

MACOMB MIRACLES



November 2009

Volume 9 Issue 11

Newsletter of the Macomb County Area of Narcotics Anonymous

Publisher's Notes

Macomb Miracles

welcomes submissions from all readers. Letters and other items submitted should be 100 words or less and be of NA related nature. All items must include a signature, valid address and phone number. First name and last initial will be used as a signature line unless the writer requests anonymity. **Macomb Miracles** reserves the right to edit items submitted and refuse to publish items not in keeping with the traditions of NA. All submissions become the property of **Macomb Miracles** and will not be returned unless accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelope. Submissions should be sent to **M.C.A.N.A. P.O. Box 1755 Warren MI 48090-1027**, or at the newsletter sub-committee or area service committee meetings. The authors release form on page 2 must be included with all submissions.

Submission may be made by e-mail at the following address: macombarea@michigan-na.org

Please attach a copy of the author's release with the file to publish and date submitted. Typing your name along with your telephone number in the SIGNED field will be considered an appropriate substitute for a hardcopy version of the release. All e-mail submissions will be voice verified before publication. If possible articles should be submitted as HTML, Microsoft Word DOC or TXT text formats. Preferred graphics formats are GIF or JPG

Powered By Principles

When I first came into recovery I was told that I needed to find a Higher Power. Our literature tells that our Higher Power needs to be loving, caring and greater than ourselves. I had a rough time with the word God, that was something I struggled with. I was told when I was young if I didn't follow God I would go to hell! Some members suggested that I find what I didn't want as a Higher-Power to be. One thing I noticed from our members was their gut level honesty when they shared, I heard members share things that I thought I would never share with anyone, over time I took what I needed

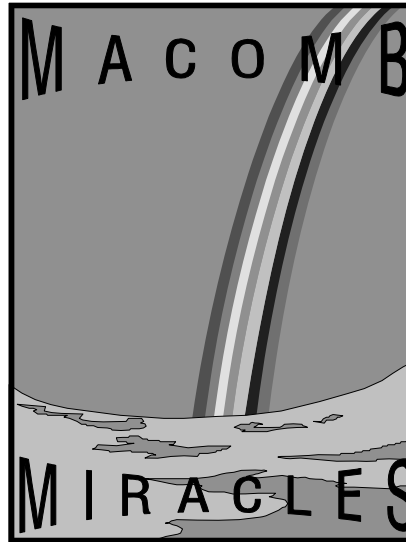
for my Higher Power from our members. I liked the idea that I could use spiritual principles as my Higher Power. I found that putting positive action forward like being honest, working hard at work, and my recovery has helped me work the program. I had a regiment of prayer that I used every morning and at night for my first several years clean, then something happened, I wasn't feeling anything when I prayed. Then I questioned why I prayed every morning and every night! Because others did it ! Because I

was told to do it? I never had a Higher Power that was just mine ! I never thought it was alright to have a God that I was comfortable with. I began praying only when I needed help in my life, instead of worshipping my God day and night. I never realized my lack of self-esteem with my God. I now have an N.A. God and it's the most awesome God I've ever had. It's found everywhere in our principles, in service and in everyday life. I truly have become more loving and caring as a result of working the N.A. program. I am forever in debt to N.A.. Therefore I love to serve others, service helps slow complacency. It keeps me in touch with suffering addicts who want help from this program. This program is so awesome it helps me in my life everyday, it helps me not want to commit homicide or suicide! If you're struggling with what your Higher Power should be, don't worry you're not alone. Continue to search, listen and remain open-minded and your Higher Power will come to you. Most important don't use and keep coming back.

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In Loving Service

Marty K



YOU KNOW YOU NEED A MEETING WHEN...

You're wondering if you need a meeting.
You don't know who is in the mirror looking back at you.
You forget where the meeting is.
You call your sponsor and he says "who?".
The newcomer you gave a white key-tag to at your last meeting is celebrating their first year.
You forgot what step you're on.
You forgot your primary purpose.
Newcomers are asked to introduce themselves and everyone looks at you.
You feel like using drugs.
You've forgotten your sponsor's name and phone number.
Your three-year-old tells you to go to a meeting.
Your dealer tells you to go to a meeting.
You know "Robert's rules" better than the basic test.
You haven't found a sponsor yet.
You are an addict
When? Regularly!

Reprinted from N.A. Way June 1995

12th Tradition Quotes

A dictionary definition of anonymity is "a state of bearing no name." In keeping with Tradition Twelve, the "I" becomes "we." The spiritual foundation becomes more important than any one group or individual.

Page 72, Basic Text

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY TO NEWCOMERS!

There are a lot of things said at meeting's that I've heard, that can confuse a newcomer. It's not that the people who are saying them mean any harm by saying them but it does. For example when an older member tells a newcomer get a book and read it, but then the older member does not bring their book to the meeting. What are they saying? After awhile if you keep coming you won't need your book anymore?

Some of the sayings we use around the fellowship like this one: "Keep coming back you'll be alright", I believe that being honest and telling the newcomer keep coming and learn these steps or you are going to jail, an institution, or you're going to die! Most likely death, because, you have a threefold disease that destroys us physically, mentally, and spiritually .

Now people have said to me, "You can't say that, you'll scare them out of here!" To me that's funny because I remember how afraid I was to die! When I got here nothing anyone could say to me was going to be more frightening than that. But thank God there were people who were here who told me the truth,

that if I wanted to live I must face my dilemma and that if I'm willing to learn the steps they would help me to face my reality so I wouldn't have to do it alone.

The other saying I hear at meetings is "Meeting makers make it." That is not a true statement. I have seen plenty of meeting makers take their own lives in this fellowship. But the complete saying is "Meeting makers who make it are those who practice these steps in every area of their lives and in which a spiritual awaking had arose from their own personal experience." This brings us back to how we carry the message to the newcomer.

Kevin P.

The Macomb Miracles needs your poems, stories and thoughts, that express your experience, strength and hope.

AUTHOR'S RELEASE This signed release must accompany all submissions. I hereby grant permission to **Macomb Miracles**, their successors, assigns and those acting on their behalf authority to publish the attached original material titled_____. I understand that this material may be edited or reprinted in other **NA** journals. I possess legal capacity to authorize this and release **Macomb Miracles** from any liability thereof.

SIGNED_____ **DATE**_____

Events & Information

MDRCNA XI:

Metro Detroit Regional Convention

November 26th—29th, 2009

The Detroit Marriot Hotel (RenCen)

Room Rates \$103.00 Nightly

Reservations can be made by calling (800) 266-9432

Area Guidelines:

Macomb Area Guidelines have been revised. This month the updated version of the guidelines will go back to the groups for approval. Make sure you attend your Home Group business meeting and go through the guidelines together. If there are things you want changed or added, make a list and have your GSR bring the changes back to the Area in December.

These are our guidelines and we all should take part in making them something that will help all of us better handle the business each month.

I.L.S. Frank K

Activities:

The Halloween dance was a big success. Thank you to all who attended. The Activities committee has replenished their bank account and can continue to put on events for the area.

Public Relations:

The Poster Drive hosted by our PR sub committee was held last month and was a success also. Thank you to all who came out and participated.

LIVING THE PROGRAM WHEN LIFE SHOWS UP!

I have been a member of Narcotics Anonymous for over ten years and I have found that working steps while at a meeting and living the program when life is good are fairly easy tasks. However, the true test of my recovery is what I do when life shows up. It is easier to maintain peace and serenity when I like what is happening in my life.

Unfortunately two years ago life started showing up with the death of my mother. This was a very sad experience and I was still dealing with that loss when I was let go from my job last summer. Then two months later my mother-in-law also passed away! This could be a good time to wonder where my Higher Power is in my life. However, what I really need to do at times like these is go to more meetings, spend more time speaking with my support system, my sponsor and others who have been through what I am going through.

My ability at turning my life over shows my true level of trust in my Higher Power and also determines how much peace and serenity I will maintain through these times. It is still my choice as to how I will perceive my current situation and if I decide to pick up, then every problem I am in the middle of will become more than I can handle. The more I live the program the less likely I am to move away from peace and serenity. Just for today I choose to live the program. I know that everything happens in my life for a reason and my Higher Power does not close one door without opening another.

In Loving Service Bob M. Florida

Increase Your Recovery Word Power

Do you really know what the Basic Text means? Try this! Answers on pg. 4

1. Sponsor

- A. A friend
- B. Pays for stuff
- C. Someone to call at 3am

2. Recovery

- A. Deep sea mission
- B. Restoration of ones self
- C. Stealing the blankets back from significant other.

3 Honesty

- A. What others have
- B. Truth
- C. Deficiency or flaw

4. freedom

- A. A strong sense of well-being
- B. Inner peace
- C. A cologne

0 right - Get with your sponsor.

1 right - Need to buy a dictionary

2 right - Lucky Guesser!

3 right - Probably think you're terminally cool.

4 right - Get honest, you looked didn't you?

Macomb Miracles by E-mail!!

Get the monthly newsletter sent directly to you by sending an e-mail to macombarea@michigan-na.org with the word "subscribe" as your subject. Besides getting color, you'll get more articles and news as well as some nifty links to NA recovery online!



ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE MEETING CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 <u>ASC Meeting</u> 10:30am Henry Ford Macomb Hospital McAuley Room A or B	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 PR Sub Committee Meeting St Sylvesters 6:00pm	23	<u>24</u>	25	26 MDRCNA XI	27 MDRCNA XI	28 MDRCNA XI
29 MDRCNA XI MDRSCNA Meeting @ Covention 1:00pm	30					

MACOMB AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

October ASC Meeting

Open service positions:

RCM

RCM Alternate

Co-Secretary

9 of 40 Groups were represented at the October ASC meeting.

Next ASC Meeting

Sunday, November 8th 2009
10:30am

Henry Ford Macomb Hospital
McAuley Room A or B

ASC guidelines, meeting minutes and the Macomb Miracles available on ASC's website:
www.michigan-na.org/macomb

RECOVERY WORD POWER

Answers: 1,A / 2,B / 3,B / 4,B

Anniversaries

<i>Name</i>	<i>Cleandate</i>	<i>Cleantime</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Cleandate</i>	<i>Cleantime</i>
Mark M	11/11/94	15yrs	Pam K.	12/06/94	15yrs
Doug Z.	11/12/87	22yrs	Hank B.	12/04/89	20yrs
Dean P.	11/09/88	21yrs	Guy B.	12/02/85	24yrs
Brian I.	11/21/06	3yrs			