

STRAIGHT

NEWSLETTER from Cincinnati

SEPTEMBER 1985

TEEN CREED

Don't let your parents down,
They brought you up.
Be humble enough to obey,
You may give orders someday.
Choose companions with care,
You become what they are.
Guard your thoughts,
What you think, you are.
Choose only a date
Who would make a good mate.
Be master of your habits,
Or they will master you.
Don't be a show-off when you drive,
Drive with safety and arrive.
Don't let the crowd pressure you,
Stand for something - or
you'll fall for anything.

submitted by
Rob R.

OPPORTUNITY FOR STRAIGHT

Straight, Inc. has the opportunity to be listed in the National Council of Better Business Bureaus Brochure, Give But Give Wisely. We need to show the B B B that people are interested in knowing about Straight. The more inquiries to the B B B, the greater the opportunity for Straight to be listed. Please write and ask your friends to write asking for information about Straight. Address inquiries to: Philanthropic Advisory Division Council of Better Business Bureaus 1515 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, Virginia 22209

Karmen L.

The amount of money raised in August by the Booster Club totaled \$928.30.

IT WAS A GREAT STRAIGHT PICNIC

Picnic tables nestled in a quiet grove of trees, people laughing, sharing, eating and just resting were the first visible signs of the Super Straight picnic.

Through the tepees and across the lane was swimming, paddle boat and fishing for those who wanted to venture. Across the grassy field was the place of meeting for the horse-shoe game. There were many who responded and waited patiently to try their hand. The team of Tom B. and Bob J. emerged champion. There was also softball for energetic souls.

Beyond the game fields one could swim indoors or out, play a game of putt-putt, or shoot a basket or two. Numerous door prizes were drawn. There were games and prizes for the siblings, also.

With this vast assortment of activities and the variety of food, everyone found something to enjoy. Appreciation and thanks go to Rosemary K. and her family who made available the nice facilities at Indian Lake.

by Shirley K.

SOFTBALL RESULTS

The softball game at the Straight picnic pitted the 4th and 5th Phasers against the Moms and Dads. The game stayed pretty even until the kids started to intimidate the old folks with sayings like "turn up your pace-makers" and "do you want me to run for you?" These word games caused the parents to apply their three signs. Despite the kid's outstanding catcher who helped keep the game in perspective, the game turned around in the fourth inning when the parents batted around. The final score was Moms and Dads 20, Kids 4.

Jim W.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Executive Staff

Director

Jerry Rushing

Associate Director

William Glick

Senior Program Counselor

Winifred (Wini) Boyd

Jerry Delaney

Executive Trainees

Janet Cassiere

Charlie Broussard

Staff

Group Staff Supervisor

Eileen M [redacted]

Senior Staff

Todd B [redacted]

Junior Staff

Amie V [redacted]

Greg C [redacted]

Jenni B [redacted]

Tom A [redacted]

Steve K [redacted]

Dawn S [redacted]

JoAnne W [redacted]

Randy J [redacted]

Jay P [redacted]

Bill M [redacted]

Heather S [redacted]

Kristin D [redacted]

Staff Trainees

Tom D [redacted]

Kathy H [redacted]

Tony W [redacted]

Kim G [redacted]

Ken K [redacted]

Renee D [redacted]

Sue B [redacted]

Nicki U [redacted]

Laura K [redacted]

Shawn H [redacted]

Jim H [redacted]

Rick M [redacted]

Sibling Staff

Jim V [redacted]

Sibling Staff Trainees

Shelly D [redacted]

Paulette J [redacted]

Administrative Staff

Bookkeeper - Jan S [redacted]

Admissions Counselor

Joyce S [redacted]

Assistant Admissions Coun.

Connie B [redacted]

Community Service Directors

Karmen L [redacted] & Sandy M [redacted]

Secretary - Linda S [redacted]

Receptionists

Peg K [redacted] & Barb S [redacted]

Executive Secretary

Pat V [redacted]

TO PARENTS OF STRAIGHT SIBLINGS

To clear up any confusion about sibling privileges, please note the following:

Because of the importance of family involvement in Straight, a sibling rap is provided on Monday and Friday after the Open Meeting and on Saturday morning from 10 - 12.

If your sibling is attending the Open Meeting with you, he or she is expected to be in the Open Meeting room with you during the meeting.

All siblings must attend the rap following the Open Meeting if they are at the Open Meeting.

In order to maintain Straight's professional atmosphere, and out of courtesy to parents involved in raps, siblings are not to run through the building or socialize in the lobby, or outside the doors.

Parents, your cooperation is solicited to make sure your sibling children understand that courteous, respectful behavior is expected of them.

JUDY M [redacted] A LIFE OF CARING

It is with much grief that news was received of the death of Judy M [redacted]. When Straight first came to Cincinnati, Judy talked to countless new parents, both as Intake Coordinator and as a Straight parent herself. She put a personal caring touch into what could have been just another treatment center. Judy and her husband were actively and continually involved in Straight even after their children 7-Stepped. Judy left so much through her untiring work on behalf of Straight and the young people in the program. She is survived by her husband, J. Thomas M [redacted], two sons and a daughter. The family has asked, in lieu of flowers, that contributions be made to Straight, Inc. in memory of Judy's life. A special Scholarship Fund is being arranged at Straight in memory of Judy M [redacted].

ON GIVING

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.

For what are your possessions but things you keep and guard for fear you may need them tomorrow?

And what is fear of need but need itself? It not dread of thirst when your well is full, the thirst that is unquenchable?

There are those who give little of the much which they have - and they give it for recognition and their hidden desire makes their gifts unwholesome.

And there are those who have little and give it all. These are the believers in life and the bounty of life, and their coffer is never empty.

There are those who give with joy, and that joy is their reward.

It is well to give when asked, but it is better to give unasked, through understanding.

All you have shall someday be given.

Excerpts from The Prophet
Kahlil Gibran

DEAR STRAIGHT FAMILY

Thank you so much for all the support you have given me and for the beautiful 7-Step Plaque. It will be proudly displayed in my office at the Michigan Program.

Pat W. [REDACTED]

MORE THANKS

Thank you to all who helped make the Straight picnic such fun. Special thanks to Margie B. for helping get prizes and Joan F. for picking them up. Also Nancy D., Vicki C., Dixie B., Connie W., and Linda R. for all their help with the games. Your efforts are certainly appreciated.

Rosemary K.

WHAT TO GIVE?

Help with the wrapping paper sale.
Hair cuts to newcomers.
Work at the Raffle Table.
Help at the concession stand.
Work at the sign-in table.
A newsletter article.
Drive kids to work, a doctor's appointment.
Parent to Parent Hotline.
Invitation to a professional luncheon.
Join the Booster Club.
Donate food on Friday nights.
Bring in a Raffle prize.
Work around the building and in the yard.
etc.
etc.

"I AM FREE"

From drugs - I remember feeling so down
I never smiled only frowned
Until I started seeing good in me.
God had given me serenity.
I learned to forgive and forget
The past I regret.
But now I am free.
I am me.
I don't need to lie anymore
Push my feelings away behind locked doors.
I can share them with people who care,
For I know they will always be there.
For now I live my life for me
Not being what others want me to be.
I feel happy for who I am.
I want to spread my happiness to all I can.
I am thankful for a new life without
So many fears.
All the pain and guilty tears
For the past is behind me -
And I am free.

by Jenny E.

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

With the October issue, Muriel A. will be The Straight Newsletter Editor. Thank you to everyone who has submitted articles for your contributions and to everyone who reads the newsletter for your support. Thanks to Betsy S. for your help as Assistant Editor.

Marty C.

LOTS OF FUN FOR A FEW DOLLARS

Short on cash for entertainment? You can still have fun. Try some of these ideas as a family, for a permission, or even by yourself in some cases:

- Buy a plain white T-shirt and a fabric marker. Make your T-shirt YOU-nique.
- Pop a huge bowl of popcorn and watch an old corny movie on television.
- Make a piñata. Do it the old-fashioned but best way, with paper mache (look in a craft book for instructions), or decorate a grocery bag and tie it at the top. Fill the piñata with penny candy and other small trinkets. When it's time to break the piñata, each person is blindfolded, spun around, then given three chances to break open the piñata with a stick (suck as a broom handle).
- Visit the Cincinnati Fire Museum at 315 W. Court Street, downtown, for a special treat.
- Buy supplies to make a big batch of chocolate chip cookies. Make the dough, then eat half and bake half.
- Have a family aerobics session - your own Jane Fonda workout. After the cookies, you'll need it.
- Go to the Cincinnati Zoo, located at 3400 Vine Street. The Insect Zoo, new Big Cat House and new Children's Zoo are especially fascinating.
- Give everyone a piece of paper and pencil or crayons. One person names an object - something very general, such as "car" or "castle." Each person draws their rendition of the object and then compares pictures.
- Get together toppings to make your own sundae, for example: chocolate chips, M&M's, nuts, several flavors of sauces, and whipped cream. Serve bowls of vanilla ice cream and let every one be creative.
- Go for a long walk together. This is a beautiful time of the year and a walk in the woods does so much to put things in perspective. Some good spots are: Sharon Woods, Winton Woods, Mt. Airy Forest, Eden Park, Cincinnati Nature Center (membership needed on weekends), or Hueston Woods (near Oxford).

Several resource books for ideas for outings are kept at the front desk - just ask.

CLIPBOARDS AVAILABLE

Attractive STRAIGHT clipboards are available at the Raffle Table for \$7.50. These clipboards are printed with the Seven Steps, Three Signs, Serenity Prayer and Five Criteria. They are very useful and make a nice gift.

SHOPPING TIP

Save "bread" at the Rainbow Bread Outlet located at 1515 Highway 28 (½ mile east of Branch Hill-Guinea Pike across from the golf course). Among other things, this outlet sells Country Hearth Bread for one-half off.

NEW 7-STEPPERS

At the August 2nd Open Meeting, the announcement of five new 7-Steppers was celebrated. Congratulations to the following 7-Steppers and their families: Jeff C., Dawn B., Tony W., Renee D., and Martha M. Again on August 16th, the announcement of six more 7-Steppers was celebrated. Congratulations to these new 7-Steppers and their families: Ken K., Michelle T., Chuck E., Glenn J., Trent P., and Brian W.

7-STEPPED PARENTS SOCIAL COMMITTEE

This committee exists to help plan social events for 7-Steppers and older program siblings. There will be a meeting at the Va [redacted]'s Tuesday, September 10th at 7:30 PM to plan fall activities. All parents are invited. For more information, call 489-2575.

7-STEP PROFILE - JENNI B [redacted]

Jenni B [redacted] a 7-Stepper for about seven months, is on the Junior Staff at Straight. Jenni is eighteen, she used drugs for three years and was in the program for one year and one day. Jenni says she is looking forward to being on staff in Michigan, and then attending college at Eastern Michigan University. "I'm insecure about that - I've never seen myself as a college-type person," says Jenni.

Since 7-Stepping, Jenni says the biggest change in herself revolves around her friendships. "I am happy to know I have the quality in me to have several true, special friends - friends who really listen and care," Jenni says. For support, Jenni turns to her friends, Bible study group, and church - and being on the Straight staff is great support, she says.

Besides her work at Straight, Jenni enjoys going downtown to walk around, swimming and fishing. She also loves to travel and plans to study business in college so she can someday have a career incorporating world travel. One of her dreams is to visit Greece. In the near future, she plans a fishing trip with her father and a trip to Florida with her mother.

To new 7-Steppers, Jenni says she feels the most important bit of advice she can give is to "keep looking at what is in your best interest. Keep open and concentrate on self-discipline."

* * * * *

"The road to success is always under construction"

Anonymous

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SEPTEMBER 1985

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM <small>LABOR DAY</small>	3 RAP: 7-Steppers 6 PM	4	5	6 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM	7 RAPS: Siblings 10 AM 7-Steppers 7 PM 7-Step Parents Only 7 PM
8	9 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM	10 RAP: 7- Steppers 6 PM	11	12	13 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM	14 RAPS: Siblings 10 AM 7-Steppers 7 PM
15	16 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM <small>FIRST DAY OF ROSH HASHANAH</small>	17 RAP: 7- Steppers 6 PM	18	19 RAP: 5th Phasers and Parents 6:15 PM	20 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM	21 RAPS: Siblings 10 AM 7- Steppers and Parents 7 PM
22	23 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM	24 RAP: 7-Steppers 6 PM	25 <small>FIRST DAY OF YOM KIPPUR</small>	26 RAP: 4th Phasers and Parents 6:15 PM	27 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM	28 RAPS: Siblings 10 AM 7-Steppers 7 PM
29	30 OPEN MEETING 6:30 PM				<small>AUGUST 1985</small> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<small>OCTOBER 1985</small> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31