

# CLEAN TIMES

Southwest Area of Narcotics Anonymous Newsletter June  
www.cirna.org - swananarcoticsanonymous.com - www.na.org 2020

## June's Tradition and Concept (page 3)

### Step Six

*You're right where  
you're supposed to be*

How It Works, Sixth Edition Basic Text - Copyright © 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1988, 2008 by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

*"We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."*

Why ask for something before we are ready for it? This would be asking for trouble. So many times addicts have sought the rewards of hard work without the labor. Willingness is what we strive for in Step Six. How sincerely we work this step will be proportionate to our desire for change.

Do we really want to be rid of our resentments, our anger, our fear? Many of us cling to our fears, doubts, self-loathing or hatred because there is a certain distorted security in familiar pain. It seems safer to embrace what we know than

to let go of it for the unknown.

Letting go of character defects should be done decisively. We suffer because their demands weaken us. Where we were proud, we now find that we cannot get away with arrogance. If we are not humble, we are humiliated. If we are greedy, we find that we are never satisfied. Before taking Steps Four and Five, we could indulge in fear, anger, dishonesty or self-pity. Now indulgence in these character defects clouds our ability to think logically. Selfishness becomes an intolerable, destructive chain that ties us to our bad habits. Our defects drain us of all our time and energy.

We examine the Fourth Step inventory and get a good look at what these defects are doing to our lives. We begin to long for freedom from these defects. We pray or otherwise become willing, ready and able to let God remove these destructive traits. We need a personality change, if we are to

stay clean. We want to change.

We should approach old defects with an open mind. We are aware of them and yet we still make the same mistakes and are unable to break the bad habits. We look to the Fellowship for the kind of life that we want for ourselves. We ask our friends, "Did you let go?" Almost without exception the answer is, "Yes, to the best of my ability." When we see how our defects exist in our lives and accept them, we can let go of them and get on with our new life. We learn that we are growing when we make new mistakes instead of repeating old ones.

*(cont. page 2)*

We're thinking  
about getting ...

**NEW AREA LOGO!**

See page 3 for two admissions from a fellow member of the Southwest Area of Narcotics Anonymous

submit your artwork, homemade recovery puzzles, poetry, or clean date to swanacleanatimes@gmail.com

When we are working Step Six, it is important to remember that we are human and should not place unrealistic expectations on ourselves. This is a step of willingness. Willingness is the spiritual principle of Step Six. Step Six helps us move in a spiritual direction. Being human we will wander off course.

Rebellion is a character defect that spoils us here. We need not lose faith when we become rebellious. Rebellion can produce indifference or intolerance which can be overcome by persistent effort. We keep asking for willingness. We may be doubtful that God will see fit to relieve us or that something will go wrong. We ask another member who says,

*“You're right where  
you're supposed to be.”*

We renew our readiness to have our defects removed. We surrender to the simple suggestions that the program offers us. Even though we are not entirely ready, we are headed in the right direction.

Eventually faith, humility and acceptance replace pride and rebellion. We come to know ourselves. We find ourselves growing into mature consciousness. We begin to feel better, as willingness grows into hope. Perhaps for the first time, we see a vision of our new life. With this in sight, we put our willingness into action by moving on to Step Seven.

OVERCOMPENSATION

WASTEFULNESS

PERFECTIONISM

QUICK-TEMPERED

LEWD BEHAVIOR

MANIPULATION

THRILL-SEEKING

EXCESSIVENESS

SELF-LOATHING

IMPATIENCE

VULGARITY

GOSSIPING

JEALOUSY

VANITY

XENOPHOBIA

HOPELESSNESS

UNGRATEFULNESS

KLEPTOMANIA

OVERZEALOUS

RESENTMENT

CONTROLLING

IMMATURITY

DISHONESTY

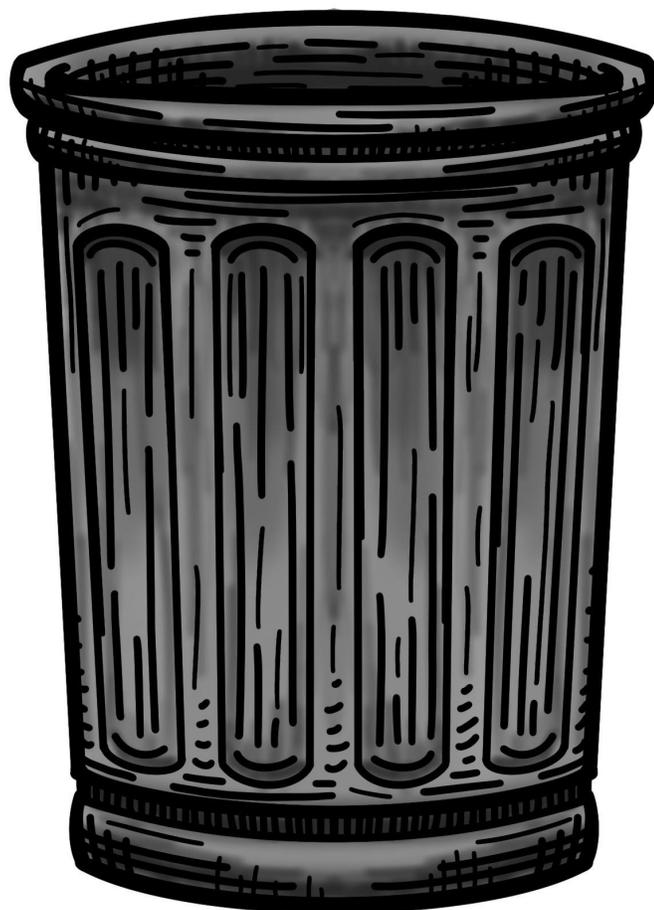
NEGLECT

BIGOTRY

APATHY

ENVY

FEAR





What do you think of these?

Let your homegroup's  
QSR know or send in  
your vote through our  
area's website!

swanarcoticsanonymous.com



## Tradition Six

*"An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose."*

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The Sixth Tradition goes on to warn us what may happen: "lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose." These problems often become obsessions and shut us off from our spiritual aim. For the individual, this type of abuse can be devastating; for the group, it can be disastrous. When we, as a group, waiver from our primary purpose, addicts who might have found recovery die.

- Certain paragraphs of this literature were used for this newsletter. For the full chapter, go online for the full length PDF of this literature.

## Sixth Concept

*"Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions."*

Twelve Concepts for NA Service, Copyright © 1989, 1990, 1991 by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. All rights reserved. Published 1991. Approved Edition 1992.

Group conscience is the means by which we collectively invite the ongoing guidance of a Higher Power in making decisions. We apply the Sixth Concept when we pursue our own personal recovery with vigor, seeking that ongoing spiritual awakening which makes it possible for us to apply the principles of the program in all our affairs, including our service affairs. We apply the Sixth Concept when we listen not just to the words our fellow members speak, but to the spirit behind their words. We apply the Sixth Concept when we seek to do God's will, not our own, and to serve others, not ourselves, in our service decisions. We apply the Sixth Concept in our groups, service boards, and committees when we invite a loving God to influence us before making service-related decisions.

- Certain paragraphs of this literature were used for this newsletter. For the full chapter, go online for the full length PDF of this literature.

Jilleen F. 6/01/ 2009

Dusty F. 6/01/2015

Joel B. 6/03/1988

Krys S. 6/03/2011

Joe B. 6/04/2003

Megan L. 6/04/2016

Wendy M. 6/10/2002

Brandy G. 6/15/2016

# June

# ANNIVERSARIES

Stephen G. 6/16/1995

Darryl S. 6/17/2006

Doug F. 6/18/2012

Aaron S. 6/19/2015

Luke D. 6/19/2016

Kim B. 6/22/1987

Madelyn 6/29/1999

Marsha M. 6/29/1988