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Volume
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“A Publication for, of and by the Chemically Dependent”

theragpicker



"WHAT MY ADDICTION WANTS"

Leon B.

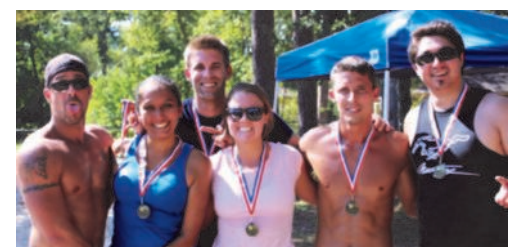
While attending E.A.I., and other meetings, centers and fellowships, the idea of what was lost often comes into conversation. I have never made mention of these losses because, it was always emphasized in meetings that these weren't lost but, given away.

When I give something away I generally stop considering these things mine anymore.

Thereby removing all thought of having to miss them. Many times mention of family; children, parents, wives/husbands and close relatives are thrown into the pot. Then things like jewelry, T.V.'s, cars, homes, furniture, and the likes, are considered among the offerings. Are these the things that my

addiction wants? I don't recall my family saying, "We'll just go to the dealer and liquor store until you've had enough." Or, "If you die in the midst of all this, we'll be at the dealer's house. Thanks for the devotion." As a matter of fact, they're doing just fine. What does my addiction want?!

It doesn't want my wife/husband, it doesn't want my brothers and sisters, mom/dad, and it doesn't want my children. In fact, they're an unruly bunch so, no, not even them. My addiction has the need for material things but, while it eats me alive, a little music won't hurt. No, my addiction doesn't want any of these things but, for an appetizer, they'll suffice. My addiction doesn't even want me. What it really wants is my soul. Something pure and infallible, with the sweet essence of humility, as its value. My addiction wants my soul so that I will TOTALLY belong to it. My addiction wants to separate me from all I was meant to be. My addiction will not stop until I return to my maker but, WILL take all those people and things in its efforts. And if it gets what it really wants, it will take my body as a dessert. That's what my addiction wants!



*Christmas Feast
for Houston's Homeless*

Be of service

**Cooking and preparing turkeys:
Christmas Eve - All Day**

**Special Alumni Meditation
Christmas Day - 9 AM**



Goodbye to Drugs

David W.

Crack, Alcohol, Marijuana, you use to be my best friends, but now I can't deal with your deceitful ways anymore. We use to have some good times. We would tear up the town, meeting all sorts of interesting people. We would stay out all night, even two or three days at a time. We would use my people to help us get what we wanted. We would use my place to find refuge when we needed to rest and recoup, we would use my things to help us get what we needed to keep that feeling going. But I wasn't being true to my feelings, faith and dreams.

I gave you everything! All of me, all of my loved possessions even the people I adored. No more! No more! Never again! I have found myself broken, battered and lost because of

you. I renounce my belief and faith that ya'll could ever be good for me. You are, and were, the worst things I have ever done. Nothing can compare to the pain and misery, despair, hopelessness, sorrow, agony, and anger you have put me through.

Looking back at all the time out on the town you made an ass out of me, you made me act retarded, trusting the scum that I found myself around. I could never meet good people that were having a genuinely great time because; instead of being my adorable social self you were on my back making me act a fool. You had me taking advantage of the trust that my loved ones had in me, to harbor you when I couldn't take anymore, you had me give

up all of my possessions that meant the world to me; My full length leather trench coat that I wore at Sturgis, gone! My tools to work on my house and my car, gone! My car itself! Gone. Every bit of my clothing, including 2 Armani suits, 18 silk ties, my dead grandfather's coats, my dead mother's antique vase. All the things I treasured with my soul. All the things I worked so hard to get. Not to mention 80K in inheritance that my mom left me.

All gone. I must have been stupid to ever believe that ya'll could do anything good for me. I am a great, loving, thoughtful, considerate, wonderful person that ya'll have manipulated, used and drug through the mud. NO MORE! I'M DONE! Deuces!



Lester Jr.

Well my friend, it's time to say goodbye! You have really been a pain in my ass, very unmanageable, and it's time to take my life back, one GOD given, day at a time.

I'm not going to miss you. You've cost me jobs, relationships, and family. Those are things about you I will not miss. Truly, I don't want to remember how it was! All the money spent, injuries and

losses because of you, how could I have ever thought of you as a friend, though you were there through all of the miseries, causing more than helping? You're good at your job. From that I'll always remember (constant reminder) all the hell that I went through. Damn! You were a jones that I couldn't get rid of. I didn't have the know-how, now I do!

Reality and self-worth are more important now. And, it only took me thirty years to figure it out. Damn it! How could I have let you control me for so long? Now my new guidance has taught me how. All of the friends here at E.A.I. have showed me the way. So, GOODBYE, forever!



I AM YOUR ADDICTION

Jonathan S. French (contributed by Jerome)

I hate meetings. I hate your higher powers. I hate anyone who has a "program". To all who come into contact with me, I wish you suffering and I wish you death.

Allow me to introduce myself. I am the disease of addiction. I am cunning, baffling, and powerful. I have killed millions and I am pleased.

I love to catch you with the element of surprise. I love pretending I am your friend and lover. I have given you comfort, have I not? Wasn't I there when you were lonely? When you wanted to die, wasn't I there when you called me?

I love to make you hurt. I love to make you cry. Better yet, I love to make you so numb you can neither hurt nor cry. Isn't it true glory when you can't hurt at all?

I will give you instant gratification, and all that I ask from you is long-term suffering. I have always been there for you. When things were going right in your life, you invited me. You said you didn't deserve these things, and I was the only one who agreed with you. Together we were able to destroy all the good things in your life.

People don't take me seriously. They take strokes, heart attacks, and diabetes seriously. Fools, little they know that without my help, some of these things would not take place.

I am such a hated disease, yet I do not come uninvited. You choose to have me. So many people have chosen me over reality and peace of mind.

More than you hate me, I hate all of you who have a 12-step program. Your programs, your higher powers and your meetings weaken me, and I can't function in the manner I am used to.

Now I must lie here quietly. You don't see me, but I am growing LARGER than ever. When you only exist, I may live. When you live, I may only exist. But I am here... waiting and growing, ready to strike the moment you pick up... and until we meet again. I wish you suffering and death whether it be physically, mentally, emotionally or spiritually. It's all death, no matter what you call me. I am your worst enemy! I am your addiction.

12-Step Meeting Schedule

MONDAY	8 pm	AA	Step Study
TUESDAY	8 pm	AA	Big Book Study
WEDNESDAY	8 pm	AA	Open Discussion
THURSDAY	8 pm	CA	Open Discussion
	8 pm	AA	Closed Men's
FRIDAY	7:30 pm	AA	Speaker
SATURDAY	8 pm	AA	Open Discussion
SUNDAY	6 pm	NA	Open Discussion
	7 pm	CA	Open Discussion



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Sometimes, with the sweet comes the bitter. This became quite apparent to us today, Monday, September 26, 2011, with the word of the passing of one of our own, Jeff. This fellowship/brotherhood at EAI is, to me, like a bicycle wheel made of many spokes. All the spokes helping to support the weight of our organization, when we lose one, the remaining have to become stronger in order to bear the extra weight. We must support one another, and our resolve must also harden. Let Jeff serve as a reminder of what's at stake our dignity, our sanity...our very lives. When you think about Jeff, think about how precious each moment is and feel thankful for the times of sobriety we are allowed to enjoy. May Jeff rest in peace!

The Only

*TRUE FREEDOM A HUMAN
BEING WILL EVER KNOW IS
WHEN HE DOES WHAT HE
OUGHT TO DO BECAUSE HE*

WANTS TO DO IT!

PUTTING THE RIGHT SHOE ON

Erik D.

Putting the right shoe on,
Then the left one,
I was in need of a promise and how,
I needed a few,
So I knelt down right there,
And asked God in prayer,
The realization hit me,
When those promises came true,
Both my knees and my mind,
Wouldn't have to look to climb
I could just get onto them two shoes,
As it states in the ole' Big Book,
They'll materialize if we work for them,
So now I get up in prayer,
And take time-out with Him,
Sometimes quickly-sometimes slowly,
Those promises begin,
Honesty, open mindedness, and willingness,
Is the "how" of why my possibilities are
endless.



DOMINOS & SPADES

November 19, 2011

\$5 per person/ \$10 per team

Single Elimination - Best 2 of 3

1st place wins %50 of proceeds

Registration at 12 pm - Events start at 1 pm

Rules to be announced at the event

5113 Del Sur, Houston, TX 77018

for more information, contact Chris B. (903)407-2153



service works...

Anthony K. Davis

I hope that you have taken advantage of the great opportunities there are in the 12 step fellowships to be of service. Service is the backbone and essence of this wonderful Program. It is truly the essence of spirituality, which is giving and what is more giving than being of service. There is nothing more valuable than time, it can never be refunded or stopped or harvested. So to give of one's time is invaluable. Not only does being of service bring you to a new level of spiritual awareness, whether you are conscious of it or not. Not only are you being of service, you are staying clean and sober, I would be hard pressed to think of any who have relapsed while opening the doors and setting up for the meetings, or setting up for volleyball or attending a Alumni meeting, or attending a round-up, convention and/or gratitude day committee meeting. Not only are you staying clean and sober, but through service you are learning of and about the 12 traditions, especially if you are involved consistently with the service projects around EAI. Once you get through the craziness and excitement that some of our events and meetings can create, you are learning how to "agree to disagree" and "principles before personalities." However even greater than that you are ensuring that the doors are open and that there is a Alumni Association and meetings for those who need one, especially those who have not found us yet.

Do something, for someone, for nothing.

coming soon >>>

Alumni Meetings

Every Monday - 6:30pm

Volleyball Tourney

November 13, 2011 - 10 am

Dominos and Spades Tourney

November 19, 2011 - 12 pm

Christmas Caroling

December 17, 2011 - 5 pm

Cooking for Christmas

Christmas Eve - all day

Feast for Houston's Homeless

Christmas Day - 8 am

Christmas Feast

— For Houston's Homeless —

We would like to offer you the opportunity to participate in this selfless act of service in the true spirit of Christmas.

Every day, thousands of homeless men, women and children go hungry. Many recovering alcoholics and addicts know what it means to be lost and hopeless. We who have been there know what it is like to have someone help out of the kindness of their heart. For years, EAI has made it a mission to see that those in need on Christmas Day do not go without. What we can offer in food, clothing, and a warm smile on Christmas morning has the power to change lives; theirs and yours.



Christmas Eve Day

- All Day -

**Turkey and Food Prep at EAI House 4
5115 Del Sur St.**

Christmas Day

- 9 AM -

**Morning Meditation at EAI Meeting Hall
5113 Del Sur St.**

- 10 AM -

**Feed the Homeless at Loaves & Fishes
2009 Congress St.**