. 1y
Rosemary P. 1y
Gary E. Sr. 1y
Dawn C. 1y
Robert A. 1y
Pee Wee 2y
Brenda S. 2y
Michael V. 2y
Jahad H. 4y
Terri A. 6y
Antoinette 7y
Brunie M. 11y
Ralph W. 12y
Bernadette 13y
Lyla R. 14y
Sylvester T. 14y

Renewal

Roger L. 2y
David F. 10y

Thruway

Nancy H. 2y
Don F. 3y
Mike B. 9y
George L. 19y
MaryElen S. 23y

Sun. Morning Br.

Pamala H. 6m
Alex S. 2y
Andrea B. 2y
Don F. 4y
Mark D. 6y

Victory

Jim G. 9m
Tim M. 17y

Welcome

Jan S. 16y

Group Anniversaries

AFTER MIDNIGHT
BOULEVARD HELPING HAND
COMMON BOND
FAITH
FIRESIDE
HIGH VIEW
HOLIDAY VILLAGE
JUST FOR TODAY
LIBERTY WOMEN
LIVING SOBER
LOCKPORT #1 GROUP
MORNING AFTER
REMEMBER WHEN
SEARCHING FOR SERENITY
SOBRIETY MEN'S DISC.
SOUTH BUFFALO
SOUTHTOWN WOMEN'S
SPRINGVILLE WED. NOON
T.G.I.F.
UNIVERSITY MEN'S DISC.
WHY.
YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE

Please remember to
have the anniversaries
submitted by
the 15th
of the month
previous



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295 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203
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buffalooa@hotmail.com

MAY 2003

MEETING CHANGES:

AGE DOESN'T MATTER GROUP that meets at St. Timothy's, Emsinger & East Park Dr. in Tonawanda is changing there meeting time from 8:30 PM to 8:00 Pm beginning on May 2.

PATHWAYS TO PEACE; New Beginnings, 370 DeWitt St. (off Forest Ave), has a new format. Monday- Friday 10am-11am; Open Discussion. Sunday, 8pm- 9pm, Speaker Meeting.

NEW MEETING; HONEST SOLUTIONS; Starting 3/24/03. St. Mary's Church, School & Center St., Gowanda, Monday and Wednesday, 12 Noon.

NEW MEETING; starting May 4th, 2003, the Redeemer Group will meet for the first time. Falconer & Thompson Streets, North Tonawanda, The Redeemers Church, 2:00 PM (two blocks east of the NT Police Station) Open Discussion.

NEW MEETING; RIDE SOBER, Saturday's at 9:00 AM. Open Meeting. Victory Assembly Of God Church, 688 Tonawanda Street, North Buffalo.

Three Legacies Group will now meet on Monday's & Thursday's, 8:00 PM Monday is a Closed meeting, Thursday will be open. Good Shepherd Church, 96 Jewett Pkwy, North Buffalo.

Midnight Discussion Group will resume meeting @ 11:30 PM at All Saints Episcopal Church, 781 Maple Rd, Amherst.

Living in the Solution will be starting a new Closed Disc. At 8:00 PM on Saturdays. The Amity Club, 340 Military Rd (corner of Hertel). Starts May 10th. Every 2nd Saturday will be a video or Speaker. Please Support.

PLEASE NOTE

- **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.**
- **If your meeting does not meet because of a holiday, could you please notify Central Office so we do not send people there? Thank you.**
- **MID- DAY Group that meets Monday's at 12:30 PM NEEDS SUPPORT. Mid- Erie Clinic, 1520 Walden near Harlem.**
- **We have a New Book; Experience, Strength & Hope; Stories From The First Three Editions Of Alcoholics Anonymous. Available in May thru the Central Office.**

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:

~ May 4, Central Committee Meeting, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street, St. Michael's Parish. (Hosted by Lakeshore).

~ May 4, Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM, 651 Washington Street, St. Michael's Parish.

~ May 18, WNY General Service Assembly Meeting. 1:00 PM. Hamburg Town Hall, 5999 South Park Ave., Hamburg. (Hosted by Eyeopener)

May 11 CBC Meeting 6:30 pm Bacon memorial Presbyterian Church, 166-59th St., Niagara Falls.

- ~ May 15, New Frontiers Committee, 7:00 PM. St. Michaels Parish Center, Electric And Warsaw, Lackawanna, before the Victory meeting.
- ~ May 24, Public Information Committee will meet at Deerhurst Presbyterian Church at 9:00 am.
- ~ May, Archives Committee Meeting, No meeting in May. Archives are still available for group functions o Anniversaries, with 30 days notice.
- ~ May 29, 62nd Buffalo Fall Convention Meeting, Thursday. 7:00 PM @. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main Street, Buffalo

COMING EVENTS

- ~ May 10, Living In The Solution's 14th Annual 4th Step Workshop. Amity Club, 340 Military Rd. 10AM- 3PM, \$5.00 Registration @ the door. For more information call Bob K. @ 444-8373.
- ~ May 14, Wed., Living Sober 35th Group Anniversary, Open Speaker Meeting 8:30 PM, Kenmore Methodist Church, Corner of Landers & Delaware Rd., Kenmore. Please come help us celebrate.
- ~ May 17, Jamestown 58th Anniversary, Saturday, Kiantone Fire Hall. \$15 Registration Fee includes Speakers/ Panels, Banquet & Dance. Deadline for banquet reservations is May 1st. Jamestown, Make checks payable and mail to: Jamestown Anniversary, PO Box 533, Jamestown, NY 14701. The day starts at 9:30 am, goes til??
- ~ May 31, Sobriety Sunset Cruise, aboard Miss Buffalo II, Dance w/ Lawrence, the DJ. Music of the 60's & 70's, Snacks and Refreshments. Boarding 7:30 Pm- 11 PM. \$25(\$15 boat, \$10 snacks, ect. Not sold separately). Proceeds go to the corrections Committee. Tickets available at the Wehrle Group or call Molly B. 832-1228 or Mary K. 836-8332.
- ~ June 20-22, NORTHEAST 2003 REGIONAL FORUM, hosted by Western NY Area 50, Come Meet Your Chairperson Of General Service Board, AA World Service Board Members, Class A & B Trustees, GSO Staff Members, Grapevine Editors & Staff, N.E. Delegates (18 Areas). Holiday Inn Grand Island, 100 Whitehaven Rd, Grand Island. No cost. Registration requested.
- ~ July 11-13, NY State Convention, Crown Plaza Hotel, White Plains, NY. Registration Fee: \$12, & 38 with banquet.
- ~ July 18-20, "We Humbly Asked Him" AA Men's Spiritual Weekend. Speakers, Meetings, Fellowship, Great Food, Campfire. Registration Fee \$110, \$25 Deposit, flyers included or @ Central Office.
- ~ October 17-19, 33rd North East Regional Convention, Southern New Jersey, Radisson Hotel. Registration \$26. Forms in the office.

5th STEP: "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

5th TRADITION: " Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

5th CONCEPT; Throughout our structure, a traditional Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that the minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

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

Terry Bateman.... Executive Secretary

Buffalo Central Committee
May 4, 2003

The meeting was opened at 7:00PM by Co-Chair, John C., with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. John H. motioned to dispense with the reading of last month's minutes. Lee M. seconded the motion.

39 Groups Attended: **District #1:** Cornplanters Again, Downtown Men's Group, Main and High, Sunday Niters, Those Too, You'll Never Walk Alone, Sunrise Court. **District #2:** Chapter IX, Early Bird, North Buffalo, Three Legacies. **District #3:** Abbott Men's, Cazenovia, Courage, Gardenville, Mid-Day, New Life, Rainbow, Ridge, Southgate, The Book Meeting, Thruway, Try Again, Victory **District #4:** Action, Holland, Patchin, St, Mark's, Springville Tuesday Night. **District #5:** Grand I, Johnson Creek Big Book **District # 6:** Go To Any Lengths, Lakeshore. **District #7:** Buffalo, Ellicott, Hope Big Book Study, Let Go and Let God, Lovejoy, Remember When, Spirit of Hope. **District #8:** Amherst Snyder.

COMMITTEE REPORTS;

ENVELOPE SYSTEM: Karen S. gave this report. \$582.00 was donated this month. Ytd total \$2451.00. Groups are encouraged to talk up the envelope system.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Parker gave the report. The steering committee voted to send Terry to central office seminar in San Diego in September. Lee gave a courtesy report re: moving the central office. A good place may have been found. Full report next month. Committee voted to accept Charmaine D. as co-chair of 2004 fall convention. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** There was an increase this month in postage costs due to the rental of the postal machine. The March group contributions were up, but the April contributions were down. Groups are asked to keep contributing on a regular basis.

TREATMENT: Tom C. gave report. There have been some changes in coverage and some problems have been brought to our attention.

CORRECTIONS: Bob G. gave this report. All Correctional facility meetings are up and running.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Terry B. gave the report. AA info 241 calls; 12th step – 6 calls; Alanon: 19, Pic 6 Visitors, 37, Volunteers; 15. Thank you. We are

still waiting for the new book. The office is running smoothly. Terry will be on vacation from June 1-7. Volunteers will run the office.

PIC: Adolph I. gave this report. Many sites have been covered, and there is a speaking engagement for dorm students on April 9th.

NEW FRONTIER: No report. .

62nd BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION: Terry B. gave this report. The flyer is complete, and will be taken to various pertinent AA events.

ARCHIVES: Frank M gave this report. The committee is still searching for a replacement for Ben W. Several displays are planned in the near future. Thanks to the Lake Shore Group for their contribution.

PIC: Adolph I. Gave this report. Literature was distributed at the Pratt St. fair.

RECAP: Nothing

OLD BUSINESS; Charmaine D. to be co-chair for 2004 convention.

NEW BUSINESS: We are looking for an alternate for Treasurer, so Joanne can train someone to succeed her in January, '04. John H. made a motion, which was seconded by Lee to send Terry to Central Office seminar. Passed unanimously.

Thank you for the Seventh Tradition donations.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM. Motion to close by John H., second, Lee M.

Ⓢ	ATTENDED C.C.	CO	Cumulative	Treatment	Cumulative	Corrections	Cumulative	Ⓢ	ATTENDED C.C.	CO	Cumulative	Treatment	Cumulative	Corrections	Cumulative
	11:45							Ⓢ	Dunkirk Monday Night						
	12 Step							Ⓢ	Early Bird		50.00				
	4th Step Stumblers								Easier Softer Way						
	6th Step								East Amherst		30.00				
	A Day At A Time		60.00						East Aurora	100.00	200.00				
	A Little Bit of Everything							Ⓢ	Easy Does It		75.00				
	A New Freedom							Ⓢ	Ellicott		25.00		10.00		10.00
	A Strong Desire								Ellicott/5e						
Ⓢ	Abbott Men's		180.00		180.00		180.00		Emergency						
	Acceptance/Welcom		500.00						Eternal Vigilance						
	Achievement		500.00				100.00		Everybody's		50.00				
Ⓢ	Action		150.00		50.00		50.00		Express		413.00				
	After Midnight								Eyeopener	170.00	588.00				
	Age Doesn't Matter		150.00						F.U.N.		10.00				10.00
	Alexander								Faith						
Ⓢ	Amhers/Snyder	123.39	455.51						Father Baker	300.00	500.00				
	Amsdel Lakeshore	20.00	120.00						Feelings						
	Another Chance		26.00						Fireside						
	Any Age								Fireside PM						
	Any Length	30.00	90.00						First Things First		189.55				
	Anybody's								Fredonia Discussion						
	As Bill Sees It	25.00	380.00						Fredonia Friday Noon						
	Attitude Adjustment		50.00						Freedom		175.00				
	AW Group								Freedom Now						
	Attraction		280.00						Fresh Start						
	Beginner's Table								Friendly		100.00				
	Beginning In Sobriety II		40.00					Ⓢ	Frontier(New)		250.00				
	Beginning's Women		100.00		25.00		25.00		Gardenville	50.00	100.00				
	Bidwell Monday		75.00		75.00		75.00		Georgetown						
	Big Book Lockport	50.00	50.00				5.00		Getting Better	17.66	17.66				
	Big Book Study							Ⓢ	Giving						
	Big Book Workshop								Go to Any Length	100.00	300.00				
	Blasdel							Ⓢ	Golden Sipper		200.00				11.00
	Blasdel Monday Night	20.00	60.00						Grand		40.00				
	Bodhisattva		34.00						Grand II Joy of Living						
	Boulevard Helping Hand								Grateful		60.00				
	Boulevard Women		150.00						Guiding Light						
	Brass	25.00	50.00						H.O.W.						
	Broadway Bailey								Half and Half						
	Brocton AA								Hamburg						
	Brownbaggers								Hand						
Ⓢ	Buffalo Group		3.00						Handicappers		500.00				
	But For the Grace of God								Happy Hour						
	By The Book								Harmony	50.00	50.00				
	Came To Believe								Helping Hand	25.00	90.00				
	Casting	75.00	75.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00		High Noon	200.00	400.00				
	Cathedral Park		113.48		50.00		50.00		High View		180.00				
	Caz Manor		13.00						Higher Power						
Ⓢ	Cazenovia	25.00	65.00	25.00	45.00	25.00	45.00		Hillbilly						
	Central Park							Ⓢ	Holiday Village	100.00	775.00				
Ⓢ	Chapter IX		120.00		60.00		60.00		Holland						
	Cheektowaga								Honesty	30.00	130.00			10.00	40.00
	Chevy #1							Ⓢ	Horizon						
	Clarence Men's		50.00						Hope Big Book Study		25.00				
	Clarence Men's II								How It Works						
	Cold Spring	15.00	30.00						How It Works/Men's		155.03		12.92		12.92
	Common Bond								Humboldt Riley						
	Common Problem								Inner City						
	Community Center		30.00		5.00		5.00		Inspiration		100.00				
Ⓢ	Complanters								Intoxicated on Life		60.00				
Ⓢ	Courage		100.00		20.00		20.00		Ironhorse	32.50	137.00	13.00	54.00	13.00	54.00
	Arca								IT	10.00	10.00				
	Crossroads		188.00						Jamestown Groups						
	Cross Talk Big Book	25.00	75.00					Ⓢ	Johnson Creek Big Book		80.00				
	Daily Reflections		110.00						Journey						
	Daily Reprieve								Just Do It						
	DeVeaux Discussion								Just For Today/ Abion						
	Derby	150.00	150.00						Just For Today/Check						
	Desire								Keep It Simple Sister						
Ⓢ	Downtown Men's		2.00						Keep On Coming						
									Kenmore						

	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative		CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative
⊕ Kensington							⊕ Renewal						
Ladies Night							⊕ Ridge	100.00	200.00				15.7
⊕ Lake Shore	125.00	425.00			11.00	61.00	Ridge/Pink Car						
Lakeview	50.00	50.00					Rise and Shine		50.00				10.00
Last Days Fellowship		3.00					Rochester						
Lawyers		293.00					Roland						
LeWPort							Rural Is Plural						
⊕ Let Go and Let God		10.00		5.00		5.00	Saly						
Liberty Women		50.00					Saratoga						
Life Today		300.00					Searching For Serenity	50.00	150.00			50.00	50.00
Lighten UP	352.40	352.40					Second Chance						
Live and Let Live							Serenity	10.00	110.00				
Living in the Solution							Serenity Circle	5.00	35.00				
Living Sober		60.00					Serenity on the Lake						
Lock City	100.00	100.00					Serenity Traits						
Lockport #1						4.58	Setaside						
Lockport Discussion							Sheridan		40.00				
Lockport Ladies							Silvercreek Friendship						
Lockview		200.00				5.00	Sober and Proud						
Lock To This Day							Sober Saturday		100.00				
Love							Sober Trail						
⊕ Lovejoy		90.00		50.00		20.00	Sober Winners		80.00				
Lower River							Sobriety for Women						
Lunch Time							Sobriety Men's Disc.		60.00		20.00		20.00
⊕ Main and High	5.00	15.00					Sobriety On The Canal						
Main Street							Sobriety on a Sat. Night						
Marika	50.00	75.00					Sobriety on the Lake						
Matt Talbot		200.00					Somerset						
Mayville Uptown Group							South Buffalo						
Medina Grapevine							South Town						
McKinley Winners	100.00	100.00					⊕ Southgate	30.00	60.00				
Medina Blg Book							Southtown Women's						
Medina New Life		30.00					Southwestern	50.00	200.00				
Mercy							⊕ Spirit of Hope		150.00				
⊕ Mid-day		42.95					Spiritual Progress		30.00				
Miracle							Springville Sat. Afternoon		30.00				
Morning After		75.00					⊕ Springville Tues. Night						
Monday Morning Lockport							Springville Wed. Noon						
New Awakening							St. Barnabas						
New Frontier		380.00					⊕ St. Mark's		100.00				
New Beginnings/St. Vincent							Starting Over	34.00	84.05				
⊕ New Life		20.00					Staying Alive						
New Outlook							Step Work						
Niagara Intergroup							Stepping Stones/Gow.		75.00				
New Westside							Stepping Stones/WIL		100.00				
Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.		38.00					Suburban	10.00	50.00				
Nightshift							Sunday Afternoon Ascension						
⊕ North Buffalo	300.00		75.00			75.00	Sunday Morning Breakfast	150.00	450.00	25.00	125.00	25.00	125.00
North Java Monday							⊕ Sunday Nites		25.00				
North Java Morning After							Sunday Third Group		10.00				
North Java Sunday							⊕ Sunrise Court		300.00				
One Day At A Time		50.00					SUNY Arherst Campus						
Open Arms							Surrender and Hope		200.00		75.00		75.00
Open Mind							Survivors						
Orchard Park Step		200.00					T.P.H.						
P.B.P. Big Book Study							TGIF						
Pass It On							ThankU	25.00	45.00				
⊕ Patchin							⊕ The Book Meeting		40.00				
Pathway to Peace							The Moonshiners						
Pendleton Chapter Five							There's A Solution						
Perry Discussion		10.00		15.00		25.00	⊕ Three Legacies		50.00		50.00		50.00
Pink Car							⊕ Those Too	5.00	25.00				
Pioneer							⊕ Thruway	200.00	1000.00	20.00	100.00		80.00
Positively Living/Rena.		1000.00					Thrusday PM Discussion		200.00				
Powerless							Today						
Primary Purpose		50.00					Today's Woman		30.00				
Principles Bef. Personallies							Tri County		160.00				
Progress							Tri-Step Beginners						
Purpose/Tonawanda		250.00					⊕ Try Again						
⊕ Rainbow	25.00	50.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	Tuesday Men's AM	50.00	50.00				
Ray of Hope		115.00					Tuesday Women	40.00	80.00	20.00	30.00	20.00	40.00
Recovery Near the Gardens		60.00					Turning Point						
⊕ Remember When	25.00	50.00											

Ⓢ	Group	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cumulative
	Twin Cities						
	Unity		47.85				
	University Men's Disc.		231.00				90.00
	Valley						
	Varieties of Spiritual Exper.	10.00	20.00				
	Varysburg						
Ⓢ	Victory	50.00	250.00	25.00	100.00	25.00	100.00
	Wake Up Call						
	We Are Not Saints						
	We Care	30.00	150.00	20.00	100.00	10.00	50.00
	We Choose Life						
	Wehrie	20.00	50.00				
	Welcome						
	Westfield						
	Westminster						
	Why						
	Williamsville		200.00				
	Willing To Grow						
	Wilson Group		50.00				50.00
	Wilson Smith Alumni						
	Women on the Rise						
	Women's West Side						
	Working		190.00				
Ⓢ	You'll Never Walk Alone						
	Youngstown						
	In The Solution		20.00				
	Maryanne B.		12.30				
	Barbara B.		100.00				
	Jimerson	25.00	25.00				
	Anon.		126.04				
	TOTAL	3494.95	21575.82	183.00	1,366.92	224.00	1739.22

Ⓢ ATTENDED CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Income Statement	15-Dec-02	15-Jan-03	15-Feb-03	15-Mar-03	15-Apr-03	15-May-03
Beg Bal Cash on hand	13,568.18	14,451.77	11,137.91	9,802.79	12,592.75	13,812.44
Contributions						
Groups	4,628.45	4,593.66	3,198.39	6,058.27	4,496.55	3,494.95
Joint Meeting	33.00	65.00	50.70	50.00	64.00	52.90
Envelope System	643.00	931.00	518.00	490.00	582.00	255.00
New Frontiers Subs	40.00	24.00	20.00	33.00	54.00	43.00
Literature	3,962.88	1,878.80	2,258.57	3,408.90	2,537.76	2,557.90
Misc.		30.00		1,113.64	25.00	6.00
Monthly Income	9,307.33	7,522.46	6,045.66	11,153.81	7,759.31	6,409.75
Expenses						
Office Rent	636.00	636.00	636.00	636.00	636.00	636.00
Meeting Room Rent	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00
Payroll						
Salaries (Net)	1,662.92	2,078.65	1,662.92	1,662.92	1,662.92	2,078.65
Federal Withholdings	1,359.00	1,040.00	834.18	832.00	832.00	725.00
NYS Withholdings		326.60			354.60	
Insurance						
State Ins Fund					195.61	
Health	304.00	304.00	304.00	304.00	304.00	304.00
Liability		993.86				
Postage		600.00	600.00		1,135.77	600.00
Phone	94.53	86.96	89.46	93.60	94.63	97.25
Accounting						
Advt						
PIC Lit.						
Talking Phone Book						
Verizon	72.75	72.75	72.75	72.75	72.75	72.75
website						
white directory		359.55				
Yellow Pages			398.00		149.00	
Literature Expenses						
Grapevine				102.90		
World Services Inc	1,950.76	927.36	1,372.60	3,566.40		1,400.14
Hazeldon		601.11		313.63	348.48	348.48
Printers		1,986.25				
Office Supplies	959.86		368.79			317.20
Answering service	866.72	577.98	796.83	523.65	504.61	641.51
Minolta leasing (copier)	187.00	187.00	187.00	187.00	187.00	187.00
Minolta Copies	240.15					166.88
Crystal Rock (water)	50.30	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50
Bank Charges	4.75	8.75	8.75	19.50	12.75	8.25
Monthly Expenses	8,423.74	10,836.32	7,380.78	8,363.85	6,539.62	7,632.61
Monthly Income (Loss)	883.59	(3,313.86)	(1,335.12)	2,789.96	1,219.69	(1,222.86)
End Bal Cash on hand	14,451.77	11,137.91	9,802.79	12,592.75	13,812.44	12,589.58
Literature Assets:						
Literature Assets:	5,414.62	6,088.04	5,877.80	4,368.25	6,857.60	6,206.96
Literature Receivable:(outstanding)	228.85	870.09	1,214.64	1,125.45	937.85	900.80
Corrections Facilities						
Corrections Facilities	1,207.80	1,046.56	1,428.64	1,716.06	1,769.06	1,804.58
Donations	175.76	455.58	299.42	410.00	350.22	224.00
Expenses	325.00	61.50		345.00	302.70	184.50
Bank Charges	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Balance	1,046.56	1,428.64	1,716.06	1,769.06	1,804.58	1,832.08
Treatment Facilities						
Treatment Facilities	1,114.19	821.71	483.15	657.82	865.82	571.60
Donation	359.77	295.00	309.42	255.00	324.50	183.00
Expenses						
AT & T Bridging The Gap	35.50	37.56	44.96	37.45	37.07	42.16
AAA Abott Answering Service	39.75	44.00	34.75	35.00	36.75	31.25
Literature	565.00	540.00	88.00		532.90	
Bank Charges	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Balance	821.71	483.15	657.82	865.82	571.60	669.19

Central Committee of the Niagara Frontier

presents

The 62nd Buffalo Fall Convention



Friday, Saturday, & Sunday

October 17, 18, 19, 2003

AA - Al-Anon - Panels - Fellowship - Dances - Alateen

Speakers:

Don M-Louisville, Ky

Sandy B-Tampa,Fl

Albert W. Niagara Falls Ont,

Francine W-Mill Valley,Ca

Cliff H- Stoney Creek,,Ont

Registration and Banquet	AA & Al-Anon \$ 45.00	Alateen \$ 33.00
Registration only	\$ 20.00	\$ 8.00
Admission to the Dances Included in the Registration		

Buffalo Marriott Hotel, 1340 Millersport Highway, Amherst, NY 14226

Convention Rate is available: \$89.00 per night.

Cutoff date for this rate is September 20, 2003

Call the Marriott Hotel for reservations: 1-800-334-4040 or 716-689-6900

For More Detailed Information

Write:

62nd Buffalo Fall Convention
P O Box 539 Station C
Buffalo, NY 14209

Call:

Registration Chair Charles Lloyd
716-881-1567

Email

johnjczermerys@adelphia.net

Call:

Convention Chair, Terry
Bateman
716-853-0388

The Registration Form is on the other side of this sheet.

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, October 17, 18 & 19 2003

Please make all checks payable, in US funds only, to: 62nd Buffalo Convention
and mail to: 62nd Buffalo Fall Convention, P O Box 539, Station C, Buffalo NY 14209

I would like to help sponsor a newcomer's attendance - amount: \$ _____

Deadline for mail registration is October 7, 2003

Please list all names and meal choices below

Name	Beef	Chick	Veg	Name	Beef	Chick	Veg
1				6			
2				7			
3				8			
4				9			
5				10			

I would like to volunteer for _____ committee

Contact Address _____ Telephone Number (____) _____

Pre-order mugs/sweatshirts. Please add payment to registration

Mugs _____ @ \$5.00 = \$ _____

Sweatshirts (S, M, L, XL) @ \$15.00 = \$ _____

(XXL) @ \$16.00 = _____ (XXXL) @ \$17.00 _____

