

July 2011

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep Anchorage Area Narcotics Anonymous members informed of the events and happenings of our fellowship.

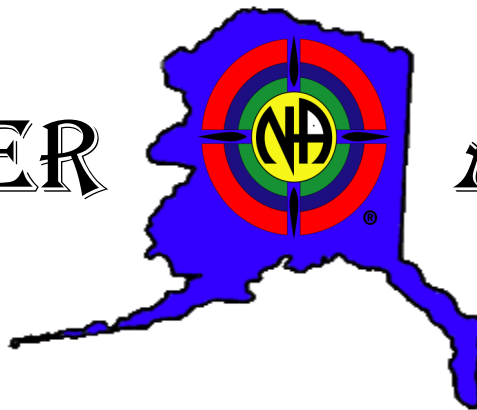
Every attempt is made to adhere to NAWS guidelines and SASC guidelines for newsletters.

The content contained herein expresses the views and knowledge of it's contributors, not N.A. as a whole.

Newsletter Committee
Members
Amber N. Chair

Never Alone Newsletter Committee meets the last Sunday of the month from 1:30-2:30 pm at the Alano Club, 3103 Spenard Rd.

NEVER



ALONE

Principles before Personalities...

Tradition Twelve of Narcotics Anonymous states "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities." I know for myself its been a challenge to practice the "principles before personalities." There has been times that I've been in a meeting and somebody that I had a personality conflict with announced themselves in a meeting and begin to share and I would roll my eyes and tune them out. The only person that I was hurting by doing this was myself. That member that I was tuning out simply because I didn't like them may have something to say that will save my life.

The Narcotics Anonymous Basic Text, page 76, states, "While we may disagree as individuals, the spiritual principle of anonymity makes us all equal as members of the group. No member is greater or lesser than any member."

I need to remind myself that we are all here for the same reason, to get another day clean, to live this new way of life. I show great spiritual growth when I am able to have unconditional love for everyone even if I don't particularly care for them.

I also show that I am working a spiritual program when I reach out to the newcomers after the meetings or offer my support to a member that is struggling to stay clean. I tell them "keep coming back" or "stay"... but am I making them feel welcome and accepted? When I first came into the program, what was it that kept me coming back?

There was something that I saw that was attractive to me and made me want to keep coming back. Made me want to stay. I try my best to remember what it was and show that to the newcomers. Attract them to this new way of life. Give back what was so freely giving to me.

In Loving And Grateful Service,

Melissa C.

SLOGANS

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Serenity is not freedom from the storm but peace amid the storm

You can't think your way into a new way of living...you have to live your way into a new way of thinking

GOD = Good Orderly Direction

Cultivate an attitude of gratitude

Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less

Recovery is a journey ...not a destination

To thine own self be true

Quote of the month:

A dictionary definition of anonymity is "a state of bearing no name." In keeping with Tradition Twelve the "I" becomes "we." The spiritual foundation becomes more important than any one group or individual.

Narcotics Anonymous, Basic Text, Sixth edition, Copyright © 2008. Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Tradition Twelve of Narcotics Anonymous

"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

In personal recovery, we seek to replace self-will with the guidance of a Higher Power in our personal affairs. In the same way, the traditions describe a fellowship that takes its collective guidance from spiritual principles rather than individual personalities.

That kind of selflessness is what the Twelfth Tradition means by the word "anonymity," and it is the spiritual foundation upon which Narcotics Anonymous is built.

Tradition Twelve is all the traditions rolled up in one, summarizing and reinforcing the message of the previous eleven. Anonymity is essential in preserving the stability of our fellowship, making personal recovery possible. Recovery is a delicate thing.

It grows best in a stable, supportive environment. Each of us and each of our groups plays a part in maintaining that stability. Our unity is so precious that, given a choice between fulfilling our own wishes and preserving our fellowship's common welfare, we put the best interests of NA first. We do this not only out of enlightened self-interest but out of our sense of responsibility to our fellow addicts.

The principle of NA unity comes before the fulfillment of our personal wishes. Anonymity is the primary principle underlying our tradition of membership. While we all have our personal differences, NA's only membership requirement is what we have in common: a desire to stop using.

This simple principle draws the diverse personalities of those who suffer from our disease together in a common fellowship of recovery. The principle of anonymity lies at the core of our fellowship's understanding of group conscience.

The ideas of each individual group member have their importance, but the group takes its guidance from the collective conscience of all its members.

Reprinted excerpt from "It Works How and Why" Tradition 12. Copyright © 1993. Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

What's happening in NA World Services that you may want to know...

We hope you will continue to forward this page by email, or copy it for interested members, your ASCs, and RSCs. We continue to encourage people to obtain e-subscriptions to *The NA Way* and *NAWS News*. This helps us to communicate more effectively and control distribution costs.

To receive *The NA Way*, you now need to sign up; a new subscription can be created anytime. The October 2010 issue was the last issue sent automatically. Please sign up for e-sub (cost effective!), paper, or bulk subscriptions at www.na.org/subscribe. Please pass on this information.

Service System – The Service System webpage is online and has all of the material distributed since the conference, as well as background reports and a current update with the shortened session profiles for local workshops. There is a link to a bulletin board for the project there as well. Updates will be posted online as they are available: www.na.org/servicesystem.

There will be a five percent, across-the-board price increase on all items in our inventory, with the exception of the Basic Text, effective 1 July 2011. We have several new products. The sixth edition Spanish Basic Text as well as a special commemorative Spanish edition is now available. We currently have two new tri-plate medallion colors in stock – pearl/ pink and black/silver.

A new gift edition of *It Works: How and Why* is also available. Please check the product update page.

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Upcoming Activities

Volleyball!

Sunday, July 10th, 2-4pm @ Springer Park, 3809 Arctic Blvd.

Disc Golf AKA Frolfing

Saturday, July 23, 11am-1pm @ Westchester Lagoon Frisbee Golf Course. Tentative meeting at 11am. Free event. Bring a disc or Frisbee! We will be selling water and soda. Contact Marcy @ 720-2879 for more information.



Have you got
some NA
information, a
recovery
related story,
or an event
you wish to
include in
next month's
newsletter?

E-mail:
anchorage
nanewsletter
@
yahoo.com

We Do Recover

When at the end of the road we find that we can no longer function as a human being, either with or without drugs, we all face the same dilemma. What is there left to do? There seems to be this alternative: either go on as best we can to the bitter ends—jails, institutions or death—or find a new way to live. In years gone by, very few addicts ever had this last choice. Those who are addicted today are more fortunate. For the first time in man's entire history, a simple way has been proving itself in the lives of many addicts. It is available to us all. This is a simple spiritual—not religious—program, known as Narcotics Anonymous.

Reprinted from the White Booklet, *Narcotics Anonymous*.

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2011 Kenai Campvention

When: Friday, August 26 - Sunday, August 28

Where: Alaska Christian Retreat (ARC) DeVille Road (mile 89 of Sterling Hwy.)

Guest speakers, bonfire meetings, clean-time countdown, prize raffle, split-the-pot raffle, dance, sponsorship workshop, 2011 ARCNA Convention fundraiser, outdoor activities, group photo, swimming, canoeing and MUCH MORE!!!

NO DOGS ALLOWED and children must be supervised at all times.

For more info contact:
Dan 741-1175
Tera 394-4961

COME JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP & HAVE SOME GOOD CLEAN
FUN!!!

Clean Date Anniversaries...

Amber N. Celebrating 2 years July 19th.

Jack S. Celebrating 2 years July 29.
