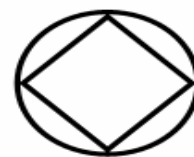




UNITY
"personal recovery depends on NA unity"



The Central Ohio Area of Narcotics Anonymous Newsletter

In the Spirit of Rotation

For the last two years, I have been chair of the newsletter subcommittee for our area service committee.

Our intention has always been to provide a positive message and information that was important to our fellowship. I would like to thank the following friends for their help: Gene C., Bob D., Helen G., Chuck M., Dale W., Fred P., Charles J., Dan S., Scott O., and anyone I may have overlooked or helped distribute the newsletter. I have known our incoming newsletter chair for only a short while, but I already include him as a member of my support group. We look forward to Mark's plans for the newsletter and I hope that faithful readers of the newsletter will support him as much as you have supported me.

In loving service, Jarrod G.

Incoming Newsletter Chairperson

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Columbus Narcotics Anonymous for welcoming me to the area. I moved to Marysville to be closer to my family, but I left my NA support structure back in Youngstown. However, it did not take long for me to find a Home Group within walking distance of my new home. I was taught that my gratitude speaks when I share and care the NA Way. As a result, I made a commitment to the Columbus Area to Chair the Newsletter Committee. I'd like to thank Jarrod G. for his faith, confidence in me and his continued participation in the Newsletter.

In loving service, Mark D.

Thoughts for the Newcomer

Taking daily action is our way of taking responsibility for our recovery. Instead of picking up that first drug, we do the following:

- Don't use, no matter what
- Go to an NA meeting
- Ask your Higher Power to keep you clean today
- Call your sponsor
- Read NA literature
- Talk to other recovering addicts
- Work the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous

Results of June ASC Elections

Chairperson: Dale W., *Just Afternoon Group*
 Vice-chair: Jarrod G., *Text Discussion Group*
 Treasurer: Jarrod G., *Text Discussion Group*
 Vice-treasurer: Chuck M., *Talking Heads Group*
 Regional Committee Member:

Larry S., *Southside Serenity Group*
 Secretary: Chuck M., *Talking Heads Group*
 Area Office & Phonelines:

Larry S., *Southside Serenity Group*
 H&I Chair: Debbie W., *Steps Light the Way Group*
 Newsletter Chair:

Mark D., *Strength, Trust & Unity Group*
 Outreach Chair: Chuck M., *Talking Heads Group*
 Public Information: Dale W., *Just Afternoon Group*
Current open area service committee positions include vice-secretary, policy chair, activities chair, additional needs chair, and literature chair. Our area convention chair is not listed as being elected or open because that position is filled in October.

Meetings Needing Support

<i>Sunday Diversity</i>	Sun 4 pm
<i>Show and Grow Up</i>	Sun 7 pm
<i>Hearts I Group</i>	Sun 7 pm
<i>Just Afternoon Group</i>	Mon-Fri 12:15 pm
<i>Southside Serenity</i>	Mon 7:30 pm
<i>Principles B4 Personalities</i>	Mon 8 pm
<i>Delaware Nooners</i>	Tues 12 noon
<i>Ties That Bind Us Together</i>	Tues 6 pm
<i>Common Grounds (Chillicothe)</i>	Wed 6 pm
<i>New Start Group</i>	Wed 8 pm
<i>We Care Group</i>	Wed 8 pm
<i>We Do Recover</i>	Thur 6:30 pm
<i>Never Alone Never Again</i>	Thur 7:30 pm
<i>Strength, Trust & Unity (Marysville)</i>	Thur 7:30 pm
<i>Let's Dump It All</i>	Fri 7 pm
<i>Hope, Not Dope</i>	Fri 7 pm
<i>Heritage Group</i>	Fri 7:30 pm
<i>Friday Night Fever (Chillicothe)</i>	Fri 8 pm
<i>New Horizons Groups</i>	Sat 12 noon

See schedule for meeting locations

Please recycle this issue - pass it along to another member after you read it.

Fellowship Issue Discussion Topic: Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why Questions for Service Bodies

If there are segments of the local population that never seem to be exposed to NA, then we need to look at our local service efforts for solutions.

1. What PR gaps or misconceptions about NA in our community can our service bodies work to resolve?
2. What outreach work can we do to spread the word about NA to potential members?

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why Questions for Groups and Members

If there are types of people who find NA but aren't coming back, we can look at what we do as groups and as individuals to make everyone feel welcome. Our program has something to offer everyone; it's our responsibility to make sure that our fellowship is as attractive and accessible as the NA program of recovery. We must ensure that there is room in our NA community for "all manifestations of the recovering person."

3. As a member, what personal efforts can I make (and encourage other members to make) to reach out to different types of people?
4. What changes can we make at a group level to make sure that we do not alienate members of any background, but instead welcome all?

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why

It is clear that not every NA meeting will be equally comfortable to all members. The important concern is to know that all of the addicts in our community have meetings where they can feel comfortable. As members trying to carry the message, it is our responsibility to identify and overcome the barriers to recovery in our communities. It is part of giving away what was so freely given to us. The answer to "Who is missing?" varies from one community to the next, so each community will have to explore its own answers and solutions. Common needs meetings and targeted literature might play a part in the solution, but there seems to be a lot more that we can do. In some cases, we may see no solution but to wait vigilantly. When we find a chance to reach out, we take it. If there are ways that our service system can get these members into our meetings, and ways that we as individuals and groups can keep them here, then it is our responsibility to do whatever we can. It's about our Twelfth Step, our Fifth Tradition, our First Concept, and the NAWS Vision. It's about carrying the message.

Our Twelfth Step: "Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

Our Fifth Tradition: "Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers."

Our First Concept: "To fulfill our fellowship's 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."

NA World Services Vision Statement

All of the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous World Services are inspired by the primary purpose of the groups we serve. Upon this common ground we stand committed.

Our vision is that one day:

- ◆ Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life;
- ◆ NA communities worldwide and NA world services work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation to carry our message of recovery;
- ◆ Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery.

More information is available at <http://www.na.org> and clicking on *Online Literature*

Upcoming Local News and Events are available at <http://www.nacentralohio.org>

For more information on service opportunities or upcoming events, please call the Area Service Office at (614) 252-1700.