



# The Tumbleweed Newsletter



Southern Antelope Valley Area Narcotics Anonymous Newsletter

August 29, 2004

## Sponsors, Sponsees & Hot Air Balloons

A man in a hot air balloon realized he was lost. He descended a bit and shouted to a man on the ground, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The man on the ground replied, "You're in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude."

"You must be a sponsor," said the balloonist.

"I am," replied the man, "how did you know?"

"Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is, I believe, technically correct, but I've no idea what to make of your information and fact is, I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you've probably delayed my trip."

The man below responded, "You must be a sponsee."

"I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well," said the man, "you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise, which you've no idea how to keep, and you expect other people to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were before we met, but now, somehow, it's my fault!"

Author Unknown

## Spiritual Principle

**Patience** – Being patient, Bearing pains or trials calmly or without complaint, Steadfast despite opposition, difficulty, or adversity

Opposites (Character Defects) – Impatient, Anxious, Unwilling, Fearful

## Birthdays

Nicole T.....08-11-99    Oscar X.....08-17-89  
Mark F.....08-17-01    Ray A.....08-24-88  
Michelle A...08-24-02

## Newsletter News

The Newsletter is currently seeking individuals to participate in the committee. We are looking for a **Vice-Chair** person and persons to write columns. Interested? Attend our next meeting at the Church of Christ on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**New Column "Ask the Addict"** – Got a recovery orientated question. Email it to us or write it down and give it to any newsletter staff or GSR so it may be given to a staff member at the area meeting. We will try to answer them to the best of our ability in future issues.

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

**Camp Out** – September 10<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> at Camp Yenis Hante – Sign up now for only \$60.00 before registration ends August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**PI Breakfast** – September 25<sup>th</sup> at Christ the King Church. Tickets are pre-sale only for \$5.00.

**Halloween Dance** – October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Color Guard Hall – More to be revealed

**New Years Eve Party** – December 31<sup>st</sup> at the Color Guard Hall – More to be revealed

# Are we crippling our fellowship?

A couple of weeks ago, I had a friend from the program over at my house. As with a lot of other people I know, he was talking about how sick he is with the drama going on in our areas service, between some of our trusted servants. My friend pointed out a paragraph from our Basic text, PG xvi, in the introduction. It states, "Everything that occurs in the course of N.A. service must be motivated by the desire to more successfully carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. It was for this reason that we began this work. We must always remember that as individual members, groups, and service committees, we are not and should never be in competition with each other. We work separately and together to help the newcomer and for our common good. We have learned painfully that internal strife cripples our fellowship. It prevents us from providing the services necessary for growth."

My friend then looked at me and said "Willie, you're crippling our fellowship." OUCH!!!!

That really made me sit down and take a real hard look at myself. And yeah, I have allowed myself to get caught up in the drama, the competition, the gossip, and a lot of other stuff. When it came to certain individuals, I have pretty much ran with placing personalities before principles. There are some people in this area that I really dislike, and there are those that dislike me. But the bottom line is, it isn't about you and or me; it's about the newcomer. In the last sentence on page xvi of the basic text, it states "Our primary purpose is to stay clean, just for today, and carry the message of recovery." I think that I've grown a little and have learned a little more about myself.

Maybe one day we can learn to disagree without being disagreeable, and put our personal agenda's aside, for we can be of better service to our fellowship. Of course there will always be some kind of internal controversy, but when do we draw the line and say enough is enough.

For me, that time is now!

Willie T.

## Service Committees

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

**H&I** – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at Lancaster United Methodist Church 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 Lancaster United Methodist Church at 5.00pm.

**PI** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at Lancaster United Methodist Church room 14 at 6:00pm

**Newsletter** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at Church of Christ at 6:30pm.

**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  
.....Vice-Chair  
Christy L.....Secretary/Treasurer  
Billy G.....Columnist

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.