

SUGGESTED DONATION
-\$1.00

FREEDOM connection



FREEDOM -1- CONNECTION

On The Cover

The point conveyed by the cover is that there are many addicts, groups, areas, and regions out there in the world. The wider we expand our channels to promote unity through services; The stronger our fellowship is as a whole. When we reach out to the isolated; addict, group, area, ect., our fellowship grows to be more effective. Very simply, any member can become a channel to carry the message to the isolated addict. You could be a missing link in the service structure chain.

-Our History, Purpose, & Goals-

At the Mid-Atlantic Regional Service Committee in Va. Beach, the Regional Literature Sub-Committee was directed by the Region to form a newsletter. The Literature Sub-Committee held a small Conference at the 3rd ECC to lay the groundwork for this newsletter and to establish guidelines. These adopted guidelines were then sent out to representatives of every area of the Region, along with the request for input for the newsletter. We requested input on Group Anniversaries, Poems, Personal Stories, announcements of new groups and meetings forming, Group and area activities, Groups needing support and anything else that you, the member, feels should be shared with other members in the Region. At the World Convention in Milwaukee, another small Literature Conference was held for the purpose of compiling a Newsletter from the input that's been received. This conference was very successful. Members from all around the country showed up to lend their experience, strength and hope in helping to compile this newsletter. A name was chosen for the newsletter - "THE FREEDOM CONNECTION". We didn't get a response from many of the areas in this region, but we've made the most of what input we did receive. We are deeply grateful to those Areas who responded to our call for minutes and input...without your help, our efforts would have been futile. This is your Newsletter. Our job is simply to compile the news and input that you give us. We need

your support, else we have no news to report. We submit to you this Newsletter for your approval and remain in loving service your trusted servants.

Dear Fellow Members,

For many of us, the first taste of freedom from our addiction came with our surrender to the fellowship of N.A. As we surrendered to a program of recovery, this freedom becomes a way of life. As we grow, and progress, we come to know that we never have to be alone again.

In the spirit of the unity, the "Little Apple Area" of N.A. invites you to come to the Fourth East Coast Convention. On June 24th, through 26th, 1983 at the LeHigh University in Bethlem, Pa., round the clock meetings, meals, rooms will be offered. Saturday Night Speaker's Banquet will be followed by a "live band" dance. Facilities for swimming and a gymnasium will fo a lot to enhance our sharing fellowship.

The basic text of our recovery, Our Book, will be the source for topic of discussion at all meetings throughout the Convention.

The tradition of their convention began with the 1st East Coast Convention at Bucknell University in June 1980. One hundred and ninety addicts gathering from 15 states and Canada to share the theme "Never Alone". Work on "Our Book", then in its early stages, inspired many of us to contribute time and energy thru cause.

The 2nd ECC held at Trenton State University in N.J., hosted 300 addicts sharing experience, strength, and hope. That theme was "Glad to Be Alive". Demonstrating a firm belief in the theme, many left the convention to meet Ohio and work on our book at WLC-V.

"Miracles Happen" became our theme for the 3rd ECC at Pittsburgh in 1982. Over 300 "miracles" were present to carry this theme. The basic text for recovering addicts materialized as Our Book became approved for publication.

Then our 4th ECC at Lehigh University will offer the theme "Freedom through Fellowship". We invite you, the members who make the fellowship possible, to join us in our celebration of freedom.

Yours, loving in service

Philadelphia Area Service Committee

Philadelphia Area Service has split into three areas: Delaware Southern New Jersey, and Philadelphia Area Service Committee.

An Area has sprung up out of the woodworks in Massachusetts and has 10 groups. Lets show them our support. Northern N.J. has formed into 2 area's. Northeastern N.J.A.S.C., and N.J.A.S.C. The HOTLINE number is: 201-659-6381

N.J. has formed a Newsletter in August, 1982. The address for subscriptions is as follows: Joe R

930 Stuyvesant Ave.
Irvington, N.J. 07111

Subscriptions will cost only \$6.00 a year. Lets shou them our support, there is need.

Little Apple Area Service Committee

The LAASC is hosting the 4th ECC June 24-26, 1982 at Lehigh University in Bethlem, PA. The cost for meals, banquet, registration, and rooms will be \$65. The theme will be "Freedom through Fellowship". For more information, contact Bill A at 215-776-1548.

Our ASC meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at U.C.O.C., located on 6th and Walnut Street, across from the bus terminal.

The Lenapee Wilderness meeting will be held the last Sunday of September. This will be held at Cedar Beach, starting at 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. A N.A. Area picnic will follow with a suggested \$3.00 donation.

For more information, contact Bill A.

Washington Metro Area Service Committee

In July at A.S.C. it was motioned that the exist- ing Metro. Washington A.S.C. consisting of Suburban, Maryland, Washington D.C., and Virginia spawn off into new areas. This was taken back for Group Con- science.

On August 29th a transitional meeting was held in Wash. to tie up any and all loose ends regarding the old Metro Area. The new region will consist of 8 areas, extending from Baltimore to Virginia Beech. Further information will be obtained at the Mid-Atla- tic Regional Committee in Allentown on Sept. 11,1982

Bucks County Area Service Committee

There are now 14 meetings!!! A wallet size fold up card with the Serenity Prayer and other sayings on it, with a place for phone numbers, and a note "ask for telephone numbers, and you will get them" are available for newcomers.

Bucks is only about four months old, however we are doing better than we had hoped for.

We are splitting H&I Committee into 2 separate committees' to run more efficiently.

Public Information is having weekly meetings and are doing well. There are co-ordinated committee's covering 4 sections: 1) T.V. 2) form letters 3) po- ster stickers 4) speaking engagement system is work- ing quite well.

Lit. review committee was formed to work on the new literature and to begin establishing an area news letter.

The Bucks County A.S.C. will be sponsoring a Lit. Conference in Oct. On the agenda is work to be done on pamphlets for Sponership, Use of medication in illness, Youth and recovery, and H&I. The input will be passed on to the Florida Regional for another con- ference in November.

Bucks Lit. Conference will be held on Friday, Saturda- and Sunday, which is Oct. 15, 16, and17th at 75 Mac Farland Ave., Ivyland, Pa. For more information call (215) 322-8896 and ask for Pete or Al. We need you t- make it happen. See ya there!!!

NORTHERN PA. AREA SERVICE COMM.

The Northern Pennsylvania A.S.C. has decided to split up into two Areas, the Scranton-Wilkes Barre Area and the North Central Area. The Scranton-Wilkes Barre Area (SWBASC) now consists of 6 groups. The Hotline # is 717-283-0828. The P.O. BOX # is 1521, Kingston, Pa. 18704.

SWBASC has tentatively scheduled their first ASC meeting for sometime in September. They are forming a P.I. committee and a Hotline ([12 Step) Committee. The Mt. Pocono Group will celebrate 1 year anniversary at the end of September. Congratulations to that group, and to the SWBASC...Good luck!

The North Central Pa. Area (NCPASC) has already held their first Asc. meeting on Aug. 15th. Officers were elected, a Literature Committee was formed, and they will be forming an H&I committee, a P.I. committee and a Newsletter Committee. They have a Social Committee which holds a monthly dance. There are 5 Insitutional meetings in NCPASC,.

HOT LINE # is - 717-322-7289. The next ASC meeting will be held on Sept. 12th @ 2:00 P.M. at Divine Providence Hospital on Grampian Blvd. in the Cafeteria basement, in Williamsport, Pa. Oh yeah, and, the Friday Night Group which meets at the same address will be celebrating 10 YEARS !!! at the end of this month. They will have a banquet to celebrate this monumental achievement. (There are not many N.A. Groups in the world who have celebrated 10 years!!!) Dig it. Congratulations NCPASC on becoming an Area!

WCNA-13 IN NEW YORK!

Our congradulations go out to New York City N.A. on thier successful bid for the 13th World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous! A whole bunch of members from N.Y.C. showed up here in Milwaukee for WCNA-12 to carry the message that New York needs the support of the World. They worked hard to put their bid together. The result of thier efforts is that they're leaving for home with a World Convention to look forward to next year. For the hundreds of thousands of still-suffering addicts in the Big Apple this event may prove the difference between life and death. "So that no addict seeking recovery need ever die without having had the opportunity to find our way of life.".....

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CONNECTICUT A.S.C.

Thank you, Connecticut, for faithfully sending us your A.S.C. minutes every month. We pray that other areas in the Mid- Atlantic will follow your shining example of consistency and responsible sharing so that we may all know what's happening in other necks of the woods outside our own areas.

PUBLIC INFORMATION - Working on the Hot Line. Hot Line was established with an answering machine donated to the Area by New Jersey. Conn. is grateful to N.J. P.I. is developing a method to log incoming calls in order to keep track of toll calls.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS - sending letters out to all drug-related programs with an information packet of our literature.

LITERATURE - Sending a letter out to W.S.O. requesting procedure for establishing a literature stockpile.

There is discussion on forming a Finance Committee, but for now, More Will Be Revealed at a later date on that one.

A group of representatives from Massachussetts showed up at the August A.S.C. meeting. Rumour on this end has it that a new Area has been formed up in Mass. Hope to see ya'all in Allentown on the 11th!!

N.A. HISTORY

A workshop was held at the World Convention in Milwaukee to discuss the History of N.A. Chuck S: from Cal. and Greg P. from Oregon shared about the early days of N.A., then the podium was opened up for others present to share their experience of N.A.'s growth & development in their own areas. Much came out of this workshop. A list was passed around the room for members to put the earliest known group in their area on. This list was then distributed to all members present at the convention, with the request to take it home and expand on it, then send back to the Lit. people who are putting together our History. Copies of this list will be available at the next Mid-Atlantic RSC meeting in Allentown. We need your input on the history of N.A. in order for it to be complete and accurate. Send any and all information to: HISTORY 75 MacFarland Ave.

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Ivyland, Pa. 18974

WAY TO FREEDOM

While in Milwaukee at WCNA 12, I was priveleged to read a Newsletter produced by N.A. members in prison in Lorton VA. That's not really unique, but it was written in September "59"! They reported a membership of 175, and had just celebrated the group's first anniversary! This was found in the National Archives in D.C. by a member who was searching for references to N.A. and recovery through N.A.

Right now, we are in the process of producing a history of our Fellowship through the years. You may think that the "first meeting" in your area is just that, but with some diligent investigation, you may find that isn't the case. By talking with some older members you may find that they first heard the message quite a while back, perhaps right in your area. Some A.A. intergroup offices may have material to help you, as in the case of this newsletter I saw, referred members getting paroled to check out A.A. Someone is bound to write something like that down and file it.

The data collected should be put in chronological order and copies sent to WSC Lit. Committee, shared in local newsletters, and members should be aware of our roots in the local community. We tend to look at length of time as an accomplishment (our clean time), and the periods that N.A. recovery was or has been available to addicts in your area may help further our growth so that no addict seeking recovery die without having had the opportunity to find our way of life. In that particular newsletter, titled "Way to Freedom", it had articles with insights into recovery, expressed by the authors; that could have been produced recently. It serves to show, that this program worked then, and does today. And so long as we try to further our own recovery and help others find theirs, will continue. Now I wish I could find some of those guys and talk to them about "the old days".

Marc B., an addict from Ohio

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SOUTH CENTRAL AREA

The South Central (Harrisburgh) Area Service Committee now consists of 21 Groups. They have an H&I committee, a Literature Committee, a Social Committee and a Newsletter Committee. The HOT LINE no. is - 717-236-1981....the P.O.BOX No. is 2308, Mechanicsburgh, Pa. 17055.

Info. for their Newsletter goes to: Brad R.D.2 Box 60
Doughin, Pa.
17108

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!

We would like to express our deepfelt gratitude to all of you who helped put this first issue of the Freedom Connection together. It was truly a "we, not I" effort. Thanks to:

Bo S. (Atl.) - Moral Support and Guidance
Kathy T. (Ia.) - Editorial Assistance and Guidance
Micki H. (Ind.) - Editorial Assistance and Guidance
Vicky (Pgh, Pa.) - Typing and Enthusiasm Unlimited
Karen (Pgh, Pa.) - Typing
Mike F. (Bucks) - Cover Art and Design

We couldn't have done it alone!!

Staff of the Freedom Connection

NEWS POTPOURRI

New York City N.A. has their own Newsletter, called "NYCAS NEWS". Send any input to: P.O. BOX 127
Jackson Hts., N.Y.
11373

New York's Hot Line No. is 565-6206

The latest on Our Book is that it will be ready in Hard Back Form some time in November.....

The Mid-Atlantic Region now consists of, ah, let's see, no that can't be, wait a minute, 18, 19, 20, 21, Holy Cow, there are 22 Areas in this region!!! What Growth!!! But as many of you know, if we have too many Areas, all of the Areas can't be properly served by the Region. It is our hope that those segments of the Mid-Atlantic Region who are strong enough to stand on their own break away soon, so that we may better be a clear channell for the message of recovery to be carried to the Addict Who Still Suffers.

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SERVICE WORK

I'M one of those people you may have heard of who are referred to as 'service junkies'. I was one of these long before I ever heard that term used and, God-willin', I'll still be one long after it fades back into the woodwork. It doesn't matter a whole lot to me what people call me; I can only go by what works for me and what doesn't. Service Works!!

From the time I first started coming around to N.A., I've been heavily involved in the service end of the program. Before I really even knew what the Steps were or how to apply them to my life, I was chairing meetings, making coffee, greeting Newcomers, doing P.I. work and working on Literature. I didn't do all these things because I wanted to...I needed to. Some call it being "Sicker than Others" and I'll agree that I was pretty sick when I came in, but I also tend to feel that it has something to do with being more honest with myself and others about my sickness and understanding that I'd have to work my butt off to get better. I think willingness is the word I'm looking for...being willing to go to any lengths.

Those of us who are or have been heavily involved in Service know the depth of fulfillment and sense of purpose it brings to our lives. Those who aren't or never have been couldn't begin to imagine what they're missing. How could they? Nothing I ever experienced, in my addiction or recovery, felt as good as I feel when I'm doing some form of selfless service.

I don't try to push others into heavy involvement with the program. Those who are ready to surrender and pour themselves into service selflessly have a way of finding it for themselves. There's a certain gleam in their eyes, you can feel their desire. When one is led to me, I try to share with them what I've learned, the same way it was shared with me - with Love!! I've heard people say that the way to get people involved is to "either put them on a guilt trip, or make them feel like they're the only ones that can do it." Bullshit! I had my fill of guilt trips and Ego Trips where I came from. Today I'm into Love Trips. God as I understand Him doesn't want me to be guilty or egocentric about my service work. He wants me to be loving and understanding and caring.

MIRACLES DO HAPPEN

We had just arrived at the 3rd East Coast Convention in Pittsburgh. I'd worked a long, hard 14 hours the day before, stayed up all night getting ready for the trip and then 7 hours on the road to get there. On the way out I'd spent a lot of time reminiscing about the first and second East Coast Conventions...they had brought some of the brightest moments in my recovery. The friends I'd made who were now like brothers and sisters, from all over the country, the good times we'd had together...

The theme for this 3rd Ecc was to be "Miracles Happen". I wondered what kind of miracles could possibly happen to top the many I'd already experienced. Just the miracle of recovery from my addiction was enough for me. I thought about how I'd first felt when, at the 1st ECC people were talking about an N.A. Book. Back then all there was was a lot of ideas, a stack of papers with no organization and the belief that it could be done. I was new enough in the program then, still the hopeless dreamer ready to jump onto any bandwagon and fight for a cause, that I got my juices flowing for the cause of a book for recovering addicts. Little did I know then that this was one dream that was going to come true!! 2 years, 7 world literature conferences, and 2 world service conferences later, the miracle of the N.A. Basic Text on Recovery had materialized!!! This 3rd ECC would be the first chance I had to get together with all of the other hopeless dreamers who believed in this book when all others scoffed. I was Psyched!!

While driving along that long stretch of pavement known as the Pennsylvania Turnpike, my thoughts drifted to one friend in particular whom I held near and dear to my heart. He was one to whom I'd shared my darkest secrets and my profoundest joys, one who taught me the true meaning of unconditional love. Several months before he had shared with me his return trip to the Bronx, where he was born and raised. It was his first time back there in 6 years, and I'd felt truly honoured to be there with him as he relived his joys and sorrows growing up. We'd made a pact that we'd meet in Pittsburgh for the 3rd Ecc, where I would share the same return with him. Pittsburgh was where I was born and raised, and this was my triumphant return to my roots.

Upon arrival, I was weary & spaced but excited and expectant. The registration line was very long, but

I waited patiently with an eye peeled for my friend. I waited and waited, and then the news came like a dull thud. My good friend was back out there, getting loaded. I went into a state of mental and emotional shock. "Why?"... "Why him?" ... "What made him do it?" ... "How could he?" I wanted to run and hide, wanted to pretend it wasn't true. A girl I know who was even closer to him than I was, had broken down into tears. I tried to comfort her but I guess I was in no shape to be of help. She found another shoulder to cry on. Another friend turned and said, "Well I'm not going to let it spoil my weekend." I knew he was right but I was having a hard time feeling that way myself. I just felt alone and angry. I tried praying, but it didn't seem to be working. I just kept looking around at all the happy faces around me thinking, "How dare they be so happy when my best friend just got loaded?" Well, I just knew that the whole weekend was going to be a waste. On top of all this, I was still standing in that stupid registration line and it had been over an hour. I started getting really angry, and today I'm just grateful that those registration people were kind and understanding because I proceeded to release my character defects all over their faces. I guess it's funny the way God works. By the time I was out of that line, I was filled with this new, burning resolve to have the best weekend I've ever had, and I did!! Somehow I forgot all about my friend getting loaded and turned to the living who were all around me, and God delivered me from my turmoil. I laughed and cried with my brothers and sisters, learned more than I can remember now, but it's knowledge I know will be there when I need it, danced, acted crazy, and got to help form a regional newsletter. I've even got to share my return to my old stomping grounds with someone who had been a close friend and is now like a brother.

Sunday afternoon we had the car all loaded up and ready to hit the road. I was filled to overflowing with love and knowledge. As we started down the road towards the gate, we spotted a small circle of addicts on a hillside. Something compelled me to go join them. They said they were members of Anonymi...my friend who was getting loaded had first introduced me to Anonymi. I sat there and shared my experiences that weekend. One fellow member turned to me as I finished and said, "Guess What? Your friend is back in the Program." This was the miracle I needed most!!

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SPIRITUALITY

For me, a big part of working the program in my daily life lies in spirituality. Problems don't have to weigh heavy on my mind when I give them up to my Higher Power.

I also know that I don't have to stay clean forever, I only have to stay clean for today or even for this moment. It relieves the burden of the overwhelming feeling of forever.

Time makes everything better. I used to get impatient when people would say this to me. I wanted to feel good right away. But, I found that this was love for me. Today I have hope because I have seen in myself and in others how much things get better in time.

T.W. - BUCKS COUNTY AREA

NEW TOOLS

Learning new tools for staying clean and carrying the message to other addicts, I act like I know everything. I file new tools in my head and talk. Talk to everyone I meet and talk these tools at meetings. Some people respond like I really have my act together, but, it's an act. One of those "yeah man, I have it together". Looking for answers?, come to me. I quit listening, no time to identify with other addicts. I'm too busy concentrating on answers to fire back at people. I loose touch with who I am and where I'm from. A junkie with no humility, pushing people away. Without knowing why, I'm suddenly in a dangerous position.

When I'm done running my mouth about all the new answers I've found, a friend reminds me. If I have all the answers, I don't need this program. This ego deflating reminder snaps me back to reality. Then with a hug from a friend and knowing that I'm loved, even for being on a tangent of self righteousness. Feels good to be me again, a junkie, no better, no worse. I begin again living for today, taking it easy, thanking my higher power for another day clean, and praying for guidance. It's one thing to know what they are--but only through practicing them in my daily living can I continue to grow and get better.

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P.B. - BUCKS

POSITIVE/NEGATIVE THINKING

Positive thoughts are the only way to deal with pains of life in the world. After you give these thoughts time to appear and become part of your thought processes, you can look at the world in a new light.

They will always let you look at situations that occur every day with confidence that things will be taken care of, if only you let them.

On the other hand, negative feelings, drag you down and don't let you completely experience life the way it is meant to be lived. They stop you from doing and saying things that would make you feel better. The thoughts are built up inside until they completely break down your confidence.

Having experienced both states of mind, I can't see how I ever could go back to looking at my life through negativity, because it got me nowhere. It just got me depressed, no self-confidence, and led me to my addiction.

ANOD - PHILA.
AREA

The Only Life I'd Want To Know

Well I never thought I'd make it here in N.A.

I never thought I'd ever want to stay.
But the way you people touch me makes me want to live.
And everything I need, well you know I find a way

For me it's the only life that I want to know.
And love is only one warm touch away.
And now my life is not laced with lies and it's alright
Cause the feelin remains even after the glitter fades.

The lonleiness of an addict's life is hard to take
We all chase something and we thought this was a dream.

The way you people loved me when I hated me.
Oh, you know the dream keeps comin as long as
I stay clean !!!!!

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Signed---God lives
in our hearts

.....And the night moved on.....
And I wanted to stay, for awhile,
with a friend I was just coming to know

And she spoke about "eyes,
An artist who knew thier meaning
And who'd captured thier varied shades
of glow

From the passive emptiness of addictive
security
Through the wide-open awareness of a
spiritual awakening
To the serenity of self-fulling recovery
With all of its depth and warm colours

And I looked into her eyes
And saw myself, reflected
In bottomless pools of understanding

Deep currents of strength and fires of
desire
Flowing from her eyes to mine
Touching my heart, words like sailboats
Trying to express the feeling
While bending in the turbulent winds
of past journeys
Yet moving ever-forward, sails straining
Pushing towards the Island of Surrender

I'm still sailing now, but surrender has
come into sight
And I see it in ner eyes
On the shore she stands waiting to remove
the disguise

Of this writers vague words...
My soul is anticipating the feel
Of her sands 'neath my feet
The warmth of her hands reaching out...

A sailor's long journey 'pon the sea
finally over
Sailing into calmer waters.. a peaceful

harbour

He furls his sails and gives thanks
....that he's made it, ALIVE!

P.B. - BUCKS COUNTY

JUST FOR TODAY

Staying clean just for today, and working the Twelve Steps in my daily life.

Staying clean just for today, has become alot easier now than it was when I first came around. It's become a way of life for me. Still sometimes, I get problems and I can feel pretty upset. When this happens, I try to remember where I came from and I think of where I can go. I found using the phone is very helpful when I have problems. I can usually find someone whose had the same problem, or has been in the same situation.

The 12 Steps have become the most important part of my program today, especially the first three. By taking that first step every day, and turning my will over to my Higher Power. This usually helps make my day run smoothly.

At first, when I came into the program, I had alot of problems relating to a Higher Power, how I got over that was to just keep listening and finally it came to me. The first step is the most important for me out of all 12, I feel that I always have to have the first step upmost in my mind.

Toni - LITTLE HALE AREA

STAYING CLEAN

I used to get scared I would just all of the sudden up and get loaded. Today I know that the only way I'll get loaded is if I go and pickup, and use , that first drug. I can't pickup that same drug unless I put myself in the same room with it.

We can also use the people in the fellowship as sounding boards. Not only are people in meetings to talk but to call when we need help in between meetings.

Making plenty of meetings help you make it through the rough times in the beginning. If you can make a meeting a day, do so! If, you can't, go as often as possible.

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T.W. - BUCKS COUNTY

TRUSTED

Beaten and Betrayed, we come, some crawling some barely walking, some healthy but dazed. others uptight and arrogant. but all defeated. soundly whipped.

We had lost conflict that had seemed eternally there.

With unconditional surrender we'll acheive a victory of today.

We remain uneasy. The process of surrender is slow, tedious, and an aching grind at best. We have been isolated and alienated so long that our defense mechanisms are dear and special friends. We try to change our program to fit our concept. We must change ourselves to fit the program. The individual must surrender to the group concept or they will remain isolated, in spiritual conflict with the group.

The group concept can not become an individual concept or the group no longer exists and addiction wins. The addict dies!

When the individuals in the group are in harmony with spiritual principles, it provides an atmosphere that makes working a spiritual program much more available to the individual.

When religion, other fellowships, enterprises, or outside issues are allowed to enter the meeting place, individuals preference becomes an issue and spiritual conflict is present. The very mention of a religious symbol or another fellowship raises conflict.

When one person is injecting their own preference into the group, their desire for individual preference becomes the goal and the group is secondary to them. The group concept is weakened at that particular point. Personality has triumphed over program, and that, however isolated, existed in the group.

A very basic utility of the Traditions (and especially 2,6,10) is to eliminate or make individual desire secondary to the group principle, and to bring the group into spiritual harmony when it is revealed that the good of the everall group or program is more rewarding than individuals desires.

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Our spiritual desires become one with each other rather than fragmented and divided. The meeting place is in spiritual harmony and the spiritual program of recovery is at our fingertips.

The group has fulfilled its debt of gratitude to the new member by presenting a safe place where recovery is most available. The best meeting and finest fellowship on the earth are theirs for the taking.

We begin to understand why servants must be trusted

ANONYMOUS - ANONYMI.

"WINDS of CHANGE"

N.A. in Virginia is pleased to announce the "First N.A. Virginia Convention", this year it will be at the Virginia Beach Hilton, Jan. 7th, 8th, & 9th, 1983. Some of our speakers will be Carmalita from Wash. D.C., Bob B. from Calif. Brother Ric from Wash. D.C. and many others. There will be candlelight meetings, indoor pool, dance Friday night & Saturday night, New York strip steak banquet, Hospitality suite, ocean front rooms, many workshops, and an abundance of love spirituality, and fellowship.

Early Registration cost: (until Dec. 15th)
Single Room, Registration fee, Banquet & dances = \$75.00 per person
Double Room, Registration, Banquet & dances = \$53.00 per person

Please mail your registration and payment to:
First Annual Va. Convention
P.O. Box 1002
Norfolk, Va. 23501

HELP WANTED SECTION

WANTED - Person with unlimited patience and tolerance...
Must be a recovering addict. Must be willing to put their sanity on the line once every 3 months. Position requires an individual who is willing to travel, put up with incredible amount of insanity; if this is you, come to the R.S.C. meeting in Allentown, and volunteer to chair the meeting. Are you willing to go to any lengths?

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

The suggested donation for each issue of the Freedom Connection is \$1.00. If you don't have the cash and are in need of a copy, you can have one for free. The reason for a suggested donation is so that we may continue to come out on a monthly basis and carry the message to the Mid-Atlantic Addict, without having to burden the R.S.C. for money, since there is not much in the treasury as it is. If you wish to subscribe to the Freedom Connection, you may do so by writing to: 75 MacFarland Ave. Ivyland, Pa. 18974. The suggested donation for a 1-year subscription is \$6.00. You may also subscribe by contacting Bill A. from the Little Apple Area, Bill Z. from Maryland, or Pete B. from Bucks County.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

"FREEDOM CONNECTION - VOICE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC RECOVERING ADDICT."

Please send me one issue every month for the next year.

NAME - _____

ADDRESS - _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED - _____ (\$6.00 suggested donation)

"FREEDOM CONNECTION"
SEND THIS FORM TO: 75 MacFarland Ave. Ivyland, Pa.
18974

INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER

NAME AND ADDRESS OF GROUP _____

GROUP ANNIVERSARY _____

AREA NEWS -

SPECIAL EVENTS (Fundraisers, Workshops, etc.) -

AREA HOT LINE #

AREA P.O. BOX #

ARTICLES - (Experiences in Recovery, Stories, Poetry, Opinions)

Views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of N.A. as a whole, but rather those of concerned members of N.A.

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