My name is_________, and I’m an addict……..

I used to be so ashamed to say those words, even to myself. I was scared of what people might say about me, what they would think, what I would think about myself. Whenever I wasn’t trying to get high or get money to get high, I was doing my best to hide the fact that I was an addict, that my life was falling apart and it was because of the poor choices that I had made. I thought that I had everyone fooled, when the only person that I had fooled was myself. I didn’t see how anything could possibly ever change. I got worse and worse, my life spiraling out of control, and that’s the life that I lived for 16 years. It finally happened though, I finally had enough and the pain got great enough to make me want to change. It started with getting arrested. A nice little trip out to county (ha-ha). Once I got there I kept my distance from almost everyone. If I knew them on the streets or knew that they planned on continuing there use I stayed away. It got frustrating at times but I knew what I had to do. When I finally got out of jail I started going to meetings, hanging out with people in recovery and got a sponsor. I did all the thing that I had thought was so foolish before. I kept getting better, started smiling more and started enjoying my life more. Instead of using drugs when I was having a problem, I used a phone and called people in the fellowship and went to a meeting instead of the dope house. Its worked for me since April 7th 2015.

I’m not alone and with your help I can stay clean. I can’t but WE CAN….I’m also not ashamed anymore. I’m proud to say …

My name is Christmas and I’m an addict.

Send in your story to MacombMiracles@yahoo.com to see it here.
There seems to be this alternative: either go on as best we can to the bitter end—jails, Institutions, or death—or find a new way to live. In years gone by, very few addicts ever had this last choice. -Little White Booklet

Written in the early sixties, these often-quoted and powerful words are universally understood today to represent the miraculous success of our program. Through NA, addicts in more than seventy countries are finding new hope and a new way to live clean. More of us each day are finding freedom from the horrors of active addiction. We thank our Higher Power each day for the success of our program and the continuing growth of our fellowship.

A History Lesson: US Drug Use in the Twentieth Century

Drug use for medicinal, religious, and recreational purposes is at least as old as recorded history. From the earliest written human record (of the Sumerian people of Asia Minor in 3000 B.C.) through the Middle Ages, human beings experimented with and created new drugs for a variety of purposes across virtually all cultures. In Europe, by 1541, the Swiss alchemist Paracelsus had invented laudanum—opium dissolved into a liquid form. This easily transported and administered mixture soon gained widespread popularity throughout Europe as a curative potion. The use of opium, in fact, became epidemic in sixteenth-century Europe, particularly in England, and in America as well. Unfortunately, the most common usage of the drug was in children’s medicines sold under “friendly” names such as “Godfrey’s Cordial,” “Munn’s Elixir,” and “Mother Bailey’s Quieting Syrup.”

It was soon discovered that such “medicines,” when too regularly administered, could prove fatal. But many poor woman of that time who did textile work in their homes had few alternatives but to “dope” their children with opium.

Around 1803, German pharmacist W. Serturner successfully isolated the active ingredient in opium. He named the substance morphine after Morpheus, the Greek god of dreams and sleep, and the drug soon came into common medical use.

Conveniently, it would only be about another forty years before the invention of the hypodermic syringe. Not surprisingly, over the next century, literally hundreds of thousands would become addicted to this new, more potent substance for physicians believed it to be simply a harmless, though extremely effective, painkiller. In America, reliance on morphine as a medicinal painkiller reached its peak during the Civil War period. It has been estimated that the was produced 400,000 morphine addicts in the army alone.

-Miracles Happen

In July of 1976 a substance abuse counselor returned from a trip to Connecticut with some N.A. literature and the address of the W.S.O the NA meeting started in September/ October. Our counselor friend stayed long enough to explain what he knew of NA and to stress the necessity of NA. Members running their own meetings. The necessary stability for the group was provided by our Higher Power when an addict, active in NA in Detroit in 1969 became a member of our group.


In 1978 or 79 we obtained a copy of the “NA Tree”, the forerunner of our service manual. Early meetings followed much the same format as other Twelve Step Fellowships. Hugs were not yet part of the NA way of life. In fact, the early meetings cards used literature from AA and simply changed the name to NA. Violations of Traditions were due part to confusion about the separation of members who were involved in multiple self-help groups. Gradually the group grew in size so as to have approximately ten active member’s by 1979-80. An outgrowth of the Never Alone Group was the beginning of two institutional meetings per week at the local hospital in 1980. These meetings remain in place.

Additionally, our region was introduced to the NA hug not drugs. Information provided at the Georgia convention gave us the opportunity to become aware that NA was NA, and that we needed to have only NA literature at our meetings. Informal meetings were held to review the proposed Basic Text. Most members involved in this review process recall a sense of “aw”. We finally had a text, a blue print for recovery. Many felt relieved but overwhelmed by the NA truth. Our problem was a disease not a particular substance.

-M.S.O

Newcomers should go to many meetings and sit with many people and listen to what they say. They should look for someone that seems to be working a program and has some clean time. They should ask them questions like what steps have they worked, who is their sponsor, how many years clean do they have? Sponsors should have working knowledge of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. Then they ask the person to be their sponsor. –Addy

Why is humility so important to recovery? Mark W.

Addy goes to the dictionary first…Humility: the quality or condition of being humble; modest opinion or estimate of one’s own importance, rank, etc.

When someone is humble they are aware of their own importance and know their place in the world, they are teachable and can grasp the fact that it is not all about them. Humility allows us to be open to the recovery process and let the goodness from all of us shine forth.

Addy goes outside the fellowship: “Humility, like darkness, reveals the heavenly lights” -Henry David Thorea

Is recovery sexually transmitted? Jeanne R.

I think that we all wish that it was or may even justify our behavior by making a claim that it is. Addy would have to say that even though it appears that addiction is sexually transmitted, recovery does not appear to be. –Addy

How does a newcomer go about getting a sponsor? Rick D.

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
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

**NEW!**
Join us for the New Recovery “Chalk Talk” at the “Just For Tuesday” Meeting, starting June 28th & will continue on the last Tuesday of every month (will be held in a separate room from the regular meeting)

Just For Tuesday Meets at 7pm on Tuesdays @ St. Margaret’s church (21201 13mile Rd btw Gratiot/Harper)

The “Go For It” Group of Narcotics Anonymous has changed it’s time from 7:30pm– to **8:00pm**

Meets Sundays at Church of the Master
30200 Schoenherr Rd, Warren ,MI

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**MACOMB ROAD RALLY FUNDRAISER FOR MACOMB AREA CONVENTION**
Sunday July 17, 2016

Road Rally Starts at 1:00pm (check-in is at 12:30pm)

Detail: Entrance fee for Road Rally is $120.00 per car with a maximum of 4 people per car. The entrance fee includes, Road Rally adventure, prizes for 1st place team, After Party with steak dinner, an evening filled with music, speaker, and lots of fun fellowshipping.

If you cannot participate in the Road Rally but want to join in the party afterwards, including steak dinner, the cost is $25.00 per person.

“After Party” starts at 5:30pm

Registration for road rally and tickets for “After Party” MUST be purchased in advanced by July 10th, NO ADMITTANCE without Road Rally registration or tickets for “After Party.”

This event will take place at Will Stephanie’s home (16 Mile & Groesbeck) and there is a limit to the number of people we can accommodate for this event, register early and get your After Party tickets right away.

Registration and After Party Tickets can be purchased through the Convention Committee.

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**MACOMB AREA CAMPOUT**
Friday, July 22nd thru Sunday, July 24th 2016

Friday & Saturday night speakers
Fireside meetings Boat & Bike Rental
Fishing, Swimming, Waterslide, Mini Golf, Volleyball
Good Clean Fun in Recovery!
Advance Cost $58.00 for Two Nights
Price Includes Camping space ONLY
Site Must be paid in full before the event
We need a minimum of 10 sites with a MAX of 15 sites available

*Please Reserve Your Spot Soon!*
Call Marty K. at (810).523.6167 for Reservations & Info
Groveland Oaks Campground
1455 Dixie Hwy. Holly, MI 48442
248-634-9811
www.destinationoakland.com

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**MACOMB COUNTY AREA PICNIC**
SUNDAY, AUGUST 7th, 2016
12:00pm to 6pm

Lake St. Clair Metro park
31300 Metro Parkway Harrison Township, MI 48045
North Marina Picnic Shelter
Activities will supply hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks.
Please bring a dish to pass.
Music, Softball, Volleyball, Activities for the kids.
Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, bathing suits, towels, and be ready to have a great day!!!!

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**NEW MEETING- SALVATION RECOVERY**
A Closed Meeting For Addicts Only
SALVATION ARMY M.A.T.T.S
24140 MOUND RD. WARREN, MI 48092 NORTH ENTRANCE. WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00PM

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

**July/August**

**Activities**

<table>
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<th>Sun</th>
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<td>GSR Workshop</td>
<td>9am following Area Meeting Henry Ford Macomb Hospital at 10:30am</td>
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<td><strong>NA Helpline:</strong> (248)543-7200 or toll free: 877-338-1188</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Road Rally</strong> See Flyer Inside for more details</td>
<td>22 Macomb Area Campout See Flyer Inside</td>
<td>23 Macomb Area Campout See Flyer Inside</td>
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<td>24 <strong>Macomb Area Campout</strong> See Flyer Inside</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 <strong>H&amp;I Committee Mtg</strong>—New location St. Margaret’s church 6pm</td>
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<td>28 <strong>Newsletter Committee Mtg</strong>—Eastside Alano Club @ 7pm</td>
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<td>31 <strong>Helpline sub-committee Mtg</strong>—1pm Eastside alano club 11487 E. 9mile</td>
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**Anniversaries**

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<td>6 Years!</td>
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<td>Karen O.</td>
<td>07-26-13</td>
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<td>Nico R.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nick S.</td>
<td>07-08-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacy T.</td>
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<td>1 Year</td>
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**Hi family!**

The newsletter really needs your help! Send in your poems, artwork, Anniversary clean dates, Articles, your story, NA news, and we also really need people to start submitting questions for the Dear Addy section.

If you want to keep it going, send your question(s) to Macombmiracles@yahoo.com. If you do not have access to email you can also submit on paper, in person.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Jocelyn :D