



Never Alone

March 2016

The Anchorage Area NA Newsletter

We are currently looking for sub-missions.

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.

MEETING IN OAKLAND

DOUG P

While Lou Ann and I visited Oakland recently, visiting her family and participating in a 10 K run, we hit a Friday night meeting – *The Living Clean for All* meeting, a BS/LGBT meeting. Lou Ann picked it because it was about 500 feet from the apartment we were renting. The group was reading The Journey Continues, the last section of chapter 3 called “Creative Action of the Spirit”.

The Secretary was keeping a 4-minute timer on people’s share. It was standard NA where people volunteer to share, and there were a couple of meditational pauses. Before closing with the Serenity Prayer, the secretary read the following:

“... Here are some things that we should all be made aware of. What NA is not: Na is not a religious movement, an employment agency or social service organization. Our primary purpose is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. Please remember to protect the anonymity of those attending the meeting, so what you hear here, stays here.

In closing, here are some tools that have worked for decades for NA members worldwide: Come to at least one meeting a day for the first 90 days, and don’t use in between. Get phone numbers of other addicts, and dial them, don’t file them. Ask someone what a sponsor is, and work on getting one. Most importantly, don’t pick up no matter what. “

There was also some standard “if you have a year or more, please raise your hand to show that it works” and “if you are available to speak to a newcomer after the meeting, please raise your hand”. There was the following as well:

“If you would like to fellowship, stick around – we often go out somewhere after the meeting. Translation to the newcomer: “Fellowship” means “hang out” in NA speak”. [And there was an emphasis on “everyone is welcome”].

When I asked the secretary if I could snap a photo of the format, he told me with some pride that the group had only completed revising the format some 4-weeks ago. Justifiable pride, I might add.

Post Script:

- Northern California is hosting a Convention (NCCNA) April 13 -16, *RECOVERY = MIRACLES*. The event includes golf and a 5 K run.
- Hiking Meetings! Both the Contra Costa Area and the Greater San Jose Area have hiking meetings every other week. The San Jose hiking meetings are sponsored by “Wild Recovery” group of NA.

Anchorage NA Helpline: 907-277-5483

Area Service News and Notes!

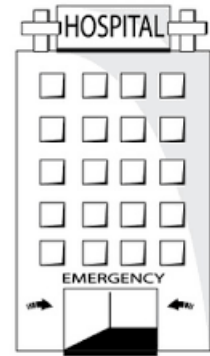
Group Action Items for February 2016

- **Motion to waive (guideline) requirement that Nick B be present for the March nomination as Newsletter Chair.** Nick works on Mondays and cannot make the Area meeting. Jen vouched that Nick is willing to continue as the Newsletter chair for another year.

The effect of this motion if passed would be to allow a group to nominate Nick B so he could be elected for a second term as Newsletter Chair.

Area invites nominations for the following positions in March:

- Public Information (Chris' 2nd term is up in April)
- Hospital & Institutions (Vacant – Victorious has been nominated. Joe L is pro temp Chair.)
- Activities (Jen's term is up and she is unwilling to serve a 2nd)
- Literature (Eric's 2nd term is up. Morgan has been nominated.)
- Regional Committee Member (Arlene's 2nd term is up.)



Old Business

- Maike was elected to alternate Secretary.

New Business

- **Valley Teleconference Motion due next meeting:** During sharing session, GSRs discussed teleconferencing or video conferencing our Area meetings with the Valley. Typically, the Valley groups are not meeting in advance of Area to vest their GSF (group support forum) representative with their conscience. Chad, who is the GSF representative, was confident that the Valley groups would participate in a video or audio conference.
- Alaska Region has phone line available for teleconferencing. The best use of the phone line (not to be mistaken with the Regional Help line) would be to use one teleconferencing line (Region is billed by the number or lines participating on the teleconference.) This means Valley groups would need to meet in one location to teleconference. Someone, probably the RCM, needs to notify Region or at least announce it at the next Regional meeting for the Regional record.
- The V. Chair was tasked with drafting motion language to enable this effort. The biggest challenge is technical. The Anchorage Area groups seem disposed to make the accommodation to Valley groups. The motion is simple but would include a condition that AASC officer nominees still need to be present at Area to be nominated.
- Area chair appointed **Joe L as H&I Chair Pro Temp**, which will run through April Area meeting.
- **Treasury:** Groups donated \$498 at Area this month. Putting this in perspective, the average monthly contribution from the groups to Area for the last year was \$402. On the other hand the average Area cost of doing business is \$449 per month. The \$449 includes an average \$183 per month in literature to the H&I and PI subcommittees. (Actually our liability for PI, H&I, and Valley H&I is \$250 per month.) Moreover, Area has resumed making 1% contributions to Region and World each month. The good news is that many in our fellowship participated in the NA in Alaska Anniversary gig and the event raised \$1464. The group and Activities contributions raised the Area bank balance to about \$4209, and this is the best condition our Area's bank balance has been in quite a number of years.

Area Service News and Notes Continued!

REGIONAL BUSINESS

Alaska Regional Service Committee met on January 17th. A couple of action items came out of the meeting.

- **The bi-annual Regional budget** was sent back to the Areas for approval. That means it is being distributed to the Area groups for approval.

The proposed 2-year (2017 and 2018) ARSC budget is attached to the on-line version of the Newsletter. Thus, the vote on the budget will be included on the April Area agenda.

The ARSC budget will be introduced and copies distributed to the GSRs at the March meeting. ARSC budget line items include: *Public Information, Phone Line, Web Host fee, Outreach, Entertainment, H&I, Administration (which includes our teleconference line), Donation to NAWs, Liability Insurance, World Service Conference travel, Convention Contingency, Assembly or Conference Workshops, WSZF (travel to Western States Zonal Forum by our delegate team), and Learning Days.*

- **Motion to waive Audrey B's clean time requirement for Regional H&I Chair.**

That the ARSC waive the clean time requirement for HI Chair (for Audrey B.) because of Audrey B's experience in the field of H&I in Kenai.

See Audrey's experience in her qualification statement, which is attached. For information, the clean time requirement for a Regional subcommittee chair is 5 years; Audrey will have 4 years clean in April. Audrey meets the H&I chair service requirement, which is "2 years at the Area level". [Because the justification for waiving Audrey's clean time is her experience, her *qualification statement* is re-printed here.]

"My name is Audrey M. and I was recently nominated for the Hospitals & Institutions Chair position at the Regional level of service. I am honored to be considered for this position. My qualifications are as follows:

1. I have served as the H&I Chair on our Area Service Committee here on the Kenai Peninsula for 2 terms.
2. During my terms of service, our committee implemented a local annual Learning Day event to help educate the members of our area about what service is, what it means to be of service to NA, the different ways to be of service, what it is each service committee does, as well as how service affects personal recovery and the lives of those we serve.
3. In the last 3 years, with Learning Day and other activities and outreach, our committee has successfully grown from approximately 3 members to a consistent 10 or more attending our monthly committee meetings. We have also grown in the number of people we have that have completed orientation.
4. I have assisted the committee in reaching out to other institutions so that we can carry our message to other addicts that may not have access to Narcotics Anonymous. When I began service in H&I, our committee was doing H&I presentations in 2 facilities (once each week per facility). We are now successfully carrying the message into 4 facilities with multiple presentations each week in multiple facilities.
5. After being approached by the staff at a facility, for approximately 1 year, the Kenai Area H&I Committee facilitated and maintained an H&I presentation at a treatment facility in the Anchorage area.
6. I've served in other positions in NA including serving on other committees, was the chair of our annual Campvention event, as well as service at the group level since coming into the program.
7. My clean date is April 11, 2013

I do my very best to apply the Traditions in all that I do inside and outside of the rooms of Narcotics Anonymous and with every service position that I've held thus far. If I am selected for this position, I will take the commitment seriously, apply the Traditions and the Concepts to the best of my ability, stay open minded and teachable, and will follow the guidelines as they are laid out for this position."

- **Vote for Shannon D for Regional Treasurer**

Anchorage Area nominated Shannon fore Regional treasurer at the January meeting. Shannon is running unopposed. If a group wants to see Shannon's qualifications, they are available in the Jan 2017 Regional minutes, and the November 2016 Area meetings.

Area Service News and Notes Continued!

NA's 38th Anniversary in Alaska Celebration

The annual celebration of NA in Alaska was a fun, unifying event. All the cliques were there sharing re-past. Thank you Activities!

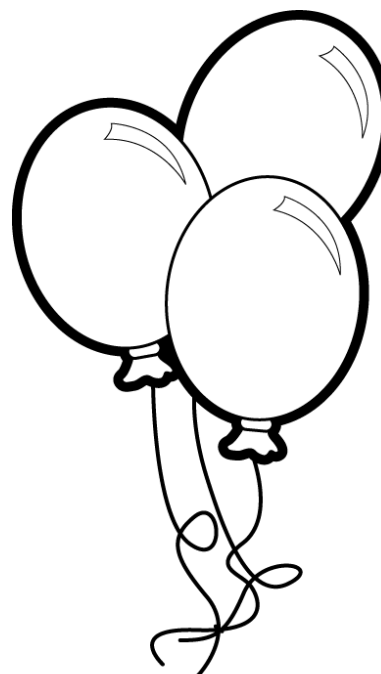
Activities Report:

My name is Jen and I'm an addict.

We were able to clear up the miscommunication after the Christmas Narathon clean-up. We had someone responsible donate \$60 and we were also able to locate the \$32 from 7th tradition still at the Alano Club. We donated \$50 in rent to Alano Club the last week of January for the Christmas Narathon. Please see the treasurer report for clarity.

I want to send out a really big thank you to the entire Area and groups for a successful 38th NA in AK Anniversary. Thank you to everyone who sold tickets, purchased tickets, our speakers, our auctioneer & clean time countdown coordinators, our set-up crew, our cooks, our clean-up crew and everyone else I may have forgotten. Thanks to everyone that responded to the 911 call for cooks as well! A special thanks to members of the Activities Subcommittee- they rock! Here are the numbers: 964 yrs, 5 months, and 4 days during the clean time countdown, 138 in attendance, and 104 dinner tickets sold. The activities subcommittee is now able to make a \$1,465.34 donation to area leaving the remaining balance as "seed money" at \$750 per the guidelines.

December reported balance	\$	952.06
Christmas Food & Décor	\$	(100.00)
Narathan Rent	\$	(50.00)
Christmas 7th tradition	\$	32.00
Christmas donation	\$	60.00
January starting balance	\$	894.06
Books for silent auction	\$	(169.71)
Decorations	\$	(207.79)
Embossing	\$	(40.00)
Banner	\$	(89.99)
Drinks	\$	(30.81)
Food Expense	\$	(783.14)
Donation to church-rent	\$	(100.00)
7th tradition	\$	131.00
Dessert auction	\$	240.00
book sales	\$	295.00
Beverage sales	\$	98.00
Ticket Sales	\$	2,080.00
Total Fundraising from event	\$	1,422.56
Balance after event	\$	2,316.62
Park permit for Memorial Day	\$	(101.28)
Donation to Area	\$	(1,465.34)
February reported balance	\$	750.00



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With a lot of work effort recently and some of our members also participating on the convention committee, we are seeking additional membership on the subcommittee. Our next meeting is this coming Wednesday (2nd Wed of the month) at 7:00pm at Guidos. Please send a representative from your group! Due to the number of convention related activities and other activities in the area (like prom), I will propose at the next subcommittee meeting that our subcommittee not host any additional events between now and Memorial Day. If you feel strongly we should do something else, please join the meeting or send a rep from your group!

Events and Happenings!

Mar '17	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST	DONATION
4 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.	<i>ARCNA XXXIII FUNDRAISER</i> Cajun Dinner and Meeting Cajun Meal and Meeting Flyer	Central Lutheran Church 1420 Cordova Street Anchorage, AK 99501	Walk Your Talk Meeting of Narcotics Anonymous Group Member of WYT or NA Way	\$10 for Cajun Meal NA Way Meeting Following Dinner
24 - 26 Friday Check-in 3 p.m. Sunday Check-out 2 p.m.	<i>Kenai Area of Narcotics Anonymous</i> 4th Annual Women's Spiritual Retreat 4th Annual Women's Spiritual Retreat	Solid Rock Bible Camp 36251 Solid Rock Rd. Soldotna, AK	Kenai Area of Narcotics Anonymous Taddie D. 907-398-1939 or Heidi K. 907-394-1986	\$150 Overnight Registration \$75 Day Passes (ONLY 20 available)
Apr '17	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST	DONATION
1 Before Midnight	<i>Alaska Region Convention of Narcotics Anonymous</i> Convention Logo Contest Alaska Region Convention Logo Contest Flyer	Submit Logo Click Here To Submit Your Logo Anchorage, AK	Alaska Region Convention Committee of Narcotics Anonymous Rob T 907-830-7628	See Flyer for Details
22 6 p.m. to ???	<i>The 12th Annual 2nd Chance Prom</i> The Phantom of the Opera Time to Take Off Masks	Viking Hall Upstairs from the Dry Dock 8141 Briarwood St Anchorage, AK 99518	Frozen Chosen Group Anchorage Narcotics Anonymous Area Lisa D, Lori W, Catelyn S, Sage S, Sasha T, or Stacy A	Dinner, Speaker and Dance More details later with flyer
May '17	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST	DONATION
19 - 21 TBA	<i>Kenai Area of Narcotics Anonymous</i> Kenai Area Men's Retreat Men's Retreat Flyer	Soldotna, AK	Kenai Area of Narcotics Anonymous Ricky P 907-690-4832 or Dennis A 907-362-0249	See flyer for most details

2017 AK REGIONAL CONVENTION OF NA XXXIII

Welcomes All Participants

Help make this the best convention ever

Open positions for Sub-Committee Chairpersons
each with 2 year requirements

Hotels & Hospitality

Arts & Graphics

Registration

Programming

Entertainment

Convention Information

Merchandise

Please put your qualifications and clean time in writing

and submit to a Committee Member below

They must be in writing to be accepted

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