

PHILADELPHIA AREA NEWSLETTER

THE
CLEAN
SHEET



ISSUE #5

LITERATURE REVIEW COMMITTEE

REPORT

THE LIT. REVIEW COMMITTEE OF PHILA. AREA HAS BEEN MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT AT 75 MacFARLAND AVE. IN IVYLAND. SUPPORT HAS BEEN STEADILY GROWING, AS WE'VE GONE FROM 2 MEMBERS TO 4 TO 6, AND 10 PEOPLE SHOWED UP AT OUR MOST RECENT MEETING, TO HELP CONTRIBUTE IDEAS AND TO WORK ON THIS NEWSLETTER. WE'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND EVERYONE WHO SUBMITTED INPUT FOR THE NEWSLETTER. WE ONLY HAD THREE WEEKS TO PUT THIS ISSUE TOGETHER. (IT USED TO TAKE 3 MONTHS TO GET ONE TOGETHER, SO THIS IS A MIRACLE!) IN ORDER TO KEEP COMING OUT ON A MONTHLY BASIS, WE NEED YOUR INPUT, NOW MORE THAN EVER, SO KEEP IT COMING! SEND ANY AND ALL INPUT, INCLUDING ANY AREA NEWS, YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES IN RECOVERY, POETRY, STORIES, OR ANY IDEAS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS, TO:

NEWSLETTER
75 MacFARLAND AVE.
IVYLAND, PA. 18974

THE LIT. REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO MEET AT THIS ADDRESS EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT AT 8:00, SO COME ON OUT AND SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH + HOPE IN WRITING.

NEWS

HIGHLIGHTS: WORLD SERVICE FELLOWSHIP REPORT

WCNA12, PO BOX 15159, MILWAUKEE, WI, SEPT 2 THRU 5.

THE ENGLAND FELLOWSHIP WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM US. CONTACT WSC CHAIRPERSON FOR ADDRESS.

PITTSBURGH ASC WILL HOST 3RD ECC JUNE 25 - 27; \$60.00, ROOMS, MEALS, BANQUET & 2 DANCES. PO BOX 802, PITTSBURGH, PA 15230.

THE PRIMARY ITEMS ON THE 1982 CONFERENCE AGENDA:

1. SERVICE MANUAL
2. OUR BOOK
3. STORIES FOR OUR BOOK
4. ISSUES SENT IN FROM OUR FELLOWSHIP.

PLEASE SCHEDULE A CONVENIENT TIME FOR MEMBERS IN YOUR AREA TO DISCUSS THESE ISSUES.

MUCH INPUT IS NEEDED ON THE H & I HANDBOOK. WRITE IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF EXISTING MATERIAL TO:
H & I CHAIRPERSON
964 CENTRAL STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115

EXCERPTS FROM 'BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES', FEBRUARY 13, 1982:

A LETTER WAS READ FROM A MEMBER OF WCNA12 WITH SEVERAL QUESTIONS FOR THE BOARD, THE BOARD'S RESPONSE TO THESE QUESTIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS: 1. A CONVENTION IS A CELEBRATION, AND IS SUPPORTED BY PARTICIPANTS & ATTENDANTS, NOT N.A. AS A WHOLE. 2. CONVENTIONS ARE OBLIGED TO ADHERE TO THE TRADITIONS OF N.A. 3. FUND RAISING FUNCTIONS CANNOT BE TITLED NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, AND THE USE OF THE INCOMING FUNDS IS UP TO THE COMMITTEE ORGANIZING THE FUNCTION. ALL COMMITTEES MUST ADHERE TO TRADITION 9.

NEWS

A LETTER WAS READ FROM A FLORIDA N.A. MEMBER. IN RESPONSE IT WAS THE BOARDS OPINION THAT IT IS A VIOLATION OF TRADITIONS FOR ANY A.A. SPEAKERS, A.A. ANOUNCEMENTS OR ANY LITERATURE OTHER THAN N.A. APPROVED LITERATURE TO BE USED IN AN N.A. MEETING. THIS IS IN KEEPING TRADITION 6.

NEW MEETING

FRIDAY MAY 7, 1982 - 9:00PM TILL ?
SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER CHURCH
(IN AUDITORIUM BEHIND CHURCH)
PROCEEDS FOR RENT, SUPPLIES AND
AREA SERVICES.

ON MARCH 27, 1982 AN ADDITHON WAS HELD TO SUPPORT THE NEWSLETTER. ONE OF THE WORKSHOPS ON THE AGENDA WAS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF BUCKS COUNTY FORMING IT'S OWN AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE. THE WORKSHOP WAS HELD WITH TEN MEMBERS OF THE BUCKS FELLOWSHIP PRESENT. SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS OF PHILADELPHIA FELLOWSHIP AND TWO MEMBERS OF ATLANTA FELLOWSHIP WERE ALSO PRESENT. THE MEETING OPENED WITH MEMBERS SHARING THEIR VIEWS AND WHAT THEY SEE THAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN IN BUCKS COUNTY. SEVERAL POINTS WERE DISCUSSED AS ADVANTAGES OF THE BUCKS COUNTY FORMING ITS OWN AREA.

THERE WAS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ON HELPING THE ADDICT SEEKING RECOVERY IN BUCKS COUNTY. SEVERAL MEMBERS EXPRESSED THAT A FORMATION OF OUR OWN AREA WOULD

BEFORE ANYONE READS THIS, I GUESS I SHOULD SAY THAT THIS IS ABOUT GETTING INVOLVED IN THE N.A. PROGRAM. SO IF YOUR NOT WILLING OR HAVEN'T SURRENDERED, DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME.

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE ALL HEARD THIS; 'YOU CAN'T KEEP WHAT YOU HAVE UNLESS YOU GIVE IT AWAY'? I KNOW I PROBABLY HEAR IT IN MY DREAMS. IT'S BEEN BEAT INTO MY HEAD EVER SINCE DAY ONE. AT FIRST THIS IDEA SOUNDED RATHER BIZZARE TO ME AND MY SELF CENTERED SELF SEEKING, DOPE FIEND MIND, I HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THE WAY TO KEEP SOMTHING WAS TO LOCK IT IN A DARK ROOM TO WHICH ONLY I HAD A KEY. TODAY, I FIND THIS IS NOT SO.

IF I TRIED TO KEEP MY RECOVERY TO MYSELF, I WOULD LOSE IT. WHY? BECAUSE I LEARN THROUGH OTHER PEOPLE AND VISA VERSA. I CAN'T COUNT THE NUMBER OF TIMES THAT I'VE TALKED TO A NEWCOMER OR ANOTHER ADDICT AND THINGS CAME OUT OF MY MOUTH THAT I DID NOT EVEN KNOW I KNEW. I CALL THAT 'GOD SPEAKING THROUGH ME'. I TRULY BELIEVE THAT MY HIGHER POWER GAVE ME THE MIRACLE OF RECOVERY SO I CAN PASS IT ON TO OTHER SUFFERING ADDICTS.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO CARRY THE MESSAGE TO OTHER ADDICTS. ONE WAY AND THE MOST DIRECT WAY IS TO JUST TALK WITH ONE. ANOTHER WAY IS TO HELP MAKE SURE THAT THERE ARE MEETINGS FOR ADDICTS TO GO TO. THIS CAN BE DONE BY STARTING ONE OR JUST HELPING EXISTING ONES BY MAKING COFFEE, SETTING UP OR CHAIRING AND SHARING. WE, ALSO CARRY THE MESSAGE THROUGH PAMPHLETS WRITTEN BY OTHER ADDICTS. THE WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN CARRY THE MESSAGE ARE END-LESS AND WITH NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS GROWING THE WAY IT IS THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF THINGS WE CAN DO TO HELP ACCOMPLISH OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE: TO CARRY THE MESSAGE TO THE ADDICT WHO STILL SUFFERS.

'OH GREAT SPIRIT, WHOSE VOICE I HEAR IN THE WINDS,
AND WHOSE BREATH GIVES LIFE TO ALL THE WORLD, HEAR ME.

'I COME BEFORE YOU, ONE OF YOUR MANY CHILDREN. I
AM SMALL AND WEAK. I NEED YOUR STRENGTH AND WISDOM.

'LET ME WALK IN BEAUTY AND MAKE MY EYES EVER BEHOLD
THE RED AND PURPLE SUNSET. MAKE MY HANDS RESPECT
THE THINGS YOU HAVE MADE, MY EARS SHARP TO HEAR YOUR
VOICE.

'MAKE ME WISE, SO THAT I MAY KNOW THE THINGS YOU
HAVE TAUGHT MY PEOPLE, THE LESSON YOU HAVE HIDDEN
IN EVERY LEAF AND ROCK.

'I SEEK STRENGTH NOT TO BE SUPERIOR TO MY BROTHERS,
BUT TO BE ABLE TO FIGHT MY GREATEST ENEMY - MYSELF.

'MAKE ME EVER READY TO COME TO YOU WITH CLEAN HANDS
AND STRAIGHT EYES, SO WHEN LIFE FADES AS A FADING
SUNSET, MY SPIRIT MAY COME TO YOU WITHOUT SHAME'.

BY: YELLOW LARK
SIOUX INDIAN CHIEF

DEAR JUNKIE, I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE
DOPE YOU ARE THINKING OF COPPING, FIRST OF ALL,
ITS AGAINST THE COMMON LAW, ITS AGAINST THE COMMON
GOOD, ITS A SOCIAL PROBLEM THAT WILL HELP DESTROY
AMERICA. IT WILL BRING CRIME, VIOLENCE, MURDER,
ABORTION, FEAR, HATRED, LUST, WORRY, GUILT, PARONIA,
PRISONS, MENTAL HOSPITALS, REHAB CENTERS, STRIFE,
DIVORCE, STEALING, DEALING, BOOSTING, HATRED FOR
LOVED ONES, YOUR PARENTS WILL TOSS YOU RIGHT OUT
OF THEIR HOME. YOU'LL GET TO BE A DRUNK, HANG OUT
WITH HOOKERS, SEE GOOD MEN AS FOOLS, YOU WILL WAKE
UP IN THE MORNING LOOKING FOR A FIX, YOUR BAG WILL
ALWAYS BE EMPTY, THE LOCAL PUSHER MAN DON'T CARE
IF YOU LIVE OR DIE AS LONG AS YOU GET THE MONEY,

AREA HAVE CONTRIBUTED CONSIDERABLE TIME, ENERGY, SELFLESS SERVICE, AND TRAVELED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO LITERATURE CONFERENCES, TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH, AND HOPE TOWARDS CARRYING THE MESSAGE TO THE ADDICT WHO STILL SUFFERS, THROUGH OUR BOOK. THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THESE MEMBERS, AND MEMBERS LIKE THEM THROUGHOUT THE FELLOWSHIP, OUR BOOK IS NOW READY FOR A FINAL REVIEW BY THE FELLOWSHIP, BEFORE FINAL APPROVAL THIS COMING MAY.

THAT THIS MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN A SHORT YEAR AND A HALF IS TRULY A MIRACLE. WE NOW HAVE OUR OWN 12 STEPS AND 12 TRADITIONS. MY FIRST TASTE OF SERVICE IN THE AREA OF LITERATURE CAME DIRECTLY OUT OF THE GROUP CONSCIENCE VOTE OF THIS MEETING TO REMOVE LITERATURE FROM OTHER FELLOWSHIPS FROM ITS TABLES. I GUESS YOU COULD IMAGINE HOW I FELT SEEING INVENTORY GUIDES FROM ANOTHER FELLOWSHIP ON THAT VERY SAME TABLE, A YEAR AND A HALF LATER. I MEAN, WE HAVE OUR OWN 12 STEPS AND TRADITIONS, MAN. AND ONE OF THOSE TRADITIONS, THE 6TH, IS BEING DIRECTLY VIOLATED. IN THE 2ND TO LAST PARAGRAPH OF THE 6TH TRADITION, IT STATES: 'N.A. IS A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FELLOWSHIP IN ITS OWN RIGHT. OUR PROBLEM IS ADDICTION. THE OTHER 12 STEP FELLOWSHIPS SPECIALIZE IN OTHER PROBLEMS, AND OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM IS ONE OF 'COOPERATION, NOT AFFILIATION'. THE USE OF LITERATURE, SPEAKERS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OTHER FELLOWSHIPS IN OUR MEETINGS CONSTITUTES AN IMPLIED ENDORSEMENT OF AN OUTSIDE ENTERPRISE. CHECK IT OUT. ITS ON PAGE 34. THE TRADITIONS ARE THERE FOR A REASON. TO PROTECT OUR FELLOWSHIP FROM FALLING APART. WITHOUT STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE TRADITIONS, THE SURVIVAL OF N.A. IS ENDANGERED. N.A. IS MY LIFE. WITHOUT IT, MY END IS JAILS, INSTITUTIONS, OR DEATH. I'D HATE TO SEE MY RECOVERY THREATENED, AND THAT'S WHAT I SEE WHEN I SEE OUTSIDE LITERATURE ON OUR TABLES.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PEBBLE HILL MIDNIGHT MEETING OF N.A. IS IN DIRE STRAIGHTS, FINANCIALLY, AND MAY BE IN DANGER OF HAVING TO FOLD. PLEASE COME HELP THEM SURVIVE AND GIVE THEM SUPPORT.

ALLENTOWN ADDITHON

THE NEW ALLENTOWN AREA WILL BE HOLDING AN ADDITHON ON MAY 21 AND 22 - FROM 8:00PM TO 8:00PM. THERE WILL BE SPEAKERS, WORKSHOPS, TOPIC MEETINGS AND LOTS OF GOOD FELLOWSHIP.

BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS - HAVING FUN STAYING CLEAN. DANCING.
BUSTLETON & UNRUH - 9:00PM TO 1:00AM - APRIL 17
ADMISSION \$3.00 - BETH & METH SYNAGOG

GOING SOUTH ON BLVD, MAKE A RIGHT ON BUSTLETON, GO PAST SECOND LIGHT, IT IS ON LEFT HAND SIDE.
- BIG WHITE BUILDING -

N.A. - ANNOUNCING - N.A.
NEW MEETING

'PODIUM-STYLE STEP MEETING MEETING' AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 840 TRENTON ROAD, LEVITTOWN, PA ON TUESDAY NIGHTS - 8:00PM TO 9:00PM, BEGINS ON APRIL 13.

/RICH W. - ALL TYPING

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

"GLAD TO BE ALIVE"
DANCE

SPONSORED BY DOYLESTOWN N.A. MEETING
SATURDAY MAY 22 8 P.M. TO 1 A.M.
AT SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ADMISSION: 3:00

"LENAPÉ WILDERNESS MEETING"

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN TAKING IN A MEETING IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS, A DIFFERENT NATURAL SETTING EACH MONTH.

1ST MEETING - SUN. APRIL 18TH
AT 5:45 A.M.

AT LAKE NOXIMIXON
MEET @ "COUNTRY PLACE REST."
RT. 313 + 563

IF YOU, OR ANYONE YOU KNOW, CARES TO HAVE YOUR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED IN THE NEWSLETTER, SEND US YOUR NAME (OR THE NAME OF SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU) AND ANNIVERSARY DATE!

