

Chair: Tony K.. 620-225-4280 Co-Chair: Alan B. 316-283-2033  
 Treasurer: Ted R.  
 RD 2: Debbie S. 785-227-4241 RD: John S. 785-594-2527  
 Secretary: Gidget B. 913-682-2369

*We can use all the bodies that wish to become involved in Regional service work. I've heard it said that the Region doesn't do enough for the Areas or the Groups. The Regional committee consists of members of the Fellowship from our Groups and Areas. If more is to be done for the Individual Addict the Groups and the Areas at the Regional level, more addicts need to become involved at this level.*

*Thanks,  
KB*

NEXT RSC

4-H BLDG Woodside & Hickory Streets, McPherson, KS  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY NOV 16-17, 2002

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

(DOWN)

STEERING  
OUTREACH

11:00 AM - 1:00 AM

(DOWN)

H&I  
LITERATURE

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

(UP)

LUNCH BREAK

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

(DOWN)

CONVENTION  
CAMPOUT

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

(DOWN)

ACTIVITIES  
P I

(UP)

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 12:00 PM

SPEAKER MTG.

DJ DANCE - AUCTION - RAFFLE  
**\$3 Per Person - No Addict Turned Away**  
SUNDAY NOV 17, 2002

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 #18

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

Sept. 2002

*"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*

**The Dilemma**

What do I do if my significant other is using or has relapsed? I hear this not only in my life, but also with sponsees and friends. I still struggle with turning away from someone I love. This isn't really about him; it's about me, my feelings, my actions, my program.

We met in recovery, but "M" was pretty much using the whole year we were together. His disease progressed to desperate measures and he is serving 5 years for his actions. There have been many phone calls and long letters, and now that they're talking parole I'm nervous, anxious, and struggle with what to do. How can I not be there for him?

We hear this scenario a lot in recovery, sometimes only one partner comes into

the rooms, some get involved with newcomers, some get involved with people right after they relapse. I did it myself. But the Narcotics Anonymous program gives me the only answer there can be; it is because of love that I have to detach and leave that person and the relationship alone. I'm not saying it has to be forever, but if I really love someone I will give them a chance at recovery. I cannot be his sponsor or higher power; I'm not even sure if we should attend the same home group. I can't give him rides to meetings, if he wants this he will find a way to and from meetings just as he did to get the dope. Like I said, it's not about him, it's about what I've learned in this program. It's about changing my behaviors so I don't repeat my same patterns. It's about having faith not only in my Higher Power but also in his. After all I've learned in this program can I allow my feelings, well intended as they are, to get in the way of someone's recovery? The answer is simple; I must let him find his own way through N.A., only then am I showing love.

**INSIDE:  
All kinds of good stuff!!! Read it and find out.**

Lisa D.  
Wichita, KS

*(I got this in the mail. It is from "anonymous" but the message is poignant.)*

***I came to a meeting;  
No coffee to be found.***

***I came to a meeting;  
No literature to be found.***

***I came to a meeting;  
Self-centeredness abounds.***

***I came to a meeting;  
Trash strewn on the ground.***

***I came to a meeting;  
The group had closed down.***  
*anonymous*

*(And this one from Scott W. of Emporia, KS)*

***I paint this picture  
so simple and fair  
may it share  
The image I see  
is love and care  
Keep us God  
so humble and aware  
Just for Today  
so we may live in your glare.***

*Scott W.*

*The rest of this issue will be devoted to material that I got from one of our previous editors, Nate F. He has archives from his tenure as the editor of The M.A.N. and graciously loaned them to me for use. The first article is an introduction he wrote for one of his last publications. I have included it because of its historical relevance. I hope that you enjoy this "Blast from the Past" to use one of his phrases.*

*Thanks,  
Kirk Brown  
One editor in a long line of distinguished editors.*

2

Howdy all, my name is Nate, and I am an addict. I am also the Editor and along with Maria, we have brought you these last two double issues of the M.A.N.. This latest "Best Of" issue brings back many memories of my early recovery and the state of NA in the early 1980's. Lots of things were different, some were the same. The Newsletter's first issue of record was in January of 1983. Donna F. was the editor then and the issue was small and disorganized (like I said, some things are the same). An issue cost \$1.00 back then, and I'm proud to say that 12 years later an issue of the Mid America Regional Newsletter costs the same as in 1983. The focus of some of the articles was working on the "Just For Today" meditation book project and flyers heralded the first ever Mid-America Regional convention which happened at Lake Ozark, Missouri in 1983. You see, way back in 1983, the Mid America Region still consisted of four states! Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma. Nebraska would soon split off as would Missouri and finally Oklahoma the next year. The 1st edition of the Basic Text was hot off the press and many addicts who had been using the White Book only, got a copy of the Basic Text and read it for the first time in their recovery! My hat is off to the eight editors that kept the Mid-America Regional Newsletter going from 1983 to 1990. Donna F. was the first, then Linda M. followed by Julie P. and Marci W., Dan C., Jeff M. and Jeri S. and Laura Mc. Thank you for all your hard work! Hope you enjoy this blast from the past!

In Service,

*Nate F.*  
Editor

*Since this was written there have been two additionally editors that I am aware of: Sam L. and myself. Currently Cat is the coeditor and will presumably will take over when my tenure is over.*

KB

*One last "Blast from the Past" I thought you would enjoy-especially those of you who attend and participate in the Regional meetings. This was before my time, though I know that there are a lot of members who will remember these times.*

# MARSCNA

## Quarterly Business & Committee Meetings

### May 19-20, 1990 Coffeyville, Kansas

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday May 18, 1990

Candlelight Meeting - 10:00 PM

New Dimensions Group 7th & Elm (St. Pauls Episcopal Church)

Saturday May 19, 1990

Regional Meeting Events

Committee Meetings - 9:00 AM

Lunch Break ----- 1:00 PM

KSC Meeting ----- 2:30 PM

Breaker Meeting ---- 8:00 PM (on completion of KSC)

Dance, Koffie etc. - 9:00 PM

(All Events on Saturday to be held at Best Western, Fountain Plaza Inn, 104 West 11th Street)

Sunday May 20, 1990

NA Newspaper Meeting (9:00 AM Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, 2nd & Buckeye Entrance Room 108)

Contacts

Steve F. (316) 251-9258

Ruth M. (316) 325-2709

Draig C. (316) 331-1053

John N. (316) 251-5126

Mileage chart and Accommodations list on the reverse side.

Hosted by the Southeast  
Traditions Area

# Simply Amazing

13<sup>th</sup> Annual

Dodge City NA Roundup



**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

Located at: Moose Lodge, 1001 Minneola Road DODGE CITY, KS 67801

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM: \$10.<sup>00</sup>

Dead line for Pre-Registration is September 1<sup>st</sup> 2002.

After the dead-line is \$12.<sup>00</sup>

NAME (s) : _____	<input type="checkbox"/> X	= \$ _____
NAME (s) : _____	\$10/Person	
ADDRESS: Street _____ Apartment/Suite # _____ City, State, ZIP _____	T-Shirts For \$10. <sup>00</sup>	= \$ _____  Total = \$ _____
PHONE #1: ( ) - _____ PHONE #2: ( ) - _____ E-Mail @ _____	Sizes Available;	XXXL XXL XL Large, medium
T-Shirts with the above logo on it.		
This years Coffee mug is only \$8. <sup>00</sup>		
<b>No Addict turned away!!</b>	Newcomers are always welcome!	VENDORS NEED NOT APPLY.
Auctions and Raffles items needed so bring your weird stuff.		
<p align="center">Make Checks payable, and mail to: Dodge City NA Roundup, PO Box 735, Dodge City, KS 67801-0735</p>		

From May 1993

One's message

From time to time I stop to think of  
people in the street  
I'm sure you know cause most of us  
experienced it's defeat  
Out there in some forgotten town-or in  
a darkened room  
We realized that we were standing face  
to face with doom.

Remembering the life I lived where  
selfishness deceived  
A time when I loved nothing more  
than powder or a leaf  
Returns me to Reality when everything  
seems list  
Reminds me that I almost paid the  
nearly fatal loss.

So here and now I'd like to state my  
feelings on this page  
I'm grateful for what's come to me at  
such an early age  
Through ever guiding patience your  
love helps me with today  
I thank you for the gift that you so  
freely give away.

Then let me always ,greet the souls  
who wander through the door  
And let them know they I have a  
chance to Die or Live once more  
To leave or stay-to use or  
not-surrender to defeat  
And share my faith so they won't have  
to suffer in the street.

Anonymous, Topeka, Ks.

The following questions and answers were  
posed to the Board of Trustees over the  
years. They are still pertinent and may  
answer questions you have regarding the  
Traditions.

From July 1985

## Questions & Answers

The Board of Trustees answered the  
following questions of Traditions for  
various groups, areas arid regions.

Q. In our meeting format it says that  
newcomers are welcome and that it is  
all right to attend the first meeting while  
under the influence of drugs but must  
thereafter come clean. This is for the  
protection of the group. Is this statement  
a violation of our Traditions?

A. It is our belief that this statement  
does in fact violate Tradition Three, the  
assumption being that it is all right for  
someone to come under the influence to  
one meeting, but thereafter come clean.  
Our literature and our Third Tradition  
state "the only requirement for member-  
ship is a desire to stop using." Our Fifth  
Tradition states, "Each group has but one  
primary purpose, to carry the message  
to the addict who still suffers." To use a  
format which prohibits the still using  
addict from meetings is contrary to our  
traditions.

Q. Our group uses the Day by Day  
book by Hazelden in two of our meet-  
ings. Our group knows this is not  
N.A.-approved literature, but our group  
conscience feels it is not in violation of  
any of our Traditions.

A. Every month the World Service  
Board of Trustees receives at least two  
letters regarding the use of non-N.A.  
approved literature. This month there are  
three such letters: one regarding the use  
of A.A.'s Twelve Steps and Twelve Tra-  
ditions; one regarding the reading of the  
Bible; and yours. All three letters state

that their group conscience approves of the use of these materials and that they have the right to use any literature of their choice by virtue of the group conscience.

Narcotics Anonymous is a Twelve Step program of recovery from the disease of addiction. It is not a program of recovery as set up by A.A., the Bible or Hazelden. When we dilute our message of recovery with literature other than N.A. approved, we create confusion in the minds of the newcomer. They are often confused as to whether the N.A. Program is really A.A. a religious Bible study, or a part of Hazelden. The World Service Board of Trustees believes that the use of literature not approved by N.A. does affect other groups and N.A. as a whole. The seeds of controversy, chaos, and disunity are planted which ultimately are capable of destroying N.A. as a whole. The distinction of our Fellowship as a separate entity is clouded and unfortunately newcomers may be lost in the confusion.

Many of us use other literature in our personal programs, as an adjunct to recovery. Some use meditation guides, some read the Bible, and some members read other literature regularly as part of their recovery process. However, literature other than N.A.-approved literature belongs outside of our meetings.

We suggest that if your group feels strongly about having a meditation book or pamphlet, you form a literature committee and begin to generate material for a meditation guide for N.A.

We have Twelve Traditions. Group conscience is a part of Tradition Two and when it is followed in conjunction with Tradition Four it does not allow one to override the other or any other Tradition while remaining a part of N.A. An

N.A. meeting to be considered an N.A. meeting must fully comply with all of the Twelve Traditions.

*From December 1985*

### Questions & Answers

*The Board of Trustees answered the following questions of Traditions for various groups, areas arid regions.*

Q. Our Sixth Tradition speaks of endorsement. In our approved literature "Why Are We Here," we refer to A.A. Is this not an endorsement?

A. The reference to A.A. in "Why Are We Here" is not a violation of Tradition Six. It is only an acknowledgement of the origin of our Twelve Steps and Traditions. It goes on to give some background in them and expresses gratitude toward A.A. for allowing us to adapt their steps, and traditions to our program.

Q. A halfway house in our area would like to put on a barbecue for N.A. We are a new area desperately in need of funds for the purpose of literature and could really use the money, but are questioning whether it is within the traditions for non-N.A. organizations to conduct activities which benefit N.A. What is your, opinion?

A. Groups should follow Tradition Seven and decline outside contributions. This would include organizations conducting activities which benefit N.A. We realize it becomes tempting to get money from other programs because it helps purchase literature or other essential expenses. Nevertheless, it needs to be an element of our recovery as individuals and also as a group that we become self-supporting. To allow other organizations to hold fund-raising functions for N.A. violates Traditions Six and Seven.

Q. I recently received a call from a parole officer who asked me to provide

## CLEAN -N- CRAZY'S 2nd ANNUAL FALL BALL

THE FRIENDSHIP CENTER  
SALINA, KS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2002

THE DOORS WILL OPEN @ 6 P.M.  
THE SPEAKER WILL BE @ 7 P.M.  
THE DANCE WILL FOLLOW THE

SPEAKER  
THERE WILL ALSO BE AN  
AUCTION & RAFFLE

PLS. BRING ITEMS FOR THE  
AUCTION AND RAFFLE

## Chili Bowl 2002

(13th Annual)

Date: December 7, 2002

Location: Knight of Columbus  
Ellinwood, KS.

Time: Doors Open @ 3:00 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 p.m. (\$4.00 per person)

Please bring a side dish

Speaker: 7:00 p.m. (Burnalee S.)

GSR pie in the eye: 8:00 p.m.

Dance: 9:00 p.m. (downstairs)

**NO ADDICT TURNED AWAY!**

Brought to you by  
Great Bend "High on Life" NA group

'MARCNA XX fundraiser'

## Newton HOW Group's 20th Annual Turkey Feed

November 9, 2002

4-H Building, Newton, Ks

Doors open at 5:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:00 p.m.,

Meeting at 7:30 p.m. w/raffle and  
dance to follow.

Bring table service, a covered dish, and \$3.00  
per person to gain admission.

Contacts: Ray/Glenda, 316-282-2834; Shelley,  
316-799-1002; Naomi/Scott,  
316-282-4611; or Jim/Sue, 316-284-2617

## Unity Area Halloween Dance and Costume Party

October 26, 2002

Municipal Building, 700 N. Jefferson,  
Junction City, KS. 6 P.M. to 12 A.M.

Halloween dance and costume party. This is a  
FREE function and a fund-raiser  
for Unity Area's 1-800 phone line. Auction and  
raffle items are graciously  
requested. Come have a fun time and help us to  
carry the message.

Contact: Mary Ann M. - azgirl@kans.com or  
Scott K. -  
redneckscott81@hotmail.com

And yet another campout flyer-this one from 1990.

**FREE CAMPOUT**

MID-AMERICA REGIONAL CAMPOUT #12  
FELLOWSHIP FOR FREEDOM AREA  
CLINTON LAKE, KS.  
JULY 5, 6, 7, 8, 1990  
Bloomington West Group Camp

<p><b>THURSDAY</b></p> <p>4:00 P.M. — GATE OPENS</p> <p>10:00 P.M. — CAMPFIRE HLG. MEETING</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b></p> <p>7:00 P.M. — SPEAKER MEETING (MARTIE D. - JUNCTION CITY, KS.)</p> <p>9:00 P.M. — RAFFLE</p> <p>10:00 P.M. — 12 STEP MEETING (BY CANDLELIGHT)</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY</b></p> <p>9:00 A.M. — SPORTS ACTIVITIES BEGIN</p> <p>5:00 P.M. — BAR-B-QUE</p> <p>6:30 P.M. — SPEAKER MEETING (GIM N. - CEDAR FALLS, IA)</p> <p>8:00 P.M. — RAFFLE &amp; AUCTION</p> <p>9:00 P.M. — DANCE</p> <p>11:59 P.M. — CAMPFIRE MEETING</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY</b></p> <p>10:00 A.M. — SPEAKER MEETING (BECKY B. - PACIFIC JUNCTION, IA)</p> <p>11:30 A.M. — MONEY RAFFLE \$ \$ \$ \$</p> <p>4:00 P.M. — GATE CLOSSES</p>

**CONTACT NUMBERS**

Glenn S. (813) 484-2894  
Burnside R. (913) 272-1130  
Joe J. (913) 271-1425  
HELPLINE (813) 232-LOVE

The following information is not a "Blast from the Past" but is current information. I hope that this issue is out in time for all of the information to be pertinent.

KB

verification that a member is, in fact, attending NA meetings and is involved in our Fellowship. This parole officer will not accept a "Court Card" because he said anyone can sign it. What do we do?

A. Narcotics Anonymous is a Twelve Step program of recovery from the disease of addiction. The Twelve Traditions make possible our Fellowship and therefore, recovery. Tradition Six prohibits us from affiliation with any other organization or outside enterprise. We are not affiliated with anyone, including probation offices, state parole offices, or correctional facilities. To report on another member's attendance or participation in our Fellowship to any agency or institution is affiliation.

In addition, our Eleventh and Twelfth Traditions protect the anonymity of our members. In our meetings we have a place to share our experience, strength and hope as well as the trials and tribulations of recovery. Without the freedom to express ourselves without fear of what may or may not be reported to an outside agency or person charged with our supervision, our recovery and the recovery of others in our Fellowship would be severely inhibited.

Sometimes courts, parole agencies and probation officers require that "Court Cards" be carried by the persons they supervise and signed by the secretary of the meeting. This is a transaction between the supervising agency and the individual member involved. The individual is free to attend or not attend, participate or not participate. When we as N.A. members actively report to a supervising agency regarding another member, we break our Traditions, affiliating ourselves with the agency. We break another's anonymity and we jeopardize the chance for that person's recovery.

ardize the chance for that person's recovery.

PI committee members should visit the parole or probation department and explain N.A. When individuals in the community gain an understanding of how the program works, many times they are supportive.

From February 1986

### Questions & Answers

The Board of Trustees answered the following questions of Traditions for various groups, areas and regions.

Q. A member of our Fellowship brought an infant to one of our meetings, and as a result, our group found itself involved in a controversy. Some members said this was a violation of the Traditions because there was no way the baby could have a desire to stop using. Our question relates to whether the presence of a baby or children in meetings constitutes a violation of the traditions.

A. The issue of babies or small children in meetings is not a Tradition question but rather a matter for the group conscience. This concerns the mother's or father's welfare and recovery. The real issue seems to be whether an addict with a baby or small child would be unable to obtain a baby sitter and attend the meeting.

Q. We enclose a list of referral sources including hospitals, state and county agencies and Nar-non in our referral sources for our telephone hotline. We use a disclaimer with the referrals. Is it appropriate, for us to do this?

A. We believe that making specific referrals through our N.A. hotlines would in fact violate the Traditions, with or

without a disclaimer. In order to remain consistent with the Twelve Traditions, the entire referral page needs to be removed.

Hotlines are comprised of individual members of the Fellowship who share their experience, strength and hope with individuals who call. Sometimes members suggest that the caller receive medical attention; however, specific referrals should be avoided and common sense needs to be exercised.

Q. In our area we have an N.A. clubhouse and another club whose members include N.A. members. Our local news letter often includes notices for fund-raising activities by these two groups. In the opinion of the WSB, is this a violation of the Traditions?

A. There should be a separation between the internal but "Official" communication of the local N.A. membership and announcements of "more fellowship" activities. It is necessary for non-N.A. activities to be handled separately even though the participants also happen to be members of N.A. Your newsletter should not include fliers or notices for non-N.A. activities even if they have members in common. The program of Narcotics Anonymous is not affiliated with any clubhouse, social group or club. Social clubs and groups have their own guidelines, rules and stipulations for membership.. They are not N.A. nor do they fall within the N.A. structure or comply with the Twelve Traditions. To affiliate.-the two as you describe is a violation of Tradition Six.

Q. Some members in our area are making announcements and passing out fliers for prayer and meditation workshops. Some of us think this violates Tradition Six.

A. Making announcements and pass-

ing out fliers for a prayer and meditation group is a very serious violation of Tradition Six. Only N.A. related announcements can be made in N.A. meetings and only N.A. fliers, may be passed out. N.A. is not affiliated with any prayer and meditation groups nor is it such a group. We are a Twelve Step Program of recovery from addiction.

*This was published in the May/June issue of the Mid-America Newsletter in 1990. Thank you Anita!*

### FOR THE NEWCOMER

Thank you, because without you I don't think I would be having my five year birthday. The last time I used drugs was on March 4th of 1985. I started working with the newcomer one day after I was out of treatment. I went to my first H&I meeting two days out of treatment. I see people that are still around that I drove to meetings five years ago. I have seen a lot of them in treatment again. I thank the ones that go back to treatment again. Because, they tell me it has not changed. If it had, they would not be back again. They tell me that the first thing they stopped doing was going to meetings.

So now when I think that I don't want to go to a meeting, I remember what you, the newcomer, said and I make myself go, until I feel like going on my own again.

I have met hundreds of people in treatment by doing H&I meetings for the last five years. Thank you again newcomers. I Love You. H&I, it worked for me. **DOES IT WORK FOR YOU? OR HAVE YOU TRIED?**

In loving service,  
Anita J. Wichita, KS

*The Campout committee is planning a Big "To Do" for the 25th anniversary of the Mid-America Regional Campout. I thought that you might enjoy this flyer from the 1983 Regional Campouts. We now make more precise flyers with the aid of computers, but I'm not sure that they are any better or more effective than this one is (was).*

1983

## MID-AMERICA REGIONAL CAMPOUT

Fellowship For Freedom  
brings you...  
"PERRY PIG OUT"  
JULY 2,3,4th '83  
"To Celebrate Freedom"

Sharing Caring      Learning Growing

PRIVATE CAMPGROUND

GAMES

2-Mile Run

OPEN FOR CAMPING  
12:00 Sat

FIREWORKS!!!  
Midnite Sunday

NA

NA

NA

MARATHON MEETING

Softball Tourney

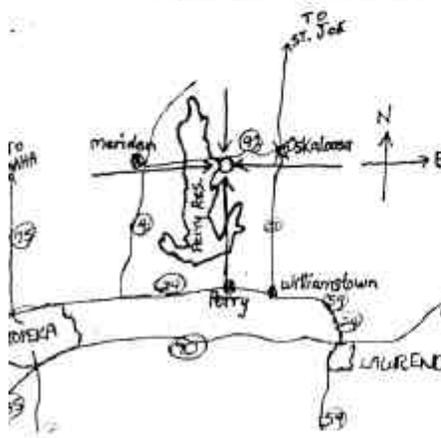
NA

NA

MUSIC and Dance

Sunday  
Roast Pig and Pot Luck - B.V.D. Ice-Cream Social

TO St. Joe



LOCATION:  
Perry Res.-NE Area of Lake  
"Old Military Trail"  
Follow signs "P.P.O."

TO KANSAS CITY

FOR INFO:

LINDA M. 913 842 7890  
GLENN S. 913 232 6977  
DAVE K. 913 234 3629  
LARRY V. 913-842-2632