

The Message

Boulder County Intergroup | bouldercountyaa.com
Serving the Alcoholics Anonymous Community of Boulder County
5401 Western Ave. Suite D, Boulder, CO 80301 303-447-8201
View previous issues at bouldercountyaa.com/message/archives

March/April 2019

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Connect Your Group with Service Opportunities

*Print the last page
of this newsletter
to share.*

Carrying the Message

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. This message is clear and consistent across Alcoholics Anonymous literature. But supporting AA and following that clear directive can take us down a million different paths depending on our individual skills, our experience with sobriety, the time we have available, and our comfort level talking about AA.

Whether we're stacking chairs, managing a spreadsheet, or sponsoring a newcomer, there are ways for each of us to strengthen our sobriety through service. But at some point, you'll probably be called on to represent the fellowship of AA to others—from active alcoholics still struggling with the disease, to friends and family, to members of the community with little or no knowledge about alcoholism.

That's right—you're kind of a big deal.

So how prepared are you to do that? Speaking for myself, I'm comfortable sharing my experience, strength, and hope with other alcoholics in the program, but pretty intimidated by the idea of sharing the program with a still-suffering alcoholic. What if I screw up and create a roadblock to that person becoming sober? And when it comes to those outside of AA learning about the program for the first time, I don't know if I'd state the case correctly if I were called on to represent the program as a whole. What if I somehow perpetuate the myth that it's a crazy cult? It's hard to tell what'll come out of my mouth when I get enthusiastic. It could happen.

Luckily, District 24 and Intergroup are standing ready with knowledge and skills to share. With upcoming workshops, you can gain confidence in your ability to speak about AA—both to those seeking to learn more about the program and to alcoholics. After all, the Big Book is filled with tale after tale of one alcoholic talking to another. It's pretty simple, and it's how the program works.

"AA's 12th Step and the Public," a workshop brought to you by District 24, will be held this month. You can learn how to talk about AA to people not in AA. In May, Intergroup will be presenting a "How to Do a 12th-Step Call" workshop. If you haven't already, it's your opportunity to get comfortable extending the hand of AA to alcoholics in need. Details about both are included in this issue, along with a number of volunteer opportunities where you can put your new skills to work.

If you've got questions or concerns or doubts about carrying the message, it's your chance to get them cleared up. Actually, it's your responsibility . . . part of your *primary purpose*. We hope to see you there.



"A fact-finding and fact-facing process"

Intergroup Inventory

Lew G, Facilitator

Saturday, April 20, 10 am - 1 pm

Open to all Boulder County AA

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall (downstairs)

7077 Harvest Rd, Boulder, CO 80301 (Gunbarrel)

Coffee and lunch will be provided

Questions and suggestions: Michael G 303-815-8027

<president@bouldercountyaa.com>

A.A.'s 12th Step and The Public

Carry The Message To Non-A.A. Members!

"Wait, isn't that promotion, not attraction?"

"What if I don't know the answer to a question?"

"What about anonymity?"

"Am I qualified to do this?" *"Am I representing A.A. if I do this?"*

"Do I have to tell my story, explain myself?"

"I thought everyone knew about A.A., why do we need to do this?"

Discover the answers to
these questions and **more**
at District 24's spring
workshop!



No bag necessary!

- Learn about carrying A.A.'s message of recovery to the still suffering alcoholic by telling the general public about our program.
- How can we share about what we are, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do?
- How can we communicate better with the public and find simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating?

Bring your questions and concerns! Bring your experience to share!

Bring your appetite for PIZZA!!!

When: Saturday, April 27, 1:30-3:30 pm

Where: Shepherd of the Hills Church, 7077 Harvest Rd., Boulder, CO 80301

Need more info? Contact Jennifer A. altdcm@dist24.org

Want to help staff the A.A. booth at **Boulder Creek Fest** over Memorial Day weekend?
This workshop will get you ready! Contact publicinformation@dist24.org for more info.

GET INVOLVED! BE OF SERVICE! SIGN UP!
email: publicinformation@dist24.org
call: (970) 310-5311
Members of all Colorado AA districts are welcome!

save the date

Let the community know what AA is all about. Help staff the PI/CPC booth at Boulder's Creek Fest this summer. Yeah!

how to pi workshop + pizza
SAT. APRIL 27
1:30 - 3:30 PM

Boulder Creek Fest!
memorial day weekend
MAY 25, 26, & 27
(MULTIPLE SHIFTS)

Organized by AA District 24 Committees
Public Information (PI) and Cooperation
with the Professional Community (CPC)

Intergroup Updates

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 30

7:00-8:30 pm
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
7077 Harvest Road, Boulder CO

SAVE THE DATE: How to Do a 12th-Step Call Workshop

Saturday, May 18
1:00-4:00 pm
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
7077 Harvest Road, Boulder CO

Join Intergroup to learn how to make a successful 12th-step call. Whether you'd like to be on the list for 12th-step calls, or you'd just like to feel more confident talking to still-suffering alcoholics about AA, we'll share what you need to know to get started.

Got experience? Join us as a panelist, or help out with role-playing exercises as we share what makes a 12-step call successful. Contact us to volunteer: memberatlarge@bouldercountyaa.com.

Seeking a Treasurer!

Intergroup is looking for somebody to stand for the first-year treasurer position. This elected position serves for a two-year term. Contact Michael G.: president@bouldercountyaa.com for more information.

Now Appointing Intergroup Committee Chair Positions

Committee Chair positions are two-year commitments. Two people serve during overlapping terms to ensure continuity, with the first-year position supporting and learning from the person in their second year of service.

- Daywatch Coordinator: first-year position open
- The Message: first-year editor needed
- Nightwatch Coordinator: first-year coordinator needed
- 12th-Step List: first-year coordinator needed
- Central Office Volunteer Coordinator: first-year position open

Website Updates

- **Online Contributions Enabled:** Our website is now able to process donations online. Contributions to Boulder County AA can now be made electronically.
- **Meeting List Capabilities:** Be sure to check your homegroup's meeting online. You can add meeting specifics and additional details that do not appear on the list itself—like whether it's a book-study or step meeting, parking information, or anything else that might be helpful. Additionally, the meeting list is now synched with the global smartphone app: Meeting Guide.
- **Event Calendar Ready for Your Input:** It's easy for groups to post information on the Event Calendar about upcoming AA events, as well as opportunities for fellowship and service. Guidelines for the Events Calendar are posted on the site. Intergroup is currently discussing and proposing guidelines for including recovery-related calendar items that are not specifically AA events.

Central Office Updates

5401 Western Ave. Suite D, Boulder, CO 80301

303-447-8201 | centraloffice@bouldercountyaa.com

Regular office hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 am to 2 pm

Join Our Next Volunteer Training

Our goal is to pick up the phone every time an alcoholic in need reaches out to us. Join our efforts by learning the ropes at Central Office.

Saturday, April 20

11 am–1 pm

At Central Office

Training takes about a half-hour. Drop in any time during the two-hour window, or contact Central Office to schedule a time that works for you. Then you're ready to volunteer to:

Answer Phones at Central Office

Volunteer to help keep our doors and phone lines open during the following shifts:

- 5–7 pm Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday
- 11 am–1 pm Saturday

Please call Central Office at 303-447-8201 to volunteer.

24-Hour Literature Pickup

It's easier than ever with our new locking parcel box—whether Central Office is open or not!

1. Place your order by calling 303-447-8201 or email centraloffice@bouldercountyaa.com.
2. Pay by phone with a credit card (DO NOT email your card information; we'll call you).
3. Pick up your order at your convenience from the secure and locked parcel box.

Your purchases support your Central Office and Intergroup, so thank you for purchasing literature and chips from us!

Parking at Central Office

When you're visiting Central Office, you're welcome to use the one reserved parking space in front of the office. Please park in this assigned parking space and not the other space on the right as you face our front door, which is reserved for our neighbors next door.

Seeking Donations of:

- Stamps
- Yellow post-it notes
- Legal size mailing envelopes
- Coffee and tea, paper cups, sugar

State Convention Coming Labor Day Weekend in Keystone

August 30–September 1, 2019

Keystone Resort and Conference Center

The annual social event for Area 10 will take place this Labor Day Weekend in Keystone, Colorado. Come for a weekend of speakers, meetings, workshops, food, dancing and fellowship with AAs from all around the state. The event runs from 3 pm on Friday until noon on Sunday.

Learn more and book online at convention.coloradoaa.org

International Convention Coming October 2019 in Biarritz

October 10–13, 2019

Belambra Club

Chambre d'Amour Beach

Anglet-Biarritz, France

Theme: Back to Basics

Register and Learn More

Pre-register online for €35.00; cost is €42.00 after August 30.

<https://aaconventionbiarritz.com>

Recap of Service Opportunities

Join the Intergroup Inventory

Intergroup will host a group inventory on Saturday, April 20 from 10 am–1 pm at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. Lew G. will serve as facilitator for this “4th step at a group level.” Join us for this important discussion of how well we are serving our purpose—and what we can do better. All Boulder County AAs are welcome. See page 2.

Workshop: Learn to Talk about AA to non-AAs

Join the District 24 Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI & CPC) committees as they share how to carry the message to non-AAs. Workshop will be held Saturday, April 27 from 1:30–3:30 at Shepherd of the Hills church. See page 3.

Attend the 12th-step Workshop, or Volunteer to Help

Get the information you need to respond to 12th-step calls. Plan to join our workshop on Saturday, May 18 from 1–4 pm at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. We're also seeking volunteers with experience to join us as panelists, or help out with role-playing exercises as we share what makes a 12th-step call successful. Contact us to volunteer: memberatlarge@bouldercountyaa.org. See page 5.

Volunteer at the AA booth at the Boulder Creek Fest

Take a shift during Memorial Day Weekend to talk to fest-goers about AA. The workshops above are great ways to prepare. Volunteer at publicinformation@dist24.org. See page 4.

Become Our Intergroup Treasurer

Handy with a spreadsheet? Intergroup needs a first-year Treasurer. Contact Michael G.: president@bouldercountyaa.com Details on page 5.

Stand for an Intergroup Committee Chair Position

Bring your skills to Intergroup. We're now appointing positions including Daywatch and Nightwatch coordinators, Message editors, and coordinators for the 12th-step call list and Central Office volunteers. Contact Mikael A. intergroupchair@bouldercountyaa.com

Answer Phones at Central Office

Help keep our doors and phone lines open during the following shifts:

- 5–7 pm Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday
- 11 am–1 pm Saturday

Please call Central Office at 303-447-8201 to volunteer.

Volunteer for Daywatch Phone Service Positions

Daywatch volunteers respond when a caller reaches our answering service and needs to talk to an AA volunteer. Contact us with questions or volunteer for a 7 am–7 pm shift at daywatch@bouldercountyaa.com. Call volume is typically light!

Consider a Donation

Drop by Central Office with supplies they can use: stamps, yellow post-it notes, #10 size mailing envelopes, or beverage supplies (coffee, tea, paper cups, or sugar).

Also, you can now make contributions online. Just click the “Contribute” link on the left side of the home page.

Get The Message and stay up to date on all the different ways you can support Alcoholics Anonymous in Boulder County.

Subscribe online at: bouldercountyaa.com.
