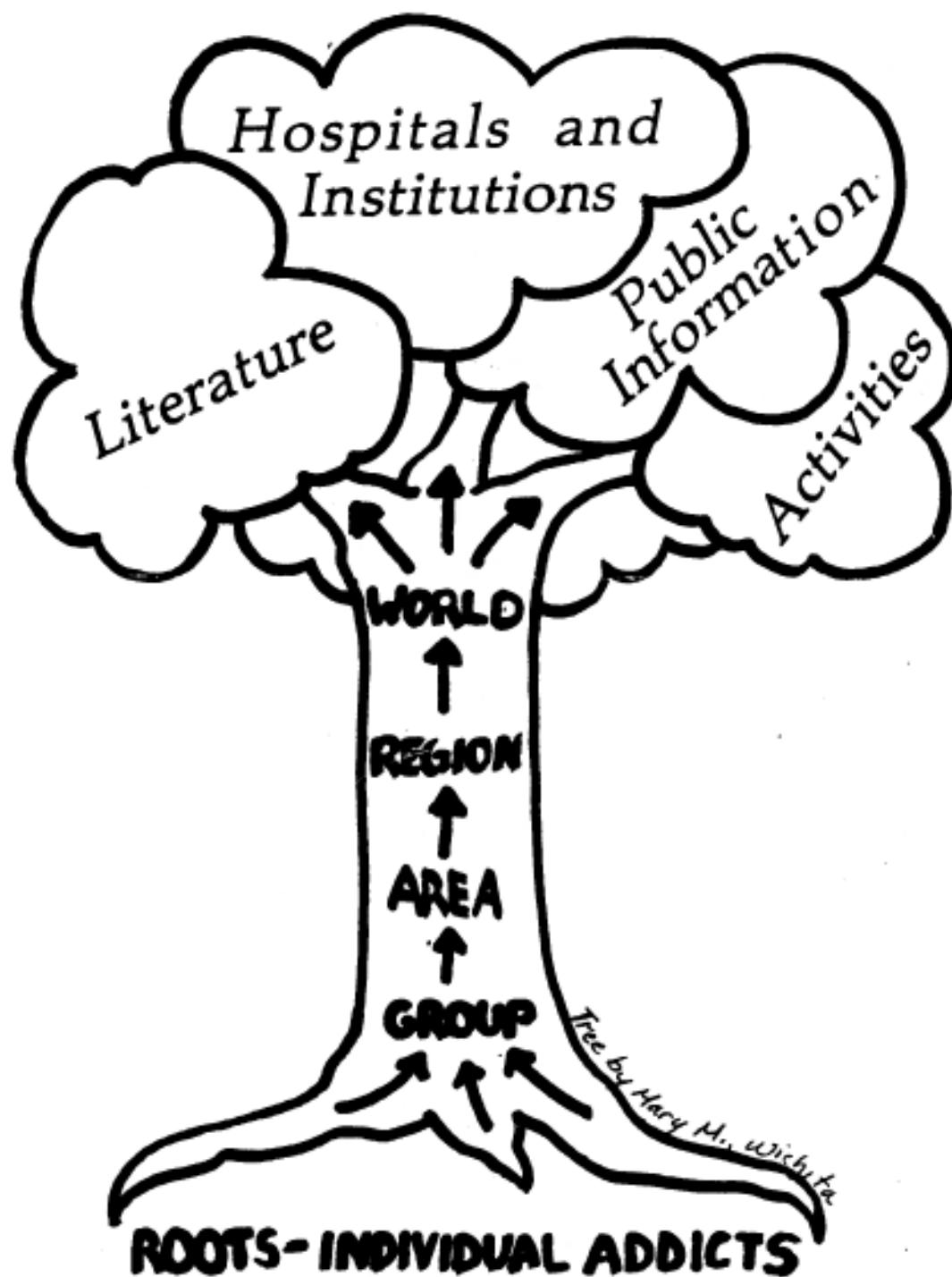


# MID-AMERICA NEWSLETTER

August — September 1985



*The N.A. Tree of Life is Forever Green  
— Fellowship Doesn't End With Summer*

# Questions & Answers

The Board of Trustees receives lots of questions in the mail about Traditions. Here are some of their answers.

Q. In our meeting format it says that newcomers are welcome and that it is all right to attend the first meeting while under the influence of drugs but must thereafter come clean. This is for the protection of the group. Is this statement a violation of our Traditions?

A. It is our belief that this statement does in fact violate Tradition Three, the assumption

being that it is all right for someone to come under the influence to one meeting, but thereafter come clean.

Our literature and our Third Tradition state "the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using." Our Fifth Tradition states, "Each group has but one primary purpose, to carry the message to the addict who still suffers." To use a format which prohibits the still-using addict from meetings is contrary to our traditions.

Q. Our group uses the Day by Day book by Hazelden in two of our meetings. Our group knows this is not N.A.-approved literature, but our group conscience feels it is not in violation of any of our Traditions.

A. Every month the World Service Board of Trustees receives at least two letters regarding the use of non-N.A. approved literature. This month there are three such letters: one regarding the use of A.A.'s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions; one regarding the reading of the Bible; and yours. All three letters state that their group conscience approves of the use of these materials, and that they have the right to use any literature of their choice by virtue of the group conscience.

Narcotics Anonymous is a Twelve Step program of recovery from the disease of addiction. It is not a program of recovery as set up by A.A., the Bible or Hazelden. When we dilute our message of recovery with literature other than N.A.-approved, we create confusion in the minds of the newcomer. They are often confused as to whether the N.A. Program is really A.A., a religious Bible study, or a part of Hazelden. The World Service Board of Trustees believes that the use of literature not approved by N.A. does affect other groups and N.A. as a whole. The seeds of controversy, chaos, and disunity are planted which ultimately are capable of destroying N.A. as a whole. The distinction of our Fellowship as a separate entity is clouded and unfortunately newcomers may be lost in the confusion.

Many of us use other literature in our personal programs, as an adjunct to recovery. Some use meditation guides, some read the Bible, and some members read other literature regularly as part of their recovery process. However, literature other than N.A.-approved literature belongs outside of our meetings.

We suggest that if your group feels strongly about having a meditation book or pamphlet, you form a literature committee and begin to generate material for a meditation guide for N.A.

We have Twelve Traditions. Group conscience is a part of Tradition Two and when it is followed in conjunction with Tradition Four it does not allow one to override the other or any other Tradition while remaining a part of N.A. An N.A. meeting to be considered an N.A. meeting must fully comply with all of the Twelve Traditions.



# from the editor's kitchen table

July 28, 1985

Greetings Fellow Members,

This issue is dedicated to Barbara J. from Wichita who resigned as Regional Service Representative because of her move to San Diego, Calif. Thanks Barbara for the very competent job you did in representing our region. We will all miss you and wish you the best out West.

Jeff B. from K.C., Mo., and Dennis O., McPherson, are the new RSR and RSR Alternate, respectively. We wish them luck in their new positions.

It's been such a busy summer, I only hope this issue does justice to reporting the events that have occurred. My perceptions of the Mid-America Campout at Salina are included in the News section. If your area or group sponsors an event, please write up the goings-on and send it in to this Newsletter so everyone can share it. The fun you had will be relayed to 99 subscribers in 48 cities and 11 states.

Mid-America Newsletter now is set up on an exchange program with five other newsletters in the United States. Our content will be improved and more varied soon. Thanks go to the Wichita Area for funding the exchanges.

The Inter-Regional meeting between Kansas and Oklahoma, scheduled for Aug. 17 and 18 in Tulsa, has been postponed. New date has not been set. When it is, fliers will be sent to spread the word.

Included in this issue in the Clean Perceptions section is a humor column. We need one-liners to continue the column. You know you're not living a day at a time when .....

Cliff M. from Wichita did live a day at a time. He died ~~June 30~~ a clean and sober man who had spread the word of recovery during his two years in the program. Cliff had made peace with himself and amends to others including his father. He and his father came together, made amends and said I love you's the night before he died. Cliff was active in Hospital and Institution work and supported H & I. He believed in working with newcomers and carrying the message of recovery on a feeling level. He was very down-to-earth and liked humor. Cliff had an ability to get out of himself and help others. About 20-30 N.A. members attended his funeral. He leaves a wife and 2 children in Wichita and a son in California from a previous marriage.

*Julie P.*



To live life without dying  
To give love without buying  
Open the window to joy and pain  
To be free without flying  
To receive without crying  
Come in from the endless rain

Author unknown  
(Found written on the front  
of a White Book, Joplin, Mo.)

LISTEN.....

When I ask you to listen to me  
and you start giving advice  
you have not done what I have asked.

When I asked you to listen to me  
and you begin to tell me why I  
shouldn't feel that way,  
you are trampling on my feelings.

When I ask you to listen to me  
and you feel you have to do some-  
thing to solve my problem  
you have failed me, strange as that  
may seem.

Listen! All I asked, was that you listen,  
not talk or do--just hear me.

Advice is cheap: ten cents will get you  
both Dear Abby and Billy Graham in  
the same paper.

And I can do for myself; I'm not helpless.  
Maybe discouraged and faltering,  
but not helpless.

When you do something for me that I can  
and need to do for myself,  
you contribute to my fear and weakness.

But, when you accept as a simple fact that  
I do feel what I feel,  
no matter how irrational,  
then I can quit trying to convince  
you and can get about the business  
of understanding what's behind  
this irrational feeling.

And when that's clear, the answers are  
obvious and I don't need advice.

Irrational feelings make sense when we  
understand what's behind them.

Perhaps that's why prayer works sometimes  
for some people,

because God is mute, and he doesn't  
give advice or try to fix things.

"They" just listen and let you work it  
out for yourself.

So please listen and just hear me.

And if you want to talk,  
wait a minute for your turn;  
and I'll listen to you.

--Anonymous

# Clean PERCEPTIONS

## FLASHBACK

I've seen the light  
I've seen the dark  
Once in a dream  
Where the wolves bark  
Stood face to face  
With a giant beast  
He wanted me  
To be his feast  
As he faded  
He said this to me  
Go get a needle  
Again you'll see  
I've thought a lot  
Ever since that night  
Going back to the needle  
Gives me a fright  
I will make it  
In life I know  
Remembering my past  
Will help me grow  
Though I may suffer  
From time to time  
And this is always  
An uphill climb  
With help from my friends  
This will be  
Worth it in the end  
Cause it's for me



## START LIFE OVER

Where would we be without love today?  
Sitting alone with nothing to say  
Look to the east and then to the west  
See the birds up in a nest  
Think of the terrible past we had  
Still alive, so it's not so bad  
Start life over, fresh and new  
We're all together, with what we knew  
See what God can bring us now  
Serenity fills what once was foul



## OLD FRIEND

Once I had a friend  
That showed me the sun  
We were always together  
We had so much fun  
Never apart she and I  
She taught me so much  
Helped me forget problems  
Magic was her touch  
I gave everything I had  
Money, car, even my wife  
This wasn't good enough though  
She wanted my soul and life  
She had complete control  
Of all that I'd say and do  
I'm trying to leave her now  
And start live brand new  
My old friend became my enemy  
This friend was drugs you see  
Happier now than I ever was  
I know that God loves me

All poetry on this page was written by Randy R. and sent in by the Great Bend Group. Thanks Randy!

# YOU'RE NOT LIVING ONE DAY AT A TIME WHEN...

... you read ahead in a daily meditation guide to see whether the readings will be appropriate.

... you've had a bad week.

... you wake up on the wrong side of tomorrow.

... you think about staying clean for the rest of your life.

... you're worried about the rent and you just paid it.

... the garage isn't big enough and you don't own a car.

... you are considering buying stock in a pharmaceuticals company.

... you're worried about starting school and summer has just begun.

... you start planning your budget around the sweepstakes winnings and you haven't even entered yet.

... you start trying to remember the street value of reds and blacks while snooping in someone's medicine cabinet.

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The following meditation was written at the Mid-America Regional Campout by the Literature Committee and lots of helpful recovering addicts. It was sent in to the World Literature Committee for consideration in the new daily meditation guide they are compiling. You, too, can help. Send them something.

## Being Positive

When we used drugs, negativity was a way of life. Our negative attitudes came from inverted vision that focused on ourselves. Self-pity is destructive.

Taking the First Step opens the door to willingness and being positive. Am I truly grateful for what I've been through to get here? Do I see today how my past suffering can benefit others?

A positive point of view keeps us open to new ideas and turns our lives around.

With every rain there's a rainbow.

Today I pray that I can be positive in all situations and look for the good in the bad. Help me to get out of myself and be thankful for the miracle of being clean.



# GLAD TIME



I speculate that I used the needle for the sake of experience itself as the most unfortunate extreme in what I construed to be living so close to the edge. It was perhaps comparable in my mind to other activities that involve risk of death and are enjoyed for the enhanced experience of life that such risks must entail. Mental and physical preparedness limit the magnanimity of climbing mountains, shooting rapids, skydiving or riding 2000 pound Brahma bulls.

Certainly the reasons for drug use as a widespread phenomenon are varied, with the orgasmic totality of the rush, the overall placid euphoria, peer pressure, availability, the hideous conditions of obtaining drugs and a host of other factors. Once addiction is established, reasons take a secondary place. I cherished the ability of drugs to keep from feeling bad! Moreso, I valued the numbing of the senses and of mental states that had to do with "feeling good."

In all its functions, my usage consisted of extreme aggression against myself. There is a certain gracefulness in using the term self-destruction. More often than not, that is no more than society's palatable way of dealing with certain behaviors in a discreet fashion, thereby sidestepping what sounds too purposeful, too motivated and much too close to the truth.

Chronic suicide is what I've engaged in throughout my life. The act of taking this or that form along the way and penetrating all areas of my tortured existence. I attribute my drug use to the fear of growing socially, a form of cultural shock.

To be a dominant leader and fulfill the image I was fulfilling meant being a certain type of person that I didn't always want to be inside. Sometimes, I wanted to be free and loving, but the image wouldn't allow it. Most of my things weren't real. I was notorious for doing a great deal of nothing. Twenty thousand motions to walk across the room with the illusion that vast amounts of knowledge were being consumed and dispensed. I would try to build them up so high to make them believable, but they were not.

It was disturbing to my girlfriend and other friends who knew what I was going through because they felt terribly used. They were objects intended to fill the lonely hours of atrophy and to be there when called upon. This was complicated by the drugs, clutching to feel where there were no feelings at all.

Right now is where you are! As for living in the present, certainly being on the road, traveling from one deal to another and from one fix to another engenders the feeling that there is no future and no past.

Thanks to God, Bob W. #145467 is a part of the present. Knowing only that I'm a lot more like I am now than I was when I got here consoles me daily as I hesitantly look beyond the eight years I've been sentenced.

I'm just glad to be here.

Bobby W.

(Editor's note. Bobby is an inmate at an Oklahoma prison. He traveled as a professional rodeo contestant for 20 years. He was introduced to N.A. from members in the prison.)

What the campout was to me ...

"My God, this is great!" That was my first thought when I arrived at Camp Ada Walden near Salina Friday, July 5 for the Mid-America Regional Campout.

Junkies, tents, trees, bunkhouses and lots of green grass dotted the landscape. I started hugging people as soon as I unloaded my gear in the bunkhouse.

My Friday night activities included the speaker meeting and dance afterward.

I could tell we were at a church camp. The graffiti on the bunkhouse wall said things like, "Susie Jones is a super neat person."

Saturday morning's shower was quite an experience. I couldn't figure the knobs out and I was trying to wash my hair under this tiny trickle of hot water. Sharon C. from El Dorado saved the day when she came in and told me how it worked. I got so much soap in my eyes that I looked stoned. The Literature workshop went great. The group fluctuated from three to about 10 people. We produced four pages of meditation for the NA daily meditation guide, "Just For Today."

Many recovering addicts got addicted to softball for several hours and played like there was no tomorrow. Later came the three-legged races, the water balloon toss and the raft races at the swimming pool. I enjoyed swimming and sunning several times Saturday. Even got a bit pink.

Everybody pigged out at the pig roast that evening. There were lots of tasty victuals.

The speaker meeting was great. Chris from Missouri cracked up the crowd a few times with some mildly pornographic remarks.

Dancing under the stars was fantastic. Thanks, Alan, for being a patient deejay. Few people could sit while the Creedence tunes filled the night

air. At one point we even formed a line dance.

The grossest moment by far came when Glenn S. from Topeka kissed the dead pig's snout and raised \$51 at the



auction. The agreement was that he would have to French that carcass if we chipped in more than \$50. Glenn also roasted the pig. It may be a while before he eats pork.

There were midnight meetings Friday and Saturday. I left the dance at 2:30 a.m. and called it a day. It was peaceful being in the country and my prayers that night were serene and full of thanks for all my N.A. friends.

Sunday morning's Nar-Anon speaker was really enlightening. Renee J. from Joplin was good at telling her story, she's a born speaker. Next year's campout will be sponsored by the Hoisington group. I can't wait!

*Julie P.*

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Just for  
TODAY



## What is Wrong with Our Fellowship?

I have heard fellow members asking, "What is wrong with our Fellowship?" I have given this some thought, and I believe that the answer is "nothing." Not with our Fellowship. There is something wrong, but it lies within each of us as individual members.

There is a lot of right with our local Fellowship. That it exists is one thing. We do have a Fellowship in which to seek recovery. Local addicts such as myself are no longer crying in the dark. We have a place to go to work on our recovery from the disease of addiction. We have meetings to attend -- five here in town and another 40 within 50 miles of here. We have an active area service committee that has been meeting monthly to serve the needs of the local groups. We have people who have been willing to serve as trusted servants at group and area levels. Several of these members serve in more than one position. We have a literature pool ordered monthly from WSO. At most of our meetings, literature is readily available to the newcomer. Several members have made copies of the Basic Text available at the meetings without tying up group or area reserves. We have a hotline that is listed and calls are relayed to N.A. members through a 24-hour answering service. A half-dozen local members receive the calls, many at all hours. We have meeting lists that are updated periodically and distributed at meetings. We have pleasant meeting halls for our regular groups, with storage for literature and coffee. In other words, we have a lot that is right with our Fellowship.

So, what is wrong? Indications that something is wrong might include power struggles of one sort or another, resentments among members, relapses, a seeming lack of

unity, few sponsors, disruptions at meetings, but mostly how few newcomers return. A lack of returning newcomers, it seems to me, is real evidence of wrong. Many members believe more newcomers would return if "something" were different.

Still our Fellowship is just fine -- just where it should be-- offering all that it can to the still-suffering addict. Just as the



problem lies with each of us, so does much of what is right. A lot has been done, but more can be done. If we are going to attract the newcomer, we must each reflect recovery.

The question should be, "What is wrong with me?" Am I working my program? Am I backsliding or am I moving forward? Do I understand the steps and traditions? Have I been open-minded about evolving formats at meetings? Am I being of service? Have I become complacent? Do I attend meetings regularly? Do I offer rides to meetings? Do I clean up and dress neatly for meetings? Am I on time, early, or late to meetings? Do I help set up? Do I clean up? Do I disrupt or cause distractions at meetings? Do I give the person sharing my full attention?

(continued)

Do I care? Do I give long lectures when I share or do I keep it brief and allow others the time? Am I sharing from the heart about my recovery today or about past experiences? Do I advise the newcomer or do I accept him? Is my goal to let everyone know how well I am or is my goal to get better? Do I have a sponsor? Do I sponsor anyone? Am I really recovering today?

When we wonder what's wrong with our Fellowship, we ignore what's wrong with us. We are people with addictive, self-centered behavior, trying to learn a new way of life. A few months or years in the Fellowship does not equal recovery. Recovery is a lifelong process. We are all just beginning, and in a sense, all newcomers. A fellow member recently gave me a bumper sticker for my bathroom mirror that says, "You are looking at the problem." I submit that what is wrong with each of us can usually be found in the bathroom mirror.

M.L.  
Michigan

(Taken from the N.A. Way.)



We need to do more  
than just pull our  
heads out!

## Rx for Life

You know, I took a lot of pride in the attitudes I used to live with. Like "No Hope Without Dope," "Life sucks," "The world sucks," etc.

Being a "Hope to die dope fiend" was the only identity I had. If you weren't like me, you were just a lightweight.

I found I was just as addicted to my attitudes as I was to drugs. I've had to detox from my old attitudes and replace them with NA. (New Attitudes.)

This process has been sometimes painful, sometimes easy, but always necessary.

My Higher Power, through some beautiful addicts, has given me New Attitudes (N.A.) to live my life with. Like "No Hope With Dope," "Life is Beautiful," "The world is real." I finally believe I belong in this world.

Today I'm a "Hope to Live Dope Fiend," and my drug of choice is love. You fronted me love when I needed a fix, and I've always tried to pay it back. I still need a fix every day. You see, I'm still an addict and always will be, but today my drug of choice is love and I've found a connection that will never run out.

My connection is my Higher Power working his miracles through you. Thank you N.A., fellow addicts, and my Higher Power whom I choose to call God.

You saved my life and all it took was a few cc's of love daily and some New Attitudes (N.A.)

D.J.

(Taken from The Miracle Review, the Joplin-area newsletter.)



# NEWS!

# news!

# NEWS!

# news!

The Great Bend Group now has a post office box. Send everything for their group to: Great Bend N.A. P.O. Box 374, Great Bend, Kan., 67530-0374.

The group is going strong. They are running a public information spot on local tv which has brought in a couple of people.

Birthdays: Ross F., 3 years; David C., 2 years; Randy H., 9 months.

Candy H. resigned as treasurer.

The first H & I meeting was held at St. John St. Josephs in Larned. We hope to get this meeting off the ground real soon.

Regular meetings are Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 24th and Washington, back door, Presbyterian church. It is a closed meeting.

Coffeyville H.O.W. Group meets at 711 Walnut Circle on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. June birthdays were Johnnie, 3 months; John F., 4 months; Denis G., 9 months and Gene W., welcome chip.

The Saturday night meeting was canceled due to lack of attendance. Coffeyville needs support. Contact Denis at 251-7337 and he'll find overnight accommodations if you can go down for a meeting.

Serenity Women's Group, Hutchinson meets Tuesdays at 703 North Monroe at 7 p.m. We co-sponsored a yard sale with New Beginnings Group June 29. The sale enabled our group to buy literature and key tags. We have had a few newcomers but still need support.

We co-sponsored a covered-dish dinner, pool party and dance at the ASC meeting in Hutch Aug. 9.

HOW Group, Wichita needs support. They meet Wednesdays and Sundays at 530 North Cleveland at 7 p.m. There are 3 active members who provide transportation for treatment center people.

Hardcore Group, Wichita uses reverse psychology and begs people to go to another group. But, they meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at St. James Church in the library. Take a chance and go, doubt if they'll throw you out.

New Connections, Wichita has been drawing in 30 to 40 dopers.

We had our first-ever "intergroup" birthday night the end of June and the response from Area groups was good. A NINE year birthday was celebrated by *Anne W.*

We meet Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Fridays at 10 p.m., except for the last Friday of the month for birthday night which begins at 9 p.m. Meetings are at 901 West Douglas.

Terrace Club, Wichita now has a Sunday night Step meeting at 7:30. Monday night's 8:30 meeting is a Basic Text Study. The Friday night 8 p.m. Women's meeting has moved 2 blocks north and new address is 1329 South Terrace in a big blue building. Use the north door please. The Friday night Men's meeting is still at 8 p.m. at Terrace Club, 1510 South Terrace, behind Long John Silver's on East Harry. There is also a Wednesday meeting at 8:30 p.m.

We now have a regular core group of about 15. There are quite a few treatment people who boost attendance. We sponsored a Friendship Day Fellowship Picnic Aug. 4 at Sedgwick County Park. Proceeds will go to buy literature, cover picnic costs and Area donations. About 40 people enjoyed hamburgers, swimming, volleyball a meeting and 2 speaker meetings.

Against All Odds Group, Dodge City meets Saturday nights at 8:30. The third Saturday is open and we try to bring in speakers. Attendance has dropped but we are holding our own. Join us at 805 Avenue J behind the little brick church.

## News - continued

Rainbow Group, Hutchinson is doing as well as can be expected. We've had some support from McPherson group. Meetings are small, but good quality. Turnover is a big problem. We are getting a lot of court orders, who come a couple of times and you never see them again, but we are planting seeds of recovery. They may come back when they need N.A. Mike W. had an 18 month birthday and celebrated it by going to the campout. We had a covered-dish dinner, pool party and dance at the ASC meeting in Hutch Aug. 9. Meetings are Monday nights at 8 in the basement of the mental health center at Hutch hospital.

Freedom Behind Bars, Kansas State Industrial Reformatory, Hutchinson is not a volunteer situation because of prison director's authority. Another director of activities has been appointed and this creates confusion. We hope to keep going, weed out undesirables and attract a more sincere membership.

Hoisington N.A. is staying strong although small. We had a campout Aug. 3 and 4 under Hell Creek Bridge. Group wants to thank area for supporting our bid for next year's Mid-America campout. Meetings are Monday nights at 7:30, 5th and Main in the basement of the rectory, open.

Newton Women's Group is small and struggling. A checking account has been opened. We will hold regular business meetings the second Monday of each month. We purchased two meditation books for group use. One member is crocheting a bag for the books. July 10 was our year anniversary and the group celebrated with a slumber party at Julie P.'s house then went shopping in Wichita the next day. Meetings are Mondays at 8 p.m. at Bethel Hospital.

Newton N.A.'s June campout went well except for rain on Sunday. \$80 was raised for literature at the auction for Salina campout. Meetings are going smoothly. Times: Tuesday 1:30 and 8 p.m., Friday 1:30 p.m., Saturday 8 p.m., all at Bethel Hospital.

Liberal New Hope Group has an average attendance of 5 to 15 people. We had problems with people in our group being used as pawns for business purposes. We finally moved our group away from both treatment centers and things are settling down. We meet Tuesday, Friday and Sunday nights at 8 in the hospital Trustees room.

Wichita Women's Group is going strong. Attendance is good and we have some real good fellowship. We are supportive and excited about the all women's campout. We had a car wash toward that end July 27. July was a big birthday month for us. The meeting is Monday night at 8, 307 East Central in the building behind the church.

New Life Loadies, McPherson has had strong meetings with 10 to 12 attending. We will keep hanging in there. Members that made it to all or part of the campout were really enthused. Dennis O. celebrated 5 years clean time at the end of July. Dennis also was elected at the mini regional to serve as alternate RSR for Mid-America Region. Dennis and Von are trying to get officers of the group elected after a 2-year lag. We hope members will be willing to take on some responsibility. Meetings are Friday and Sunday at 8 p.m. 216 South Main, the S.O.S. club.

Garden City Group is doing terrific. We celebrated a 1-year birthday for Bill H. and several 90 days for Jim W. and Carl K. Meetings are Friday and Sunday at 11 p.m. and 4 p.m. respectively. Both are at 307 1/2 8th above the liquor store. The Tuesday meeting is at 9:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Main and Walnut.

Pratt N.A. is still steady with some referrals. They know we are there. We got a favorable response when we distributed literature the first week of June. Meetings are Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in the basement of the Central Kansas Credit Union on Main St. Use rear entrance.

# NEWS!

Ark City First Things First Group has attendance from 8-15. In June they celebrated birthdays for Barb P., 9 months and David R., 90 days, along with many birthdays at our meeting at the Pre-release center in Winfield. We also handed out quite a few 30-day key chains to people coming over from the treatment center.

A fund-raising rummage sale in June enabled the group to raise over \$100 which they spent for a canoe trip. Canoeing went well and the meeting on the river was good with attendance of about 25 members.

July birthdays included Wendy G., 30 days and George, 90 days. Barb P. received her 1-year key tag.

The group will celebrate its one-year existence with a get-together Sept. 7, details in the What's Happening section.

Hays NA is holding good with about 14 members. There are 2 meetings, Wednesday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m. Both are open. Wednesday's is open discussion and Saturday is Step meeting. There were 4 9-month birthdays early in June -- Jim P., Bill B., Vic C., and Julie B. Meetings are at the Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main. Use Main Street double door entrance.

Russell Recovering Group had steady attendance in early summer. Meetings on Thursday nights at 8 in the basement of church on the corner of South Culp and East Oakdale. We have a PI spot on the local FM station. We had a 1-year birthday and a 9-month birthday in early June. The meeting is



open.

New Beginnings in Hutchinson is holding its own. We had a record attendance of 8 people in late July. The joint yard sale with Serenity Women's Group was a success and allowed us to buy literature and help put on a dinner, dance and swimming party with other Hutch groups Aug. 9.

We'd love to see out-of-towners and have had some support from Newton. We are planning another yard sale and a small get-together for Hutch groups to promote unity. Plan to do both before end of summer.

Meetings are Thursday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at 703 N. Monroe.



Hello Everybody:

After attending the Hoisington Campout at Wilson Lake Aug. 3-4, I thought I'd share with you.

It was small but very spiritual and caring. We spent time boating, skiing, EATING, sharing around the campfire and sleeping outside.

Our H.P. watched over us because we only got sprinkled on.

Oh, I almost forgot, we rode on the Fun Tube. It's quite a ride! Too bad you all couldn't attend. A small group is always a treat (gives you a chance to share because it's not such a big risk.)

Wilson Lake is a beautiful place. Had a wonderful time. Missed ya! C-ya soon.

Love,  
Sue H., Newton

## CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES



All contributions should pertain to recovery.

### What we print:

- 1) N.A. related material -- group, area, regional and world activities.
- 2) Poems or essays by N.A. members.
- 3) Perceptions on the Steps and Traditions.
- 4) Topic discussions.
- 5) Cartoons, drawings and jokes.
- 6) Group reports.

### What we don't print:

- 1) Extreme vulgarity.
- 2) Non-N.A. program material.
- 3) Reference to outside enterprises.
- 4) Material that violates 12 Traditions of N.A.

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# What's Happening?



## IN THE REGION:

The next three Wichita Area Service Committee meetings will be in Wichita, moving from Hutchinson.

Stay tuned to your groups for further details.

Ark City is planning a gala affair called the First Things First 1st Birthday. The date is Sept. 7 at noon. We'll meet to eat, bring meat and covered dish or dessert. Speakers Janelle L., Wichita; and Curtis B., Bushton, will speak. Address is 321 South 1st Street at the First Presbyterian Church. (Go through town on Hwy 77 to Newman's, turn west, go one block and the church sits on the SW corner and covers the entire block. See you there!

Kansas' First Women's Campout is Sept. 13-15 at Dharmasala Retreat Center, near Newton. There will be a fund-raiser dance for the campout Saturday, Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. \$1 per foot. Contact Pennie C., 265-3593 or Jeffree C., 262-6691 for more details.

Regional Meeting, Sept. 21-22 in Kansas City, Mo., will be at Westport Allen Center, Suite 101, 706 W. 42nd Street. Sponsored by the Greater Kansas City Area. Contact Jeff B. 913-262-2442, office, or 816-531-2766, home; for further info. Julie P. is going, and has room for 2 more in car. Gas money and fellowship on ride are only requirements, call me at 316-663-6651.

## IN OTHER PLACES

The 15th Annual World Convention of NA, Shorham Hotel, Washington, D.C., Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Travel Agent contracted 1-800-368-3527. See flier in this newsletter. The bus leaving

Joplin, Mo., at 6 p.m. Aug. 28 still has seats available for \$87.72 a person. Contact Ann Day 417-782-3298 and send fare to Ann at Rt. 6, Box 469, Joplin, Mo., 64801.

The second annual Wisconsin Convention, Oct. 11-13, Wausau Holiday Inn, Box 502, Wausau, Wis., 54401. Call Heidi (715) 845-5545; Bob (715) 675-6673.

8th Annual Pacific NW Convention for NA; Valley River Inn, Eugene, Oregon, Oct. 11-13. Martin or Susan (503) 485-1397; Rick (503) 746-7466.

Nebraska Regional Convention, Best Western Airport Inn, Lincoln, Neb., (402) 475-9541. I-10 Exit #399. For more information contact NA, Box 83615, Lincoln, Neb. 68501. Attention NRCNA-II.

7th Annual Southern California Convention; Hyatt Hotel, LAX, Oct. 25-27. Call Stu (805) 584-1135; Terry (213) 370-9875; Preston (714) 761-3222.

Tri-State RCNA III, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Airport Hilton Inn, Oct. 25-27, Carmina (412) 257-1657; Terry (412) 441-1277.

Ireland's First Convention, Dublin Sport Hotel, Oct. 25-27, Kilterman Co Dublin, Telephone 893631; P.O. Box 1368, Sherriff St. Dublin.

Mid-Coast RCNA, Indianapolis, IN., Akinson Hotel, Indy, Box 2182, Indianapolis, IN., 46206. Terry (317) 873-3295; Micky (317) 873-6519.

# Register for WCNA-15 now! "Personal Recovery Depends on NA Unity"

Join us in the Nation's Capitol  
for a  
Celebration of Recovery  
The NA Way

## Highlights of the Convention:

- Kick-Off Poolside Picnic
- Marathon Meetings
- Speakers from Around the World
- 24-Hour Hospitality Room
- Gong Show
- Banquet
- Recovery
- Dances
- Spiritual Buffet
- Fellowship
- Fun

Assure your Banquet Ticket . . . . . Register early!

Personal checks accepted through July 31. Money orders and cashiers checks accepted anytime. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.** Make all checks payable to: WCNA-15. **ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS.**

Mail to: Registration, WCNA-15, P.O. Box 2232, Washington, D.C. 20013

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Registrations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

After July 31 add late fee \_\_\_\_\_ @ 5.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Banquet Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ 30.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Spiritual Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ @ 15.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Naranon Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ @ 20.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if:

Share/Chair at meeting

Vegetarian Meal  Kosher Meal

Press

Non-NA, specify \_\_\_\_\_

## Highlights of the Hotel:

The Shoreham Hotel is located on 11 beautiful acres in Rock Creek Park. Just one block from the Metro subway station. Tennis courts, outdoor pool open til 1 a.m., jogging, biking and exercise trails adjacent to the hotel. Only minutes from the Smithsonian, Georgetown, White House, Capitol and Washington Monument. Only 3 blocks from the National Zoo.

WCNA-15 convention rates will be extended 2 days before and 2 days after the convention, based on availability:

\$55.00	Single
65.00	Double
72.00	Triple or Quad

Because hotel space is limited, please make your reservations by July 31. Reservations received after July 31 are subject to availability. ROOMS MUST BE GUARANTEED BY ONE NIGHT'S DEPOSIT OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD. Deposits will be refunded only if cancellation notification is given up to 48 hours prior to arrival. Check out time is 12 noon. Rooms may not be available for check in until 3 p.m. Make checks payable to: THE SHOREHAM HOTEL. Please mail your reservations directly to:

The Shoreham Hotel  
Reservations Department  
2500 Calvert Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

WCNA-15 AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 1, 1985

NAME (print) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

For arrival on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (date) Depart on \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Type of room requested:  Single  Double  Triple/Quad

Name(s) of person(s) sharing accommodations: \_\_\_\_\_

Check or money order  Diners Club

American Express  VISA

MasterCard

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_



# INFORMATION SHEET

NAME AND ADDRESS OF GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAYS \_\_\_\_\_

STATUS OF GROUP (any particular problem, need, success, new meeting, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

ANY SPECIAL EVENTS (include time, place, cost, other information and phone numbers) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND TO REGIONAL NEWSLETTER, c/o JULIE PENNER, 421-B  
East 8th, Hutchinson, Kan., 67501.

4-86 •  
Pamela Bauer - Kane  
243 Turkie  
Haysville, Kan.  
67060

Greville Clark



JULIE K. PENNER  
421-B EAST 8TH  
MUTCHINGS, KS 67501