



*South Central
Texas Area
Cocaine Anonymous*



PIPELINE

Quarterly

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newsletter@ca-scta.org

PIPELINE PURPOSE

“GIVING, NOT RECEIVING, IS THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF THE PROGRAM.”

Please give your time and experience to the C.A. Newsletter. Always accepting submissions that illustrate the solution through working the steps, traditions, and working with others. Celebrate your sobriety Online. Write Today. Submit Tomorrow. Give Always.

I SMELL MORE...

- As we are fortunate and blessed enough to continue on our personal journeys into recovery, and life, we are constantly asked to reflect on where we are going and where we stand with the principles and guidelines instilled in us from the beginning. Recently I was blessed by graduating college after an interesting path of seven years, completed schooling to become a licensed chemical dependency counselor (intern status), and will be picking up and relocating due to an amazing job opportunity come early September. Despite having blessings like these reaped down upon me throughout the summer I received a wake up call to where I stood within my recovery. There was no out of nowhere obsession to use drugs or alcohol, no tremendous feeling of spiritual deadness, or any of the sorts. However I was held accountable by some dear friends within the fellowship as to what I was doing to continue to grow. It is a humbling experience when these things are reminded to you by those you took through the steps, and have watched come from the gutter back up to the level of life intended for them.

- So it caught me a little off guard and honestly I was resentful for some time before I took the chance to reflect briefly on just what was being said. I have heard it said, “If one person calls you out on something, take it in as so, if two people call your attention it might be something you need to know, and if three people call you on something, well then friend you just might need to open your eyes”. All right, so I just quoted myself for the exact way does not come to me now, but you get it. So, that’s just what I have begun to do. I will not say I have come to any burning revelations, or that I have thrown myself back into the thickest of work on all three sides of the triangle, however ‘you gotta start from somewhere’, and I first wanted to thank my good friend for his concern and genuine love.

- I believe it is imperative for us who are selfish, self-centered, egotistical maniacs with inferiority complexes, to ask for and submit to accountability throughout our journey in recovery and life in general. I know I'm not saying anything new for that is what our fellowship was founded on. Still I know for sure without a shadow of a doubt that if you give an addict an inch he'll take a mile, and we can take on double lives when we believe no one is looking. This other life doesn't share about what's really going on in meetings for their 'sobriety time' would look tarnished if so, and it definitely doesn't call it's sponsor of many years with concern and good will in mind for 'they'll get it in line soon enough'. No this double life addict walks on thin ice praying that his past good service and experience will nullify any existing present pains or conditions he may be suffering from. He presents to you the stage character everyone wants to respect and love. The problem comes with the sixth sense we have attained as a result of tapping into POWER. No longer are secrets or pain, painless. No longer are our cries silent even when not voiced. No longer can we say 'I'm f.i.n.e.' For we have the GREAT REALITY deep down within which beckons us to reach out to a friend, to reach out to that hand that has always been there since we came into the door.

■ My friends I am disclosing my truth to you on this subject matter because I know I'm not alone. I know there are many who are rolling along like the status quo in their recovery, resting on their laurels, saying they'll start looking at this or that tomorrow when tomorrow fades into yesterday. And above all I know there are countless girls and guys within Cocaine Anonymous who SMELL MORE!! I SMELL MORE DON'T YOU? We did not receive such a wonderful gift to sit on it, and there is always room for more digging. Once we have uncovered the obstacles of drugs and alcohol, which dominated our lives, we are free to discover the other obstacles in our path. Ask the old-timers who have years and years of sobriety. Ask them how many times they went through the steps, after they got past the drugs. Better yet, ask them what areas of their lives they were looking at and why when they did it. As for me I am looking forward to grabbing a new sponsor from a new home group who I don't know from Adam. I look forward to sharing with him what I am sharing with you right now in great detail. I want to ask you personally to hold me accountable to this the next time I see you. Ask me what I'm doing to grow? Simply put, ask me what I am doing to grow in my spiritual walk. Maybe if more people continue to get the gumption and display the same amount of love and care my little buddy did when he so audaciously asked me where I was at, we would continue to build a bright future for the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. I pray you don't take my words wrongly as if pointed at you and your recovery. Actually, scratch that, if this does stir something up in you good! That's probably good.

■ God Bless all of you,

■ *Clayton S.*

SOBRIETY.. A BRAND NEW WORLD

- Suddenly I've become aware
- Of things around me everywhere
- I see new sights, hear new sounds
- It's a brand new world all around
- I'm doing things I never did before
- Singing, dancing and laughing more
- I smell new air, I see new skies
- I'm viewing the world through brand new eyes
- I see faces in the clouds above
- I sit and listen to songs of love
- The sky is a lovely shade of blue
- Much prettier than I ever knew
- I smell the scent of sweet daffodils
- I watch little birds on my windowsill
- The people I meet along the way
- Never before looked so happy and gay
- I see pretty colors on a butterfly
- I hear jingle bells in mid July
- I sing along with the birds in the trees
- I dance to the music of bumblebees
- Sobriety is the reason I'm doing all this
- Sobriety is the reason for my happiness
- Sobriety has got me spinning in a whirl
- Sobriety is the reason for my Brand New World

Dot T. Austin, Texas 1980