

**SOUTH SUBURBAN FIRESIDE
AREA
NEWSLETTER
September 2007**

Area Info

Mailing Address: South Suburban
Fireside Area Como Station PO Box
8089 St Paul, MN 55708

Meeting: 1st Thursday of the month at
first Presbyterian Church at 7:00 535
20th Ave N. South Saint Paul, MN

Website:

<http://www.ssfa.naminnnesota.org/>

Monthly Step:

Step Nine: "We made direct
amends to such people
wherever possible, except
when to do so would injure
them or others."

I never really completed the ninth step with a sponsor, but I have learned a few things about the step. To quote the basic text "Pride fear and procrastination often seem an impossible barrier; they stand in the way of progress and growth" (Pg. 39) I can relate to all three of them in how I attempted my Ninth Step. For me, pride was an issue because there were some people who had harmed me, and It was hard for me to ask for forgiveness and make amends it there was no such effort on their part. In the end I have to remind myself that I need to own up to MY part because I am trying to better myself, and relieve MY guilt, not that of another. Fear played a part when I was making amends to people who were close to me, or who did not know I had harmed them. I convinced myself for a while that there were certain things that were better left

unsaid. I convinced myself that I was doing the right thing by avoiding that



drama. One thing I have acquired in my recovery was a firm conscience. As long as I don't make the amends the guilty conscience will bother me like the heart beating beneath the floorboards in "The Tell-Tale Heart". Through working step nine, and making the amends, my conscience is freed from the ties that bind me to the past. Only then can I truly move forward.

Geoff D.

Regional Activities:

- September 7-9, 2007 Friday to Sunday
Northern Lights Area [23rd Annual Camp
Vermilion - Cook, MN](#)
- September 15th, 2007 Saturday 6pm
TCASC Banquet [Twin Cities Area
Annual Banquet - Mpls, MN](#)
- September 15th, 2007 Saturday 11am
to 5pm B2B Area [Back 2 Basics ASC in
St. James and Picnic Aloha!](#)
- October 13th, 2007 Saturday noon 'till
late Lake Agassiz Area [Lake Agassiz
Area Fall Banquet Fargo, North Dakota](#)
- October 14th, 2007 Sunday 10 am to ?
New Beginnings Homegroup [Recovery
Picnic in Myrick Park La Crosse
Wisconsin](#)
- October 20th, 2007 Friday 4:30 pm -
Midnt Winona NA [6th Annual Frolic in
Disguise Halloween Bash - Winona, MN](#)
- October 27th, 2007 Saturday 3pm-
11:30pm Central Area Activities [Fall Ball
2007 "The Ties That Bind" St. Cloud
MN](#)

Monthly Tradition:

NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

Narcotics Anonymous is not to be thought of as a medical service or lobbying organization. NA is a simple program who helps another addict with the experience strength and hope of another addict. "Our primary purpose is quite simply, to carry the message." "Yet for all its emphasis on keeping things simple, Tradition Nine is not an excuse for *dis*-organized service work; instead, it recognizes that our fellowship does require a certain degree of organization to fulfill our primary purpose." (IT WORKS HOW AND WHY, PG. 189 & 189-190)

The service boards and committees formed, without a doubt must, serve our primary purpose. These boards are directly responsible to the bodies they serve who serve the groups. Boards and committees must also inspire unity between the members that choose to do service work, keeping the first Tradition in mind: Our common welfare comes first; personal recovery depends on NA unity.

Kevin M.

If you would like to share your personal story or write about the monthly step or tradition, or if you have any suggestions at all, please contact Outreach Chair Geoff D.

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