

The Gateway

Clean and Sober Widespread Panic Fans

What is The Gateway

Spring 2013

The Gateway is a group of Widespread Panic fans who choose to remain drug and alcohol free. The gateway is not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, the Panic or the Wharf Rats. The Gateway has absolutely no opinion on the issue of drugs and alcohol and neither condemns nor condones it. Our simple purpose is to provide support and information to those who seek the comfort and camaraderie of other clean and sober people at shows. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stay substance-free at shows. Though, The Gateway consists primarily of those recovering from addiction, we are open to anyone who wishes to remain clean and sober at shows.

Thank you for giving us our old job back—JB

Welcome back old friends ones. Last year left each tion. What was next from pause, a one year hiatus, a tours, retirement, but rather time thinking about it, we



listen to the music and go to other jam bands shows, thus proving one thing: "The music never stops." Some of us even sat at tables for other clean and sober music groups. One thing's for sure though, when Widespread came back, we showed up, with the largest meeting I've seen during the set break. Good to see you old friends and welcome to some new ones.

and greetings to those new of us with some anticipa-
Widespread—a long come back with short than spending too much did what we do best –

It's that time of year. Get ready to break out the bandana's, the tye dye's and the sandals. Widespread is gearing up for a fresh tour. With 13 shows throughout the eastern portion of the US.

9 April St. Louis, MO
10 April St. Louis, MO

12 April Chicago Illinois
13 April Chicago, Illinois

14 April Minneapolis, MN

16 April Louisville, KY
17 April Louisville, KY

19 April Live Oak, FL
20 April Live Oak, FL

23 April Columbia, SC
24 April Columbia, SC

26 April Alpharetta, GA
27 April Alpharetta, GA

2 May New Orleans, LA

3 May Nashville TN
4 May Nashville, TN



Kindly thanks sent from our friends

Thank you my Pilgrim friends. Over 8 years ago, I had nowhere to run. My principles had reached an all time low. I felt like I was drowning in pirannas in the river. Man what a drag ! And then came along an invisible lifeboat, with you in it, hollering " Come on get in, climb to safety ". Hope in a hopeless world, was right there in front of me. Don't let it get too dark, not this time. Can't be standing still. Days like this seem to take sometime, when they're over you'll be fine. I said " Show me the way Lord " And you said, " Spirit moves through all things " Everybody's smile is greeting. With you by my side I might get back alive.. So I'm still just here, brave, brave friends !!!

-Mickey from Alabama



One thing that I love about technology is the way that it has brought us closer together—by this I mean our new, well somewhat new Facebook page. Since the page has been created, there has been nothing but action on it, which continues to surprise the heck out of me. I thought that once Widespread took their hiatus things would cool down or at least the only people to use the site would be current members of the Gateway. Man, how all of y'all proved me wrong. The site has seen non-stop action since its beginning, including the inclusion of new fans and the tales of current ones.. Some fans have posted about other shows going on around them, others talk about side projects that the band are undertaking, one of our members even created a blog. The thing is, every time I think technology pushes us apart from one another, it seems to do wonders for fans such as ourselves. We get to meet some wonderful people and make some great friends because of the love we have for Widespread, the push we have to stay clean, and the belief we have in service work and The Gateway. I'm pretty sure after reading so many stories from fans of the band and members of The Gateway that we owe our lives to this fellowship. Thank goodness that we have what we do.—Ryan L.

Below are some things from the Facebook page. Look forward to seeing more on the page.

- **20 years ago today, I got on the recovery bus. Within a little over a year, I would be working tables for the Wharf Rats. I was there at the beginning of this group and did service for this one and all the other Yellow Balloon groups. Some of you became my close friends I could not go to music if this group did not exist. So glad it exists. - Michael Steinburg**
- **There's not 1 version of 'Bowlegged Woman' (by Panic) on Spotify! But that's ok, cause I'm sober today.—Luke LaGraff**
- **I'm looking forward to seeing all you good sober people tonight! One show at a time WSMFP!!!! - Patricia Hatcher**
- **Hello family. I am reaching out. I'm working on 9 months clean. I started seeing Panic about 12 years ago, it was our family outing. It has always been about the music for me, but obviously in my active addiction drugs became a part of it. I went to a few Phish shows over the summer, only with others in recovery. Well....I have got to see my boys for new years. But, I am going with people that are not in any program and I am not driving. I know that I will know other people at the show but I don't think anyone I will know is in recovery. I am going to the show, that is for sure I can't miss it. So, I'm asking in advance for some support and numbers. - Anonymous**

If you are interested in working a table, please go to www.soberfans.com Click on the "Service Work" link then click on the corresponding box under "volunteer 1" or "volunteer 2." Fill out the form on the next page and a message will be set to the corresponding of that area, he/she will email you back with a reply. Within the next few days. That email will have instructions attached about what to do. Please print these instructions out and bring them with you.

GATEWAY COORDINATORS:

Northeast: Tim D. walstib@netzero.com

Including the states of: Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C., Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Southeast: Josh B. bennettjoshuac@gmail.com

Including the states of: Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Midwest: Eddie B. bluegrassching@juno.com

Including the states of: Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, N Dakota, S Dakota, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Illinois

South: Flarcus msbmsbmsb@hotmail.com

Including the states of: Florida, Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana

Rocky Mountain: Scott S. scottsteiss@gmail.com

Including the states of: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico

West Coast: Chef Larry cheflarry@sbcglobal.net

Including the states of: Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii

Other Yellow Balloon Groups:

***Camp Traction - Clean & Sober Camping fans:**

<http://www.camptraction.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/camptraction>

***The Jellyfish - String Cheese Incident Fans:**

<http://www.scijellyfish.org/>

***Digital Buddhas - Disco Biscuits folks:**

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DigitalBuddhas/>

www.thedigitalbuddhas.org

***The Golden Gators - Particle Folks:**

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/GoldenGators/>

***The Phellowship - Phish Pholks:**

<http://www.phellowship.net>

***The Velcro Kangaroos - Yonder Mountain String Band Folks:**

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/velcrokangaroos/>

***Happy Hour Heroes - Moe Folks:**

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/happyhourhero/>

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