

THE NA UNITY

"Carrying the message of recovery, not the disease."

November 2021

Even as a youth, if you want it, give it away!

Earlier this Month I watched a young woman celebrate some significant clean time. As I looked around the room filled with people who loved and cared about her, may heart was filled with such joy.

Her smile and the warmth that she greeted other member with, showed the true joy in her life. She came to our fellowship as a broken girl and now this young brilliant, accomplished woman stood waiting to share her experience, strength and hope. Introduced by another young woman whom she had mentored and sponsored. As her sponsee spoke words of love, admiration, and joy, about their relationship, and journey she had share with this person. How she had help her grow and learned how to sponsor other women.

This woman who came into our fellowship at 18 years old, has built a life filled with joy, love and accomplishments. She became a part of. She learned from others and the gave of herself. She took care of herself first, then used a power greater than herself to start to heal the areas in her life that needed to be addressed. She has given back to society and has participated in service.

Many young people fear there will never be no fun left in recovery when they get clean at an early age. This is a shining example of how far your life can go. The only limitations you have are then ones you put on yourself. The more you involve yourself in this fellowship, the more you receive. We keep what we have, by giving it away.

As I close this, my friend and I both share the same message in our book, as being very important. "The message is that, an addict, any addict, can stop using, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live. Basic text pg 68." I am grateful that I can be in the presence of such great people. The old lie is dead, once and addict always an addict. We do recover!

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Addict named, John C



Changing Gods

When I came into NA, I came with a God that was human. My thoughts were not my own, my feelings were not my own. I was not my own. My God and I came into the fellowship together. One of the first suggestions I got was: even if we made the same meetings, sit at different tables. This would allow me a chance to share freely, safe in the fellowship in the arms of anonymity. But I did not believe them. I just knew everything I shared would get home before I did. But I kept coming and sat at different tables...

I soon got a sponsor that told me that I was special and beautiful and worthy of everything God has to offer. I didn't believe that either. She suggested that I put up sticky notes that said – "you are beautiful", "you are worthy", "you are special", and many more positive sayings. I put these sticky notes up (the human higher power did not like this at all), I had no idea of the benefits at the time. I would read them daily. The days turned into weeks and months. I was making meetings, doing step work and service work. I learned that I don't need someone else to validate who I am. I started to believe those sticky notes, and one day they came down.

Now I had a void, a spiritual void I needed to fill quickly. I went all the way back to my childhood and grabbed my grandmother's God. The God that would surely send me to hell for everything I did in my addiction, every sin I committed in my life. Was this to be the "Higher Power" that NA was talking about? The fear immediately set in and I called my sponsor. She told me I was ready to begin my relationship with a Higher Power of my own understanding. I must tell you that I am one of those people that has to have things tangible. I need to see, feel, taste, touch, and hear things before I can believe them. Thin air was, and is, a hard pill to swallow.

At about 1 ½ years clean I got a warrant in the mail for a crime that I committed in my addiction. I was looking at 14 years for embezzlement. I turned myself in and went to court. I got 1 year probation with the record expunged at the end as long as I paid the all the money, fines, and court costs by years end. That was my first experience with a miracle (other than the one that got me here), and my relationship with my new Higher Power began. I actually started to seek this Higher Power.

Today with a little over 7 years clean the relationship with the God of my understanding has grown and that is where my trust and faith lies. My human Higher power is no more, my grandmother's God is no more. I have a God of my own understanding... Thank God.

Lisa E.

Bent but not Broken...

Pain has accompanied so many of my memories I find myself throwing pity parties on regular occasions. Seriously, I know someone right now is going through immense pain as I write this, without pain there can be no joy. Without hurt there can't be happiness. Yin? Yang? Up? Down? Why does there have to be "downs" along with the "ups"? Is the pain of life worth the joy of life?



CLEAN DATES

Stacy P 10/2 13yr Sarah S 10/4 18mo Beth G 10/4 14yr Samantha M 10/9 1yr Joe T 10/9 21yr Sarah L 10/12 3yr Victoria A 10/18 6yr Mel R 10/18 9yr Genise10/18 15yr Joe K 10/22 1yr Steve M 10/22 1yr Fred B 10/23 29yr Gary H 10/29 4yr

Caught

My name is Megan and I am an addict... Addicted to painkillers. At the age of 14 my parents got a divorce and I was in a lot of pain. I never thought they would split up. They always seemed happy, but in reality my mom was trying to protect me. My dad would come home every day and drink till he fell asleep and argue with my mom or at least try. He would smack my mom around and I felt helpless ... Because I couldn't help her. All I wanted to do was cover her with a blanket and save her.

So that's when I started doing drugs, because it numbed the pain. By the time I was 17 years old, it got worse. My mom had remarried, and I was constantly getting in trouble. I was so mad that I hated my stepdad. I wanted to be the one who protected my mom. What's really crazy is I never thought he would be the one to save my life one day! As time went on I was satisfied just using. It numbed all my pain. I continued on the path of destruction, lying, stealing, screaming at my kids and lying to myself. Because when the drugs wore off I still felt the same, with the same problems.

Then one day I was "caught"... My family knew my step-dad (whom I consider my dad), my mom, and my husband. From there I went into treatment and didn't know what to expect. I was scared and alone with no drugs to help numb my feelings. I didn't think anyone would understand. Then I realized everyone there was just like me. With the support of my husband, my Mom, "Dad" and rehab I found hope, faith and my-self! Through working the NA way and support from my family. I realize just a day at a time... Don't give up 5 minutes before the miracle happens. There is hope for all of us.



Area & Sub-Committee Mtgs.

Admin Meeting: 1:30pm New GSR Welcome: 1:45pm Area Meeting: 2 pm Second Sunday of the month: Meets on Zoom 742 772 6689 password NA1953

Chairman Mel R mel55016@yahoo.com,

Co-Chair Stacy P petestac1983@gmail.com,

Secretary Jessie D WWASCSECRETARY@gmail.com,

Co Secretary Sarah L slangell355@gmail.com

Treasurer April M CATWOMAN1869BLACK@gmail.com

Co-Treasurer Jeff M science_jeff@yahoo.com

Activities: Chairman Dan S SMITHSOND252@gmail.com, Meets last Sunday of the month at 7pm at Westland First Free Methodist, 1421 S. Venoy, Westland

Helpline: Chairman Michael B Mrwbailey1119@gmail.com not currently meeting

Hospitals & Institutions: Chairman Brian S 6:30 pm 3rd Sunday of the month on Zoom 742 772 6689 password NA1953 briansomerville@sbcglobal.net

Literature: Chairman Jenna H 11:00am Second Sunday of the month on Zoom 428 859 3161 PASSWORD INFO jenndheard@gmail.com

MSO Rep: Stuart L clean1183@yahoo.com

Newsletter: Chairman John C jcolton049@gmail.com meets 3rd Sunday of month G.O.D,

Outreach: Chairman Don B donaldjburke@hotmail.com

Policy: Chairman Lauren B Meets on Zoom 406 066 4540 password policy Meets first Sunday every month at 5:30 laurenbai-ley93@gmail.com

Public Information: Chairman Rob C Hcerto@gmail.com

<u>Web Servant:</u> Chairman Brandon V wwca.webservant@gmail.com <u>Workshop:</u> Chairman: Sarge W

reginal woodward00@gmail.com TBD

<u>Ad Hoc:</u> Chairman Mick H mickhartman@me,com <u>RCM Region:</u> Jeanie W jeaniebug@gmail.com <u>RCM Alt</u>: Jim P Naservicework@gmail.com

> SERVICE WORKS ! THANK YOU ALL!

LITERATURE QUOTE IT WORKS HOW AND WHY TENTH TRADITION PG.148

When we share in public, as groups or as a fellowship, we share only our message. We talk about what we do, neither supporting nor opposing what anyone else does. We are what we are, and that's all we are: a society of recovering drug addicts sharing their recovery with one another and offering the same to the addict who still suffers.



THANKS FOR SERVICE

We all need to be thankful for all of those who participated and put on our Multiregional service day convention. Giving back and teaching others about how to better serve our community. Giving back is a cornerstone of our fellowship. Thank you to all of you who gave of yourselves to put on, speak, or contribute to the success of this event. Let your service shine. Thanks to all!

NAWS UPDATE

It is with great sadness that we have to announce that the World Service Convention Committee has announced that they will be canceling the 38th World Convention, scheduled to be held in Melbourne Australia in November of 2022.

Because of concerns with the ever spreading COVID virus, and several other factors. It became apparent that it was in the best interest of all that Convention be canceled. The World Service Convention Committee had a deadline of October 31, 2021 to make financial commitments to Melbourne CVB. By canceling now they avoided any financial commitments. With the ever changing travel restriction and spread of different variants of the virus, it would not have been responsible to allocate funds that can be better utilized in different areas to better serve our primary purpose.

The World Service Convention Committee is looking at how this will effect the future rotation of World Conventions. They always want more inclusion, of more countries and will vote on what to do for upcoming Conventions.