



2017 has been our busiest year ever, what with new workshops and seminars, new social media pages, new shopping carts, and new personnel. The new work-shops/seminars have been thought provoking and enlightening. They are: ***The Four Spiritual Activities***: How Bill W., Dr. Bob, and the "First 100" Took the Steps Before the "Big Book" was Written, ***What's in the Spiritual Toolkit on Page 25 of the Big Book?***, ***What Step Are You On? The Answer is ALL OF THEM!***, and ***Walking the Medicine Wheel of Recovery***.

This year I presented seminars / workshops in the following cities: Fort Myers FL; Leesburg, FL; West Palm Beach FL; Boca Raton, FL; Orange, CA; Costa Mesa, CA (Twice); Los Angeles CA (Twice); Pacific Palisades, CA (Twice); Havre de Grace, MD (Twice); Parkville, MD; Canton, NY; Springfield Gardens (Queens), NY; Brick, NJ; Toms River, NJ (Twice); Hattiesburg, MS; Baton Rouge, LA; London, England; Samso, Denmark; Holbeak, Denmark; Hamburg, Germany; Mesa, AZ; Truckee, CA; Molalla River, OR; Astoria, OR; Glendive, MT; Rosemont, PA; Freehold, NJ; Leander, TX; Pflugerville (Austin), TX; Malibu, CA; Lansing, MI; Coldwater, MI; Battle Creek, MI; Gary, IN; St Louis, MO; Gulfport, MS; Starkville, MS; and Jackson, MS. Once again, I want to thank all the host committees, "worker bees," and supporters who made these events possible. Many lives have been saved as the direct result of your efforts.

In addition, I conducted three days of research at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC on the transition from the Oxford Group to the early days of the Twelve-step movement. I am most appreciative of Royce E. from Freehold, NJ who joined me in DC. With his assistance, we obtained much new and previously unknown information during our LOC visit.

In April, I asked Brit S. to become our social media coordinator and digital producer. She now has the **Back to Basics of Recovery** and **Eleventh Step Guidance Meeting** Facebook pages up and running. She has also added several new CD's (including my nutrition seminar) to a new website shopping cart. In July, she accepted the unpaid position of president of our not-for-profit, 501 (C) 3 **Back to Basics Foundation**. I remain an unpaid volunteer whose job it is to conduct seminars and workshops.

In November, we brought Eugene Bergman on board. He has been our Back to Basics webmaster for the past 20 years. His primary responsibilities, in addition to website maintenance, are **Kindle** and **QuickBooks** (he used to work for Intuit). He is also going to post my new Podcasts and YouTube videos. Time and finances permitting, we will start producing a series of Twelve-step vignettes in early 2018.

I will be on sabbatical until April. During this time, I will be working on getting three new books out the door. They are ***Basic Recovery 101: Taking the Steps in Three, Forty-Minute Sessions, Back to the Basics of Sponsorship***, and ***The Four Spiritual Activities***. We presently do not have the funds to print these books, so any and all donations will be graciously received. As the direct result of your generosity, we will be able to reach our book and DVD, as well as our prison and drug court, goals for 2018.

We are most appreciative of all who have contributed time, energy, or resources to help us continue our life-saving efforts. Donations can be made either online, through Facebook, or by mail or telephone:

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/backtobasicsofrecovery

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Happy Holidays,

Wally P. and the Back to Basics "team"