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Month MAY Year 2017

RECOVERY *In Action*

Serving Southeastern Arizona

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Get clean or die motherfucker!

„This program doesn't work for people who want it, or people who need it, it works for people who work it“

-Anonymous

“Get clean or die motherfucker!” A long lost battle cry in the contemporary infantilized throngs of supposed NA members. While one's desire to get clean is assuredly the only requirement for membership, how can we measure such a desire? Addicts who work the steps with a sponsor, attend meetings regularly, and are of service stay clean. Anybody with some clean time can tell you this. We find a new way to live that doesn't involve asking strangers for “a heart attack or a fatal accident” (Basic Text pp. 24). I have heard it shared in meetings that people who die from this disease certainly didn't plan on dying most of the time. Others, like myself, knew what they were doing; slowly killing themselves because they didn't have the nerve to scatter their brains across the shower with buckshot. If you need a reminder of how serious this disease is, start asking around the fellowship, look in the face of someone who lost somebody to this disease and ask them how they feel about it. We all deal with it in our own ways and some even decide that going back out and using is the best way to deal with it. The cycle repeats itself.

Some people just look for excuses to go back out and buy their “destruction on the time payment plan!” (Basic text pp. 25), a missed phone call, a crossed word at a meeting perceived as an insult, or sometimes even just the mention of the word “God” and they go back out. They must have some desire to stay clean huh!? What is desire? The third tradition defines it as the “basis of our recovery” (Basic Text pp.65) It is quick to say then that an addict who does not want to stop using will not stop using and no matter what we do we can't put that desire in them. If that is the case, I say fuck 'em, if you don't have the desire to stop using, then take this piece as your personal excuse to stop coming to these stupid meetings and slowly commit suicide through whatever means you choose, just try not to take up space or hurt anyone else who might have the desire to stop using on your way out.

In loving Service

- Jesse A.

WHAT IS AN OUTSIDE ISSUE?

By Crizzzz ©

The 12-step world is an approach to treating a disease. Everyone shares the same symptom. Not everyone in the 12-step world shares the same disease.

After taking a thorough Fourth Step, we deal with the contents of our inventory. We are told that if we keep these defects inside us, they will lead us back to using, and holding on to our past would eventually sicken us and keep

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

us from taking parting our new way of life(BT30).
These defects are our disease.

My name is Patty Z, and I have 27 years in recovery. Had she delivered a boy, my mothers ideally believed her marriage would have survived. What she did not understand was her marriage had been doomed before I had arrived. Her dissatisfaction left me feeling not enough for anyone for the rest of my existence. From that era, my mothers corrupt belief system was an illness that at times, still affects me to this day. From the moment I first understood my mother's sorrow, my malady, the infection of my soul, was created leaving me in a wake, or mental path with an emotional pathological trail which is my child hood poison still arouse feelings of self-pity. .

This fellowship has delivered an understanding to my disease, while continuously developing tenderness and an intimate understanding towards my mother's pain. This empathy is a perceptive appreciation which I never would have gained had I continuously practiced my disease.

As a consequence, at times, my normal functioning is still impaired because my pathway from the past is imprinted with emotional scars leaving me feeling like the black swan of our childhood stories. This corrupt belief system made me the apple that fell not so far from the tree, which is also *my* issue from *our* disease.

At times, I still struggle trying to access the passionate part of myself while becoming frustrated and then angry with those around me. Occasionally, the results of my efforts to access this inner passion is like a runaway freight train into madness. This lack of ease is a symptom and I force myself to isolate at the expense of my sanity by spending extra unpaid hours at the job. I am now a successful, and at times, unhappy work alcoholic. I have learned, through our fellowship, at times I may be staying sober by efforts based solely on personal will, rather then as the result of the 12-step program. Without this program, I could not recognize the dilemma or be able to separate one from another. I am grateful for both. Today, I am a work of improvement from my yesterdays. I also accept it is progress and not perfection. My ambition to help others is a process which will continue to deliver me from the past.

It is the women who come to me for help that contribute to my daily clean time. The newcomer has instilled in

me the realization; that I have something to offer someone whom I do not know. They must hear something from inside me that at times, I am not fully aware of myself. This self-awareness allows me to experience being humble, which in turn makes me grateful for the women who ask for my help. By choosing me, the new comer allows me the opportunity to give back to our fellowship by working with them and their personal journey which is not an outside issue to them.

Happy Birthday!

Proof that the program works!

Julie O.	5/12/2007
Wayne S.	6/10/2008

The Newsletter team congratulates anyone who is celebrating their recovery just for today

If you have a clean date birthday of one or more years, please email it to Newsletter@natucson.org

Upcoming Events in and around AZ

SEAZNAC III, July 28th-30th,
Preregistration and full package
discounts available thru May 31st,

Hospitality Suite sign up,
Marathon Meeting sign up, and Hotel
Reservations

Basic Text Book Drive, Please
bring your signed Basic Text to Area
or to a SEAZNAC committee
member, books will be given to the
newcomers during the convention,
thank you!

Mt. Lemmon Bash 2017,
Sept 29-Oct 1, 2017, contact
bash@natucson.org

NEXT MONTH'S TOPIC!

Speaking up

We don't get to choose who our message helps or even what part of our message will be helpful to someone. We do, however get to choose when to share our message of recovery. Some addicts shy away from sharing because they don't believe their message can help someone, but you don't really get to decide that. How did you overcome that and start sharing at meetings? What kind of feedback did you get? Tell us by emailing newsletter@natucson.org

-The Newsletter team

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
Contact bash@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)

AREA EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Please check the website 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.



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

Meeting Changes, Support, Service Opportunities

Before Relapse needs a new GSR. Before Relapse meets Tuesday nights at 6pm at the Tanque Verde Church of Christ on Kolb and Kenyon

Saturday Night Miracles is in need of support. Saturday Night Miracles meets on Saturday nights at the Hope Center north of Speedway on Country Club

Want to share your Experience, Strength, and Hope?

Submit your recovery related stories, poems, jokes, etc. to:

RECOVERY IN ACTION

(newsletter@natucson.org)

Don't know what to submit?

Ask your Sponsor for ideas!

~ AREA EVENTS ~

SEAZNAC III, July 28th-30th, Preregistration and full package discounts available thru May 31st,

Hospitality Suite sign up, Marathon Meeting sign up, and Hotel Reservations

Basic Text Book Drive, Please bring your signed Basic Text to Area or to a SEAZNAC committee member, books will be given to the newcomers during the convention, thank you!

Mt. Lemmon Bash 2017, Sept 29-Oct 1, 2017, contact bash@natucson.org

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.