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April/May 2015

RECOVERY

In Action

Serving Southeastern Arizona

~ What Are You Willing to Do? ~

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submissions, feedback
or suggestions.

Email them to
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It may seem odd but I am going to start from over here. My view of a Higher Power resembles the concept Gaia. You know if GOD came along and spoke in a thunderous voice from a burning bush it would be difficult to ignore. Unfortunately or fortunately, depending on your perspective, it doesn't work that way. My Higher Power talks in a

very quiet voice. That makes it very easy not to give what you hear the right consideration, the proper regard. I believe my Higher Power talks to me frequently through books, other people and even movies.

When I think of willingness the first thing that comes to mind is a scene from the film "The Untouchables." It is the scene where Sean Connery's character Jimmy Malone has been shot and is lying on the floor of his apartment bleeding. He reaches up and grabs Kevin Costner's character Elliot Ness by the front of his jacket and pulls him down till his face is right in front of his. I wish I could somehow imbue this text with his rough brogue as Malone asks Ness **"What are you willing to do?"**

Well? What are you willing to do? Specifically for your recovery? There are few musts in our fellowship. If you are un-willing to change the people you hang out with – you don't have to. If you are not willing to alter where you spend your time – you don't have to. If you are not willing to do different things – you don't have to. Of course your chances of staying clean won't be very good. There is a good reason the fellowship says ~ need to change people, places and things.

This is why we talk of the gift of desperation. "How could desperation be a gift?" you say. If you are sufficiently sick and tired of being sick and tired you will be willing to do just about anything you are told to do. When I got here I had that gift. The way I like to put it is that if I was told "To stay clean – you have to shit bricks!" My response would have been "What color?"

People. The first time I got clean I had the attitude "What? Change people? You mean I have to turn my back on my friends? But they're my friends." Well here's the thing. If you're using and they're using – probably the only thing you have in common is using. If you take that away you may even find you don't really like those people.

Places. There are many sayings or truisms thrown around the rooms. I heard this one a long time ago. "If you hang around the barbershop eventually you're going to get a haircut." If you hang around bars or places where drugs are available eventually a situation is going to arise that makes you think using is a good idea. If you are not someplace where drugs are readily available during the time it takes you to go where they are you may have the chance to change your mind. If you're there and the drugs are there – well enough said!

Things. I have heard it said "How do you frustrate a newcomer?" "Put them in a room and tell them to just be themselves." "What the hell is that?" As we move along the path of our recovery we will discover much about ourselves we were not cognizant of in our using state. As we develop in our recovery we will discover things about ourselves we had not seen. We may find new things to spend our time and energy on.

So I ask you again **"What are you willing to do?"**

- Bodhi A.

Any Lengths?

Unfortunate circumstances have befallen one, and seemingly any lengths that are attempted cause mistakes. A mistake is not even the half. Real-fake is more like it.

Desperation exists only as a means by which malicious ways are gone about, but its revealing is what has prompted revitalization.

One can certainly redeem, but the tarnish exists nonetheless. How could it be allowed to show the deceit? It was, and that is all that matters. Lesson learned? Indeed.

Now is the time to let a true shine come through this haze. Together we can win.

- Scott B.

“When we are willing...”

“When we are willing to move toward our dreams, we end up living well beyond them. “I was afraid that if I got what I wanted, there wouldn’t be anything left for me to do in recovery,” one member confessed. Meeting our goals is not the end of the story. The end of the journey toward a goal is often the beginning of a new phase in our lives. Many of us are used to being driven by crisis or calamity. It can take practice to learn to be motivated by something other than pain. Being willing to step out and act because something feels right to us takes a new kind of trust. “Just as I struggled to list my assets in my first Fourth Step, I struggle to list my goals and the things I enjoy now,” one member said. We transform need into desire, and obsession into determination. When we become willing to accept what it really means to set ourselves free, we are in for quite a ride.”

- Excerpt from *Living Clean*, p. 138

NEXT MONTH’S TOPIC!

For our May - June newsletter, we want to hear about your experience, strength, and hope in being of service in Narcotics Anonymous. Everything from World Service to Area Subcommittee work to making coffee at your homegroup contributes to keeping NA afloat. Let us know how service work has benefited you in your recovery in Narcotics Anonymous!

Happy Birthday!

Proof that the program works!

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Tommie C. ~ 04/01/2005  
Rebecca D. ~ 04 /01/2013  
Mark M. ~ 04/02/1985  
Monica J. ~ 04/02/2014  
Ilene Y. ~ 04/03/2014  
Jim B. ~ 04/06/2010  
Terry P. ~ 04/07/1996  
Charlotte J. ~ 04/09/2014  
Logan M. ~ 04/10/2005  
Teresa B. ~ 04/12/2011  
Chris P. ~ 04/13/1989  
Marquie W. ~ 04/15/2013  
Pat L. ~ 04/20/1988  
Brian O. ~ 04/21/2003  
Doug M. ~ 04/21/2014  
Paula D. ~ 04/22/2006  
Tina H. ~ 04/22/2007  
James T. ~ 10/23/2013 (18 mos.)  
Steve S. ~ 04/26/2002  
Melissa L. ~ 04/27/2013  
Luigi L. ~ 04/28/2001  
Bill P. ~ 04/30/2013  
Pam D. ~ 11/01/2013 (18 mos.)  
Cindy L. ~ 05/10/2011  
Julie O. ~ 05/12/2007  
Jody P. ~ 05/15/2009  
Marti G. ~ 05/21/2009  
Judy C. ~ 05/22/2014  
Sandra W. ~ 05/25/2002  
Kirstin L. ~ 05/26/2014

If you have a clean date birthday of one or more years, please email it to [Newsletter@natucson.org](mailto:Newsletter@natucson.org)

# **SERVICE** *In Action*

## ***SEAZNAC I - Be of Service!***

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### **Meeting Schedules**

SEAZNAC Meeting

contact Ken P. at SEAZNACchair@natucson.org

### **Arts & Graphics**

Committee meets 3rd Thursday of every month, 6 p.m. at Starbucks on Speedway & Country Club, 3025 E. Speedway Blvd. Contact Dan J. SEAZNACgraphics@natucson.org

### **Entertainment & Fundraising**

Contact Bill M.

at SEAZNACentertainment@natucson.org

### **Hotel & Hospitality**

Contact Ward S.

at SEAZNACHospitality@natucson.org

### **Merchandise**

Contact Connie L.

at SEAZNACmerchandise@natucson.org

### **Programming**

Contact Tommy C.

at SEAZNACprogramming@natucson.org

### **Registration**

Contact Laurie N.

at SEAZNACregistration@natucson.org

### **Welcoming**

Contact Edmund at welcoming@natucson.org

## ***Subcommittee Service***

### **SEAZNA Area Service Committee**

2 p.m. on 2nd Sunday of each Month  
Streams in the Desert Lutheran Church  
5360 E. Pima St. (west of Craycroft)

### **Activities Subcommittee**

Contact activities@natucson.org

### **Hospitals & Institutions Subcommittee**

12:30 p.m., Second Sunday of the month  
Streams in the Desert Lutheran Church  
5360 E. Pima St. (west of Craycroft)

### **Mt. Lemmon Bash Subcommittee**

Contactbash@natucson.org

### **Newsletter Subcommittee**

Contact newsletter@natucson.org

### **Outreach Subcommittee**

Contact outreach@natucson.org for more information.

### **Phoneline Subcommittee**

Contact phoneline@natucson.org

### **Public Relations Subcommittee**

Meeting held on line, contact pr@natucson.org for details

***Phoneline is looking for Spanish-Speaking volunteers to be of service!***

***(phoneline@natucson.org)***

***Public Relations is looking for paper route volunteers to help distribute meeting lists! (pr@natucson.org) or contact Brendan G. @ 520-312-3931***

# AREA EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Please check the website [www.natucson.org](http://www.natucson.org) for updates and more information



**Activities Goes Bowling:** 1st Sunday of the month, 4:30pm @ Golden Pins Lanes, 1010 W. Miracle Mile. \$1/game & \$1/shoes.



**Medallion Night and Potluck:** Last Monday of the month @ First United Methodist Church (915 E. 4th street). Show up at 7 if you are getting a medallion (1 year or more) meeting starts @ 7:30pm. **Medallion Night is now upstairs, follow the signs.**



**Monday Night Young People's Speaker Meeting:** 3rd Monday each month.

April: Kati M.

## Upcoming Events in and around AZ

**ARCNA XXIX Speaker Jam:** April 18th, Jerome Arizona, 10am to 6pm. Four speakers, hamburgers and hotdogs, raffles, more..Spook Hall, 260 Hull Ave.

**ARCNA XXIX in Phoenix:** May 22nd - 24th, 2015. "Out of the Darkness" Double Tree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley, 5401 N. Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, Arizona 85250

**Sedona Campout:** June 5th -7th. Chavez Crossing Group Campground in Sedona, Arizona. \$35 per person, includes camping Saturday dinner. Children 12 and under \$5 for meal. T-shirts, raffles (bring cash), activities, more.

**Productive Members of Society** September 25th - 27th. Women's oriented retreat at Whispering Pines Camp, 8775 S. Mount Tritle Rd, Prescott, AZ 86303.

(More info @ [natucson.org](http://natucson.org))

## Meeting changes

The Monday night **Young People's** meeting has changed its name to **The Underground**

**Keep it Green and Leave the Light On** are now meeting at 740 East Speedway Blvd

Want to share your Experience, Strength, and Hope? Submit your recovery related stories, poems, jokes, etc. to:

**RECOVERY IN ACTION**

([newsletter@natucson.org](mailto:newsletter@natucson.org))

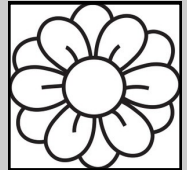
Don't know what to submit?

Ask your Sponsor for ideas!

## ~ AREA EVENTS ~

### SEAZANC Spring Fling

7200 E. Tanque Verde at the Morris K. Udall Park Ramada #6. An event for the whole family. Games, food, prizes, children activities more. \$5 suggestion donation. Purchase tickets and redeem for food and games.



**Basic Text Book Drive:** Basic Texts are being collected to hand out to newcomers at the convention. Books will be collected at the Spring Fling 18th April.



### 5th Annual Deep South Camp Out

April 24th - 26th. Parker Canyon Lake Near Elgin. Contact Steve S. for more information @ [Steven.servant.az@gmail.com](mailto:Steven.servant.az@gmail.com)

### SEAZNAC I

July 3rd - 5th, 2015. Register before June 1st and be entered for the drawing for two free nights at the Hilton during the SEAZNA Convention-- Winner will be announced in June. For more information, visit: <http://natucson.org/convention>



**Submission Disclaimer:** All material submitted becomes property of the Newsletter Sub-Committee and will be edited for content, length, and clarity of the NA message.