



# The Tumbleweed Newsletter



Southern Antelope Valley Area Narcotics Anonymous Newsletter

May 1, 2005

## My Priorities

It has been my experience in recovery that my life has always gotten better. Not just different, but better and better.

I always thought that if I got a job I'd be ok. I thought that if I got a car to get to that job I'd be even better. I thought that if I could get my own place to live I'd be set. Now if I could just meet the woman of my dreams to share it all with, I'd be in heaven.

If I wasn't clean I would have never made it to the job. I wouldn't have the money to buy the car or pay the rent. The only relationship I'd have would be the one with the dopeman, or the policeman! Staying clean has got to be my first priority, and it has taken me a while to learn that. If I can't stay clean, nothing else in life matters.

Today I have all those things I mentioned and more. Life keeps getting better and it is only because I have been able to stay clean. I couldn't have stayed clean without Narcotics Anonymous!

Frank O

## Spiritual Principle

**Spirituality** – The quality or fact of being spiritual. Predominantly spiritual character as shown in thought, life, etc.

**Spirit** – The principle of conscious life. The divine influence as an agency working in the human heart.

## Ask the Addict

Are sponsors supposed to "Fire" their sponsee's?

A Sponsor/Sponsee relationship is subject to the same turmoil's as any other kind of relationship. Therefore it is subject to come to an end for a myriad of reasons.

One party is not stuck with the other for life simply because a choice was made to be one's sponsor or sponsee. Sometimes people can not provide for us what they believe we need, or we don't believe they can provide for us what we need and it becomes time to move on.

Being "Fired" is not the way to look at it as this might cause a resentment. The relationship simply isn't working for someone and they need to move on. They are making a choice they believe is best for both parties and should simply be respected - not resented.

## Birthdays

Debbie H.....04-19-98	Rob G.....03-08-02
Judy H.....04-24-01	Chris D.....04-10-03
Kristal C.....04-27-99	Jeremy.....04-??-04
Dennis D.....04-01-93	Jeff B.....03-12-69

## Upcoming S.A.V.A.N.A. Events

**PICNIC** – Sunday May 22 at McAdam's Park, 38115 30<sup>th</sup> St. East. Starts at 10am with a meeting at 2:30pm. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and drinks for \$1.00.

# A Personal Story

I use to think that my story wasn't sufficient for the group level, not juicy enough. I would share my experience, strength and hope with embellishments and lies in my attempt to "fit in". My need to fit in anywhere was so great and my perception of reality so obscured, I thought since I had never gone to some of the extremes I heard being shared I wouldn't have a chance of ever being accepted.

I heard it said, "TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE", "RIGEROUS HONESTY" and " HONESTY, OPENMINDEDNESS, WILLINGNESS"- all these things I heard and still I lied over and over again.

My journey of recovery has been long and a painful endeavor simply because I only heard I did not hear and apply to my daily life simple suggestions.

Then I was faced with a fork in the road and I had to decide wither I was going to continue to do the same or with faith face my fear and be honest, open myself up to be real and from the heart. I decided 9 months ago that I would do just that- be honest, put me out there and let GOD handle the results.

When I made the decision to get clean I knew there would be steps I would have to adhere to, steps before I even work the 12 steps. I had to get honest, not for you, for myself. I could not move forward until I became willing to be honest.

I have struggled for over 11 years to get clean and failed time and time again due to dishonesty. Now I am rebuilding me, my character, finding out who I am and what I stand for. Honesty has become the driving force to ensure my recovery. It keeps me centered and my feet planted, I no longer feel the need to impress you or myself. The liar, cheat and thief I was is now in the sunlight of the spirit and everyday my defects and shortcomings are less.

Honesty is the spiritual principle that we make our start in recovery with. I haven't done any of this with style and grace; it's been a process. A process that has given me freedom from loneliness.

Now I know that I love me and others love me for whom I am. I know who I am and what I stand for today and the best part of it all!—You love and know ME.

Narcotics Anonymous has given me my freedom; Narcotics Anonymous let me know it's never too late to be honest.

Patricia S.

## Service Committees

**Area Meeting** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at the Arid Club at 2:00pm.

**H&I** – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 918 E. Ave. J room 14 at 7:30pm.

**Activities** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 725 E. Ave. J at 6:30pm.

**Phone lines** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 918 W. Ave. J at 5:00pm.

**PI** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 918 W. Ave. J room 14 at 6:00pm

**Newsletter** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 41033 13<sup>th</sup> St. West at 6:00pm.

**Convention** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at the R.S.O. – 1937 Myrtle Ave. in Monrovia 7:30pm.

## Helpful Info

Tumbleweed Newsletter % S.A.V.A.N.A.  
P.O. Box 902785  
Palmdale, Ca. 93550

24hr Helpline – (661)266-2200  
24hr Regional Helpline – (800)863-2962

Tumbleweed\_Newsletter@Yahoo.com  
S.A.V.A.N.A. Website [www.sava-na.org](http://www.sava-na.org)

## Tumbleweed Staff

Marshall S.....Chair/Editor  
Frank O.....Vice-Chair  
.....Secretary/Treasurer  
Billy G.....Columnist

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