



What is the Gateway?

Fall 2015

The Gateway is a group of Widespread Panic fans who chose to remain drug and alcohol free. The Gateway is not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Widespread 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.

Greetings Panic fans!! Summer tour was amazing! We reconnected with old friends and gained many new ones along the way. Panic began the tour with a run with Umphrey's, moved on to Red Rocks, then the southeast, and wrapped it up at Forecast Festival.

Fall is always a great tour and this one looks like it is shaping up nicely with three nights in Milwaukee, Halloween in Asheville, and Panic's return to the Fox in Atlanta for the New Year's run. This year at LOCKN', the legendary Jimmy Cliff will be sitting in for a set with the boys! A new album, "Street Dogs", their 12th studio album is set for release on Sept. 25th. Although Duane Trucks filled in on the recording of the album, the band has announced that Todd Nance will be returning to his old job with them in 2016. It has been awesome watching our attendance at the table and set break meetings increase. Thank you Gateway members and especially to all volunteers who work the tables!

Fall Tour Dates:

9/4- Chicago, IL
9/5- Nashville, TN
9/6- Nashville, TN
9/12- Arrington, VA (LOCKN')
9/13- Arrington, VA (LOCKN')
10/23- Milwaukee, WI
10/24- Milwaukee, WI
10/25- Milwaukee, WI
10/30- Asheville, NC
10/31- Asheville, NC
12/29- Atlanta, GA
12/30- Atlanta, GA
12/31- Atlanta, GA
2/2-2/6- Riviera Maya, Mexico

~~ Words from our Good Pilgrim friends ~~

The power of the program and fellowship never ceases to amaze me. From time to time, we experience these miraculous moments where the power of God, however you understand him, is undeniable and literally mind blowing.

It was April of 2014, my girlfriend, sister, and I had driven from Atlanta to Augusta for a Widespread Panic show. The three of us were standing in line, outside of the venue, anxiously waiting for the venue to open, and out of nowhere, it starts pouring down rain. So, there we were, getting soaked, amongst thousands of other good people. We had never been to Augusta, nor to this particular venue, when the couple to our left asks, "Would you guys like to stand under our umbrella?". Naturally, we said yes, as we were all drenched. We introduced ourselves, told them where we were from, and the conversation went on from there. You will soon understand why I previously mentioned the power of the program and fellowship never ceasing to amaze me. Sometimes, we, or I, experience these events that are simply miraculous. I chose not to use the word coincidence on purpose as nothing, absolutely nothing happens in God's world by mistake.

So, it turns out that out of the thousands of people standing around us waiting to get in line, the couple that so generously asked us to stand under their umbrella with them was Gina and Mike; who happened to be members of the Gateway, and it just so happened that they were running the meeting during set break at that concert in Augusta. The coolest part of it, is that, this was our first experience with the Gateway, and we had just been talking about wanting to find where a meeting was.

Since that night in Augusta, we have become members of the Gateway, chairing the meetings during set break, and carrying the message to other good people in numerous cities across the country. That is how the power of the fellowship, the program, and the power of God, as I understand him work in my life. When I least expect it, and usually when I need it the most, God show up through people, through music, through anything and everything that is greater than myself. With that, I will pass and keep coming back! Thank you for letting me share my experience, strength, and hope. ~~ **Ryan D. and Allison H. (Atlanta, GA)** ~~

“Spirit moves, it moves through all things”... even the internet!!!

I am so excited that in August, “The Gateway” Facebook group, gained its 600th member, and we have been growing in numbers since. I know, for me, the Facebook group keeps me connected with you good, like-minded folks between shows. The page is full of Panic news, announcements, gratitude, hope, humor, love, and support. I think this has only strengthened the unity of our yellow balloon and specifically, the Gateway community. We are able to keep in contact with friends between shows, network, organize meets ups, and support one another. It has also been a great source of information for members to locate the table inside the venue. I love that we are able to stay connected wherever we are, and always helps remind me that “ I’m Not Alone”. ~ **Gina A.**

Here are a few posts to the Facebook page from our members:

“ Two away from 600 members guys! That’s some good stuff.”- **Justin T.**

“Just wanted to give a big shout out to Courtney W.! We got to meet Sat. in Southaven and work the table together. Let me tell ya, this girl rocks! This was my first sober show in about 6 years due to my addiction. She was so selfless, and said ‘Girl, go and enjoy the show, I got the table’. Wow! We both brought our girls to their first show! I’m so grateful for the Gateway and the people I got to meet that night! The meeting rocked! And, the show was incredible! I seriously had chill bumps that whole show and it was 110 degrees outside! All I can say is Ain’t Life Grand!! Thanks everybody and love ya Courtney!!”- **Libby R.**

“ Yesterday, we celebrated 9 months! My first table was Panic in Alpharetta last October with a week clean. Thankfully, another recovering addict showed me the way to having fun in recovery and it’s made all the difference this time. Much love to all.”- **Chad G.**

“ Table or not...in 3 hours I’ll be watching (and shooting) my 100th Panic show as a proud member of the Gateway. Thanks y’all!!- **Chad G.**

“ Thank you for the add!!! Music sounds better with new ears!”- **Emily C.**

“ I am so humbled to say this, but I have 10 years today. Thank you family for giving me some of the greatest friends and fun times in my life. It seems like only yesterday that I met Josh, Scotty, Arthur, Mikey, Chris and so many more of you, I think we were at almost every SE show for years. I love each of you, and I love the Gateway. I’m excited to actually celebrate with some of you at the Nashville shows. Thank you for always being there...this has been a very difficult year for me with the loss of my brother. I couldn’t have made it without the love and laughter from friends. I am forever grateful. Thank you for showing me light in the darkest of times! See you soon!”- **Kristina D.**

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 sent to the coordinator for that region. He or she will email you back with a reply within the next few days. That email will have instructions for table workers attached. Please read prior to the day of the show, print, and bring them with you. These can also be viewed on the website. Your service is greatly appreciated!

GATEWAY COORDINATORS:

Northeast: Tim D. walstib@netzero.com

Includes: 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

Includes: Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia, Florida, and Louisiana

Midwest: Eddie B. bluegrassching@juno.com

Includes: Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Illinois

Rocky Mountain: Steve K. sskatz21@aol.com

Includes: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma

West Coast: Lisa T. lisacterry@msn.com

Includes: Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii

Other Yellow Balloon Groups:

* Camp Traction- Clean & Sober Camping Fans: <http://www.camptraction.com> ,

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

*The Jellyfish- String Cheese Incident Fans: <http://www.scijellyfish.org>

*Digital Buddhas- Disco Biscuit Fans: www.thedigitalbuddhas.org

* The Wharf Rats- Grateful Dead Fans: www.wharfrat.org

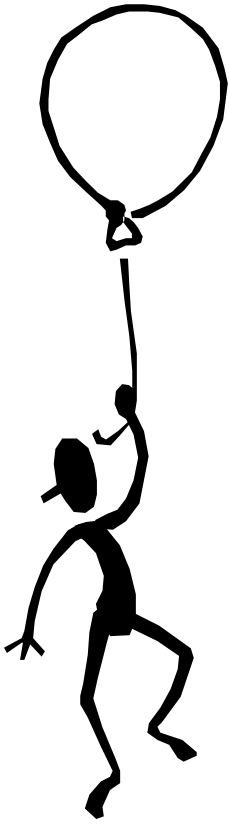
* The Phellowship- Phish Phans: <http://www.phellowship.net>

* Happy Hour Heroes- Moe Fans: happyhourhero.org

* Much Obligated- Umphrey’s McGee Fans: www.muchobliged.org

* The Velcro Kangaroos- Yonder Mountain String Band Fans:

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



**ONE
SHOW
AT A
TIME**