



Introspection (self-analysis, examination/inventory) Disclosure (expose, uncover, reveal)* Performance (action)* Surrender (resignation)/humility (modesty, simplicity - opposite of arrogance)* Willingness* Amendment (correction, change)* Evaluation (measure, repair)* Guidance (direction, instruction, counsel)* Sharing (giving, contributing)* Foundational principles to any recovery are honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness. Before the working of any steps can have an effect on my personality, character or outlook on life, I must be honest; I am an addict! I want to stop using, whether it's drugs, alcohol, sex, money, greed, or whatever ends up hurting my spirit. To stop doing those things, I will consider following a path that others have paved. My way didn't work so I'll try doing what you have done, even if it seems strange or unlikely to help. Today, I'm willing to change.*

-Andrew K.

Artistic Encouragement



-Carolyn S.

Contents

Sixth Step.....	Page 1
Sixth Tradition.....	Pages 1&2
Inspiration	Page 2
Milestones	Page 2
Sharing	Page 3-6
Activities.....	Page 7
Useful Information.....	Page 7
Artistic Encouragement.....	Page 8

Subcommittee

Carolyn S.
Chris M.
Hugh C.
Maria S.
John T.
Bob

Mission Statement:

with gratitude in our recovery, we dedicate our newsletter in the loving service of our Higher Power: that through the development of a conscious contact with God, no addict need die without a chance to find a better way of life we remain trusted servants in gratitude and loving service.

Subcommittee Contact

Information

Phone: Carolyn S. @

847-970-2141

Email: TheVoiceofNA@aol.com

SIXTH STEP: SURRENDER REVISITED

"We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character." -Step 6, Narcotics Anonymous

Living Step Six

I believe that my character defects are basic human characteristics, blown out of proportion by my self-centeredness. Until I swim in the cess-pool of my defects for a while, I will not be entirely ready for God to do anything for me in the sixth step. Until I cannot stand the smell of my defects I cannot be ready.

Therefore, my sixth step list is not the only thing that I must do in working this step. After I write my list I must be mindful, watchful and willing to see all my defects before I act out on them.

Living the sixth step is where I become ready to have God remove my defects of character. I need to be aware of all my defects of character if I am going to get ready to have God remove them all. I become ready because I can no longer stand the stench of these defects. And if I am not watching my defects, I am not watching my disease.

-Cornelius H.

WORKING TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE 6TH TRADITION

"An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose." -Tradition 6, Narcotics Anonymous

Essentially, we have the best chance of getting our message out to who needs it if it's clear. Addicts need to hear the message as short and simple as possible. If we endorse, finance, or lend the NA name we blend our message with the message of that organization.

For example, we only give NA related announcements in our meetings. If we announce another organization's

6th Tradition

functions our intention might just be to promote good, to let people know where something else might exist that's helped us. But what might happen is that someone hears that as NA's endorsement, not ours personally. Thus, we communicate that NA endorses that organization's message, whatever it may be.

Another example is more obvious, that financing any organization other than NA, says we support their message. Again, so that our message is clear and not blended with anyone else's we refrain from any financial endorsement.

One more example is we don't directly allow anyone to use our name to promote their organization. No treatment center or clubhouse can call itself Narcotics Anonymous. Nor can a facility list Narcotics Anonymous as part of its treatment program to get financial gain.

We obviously can't control what another organization does, but it is our responsibility to respond if another organization violates any of our traditions. NA has a wealth of experience and knowledge in how to handle these situations, we just need to ask.

This is just a start, pull out your literature and study. Let's grow with this topic together!
-Bo C.

Inspiration:

"As we recover, we become aware that our lives are reflections of our relationship with God. Instead of trying to know all the answers about God, most of us have found it useful to concentrate our energy into seeking the knowledge of what God's will is for us, and trying to live our lives accordingly. We realize that we need beliefs in order to follow a spiritual path, but we also need to be open-minded enough to receive God's wisdom. We cannot afford to forget that we receive our freedom and well being from our Higher Power. Spirituality is not based on social acceptance, material wealth or physical appearance but rather on a personal and intimate relationship with the God of our understanding. Our lives are reflections of our relationship with God.
-The N.A. Way of Life, pg. 19

Milestones

Tiawana H. celebrated 3 years clean December 2, 2006!

Calvin S. Celebrated 4 years clean December 2, 2006!

Lola S. celebrated 4 years clean December 2, 2006!

December 15, 2006 is Michael R.'s 50th birthday!

Activities

Saturday 12/23/2006

South Suburbs Winter Wonderland Dance 7pm Speaker. 8 pm Dance Worth Park District 115 Beloit. Worth, IL. Harlem to 115th South, go West 3 blocks then stop and dance. Suggested Donation is \$7

Sunday 12/24/2006

Mid City Area Holiday Marathon Meetings 2 pm - 7 pm Mt. Vernon Church 3555 W Huron. Chicago, IL. See Flyer

Sunday 12/24/2006 thru 12/25/2006

North Suburbs 9th Annual Holiday Marathon Meeting 6 pm - 6 pm Red Roof Inn 340 Waukegan Rd Rm 213. Northbrook, IL. SW of Waukegan & Lake-Cook Rds. Bring cookies and milk

Sunday 12/24/2006 thru 12/25/2006

West Suburban Area 2006 Holiday Marathon Meeting 7 pm - 7 pm Holiday Inn Express Finley and Butterfield Rd. Downers Grove, IL. Continuous Meetings Round the Clock

Monday 12/25/2006

Mid City Area Holiday Marathon Meetings 2 pm - 7 pm Mt. Vernon Church 3555 W Huron. Chicago, IL. See Flyer

Monday 12/25/2006

North City Christmas Day Meeting Marathon 8 am - 9 pm Night Before Christmas Meeting 1050 West School Street. Chicago, IL. Just Northwest of Belmont and Clark Ave.

Saturday 12/30/2006

Mid City Ad-Hop Dinner & Dance 6 pm - 2 am Homan Square 925 S. Homan St Chicago, IL. Come out and support the Ad-Hop Committee with there FREE dinner, dance, fashion & comedy show. dinner will be promptly at 7:00 pm. Speakers starts at 8:00pm

Sunday 12/31/2006

South Suburbs New Years Eve Dance 7pm Speaker. 8 pm Dance St Paul Community Church 18200 Dixie Hwy. Homewood, IL. Suggested Donation is \$7 Dance Open Speaker

Sunday 12/31/2006 thru 1/7/2006

Mid City Starting Off Clean 5p.m. until new year United With One Cause 1409 N Pulaski. Chicago, IL. There will be 4 speakers, free food music games (bid, spades, etc.) Come help bring in the new year clean!

Sunday 12/31/2006

West Suburbs New Years Party tba Prince of Peace Church 1213 Army Trail Rd Addison, IL. \$8 suggested donation

January

Thursday 1/11/2007 thru 1/14/2007

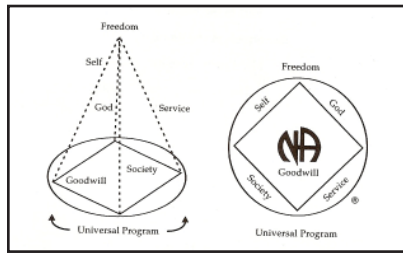
Chicago Region CRC XIX all weekend Hyatt Regency Chicago 151 Wacker Drive Chicago, IL. Early bird registration \$15

Useful Information:

Mid-City Area Holiday Marathon Meetings: December 24, 2006 (1:00-8:00 PM) Mt Vernon Church 3555 W Huron enter in the rear
For More Information Call Madalyn B. @ 773-440-2927
Or Yulanda T. @ 773-430-0560

combined effects of self, God, society, and service that we learn in Narcotics Anonymous. Freedom is the outcome of everything described. We get to release the shackles and bonds that drugs bestowed upon us. Freedom is the miracle of knowing that we can live today without the use of any type of drug.

-Aaron P.



Easy to Say, Hard to Enact. ~Andrew K.

Recovery from active addiction...a simple phrase, but difficult to live. I know there's more to recovery and Narcotics Anonymous than just abstaining from drugs or their substitutes. Not to minimize the need for abstinence; no recovery exists if drugs are in the mix, but I have found recovery to be much more. Abstinence permits recovery to begin. The key word in that sentence is, "permits", there is no guarantee whatsoever unless I take some action and follow some suggestions.

Unfortunately, much of my experience with recognizing manifestations my disease is after the fact. Addiction is a disease of self-destruction. I tend to be a slow learner; I usually don't realize that I have been pounding my head against the wall until after I'm bruised and bloodied. Our basic text says, "recovery begins with surrender", but I believe recovery begins with acceptance. My recovery looks like this in terms of the order of active spiritual principles; (I equate at least one active spiritual principle with each step.)

Acceptance (acknowledgment, recognition)

Faith (hope, trust, conviction, persuasion)

Commitment (decision, obligation, resolution, stand)/obedience

(submission)

(Continued on page 8)

SHARING

The Completeness of Integrity

Integrity, or fidelity to the principles embodied in the Twelve Traditions, is demonstrated when groups carry the NA message of recovery. Many of our members have much to offer on a variety of subjects, but our fellowship has its own special message: freedom from active addiction through practice of NA's Twelve Steps and the support of the fellowship of recovering addicts. Groups demonstrate this when they offer vigorous, conscious support for addicts seeking to work the NA program. When groups conscientiously cultivate this kind of integrity, their meetings further our primary purpose.

-Tradition Five, It Works How and Why, page 164. John T.

The N.A. Symbol

The N.A. Symbol shows a sense of unity. There are many symbolic forms of the letter chosen, but a simple curvature of the outside, almost air-like letters, promotes a feeling of all inclusiveness. It has a warm feeling, as if we belong inside. A concept of various single ideas combines to form a unique thought or symbol. Self is a starting point where we attempt to make ourselves into something about which we have forgotten. God is the spirit that will show us the road of recovery and love, not drugs and destruction. Society is the realm in which we get to practice our newfound talents and ideas. Physical states in which many people try to work together toward similar goals and have mutual respect for one another. Service is the way we can demonstrate the many new ideas we have learned in Narcotics Anonymous. Goodwill is the result of our actions: the

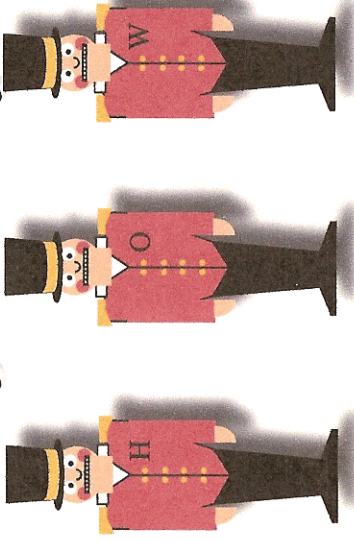
The Voice of NA in the Chicago North Area needs YOU to share your news, experience, strength and hope. Please see a subcommittee member or contact us at TheVoiceofNA@aol.com, or phone

847-970-2141



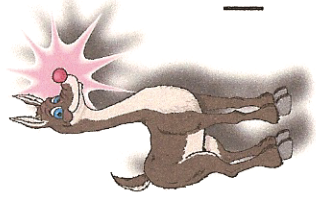
The Night Before Christmas Meeting Presents

Christmas Day Meeting Marathon



Join us for a day of meetings with a different topic each hour.
Topics for each meeting will be a surprise!

December 25th, 2006
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.



1050 West School Street, Chicago, IL
(Just Northwest of Belmont and Clark Ave.)

Stick around for the 7 p.m. Listen To Learn Meeting.
(Regularly held at Unity Church at 1925 W.Thome, but relocated here for the Holiday.)

Will it cost anything?

No, this is just like a regular NA meeting but it will run all day long.
A donation basket will be available if you want to give to the 7th tradition.



Refreshment will be served throughout the day.
Donations of cookies, treats, and coffee will be gladly accepted!

For More Information Contact
Bob R. 773-636-5002 or
Dennis P. 773-931-2002