## Fellowship offers helps in maintaining sobriety

## THE FELLOWSHIP

The people who gathered were sharing a prayer for sobriety. Same people who in the past were the outcasts from society.

The tone set was of concern for each member's well-being. Important tones for any first timers to be seeing.

There were people of all races, religion and nationalities.

Different kinds of people with different personalities.

Pain, felt by another human being was being shared by them all.

People being tempted to drink or just plain scared to fall.

Each circumstance differed, but the feelings were all the same. The anonymity was set by using just the first name.

Sharing feelings of resentment, guilt, shame and anger.
Steps needed to be taken removing them from danger.

The wonder of this sharing the pain felt was decreased.

Made speaking worth risking or being labeled as "Deceased."

This miracle of just talking relieving some of the pain.
Old-timers saying nothing to lose and everything to gain.

How it works is perplexing but just knowing is enough. Also, speaking for the first time that's just a little tough.

A miracle, some 50 years ago

that caused two men to meet. The guidelines they set down they're pretty hard to beat.

From that day, this fellowship has been following its destiny.
Rules in the guidelines say it shouldn't cost a penny.

A chance to grow spiritually with a purpose for our lives. Important information for children, husbands and wives.

Forgiving all those people who hurt us in the past.

Asking God's forgiveness before the dye is cast.

Making our amends right now, doesn't seem so small.
The rewards from this action are always felt by all.

Taking God for granted

is one of the things we learned. Changing our old behavior is easier than getting burned.

What goes around comes around is another good saying.
Taking responsibility, along with lots of praying.

So all you have to do it talk and you will be relieved. So come and share it all, the things that you believed.

> by Evelyn Day Kotzebue

Evelyn P. Day, 40, was born in Kotzebue and is an Inupiaq Eskimo. She currently lives in Bethel and works for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She is a volunteer at the Phillips Alcohol Treament Center.