ANCHORAGE AREA NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS NEWSLETTER

NEVER ALONE

May 2008

REGIONAL NEWS

Alaska Region Service Committee of NA plans to meet once more before sending our delegates to the bi-annual NA World Conference. The Alaskan Regional Delegate is Tony L from Anchorage, and the alternate is Robert G from Juneau. The conference held in even years is an NA business session. The business, itemized in the Conference Agenda Report, goes from the "discussion topics", included in this edition of *Never Alone* to motions voted on March 3 at Anchorage Area, which range from acceptance of the Basic Text to modifying our recovery celebration coins. The Conference is being held in Woodland Hills California and is a week long from Sunday April 27th to Saturday May 3, with pre-conference preparation occurring on Aprils 26th. NA World Services is paying air fare, room (based on double occupancy), and meals for one delegate. Alaska Region is picking up these costs for the alternate delegate. ARSC met on April 22 to tally the statewide conscience preparing our delegates for Woodland Hills.

Go guys go!!!

AREA NEWS

Alright the results are in and we have some new Sub-Committee Chairs! For H&I John T. and Ross B. were voted on and John T. is the new H&I Chair. Entertainment went to Catelyn. Daphne was voted back in as the Public Information Chair. The Literature Chair went to Dave L. and Newsletter stayed the same with Howie W. heading up that committee. Area also voted to pass on a nomination to Region for Cory C. to be the Vice-Chair. Congratulations to all of the new chairs. Your service is greatly appreciated!

There were two new motions submitted. Walk Your Talk submitted that AASC to take responsibility for the 4X4X4 storage unit with the 8 boxes of NA archived material and 2 boxes of T-shirts that was rented by Bill Simpson on March 24th for $42 per month. 2nd by WTDMMF. Votes: yeas-11, nays-0, abstained 3, this motioned has passed. The second motion was submitted by the Morning After Group. Be it moved that the Regional Guidelines be amended to reflect the following change in the duties of the Regional Secretary to read as follows: Keeps accurate minutes of each RSC Business meeting. Types and Distributes copies of the minutes to all members of the RCS no later than fourteen days after the RSC meeting (Posting on the Regional Web Page is not readily available to a members.) 2nd by Third Way Group. This motion has gone back to the groups Area meets the first Monday of the month at Peggy's Café and all are encouraged to attend.

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...Personal recovery depends on NA unity...

Anchorage Area of NA
P.O. Box 92088
Anchorage AK, 99509

Alaska Region
P.O. Box 232635
Anchorage AK, 99523
www.akna.org

World Service Office
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys CA, 91409
(818) 773-9999
www.na.org

Sub-Committee News

Hospitals & Institutions

Kevin H recently stepped down after over two years as H&I subcommittee chair. Thanks to Kevin. John T was recently voted in as the new AASC H&I subcommittee chair. The AASC H&I subcommittee currently needs addicts with over 6-months clean time to help carry the message into the various institutions. Because of clearance requirements, it is more difficult to participate in some facilities than others. The Cordova Center panel meets every Saturday night from 6:30 – 7:30pm . It is a coed institution, and men and women are welcome as panelists. Panelists must pass a state and federal clearance check, which involves filling out an application at Cordova and fingerprinting. For more information on making an appointment for clearance at Cordova Center, contact Doug P. @ 244-6030. The Anchorage East and West panels meet every Weds and Monday respectively at 7 pm. H&I plans to bundle and submit the applications at one time because DOC historically has been unwilling to update the list frequently. Please contact Doug P 244-6030 to complete an application. Parkview has a panel every Saturday at 4 pm. Clearance is easy. Contact Jeff L. at 764-2219 to participate in the Parkview panel. H&I meets at the American Diner the last Thursday of the month. Any questions call John T. at 229-7662.

Public Information

The Learning Days event was held on Saturday, March 29th, 2008 at Freedom Frog, 3rd and Cordova, at the John Thomas Building from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. There were about 40 addicts in attendance throughout the day. It was great to see addicts listening and learning how to live a life without drugs. It was also great to see a lot of recovering addicts signing up for service work in PI and H&I. Phone lines are going well. It was nice to see addicts wanting to do service work pertaining to phone lines. Health Fairs – Susan has volunteered to be the contact person for Health Fairs. Anyone interested, please call Susan at 333-3462. Thank you to all who attended Learning Days and signed up for service work at the upcoming Health Fairs. The 34th Annual School on Addictions is approaching quickly, May 5th-7th, 2008. We will be presenting on May 7th, from 10:00 to 12:30. The title of our workshop is The Missing Link for Hospitals and Institutions. There will also be an Open Narcotics Anonymous Meeting from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on May 5th, 2008 at the Sheraton Hotel. We will have several PI Subcommittee meetings prior to this event. We will be setting up our table Sunday evening from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We need someone to volunteer to sit at the exhibit table on Monday, May 5th and Tuesday, May 6th. I will be at the table on Wednesday, May 7th. The Open NA Meeting will be taking place at the same time as Area next month. Ross B. made us an awesome banner to use for our Health Fair presentations as well as any other function. Thank you, Ross! The PI Subcommittee meeting will be at Country Kitchen, 346 E. 5th Avenue, at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Any questions call Daphne at 334-6474.

Entertainment

Contest Time! The Area Entertainment committee is hosting a "Create your own NA Event". There will be a $750.00 budget and entries need to be fully planned out and submitted by May 31st. Memorial Day picnic will be May 26th at Valley of the Moon park This will be an NA family picnic for the whole family. Activities will include a pie throwing contest, 3 legged sack race, volley ball and more. We have several other events in the making and with that...more will be REVEALED! We will be meeting every Sunday at the Alano Club upstairs at 1:00pm Come one come all and show your support. Any questions call Catelyn at 744-0774 or Lori P. at 529-7723.

Newsletter

The Newsletter will meet the 2nd Saturday of each month at the American Diner on Arctic & International at 10:30 am
All are welcome and encouraged to attend.
Contact Howie at 310-2913

Literature

To find out any information for Literature please contact Dave L. at 337-2551

Campout Time!

THOUGHTS IN AN HOURGLASS

When faced with life and caught in hope
I tend to back away
speed determined by size of fear.
***
Not everything will go as planned
inside this newfound life
I only strive to stay clean when I hurt.
***
Almost exclusively
the thing I want most
is exactly the opposite of
what I need.
***
What I do
to attain what I want
rarely is what is needed
to get it.
***
I am more
vulnerable
and sensitive than at any
point in my life.
***
I am finally living life.
***
I am ready to break my rules.
***
I am ready to be honest and open.
***
I love my life.
(and it's really not all that great right now)
--Cason

Common Problem-Common Solution

May 30th thru June 1st Squirrel Creek Recreation Site mile 79.5 Richardson Hwy. Copper Center there will be a campout sponsored by Valdez NA Group. This will be a weekend of speaker meetings, good food, fellowship and activities for group members and their families. The cost is $12 a day ($24 for the weekend) any questions please contact Chris K. at 835-2641 or Louise S. at 835-5840.

Summer Solstice Campout

June 20-22 Meet at the Eagle River campground to enjoy another camping event to ring in the official start of summer. Come early to secure a spot at group site. The events start at 6pm on Friday. There will be Speaker Bill S and Sammy and a campfire cook off and campfire sing along. Contact Catelyn or Lori for more info

Memorial Day Picnic

Memorial Day picnic will be May 26th at Valley of the Moon park This will be an NA family picnic for the whole family. Activities will include a pie throwing contest, 3 legged sack race, volley ball and more.! 11am to 4pm

Come on out and have fun!

Contest Time!

How does spending $750.00 sound? Well can do just that! Come up with a plan for a fun and exciting event that NA can hold and you could have control over how to spend $750.00. Entries are due May 31st to Catelyn S. or Lori P. Get creative and go have some fun!

Narcotics Anonymous Convention

The ARCNA XXIV Convention is being held in Fairbanks Alaska this year on Oct. 17-19 at the Alpine Lodge 4920 Dale Road. Complete registration packets are $93.00. For more information visit the Anchorage website at akna.org. There will be dancing, food, speaker meeting, workshops and lots of fun and fellowship.

CAR Discussion Questions

Discussion Questions

Following are discussion questions related to each of the issue discussion topics for the 2006-2008 conference cycle as well as two questions related to recovery literature. This is the third *Conference Agenda Report* that includes discussion questions. We are still working to make these questions easier for you to workshop.

We have tried to make these questions simple and direct in the hopes that that will help. We hope to have some tools posted online soon to help you structure workshop sessions, and we welcome your input on how we can make the process easier. One thing we have done for this conference is develop a web-form so that you can enter your answers to these questions online. You can access that form from the conference page of our website: http://www.na.org/conference. We are encouraging not only regions but also areas, groups, and members to share your thoughts on these topics with us. You can answer any or all of the questions, as you like. You will be asked for your contact information in case we need to get in touch with you to clarify anything and whether you are representing a group or service body (and if so, which one). We hope having this online form will help you pass along your ideas more easily. It should assist us in planning for WSC 2008 and the cycle ahead.

Building Strong Home Groups

1. If you have used the Building Strong Home Groups worksheet (see Addendum A), how has it helped and how can it be improved?

If you have not, what would convince you to use the worksheet?

Our Service System

3. If you are using the Area Planning Tool, how has it helped, and how can it be improved?
4. If you are not, is there a reason why? What would convince you to use the APT?
5. What do you think is working well in your local service structure?
6. What do you think is not working in your local service structure?

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?

7. What challenges stand in the way of determining who is missing and attracting them to NA?

Have you discussed this issue in your group, area, or region? Please share your experience with workshopping the topic—or even better, your successes reaching those who are missing.

Targeted Literature

The 2008 World Service Conference will vote on an IP for young people and another for their parents or guardians. What do you think the next targeted literature project should focus on; what population should we target?

Sponsorship

What is it about the *Sponsorship* book that members are finding useful or not useful? If you didn't find it helpful, why didn't you find it helpful?