

# NEW FRONTIERS

April 2004

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.

## On Anonymity - Do We Take It Too Far?

From the book, 'Dr Bob And The Good Old-Timers'

"As far as anonymity was concerned we knew who we were. It wasn't only AA but our social life. All of our lives seemed to be spent together. We took people home with us to dry out. The Cleveland group had the names, addresses and phone numbers of all the members," said Warren. "In fact, I remember Dr. Bob saying, "If I got up and gave my name as Dr. Bob S., people who needed help would have a hard time getting in touch with me."

Warren recalled, "He (Dr. Bob) said there were two ways to break the anonymity Tradition: (1) by giving your name at the public level of press or radio, and (2) by being so anonymous that you can't be reached by other drunks."

In an article in the February 1969 Grapevine, D. S. of San Mateo, California, wrote that Dr. Bob commented on the Eleventh Tradition as follows:

"Since our Tradition on anonymity designates the exact level where the line should be held, it must be obvious to everyone who can read and understand the English language that to maintain anonymity at any other level is definitely a violation of this Tradition."

"The AA who hides his identity from his fellow AA by using only a given name violates the Tradition as much as the AA who permits his name to appear in the press in connection with matters pertaining to AA."

"The former is maintaining his anonymity above the level of press, radio and films, and the latter is maintaining his anonymity below the level of press, radio and films - whereas the tradition states that we should maintain our anonymity at the level of press radio and films."

Ernie G. of Toledo, commenting on what he saw to be an increase of anonymity within AA today as compared with the old days, said, "I made a lead over to Jackson (Michigan) one night, and everybody's coming up to me saying, 'I'm Joe; I'm Pete.' Then one of the guys said, 'Safe journey home. If you get into any trouble, give me a buzz.' Later, I said to the fellow who was with me, 'You know, suppose we did get into trouble on the way home. How would we tell anyone in AA? We don't know anyone's last name.' They get so doggone carried away with this anonymity that it gets to be a joke. I had a book (evidently one of the small address books compiled by early members or their wives) with the first hundred names - first and last - telephone number and where they lived."

Submitted by Jim F. ~ Holland Group

Editors note: We at the New Frontiers consider it to be the "Level of Press" therefore we do not print last names or phone numbers

## Prudent Reserve?

"The AA Group" pamphlet puts it briefly and simply. After listing basic expenses common to all groups – rent, AA literature, meeting lists, coffee and refreshments, and support of all AA service entities – it goes on to say: "AA experience clearly shows that it is not a good idea for a group to accumulate large funds in excess of what is needed, plus a prudent reserve, an amount to be determined by group conscience."

Most groups find that a reserve equal to one or two months' expenses is all they need. For a group in a large city, with high rent and other costs, the actual dollar amount may be considerably greater than the reserve needed by a group in a small town or a rural community.

Still the basic rule of thumb remains valid: Keep only what the group conscience decides is necessary, and disburse the rest to AA entities. For the most part, groups send extra funds to their local intergroup/central office, district, area, and the General Service Office, in whatever ratio the group conscience has decided upon.

Does your Home Group have too much money? If you're not sure attend the next business meeting for your group and ask.

Currently our Buffalo Central Office is losing around \$700.00 a month. Expenses have been cut wherever possible but group donations are at a new low. There are over 300 groups in the area a couple extra bucks from each group and we could cover this deficit. Step Twelve says we need to "**Carry The Message**" won't you do your part?

## YOUR CROSS

Whatever your cross  
Whatever your pain  
There will always be sunshine  
After the rain.

Perhaps you may stumble  
Perhaps even fall  
But God's always there  
To help you through it all.

"The single thing that decides whether or not you will find your sobriety, the A.A.'s say, is your WILLINGNESS. Willingness to admit that you are powerless over alcohol and that your life has become unmanageable. Then willingness to turn your will and your life over to God, as you understand Him. This is not glib willingness, by any means. It is not achieved until you know you have passed your last outpost of helplessness. It is at the point where 'Man's extremity is God's opportunity.'

"It is such a deep cry for help that sometimes you yourself do not recognize it as prayer. Until after it has been answered, that is."

from: "Good Housekeeping" article, 1954

## Open letter to the Niagara Frontier Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous

There was a vote at the March 7, 2004 Central Committee meeting that, to put it mildly, disturbs me. The vote concerned the "Man on the Bed" type 12 Step work that has been carried by a few AA members for the better part of a year.

The vote, if left unchanged, would mean that we here on the Niagara Frontier stand in defiance of the Responsibility pledge, the instructions in our Big Book and numerous direct and indirect references to the very essence of that which gives our lives as sober alcoholics meaning. I long ago made a personal commitment to trust the decisions made in Alcoholics Anonymous and to abide by those decisions - even when I did not agree with them. As such, I personally will not perform Man on the Bed type 12 Step work at ECMC... I will not be an AA rogue. But the recent vote begs many questions. Only one of which is, if the Central Committee does not support the work - shouldn't the TF Committee stop their involvement? How can that be? The Central Committee has already directed the work to the TFC. (And they have responded that it is too big - that they need the involvement of AA as a whole. Thus the need for the motion in the first place.)

The vote was in my opinion a no brainer. It was to support classic 12 Step work currently going on at ECMC by a few AA's. I can confidently say that those who spoke in opposition were not speaking from a basis of fact. I can say this because everyone who spoke against the motion had no direct knowledge of the situation. That is - they had never attended one of the Doctor's "orientation" meetings, had never sat in on the discussions at the Treatment Facilities Committee (which as a committee was in full support of the work and the motion), or had involved themselves directly in the 12 Step calls. I can therefore only infer that the opposition to the motion was based in fear. (One skeptical TFC member did attend one of the Doctor's meetings - to prove for himself the inappropriateness of the work. However, he came out of the meeting in full support of the work and now has many 12 Step calls under his belt.)

I understand that this kind of 12 Step work is not for everyone, but it is the kind of work that I (and the Doctor!) believe only members of Alcoholics Anonymous *as* members of Alcoholics Anonymous can perform. There are sick and suffering alcoholics who want an answer and there is a Doctor sympathetic to our message who has said to Central Committee leaders - that whatever we as AA members need to maintain our integrity will be done. (And has seen to it that it has been done.) The only thing missing is a Fellowship willing to accept this great, marvelous, wonderful, incredible, tremendous, remarkable, magnificent, life-giving Responsibility.

Truly in the Spirit of AA, Gary B.

Many of us exclaim, "I should have done this sooner," and discover as days stretch into weeks, months, years, that when we found this program and worked the twelve steps, we had been on time ~ God's time.

Because nothing, absolutely nothing, happens in God's world by chance.

Audrey S. ~ Nashville

## Step Four: "Made a searching & fearless inventory of ourselves."

What was I waiting for? I guess I just wasn't ready to find that I played a part in the mess my life had become. Isn't it bliss knowing whom to blame? Or maybe I was confused by all the different ways to write a fourth step. I must have read everything available on a fourth step from A.A. to Hazelden. I heard at tables about inventories that had 3, 4, 5 and 6 columns. What if I did this step wrong?

Well I can tell anyone today that there is really no wrong way to write an inventory as long as in one of those columns we resolutely look for our own mistakes. Before I took this vital step I always tried to change others around me and now I realize that the only chance I've got to keep myself out of these jackpots is, with God's help, to change myself. So my first piece of homework was to make a list of all the people I was angry at. If I wasn't sure if it was a resentment yet then I wrote it down anyway. The big book states "Nothing counted but thoroughness and honesty."

I put my pen to the paper and ZIP! I was done with the first two columns in under 10 minutes. That was the easiest piece of homework I've ever done: Who was I angry at and why? I realized that I'd been carrying those two lists around for a long time and I always pulled it out when someone would ask, why do you live the way you do? "Well you would too if... your father, your mother, your uncle, your teacher, blah, blah, blah." Next piece of homework was to find out what it affected. This was not very easy for me so I just used the examples provided in the big book on page 65. Self-esteem, security/finances, ambitions, personal, or sex relations.

Now what I had to do was find my part, and BAM!! I hit a brick wall. "Didn't you just hear what I read from my first two columns?" I said to my sponsor. He very quickly helped me to see in some instances fault of my own I had never even come close to realizing in all those years prior. Now with this information the doors of forgiveness opened up ever so slightly and the ego that drove me began to be smashed. I continued this same format with things I feared. I asked myself, "Why am I afraid of these things?" Usually because reliance upon myself in these matters had failed me before. What an awesome step Step Four is. I live today, for the most part, in the truth about myself. I wish I never spent so much time looking for the right way to take this step. I should have looked at the only picture in the big book, on page 65, a picture of someone's inventory.

Anonymous in Buffalo

Step Four is our vigorous and painstaking effort to discover what these liabilities in each of us have been, and are. We want to find exactly how, when, and where our natural desires have warped us. We wish to look squarely at the unhappiness this has caused others and ourselves. By discovering what our emotional deformities are, we can move toward their correction. Without a willing and persistent effort to do this, there can be little sobriety or contentment for us. Without a searching and fearless inventory, most of us have found that the faith, which really works in daily living, is still out of reach.

12 & 12 pg. 42-43

To avoid falling into confusion over the names these defects should be called, let's take a universally recognized list of major human failings – **The Seven Deadly Sins of pride, greed, lust, anger, gluttony, envy, and sloth.** It is not by accident that pride heads the procession. For pride, leading to self-justification, and always spurred by conscious or unconscious fears, is the basic breeder of most human difficulties, the chief block to true progress.

12 & 12 pg. 48

## My Inventory

I did not come to Alcoholics Anonymous because I was excited about doing a personal inventory. I was attracted to AA because of the alcoholics who had a glimmer in their eye, who seemed to have a happy, joyous and free life. I saw them going to meetings and talking about working the steps, studying the Big Book, working with a sponsor, and not drinking. I didn't get the connection at first between the way they were living and the results they were getting (recovery). It took quite awhile to realize if I wanted what they had, I should do what they did.

The Big Book says, "For deep down in every man, woman and child, is the fundamental idea of God. It may be obscured by calamity, by pomp, by worship of other things, but in some form or other it is there." My sponsor explained I needed the process of the Steps to clear away the stuff blocking my ability to have a relationship with my Higher Power. She also helped me understand a relationship with a Higher Power is needed in order to have a spiritual awakening which is needed to recover from alcoholism. The Steps are the actions needed to achieve this relationship, spiritual awakening and recovery.

I had come to believe in a Higher Power in Step Two and knew my HP would provide me with the strength needed to do whatever it takes to recover. Then in Step Three I made a decision to commit myself to AA and to do the rest of the 12 Steps, starting with the inventory process.

So I realized the importance of the inventory and set pen to paper. With a great sponsor, who provided me with encouragement and guidance, and the directions in the Big Book, I wrote my first inventory on resentment, fear, sex conduct and other harms done.

At first I didn't like the feeling of dredging up all this "stuff" and was getting bogged down. Many shared their experience with the process of doing all the Steps and how they tapped the needed Power to recover. There was Light at the end of the tunnel and they said, "To stop now means darkness."

Today I continue the inventory process and am learning about the littler chunks of truth about myself. Through this way of living, I've developed a better relationship with my HP. Sunlight At last!

Sissy E. ~ WI

## **Tradition Four: "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."**

**Long form:** With respect to its own affairs, each AA group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect AA as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

## Alone with Johnny B.

Dear Bill W.,

I really don't know where to begin  
So I guess I'll just jump right in  
A while ago I met this fellow  
Johnny B. (I will call him) in his company I always felt mellow  
Good conversation and fun are always around  
When Johnny B. and I go out on the town  
My wife is telling me, with Johnny B. I spend too much time  
He's helping my business; I tell her it's going to be fine  
She complained and complained she felt so alone  
So Johnny B. I started to bring home  
My wife she doesn't like him not one little bit  
The kids say by Johnny B. sometimes they get hit  
Dear Bill W. I don't mean to moan  
But with Johnny B. I'm feeling all alone

Dear Alone with Johnny B.

I don't know you that well but your story I do  
Here are some suggestions that just might work for you  
To you I will call them 7+5  
I've added them to my life and they keep me alive  
I've enclosed 1-4  
Next month I'll send you more

## No longer alone with Johnny B.

Dear Bill W.

Some time ago I wrote you a letter  
I wanted you to know I feel so much better  
I took your suggestions those 7+5  
The wife and kids say I seem so much more alive  
There are some new friends I want to tell you about  
They are welcome to dinner any time there's no doubt  
Maxwell, Folgers and the one the kids call Chuck Full o Nuts  
They seem to like him the best no ifs ands or buts  
You should know Johnny B. has call once or twice  
My wife helped me hang up on him she keeps telling me he isn't very nice  
I've gone to lots of meetings  
With Maxwell just like you suggested  
Now I don't remember the last time I was arrested  
So thank-you Bill W. you are my friend  
And with that my letter I will end

Cary S. ~ Lighten Up

## The ABSOLUTES:

"Almost always, if I measure my decision carefully by the yardsticks of absolute honesty, absolute unselfishness, absolute purity, and absolute love, and if it checks up pretty well with those four, then my answer can't be very far out of the way."

(Dr. Bob and the Good Old timers: pg. 54)

By God's grace and Alcoholics Anonymous, I'm still sober today. Always remember, no matter what your past, you have a spotless future. AI K.

### *Heard at a meeting:*

Having a resentment is like taking poison and waiting for the other person to die.

Resentment is not getting my way yesterday. Anger is not getting my way today. Fear is not getting my way tomorrow.

Life may not be the exact party we hoped for, but we might as well dance anyway.

AA is full of friends you haven't met yet.

Happiness is a mode of transportation not the destination – it's how you get through life.

Don't be afraid of missing opportunities. Behind every failure is an opportunity somebody wishes they had missed.

### **RULE 62**

Having a resentment is like peeing your pants...everyone can see it... but you are the only one who can feel it. - Dave J.

Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death.

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, and faith looks up.

A skeptic is a person who when he sees the handwriting on the wall, claims it's a forgery.

It isn't difficult to make a mountain out of a molehill, just add a little dirt.

## **Share your Experience, Strength and Hope.**

Please submit your articles to the address below for the Central Office or E-Mail address: [buffalooa@hotmail.com](mailto:buffalooa@hotmail.com) by the 12<sup>th</sup> for next months issue.

### **Central Office:**

845 Ellicott Square Building  
295 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2412

### 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

***New Frontiers* committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.)

# APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

## Amherst/Snyder

Dave S. 3m  
 Anthony S. 6m  
 Katie G. 6m  
 Jayme M. 9m  
 Leon W. 9m  
 Sheila H. 9m  
 Jenny 1y  
 Richard F. 2y  
 Susan C. 2y  
 Chandra C. 2y  
 Chuck T. 2y  
 Dave G. 3y  
 Tony P. 3y  
 Rob W. 3y  
 Liz C. 3y  
 Ken C. 3y  
 Jacki M. 3y  
 Tom C. 3y  
 Mary B. 4y  
 Donald S. 4y  
 Therese P. 4y  
 Bill R. 7y  
 Doug 7y  
 Mona A. 8y  
 Tony B. 9y  
 Jeff R. 11y  
 Eva H. 13y  
 Amy H. 13y  
 Chris T. 15y  
 Jerry B. 15y  
 Sheila G. 16y  
 Fred S. 17y  
 Dee C. 20y  
 Marty M. 23y  
 Rita F. 30  
 Al C. 37y  
 Albert C. 56y

## Castings

Fred H. 2y  
 Gary C. 2y  
 Carmen J. 13y  
 Thomas A. 14y  
 Archie O. 16y  
 Albert M. 17y  
 Dolores R. 22y  
 Cecil M. 26y  
 Bob T. 27y  
 Kemmy C. 31y  
 Eddie J. 34y

## Coldsprings

Dorothy F. 7y

## Courage Group

Kathleen M. 4y  
 Marie D. 10y

## Fireside

Amy K. 2y  
 Mike M. 16y  
 John H. 18y  
 Bob K. 30y

## Giving

Eli 6m  
 Roger B. 9m  
 Amy H. 2y

## Holland

Ray B. 6m  
 Tim M. 18y

## Ironhorse

Brandea B. 9m  
 Ken P. 1y  
 Todd S. 10y  
 Scott S. 20y

## Lakeshore

Tom P. 7y  
 Greg H. 15y  
 Terry B. 17y  
 John B. 17y  
 Stanley M. 37y

## Main & High

Wally G. 7y  
 Larry H. 15y

## North Buffalo

Dennis J. 3m  
 Dick H. 3m  
 Tim B. 6m  
 Tom L. 6m  
 Jim C. 6m  
 Tammy C. 6m  
 Daniel J. 6m  
 Mary D.B. 1y  
 Brian D. 1y  
 Charles C. 1y  
 Donna D. 2y  
 Michael V. 2y  
 Dan W. 5y  
 John M. 8y  
 Dan L. 12y  
 Tom R. 16y  
 Bruce B. 17y  
 Peter B. 21y  
 Bill B. 24y  
 Jim M. 31y

## Remember When

Timothy B. 6m

## Rise & Shine

Kenneth T. 3m  
 Theresa B. 3m  
 Rene O. 6m  
 Kevin M. 6m  
 Laurie J. 9m  
 Matt G. 9m  
 Mike M. 9m  
 Justin B. 1y

Jane B. 2y  
 Richard P. 2y  
 Tim F. 5y  
 Cleveland 6y  
 Charles F. 7y  
 Dorthothy F. 7y  
 These B. 8y  
 Teresa W. 8y  
 Jean D. 8y  
 Carol S. 9y  
 Patricia K. 10y  
 Bruce G. 17y  
 Bill B. 24y

## SOUTHTOWN

STACEY 9M  
 NIKKI 1Y  
 DAVE B. 1Y  
 EDWARD H. 25Y

## Sunday Breakfast

Linda B. 6m  
 Janet T. 6m  
 Sandy Z. 9m  
 Anthony Z. 2y  
 Mark Mc 6y  
 Dan W. 16y

## Thruway

Tom Z. 6m  
 Brebda B. 1y  
 Todd R. 3y  
 Ed W. 14y  
 Karen B. 15y  
 Bryant G. 19y  
 Paul C. 19y

## Victory

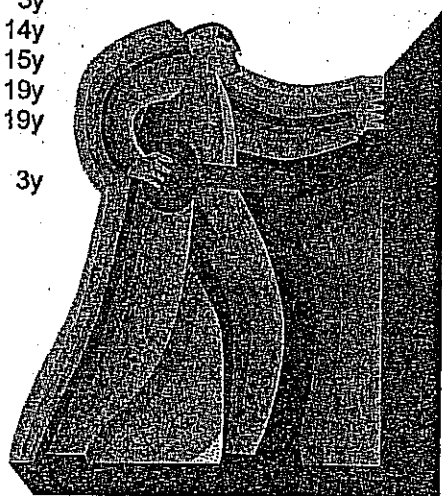
Donna O'N 3y



## GROUPS CELEBRATING

Attraction  
 Casting  
 Cheektowaga  
 Crossroads  
 East Amherst  
 H.O.W.  
 Holland  
 Inner City  
 Lewport  
 Purpose  
 Ray of Hope  
 Serenity on the Lake  
 There's a Solution  
 Welcome

Please remember to  
 have the anniversaries  
 submitted by  
 the 12th  
 of the month  
 previous



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APRIL 2004

**MEETING CHANGES;**

Primary Purpose, Monday thru Saturday @ 12:30 PM, 1280 Main Street, Buffalo, **NO LONGER MEETS.**

**MIRACLES HAPPEN**-Wednesday's at 10:00 AM, A.C.N. Building, 66 Mead Street, N. Tonawanda.

**NEW MEETING** in Albion. Monday's & Thursday's at 8 PM. First Presbyterian Church, 29 East Bank St. Open Meeting, Handicap Accessible.

**The Redeemer Group** will be celebrating its **1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary** at the Redeemers Church, Falconer & Thompson Streets, North Tonawanda on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> @2 PM. Please come down and share with us. After the Anniversary the group will **recess for the summer** and start again the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of September.

**PLEASE NOTE**

- **DEAD LINE DATES** HAVE CHANGED TO THE **12<sup>TH</sup>** OF EACH MONTH FOR ALL PUBLICATIONS, this is to insure the group mailing's are received in a timely manner. Thank-you.
- **NEW LIFE GROUP** that meets @ 8pm on Monday nights @ St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 13021 Main St., Alden is **updating their member roster**. Please let us know if you wish to remain a member.
- **Twenty-Four Hours a Day & The Little Red Book** - The cost of these publications are now \$10.
- **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.
- **The Book Meeting** that meets on Thursday night at 8pm, Four Rod and Liberia, needs support. We are doing the Big Book according to the Joe and Charlie tapes.

**Service Opportunities:**

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

- ~ April 4, **Corrections Committee Meeting**, 6:00 PM, 651 Washington Street, St. Michael's Parish.
- ~ April 4, **General Service Assembly**, 1 PM., Hamburg Town Hall, 5999 South Park Ave., Hamburg. (Hosted by Courage Group)
- ~ April 20, **Treatment Facilities Committee**, 9 PM, after the Ironhorse Group, St. Paul's United Church, 49 Indian Church Rd., South Buffalo.
- ~ April 22, **New Frontiers Committee**, 7:00 PM. St. Michaels Parish Center, Electric And Warsaw, Lackawanna, before the Victory meeting.
- ~ April 29, **63rd Buffalo Fall Convention Meeting**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting, Thursday, 7:00 PM @. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main Street, Buffalo.
- ~ April 24, **Archives Committee Meeting**, 9 am, Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Dr., Cheektowaga.

## **COMING EVENTS**

- ~ April 4, **Serenity Groups 41st Anniversary Breakfast**, Holiday Inn, 1881 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst. 9:30 am. Breakfast followed about 11:00 AM by speaker. \$10.00 pre – sale tickets.
- ~ April 4, **Casting's Group** will be celebrating it's **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**, plus 11 individual anniversaries. Jessie Nash Health Center, 608 William St., Buffalo @1 PM.
- ~ April 23, 24 & 25, **31<sup>st</sup> Annual Women's Spiritual Weekend**, St. Columbian Center in Derby. Space is limited and registration forms will be available to AA women at local meetings and the Central Office.
- ~ July 23-25, **AA New York STATE CONVENTION**, Buffalo- Amherst Holiday Inn, hosted by Area 50, WNY. "Our Singleness of Purpose". Registration: \$15, Banquet: \$25. Flyer available at Central Office.
- ~ August 6-8, **25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NY STATE INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP**, Daemen College, 4380 Main Street, Buffalo. Rooms available, Registration \$15. Flyer available at Central Office.

**4th STEP:** "Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

**4th TRADITION:** "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."

**4<sup>th</sup> CONCEPT:** At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM**

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

*Terry Bateman.... Executive Secretary*

Buffalo Central Committee

April 4, 2004

John, Committee Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM, with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. He continued on with the reading the Preamble. Brendan, Abbott Men's Discussion Group read The Purpose of the Central Committee. Donna, Courage Group, read the Traditions. Motion to dispense with reading of last months minutes, motion by John H. Steering Committee Rep. second, Charmaine, Amherst Snyder Group. One new Central Committee Representative- Bob, Eye Opener Group.

Charmaine discussed the 3rd Tradition.

36 Groups Attended: **District # 1** Cornplanters Again, Downtown Men's, Main and High, New West Side, Sunday Niter's, Sunrise Court, Those Too. **District #2** Early Bird, North Buffalo, Three Legacies, Ride Sober. **District #3** Representative, Abbott Men's Disc., Blasdell Mon. Night, Cazenovia, Courage, Father Baker, New Life, Rainbow, Ridge, South Town, Southgate, Sunday Morning Breakfast, The Book Meeting, Victory. **District #4** Action, Holland, Patchin, Springville Tues. Night, Springville Wed. Noon, Springville Sat. Afternoon. **District #5** Lockport #1 **District #6** Amsdell Lakeshore, Go to Any Lengths, Lakeshore **District #7** Buffalo, Coldspring, Let Go and Let God, Lovejoy, Spirit of Hope, **District #8** Eye Opener.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

ENVELOPE SYSTEM: Brendan, Abbott Men's Disc. Verbal report.

STEERING COMMITTEE : Pete, Dist. #5 Exec. Sec. Reports computer up and going. New Schedules sent to the printers next week. Discussed taxes-all in account. Adhoc committee for the Bflo Fall Conv. (prior chairs) Discussed recommendation of 30 days ext. for move to Tri Main Bldg. Frank M. other possibility the Larkin Building. Lee will investigate other options. He has a report to give. N.B.-Advertisement showing Big Book. John H wrote letter to Renaissance House. Ad is off the air. Frank M concerned with recording of min. and length of time spent on Traditions. Must be kept to 5 min. as originally voted on by Steering Committee when adopted.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Patti

TREATMENT: Tom, Main & High-Tues, 3/23/04 All meetings are currently covered. Lockport Mem. Hospital (No longer reg.) Lighthouse-Lakeshore (suspended temporarily) TFC-Information are being filled for the State & Fall Conventions. BTG call 2 for March. There were a few however most of those wanted either just to talk or information. Treatment Facility Committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Anyone wishing to be involved please call, Winston Fritz, 833-9747.

CORRECTIONS: Andrew, 3 Legacies. Flyer: 3 hours (a month) isn't a lot to ask...for AA saving our lives. Please call...Andrew K 652-6294, Jim K. 821-0713, Gary S. 597-7120, Bob G. 743-0645

SCREENERS: No report.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Terry AA INFO: 229, 12-STEP: 6, ALANON: 14,

VISITORS: 35, VOLUNTEERS: 2. The office **operating expenses** are still below a monthly average. The good news is that word is getting out and contributions are on the increase. There has been a positive response to the Envelope System article, we hope the word continues to be spread about the Envelope System participation as it was for the members that came before us. There is a correction to the financial report that was mailed, you can see that the wrong number was carried over as the beginning balance for

corrections, that number should be \$1,532.95, creating a final balance of \$1,248.30. This will be corrected for the next mailing. The office was also beset with a major setback; the computer is completely down. After being looked at by 2 Computer Tec's, the conclusion was with its age and the nature of the problem and the cost of repairs it is better to replace. All the Central Office Files are saved and when the new computer arrives will be downloaded. I am making due with basic files for our mailing being worked on at home in the evenings. Please be patient with any change of information at this time. It is all being kept track of, just a little slower.

PIC : No report

NEW FRONTIERS: Debi, Thanks to all who contributed this month. We hope you like the new format. Saves us a bundle on postage. Remember to have your submission in by the 12<sup>th</sup> of each month for the following month's issue

2004 CONVENTION: No report

AD-HOC COMMITTEE: Lee, Eye Opener Group. Verbal report

#### *COURTESY REPORTS*

ARCHIVES: Frank M. Archives Chair: Our March committee meeting was held at the AA Day of Sharing in Hamburg, where we also had our display. We would like to thank the groups in Dist. 6 for their contribution to the Archives. We also displayed at Southgate's 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Upcoming display's will be May 8, Boulevard Helping Hands Anniversary, July 23-25 NY State Convention, July 31 Main and High Group Day of Sharing. August 6-8 Annual NY State Informational Work shop. I would also like to recommend and have General Service consider sending our new Archivist, Tom Bator to an Archive Work shop to help him learn preservation and managing the Archives which is usually held in the early fall.

GSA: John, need PI and Grapevine chairpersons. If anyone is interested come to GSA meeting 5-16-04. CPC contacted Fair about Health Bldg. \$1,000.00 or \$350.00 for tent, due to Grandstand conversion. Need for groups or individuals for meetings in prison.

Registrars report-handed out 23 packets to get info. to send to NYC.

OLD BUSINESS: John, Steering Committee Motion to allow ALHOC Committee 30 days to find new place or to secure Tri Main Center and/or negotiate a lease in June with the Ellicott Square. Diane, Wilson Group made the Motion to accept the Motion from the Steering Committee. Voted on and accepted.

NEW BUSINESS: Joanne from the Women's International Convention Thanked everyone for their support and was giving \$1,000.00 check to Treatment and one to Correction. \$12,000.00 check was given to Central Office. Pat, Rainbow Group, motioned that the Central Office check go into CD's to get interest. This motion-dispensed. Patti, Financial Secretary, motioned to put all \$12,000.00 into a reserve to use accordingly. Discussion continued with amendments. The final Motion voted on is "that the money given to Central Office \$10,000 would go into rolling CDs, continuous roll over, reviewed every 6 months and \$2,000.00 would be used for operating expenses."

Voted on and passed.

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition.

Motion to close: Annette, Sunday Morning Breakfast Group, second Lee.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve AA. Kim E. Southtown Group.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

FEBRUARY 2003

CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative
Kensington						Renewal					
Ladies Night						Ridge	150.00				
Lake Shore						Ridge/Pink Can					
Lakeview						Rise and Shine					
Last Days Fellowship						Rochester	50.00				
LewPort						Roland					
Let Go and Let God						Rural is Plural					
Liberty Women						Sally					
Life Today						Saratoga					
Lighten UP						Searching For Serenity	100.00				
Live and Let Live						Second Chance					
Living in the Solution						Serenity					
Living Sober	20.00					Serenity Circle					
Lock City						Serenity on the Lake					
Lockport #1						Serenity Trails					
Lockport Discussion	20.00					Setaside					
Lockport Ladies						Sheridan	100.00				
Lockview						Silvercreek Friendship					
Look To This Day						Sober and Proud					
Love						Sober Saturday	150.00	50.00			50
Lovejoy						Sober Trail					
Lower River						Sober Winners					
Lunch Time						Sobriety for Women					
Main and High						Sobriety Men's Disc.					
Main Street						Sobriety On The Canal					
Marilla						Sobriety on a Sat. Night					
Matt Talbot						Sobriety on the Lake					
Mayville Uptown Group						Somerset					
Medina Grapevine						South Buffalo					
McOnley Winners						South Town					
Medina Big Book						Southgate	30.00				
Medina New Life						Southtown Women's					
Mercy						Southwestern					
Mid-day						Spirit of Hope					
Miracle						Spiritual Progress	60.00				
Morning After						Springville Sat Afternoon					
Monday Morning Lockport						Springville Tues. Night					
New Awakening						Springville Wed. Noon					
New Frontier						St. Barnabas					
New Beginnings/St. Vincent						St. Mark's					
New Life						Starting Over	38.80				
New Outlook						Staying Alive					
Niagara Intergroup						Step Work					
New Westside						Stepping Stones/Gow.					
Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.						Stepping Stones/Wil.	25.00				
Nightshift						Suburban	10.00				
North Buffalo						Sunday Afternoon Ascension					
North Java Monday						Sunday Morning Breakfast	200.00	25.00			25.00
North Java Morning After						Sunday Nites					
North Java Sunday						Sunday Third Group					
One Day At A Time						Sunrise Court					
Open Arms	75.00					SUNY Amherst Campus					
Open Mind						Surrender and Hope	100.00				
Orchard Park Step	63.00					Survivors					
P.B.P. Big Book Study						T.P.H.					
Pass It On						TGI-F					
Patchin						Thankful					
Pathway to Peace						The Book Meeting					
Pendleton Chapter Five						The Moonshiners					
Perry Discussion						There's A Solution					
Pink Can						Three Legacies	15.00				
Pioneer						Those Too	5.00				
Positively Living						Thruway	100.00	20.00			20.00
Powerless						Thursday PM Discussion					
Primary Purpose						Today					
Principles Bef. Personalities						Today's Woman					
Progress						Tri County					
Purpose/Tonawanda						Tri-Step Beginners					
Rainbow						Try Again					
Ray of Hope						Tuesday Men's AM	50.00				
Recovery Near the Gardens	10.00					Tuesday Women	20.00	10.00			10.00
Remember When						Turning Point					

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

FEBRUARY 2003

ATTENDED G.C.	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative	ATTENDED G.C.	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative
11:45							Dunkirk Monday Night						
12 Step							Early Bird						
4th Step Stumblers							Easier Softer Way						
8th Step							East Amherst						
A Day At A-Time							East Aurora		50.00				
A Little Bit of Everything							Easy Does It		25.00				
A New Freedom							Ellicott						
A Strong Desire							Ellicottville						
Abbott Men's		80.00		80.00		80.00	Emergency						
Acceptance/Welcom							Eternal Vigilance						
Achievement		150.00					Everybody's						
Action							Express						
After Midnight							Eyepener		100.00				
Age Doesn't Matter							F.U.N.						
Alexander							Faith						
Amherst/ Snyder	159.46	159.46					Father Baker		100.00				
Amsdell Lakeshore		20.00					Feelings						
Another Chance							Fireside						
Any Age							Fireside PM						
Any Length		30.00					First Things First						
Anybody's							Fredonia Discussion						
As Bill Sees It							Fredonia Friday Noon						
Attitude Adjustment							Freedom						
AW Group							Freedom Now						
Attraction							Fresh Start						
Beginner's Table							Friendly						
Beginning In Sobriety II							Frontier(New)						
Beginning's Women		35.00					Gardenville		100.00				
Blidwell Monday							Georgetown						
Big Book Lockport							Getting Better						
Big Book Study							Giving						
Big Book Workshop							Go to Any Length						
Blasdell							Golden Slipper						
Blasdell Monday Night							Grand						
Bochleaitva							Grand II Joy of Living						
Boulevard Helping Hand							Grateful						
Boulevard Women							Gulfing Light						
Bress							H.O.W.						
Broadway Bailey							Half and Half						
Brocton AA							Hamburg						
Brownbaggers							Hand						
Buffalo Group							Handicappers						
But For the Grace of God							Happy Hour						
By The Book							Harmony						
Came To Believe							Helping Hand						
Casting							High Noon		70.00				
Cathedral Park		33.35		15.00		15.00	High View						
Caz Manor							Higher Power						
Cazenovia							Hillbilly						
Central Park							Holiday Village						
Chapter IX							Holland						
Cheekowaga							Honesty						
Chevy #1							Horizon						
Clarence Men's							Hope Big Book Study						
Clarence Men's II							How It Works						
Cold Spring							How It Works/Men's						
Common Bond							Humboldt Riley						
Common Problem							Inner City						
Community Center							Inspiration						
Complaners							Intoxicated on Life						
Courage							Ironhorse		18.50		8.60		8.60
Arcade							IT						
Crossroads							Jamestown Groups						
Cross Talk Big Book							Johnson Creek Big Book						
Daily Reflections							Journey						
Daily Reprieve							Just Do It						
DeVaux Discussion							Just For Today/Albion						
Darby							Just For Today/Cheek						
Desire							Keep It Simple Sister						
Downtown Men's							Keep On Coming						
							Kenmore						

2004

	CO	Cumulative	Treatment	Cumulative	Corrections	Cumulative
Twin Cities						
Unity						
University Men's Disc.		600.00				
Valley						
Varieties of Spiritual Exper.						
Varysburg						
Victory						
Wake Up Call						
We Are Not Saints						
We Care						
We Choose Life						
Wahra						
Welcome						
Westfield						
Westminster						
Why						
Williamsville		200.00				
Willing To Grow		100.00				
Wilson Group						
Wilson Smith Akumpl						
Women on the Rise						
Women's West Side						
Working		260.00				
You'll Never Walk Alone						
Youngstown						
In The Solution						
Alice		40.00				
Frank B.		130.00				
Mike J.		50.00				
Paul H.		100.00				
Ed CD		22.50				
Sandra L.	100.00	100.00				
TOTAL	3910.51	7814.66	177.25	438.85	270.25	478.85

ATTENDED CENTRAL COMMITTEE

**THE LADDER TO ACHIEVEMENT**

- 100% — I Did.
- 90% — I Will.
- 80% — I Can.
- 70% — I Think I Can.
- 60% — I Might.
- 50% — I Think I Might.
- 40% — What Is It?
- 30% — I Wish I Could.
- 20% — I Don't Know How.
- 10% — I Can't.
- 0% — I Won't.

"Success is to be measured, not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."

Income Statement	31-Dec-03	31-Jan-04	29-Feb-04
Begin Bal Cash on hand	5,489.95	5,399.50	4,981.86
Contributions			
Groups	3,329.72	3,704.15	3,910.51
Joint Meeting	54.71	64.70	47.45
Envelope System	727.00	1,322.00	459.00
New Frontiers Subs	40.00	23.00	85.00
Literature	2,007.06	2,941.19	3,523.16
Misc.	788.88		
Monthly Income	6,947.37	8,055.04	8,025.12
Expenses			
Office Rent	636.00	636.00	636.00
Meeting Room Rent	35.00	35.00	35.00
Payroll			
Salaries (Net)	2,120.20	1,696.16	1,696.16
Federal Withholdings	735.75	588.60	147.15
NYS Withholdings		365.81	
Insurance			
State Ins Fund			286.79
Health	304.00	304.00	304.00
Liability		947.84	
Postage	430.00	258.78	238.45
Phone	113.22	102.04	115.64
Accounting			
Advt			
PIC Lit.			
Talking Phone Book			
Verizon	75.25	75.25	75.25
website			
white directory	364.65		
Yellow Pages			298.00
Literature Expenses			
Grapevine			
World Services Inc	1,479.80	2,223.92	1,971.28
Hazelton		522.72	
"In All Our Affairs"		176.40	
Printers			
Office Supplies	70.63	105.51	189.60
Answering service	122.54	104.03	101.97
Minolta leasing (copier)	260.45	260.45	260.45
Minolta Copies		60.67	71.73
Crystal Rock (water)	27.40	14.50	14.50
Convention			
	262.93		
Bank Charges			
Monthly Expenses	7,037.82	8,472.68	6,739.97
Monthly Income (Loss)	(90.45)	(417.64)	1,585.15
End Bal Cash on hand	5,399.50	4,981.86	6,567.01
Literature Assets:			
Literature Receivable (outstanding)	4,371.60	5,369.04	3,696.32
	418.24	1,434.08	1,081.27
Corrections Facilities	1,556.08	1,532.95	1,248.30
Donations	280.62	206.60	270.25
Expenses	303.75	491.25	443.75
Bank Charges			
Balance	1,532.95	1,248.30	1,074.80
Treatment Facilities	928.17	1,131.85	1,131.85
Donation	302.62	256.60	177.25
Expenses			
AT & T Bridging The Gap	61.94	43.29	60.92
AAA Abott Answering Service	37.00	36.50	48.50
Literature		483.50	60.00
Bank Charges			
Balance	1,131.85	825.16	1,139.68

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 295 Main Street  
 Buffalo, NY 14203-2412

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10 Copies	\$33	50 Copies	\$120
15 Copies	\$43	60 Copies	\$135



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