

Success and Hope at Do DA Day

Do DA Day 2005, Northern California DA's annual September event of workshops, treasure mapping, keynote speakers and Pressure Relief Groups, was a financial success this year, with income from the event exceeding expenses by almost \$400.

Held at the San Francisco State University campus and themed "Lifelong Learning at the University of DA," the event drew about 150 DA members from all over Northern California. The slight increase in at-the-door registration costs this year helped bump up revenue, said David F., one of the event's organizers.

Last year Do DA Day and Winter Lights, NCDAs other annual event, both ended in the red. Thanks to tighter spending plans, no financial surprises and the increase in at-the-door registration from \$15 to \$20, the events in 2005 have both been prosperous, David F. said.

According to evaluations collected at the event, attendees particularly liked the visions workshop, treasure mapping and fellowship with other DA members. Dislikes included difficulty finding the event on the SFSU campus and, because of time limitations, multiple workshops scheduled at the same time.

As with many aspects of recovery, the gifts and insights offered by events like Do DA Day, often subtle and revealing themselves over time, can be hard to measure on evaluation forms.

"It was inspiring for me to see how people's lives have been so deeply changed by DA," said Sasha R., a DA member from San Francisco. The day "inspired hope in me and a deeper commitment to do what it takes to live free of the compulsion to spend or debt or underearn," she said.

Do DA Day's expenses totaled \$2028.48, including \$1,250 for the facility, \$136.15 for insurance, \$335.64 for refreshments, plus costs for programs, supplies and decorations. Revenue totaled \$2422.44, including \$2210 from registrations and \$212.44 in 7th Tradition collections. Half of the 7th Tradition collection was donated to World Service.

On the Lighter Side...

One DA member said in his pre-DA days he would sing Natalie Cole's hit song "Unforgettable," but changed it to "Unemployable." Another member said he sings the 70s disco hit "Burn Baby Burn, Disco Inferno," but changes the words to "Earn Baby Earn, Income Inferno."

What about you? What songs do you sing to boost YOUR recovery?

A sense of humor and a good laugh can help those dark moments seem a little lighter. Got a humorous DA-related joke, anecdote or cartoon to share? Pass it on and we'll publish it in an upcoming issue.

Hot off the Press

A new pamphlet on Recovery from Compulsive Spending and an updated list of the DA Tools have been released in the past year by the DA World Service. And a lot more new DA literature is in the works, including:

Upcoming books:

- ▶ *DA Twelve & Twelve*
- ▶ *Just for One Day meditations*
- ▶ *BDA Recovery Book*

Upcoming pamphlets:

- ▶ *Relationships, Money & Debt*
- ▶ *Sponsorship*
- ▶ *Income Plan*
- ▶ *DA Glossary of terms*
- ▶ *What is Business Debtors Anonymous (BDA)*
- ▶ *BDA Signposts and Tools*
- ▶ *BDA Meeting Format*
- ▶ *BDA Newcomers*
- ▶ *BDA Separating Personal Issues from Business Ideas*
- ▶ *BDA How to Write a Business Plan*

Meeting Spotlight

The Sausalito "Currency of Hope" meeting has changed its name and location. It is now called "DA Literature Meeting" and it meets in Corte Madera on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM.

Other meetings that have changed in some way since the last newsletter was printed are marked with a ▶ on the meeting schedule inside.

This newsletter is published by Northern California Debtor's Anonymous (NCDA) Intergroup. The role of Intergroup is to serve the local meetings held in Northern California.

NCDA Intergroup meets on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the main branch of the San Francisco Public Library, 3rd floor Conference Room. (The library is across from the Civic Center BART stop.) In November and December, meetings are held on the third Saturday.

All DA members are welcome to attend. The next meeting is November 19th.

Joining Intergroup is a great way to serve DA and strengthen your recovery.

NEED TO SEND OUT YOUR GROUP DONATIONS?

It is suggested that each group, after meeting its own needs and establishing a prudent reserve, send a 7th Tradition donation:

▶ **45% to the local Intergroup:**

NCDA Intergroup
P.O. Box 31224
San Francisco, CA 94131

▶ **45% to the General Service Office:**

General Service Office - DA
P.O. Box 920888
Needham, MA 02492-0009

▶ **10% to the General Service Rep.:**

NorCal DA GSR
P.O. Box 423136
San Francisco, CA 94142

Mark Your Calendar!

Winter Lights
February 12th, noon-5:30 PM

*Share this newsletter!
Copy it or download and print it
from ncdaweb.org.*

My Recovery

The Seemingly Impossible Has Become Possible

In giving more than 200 pressure relief meetings, I've been amazed to discover that many D.A. members don't think about saving at all. I always suggest saving as an important, eminently sane aspect of recovery, because of the powerful impact even small amounts saved regularly can have on our prosperity.

Before D.A., I experienced the horrors of compound interest spinning wildly out of control at 29.9 percent, leaving me deeper and deeper in debt. But compound interest can be just as powerful on the positive side, giving me a prosperous life out of proportion to my actual income, through a program of regular saving.

Before D.A., I never imagined it was possible to save for anything. But the seemingly impossible has become possible. I accumulated a \$5,000 prudent reserve simply by saving \$10 a week and letting the interest compound for 6 years in a money market account. I've switched from a "debting lifestyle" (in which I paid large amounts in interest to use other people's money to buy things I couldn't afford) to a savings lifestyle, in which banks and credit unions pay me interest for keeping my cash in their vaults while I save for the things I want. Compound interest can either destroy me or make me prosperous, depending on how I use it.

Today I operate on a cash basis, saving slowly and methodically in several different categories for short-, medium-, and long-term goals. The practice of regular saving, combined with not incurring any unsecured debt one day at a time, has made me more prosperous, more fulfilled, and more grateful than I ever had any hope of being before I came to Debtors Anonymous.

-Jan S.

Submission Guidelines

Prosperity Times welcomes your personal story of experience, strength and hope.

Articles may be edited to fit as space allows.

Email submissions to: registrar@ncdaweb.org

Or mail it to:

NCDA, PO Box 31224, San Francisco, CA 94131
Attn: Prosperity Times, Editors