Hello my name is James and I am a grateful recovering addict who is about to celebrate one year clean. Words can not express how much Narcotic Anonymous and you all have meant to me over this past year. This program and you guys have given me a chance at life again. Our primary purpose is to carry the message to the still sick and suffering addict and the message you all gave this addict was hope. The only promise you all made me was that an addict, ANY addict, can lose the desire to use and find a new life. And I saw this in the lives of recovering addicts through out meetings and events and this continues to give me hope.

There is so much I could say about this past year and what you guys have taught me, but I will sum it up in some key words.. Humility, Surrender, acceptance. The three things I had to learn not only from my sponsor, but watching, listening and learning from all of you. One of the biggest things I had to learn though was to be grateful, grateful for the little things in life that I once was ashamed about.

Having an attitude of gratitude is such a catchy slogan, but for me it is much more than that, it is a way of life. No matter how bad it gets or seems, how fast a storm may come, I always try to find a way to humble myself enough to find the silver linen in any storm that may come. There is one thing I have found out during my time in recovery, it is never as bad as it seems or appears, it could always be worse or someone out there has it worse.

When I find something daily to be grateful for, especially in those days I don't want to be grateful for anything or feel like there is nothing to be grateful for, those are the days I have to get out of myself, humble myself and drop the self pity. It is easy for me to start feeling like I’m not good enough, I don't have everything I want in life, I don't have everything I should have in life, I am a complete failure. When those thoughts occur, I have to hit my knees and pray to my Higher Power. My disease wants to keep me sick and it attacks me through my thoughts. I pray to my Higher Power and I find myself becoming grateful for the things I do have and what my Higher Power has provided for me, which is another day alive, another day clean, a roof over my head, food in the fridge, clothes on my back, transportation to meetings and the blessing of being surrounded by other recovering addicts. So yeah, I don't have everything I want in life, but I have exactly what I need and for that I am grateful.

Today, I am finally living life, yes I have stumbled and fallen, but I have got myself up and gave life another try. Today, I have accepted I am human, mistakes have been made in my past, but today I am moving forward. I will never be perfect, but recovery is an ongoing process of change and I have been progressing without even noticing at times. I keep growing, I keep learning, I am grateful for this process of life. Lets face it, stuff happens in life, life puts us through all sorts of twist and turns and this still does happen in recovery. We still are presented with situations that challenge us, but will help us grow and become better people, life teaches us divine lessons..

Today, I am grateful. I'm grateful for another day clean, I'm grateful for the program and fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, I'm grateful for the Steps in the program, grateful for my Higher Power. I'm grateful that I can deal with life on life’s terms clean, NO MATTER WHAT! Im grateful for my past and what I have been through, because it brought me to where I am today and today I feel like I have a purpose in life.

Thank you all for accepting me without judgment, thank you for being empathetic, and showing me love when I thought I was unlovable. James L
In August 1953 a group called the Governing Committee started to meet formally and keep minutes. Their first recorded meeting was held August 17, 1953 at the house of Frank and Doris C. on Stagg street in Van Nuys, California. Six were present: Frank and Doris, Jimmy, Paul R, Gilda K, and Steve R. All present accepted the responsibility to serve for anywhere from three to six months; also elected were Jimmy as chairman and Doris as secretary of the rotating committee for leadership.

Two other items of interest were enacted. First they voted to call the group “San Fernando Valley Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous,” over the protest of Jimmy K. later on he would say, “They had just elected me chairman and vetoed my first suggestion, so we were off to a pretty darned good start!”

He was able, however, to convince the other members to contact World Services to see if they could use the AA name. After AA’s General Service informed them they could not affiliate themselves with AA, the name was change to Narcotics Anonymous.

-Miracles Happen

“Our Traditions teach us that in NA there are no classes of membership. It follows that the new member is as likely to save the life of the old timer as the reverse. When we stay open to that reality, many of the limitations we set for ourselves disappear. We teach by example. Even when we are teaching what not to do, we are still carrying a message. Sharing our experience gives it meaning and value. Our hope is that the next member will do better than we did, that they can learn from our mistakes. It doesn’t always work: We are people who tend to learn things the hard way. But when a member with two years clean shares with us that the experience we had at ten years clean kept them from doing the same thing, we know that we are getting better, personally and as a fellowship.” Living Clean The Journey

Dear Addy, What’s the difference between constructively pointing out a friend’s bad behavior, and taking someone else’s inventory? Anonymous

Dear Anonymous, When done for the purpose of helping another addict and when based on our own experiences then it is constructively helping a friend. We can judge each other’s actions or behaviors, but we cannot judge the intent of another person’s heart. With this said then we must always be careful when judging what another person’s “Bad behavior” is and is not.

The difference then would be whether we are doing it in a constructive non-judgmental way or doing it for the benefit of our own self will. If we are truly being constructive and offering our own strengths and hopes, then we are not taking inventory.

Addy dips into the Basic Text 6th Edition Chapter 7 Recovery and Relapse: Page 82– One of the biggest stumbling blocks to recovery seems to be placing unrealistic expectations on ourselves or others.

Chapter 10 More will be revealed: Page 102– If we are unwilling to listen to others, we will deny the need for improvement. We learn to become flexible and to admit when others are right and we are wrong. As new things are revealed, we feel renewed., Page 104-We are each other’s eyes and ears; when we do something wrong our fellow addicts help us to help ourselves by showing us what we cannot see.

Page 104– By carrying this message to another addict, we are well reminded of where we come from. Having had an opportunity to remember old feelings and behaviors, we are able to see our own personal and spiritual growth.

Definitions:

Constructively-
1. constructing or tending to construct; helping to improve; promoting. Further development or advancement (opposed to destructive)

2. Denoting an act or condition not directly expressed but inferred from other acts or conditions.

Inventory-
1. to take stock of; evaluate
2. To summarize

In Loving Service,

Addy-

-Miracles Happen

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
Our ability to feel joy and gratitude can be a direct result of the suffering we have endured. Staying clean is not a guarantee that nothing bad will happen, but the principles in the steps teach us how to live on life’s terms and give us the courage, strength, and wisdom to stay clean no matter what. We are able to live lives of joy and purpose no matter what we have been through. Faith is what keeps us doing the footwork even when we can’t see the reason.” LCTJC

MACNA VI THEME & LOGO CONTEST
Win a free registration to this years Convention!!!
Come up with a “Theme” and “Logo” and submit your designs by April 8th and win a free entry to MACNA VI. The winner will be chosen on April 9th 2016.
Your design should be geared to the newcomer so keep that in mind during your creative process! Submit your design package to your group GSR or give it to any of the Area Committee members or at the next Convention Committee meeting. All designs will be reviewed for content and will become property of MACNA VI once submitted. All submissions are subject to changes. Don’t forget to add your name and phone number.
YOU CAN DO THIS! GET YOUR DESIGNS IN NOW!
MACOMB AREA CONVENTION 2016

From the Area

There were 21 groups that reported last month to AREA
The following groups listed below have these comments/concerns:
Serenity on Sunday is in need of a GSR. Just For Tuesday is in need of trusted servants. Friends in Recovery is in need of trusted servants and Daily Maintenance is doing well but can always use volunteers with multiple years in recovery to come help carry the message due to the fact that this meeting has a large number of newcomers in attendance. The remaining groups have no concerns or need for Outreach or Policy advisor assistance.
Helpline Chair, Outreach, and RCM are currently open.
Corrections to last months minutes - Stacy S. was nominated for Treasurer (not Co-Treasurer) and Mark W. for Co-Treasurer (not Treasurer)
Election results for ASC administration:
Chairperson-Rainy L. Co-Chair-Hillary H. Treasurer-Stacy S. Co-Treasurer-Mark W. Secretary-Towan N. Co-Secretary-Jeanne R.
Voted in for sub-committee Chairs are as followed: Public Relations– Carl S. Web Servant-Nick S. Policy– Frank K. Literature– Frankie B. Co RCM– Steve L.
New Business– Jillian S. could not take the position of RCM that she was nominated for in January. Position open for voting.
Nominations are as followed:
Robert B. for RCM
Steve L. for RCM
Mike G. for RCM
Joe R. for Helpline Chair
Jaylen T. for Outreach Chair
Motion was presented to add a co-policy advisor, to be added on 04/02/16 there will be a C.A.R Workshop and they are currently looking for a location in Macomb County to hold this event. Next Regional Meeting is March 20th 2016 at the MSO at 1pm Annual Treasurer’s report will be presented at March’s ASC Meeting.

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

Get the Macomb Miracles Newsletter sent directly to you by sending an email to macombmiracles@yahoo.com with the word ‘subscribe’ as your subject.

Newsletter Egg Hunt
How many Easter eggs can you find throughout this newsletter?

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MACOMB AREA CONVENTION 2016

Newsletter Egg Hunt
How many Easter eggs can you find throughout this newsletter?

“Lets Get Better Together” Presents
Marathon Meeting
March 27th, 2016 from 9am until 9pm
At Eastwood Clinic Rd Suite 200
Warren, MI 48092
Events:
Marathon meeting from 9am until 7pm
7pm until 9pm Four Speaker Panel
-Topics to be determined
Snacks welcome

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## March/April 2016 Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><strong>Area Meeting</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henry Ford Macomb Hospital at 10:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td><strong>Regional Meeting— Michigan Service Office (MSO) 1pm</strong></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 <strong>H&amp;I Committee Mtg—</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>New location St.Margaret’s church 6pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td><strong>Happy Easter</strong></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31 <strong>Newsletter Committee Mtg—</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eastside Alano Club @ 7:30p</td>
<td>APRIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Area Meeting</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henry Ford Macomb Hospital at 10:30am</td>
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### Anniversaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Clean Date</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James L.</td>
<td>3/12/15</td>
<td>1 Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angie W.</td>
<td>09-15-14</td>
<td>18 mos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark A.</td>
<td>03-23-08</td>
<td>8 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua D.</td>
<td>03-20-14</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spencer D.</td>
<td>12-17-14</td>
<td>15 mos,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug H.</td>
<td>03-06-89</td>
<td>27 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reggie K-B</td>
<td>03-24-07</td>
<td>9 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy M.</td>
<td>03-16-83</td>
<td>33 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia M.</td>
<td>09-26-13</td>
<td>2-1/2yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael P.</td>
<td>03-28-08</td>
<td>8 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald S.</td>
<td>02-15-15</td>
<td>1 Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacy S.</td>
<td>09-23-13</td>
<td>2-1/2yrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### From the Editor

Hi Family thank you for picking up and reading this newsletter. I do my best every month to make this a good read for you all, but you can always help make it better, by submitting your own words for others to read. I ask for you to submit your story because I know we all have one, and there’s someone that needs to read it. We can only keep what we have by giving it away. By sharing your own experience, strength, and hope you help the addict who reads it and it also helps you. It truly is a great feeling to share with others. Help keep this newsletter going with the message of recovery by submitting to Macombmiracles@yahoo.com, your story, recovery related questions for “Dear Addy”, Anniversary clean dates, artwork, poems, NA news, or ideas for the newsletter. The newsletter business meeting is held on the last Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Eastside Alano club on 9mile & Hoover. I look forward to seeing you there! Thank you for allowing me to continue to be of service.

Your Newsletter Editor, Jocelyn D.

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**Michigan Service Office**

726 Livernois Ferndale, MI 48220

(248)544-2010 M.S.O Hours-Tues,Wed,Thu,Fri:10am-6pm and Sat-Sun 10am-4pm

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**Easter egg hunt answer = 22**

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