

OUT OF THE DARKNESS

Nashville conference coming on September 30th.

Out of the Darkness, Nashville's 4th annual SA conference is coming September 30, 2006. This year's focus for the conference is *unity*, and planners have attempted to bring SA members together, whether they're male or female and whatever their past or length of sobriety.

One of the ideas behind this is that "You don't have to have decades of sobriety to live sober". Speakers are coming from across the country to speak on this and other topics ranging from their personal experiences to suggestions on sharing appropriately at mixed meetings.

In addition to the large speaker meetings, which will be open to S-Anons as well, there will be smaller breakout meetings including ongoing opportunities for newcomers or people struggling to stay sober. These meetings will discuss topics such as how to utilize a sponsor, how to get beyond the "pink cloud" of early sobriety and how to be single and sober. There will also be a couples meeting.

Of course, one of the most popular events at any conference are the meals. This year lunch is included in the registration fee and will feature local cuisine, a.k.a. BBQ.



For more information about the conference please visit www.SANashville.org or ask about registration flyers at your meeting.

"TAKIN' IT TO THE STREETS..."

New Public Information subcommittee is formed.

SA is branching out again in the form of a new Public Information subcommittee. This new committee will focus on carrying the SA message to the general public and reach those who still suffer and may not know about the availability of SA.

Kevin W., the founding chairperson of the committee says, "The desire to start a Public Information subcommittee began with H&I [hospitals and institutions] work. H&I sent a mass mailing to members of the clergy in Nashville last year and discussions within H&I emerged regarding meeting with members of the clergy and informing them in person about SA and our message. It was through that discussion that I learned that AA and NA both have Public Information subcommittees."

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TAKIN' IT TO THE STREETS (cont'd from other side)

The new committee will be structured similarly to those in AA and NA. Here are a couple excerpts from AA's *Public Information Workbook*:

"Public Information (P.I.) in Alcoholics Anonymous means carrying the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic by informing the general public about the AA program. We carry the message by getting in touch with the media, schools, industry, and other organizations which can report on the nature and purpose of AA and what we can do for alcoholics." (p. 5)

"In all public relations, AA's sole objective is to help the still suffering alcoholic. Always mindful of the importance of personal anonymity we believe this can be done by making known to him, and to those who may be interested in his problems, our own experience as individuals and as a Fellowship in learning to live without alcohol. We believe that our experience should be made available freely to all who express sincere interest. We believe further that all efforts in this field should always reflect our gratitude for the gift of sobriety and our awareness that many outside AA are equally concerned with the serious problem of alcoholism." (p. 6)

Possible activities for an SA Public Information committee could be:

- Speak at non-SA meetings
- Place public service announcements on radio and TV
- Place ads on benches or in the newspaper
- Develop relations with professional community (We have opportunities now to meet with staff at TCMC and Sheriff's department through our current H&I meetings)
- P.I. meetings for attorneys, clergy, law enforcement, and social workers

Currently the committee is gathering all interested members and will soon set to work to establish the committee's purpose, functions, and responsibilities. If you're interested in serving on the committee or just getting more information, please contact Kevin W. and watch for upcoming announcements about P.I. committee activities.

NEW WEEKLY WED. MEETING

Green Hills area, 8:00 p.m.

Location: Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Directions: Corner of Belmont & Graybar, one block south of Woodmont. Enter northeast entrance of building. Turn right down the first hallway. Meeting room is on the right.

See you on Wednesdays!

GROUPS vs. MEETINGS

What's the difference?

Here's the answer... A **meeting** is anytime 2 or more sexaholics come together in recovery. A **group** is a meeting that is *registered* with Intergroup. Meetings that aren't registered will not appear on the SA Nashville meeting schedule, so get registered! It's easy! See www.sanashville.org for more information.