

The Last Drop !

Denver Area Central
Committee of A.A.®
2926 Zuni St. #202
Denver, CO 80211
303-322-4440
www.daccaa.org

September 2017

Road to Happy Destiny

“If you ever want to quit drinking and don’t know how, give me a call” This statement from Stan S. led me to AA in 1972. AA really saved my life, marriage, family and job.

If I had continued drinking alcoholic beverages I would not have lasted into the twenty first century. Yes, I did my share of church basements and meeting rooms over the past few decades. I still have some AA friends, but almost all of those at my early meetings are no longer with us. My way to sobriety is one that would probably make another drunk. In my early meetings I was told by “old timers” this truism... that along with the sayings proved most helpful to me... “First things first; But for the grace of God...” etc.

The Serenity Prayer always played a big part of my well being. I traced it back through Reinhold Niebur, who used it in many sermons in NY, the American revolution times, through St. Francis, to ancient Greece. It has stood up well though credit is frequently given to Rev. Niebur in the 1950s. He was well acquainted with Bill W., one of the founders of AA along with Dr. Bob.

Many members from my early AA days provided chief support-Kissing Charlie, Paul J., Buddy, Ray. All gone now. Ray made it to AA earlier than I did, but we had some parallel careers. We both were from New York City, had worked for the same company (in different boroughs), enlisted in the Navy in WW II, trained at Sampson, N.Y. and both became alcoholics. Ray was the last one left who was at my first meeting at the old Lowry Group, my later home group was Sunday Night Live. Buddy was the force behind establishing the Fellowship Club.

Support from the groups was spiritual, but also very physical. Members assisted me and my family with much helpful support such as tree trimming, towing in snowy weather, home renovations, and the like. They helped me face myself and life. The discussion meetings were for me the strongest. PJ, who had some 40 years in the program, was a strength both physically and spiritually.

Al-anon was equally important. My wife Jane and I tried to find AA meetings which has companion Al-anon meetings she could attend. This worked well for many years. We were not attracted to those clubs which featured AA sessions only, though many we knew were. One of the early clubs in Aurora, CO was started by Buddy S. For those starting out this journey of AA, you must find the way that is right for you. Use the Big Book as a guide. Take responsibility for your own addiction, don’t blame others and work for your recovery with the help of others and your Higher Power.

Bill M.
Aurora, CO

A FIRM COMMITMENT TO UNITY

Former Trustee-at-Large Dean R. presented the following talk on Tradition Nine at a 1998 General Sharing Session

IT is impossible to contemplate that AA, as such, ought never be organized, but when we create service boards and committees directly responsible for those they serve, there are really no rules and no laws; services provided are dictated by the needs of others.

The opening line of Tradition Nine, as reflected in the writings of Bill W. in an August 1948 Grapevine editorial, sets forth: "The least possible organization, that's our universal ideal. No fees, no dues, no rules imposed on anybody."

This statement and definition of Tradition Nine would lead us to believe that AA was operating in anarchy. We all know that is not true. The impossible contradiction works--AA as a whole should never be organized at all. But we proceeded to set up a Conference of recognized and identified areas in 1951 and proceeded to create boards and committees to assist in providing services to alcoholics and AA groups world wide.

It was explained early in my service experience that AA was the most unorganized, organized Fellowship that ever existed, and so it is.

With our informed group conscience, we have throughout the history of AA been able to weather discord and negativism because of our firm commitment to unity, with the underlying knowledge that failure to maintain unity, and pursuing an unsafe course of AA, will lead to its demise and ultimately to the jeopardy of our individual sobriety.

While we do not recognize and have resisted, sometimes violently, the idea of any type of general organization efforts that would hinge on government, we have resolutely and persistently insisted upon organizing special services to assist members of our Fellowship to be more effective and available to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

The general services that AA provides at the group, district and area level, as well as at the General Service Office, are carried out without authority to order any AA member or group, as they are autonomous. We make suggestions based on shared experience. We recognize that we cannot dictate to fellow members individually or collectively, and choose not to do so.

AA is truly a society without organization as such; sacrifice is the basis of service, and founded on the spiritual principles, AA is a true Fellowship, with only one purpose--to carry the message of recovery to the alcoholic. The good will of our Fellowship that we enjoy throughout the world in large measure is directly due to services that we provide through our service structure. May each of us continue to sacrifice in following the spiritual principles and maintaining those principles over personalities and may we continue to carry the spiritual message that was freely given to us so that we may freely pass the AA message on to the suffering alcoholic.

DEAN R.

El Reno, Okla.

Taken with permission from the Grapevine September 2010 issue

Step Nine

Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Tradition Nine

AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

Concept Nine

Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

Tradition Nine: AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

- Do I still try to boss things in AA?
- Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
- Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
- Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
- Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
- Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
- Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
- What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

“Not As Cool As I Thought I Was”

It's been three years now since I drank and landed in prison with a sentence of 15 years to life. “Coming to” in prison is damn hard. I don't even want to imagine all the extra damage I could've caused if I weren't here.

A lot of mixed emotions have come up as I've been working Step Nine with my sponsor.

To have to admit to things I've done—which I was hoping to never remember—feels like opening an old wound. Some amends are harder to make than others.

I'm thinking, for example, about having to write a letter to my kids telling them I wish I had taken them to their favorite country singer's concert instead of choosing to go out drinking.

I missed that opportunity to make a wonderful memory.

And how about telling a friend I wish I hadn't cancelled all those dinners for a new random boyfriend?

I've done most of my amends and have heard back from two of my brothers and my 19-year-old daughter. It took her nine months to respond.

I thank my Higher Power and my sponsor for keeping me grounded during that time.

I might be ready to make amends to friends and family and move forward, but I'm careful not to hold resentments toward those who aren't ready yet to accept my amends. They remember the old me, and I understand that. I have no regrets of my past, nor do I wish to shut the door on it. I need to learn from it and be reminded that I wasn't as cool as I thought I was.

I'm enjoying my newfound freedom from self and look forward to my future—because I now have one.

-Anonymous

Taken with permission from the Grapevine June 2014 issue

!!! Coming Events Mark Your Calendar !!!

Sept 1-3 **2017 COLORADO STATE CONVENTION “UNITY: The Heart of AA”** at the Embassy Suites in Loveland, CO. On-site registration is \$30.00 Go online to register and get more information at convention.coloradoaa.org Room rates are \$139 per night use group code Area 10. Direct phone 970-593-6200 4705 Clydesdale Parkway, Loveland, CO 80538

Sept 14-17 **SENIORS IN SOBRIETY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**, “Rediscovering Life” at the Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys, CA. Room rates are \$109 a night. Hotel reservations 800-224-7835 use group code SIS2017. For more information, go to SeniorsInSobriety.com or call Michael K. 818-823-7008

Sept 22-24 **2017 COLOR DAZE** at the Travellodge on Horizon Drive in Grand Junction, CO. Central Office of Western Colorado fundraiser. Contact Katie G 970-270-7722 or Mark O 970-234-4237

Events listed here are provided as a courtesy to the fellowship and are not an endorsement by A. A., the Denver Area Central Committee, or the Last Drop.

Monthly Meetings

Lakewood Open Group: 2nd Friday of the month at St. Paul’s Church, 9200 West 10th Avenue, Lakewood, CO. Potluck starts at 6:00 pm. Speakers start at 7:00 pm. A.A. and Al-Anon speakers.

Castle Rock Speakers Meeting: 1st Saturday of the month at the Village Inn Restaurant, 207 Wolfensberger Road, Castle Rock, CO at 7:00 pm.

There is a Solution: LAST Saturday of the month breakfast/potluck @ **7:00 AM** 8081 E. Orchard Rd, Greenwood Village.

Fifth Tradition Group: Every 3rd Saturday from 7:30 – 9:00 pm, 700 S. Franklin St. @ Lutheran Church. Circuit Speakers.

Of Special Interest

MIXED NUTS , 6750 Carr St. (Ch) Arvada meets every Thursday @ 6:30 pm. AA & AlAnon meeting.

IN THE MIX, 9200 W. 10th Ave. (Ch) Lakewood meets Tuesday @ 7:15pm AA & AlAnon meeting.

Major changes/corrections since current Meeting Book (February 15, 2017) was published

NEW MEETINGS NOT LISTED IN THE CURRENT DIRECTORY

TH	C	n*	ARVADA THURS NIGHT, 5927 Miller St. (Ch) Arvada, District 31	6:00 pm
TH/SU		n*	RECOVERY ON THE ROX, 6220 N. Roxborough Park Rd. (Fire Sta.) Littleton, District 33	6:30 pm
SA	ST	n*	STEP 11, 8081 E. Orchard Rd. (Ent 5 S door) Greenwood Village, District 16	8:00 am
SA	SP	n	THE AWAKENING GRP, 1955 E. Arizona Ave. (Ch) Denver, District 13	7:00 pm
SU	ST	n*	THE NEXT STEP, 1901 29 th St., Denver, District 9	3:30 pm

CHANGES TO MEETING INFORMATION

MO	C	n	MONDAY HAPPY HOUR, 7691 S. University Bl. (Ch 1 st Floor NE corner) Centennial, District 11	6:15 pm
SU	B	n	EXTENDED HAND, 100 Colorado Bl. (Ch 2 nd fl) Denver, District 16	Now 9:00 am

DISCONTINUED MEETING INFORMATION

TU,TH,FR			CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, 4881 Cherokee Dr. (Ch) Castle Rock, District 10.....	Noon
SA/SU		n	DAY BY DAY, 1008 Hampden Ave., Englewood, District 11	Noon
FR	W	n	FRI NITE WOMEN, 400 S. Williams St. (Ch) Denver, District 13.....	6:30 pm

Contribution statistics for JULY 2017 !

There were 7 groups contributing for the first time this year in July!	206 Contributing Groups
There were 8 Faith Fivers Contributing = \$192.00	332 Groups NOT Contributing!
There were 2 Last Drop renewals = \$30.00	Average per Contributing Group = \$326.83
There were 5 Birthday contributions = \$58.00	Percentage of Groups Contributing = 38.29 %

Central Office Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Central Office is to receive, distribute, and follow up on 12step calls, to answer inquiries about A.A. and to cooperate with local public information committees. Central Office also maintains information about local hospitals and recovery facilities for alcoholics. We provide local A.A. meetings lists, a newsletter, and we order, sell and distribute A.A. literature.

Night Watch Calendar

* September 2017 *

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<u>1</u> S.O.T.S 5 PM-11PM Stephanie B. 11 PM-9AM	<u>2</u> Daily Reprieve 9AM-1PM 40oz2freedom 1 PM – 5 PM Sunrise Serenity 5PM-11PM Rudy G. 11PM-9AM
<u>3</u> Caring/Sharing 9AM-1PM High Life for Women 1PM-5PM D.Y.P 5PM-11PM Gerri M. 11PM-9AM	<u>4</u> Elizabeth K.I.S. 5PM-11PM Scott S. 11PM-9AM	<u>5</u> Monday Night 5 PM-11PM 10pm Last Call 11 PM-9AM	<u>6</u> One Step at a Time 5 PM-11PM Guardian 11 PM-9AM	<u>7</u> Upon Awakening 5PM-11PM Rex F. 11 PM-9AM	<u>8</u> It's in the Book 5 PM-11PM Zach 11 PM-9AM	<u>9</u> Oasis Group 9AM-5PM The Parker Group 5PM-11PM Karl H. 11PM-9AM
<u>10</u> Margie J. 9AM-1PM CC Promises 1PM-5PM Spirit of Rec. 5PM-11PM Joan B. 11PM-9AM	<u>11</u> Denver Thurs Night 5 PM- 11PM Terry S. 11 PM-9AM	<u>12</u> Vie-Tality 5 PM-11PM Frank P. 11 PM-9AM	<u>13</u> Noon Beginners 5PM-11PM Jo N. 11PM-9AM	<u>14</u> Men's Home Group 5PM-11PM Mark W. 11PM-9AM	<u>15</u> Sweet Sobriety 5PM-11PM Sunlight 11PM-9AM	<u>16</u> Depth & Weight 9AM-5PM BEDI 5PM-11PM Arturo 11PM-9AM
<u>17</u> Ken E 9AM-1PM Kristi R. 1PM-5PM MtnWomen 5 PM-11PM Dennis S. 11PM-9AM	<u>18</u> Happy Way 5 PM-11PM Happy Hour Monday 11PM-9AM	<u>19</u> Happy Trudgers 5 PM-9AM	<u>20</u> Recovery at the Ranch 5 PM-11PM John Z. 11 PM-9AM	<u>21</u> Wonderful Gift 5 PM-11PM Stephanie N. 11PM-9AM	<u>22</u> Foundation of Willingness 5PM-11PM Guardian 11PM-9AM	<u>23</u> Always Hope 9AM-1PM Carol M. 1PM – 5PM Lilley Gulch 5PM-11PM Greg C. 11PM-9AM
<u>24</u> Four Horsemen 9AM-5PM First Things First 5PM-11PM Sandy F. 11PM-9AM	<u>25</u> P.P.Workshop 5 PM-11PM Nine to Five 11 PM-9 AM	<u>26</u> Kim D. 5 PM-11PM Nanette T. 11 PM-9AM	<u>27</u> It's Come to This 5 PM-11 PM Mark C. 11 PM-9 AM	<u>28</u> Working With Others 5PM-11PM Tom O. 11PM-9AM	<u>29</u> Babble On 5PM-11PM Beginners SEAC 11PM-9AM	<u>30</u> SPAWK 9AM- 5PM Early Birds 5PM-11PM Dan L. 11PM-9AM

Please remember to check in with Central Office by no later than 3:00 PM on the day of your shift to confirm you will be available for the phones. For Sat., Sun & Mon. please check in with Central office on Thursday or no later than 3:00 PM on Friday to confirm your shift at 303-322-4440. Be considerate as we need time to schedule the call forwarding service.

If you need help you can contact Greg C 303-887-9447 or Jill @ 720-276-4156

The Office is CLOSED on Mondays.

Denver Central Committee Monthly Delegates Meeting
Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Chairperson opened the meeting at 6:31 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

Tradition 8: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers

Concept 8: The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

New Delegates: Carol J. (Group One); Jill S. (4D); Keri P. (Tuesday Ladies/Ladies Choice); Teri P (4 Horseman)

Total Voting Delegates: 46 voting delegates in attendance

Secretary's Report: Approved as written

Treasurer's Report: Approved as written

	Actual June-17	Budget June-17	Variance June-17	2017 Budget	6 Month's Budget	6 Month's Actual	YTD Variance
Net Lit Income	2777	2567	210	30800	15400	11702	3699
Total Income	8993	11333	(2341)	136000	68000	70759	2758
Total Expense	10777	11283	(506)	135400	67700	62834	(4866)
Surplus/Deficit	(1784)	50	(1834)	600	300	7925	7624

Central Office Report: Jo Nickell (Office Manager): The newest directory of meetings is at the printers and should be ready around the 15th of the month. New color is HOT PINK. Any new meetings or changes should be submitted using the form on the central office website www.daccaa.org. New meetings will be listed on the website for 6 months prior to being added to the printed directory of meetings. 'Making Amends', (the new book from the grapevine) is available for purchase at central office for \$11.50 +tax. The Grapevine has discontinued several books and CD's such as 'Heartbeat of AA'.

Service Committee Reports:

Last Drop: Shannon W.: Submissions are always welcomed, specifically looking for personal stories or items to share around Step 10, Tradition 10 and/or Concept 10 for the next last drop. In honor of the Longtimers Celebration we would love to hear stories from the Longtimers of what it "used to be like". Guidelines for submission are on our website www.daccaa.org

Night Watch: Greg C.: Night watch received 201 calls last month (12) 12-step calls and 12 Al-anon calls. Please join the Night Watch Workshop Saturday August 19th at St. Mary's Church 2290 S. Clayton St. Denver from 10-noon. Current night watch coordinators and volunteers are encouraged to join as well as anyone interested in becoming a night watch volunteer. There are currently no open shifts, however if you are interested in being added to the night watch list please contact Greg. As a reminder, please call in your shifts (DO NOT TEXT). For Weekend and Monday shifts, please call in by 3pm on Friday so the phones can be programmed. Thank you to all the Night Watch volunteers!

Bridging the Gap: Rob O.: Rob will be attending the national BTG Conference in Minneapolis in September. The National BTG Conference will be in Denver in 2018, mark your calendars! BTG is looking for volunteers to join the committee as well as volunteers to be bridges. Please announce in your meetings. As a reminder, BTG committee meeting is the 2nd Saturday of the month at Central Office from 8:30-9:30am. July: 42 Bridge requests w/14 contacts. West Pines 16 requests w/10contacts, Parker Valley Hope 7 requests w/0 contacts, Harmony 17 requests w/2 contacts, Arapahoe House 2 requests w/2 contacts [Explanation of terms: **Request:** when the treatment center reaches out to BTG for a bridge, bridge is assigned **Contacts:** AA Bridge makes contact w/ person requesting the Bridge.

Archives: Jill W: Excused

Volunteers: John Z.: John is still accepting volunteers to be of service, if interested please call John directly at 303-204-0557. It's a great way to give back to your local AA fellowship and "the best service opportunity in AA".

Old Business: Final financials for the Unity Day Picnic will be available next month, however it looks as if we broke even.

New Business: Pass it On Longtimers Celebration will be held Sunday November 19th at Sons of Italy Hall 5925 W. 32nd WheatRidge from 11am-1pm. Tickets (\$10) will go on sale September 5th and seating is limited, join us for some awesome recovery!!!

Seventh Tradition: \$70.00

Group Announcements: 'A day in AA' Saturday August 12th at the Cottonwood Club House 275 S. 25th Ave, Brighton from 7am-8:30pm. 4th Friday of every month Arid Club hosts Music Jam night at 7:30pm. York St. will be hosting game night the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Group/Committee Reps in Attendance- Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer (excused), Bridging the Gap, Archives (excused), Last Drop Editor, Night Watch Coordinator, (2) Delegates at large. Groups in Attendance: 10pm Last Call, AVision 4 Today, Always Hope, Arid Group, Attitude Adjustment, Beginners, Beyond Alcohol, Cherry Creek Promises, Denver Thursday Night, E. Hampden Women, Early Bird, Edgewater Beginners, Edit Nooners, Eleventh Steppers, First Things First, Foundation of Willingness, Free to Be Me, Green Light Tuesday, Group 1, Happy Trudgers, High Life for Women, High Noon, It's Come to This, It's In The Book, Ladies Choice, Mon Happy Hour, Morning After, Morning Gift, New Direction, Nine to Five, Old Kent, P.P. Workshop, Parker Men's, Round Tuit, Sobriety at Seven, Southside Sobriety, Spirit of Recovery, Sunrise Serenity, Sweet Sobriety, There is a solution, Three for all, Upon Awakening

Operating Committee Members: Mike B. (Chair) 720-838-1190; Pete V. (Vice Chair) 303-548-3200; Tom O. (Treasurer) 303-929-6837; Jen F. (secretary) 303-815-9883; JP (Asst. Treasure) 402-670-3381; Laurie W. (Asst. Secretary) 720-416-6016; Dave B. (Delegate at Large) 303-949-8978; Maura H. (Delegate at Large) 443-900-1985; Shannon W. 918-863-4245; Greg C. 303-887-9447; Rob O. (303-887-6141); Jill W. (720-276-4156); John Z. (303-204-0557)

**Meeting adjourned at 7:13p.m. with the Lords Prayer
In love and service, Jen F. (Secretary)**

Next Meeting will be Tuesday September 5, 2017

DENVER AREA CENTRAL COMMITTEE

2926 Zuni St. #202
Denver, Colorado 80211

Non-Profit Org.

U.S.Postage Paid

Permit #353

Denver, CO.

TO RECEIVE *THE LAST DROP*, SEND THIS FORM & \$10.00 TO:

DENVER CENTRAL OFFICE

2926 ZUNI ST. #202

DENVER, CO 80211

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Home Group: _____

Subscriptions are only \$10.00 per year