

# Anchorage Area NA Newsletter

December 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 Chair/Editor

Catelyn Treasurer

Melissa Secretary

Brendan Distribution

John Cartoonist

Doug P.

Never Alone Newsletter Committee meets Sundays at noon, upstairs at the Alano Club, 3103 Spenard Rd.

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

E-mail:

anchoragenanewsletter@yahoo.com

**Last Day to put NA related info into the Jan. 2012 Newsletter is Dec. 18th. That is the last Newsletter Subcommittee meeting for the year 2011!**



# NEVER



# ALONE



## Building an NA Sisterhood in Anchorage

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, *Little Girls Grow Up* held a pancake breakfast to celebrate the second anniversary of this Anchorage Area Women's meeting. Pancake breakfast indeed – some 80 to 100 women attended of all demographics. And, members from five treatment centers showed up for pancakes and recovery! According to one woman, "When I come here (Little Girls Grow Up), I am not worried about guys hitting on me". All newcomers received a *Little White Booklet* and welcome.

A big thanks go out to all of the Sisters in our Fellowship who helped make this event happen including Catelyn, Elena, Sonya, and Andrea for cooking, clearing and cleaning up. A special thanks go to Lori's outreach to the institutions.

*Little Girls Grow Up* meets from 10-11am Saturdays, and 7-8pm Mondays and Thursdays, at Crosspoint Church, #K on Diamond. Come on out and participate. There is a discussion about holding a regular pancake breakfast meeting. More will be revealed!

## In Need of Support

It seems that it is easy to get into a routine of going to certain meetings including our home group that is located close to home and where we feel comfortable going because we know most of the members. And, in Anchorage most of the heavily attended meetings are located in Spenard and the Southside of Anchorage, which is great, but there are some important meetings located in Mt. View and Fairview that could use our member's support.

**Soul to Soul** is one of the oldest meetings in Anchorage and meets on Monday and Wednesday from 7 to 8 pm at 408 N. Hoyt in the church annex. Their Wednesday meeting is a NA 12 Step and Tradition study.

**The Road of Recovery** also meets in north Mt. View on Tuesday and Thursday from 2 to 3 pm, at 315 Price Street, downstairs in the Boys and Girls Club. It is a relatively new meeting and meets in the afternoon.

**Recovery Connection** meets at 13<sup>th</sup> and Gamble in the heart of Fairview and is located in the Web building. This meeting is about 3 – 4 years old and has a fairly steady attendance and, especially in the winter, is a great place to carry the message to people who are very transient and looking for a warm, friendly place to come to.

These meetings are important because of their location – Mt. View and Fairview. Many of our members found these meetings because they are located in their neighborhood and are accessible for those without cars. Especially, in the winter, it is important to keep the doors open for those addicts who need a meeting, but find it difficult to get to Spenard or Southside.

All three of these meetings carry a strong NA message and welcome all support. See you there!

## THANKSGIVING NARATHON UPDATE

**Dinner and Speaker will be Wednesday night, the day BEFORE Thanksgiving!**

## SLOGANS

We cannot change the nature of the addict or addiction. We can help to change the old lie "Once an addict, always an addict," by striving to make recovery more available. God, help us to remember this difference.

I'm growing by using the tools of the program. Thank God for the N.A. program. I'm alive. I'm free, and today, I have a lot to offer.

Our egos, once so large and dominant, now take a back seat because we are in harmony with a loving God. We find that we lead richer, happier and much fuller lives when we lose self-will.

Growth means change.

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### Quote of the month:

**Those that have worked these steps to the best of our ability received many benefits. We believe that these benefits are a direct result of living this program.**

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## AASC NEWS

Anchorage Area met on November 7, 2011.

### Old Business:

The Roundabout Group **rescinded its motion to amend the 11<sup>th</sup> Tradition**. This was because NA World Service is publishing an informational pamphlet titled "Social Media". Additionally, the 11<sup>th</sup> Tradition essay from *It Works How and Why* states that "In the public eye – including press, radio, films, and all other media – we need always maintain personal anonymity."

### Elections:

Lou Ann P. for Regional Literature Chair – **Passed**; Lou Ann's nomination will now be forwarded to Region then to the Areas for election.

Ellsworth for RCM – **Passed**;

Carol K. for Alternate RCM – **Passed**;

Dena J. for Alternate Treasurer – **Passed**

### New Business:

Dynamite Thursday Night brought a motion to add the position of Area Web Servant. This is to facilitate timely updates of Anchorage news, schedules and events on AKNA.org. Seconded by Morning After. (This is preliminary to drafting a guideline change to create a permanent position description.)

### Nominations:

Area invited nominations for the Regional Committee Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. These nominations will be closed at our December Area meeting and the Groups will vote on these nominations in January. These nominations will then be forwarded to Region and back to the other Areas for election.

Anchorage Area also invited nominations for Convention Chair. Nominations for Convention Chair will close in December and Anchorage Area groups will elect the Convention Chair in January. Since Anchorage Area hosts the convention this year, we select the convention chair.

Morning After asked our Area Committee to direct the groups to be prepared to vote in December for the Convention Chair, if other nominations were not forthcoming in December. The Vice Chair declined to so direct because is out of order.

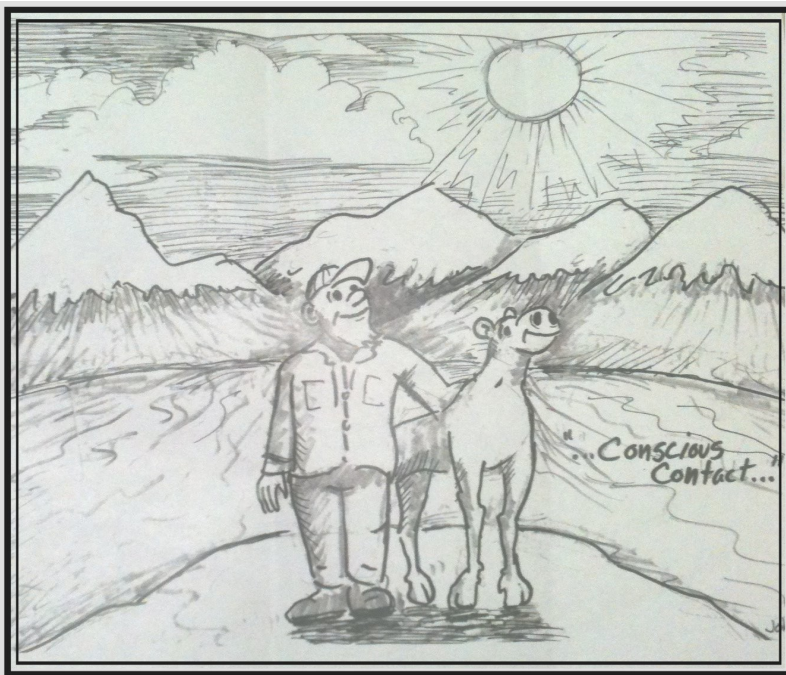
**Morning After Nominated Charlotte D. for Regional Treasurer** – Charlotte meets the minimum clean time and service time requirements for Regional Treasurer. Charlotte previously held this position and did a great job.

**Morning After nominated Kathy W. for Regional Committee Chair.** Kathy W has been the ARSC Vice Chair for the last year and is willing to hold the Chair position. Kathy is very qualified. Kathy's clean time exceeds the ARSC minimum of 7 years (she has 25 years clean) and her regional service experience exceeds 2 years at the Regional level (she has served on multiple convention committees). Kathy has a sponsor, diligently works the steps, works with others, and stays active in her home group.

**Frozen Chosen nominated Dena J. for Regional Convention Subcommittee Chair** – I am truly humbled to be nominated for Convention Chair and I feel that it is my time to step-up to service in an area that I am truly excited about and start giving back what was freely given to me. I am accepting the Nomination for 2012 Narcotics Anonymous Convention Committee Chair. Clean Date is: January 27, 1997. I attend meetings regularly. I started off as coffee maker, greeter, became secretary, treasurer and GSR all at group levels, I have a sponsor and sponsees and work with them on regular basis. Been on several Convention Subcommittees in Registration, Merchandising, Entertainment and also served as Entertainment Chair for Convention.

**CONTINUED**





## NA Birthdays

Renee M. 11/1/96  
 Allen H. 11/1/07  
 Chris M. 11/21/91  
 Jeffrey W. 11/22/00  
 Tami Mc. 11/26/02  
 Debbie S. 11/29/91  
 Bill M. 18 months on  
 11/21/11  
 Chris 18 months on  
 11/21/11



Let one of the Subcommittee members know if you have a birthday coming up!

 *Thank You John C. our Newsletter Artist*

### Dear NA:

**Q:** The 12th step suggests continued work with addicts. Why are people who have worked all 12 steps

not requested to stay after the meeting to talk with the newcomer? During the announcements or at the end of meetings it is suggested for newcomers to stay and talk with people with time. Shouldn't it be the other way around?

**A:** In my opinion, we suggest that newcomers stay and reach out to others to let them know we are available for them. Maybe they don't know that they can reach out to us after the meetings, maybe they are too shy or nervous or unsure. I believe it's the same with the phone lists, we offer them because a newcomer may not know that they are available. Or maybe they are too shy or nervous to ask for numbers. As far as asking members that have time to stay and reach out to newcomers after the meetings, I feel that that goes without being asked. When we were new didn't somebody reach out to us at one point or another? If I am grateful for my recovery and want to see others stick around and get this gift, I am going to take time to reach out to someone after the meeting. Everyone works their program in their own way. So member, I ask you, will you announce at meetings that you are available for any newcomer that needs to reach out at the end of the meeting? Thank you for that question, it is a good point.

#### Got a question you would like answered by the NA guru?

Send your questions to [anchorgenanewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:anchorgenanewsletter@yahoo.com) **OR** drop it off in the newsletter envelope on the board at Round About **OR** bring it to one of our Newsletter Subcommittee meetings, Sundays at noon, upstairs at the Alano Club!

## AASC NEWS continued

I do have a working knowledge of the 12 Concepts, 12 Steps & 12 Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous. I have experience in management and finance. I help run a successful paving company with my husband and have great experience in working with others. Yes I am gone for a few months, but I know I will have a committee in place that can be completely trusted and Skype is available and phones. Please know that I am very grateful to be given this opportunity. ILS, Dena J.

**Walk Your Talk nominated Rick M for Regional Convention Subcommittee Chair** -- My name is Rick and I'm an addict. Thank you for the nomination. I would love to serve as chair for this committee. My qualifications are as follows. I have been clean for over 18 years. My clean date is 12/13/1992. I have a sponsor and I sponsor several men. I actively work and live the steps as well as the traditions. My home group is the Walk Your Talk which meets Monday through Saturday. I am active in H&I and facilitate the Anchorage Jail East meeting on Wednesday nights. I have had several service positions, GCR, RCM, Secretary, Treasurer, several adhoc and Subcommittee Chairs as well as Area Chair. I also chaired a committee for the 17 annual Camp Recovery in Eugene Oregon in 2003. This was a three day campout convention with about 250 to 300 addicts that required about 10 months of planning. I believe I have the leadership skills this position requires. If elected I would consider it a great honor and would do my best to adhere to the Concepts and Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous. In Loving Service, Rick M.



## 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.

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### Upcoming Activities

Mark your calendars...

February 10th

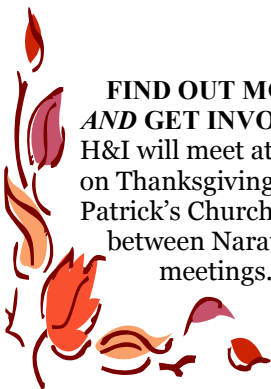
Murder Mystery in Maui  
Central Lutheran Church

7pm-Midnight

*More will be revealed!*



**FIND OUT MORE  
AND GET INVOLVED**  
H&I will meet at 6 pm  
on Thanksgiving at St.  
Patrick's Church,  
between Narathon  
meetings.



## CHRISTMAS NARATHON AND POTLUCK

Freedom Frog, 325 E. Third Ave.

Opens Noon on Dec. 24th and ends midnight on Dec. 25th

Christmas Eve Speaker Meeting 7-8pm

Christmas Day Speaker Meeting 7-8pm

Featuring Alaska 2011 Convention Montage and Comedian recording!



Interested in helping with transportation? Contact Rob T. 830-7628



## Out N About is hosting a December

*Come and  
Celebrate  
Recovery!*

**SPEAKER JAM**

**Dec. 16th**

**7:30-10:30pm**

*Potluck!*

## Anchorage Area H&I Subcommittee

Members of the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) committee serve by carrying our message of freedom to addicts in treatment, corrections, and mental institutions. H&I prioritizes its services by accessibility – addicts without access to meetings are an important priority.

Anchorage Area H&I has several panels. Panels are H&I members who carry a meeting into institutions. Panel leaders are responsible that someone makes the presentation or panel – they are the point of accountability for a particular presentation at a given time. Each institution has its own clearance requirement to serve on a panel, which may be high or none at all. The following are a list of the H&I meetings and the panel leaders.

Anchorage Correction West (high clearance)	Craig O.
Reflections, Clitheroe Women (low clearance)	Linda G.
Cordova Center Men, (low clearance)	Henry J.
Parkview Center Men (low clearance)	Jeff L.
Anchorage Correction East (high clearance)	Rick M.
SAARP, Men's Residential Treatment (low clearance)	Doug P.
Genesis House Residential Treatment, (low clearance)	Tony L.
Highland Mountain Women's Prison (high clearance)	Barb B. (scheduler)
Akeela House, Residential Treatment (low clearance)	Terry H.
Stepping Stones, Residential Treatment (low clearance)	Casey

In addition to the panel leaders, panel members contribute invaluable service because without their support most of these H&I panels would not happen; the panel leaders would burn out. All of the H&I subcommittee's budget of \$100 per month goes to literature. Mostly funds are spent on the *White Booklet*, *Introductory Guides*, and informational pamphlets, though a few books are bought. Kevin H. is the subcommittee literature person.

Terry H. is our passionate chair, a role Casey, the Vice Chair, has been assuming for a couple of months as Terry has been working out of town. Casey has also been serving as secretary.

Lately, H&I is looking at providing outreach to the homeless shelters. These would be great venues for carrying the message to potential members. However, we can't do this alone!

***The only way we can carry the message to more addicts is to have more addicts participating in H&I.***