

THE PIPELINE

Volume 54

March 2019

Page 1

Step 3: "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of a God of our understanding."

A God of Our Understanding???

When I walked into the rooms of CMA, I had no idea what I was getting myself into. I didn't understand my addiction, I didn't understand the process, and I didn't understand myself. Yet, I continued to hear time after time, meeting after meeting that I needed

to "Let go and let God." Well, growing up in the middle of the Bible Belt and coming out as a gay man in my early 20's, the thought of turning over myself to something or someone who I felt had betrayed me long ago was not something I was interested in or thought I could do. I had left that life far behind and was not going back. There was too much pain, too much anger. Why would I turn myself over to that? What I would come to learn is that I didn't have to. The beauty of CMA

and the third step is that we can decide what that "God of our understanding" is. For some, it might be a dogmatic, populist version of a major religion that so many of us were raised on and to others it might be energy, nature, or the commodore of the room. For me personally, it's a little of both, but more in a spiritual, individual relationship with my Higher Power. I take solace in knowing that no one can define it for

me. I no longer live in fear over it. When I was 16, I would cry myself to sleep, living in constant fear, that my lifestyle would send me to the burning fires of Hell. Something that would lead me to shame and guilt and ultimately fuel my drug addiction. Today, I

bask in the beauty of knowing my Higher Power created me and has a plan for me. With this knowledge, I can build a sense of trust in my Higher Power, knowing that everything I have been through was for a reason. Because of this knowledge, I have moments of clarity through what seems like the smokiness of my life. Moments where I didn't understand at the time, I now do. Though they were full of pain, I can now use those experiences to help others going through the

same trying times. Step three was and still is a very important part of my recovery because it wasn't until I worked on this step that I could really understand all those things that confused me when I walked into the rooms of CMA for the very first time.

Ryan W.



Sassy Sponsor

Hey Sassy,

So I've been through the steps, am doing daily review of 10, 11 and 12, and trying to live these principles in all my affairs. But it feels like something is missing (besides the drugs), and I feel like a newcomer in dealing with life on life's terms. If I had to keep track of days emotionally sober, I feel like every day is day one. I am using the tools of recovery, going to meetings and being of service. But it feels like my toolkit is incomplete. I have difficulty settling on which meeting to attend and am struggling in my service and as a sponsor. What am I missing?

Signed,
Now What?

Dear NW,

You're not missing anything, sweet soul. Except perhaps a change in perception. Question: What if this was just life? What if this is how it is going to be – sobriety and life and all that jazz? You're expecting sobriety to be different than it is. If you're doing it "right," then you should be divinely inspired at all times, a fountain of joy and self-confidence, the poster child for freedom. This level of expectation is insidious, and it's causing you to judge and shame yourself. You are sending yourself the message that something is wrong with you.

There is nothing wrong with you. Your relationship with life needs a shift, a change in perception. Continue to work on step 11 ("our next function is to grow in understanding and effectiveness" - p. 84, Big Book). Google "recovery speakers emotional sobriety" and investigate the results. I wish there were a quick fix, a magic wand to make this better for you. But there isn't. Be patient with yourself.

Love, Sassy

CMA EVENTS

March 8-10, 2019

12 Step Experience in the Pines

Step Presenters, Recovery Music, Mediation
Workshop, Entertainment/Games

Friendly Pines Camp

933 E. Friendly Pines Rd., Prescott, AZ 86303

Pricing includes food and lodging, \$140

<https://12stepexperience.wixsite.com/mysite>

April 12-14, 2019

AZ Area Assembly Safford, AZ

More info to follow and also on AZ Area
Facebook page.

We Are Family, All My Sisters, Brothers and Me!

Tradition 3: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using"

CMA is a club of sorts. It is a community that relies on membership like many others. When you see the fellowship conversating, sharing, and working together to support each other, one has to wonder, how do I become part of such a group? Is there any requirements? In the beginning of 12 step recovery, this was a BIG question. With the rooms filled almost exclusively with white men, many wondered where was diversity supposed to fit in? The disease of addiction does not discriminate, as we know. Many kinds of people began to show up- first women, then African Americans, then the "sexual degenerates," as they called them, better known as the LGBT community, and on from there. There was chatter in the fellowship concerning how to deal with the diversity. In the end, they came to agree; the only requirement is a desire to stop. This would eliminate many of the prejudices which tend to show up when

membership is necessary. It alleviated a lot of the discrepancies born out of difference that occurred as membership grew.

There's one more piece to this that is incredibly important to understand. One may have a desire to use, but still have a desire to stop. Well, that's okay because they still have a desire to stop. You can still be a member. In the end, all we need is a desire to stop, regardless of how small the desire might be. You may think you are not even an addict, but still have a desire to stop. We include you as well. We strive to overcome the struggles that tend to surface because of using. In this way, membership can demonstrate inclusivity, an outgrowth that occurs because we realize how badly we need each other in our common peril.

Rich B.

The 12th Step instructs us to put our principles into action by carrying the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. The CMA Service Structure provides opportunities for accomplishing this. Come to a committee meeting and find one that's right for you!!

Hospitals & Institutions - 1st Tues., 7:00pm
Jerry's Restaurant, 2323 E. Thomas Rd. Phoenix

Public Info & Outreach - 4th Tues., 7:00pm
Jerry's Restaurant, 2323 E Thomas Rd., Phoenix

Central District (CADI) - 3rd Tues. - 7:30pm
Fellowship Hall, 8910 N 43rd Ave #102, Glendale

Communications - 2nd Tues., 7:00 pm
Lambda Phoenix Fellowship Hall, 2622 N. 16th St.

Events & Fundraising - 1st Wed., 7:30pm
6501 N. 39th Ave., Phoenix, AZ

Literature - 4th Tues., - 7:00 pm
U-Can-2, 8607 N 59th Ave #D, Glendale

H&I is looking for people to be badged in for the jails or prisons for meetins there. They need people to get gate passes. The requirments are 3 years out of jail or prison, 3 years sober, and 3 years off paper for prison or 3 years out of jail 2 years clean and 1 year off paper for jails. Jail liason is James C. and prison liason is Lily C at lillybear65@gmail.com

Crystal Meth Anonymous | CMA

Sunday

5:30 pm
No More G
8615 E Main Street Lot F97
Mesa, 85207

7:00 pm
The Young and the Methless
2610 W McLellan
Phoenix, 85017

7:00 pm
Backyard
4012 S Central Ave
Phoenix, 85040

7:15 pm
No Half Measures
545 E Palm Park Blvd
Casa Grande, 85122

7:15 pm
Misfits
2601 E. Paradise Ln
Phoenix, 85032 (K)

7:21 pm
Tweezerz-Я-Us
5143 N 28th Dr
Phoenix, 85017

7:30 pm
Break the Ice
5116 E. Thomas Rd
Phoenix, 85018

8:00 pm
Life or Meth Squad
9430 N 11th Ave
Phoenix, 85021

8:15 pm
CMA Rocks
7523 N. 35th Ave
Phoenix, 85051

Monday

6:30 pm
Life or Meth Squad
9430 N 11th Ave
Phoenix, 85021

6:45 pm
Sundown Shinedown
13627 N 32nd St
Phoenix, 85032

7:00 pm
CMA in the Pit
2601 E Paradise Ln
Phoenix, 85032

7:15 pm
Branching Out
7523 N. 35th Ave
Phoenix, 85051
(Women only)

7:30 pm
Misfits
244 N. Extension R.
Mesa 85201

7:30 pm
Spun-N-Done
7523 N. 35th Ave
Phoenix, 85051

7:30 pm
New Hope
2622 N. 16th St
Phoenix, 85006 (LGBT)

8:00 pm
Humble Pie
12838 N 22nd Pl
Phoenix, 85022

8:00 pm
No Half Measures
545 E Palm Park Blvd
Casa Grande, 85122

Tuesday

6:30 pm
CMA Rocks
9625 W Sahuaro Dr
Peoria, 85345

7:30 pm
Broken Glass
1626 W Denton Ln
Phoenix, 85015

7:30 pm
Misfits
4415 S Rural Rd
Tempe, 85282

8:00 pm
The Meth Lab
8910 N 43rd Ave #102
Glendale, AZ 85302

8:30 pm
Methican American
1632 E. Flower St
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(Women only)

Wednesday

6:00 pm
Service Junkies
6501 N. 39th Ave. P
85019

6:45 pm
Broken Glass
13627 N 32nd St
Phoenix, 85032

7:00 pm
Valley of the Spun
4430 N 23rd Ave
Phoenix, 85015

7:15 pm
Misfits
1632 E Flower
Phoenix, 85017
(Open to Men & W)

7:30 pm
New Hope
2622 N. 16th St.
Phoenix, 85006 (L)

8:00 pm
Kicking Tina
749 W 2nd St
Mesa, 85201
(Open / LGBT)

Meeting list published quarterly. Times and locations can change without notice.

Please email John at jjnomo7517@crystalmeth.org

Website: CMAAZ.org | Hotline: 602-441-7517

Central Arizona Meetings

ay

Thursday

7:00 pm
The After Party
1124 N. 3rd St.
Phoenix, 85004

7:00 pm
One Day at a Time
2601 E. Paradise Ln
Phoenix, 85032

7:00 pm
Tweaker for Life
4430 N 23rd Ave
Phoenix, 85013

7:00 pm
Maverick Methology
4425 W Olive Ave, Ste 200
Glendale, 85302

7:30 pm
Position of Neutrality
13627 N 32nd St
Phoenix, 85032

7:30 pm
Tweaker's Paradise
2720 E Thomas Rd
Phoenix, 85016

Phoenix

Women)

LGBT)

Friday

6:30 pm
Tweaker's Hope
4415 S Rural Rd.
Tempe, 85282

7:00 pm
Sundown Shenanigans
2610 W McLellan
Phoenix, 85017

7:00 pm
The Trenches
545 E Palm Park Blvd
Casa Grande, 85122

7:15 pm
Misfits
8910 N 43rd Ave #102
Glendale, AZ 85302
(moving March 1 to
3104 W. Glendale Ave.)

8:00 pm
Fresh Grounds
12838 N 22nd Pl
Phoenix, 85022

8:30 pm
CMA Rocks
13627 N 32nd St.
Phoenix, AZ 85032

Saturday

8:00 am
Valley of the Spun West
6609 W Ocotillo Rd
Glendale, 85301

9:30 am
There is a Way Out
8607 N 59th Ave
Phoenix, 85302

4:45 pm
Knuckleheads
8607 N 59th Ave
Glendale, 85302

5:00 pm
Shattered Glass
10427 N. Scottsdale Rd.
Scottsdale, 85253

6:00 pm
Shot Out
4430 N 23rd Ave
Phoenix, 85015

7:00 pm
The Dope Show
3702 N 13th Ave
Phoenix, 85013

7:15 pm
The Misfits
13627 N 32nd St
Phoenix, 85032

8:15 pm
Crystal Clean
4430 N 23rd Ave
Phoenix, 85015

notice, please phone or visit our website for the most current details.

[@gmail.com](mailto:) for any updates.

2-235-0955 | List Updated: , 2019

Spotlight: Public Information & Outreach Committee

Public Information and Outreach was my first major service commitment to the Central District fellowship. I became it's chair when I had about seven months, and I chaired the committee for two years. I was able to achieve so much growth through this commitment, I will be forever grateful for that. I grew in two really important ways, one was the simple fact that the committee itself needed to grow in so many ways in order to become functional and effective at what it does.

Public Information & Outreach has a broad audience and it's not always clear how to reach that entire audience. Care professionals, service providers, friends and family, clergy, the list just goes on and on. It's daunting, and structurally the committee was not equipped to handle the need when I became it's chair. So just from a functional standpoint I had to grow as an organizer and as a trusted servant in order to recruit the volunteers we needed and then compartmentalize our duties in order to accomplish what we needed. Then there was the growth on a personal level, and that had a lot to do with the insecurities and the self-doubt and the fear of success that I was outgrowing and leaving behind with the rest of my character liabilities. In those days I was so full of self loathing that I was afraid to even sponsor people. I learned something important about the 12th step during this time, which is that service work takes every form of service to this fellowship. It isn't limited to sponsorship, so if we're feeling doubt about sponsoring people in the beginning we could channel our 12th step through the service structure and achieve the confidence we need to give the solution we received back to the next person who needs it.

We are giving it back through service anyway, even if the Path is more indirect. And as far as that goes, public information and outreach operates by probably the most indirect Path of any type of service to CMA. PI&O isn't trying to reach addicts directly at all, they are trying to reach people who are routinely in contact with

addicts and persuade those people to make referrals to our program when asked. These types of interactions are different than ones within the fellowship because we aren't connecting around the shared experience of addiction, and we aren't trying to induce a spiritual awakening. All were doing is presenting the fact that the program exists, answering questions about how it works, how we do things, and where to find us. The service professionals that are out in the field obviously want their clients to get the best care they can, and their job performance is dependent on making a referral that succeeds.

For PI&O work, this entails actually making the case that we offer a solution for crystal meth addicts that is more successful and more affective in the long term than some of the other more established fellowships that are also more well known. I have found the easiest way to explain how CMA achieves this is through an explanation of the trust contained in the sponsor/sponsee relationship. Crystal meth addicts are more likely to be open and honest and trusting with another person who has engaged in similar types of drug driven behavior. Behavior that is often quite disturbing to people who are unfamiliar with meth subculture. A crystal meth addict has a much higher likelihood of success by working the steps with another crystal meth addict, and this is the benefit of a fellowship that is focused specifically on crystal meth.

If you feel like I do, a deep and profound longing for the freedom of other crystal meth addict just like you than public information outreach work might be just what you need. It is so rewarding and fulfilling to connect with care professionals and see the joy on their faces when they become filled with hope that their high-risk, low success rate clients may finally be able to access a solution that works.

One of the most exciting moments of my service career was the day we presented CMA to staff at a family court attorney's office. The attorneys had never known

Spotlight contd...

we existed, but after our presentation and getting their questions answered, they stated that they would now be able to argue in front of judges for people to be granted their children back after a course of treatment including crystal meth anonymous. They said judges are often reluctant to entrust crystal meth addicts to alcoholic programs because their success rates are so low.

Thanks to the work of public information outreach trusted servants, crystal meth anonymous is setting people free not just of active addiction, but court ordered separation from their children. Can you imagine how many other types of professional contacts we could make that cut their spiritual fruit if only we had enough volunteers to follow them up?

The PI&O committee is always looking for help, so please consider joining them on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Jerry's restaurant at 7:00 PM.

Mikester, PI&O Chair

Wanna Read More Stories???

Check out “Voices of the Fellowship” on CrystalMeth.org

Employment and Professional Licensure in Recovery

When I stopped using, I found myself nearly unemployable. I was a hard worker and often worked two jobs. I was a chef and never had difficulty locating a kitchen that was eager for my skills, but after 9/11, employment requirements changed and felons were not wanted.

I contacted a temporary culinary employment agency and worked a variety of jobs for relatively low pay. Not great, but it was steady work. I was fortunate that, in time, I was able to be assigned to a long-term contract which lasted nine months. This created a small amount of consistency in my life and I was able to feel comfortable for a while. I was excited to learn that the company wanted to hire me full time and I started to make plans in my head for my life going forward. The formal interview went quite well but the subsequent background check resulted in the job offer being rescinded.

Before the temp contract ended, I was forced to begin searching for a permanent position elsewhere. My commute at that time consisted of catching a 15 minute bus ride at 4:00 am then a 45 minute train ride to be at work at 5:00 am. I carried dress clothes and a stack of resumes with me on my commute for the interviews every day after work. I would then return home to send emails with resumes until the early evening. I was repeatedly told how impressive my work experience was by prospective employers.READ THE REST ON WWW.CRYSTALMETH.ORG

PRESENTERS

STEP 1

TARA S. & ALEX G.

STEP 2

MEGAN K. & ANTHONY
T.

STEP 3

RACHEL L. & BOOKER B.

STEP 4 AND 5

JESSICA R. & TREVOR
C.

STEP 6 AND 7

ASHLEY K. & TYLER Z.

STEP 8 AND 9

DANICKA S. & GLEN C.

STEP 10

ELISA K. & CLIFFORD
M.

STEP 11

SHARMYN T. & KENNY
G.

STEP 12

YVONNE W. & ERIC O.

REFRESHMENTS

INCLUDING

SNACKS

ENERGY DRINKS

AND

KRAZY KOFFEE

CMA

Presents



CMA 12 Step Experience in the Pines

March 8-10, 2019

Friendly Pines Camp

933 E. Friendly Pines Rd.

Prescott, AZ 86303

CONTACTS FOR QUESTIONS

DAVID D. - (623) 205-2906

MARY M. - (602) 487-1763

BRYAN M. (480) 584-2806

LINDSEY S. - (480) 363-1178

PRICING

INCLUDES FOOD AND LODGING

PRE-REGISTRATION

NON-EXCLUSIVE \$115

EXCLUSIVE \$140

PRICES GO UP DECEMBER 1ST - \$140

FIRST COME FIRST SERVE ON EXCLUSIVE

CABINS

RECOVERY MUSIC WORKSHOP

PRESENTED
BY

SOBER
MOTOR CO.

MEDITATION WORKSHOP

WITH
MARK H.

ENTERTAINMENT

GIANT JENGA
GIANT DOMINOES

BINGO

WATER BALLOON
LAUNCH

CARDS AGAINST
HUMANITY

SPADES

TOURNAMENT

MUSIC OF YOUR
CHOICE

FREE

BABYSITTING

DPS Fingerprint Clearance

AND

First Aid Certified

Click on tag below, Venmo Search: Central District Intergroup
AAI @ TwelveStep Experience or scan code.

<https://12stepexperience.wixsite.com/mvsite/registration-form>

