DB writes from a Texas prison:

“My Dear Friends,

It’s Christmas eve, 2000, my first Christmas in prison - a result of my acting out behaviors.

I had the advantage of some twenty-seven months of freedom between my arrest and court date, in which time I found a solid treatment program, and discovered SAA.

Unfortunately, there are not treatment programs here. I’ve worked to obtain study materials and depended on correspondence from fellow addicts to develop a program of my own. When things seem to be going rough, I’m always blessed with a letter from the fellowship or arrival of the PBR. The Prison Outreach surprised me with a wonderful package of material, and the impact has been tremendous! It’s been an on again, off again struggle - but at the moment things are looking positive that we may be able to establish a group here...

I received a copy of the PBR last night, and it was just like getting a wonderful Christmas gift! I was thrilled to read about the successful meeting in New Orleans and the upcoming annual conference. It really helps me to feel connected and motivated!”

[Here, the writer refers to his opinions on statistics of crime, societal problems, and their resolution, speaking to “our wounded-ness and the healing of each other”. This section closes with the following comment...] “We have earned the wisdom to heal, and the ability to care.”

He continues, “This is an exciting time for SAA! With the work being done to clearly define and publish the SAA Basic Text and the development of Public Service Announcements, we are on the verge of a major breakthrough that has the potential for an incredible impact! This work is vital! Public education is key. Acceptance won’t come without some hesitation, but advancement can only come through education. [Our] program works if [we] continue to learn about [ourselves]. Share… -live, and help live! Happy New Year”

DB

He enclosed the poem, “The Man in the Glass”