



THE NA UNITY

Carrying the message of recovery, not the disease.

UNITY PAPER

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GIVE SUPPORT TO THESE MEETINGS

Saturday Night Candle Light:

Saturday nights
from 7:30-9:00 at
N.W. Alano Club
in Wayne.

Westland Survivors

Sunday Mornings
from 11:30-1:00 at
N.W. Alano Club
in Wayne.

Key To Recovery

Friday Nights from
7:30-9:00 at St.
Mary's Hospital in
Livonia.

Doing service work such as the NA Newsletter has strengthened my recovery. It has opened doors for me to grow in NA to give back to others what has been so freely given to me. These last 2 years being the Newsletter chair, and being of service at the Area level of Narcotics Anonymous has broadened my service work by working with others, in different positions at Area level. I have really enjoyed working with other addicts to get their articles, stories, etc. Typed, proofread and published in our Unity Newsletter. I feel I was truly blessed to be able to serve our fellowship for these past 2 years as the Newsletter chair. I would like to thank all of you that have made this happen.

So get involved with service it does help to strengthen your recovery. What an experience it has been and a challenge at the same time. Sometimes it fell short of articles, stories but it was nothing that made me give up, as not to disappoint myself or anyone in the fellowship. So step up, get involved, give to others what has been freely given to you. Also challenge yourself to do something that you may have never done in your life if you were still out there using, become of service to the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous at the Area level.

Thank you for letting me serve all of you as Newsletter Chair at Area Level.

Denise K. (Newsletter Chair 2013-14)

A simple way

The following text on Tradition One is excerpted from *The Voice of NA*, February 1968. The Voice of NA was our fellowship's first newsletter.

In its first issue, the editor wrote, "*We hope this newsletter will enlarge on one of our basic beliefs—that the best hope for any addict is the practice of personal freedom in abstinence and the maintenance of a simple spiritual program.*"

Maintenance of recovery is based on a spiritual foundation whose main aspect is service to others. Haphazard methods can bring no lasting results. Lack of a unified group purpose for our common welfare could soon end in individual effort with self-seeking reward as its goal... What are we willing to give or give up that will have meaning in life or living? Our pride of self in accomplishment? Our bias that says, "I'm different?" Our closed mind that says, "Mine is the right and only way?" Are we willing to give others the right to their voice and opinion and see if experience proves them, one way or the other?

Continued on pg 2

From pg 1

Are we willing to try new ideas wholeheartedly? Are we willing to apply to others and the group the same tolerance and patience we show ourselves when we fall short of our personal ideals? Are we willing to do in concerted effort what we cannot do alone? When things do not go well, even when we have tried well, do we scatter to lick our wounds and nurse our grudges, or can we pick up the pieces and, with more understanding, build in a better way?

We are neither saints nor geniuses but if we pool the talents, great and small, that we all do possess, we can change the course of our history and the lives of many we have yet to meet...

I am an Addict...

There can be no doubt that Narcotics Anonymous works for any addict who wants to achieve freedom from active addiction. Surrendering has saved my life to be certain it has shown me a new way to live. Walking into the rooms beaten down and desperate with every bridge burned and no one to trust as no one trusted me. We are told to surrender to live! Yes that awesome feeling of surrender to admit I AM AN ADDICT! Help me. For me this was a mind blowing awkward moment of victory filled with shame and fear.

Let us all take a moment to recall how you felt being exposed to what we all tried to hide the most. Well on our way, we go to meetings, get a home group, find a sponsor, get involved, go camping, bowling, open talks, picnics, bonfires, conventions, barbeques, new friends, work, church, step study, meetings, meetings and then...

The thrill is gone, my shiny new bike has lost its luster. I want to stay clean I will stay clean however I believe I can do without the conflict of personalities and the huge egos we cram into the rooms. The good sharers who hold us hostage for sure is just a waste of my time I have much better things to do than listen to this nonsense. The ten years who just relapsed telling us how to stay clean, AHHH enough! No more! Now this is freedom not having to go to those boring meetings anymore. A few months go by and as life will do, eventually it comes crashing down on us. The disease had tricked me and isolation comes to visit. No more meetings, avoiding my sponsor and all the things that will keep me clean.

I ran to a meeting, hope replaced by fear and anger consequently my desire to use outweighing my desire to stay clean. Safe at a meeting I walk in to see my sponsor and look there is the good sharer in addition to the ten year fighting to stay clean.

My disease is stronger than me, I underestimated its hold on me yet again. The only reason I stayed clean is because of NA and the members in which I found differences with instead of similarities. I surrender; I am an addict no better or worse than anyone else. Not everyone will like me to be sure I will not like everyone. Realizing I need acceptance not just of the good sharer but me and my own character defects. Thank you NA and all its members for helping an addict like me. This is where I belong.

Dave L.

Staying in the Solution

One of the most important things I tell my sponsee's is "Don't judge yourself out of the rooms of Narcotics Anonymous". It was told to me and countless others through the years by their sponsors. I am seeing a whole lot of separation instead of unity at our Area, our activities and our meetings.

This separation is hurting our Area immensely. I watch people at our Area meeting rolling their eyes when certain individuals speak. I watch people get their backs up when given a simple suggestion. I've been getting damaging feedback about the cost at our events. I see our Newsletter chair put out a paper every month all by herself because there is absolutely no willingness to help her. I see our Poster Drive made up mostly of two home groups. Where is the spiritual principle of keeping what we have by giving it away?

We have become an Area of complacency. This used to be an Area to be proud of. When Western Wayne showed up at a convention we were a force of energy. So much so that when they did the clean time countdown for Area's they would say and last but not least Western Wayne and a third of the room would stand up and be counted.

It is time to be part of the solution. If you are bad mouthing a committee an individual or our Area you are part of the problem. If you are being of service you are part of the solution. However, there are other parts of being in the solution. These are the spiritual principals of principles before personality's willingness and open mindedness.

My job as a sponsor is to guide my sponsee's through the steps. By doing this one simple thing all my sponsee's are of service and part of the solution. Let's get back to the basics and I know we can turn this around. I love my Area and I love Narcotics Anonymous. I am staying in the solution. Can you say the same?

Barb T from 2014

GET OUT AND GET INVOLVED

We encourage all members of Narcotics Anonymous be involved with service work in some form. Our symbol states "Goodwill is best exemplified in service; proper service is 'Doing the right thing for the right reason.'" You can do service work at your home group, you can do H&I or you can do service at the area and regional level. There are many forms of service. All are in need of support and have open positions. There is a list of sub committee meetings within this article that any member is welcome to attend if they wish to learn more or be involved with said service.

ALL SUB-COMMITTEES ARE IN NEED OF SUPPORT AND HELP. PLEASE GET INVOLVED. THE INFORMATION FOR THE DAYS AND TIMES THAT THESE COMMITTEES MEET ARE LISTED ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER.

Unity

"The unity described in our First Tradition is not the same thing as uniformity.

Our membership is richly varied, made up of many addicts from widely differing backgrounds. These members bring with them a variety of ideas and talents. That diversity enriches the fellowship and gives rise to new and creative ways to reach addicts who need our help".

It Works: How and Why, pg. 127



CLEAN DATES

February

2-15-17 Curtis P. 7 years

2-25-21 Brian S. 3 years

March

03-03-20 Kelly M. 4 years

03-06-06 Chad D. 18 years

03-07-14 Dan S. 10 years

03-08-13 Lindsay M. 11 years

"The message is that an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live. Our message is hope and the promise of freedom."

Basic Text Tradition 5

Area & Sub-Committee Mtgs.**Admin Meeting:** 1:30 pm**New GSR Orientation:** 1:30 pm**Area Meeting:** 2 pm Second Sunday of the month:
Recovery In The Upper Room**Activities:** Last Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
at Good Hope church. **Lindsay M.****Helpline:** Second Wednesday of each month at
6:00 p.m. at Hype Recreation Center in Wayne MI.
Chair: **Thomas S.****Hospitals & Institutions:** Third Sunday of each
month at 6:30 p.m. at Unity Church in Livonia and
Zoom ID: 742 772 6689 PW: NA1953 **Kelly M.****Literature:** OPEN**MSO Rep:** Mel R.**Newsletter:** Last Wednesday of each month at 6:00
p.m. at Hype Recreation Center in Wayne.
Chair: **Brandon R.****Outreach:** Last Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
at St. Mary Hospital. **OPEN (Dan S.)****Policy:** OPEN**Public Information:** OPEN**RCM Region:** Stefan Y.**RCM Alt:** Kim S.**Web Servant:** Last Sunday of each month at 6:30
p.m. at G.O.D. Group. Unity Church. **Joe K.****Workshop:** Third Sunday of each month at 7:30
p.m. at G.O.D. group. Unity Church. **Bre N.****UPCOMING
ACTIVITIES****March 23, 2024****Western Wayne Activities**

Speaker Jam and Taco Bar

242 Community Church
35475 Five Mile Rd
Livonia MI 48154**March 28-31, 2024****DACNA 31**

Detroit MI

Pre Registration thru March 15 is 25\$
After March 15 is 35\$Register online at [www.michigan-na.org/
dacna](http://www.michigan-na.org/dacna)**August 29-September 1, 2024****World Convention NA 38**

Walter Washington Convention Center

Washington D.C.
Registration 175\$
www.na.org/wcna**Western Waynes Bowling Event is being rescheduled****Right to Publish Disclaimer****This form must be filled out and submitted with any and all articles sent in for publication. Failure to do so may result in your article not being considered for publication.**

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Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____