Hi Family my name is Jocelyn and I am a grateful recovering addict. The Month of May is very special to me, It’s the month I got clean three years ago, and after two years in recovery I printed my first issue as your new editor of this awesome newsletter! When I took on this position I didn’t know what I was doing, you could tell from the first issue I printed in May 2014. I was so proud of that first issue though. It’s an awesome feeling to do something for our area that people look forward to each month. It definitely keeps me accountable…

I started the first year of my recovery in Detroit, Once my kids were returned home to me from foster care I moved back to Macomb County. I was coming up on my one year clean when I got here. I got settled into my new NA home right away, and jumped right into doing service work. I would always check out the literature table for any newsletters, I enjoyed reading the articles in it and checking out the calendar on the back to see what was going on in our Area and who was having an anniversary for that month. I always saved them after I read them. I remember always wanting to send in my story to the newsletter and thinking how cool it would be to see my name under the Anniversary column. I wanted to send in my story for my one year clean but once my one year anniversary came around I hadn’t even started on it, then I said I will wait and do it for my 18 months clean, my 18 months came and still hadn’t started it. As I kept coming to meetings and staying connected with my NA friends/family, a friend suggested that I should Step up to do the newsletter since we didn’t have anyone else doing it for a few months. I didn’t really take it into consideration at first because it’s a serious commitment to take on and I wasn’t sure I was ready for that. It wasn’t like showing up to a meeting and chairing the meeting for 15-20 minutes, it was something I have to take home with me and work on and spend time on. It wasn’t for the support and encouragement from you all, I probably wouldn’t have stepped up on my own. Having my NA family by my side really helped take me to that next level in my recovery and I stay grateful for that.

Since doing this newsletter it has really opened up my eyes to the true meaning of service work. It keeps me going, its more than I ever thought a little willingness could take me. I wake up every morning grateful to be clean another day, I start up my coffee and turn on the computer and before I start working on the newsletter I say my little prayer before the kids wake up for the day…I thank my Higher Power for giving me the willingness and motivation to continue in my recovery. I thank my Higher Power for allowing me to have what I have today, which is so much more than I ever imagined for myself, but I didn’t get what I have over night, I had to put the work in, and I have to continue to put the work in. It’s that simple.

What I have today is the freedom from active addiction, peace of mind and a loving heart, I have learned that… I can only keep what I have by giving it away. It’s important for me to make service work a priority in my life, which for me is: doing this newsletter, maintaining a working relationship with my sponsor and sponsees, step work, a meeting a day, & chairing my home group meeting. I don’t allow myself to get bored when I’m at home either, I take care of my kids, keep up with my home, answer the phone, talk with my sponsees, do some step work. I do my mommy duties throughout the day and then make a meeting every evening. I can actually do these things today without getting overwhelmed with life like I used to when I was using.

I have not allowed myself to get bored in my recovery, especially when there is so much to do, Macomb county NA has different sub-committees in which to get involved, the Activities committee is one of the sub committees, they put together fun things for us to do with our families. We have a lot of picnics and parties throughout the year, I enjoy them all and so do my kids. Like they say in the rooms.. “If you’re bored it’s your own fault.” and that is the truth! If it wasn’t for service work I wouldn't know how to keep up with the life I have today. Life is pretty good today, I have everything I need. I can’t complain and when I find myself complaining I break out the gratitude list because I know I have so much to be grateful for today..so much. I stay extremely grateful for Macomb County NA for loving me when I couldn't love myself, for believing in me when I doubted myself, and for your support & encouragement!

Thank you Macomb county for allowing me to be of service...

Macomb Miracles Editor,

~Jocelyn D.~
MACNA V

Bowling Fundraiser for Macomb Area Convention

Saturday June 6, 2015
Registration starts at 6:30pm
Shore Lanes 31100 Harper, St/ Claire Shores
(Harper & 13 Mile Rd.)
Cost: $20.00 Per Person includes 3 Games of Bowling
(9 Pin No Tap)
Shoes, Pizza, and Pop.

If you pre-register and pay by June 1st, 2015 you will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a free registration to the MACNA V Convention.

Optional Raffles: Basket Raffles, 50/50 Raffle, Mystery Jackpot, Strike ball

If you have a group or certain people you want to bowl with or next to, it is best to preregister together to assure you are on the same lanes.

All proceeds from this fundraiser go to support the Macomb Area Convention.

Please come out and support the convention and have some fun.

For pre-registration or any questions contact Kathy M. at (586) 569-1084 or Lori M. (586)-214-8722

The still-suffering addict with whom we share our hope may be any one of us, regardless of clean time. Tradition Five is not limited to helping newcomers. The message of recovery is for all of us. “Living Clean the journey continues.”

From the Area:

Vote on Administration committee Budget request (GSR)

Nominations for all Subcommittees (to be taken back to groups to vote on)-

Activities, H&I, PR, Newsletter, helpline, Literature, Outreach, Area Web Site.

An Area service committee (ASC) is a committee made up of representatives (GSR’s) from NA groups within a designated area, which meets monthly for the expressed purpose of serving the specific needs if it’s member groups.

The most important service an ASC provides is that of group support. An ASC handles whatever functions are necessary or helpful to it’s groups. In order to provide these services, an ASC needs the active participation of its GSR’s. A group supports its ASC both financially and emotionally. It is each group’s responsibility to offer this support. The active participation of each group service representative (GSR) is essential for a successful ASC. Each GSR must keep his or her own group informed, and must represent that group’s conscience in committee decisions.

0 new groups
2 new GSR’s
14 GSR Present/Quorum was met

Word of the Month from the Recovery Dictionary

Unity: 1. An unreduced or broken completeness or totality 2. The quality of being united into one 3. The spirit that joins thousands of members around the world in a spiritual fellowship that has the power to change lives. (It works H&W pg.125) 4. Is not Uniformity (Just For Today pg.21)

Unity of Purpose: 1. To recover, and to help others stay clean. (Just For Today pg.21)

TRADITION FIVE

“Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.”

Our primary purpose is at the heart of our service. With guidance from a loving Higher Power and a clear focus on this purpose, NA groups become a channel for the healing power of recovery.

Narcotics Anonymous exists to help addicts find freedom from active addiction. Tradition Five helps our groups fulfill the fundamental reason for their existence: to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. The character of the group is not its purpose, however. The message we carry is not our group personality but the message of Narcotics Anonymous - the principles of recovery.

We lead by example, sharing experience instead of advice. Group members help further our primary purpose when they take personal responsibility for keeping the meeting recovery oriented. All our actions convey a message, and Tradition Five reminds us to make it a message of recovery. Unity of purpose keeps our focus on carrying the message.

As groups, we work together to ensure not only our own personal recovery but the recovery of every NA member. The evidence of many addicts staying clean and seeking our common good is very persuasive. We don’t recover alone.

In anonymity, our personal differences are insignificant compared to our primary purpose. When we come together as a group, our first task is to carry the message; all else ought to be set aside. Groups can practice the Fifth Tradition by reminding their members that the recovery message, not individual personalities, is primary in NA. (It works H&W)

If you would like to submit an item, Make sure that it is N.A or recovery related, 500 words or less. Anonymity is strongly advised (as far as naming names) By sending in any submissions you hereby grant permission to Macomb Miracles, their successors, assigns and those acting on their behalf authority to publish the attached original material and you understand that this material may be edited or reprinted in other NA journals. Each item will be checked and edited if needed and will become property of the Macomb Miracles. You can submit an item to the N.A website www.michigan-na.org/macomb (good) or to your G.S.R (better) or to macombmiracles@yahoo.com (best). We are looking for news, events, poetry, your story, your opinion, artwork, Questions for our new section “Dear Addy” or anything you think may be suitable. The newsletter “business meeting” meets on the last Thursday of every month at 7pm before the “Today we live 2” group meeting.
A hate filled mind is what consumed my time
Lost in a sea of anger cause I couldn’t see the danger.
Slowly killing myself, to die by the hands of someone else was my biggest fear.
So lonely that I wanted to die, I didn’t care
A lost soul looking for the light
When I stopped looking the light found me.
Now my ambition is driven by what I’ve been given
I was wishing to change my way of living
Come to realize, living is my way of change.
Now my decisions come from the heart,
Instead of always listening to my brain.
Once upon a time, a mind changed from hate to love
And it’s clearly defined that it came from above!
Tom C.

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning to the end
He noted that first came her date of birth and he spoke the following date with tears
But he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years
For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth
And now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.
For it matters not how much we own; the cars, the house, the cash;
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.
So think about this long and hard,
Are there things you’d like to change?
For you never know how much time is left, that can still be rearranged.
If we could just slow down enough to consider what’s true and real
And always try to understand the way other people feel.
And be less quick to anger, and show appreciation more.
And love the people in our lives like we’re never loved before.
If we treat each other with respect, and more often wear a smile
Remembering that this special dash might only last a little while
So, when your eulogy is being read with your life’s actions to rehash
Would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?
Anonymous

Dear Addy,

Dear Addy, What exactly is service work?
~Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Service work is what someone does to help the fellowship of N.A.
Making coffee, being a greeter, chairing a meeting, taking on any service position in our N.A. structure.
Service work is a way to give back to the fellowship what has been freely given to you.
The Guide to Local service states: “The people who give their time to service work are a vital resource; without them, our service boards and committees would not exist, much less be able to serve.”
It also states: “Our fellowship’s leaders ought not be dictators or order-givers; they are our servants.
Able leadership in the spirit of service does not drive by arrogant mandate,
demanding conformity; it leads by example, inviting respect.
And nothing invites us to respect our trusted servants more than clear evidence of their humility.”
Service work is done by an individual or a group,
that is done unselfishly and humbly to assist our fellowship in being able to provide the one thing we do best and that is to help the still suffering addict.
-Addy

Dear Addy is a fictional character along the lines of Dear Abby. The opinion expressed here are reviewed by the newsletter committee and have the same review that any article in the newsletter would have. They are in no way the opinion of NA as a whole and are for entertainment purposes only.

If you would like to submit a question to Addy, please send your question to macombmiracles@yahoo.com
-Newsletter Committee-
## May/June 2015

### Upcoming Events

It’s always best to get your events and announcements in early so we may print them and let the fellowship know what’s going on and to show that we do have fun without using. Any picnics, socials, open talks,....any activities at all send them to:

macombmiracles@yahoo.com

To get a “Just For Today” Daily Meditation sent to your Email or phone everyday just go to this site and sign up! Just that easy.

Go to NA.org Click on “service to members” Then click on “Just for today subscriptions.

“366 daily meditations, one for everyday of the week.”

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### Anniversaries

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Clean Date</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pete A.</td>
<td>05-08-13</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob B.</td>
<td>05-10-07</td>
<td>8 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin</td>
<td>05-03-14</td>
<td>1Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julianne C.</td>
<td>05-11-82</td>
<td>33 yrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jocelyn D.</td>
<td>05-19-12</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard D.</td>
<td>11-25-13</td>
<td>18mos</td>
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<td>Denise F.</td>
<td>05-11-04</td>
<td>11 yrs</td>
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<td>Pam G.</td>
<td>05-31-11</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
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<td>Nicole K.</td>
<td>05-09-04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taleya K.</td>
<td>05-17-05</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
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<td>Joe M.</td>
<td>05-04-13</td>
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<td>Towana</td>
<td>05-13-06</td>
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<td>Brian S.</td>
<td>05-23-13</td>
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<td>Gary S.</td>
<td>05-12-83</td>
<td>32 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave V.</td>
<td>05-30-89</td>
<td>26 yrs</td>
</tr>
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### Michigan Service Office

726 Livernois Ferndale, MI 48220
(248)544-2010 M.S.O Hours-Tues,Wed, Thurs-10am-6pm and Saturday 10am-4pm

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### NA Helpline:

(248)543-7200 or toll free: 877-338-1188