

**RCM's for the
Mid America Region
May 2001**

Just For Today Area

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Primary Purpose

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Western Area

Gary Delzeit
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Unity Area

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Dave Rose
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Wichita Metro Area

Pat Brown
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Miracle Area

Jim Clark
Ph# 785-832-8048

Officers for the Mid America Region

Chair: *Tim S.* 785-227-4241
Co-Chair: *Tony K.* 316-225-4280
Treasurer: *Debbie S.* 785-227-4241
RD: *Betty P.* 316-264-0801
RD2: *John S.* 785-594-2148
Secretary: *Open Position*

We have a lot of positions that will be open at the Region this coming meeting. If you or anyone you know is interested in Regional Service Work, you

*may want to attend the next meeting. Open positions include:
RSC chair & co-chair
Literature chair
Outreach chair
Activities chair
Secretary's chair*

*Thanks,
KB*

NEXT RSC

4-H BLDG Woodside & Hickory
Streets, McPherson, KS

SATURDAY & SUNDAY NOV 17-18, 2001

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

(DOWN) STEERING
(UP) OUTREACH

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

(DOWN) H&I
(UP) LITERATURE

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

(DOWN) CONVENTION
(UP) CAMPOUT

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

(DOWN) ACTIVITIES
(UP) P I

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

SPEAKER MTG.

8:00 PM - 12:00 PM

DJ DANCE - AUCTION - RAFFLE
FUNDRAISER FOR SOUL TO SOUL
**\$3 Per Person - No Addict Turned
Away**

SUNDAY NOV 18, 2001

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

RSC CHAIR/CO-CHAIR, SECRETARY
& TREASURER RCM'S, ALT RCM'S
SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRS &
CO-CHAIRS MOTIONS AND
REQUESTS

9:00 AM UNTIL DONE

REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE
MEETS CHAIR/CO-CHAIRS MOTIONS
& REQUESTS



Issue #16

PO Box 975
Baldwin City KS 66006
e-mail: klbertha@aol.com

September 2001

"What is our message? The message is that an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live."

Pg. 65, 5th edition, Basic Text

Note: the opinions and views shared in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of The M.A.N. staff, or NA as a whole.

*Thank you,
The Staff*

From the editor: I have not included "The M.A.N. report in this issue due to a lack of space. To insert one page is very costly and I felt the material included is more important than the report which you can get from your RCM. (It was included in the Regional minutes.)

*Thanks,
KB*

The Zen of Recovery

Sunday morning. A thunderstorm rumbles outside. There is a gentle incessant rain sweetening the air. Today I'm thinking about Zen, and how it relates to my journey of recovery.

I've been a Zen aficionado for many years now, and still find that there is ab-

solutely no rational way of understanding what Zen is. Historically, Zen evolved from Buddhism in China and Japan, and its earliest teachers demonstrated a pathway to enlightenment by direct experience as a result of meditation practice.

I feel that there is a strong connection between this form of intuitive practice and my efforts to work the twelve steps with my sponsor. At present I'm in the process of working step four and understand that it will be some time before I fully comprehend the meaning of step 11.

Eons ago in the grimy slums of Nottingham, England, a couple of mates and myself were introduced to a Beatnik coffeehouse. Those were the dog days of the Beatnik era most famously discussed by Jack Kerouac in "On the Road".

Fearfully we crept up the dark stairs to the room where all the really cool groovy cats, the rebels and outcasts hung out. Longhairs strummed guitars and people openly smoked long spliffs of hash. The creative zeitgeist bounced around a bongo player, an impromptu rap poem from a black-haired lady in shades (applauded by clicking fingers), a couple shagging surreptitiously on a

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corner sofa, then an emaciated bearded politico denouncing the oppressiveness of the system. Me and Pete observed how Zen it was.

This image of freedom was so much more captivating than having to wear my stupid school uniform and pretending to learn how to calculate coefficients of linear expansion, or some such, in the school physics lab. I had the feeling that I was being trained to be a toffee nosed pseudo aristocratic career professional. My home life was at best boring, at worst a flipping nightmare, and the only escape I found from this reality was going to the clubs and hitchhiking around the country. Kerouac, my patron saint of hitching, led me to Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, and London. Hitching alone or with friends, as I became more adept I felt that my thumb had become imbued with magical properties and often one could predict which car would pull over, or sometimes even visualize the green Austin that would take us to Sheffield even before it materialized on the prow of a hill.

Parker and Jeeves from the upper Sixth hitched from England to Istanbul and back over their summer holidays and these intrepid travelers became my heroes. My only goal in life was to travel the world and have fun - and to an extent I succeeded in that aim, but in the meantime my addiction began to control my life, ruling my every gesture. Abject loneliness, fear and a cloying self-pitying depression replaced the spiritual spontaneity I had once hoped for. I was running away from my deepest fears and myself always struggling to scrape up enough cash to keep me in booze and dope and planning my next geographical cure.

In the early seventies, after my first

marriage fell apart, I decided to try and fulfill my ambition of following in Kerouac's thumbprints and hitch around the States for a while. I had lots of adventures and encountered many amazing people living communally out of VW buses or in domed retreats off the beaten track, and so on. But I felt compelled to keep moving, always moving, searching for that one clear moment, that one feeling of the Zen spontaneous essence of the life-force. Beat Zen at its finest, I thought. Yet most of the time I was broke, hungry, dirty and deserted.

I cruised into Los Angeles in the summer of 1975 while tripping on window-pane. I hitched up the coast road through Santa Barbara and stayed for a while at the Tassajara Zen monastery near Carmel. There I learned the practice of "square Zen", lots of sitting meditation, vegetarian food and most importantly, no dope. I decided I couldn't wait ten years sitting on my butt and counting my breath. I wanted it all and wanted it now! Off to San Francisco, my personal Shangri-La. Once or twice I had the illusion of a profound spiritual experience blissfully attained on the borrowed wings of psychedelics.

Back in the present at my home in Lawrence, a sparrow hops across the front porch with wet feet. On my bookshelf of recovery-oriented literature sits a book called "The Zen of Recovery." A recovering addict, Mel Ash, who teaches at a center in Providence, RI, wrote it. I have gleaned from this book and from my own bitter experience that it is futile for me to continue my spiritual journey without getting completely honest with myself and about myself with the guidance of my sponsor. Perhaps this much-needed soul searching is an integral part of my journey of recov-

MIRACLE AREA 7 RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE N.A.

**5TH ANNIVERSARY
(5 AND ALIVE)**

LEARNING DAYS AND CELEBRATION

WHEN: OCTOBER 13, 2001

**WHERE: 4-H BUILDING
LANSING, KANSAS**

EVENTS INCLUDE:

**WORK SHOPS: 12:00PM - 4:30PM
(H&I, PI, LITERATURE)
SERVICE WORK OR ARCHIVE'S**

POTLUCK DINNER @ 6PM

SPEAKER @ 7PM

DANCE @ 8PM

\$5.00 DONATION AT DOOR

(NO ADDICT TURNED AWAY!)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

GIDGET @ (913) 682-2470

MIKE @ (913) 680-1626

FLENT PGR 782-2014 (LV. MESSAGE)

JUST FOR TODAY



*No Addict need Die from Addiction
913-680-1016*

**M.A.R.C.N.A. XIX
MARCH 21, 22, 23, 2002
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

**HOLIDAY INN
3017 W 10 th St
Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 792-2431**

Registration deadline: February 1, 2002 **WHY PRE-REGISTER??** Recovery is free but the convention has expenses to pay for such as speaker travel and room, hospitality, entertainment, merchandise, refreshments (hospitality room and other locations), convention flyers, banner, and other administrative expenses. Any funds not used are forwarded to help support the region.

**PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR CONVENTION –
FEBRUARY 1, 2002**
**ANY PRE-REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE
RETURNED TO SENDER!**

****PLEASE NOTE**** Any group, area or vendor wishing to sell at the alternative store, must have pre-approval from the convention committee by February 1, 2002. Please send request along with a letter from GSR, RCM, or copy of current vendor license to committee. For further information please contact:
Tom “Too-Tall” W. (620) 227-6946
Tim S. (785) 227-4241 timanddeb@midusa.net
Lee R. (620) 669-9526 madhouse5@hotmail.com

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE _____
e-mail _____

I WOULD LIKE TO CHAIR: WORKSHOP _____
MARATHON MEETING _____

<u>BEFORE 2-1-02</u>	<u>AFTER 2-01-02</u>
REGISTRATION:	
\$15.00 _____	\$17.00 _____
BANQUET:	
\$13.00 _____	\$15.00 _____
BREAKFAST BUFFET	
\$ 9.00 _____	\$11.00 _____
T-SHIRT/MUG (ONLY AVAILABLE W/PRE-REGISTRATIONS)	
\$25.00 _____	
M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL + \$1.00 _____ XXXL + \$2.00 _____	
NEWCOMER DONATION:	\$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____	

Make checks/moneyorders payable to:
M.A.R.C.N.A. XIX
Send to: **P.O. Box 1411
Hutchinson, KS 67501**

ery. My main character defects – resentments, terminal uniqueness, wild impulsive behaviors and abhorrence of authority figures have caused me to relapse a frightening number of times in the last couple of years.

By the grace of my Higher Power I have 90 days clean today. I still don't know anything about Zen. But I'm pretty sure that by trying to live one day at a time, by facing life's challenges as they arise, and by following the direction and guidance of my sponsor I might have a greater opportunity to be fully alive and in the moment, to "Be Here Now." Bloody hard work though, no two ways about it.

For me, my sponsor seems to radiate compassion. By his own admission, he has become a "service junkie." Huston Smith defined a Zen Master as someone who had achieved "Infinite forgiveness for things past, infinite compassion for things present and infinite responsibility for things future." This statement seems to embody the perfection one can aim for in recovery. Yet as my sponsor continues to point out, it is the journey of recovery that's important, not the end result. I measure my progress today in inches - not by the thousands of miles shown on the numerous stamps in my old passports. Ninety minutes to go before the Sunday noon meeting at the clubhouse. My only prayer or expectation for the day is to stay clean. Sometimes I experience the Zen of Recovery in meetings, when spirit moves my fellow addicts to share out of the silence that defines the pit pattering rain or the rustling of a leaf.

With love and respect,
Harry Gray
Lawrence NA

House Cleaning

Last Week I threw out Worrying. It was getting old and in the way. It kept me from being me. I couldn't do things my way. I threw out those Inhibitions. They were just crowding me out. Made room for my New Growth. Got rid of my old dreams and doubts. I threw out a book on MY PAST. Didn't have time to read it anyway. Replaced it with New Goals. Started reading it today. I threw out hate and bad memories. Remember how I treasured them so? Got me a NEW PHILOSOPHY too. Threw out the one from long ago. Brought in some new books too, called I CAN, I WILL, and I MUST. Threw out I might, I think, and I ought. WOW, you should've seen the dust. Threw out SELFISHNESS. Always counting what I did for someone or what someone should have done for me. Replaced it with being BLESSED. I ran across an OLD FRIEND. Haven't seen him in a while. I believe his name is GOD. Yes, I really like His style. He helped me to do some cleaning and added some things Himself. Like PRAYER, HOPE, and FAITH. Yes, I placed them right on the shelf. I picked up this special thing and placed it at the front door. I FOUND IT - its called PEACE. Nothing gets me down anymore. Yes, I've got my house looking nice. Looks good around the place. For things like Worry and Trouble, there just isn't any place. Its good to do a little house cleaning, get rid of the old things on the shelf. It sure makes things seem brighter; perhaps you could TRY IT YOUR-SELF...

Rod & Carla

The Gift

This weekend I got to witness the miracle of recovery and it never ceases to touch me in ways I cannot even explain. I just got back from the Pioneer Group's annual free campout in Emporia. (The best home group in the world I might add.) The funny thing is we were only there for Friday night because we had tickets to the Country Stampede, which we were very excited about. I was sitting at the campfire meeting Friday night looking at all of the people that I love in recovery - old, new, and some I didn't know yet. The breeze was tranquil and there were no sounds of traffic, no radio, no cell phones ringing...nothing! Just recovering addicts, the stars, and God. It was beautiful. I looked at my husband sitting so peacefully beside me and knew we weren't going to the stampede or anywhere all weekend. Everything I needed was there. Good friends with a common theme. I was so at peace I almost didn't want to move for fear of ruining it somehow. Then I realized this is what it is all about, caring, sharing, and loving unconditionally. I turned to my husband after the speaker meeting and told him we should give our stampede tickets away and he was a little flabbergasted. He surrendered, however, and I thank God that he did, because I got to witness him receive the message of recovery. "Our message is hope and our promise is freedom" according to the 'Basic Text' and that is what I got to witness.

My husband and I have been to hell and back, but the whole time I have been in recovery. I married him while he was still using and I had two years clean. (Which tells you what a picture of health I was at that point.) Anyway, for the next several years I rode on my own personal NA high horse and tried to change him, fix him, and control him in whatever way possible. I was completely selfish and did not ever invite him to attend NA

functions or meetings with me. I think I was afraid he might get better. We were strangers living separate lives in the same house. He had his friends, I had mine, and somewhere along the line we had two of the most beautiful sons God ever created.

In October of 1999 I had had enough of living with a using addict and trying to control someone else's addiction. I felt like a hypocrite going to meetings preaching the gospel of NA and living with someone that used. I woke up one morning and I surrendered. I wanted to be free. I told God "Fine, you love him more than I do you fix him." And went about my merry way. (Okay it wasn't merry it totally sucked, being single wasn't what I dreamed it would be.) Anyway, I found out it wasn't just HIS addiction that was the problem with our marriage. I had a LARGE part to play. Can you believe it? I didn't despite my sponsor's ranting. Divorce left me with a pain I almost couldn't bear. I won't even go into what it did to our sons'.

At seven years clean, one night I was seriously considering suicide and I did one of the things recovery taught me to do. I picked up a book. 'It Works How and Why' to be exact and there was this line in step one somewhere that said, "We became out of control emotionally..." I just started going crazy, laughing and crying not knowing what I was going to do next. I got down on my knees and said "God I need some help. Please could you just send me some help." This was late at night ya'll and my phone rang. I picked it up and by the grace of God it was my sponsor. She said "Yea know, it is odd, but I just had this thought that I should call you." The dam broke and the tears just came in waves. I don't remember how long we talked that night but I do know that God did for me what I couldn't do for myself.

Shortly after that I started hearing ru-

UPCOMING EVENTS

HALLOWEEN PARTY!



Saturday night @ 6:00 pm
October 27, 2001
(at the meeting hall)



310 Stevens, Hutchinson, KS

Potluck Dinner
(bring a covered dish)



Speaker Meeting to Follow



Dance!!!

Prize for best costume.

NO COVER CHARGES!!!

Auction, Raffle, and Quilt raffle.

Bring a Newcomer Please

Information: (620) 662-5390



Brought to you by
Great Bend "High On Life"

CHILI BOWL 2001

Where: Knights of Columbus / Ellinwood, Ks.

When: December 1, 2001

Who: All the party animals

\$4.00 per person

Kids under 12, free

No Addict Turned Away

3:00-5:00 pm	Doors open / Fellowship time
5:00 pm	Dinner is served <i>Please bring a side dish</i>
7:00 pm	Upstairs / Speaker meeting <i>Jim W., Newton, Ks.</i> Downstairs / Kids Games
8:00 pm	GSR "Pie in the Eye" Auction
9:00 pm	Upstairs / Dance / DJ <i>Ed S., Hutchinson, Ks.</i> Downstairs / Auction & Raffle <i>Items appreciated</i>

This is a MARCNA Fundraiser



mors that my ex-husband was going to meetings. (Some of the people down here haven't learned about anonymity yet.) I began to wonder if the hall was going to be big enough for the both of us. Then of course there was my ego in there "Yeah, he's just there to get me back" type of garbage. But at the time he didn't seem to care about that. He also got my old sponsor to be his sponsor. (I had a male sponsor for a while due to the shortage of women here.) Now that made me a little nervous, to say the least. I got angrier and crazier for a while and he started getting better. Which terrified me so I started working the steps like my life depended on it, and it did. I began to look at my part in the failure of our marriage and clean up my side of the street. We started talking again and got into counseling.

He celebrated one year clean on March 11th of this year and I was stunned. You people that loved and cared for me and showed me how to live when I was new extended that same thing to him despite my protests in the beginning. I am overjoyed to say that on May 12th, 2001, on my nine-year clean birthday, we were remarried and our family was mended with the unconditional love of the Fellowship. His favorite passage in the 'Basic Text' is on page 88. "When the drugs go and the addict works the program, wonderful things will happen. Lost dreams reawaken and new possibilities arise." Through surrender I found freedom. I surrendered him and myself to this program and all of my dreams have come true, including some I didn't know I had. We have a family in one piece today that is loved and nurtured by the NA family and God. We now share a lot of the same friends, dreams and have common goals. We even had a recovery dinner at our house last Christmas Eve and it was wonderful. If you would have told me two years ago that that would have happened I

would have told you to see a shrink because I didn't used to bring people home. Period. Now our home is a place I love to be. I am no longer running away from him, you, or myself. At the campout this weekend I watched you people love him and I watched him play. This man that used to be so angry, who couldn't sneeze without cussing and throwing things, was playing volleyball and laughing with all of the freedom of a five-year-old. He wanted all that recovery had to offer and it touched me deeper than I can tell you. I love that man and I love you people, most of all I love God for giving us all the Fellowship of Narcotic's Anonymous where. "Our message is hope and our promise is freedom."

Thank You,
Amy G.
Emporia

Dear Editor Kirk:

Just a tidbit from my mind/heart. If you want to include it in the MAN, I give you exclusive permission to do just that. So here it is:

I have just read an article from an addict who shared with us at the Convention in Great Bend in 2000. Simply awesome! Just what I needed for today! I am struggling because of the unrest in the fellowship (meaning in my immediate area). If we want what you have to offer - well, do you? That's my question to the fellowship. We only offer a complete change in your so-called lifestyle to a new road of recovery. It isn't paved with gold or rose pedals. It is quite tedious at times and the rewards that we reap from it are indescribable! We don't turn out to be a perfected, wealthy, totally forgiving, loving person that everyone wants to be around all the time. We only change everything about ourselves! What makes us think that everyone will be honest, forgiving, able to complete tasks they take on (being responsible), forever faithful to the pro-

gram of Narcotics Anonymous? Me, I always want to give everyone the benefit of the doubt (they could be telling the truth, they could be completely clean, etc.) and I get my feelings hurt because my expectations are way too high. Sometimes that addict is lying through their teeth because they haven't learned they don't have to lie and sometimes they are using and still attending meetings because they can't face the truth about themselves.

I love this fellowship; they've been there when I needed them most and sometimes when I didn't think I needed them. Change is what this is about. I will pray. Go to a meeting. Read my literature. Call my sponsor. Work the Steps. I will be of service to the fellowship instead of hiding in my house; procrastinating on my step work; can't go to a meeting because somebody might be there I don't like or I might have to share what is going on with me. Telling my H.P. that he has abandoned or rejected me, not giving back what so freely was given to me (this list could go on and on). Share the love you've been given, and not sexually either! We need to gather together and spread the message (not the mess) of recovery that we have (since we've been working/living the Steps). Dog days of summer - I'm feeling depressed, angry, and I need a meeting, so I think I'll get myself moving and see if anyone shows up for the noon meeting (only one that HOW Group has). Who's going to do it, if I don't? If I wait around to see if someone else does/is, then I've wasted my time doing nothing when there might be someone there who could help me (and there could be a newcomer that just read our meeting list with that meeting listed on it). If I think that someone else will take care of it and I'm not doing my part, then I am part of the problem. I would rather be part of the solution. Just for today I'll give back what I can.

Just a few thoughts from this crazy ole woman from Newton USA.

Love, Sue W.

Editors note: Although I don't usually include items that aren't written by Fellowship members, I received this from two different people. I thought that perhaps I ought to take the hint and put it in. Hope you enjoy it.

KB

"Butt prints in the sand"

One night I had a wondrous dream,
One set of footprints there was seen,
The footprints of my precious God,
Mine were nowhere to be seen.

But then some stranger prints appeared,
And I asked God, "What have we here?"
Those prints are large and round and neat,
But, God, they are too big for feet.

"My child," He said in somber tones,
"For miles I carried you alone,
I challenged you to walk in faith,
But you refused and made me wait."

"You disobeyed, you would not grow,
The walk of faith, you would not know,
So I got tired, I got fed up,
And there I dropped you on your butt."

"Because in life, there comes a time,
When one must fight, and one must climb,
When one must rise and take a stand,
Or leave their butt prints in the sand."



- No
2. Motion #2 (Literature committee)
Yes
 3. Motion #3 (Activities committee)
Yes

At the close of this meeting, Ted R. will be assuming the RCM position. That's about it. I'll keep comin' back.
In Loving Service
Jon Mc.

Unity Area RCM Report

We had a day in the park. Went very well. Thanks to everybody's help and participation. We have had a new Group join us in recovery. Welcome Abilene! People are starting to step up for some service positions, but the important ones are not being filled; Hospitals and Institutions and Public Information. I would like to welcome Amy to alt. RCM position. Thank you Amy and Larry to treasurers position. Thank you. Well, that's about it.

Thanks,
RCM Bryan Hatfield

Western Area RCM Report

Hello Family,
Since the RCM is gone today due to family illness, I will do my best. I missed the last Area meeting but since I know the Sec. I have the results of the voting on the motions. The D.C. 12th annual NA Roundup is almost upon us: October 5,6,7. It will be at 613 W. Cedar Street at the New Hope on the Plains Building. The theme is God Recycles. I'm living proof.

Pre-registration deadline is September 1st 2001 - \$10.00. This includes a free canvas tote bag. After the 1st registration is \$12.00. Tickets for breakfast are available.

In Service as a Trusted Servant,
"Too Tall"

Wichita Metro Area RCM Report

Hello from the Wichita Metro Area, We'd like to welcome Greg K., our new Alt. RCM for the Area. Greg brings years of recovery to us, and we are looking forward to his experience, strength and hope in our Area and at this body.

We have several events forthcoming:
➤ August 25th and 26th
Day by Day's Garage Sale at 3900 E. Harry, St. 230.

➤ September 15th
Unity Group Street Dance (22nd for rain date)

1007 W. Douglas in the back parking lot

Our Area was fortunate in being chosen by the World Service Office to be awarded a scholarship for one member to attend the World Literature Workshop in California earlier this month. John S. was elected to attend and has brought us valuable information and insight into Literature issues. Please take some time to visit with him about his experience.

We are making a \$80.00 donation to the Region.

If you get a desire to take a road trip, come on down to Wichita where recovery is strong and vibrant. We'd love to have you visit our Area and Groups.

In Service, Pat B.
RCM, Wichita Metro Area

Area voted to await outcome of campout expenses/income before donating to MARCNA.

JFT Area recently contributed \$50.00 for start-up literature for Altoona and Burlington.

JFT Area Hospitals and Institutions committee experiencing better participation in taking meetings to Girard ATC. Successful fundraising activity in Parsons August 4 for use in maintaining literature stock.

Most Area Groups had not taken the Regional motions to their Fellowship for consideration. RCM had provided each Group with Regional minutes and an explanation of the different issues involved in each motion. The lack of informed participation by members was discussed. Passed a motion of confidence for RCM to vote in his/her informed perception of the Area's interest. RCM explained how/why he would vote on the three motions under consideration.

RCM had reported on Regional secretarial position opening, some history of the problems with the position, the time required for successfully compiling minutes, and had encouraged any qualified members to attend August 19 meeting of MARCNA, if interested. Area passed a motion for RCM to move that, in absence of a qualified volunteer, MARCNA hire professional secretarial service for compilation of Regional minutes.

After discussion of each Group and H&I committee's requested number of copies of Regional meeting lists and MAN newsletter, RCM urged to request reasonable amount, based on historical use. Therefore, JFT Area respectfully requests 1200 meeting lists and 600 MAN.

Miracle Area

RCM Report

Miracle Area participated in the flyer drive and it was a success.

We are donating \$120.00 to the Region.

We would like to welcome Leavenworth and the RIP Group to the Miracle Area.

As a new RCM I would like to express my thanks and gratitude for being able to serve.

Bob K.

Primary Purpose

RCM Report

Primary Purpose Area is alive and doing fine. We celebrated our one year anniversary last weekend in Hutchinson and today is officially one year seated with the Mid-America Region. Our anniversary celebration was a great success with addicts from inside and outside the Area. At the Area meeting previous to the party, we had elections. Congratulations to Ted R. our new RCM. I was also nominated to alt. RCM and accepted. That was strange. Our Area continues to grow and flourish. Upcoming events in PPA are (see flyers)

➤ Kingman Life After Campout, Kingman State Lake August 25 & 26

➤ Gift of Life Campout Cheney Lake, Harding Campground-August 31st – September 3rd

➤ Lyons Night Flyers Game Night September 22nd

We also made a donation of \$537.85 to Mid-America Region this quarter. There was a vote taken at Area on the three motions that went back to groups after the May RSC:

1. Motion #1 (Miracle Area)

continued next pg.

This was submitted by Tony K. and although I didn't do all of these things, and they really aren't funny, they did strike my funny bone. See if you can relate to some of these situations. More to come next time...

You might be an addict if...

- You might be an addict if, the only light in your house is a Bud light.
- You might be an addict if, you buy baking soda by the case.
- You might be an addict if, you go out of your way to make friends with diabetics.
- If you have ever cleaned your carpet with tweezers, you might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you go to your dealers house to watch your TV.
- You might be an addict, if you've ever had more than four people in your bathroom at a time.
- If your Christmas tree is a marijuana plant, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you've ever driven to a dope house and walked home.
- You might be an addict, if you took shop in school just to make paraphernalia.
- You might be an addict, if you've ever returned merchandise four times in one day to Wal-Mart.
- You might be an addict, if your children have tried to put you on a curfew.
- If you have chosen an apartment because it was close to a liquor store, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you have ever had syringes on your grocery list.
- You might be an addict, if you have ever been thrown out of a motorcycle club for bad behavior.
- You might be an addict, if you are convinced that the DEA has listening devices in your light sockets.
- If your living room has ever looked like a pawn shop, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if none of your mirrors are on the wall.
- You might be an addict, if all your windows are covered with tin foil.
- You might be an addict, if you are over 35 years old and living at your moms.
- You might be an addict, if you go to treatment and already know everyone there.
- If you know how to make a pipe out of a piece of fruit, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you have a reserved stool at the bar.
- You might be an addict, if your day starts a 8:00 pm.
- You might be an addict, if you are on a first name basis with the judge.
- You might be an addict, if you have a pager and no real home.
- If your dog usually eats over at the neighbors, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you synchronize your clock with the liquor stores.
- You might be an addict, if your family gives you Christmas gifts with no price tags or receipts.

- You might be an addict, if you've ever spent all day watching for shadows under a door frame.
- You might be an addict, if your afraid to leave your bathroom.
- If you have three tire gauges and no cars, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you know what a PDR is.
- If your occupation is donating blood, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, if you take evasive action every time you see what might be an unmarked police car.
- You might be an addict, if you have ever come to and been surprised to discover that you are in a different state than you thought.
- You might be an addict, if you don't know any of your friends last names.
- If you have ever pawned a prosthesis, You might be an addict.
- You might be an addict, If the pharmacy calls you for a refill.
- You might be an addict, if you have ever turned in your car as stolen then discovered it at your bar.
- You might be an addict, if you have given the liquor store owner a ride to work.

This little jewel was sent to me by Rod and Carla of Emporia. If you enjoy this kind of thing, please send more in. I think that it makes for a more interesting publication, but it is your newsletter and it's content is up to you.

Recovery word search

Thanks,
KB

P	E	V	Q	G	X	I	E	P	J	S	R	D	Z	J
A	Z	U	J	L	L	C	H	H	B	F	Q	M	K	I
M	W	Z	O	B	I	W	Y	B	X	D	U	U	N	F
S	K	S	R	S	R	T	E	K	M	Q	D	C	Y	Z
J	E	E	U	H	M	S	R	Q	C	O	Z	I	J	I
P	F	I	O	N	E	E	D	D	P	S	Z	R	N	A
V	Y	M	M	T	A	T	B	D	Z	Q	S	O	E	M
U	V	N	P	P	P	S	U	A	C	B	A	Z	U	X
M	H	E	C	T	H	L	E	G	R	P	U	N	K	D
M	B	P	P	W	E	Q	T	G	J	O	P	A	R	M
O	W	Z	D	Q	Y	O	X	Y	T	J	B	B	H	A
W	D	Y	D	C	P	R	J	B	X	P	H	O	O	H
P	K	W	Q	Y	U	H	R	Q	Z	H	N	B	N	F
U	V	Q	N	Q	Q	L	R	Z	J	P	X	I	O	G
V	L	I	E	X	D	Z	U	Z	O	S	R	K	R	U

Words to find:

**Powerless
Insanity
Surrender
Sponsor
Relapse
Honesty**

**Open minded
Willingness
Addiction
Freedom
Gratitude
Inventory**

AREA REPORTS

C.K.A. Report

Howdy:

Activities: Still alive and kicking. Not to much new going on in the Area. H&I, PI & Outreach workshops combined with Area B-day will be held at Larned September 15. Look for flyers. Christmas Dreams 2001 will be hosted by Hoisington Group. Date not yet known. Chili Bowl in Ellinwood (maybe) hosted by High on Life group of Great Bend, date unknown. May be 1st or 2nd Saturday in December. Russell host campout at Wilson September 2, 2001.

H&I: Getting ready to start taking meetings into Larned State Hospital.

Lit.: have been having trouble getting Lit. from world. Lit chair stepped down due to pregnancy and now have a new Lit. chair.

PI: Busy with setting up a panel presentation with dreams & giving Lit packets to correction officers.

Have a donation of \$100.00 for Region.

In Loving Service
Greg B.

through September 3 at Perry Lake. Flyers are on the table. We hope you all come & have a lot of fun.

We are getting policy written and an Area inventory. We are using the same one that the Region used. We are working hard to get our Area together.

Hospitals & Institutions and Public Information are teamed up together now, with one chair; Tobey. It's going good for now.

We will be having a learning day on October 20 at Days Inn. We will have over 35 speakers there. We hope all of you come for it.

In Love and Service,
Dave R.

Just For Today

Report to M.A.R.C.N.A.

August 19, 2001

Patrick Poull, JFT Area RCM

Just For Today Area is grateful for its continued success in helping addicts help themselves. Altoona, Burlington, and Independence are recent additions to our Area. At least 14 Groups active in Southeast Kansas!

JFT recently elected Ray G. of Emporia's Pioneer Group as our Area chairperson.

JFT recently elected Terry W. of Iola as Outreach chairperson.

JFT Area "Mirror of Miracles" campout August 10-12. Good Area attendance and lots of folks from Oklahoma/Missouri. Good workshops on Youth in Recovery and sponsorship. Area H&I transported Girard ATC patients to/from 8/11.

FFF

Area Report

Hi my Brothers and Sisters,

We have a lot going on in the FFF Area & it is all good.

There are 12 Groups in our Area now. Our Area campout is on August 31