



# Never Alone

February 20167

## The Anchorage Area NA Newsletter

### We are currently looking for submissions.

If you have stories, wisdom, humor, events, photos (No faces!), or announcements that you would like to share, please send them to: aknewsletter@gmail.com. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month .

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 NAVS guidelines for newsletters. The content contained herein expresses the views and knowledge of its contributors, not N.A. as a whole.

Editor: Nick B.

Area News: Doug P.

Head Writer: Frank Z

If you interested in working on the newsletter contact Nick B @ 907-202-1108. Meeting dates are varied.

### 38 years of Narcotics Anonymous in Alaska

-By Frank Z.

On February 4, 2017, at 6:00 pm at Saint Anthony's Church, located at 8 th and Klevin Street, Narcotics Anonymous will celebrate 38 years in Alaska. Thanks to the Activities Committee, we hope to have a great evening of fun and fellowship! 38 years has given us plenty of time to grow, change and learn.

We have grown for sure from just one group, the "Rush Group", to groups all over the state that meet every day of the week. Some groups have been around a long time like "Clean and Serene" to ones that are no longer around, with names as colorful as our people like "Save Your Ass" (SOS), "Spawn of Save Your Ass". How about "Ducks Are Addicts, Too", "Third Way", "Miss Fits", WTSODMF (ask somebody about this one if you don't know what it is). There are far away groups in Valdez, Better Late Than Dead, Barrow, Ikayutisa Group, Wrangle, Monkey Slayers and many more.

With growth always comes change. I talked to some of the Dinosaurs that were around in the early years. One thing they all commented on was how tight the fellowship was and how they stuck together before the meetings, after the meetings and in general. I



still see the Home Groups stick Together and now with a larger fellowship, we have to have groups within our groups to maintain that closeness we need. In fact, one of the most profound takeaways I received from the Old Timers was the encouragement to always make the newcomer feel welcome and never leave

anyone out. I've learned that NA today is very much the same as it's always been while being a bit different, too. We are still close, having a bond of survivors. We still do things together. The steps are the same.

The literature has been expanded and the groups are varied and broad. The small community with very

close ties has grown and may not seem as close but we are statewide and all day long. I recently heard a story about one of our founders and Jimmy K talking at one of the first groups in California. The group was struggling with a decision. Jimmy was asked if they should quit. Jimmy's response was remarkable taking in to account where we are now. He said, "Even if there are only two of us here, we will keep meeting." So, if you see an Alaskan Dino at the 38 the anniversary, be certain to thank them for what we have now.

## Anchorage NA Helpline: 907-277-5483

# Area Service News and Notes!

---

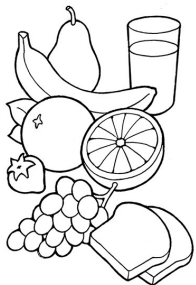
## Activities News:

*Narathon season is done!*  
A big time “atta boys and girls” to the Activities Committee for planning and doing the Thanksgiving and Christmas Narathons!

Thanksgiving had an excellent opening speaker meeting – way to go Terry Sh. Kudos go to many groups and members for donating food and time to keep this marathon narathon going for 3 days.

There was a bounty of food throughout the event. The Area fellowship thanks you. Christmas Narathon occurred from Xmas eve through Xmas noon. Not as well supported as Thanksgiving, it nevertheless met a need.

Meetings are 2nd Wed of the month, 7pm at Guido’s Pizza



## Treasury Notes

Anchorage Area bank balance on January 9th, was \$2109 at the beginning of the Area meeting. That is \$609 above our \$1500 prudent reserve. That does not include our 1% donations to Region and NAWs, which are about \$21 each for the month and about \$126 total for the quarter. Group donations were \$289.

---

## Group Action Items for January 2016

### Vote on the Nomination for Assistant Secretary: Maike

Maike has the required clean time and has very effectively filled in as Secretary in the recent past; she is qualified.

**Nominations for Standing Subcommittee Chairs are due in March.** The Area “standing subcommittees” are

- Public Information,
- Hospitals and Institutions,
- Literature,
- Newsletter,
- Activities, and
- Regional Committee Member (RCM is not really a “standing subcommittee per se.)

These officers are elected in April. H&I is vacant now. PI, Literature and the RCM will have all served two terms, the guideline maximum, come April. Note that nominees need to present their qualifications in person.

**New Area Chair:** Ash was voted in during December. Doug P was voted in as V. Chair.

---

## Valley News

The Valley traveling outreach group has been active again. The energy involved in the drive to Goose Creek to maintain that H&I commitment kind of robbed energy from the outreach to groups earlier this year. Outreach has been visiting the Palmer group of late. **Contact Frank Z (242-6717) to get involved.**

---

## Group News:

**Walk Your Talk Group** hosts **lunch with its Saturday Meeting.** Note that the Walk Your Talk has moved its meet and lunch from Wednesday to Saturday now effective January.

**907 Recovery** now meets at Saint Mary’s Church on Tudor and Lake Otis at 4 pm every day but Sundays.

# Area Service News and Notes Continued!

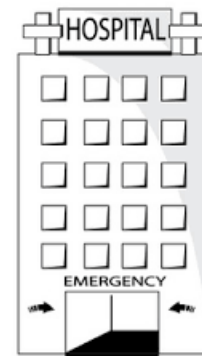
## Hospitals & Institutions Subcommittee

Concept 1 states: “To fulfill our fellowships primary purpose, the NA groups have joined together to create a structure which develops, coordinates, and maintains services on behalf of NA as a whole”. The “structure” means “Area Service Committee”. H&I is one of the “services” that Area maintains on behalf of NA as a whole.

Our primary purpose is “to carry the message to the addict who still suffers”, and H&I service provides a great opportunity to do that. H&I carries the message to treatment centers, correctional facilities, half way houses, and psychiatric institutions. Because of inconvenience, discomfort, or pain, addicts in these facilities are often very open to hearing a message.

Anchorage H&I subcommittee has the following panels or commitments:

- Genesis House                      Anthony
- Cordova                              Vacant
- Anchorage East                      Craig O
- Anchorage West                      Tony L
- Clitheroe Men                        Dave L
- Clitheroe Women                      Vacant
- Highland Mountain                    Victorious
- Aquila House                        Allen (no cleared backup)
- Glennwood                          Doug P (no cleared backup)
- SARP (Salvation Army)                Pius
- Goose Creek                         Jeff W, Frank Z, and Dave LI
- Nugents Ranch                        Jeff W, Frank Z, and Dave LI



These panels are accountable to the H&I subcommittee –did the panel meet its commitment and otherwise “how’s is the panel doing?” The bottom line is that each panel is the face of NA to a given institution or treatment center, and much of our reputation as a viable program of recovery rises and falls on how consistently we meet our commitments. It is really a public relations thing more than H&I. (The strength of our message that we carry to the addict is the H&I business.) The subcommittee supports the panels by coordinating literature distribution and human resources, providing moral support, and by training new members.

The H&I subcommittee is in turn responsible to Area (the groups). The Groups have bonded together to serve the addict in institutions by having formed and supporting the H&I subcommittee. In a sense, the Area owns the H&I Subcommittee. Thus the H&I chair, like a good manager needs to inform the groups (Area) how the panels and the subcommittee are doing. to Area. The Groups (Area) in turn supports the subcommittee by providing literature, human resources, and training to members.

The H&I Subcommittee is too large for any one group to support. However individual groups are invited to attend the H&I subcommittee meeting, which provides moral support and ideas to the subcommittee.

Anchorage H&I has a lot of challenges including

- Regular orientation for new members that want to get involved in H&I;
- Lack of panel depth, which results in periodic lapses in meeting our commitments, and/or panel leader burn out;
- And various administrative needs such as maintaining institutional contact information and the list of panel leaders.

This is a finite set of issues more than offset by the hope we inspire in the course of carrying our message into the various institutions. Interested members of the Anchorage fellowship are encouraged to attend the monthly H&I meeting.

**H&I New Meeting Night**  
**2nd Monday of the month,    Monday after Area at 6 pm,**  
**at Wings and Things on Arctic and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave.**

# 2017 AK REGIONAL CONVENTION OF NA XXXIII

## Welcomes All Participants

Help make this the best convention ever

Get Involved!

The following committees are looking for  
volunteers to help out!

**Hot**

*Arts & Graphics*  
*has a theme and logo*  
*contest in the works.*  
**WHAT FROM THE**  
**BASIC TEXT MOVES**  
**YOU? Could work for a**  
*theme...*

Hotels & Hospitality - Josh, 830-2658

Arts & Graphics - Rob, 830-7628

Registration - Frank and Michelle, 242-6717

Programming - Kevin, ???

Entertainment - *by committee*

Convention Information - Gary, 240-4279

Merchandise - Alan and Maike, 764-0999

Get involved with the 2017 ARCNA XXXIII

Dave L., Chairperson	(907) 903-7343
Arlene L., Vice-Chairperson	(907) 244-6919
Kathy W., Treasurer	(907) 952-1890
Sasha T., Secretary	(650) 278-6511