



**MID-AMERICA
NEWSLETTER
OCT-NOV 1991
ISSUE #5**

THE N.A. Way[®]

M A G A Z I N E

MID-AMERICA NEWSLETTER
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We won't give you a clock radio, or a cheap phone, home stereo, video tape, or swim-suit issue.....

JUST:

Twelve months (6 issues) of events, happenings, doings, campouts, chili-feeds, meetings in print, birthday nights, recovery stories, and other recovery "stuff" from your N.A. Region, by your Region and for your Region (which - by the way - is the MID-AMERICA REGION).
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FROM THE EDITOR



Hi, It's me again. Well I must have stumped everyone with my last editorial, because I got Zero mail on the subject! I did however, get some mail. My thanks to Cindy and Tom for their letters. Maybe nobody reads the "From the Editor" part of the newsletter. Come to think of it, since there are only 22 subscriptions for the M.A.N., maybe I should lay down and quit - NOT! I'm not that easy to get rid of. I said in the first issue that I'd fill the Newsletter with only contributions from this Region, and I'm sticking by my word. Since I'm on a roll...

What about funds and funding in N.A.? We've all been present at Group, Area, or Regional Business meetings in which the Treasurer reports a sum that is many times the monthly operating expenses for the Group. How many times have we seen that balance argued over and kept as insurance for future months or a dance or whatever? Arguments for keeping "excess funds" are more plentiful than greenbacks, and I'm not saying that there aren't good reasons for keeping a pregnant balance in the Group coffers, but how many times do we argue for sending the money "up the pike"? How often do we put our faith to the test, and believe that if we are supposed to have enough funds in future that it will happen? I'll say it doesn't happen enough. In the ideal world, money in N.A. is not a problem. The Member donates to the Group, which in turn donates to the Area. The Area, after much hand-ringing, sends its funds to the Region and after some hair-pulling, it sends funds to the World Service. So much for the ideal world. In the real world, the Member donates to the Group. The Group decides to stock up on a years supply of coffee and styrofoam cups because there is a big sale at Wally-World. The Member donates to the Group. The Group plans a dance and plans to pay for a band or D.J. The Member donates to the Group. The Group decides to pay rent a year in advance. The Area drops it's literature stockpile for lack of funds. The Group orders directly from WSO because the Area can't cut it. The Member donates to the Group. The Group decides to donate to the Area, but discovers that there is no Area Service Committee anymore. The Group sends the money to WSO. The Member donates to the Group...Hey, sure I'm exaggerating. I'm trying to make a point. When the Area, and Region are starved of funding, there ability to provide service to the Group is diminished.
WHAT DO YOU THINK????????????????????

M.A.N
P.O. BOX 1560
LAWRENCE, KS 66044

In Service,

Nate F.

* REGION AT A GLANCE..... *



December 1991

Saturday
REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING-McPHERS-
ON

Sunday
REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING-McPHERS-
ON

Saturday
3:30pm CHILI BOWL II - ELLINWOOD,
KE

December 1991

Sunday
11:00am JFTA BUSINESS MEETING-
OTTAWA



Last minute entry: Dec 7, 1991
JFTA Dance/Fundraiser for MARCNA IX
7PM (See flyer)





LETTERS



My name is Cindy M.. This poem was given to me by a very dear friend who has helped me very much in my recovery. I now have 29 months in my new way of life. I have found ways to be very grateful to my past for giving me a chance to find what I have today. My life is not perfect, but it is Real. I now have a chance to live a full life with real feelings and emotions instead of my covering them with drugs. I would like to say thank you to the world of Narcotics Anonymous. Because of N.A., I am Alive and Well today!

Thank you
from a recovering
Addict who needs
other recovering
Addicts.

" GOODBYE YESTERDAYS "

ed-Thank you, Cindy.

Goodbye to you, " my yesterdays "
I've searched and grew and found the way,
No happier day could i find,
than when i got you out of my mind.
So to you yesterdays i say goodbye,
no more valiums or bali hai;
No more days of shooting dope,
it's been replaced by strength and hope.
So long to you all those years,
running from life and all my fears;
I know it'll never be the same,
and it'll sure be different wiyhout cocaine.
Shooting a gram from a golden spoon,
or doing some acid and howling at the moon.
It's really turning into a better life,
no more endless misery, dispain and strife.
No more hunting and broken hearts,
no more lives tonn apart;
No more drugs and alcohol,
no more time from one more fall.
Now i can think of positive things,
of all that a clean life brings;
Be free from the police and prison at last,
Living my future instead of my past.
There's no benefit in being a losen,
being a pusher, a boozer and user;
I'll trade it all in for a better life,
my freedom, my children, family and wife.
There'll be no more numbers behind my name,
no more hanging my head in shame;
I thought i loved you yesterdays (and all the glory),
but it's really such a sick, sad and sorry stony.
And i used to love to reminisce,
of all the robbing, and fighting, and throwing fiats.
Now after all the years i've done in prison,
i think i'll take the time to listen;
To all those who know a better way,
maybe even " get weak ", and join N.A.
Now instead of yesterdays and broken dreams,
i'll enjoy the good life brings.
Thank you yesterdays for making me strong,
for letting me see where i was wrong;
There's no time left for you, for sadness and sorrow,
there's no more looking back as i face tomorrow.
So with confidence of a new begining,
(and from a guy who likes a happy ending),
I will say goodbye to you, my yesterdays,
because of you i've changed my ways.



Hi all!

Tom here, honestly, recovering from jetting and being on call. I thought of all of you when I was in Sydney and you would have loved it! The registration scene was a usual bustle of eager people, lots of hugs and blabbing, plus the enchanting Australian twinge to the accent. People milling around, strangers, except for a knowing and understanding which connects us all, reaching out, reassuring. I know that I felt like I was "home" again, being around so many addicts from all over the world. It seemed, first off, like the glitzyness that often shows at our conventions was pleasingly low-key; addicts together to share our basics, freedom, goodwill, our 12 steps, willingness, honesty, openmindedness. The speakers were dynamite and the dances were first rate. It appears that somewhere over 1200 people were registered and word is that the WCC Made a little money (compared to conventions of late). Hugging seems to have been imported to Australia, as honest addicts pointed out the newness of it, though they were open to the warmth that typifies our fellowship. Merchandising was orderly and low-key, and it worked; particularly interested were we Americans, it seemed. The final speakers were Addicts from various States in Australia, New Zealand, Germany, U.S., Bahrain and Japan. Astounding! I heard from Addicts staying clean with very few meetings and cultural barriers to acceptance and fellowship, and I was grateful to have the meetings I have. After the convention closed, a delightful production was presented, a play called "The Gift of Oz", with Dorothy, her Dizz-'ease', and her "yellow - brick" road to recovery through the program of Narcotics Anonymous. Delightful and remarkably well-produced and presented.

The World Convention happened two weeks ago, and though I couldn't you all one to one, I was thinking of you when I walked through the Halls getting Hugs from recovering addicts from all over the world.

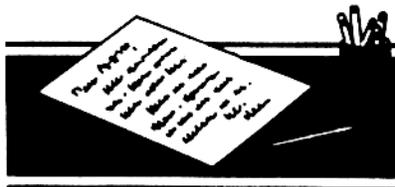
If not sooner,

See you in Toronto!

Love,

Tom D.- Larned, Ks

ed - you brought me a little closer to the convention. thanks
tom.



To the NEWCOMER: With a Vision of Hope
It was in another lifetime full of pain and shame and drugs
When defiance was a virtue and my streets were paved with blood
Well I came in from the wilderness a creature broke and torn
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
Many had come before me and found another way
It is a 12-Step Fellowship, a Fellowship called NA
Cousin Cocaine, Sister Morphine both took a heavy toll
The little smoke and old Jack Daniels were my friends no more
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
They did not promise everything for life... life will be
But I can tell you this, my friend, if you are much like me
A promise of a life, my friend, from drugs you can be free
Just Fake 12-Steps and ask for help that's the way it works for me.
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
So come into our meetings, friend, and give us 90 days
Then if you don't want what we have to offer, you can go your separate way
One thing we all know here, the door it swings both ways
But if your life like mine was you live with numbered days.
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
Well we all have stormy Mondays and sometimes Sunday blues
And if you think you're different, well I was different too.
When you reach a crossroad and don't know what to do
Work the steps or die my friend this we promise too,
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
NA gave me a Higher Power lots of love and lifelong friends.
NA gave me a life worth living a life that's on the mend.
NA picks up my heart and takes the blues away.
NA puts me back on the track from which I often stray.
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
Now if you pass this way again you can rest assured
NA will be here waiting our 12 Traditions do insure
By ourselves we sometimes die together we endure.
The lie is over we do recover... The LIE it lives no more.
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm".
So keep comin back, my friend, and more will be revealed
The child that lives in all of us, the child, it can be healed.
So offer up your innocence, give all you have and more
In this simple program, friend, you'll die and be reborn
"Come in", they said, "We'll give you Shelter from the Storm"
I don't know where we're headed next, we'll have to wait and see
What lies at the end of recovery road? Perhaps . . . Eternity

Please use what you find in the Basic Text, My Friend and KEEP COMIN BACK

With Love The NA Way

Carl K.
Emporia KS

Adapted from "Shelter from the Storm" by Bob Dylan. (Blood On The Tracks album: 1974)

MARCNA IX

Part Of The Solution

April 24, 25 & 26, 1992

Topeka, Kansas

Room Reservations

Ramada Inn & Tower
 420 East Sixth Street
 Topeka, KS 66601
 (913) 233-8981



Flat Rates

\$42.00
 \$52.00
 \$62.00

Rejuvenate with Mid America Hospitality after WSC "92"

INFORMATION

Write or Call

MARCNA IX
 P.O. Box 1701
 Emporia, KS 66801

- RECOVERY
- SPEAKER MEETINGS
- FELLOWSHIP

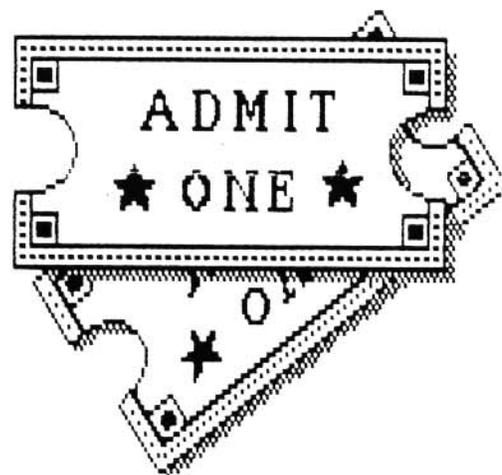
- WORKSHOPS
- DANCES
- RAFFLES

Laurie K. — (316) 342-2256Registration
 Glenn S. — (913) 484-2894Hotels and Hospitality
 Jeff L. — (913) 843-3817Registration
 Shawn C. — (316) 792-2097Programming

★ TRANSPORTATION WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM WSC TO CONVENTION AND BACK TO KCI.

JUST FOR TODAY AREA DANCE

MARONA IX FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY NIGHT DECEMBER 7TH
4-H FAIRGROUNDS BLDG.1-2
LAWRENCE, KS



6:00PM - DOORS OPEN
7:00PM - SPEAKER MEETING
8:00PM - DANCE, AUCTION,
CLEAN TIME COUNTDOWN AND FOOD
\$4.00 PER PERSON
\$7.00 PER COUPLE

NIA

7-3-91

Chili Bowl II
MARCNA IX
Fundraiser

When: November 30, 1991
Feasting begins 5:30 - 7:00 PM
\$3.00 per person \$5.00 per couple
Where: Knights of Columbus Hall
1st street Ellinwood, Ks

What: Dance, Auction, Raffle, Fun,
Fellowship and speaker Bill Y Dodge City
P.S. Brina Covered dish or dessert

REGIONAL OFFICERS

CHAIR: Randy Ryan
401 Church
Scott City, Ks 67871
316-872-7391

CO-CHAIR: Jeff McNickle
546 N. Edwards
Wichita, Ks 67203

RSR: Pat Mays
P.O. Box 576
Emporia, Ks 66801
316-343-7740

Alt. ASR: Warren Jackson
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Literature: Al Denning
1619 Hiezer
Great Bend, Ks 67530
316-792-6549

Policy: Pam Bonham
RR 1 Box 29 A
Larned, Ks 67550
316-285-3333

Secretary: OPEN - ASKING FOR
A VOLUNTEER!!!!!!

Activities: OPEN - ASKING FOR
A VOLUNTEER!!!!!!

OTHER AREA OFFICERS

Unity: Jeffery Phillips
1010 N. 5th
Manhattan, Ks 66502
913-537-7979

Western: Alan Finkeldei
1105 W. Vine
Dodge City, Ks 67801
316-227-6714

Fellowship for Freedom:
Glenn Smith
RR 2 Box 314
Meriden, Ks 66512
913-484-2894

Wichita Metro Area:
Anita Jackson
3701 Arkansas
Wichita, Ks 67204
316-832-0475

Just for Today:
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Paola, Ks 66071

Oz Area: Casey LuJan
P.O. Box 594
Leoti, Ks 67861
316-375-4375

CKASC OFFICERS

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Pratt, Ks 67124
316-672-7883

CO-CHAIR: