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*VOLUME 65*

*July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022*

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# STRAIGHT HOPE

News Letter from the Montgomery Area of Narcotics Anonymous



\*\*\*Letter from the editor: Hi friends in recovery! Summer is now in full swing and I want to wish everyone a happy Fourth of July! As I watch all the various holidays come and go throughout the year; it really makes me think of one thing... gratitude! Watching the miracles of recovery unfold in my life and in turn the lives of my friends and family, gives me so much hope! One thing especially that keeps me grounded with an attitude of gratitude is doing service. What better

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*Step 7*

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*Step Seven, My Experience...*

My personal thoughts and experience with step 7 is all I share. And with everything else in Na and in life there will be many different opinions and views. For me personally step 6 got in the way of seven for me for a long time...

The idea of becoming entirely ready to have all my defects removed was way more than I could conceive of so I got stuck and did basically nothing. The idea of being entirely ready seemed more for St Francis of Assisi than for me.

It was only by going to many step meetings that I started to hear people say that as it said, it was not intended that we do it perfectly, but more to be open to the idea that we could attempt to get there. And to not put any of our defects totally out of consideration.

Over the years what I have done is to humbly ask God to remove the defects as I became ready to do so. I have not ever asked for every one of them to be removed because that would not be honest for me to ask that. But what has happened is that gradually I have grown to where I can see a day that I will be able to ask for even the ones that I was totally unwilling to give up in years past. As I have learned to align myself more closely with what I believe God's will for me is, I have become closer to asking

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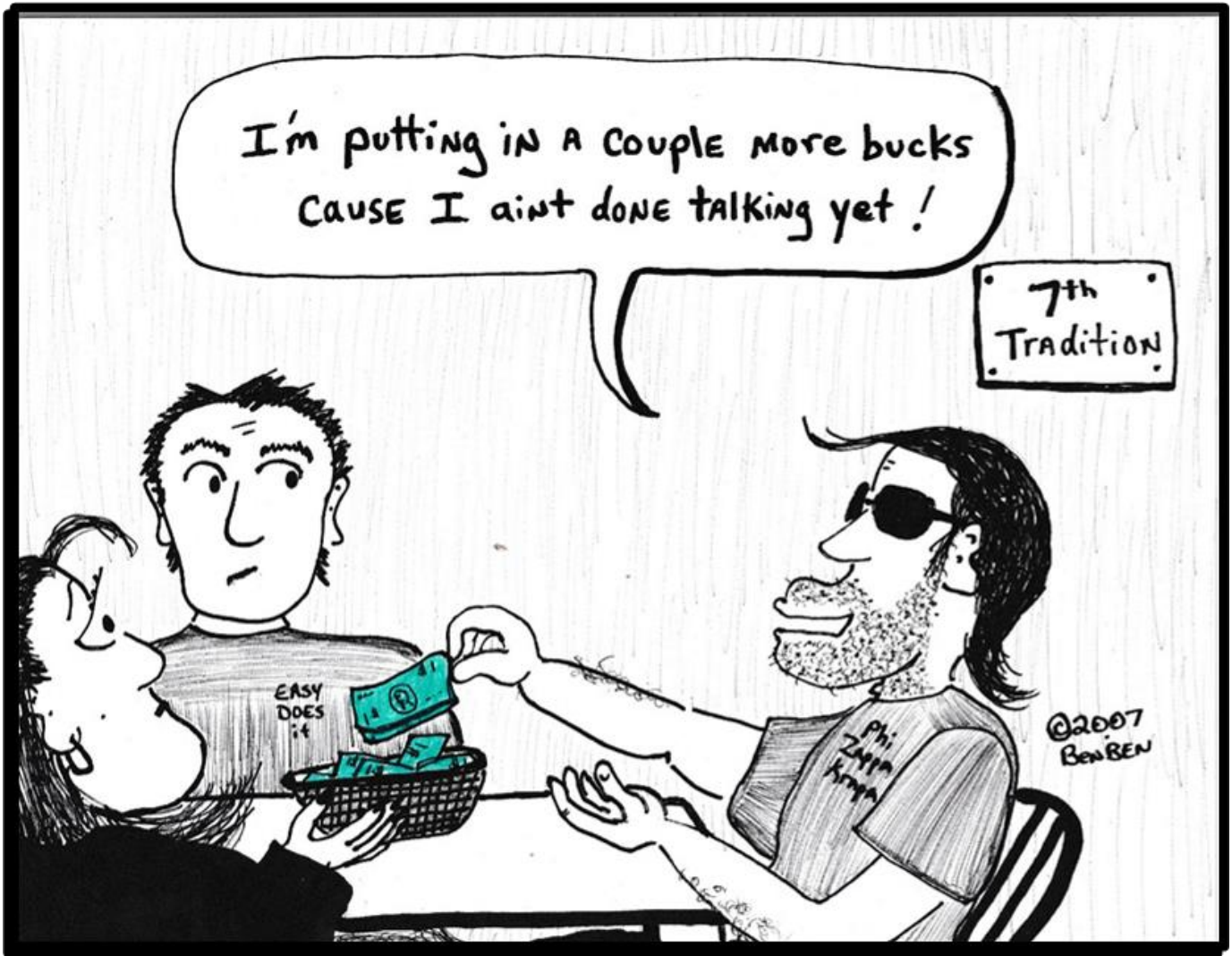
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*Tradition 7*

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The 7th tradition guides us to decline all outside contributions. This can even include donations from well-meaning members who wish to donate larger sums than the dollar or two in the basket or even those that leave money for the program in their last will and testament. The 7th tradition is clear that we accept no funding, endowments, loans, or gifts. Contributions should not be confused with donations. Donations are gifts and not accepted. Certain charities, businesses, agencies, and corporations might have money to spend and see the program as a very worthwhile cause. Everything has a price regardless of a well-meaning intent. By declining outside contributions, we don't have to make promises, concessions, give special recognition, endorsements, or favors. Self-support means freedom from any outside influences as we take responsibility for our own well-being and future. We protect ourselves from outside influences including advertising businesses.

Credit: Ben C.



Events

**Celebrations:**

Sun 6/26 6:00PM Peter M. and Beth S. 17 yrs. Talking Heads ZOOM 816 0616 8822 pw recovery12

Sun 6/26 7:30PM Dave V. 37 yrs. The Alternative Zoom 114 114 644 pw 016821

Wed 7/6 7:30PM Jane S. 32 yrs. Peoples Recovery (In-Person) The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, 13925 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD, 20904

Sun 7/10 6:00PM Mary S. 14 yrs. Talking Heads ( in-Person ) Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 7001 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Fri 7/15 7:00PM Frenise L. 14 yrs. One Step at a Time (in person ) St Paul AME Church 4901 14th Street NW, Washington, DC, 20011

Sat 7/16 7:00PM Chris J. 12 yrs. Good Deal ZOOM 769 038 042 pw 8675309

Sun 7/24 7:30PM Bill E. 32 yrs. The Alternative ZOOM 114 114 644 pw 016821

Mon 7/25 7:00PM Amy B. 5 yrs. Illness in Recovery ( In Person )

Mon 8/1 7:00PM Zach 2 yrs. Illness in Recovery ( In Person )

#### Meeting Announcements:

Talking Heads returns to in-person only as of Sunday, July 3 at 6:00 pm at the old location, Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 7001 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Wednesday Willingness will begin hybrid meetings on Wednesday July 6th. The in-persons portion will be held at 30 Courthouse Square in downtown Rockville Suite G1 (directly across from the Courthouse and 2 blocks from Rockville Metro)

**\*\*New Meeting\*\*** Sunday 6:00 pm Topic of Cancer Zoom ID: 817 1770 9889 P/W 438560 . Topic of Cancer is an NA meeting above all. It has been started for people who are also dealing with cancer. While cancer in recovery is the focus, it is still an open NA meeting and all are welcome.

Older Toddlers meeting is now "Hybrid" as of Friday May 20th at 7:00PM. It is at Christ Episcopal Church

4001 Franklin Street, Kensington, MD 20895 ( at the corner of Connecticut Avenue and Franklin Street, just south of Everett Street between Kensington and I-495 ). Parking lot at (4001 Everett Street) is adjacent to the church, and can be entered via Everett Street.

- Bobby G will be Celebrating 16 and 35 years respectively at Fresh Start on the 16th of July.