

THE NA Way MAGAZINE

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

APRIL 2013
VOLUME THIRTY ◆ NUMBER TWO

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
1953 – 2013





THE
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

The NA Way Magazine, published in English, Farsi, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, belongs to the members of Narcotics Anonymous. Its mission, therefore, is to provide each member with recovery and service information, as well as recovery-related entertainment, which speaks to current issues and events relevant to each of our members worldwide. In keeping with this mission, the editorial staff is dedicated to providing a magazine which is open to articles and features written by members from around the world, as well as providing current service and convention information. Foremost, the journal is dedicated to the celebration of our message of recovery—"that an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live."

NA World Services, Inc.
PO Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA
Telephone: (818) 773-9999
Fax: (818) 700-0700
Website: www.na.org

The NA Way Magazine welcomes the participation of its readers. You are invited to share with the NA Fellowship in our quarterly international journal. Send us your experience in recovery, your views on NA matters, and feature items. All manuscripts submitted become the property of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Subscription, editorial, and business services: PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9099.

The NA Way Magazine presents the experiences and opinions of individual members of Narcotics Anonymous. The opinions expressed are not to be attributed to Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by Narcotics Anonymous, The NA Way Magazine, or Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. If you are interested in receiving a free subscription to The NA Way, please write to the address below or send an email to naway@na.org.

The NA Way Magazine (ISSN 1046-5421), The NA Way, and Narcotics Anonymous are registered trademarks of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. The NA Way Magazine is published quarterly by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 19737 Nordhoff Place, Chatsworth, CA 91311. Periodical postage is paid at Santa Clarita, CA, and at additional entry points. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to The NA Way Magazine, PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9099.

From the editor

I downloaded an app that looked like it would be really helpful and interesting, but when I opened it, I realized some of it was sort of useful, but most of it wasn't. So I deleted it. I thought of "Keep what you want and leave the rest." This saying helped me tolerate what felt uncomfortable or undoable in my early recovery. Later it allowed me to reconsider aspects of our program I hadn't previously been willing to accept. It seems like many of us experience a gradual evolution from a state of some of our program applying some of the time, to a realization that, ultimately, all of it applies. Fortunately, there was no way for me to prematurely or haphazardly delete my "NA app" along the way because I've found it to be the one app I really need all the time!

In this this issue, there's a feature on "e-recovery," introducing—or reintroducing—our website, mobile website, and eLiterature (Basic Text, *It Works*, and *Sponsorship*). Articles and personal sharing about the reemergence of NA in Cuba and the development of NA in Haiti celebrate the advances we can make working together and by connecting electronically—including some amazing personal stories from Cuban members emailed to us. Even simple project updates embrace the internet to reach more members for input and to help better carry the NA message. Hopefully, you're reading this NA Way Magazine electronically so you can enjoy the additional content and features of the e-zine. And we also hope you'll forward it to your NA friends so that they, too, can receive and help carry the NA message—electronically!

De J, Editor

Electronic subscribers can click here
for exclusive NA history content.

IN THIS ISSUE

Feature	3	Project update	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA Cuba: iSigan viniendo! • Serving without fear • Living life the NA way • Love in NA 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service System • Webinars • Traditions Book • An Intro to NA Meetings IP 	
Sharing	5	WCNA 35 Update	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riding the waves • A beautiful gesture • Our common welfare • NA Renaissance 		Unity Day Registration	12
e-recovery	9	Living Clean:	
		The Journey Continues	13
		Calendar	14
		Product Update	15
		Coming Soon	16

The NA Way Magazine welcomes letters from all readers. Letters to the editor can respond to any article that has appeared in The NA Way, or can simply be a viewpoint about an issue of concern in the NA Fellowship. Letters should be no more than 250 words, and we reserve the right to edit. All letters must include a signature, valid address, and phone number. First name and last initial will be used as the signature line unless the writer requests anonymity.



NA Cuba: ¡Sigan viniendo!

NA in Cuba was first known to be established in January 1999 and functioned until 2004. For a long time we had not received any information about NA in Cuba, but we heard there was activity sometime in 2009, so in mid-2010, we attempted to establish communications with them. NA members who were visiting Cuba from Canada, Ecuador, Panama, Puerto Rico, USA, and Venezuela made contact with NA members on the island and we began to receive requests for help from Cuban members. Once we received the information, the [Latin American Zonal Forum](#), along with [NA World Services](#), planned the first of a series of fellowship development support events for NA Cuba. The first gathering in March 2011 was in the town of Aguada de Pasajeros, Cienfuegos, Cuba. We returned for a second event in Havana in November 2011, followed by a third event in Havana in September 2012.

In these three events we made presentations and had exhibits. We facilitated workshops about NA's Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts, the groups, the service system, public relations/public information, hospitals and institutions, planning, and LAZF and NAWS projects and activities. Several NA members from Chile, Panama, Puerto Rico and Florida, USA, provided their own human and financial resources to participate in these events. Likewise, these NA communities and regions, the LAZF, and NAWS provided trusted servants, funding, NA literature—and, of course, spiritual support—during each trip we made there.

When NA Cuba reopened its doors in 2009 after being inactive for many years, there were only ten to fifteen active members, two groups, and four weekly meetings. They now have more than 100 members, seven groups, fourteen weekly meetings, a local service committee that provides services and facilitates PR/PI and H&I activities, workshops and events, and outreach efforts. We are grateful for everyone who has cooperated unconditionally with NA Cuba! Together we are united without borders, carrying the NA message to the addict who still suffers!

Mauro G, Caracas, Venezuela



Cuba Project 2012
[Latin American Zonal Forum](#)
Unity without Borders

Serving without fear

Hi, my name is Julio and I am an addict in recovery. I have had the privilege of participating with three other NA members of my community in the rebirth of NA in Cuba. We are reestablishing NA here after having been closed down for six consecutive years for reasons outside of NA, related to norms of the government of my country. This is the biggest thing that has happened in my life, because in spite of being aware of the danger that we faced when we dared to open an NA group in Cuba again, I really experienced that the need for one addict helping another was bigger than anything else.

I still remember the night when I sat with my mom and I told her what I was getting myself into, and then I listened to everything she had to say about this matter, most of which was not very positive. The only thing I could share from my heart with her was that I'd rather be clean in prison than using in the streets. The beginnings of this process were all manifestations of love. Nobody had any idea how to make an NA group work. I had never read the NA Basic Text. I was the secretary of the group, and all of my fellow homegroup members were just like me. We only had one another. One week after we opened the group, we welcomed the first newcomer, with whom I had just served during the third Latin American Zonal Forum (LAZF) event to support NA in Cuba. It's already been three years since we undertook this adventure to stay clean, and now we have six groups, ten weekly meetings, 60 members, and one local service committee—and all the newcomers who continue to arrive to our meetings.

NA is beginning to mature in my community. You know, in these past days as I was attending the LAZF event I would look around and see my fellow brothers from the beginnings of NA in Cuba with whom I have lived the darkest and most beautiful days, and who now have one, two, and three years clean, and even some who have 90, 60, and 30 days clean. I wonder what I did to deserve so many blessings when all I did my whole life was use drugs.

My higher power has been very kind to me because I've never been alone since I was introduced to NA, and that is why I shed some tears as I was writing this piece. Today I am experiencing what four crazy guys once dreamed about—opening NA meetings in Cuba again—and now that dream is a reality. I only have one more dream to fulfill, which is for the Cuban Region of NA to attend the World Service Conference, because my community has never had anyone to represent it at the conference.

If you are an NA member in a community that is still small, in which you are experiencing similar problems to those we experienced in my country, or if it is only you and one more member in your community, please don't worry. Take care of the few NA members who are there and take care of the newcomers who are just getting to know NA, and be fearless, because God as we understand him is always there to guide us. Thank you, NA!

Julio, La Habana, Cuba*

Living life the NA way

Hi, my name is Felipe and I am an addict in recovery and a member of NA. I was a patient in a mental health hospital where I had gone voluntarily. While I was hospitalized, I was introduced to the NA message by my therapist. I felt very bad at that time and I felt completely defeated. I even came to believe that I would never recover from that physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual debacle. My body would not stop shaking and vibrating, and my mind constantly thought only about self-destructive matters: drugs, delinquency, death, etc. I was really in a grave state due to my addiction to drugs and to my obsession and compulsion to use substances, including alcohol. I didn't eat or nourish myself. In that institution I was diagnosed with neuropathy and with a number of other diseases. Neuropathy is a disease that attacks the central nervous system and drains the body of all its vitamins and energy.

During that time my obsession, my insecurity, my solitude, and my spiritual

emptiness made me not want to live. As I am writing this, I feel like I really want to cry and my eyes are teary because I never thought I would be able to stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and discover a new way of life. Today I am 31 years old, and I have been clean for one year in NA. I am happy! The achievements, the progress, the growth, and the spiritual development that I have obtained are all indescribable.

My fellow members, my friends and brothers in NA Cuba, give me a lot of love every time I share with them. The most important thing is to continue searching inside, discovering and finding myself, learning from my past so I will not repeat that past again; and as a result I can remain drug-free and live life the NA way. Thank you to all of NA in Cuba, to the Latin American Zonal Forum, and to NA World Services for all your help and support. More will be revealed!

Felipe, La Habana, Cuba*

Love in NA

I never received so much love in my life as I have received in NA. Perhaps I never knew what love was until I arrived to NA. Recently I was told that a video we made during the first Latin American Zonal Forum event here in Cuba was shown during the 2012 World Service Conference. We watched the video here several times and I became very emotional. When the video was made, I never imagined that it would travel so far. Then we had the second LAZF event in November 2011, and just recently in September 2012 we had the third LAZF event to help NA in Cuba. Each of these events has enjoyed great success. Now in NA in Cuba, we have six groups, ten weekly meetings, more than 60 members, and one local service committee that provides PR/PI and H&I services. Thank you for all the love that you have given us. I hope to continue seeing you so I can share the rest of my life with you. With love,

Yanela, La Habana, Cuba*

** Name has been changed to protect identity.*

Riding the waves

Ocean waves terrify me. Life is like the ocean—and addiction is like a hurricane. It rips through and destroys everything we love. The last days of my using were like the crest of a huge wave before it comes crashing down. What goes up must always come down, right? My crash involved extended jail time, three failed rehab attempts, loss of my children, and hepatitis C. But most of all, the waves of addiction propelled me to that hollow place that we can all remember—a place where I lacked the desire to be human, as if I were sitting in a vacuum, waiting for the grim reaper to send me to Hell.

One summer morning in June 2007, some “coincidences” occurred. I woke up at the home of a couple I didn’t know. They were still sleeping or passed out, so I knew their supply was gone. I shuffled up the street at 7:00 am looking for someone to bum a smoke from. A group of men were gathered on the street. I bummed a smoke from one of them, lit the cigarette, and started crying. They backed away from me. No wonder. I hadn’t showered or combed my hair in days. I felt lightheaded standing there, crying, and sweating under the morning sun.

A man appeared in the crowd and I just broke down. I told him I was an addict, that I had sold my car for drugs, and I had no phone. He took me into the red building we were standing in front of, where a woman (who later became my sponsor) sat behind a desk. The place where the wave had taken me was a homeless shelter. For some reason she had pity on me as I cried and told her every single thing on my mind. Against all the rules of the place, I was admitted upon arrival. (God doing for me what I could not do for myself.)

It took about a day for me to want out of the place. They wanted me to go to meetings, get a sponsor, and do chores! So I called my mother, the master enabler, for a ride back to insanity. Deep down, I still wanted to use.

Around 9:00 that night, I sat waiting for her to arrive and rescue me. I sat on the arm of the couch, biting my nails and staring at the clock that seemed like it had stopped. I was so lost in myself that I hadn’t noticed a young boy watching TV in the room. It turns



out the shelter was for women and children. He said, “Do you wanna watch this movie with me?” I snapped, “No, kid. I’m leaving soon.” He asked why. I told him the women in the shelter were crazy and that I didn’t belong there. He assured me, “The shelter found a home for me and my mom. I only have to wait a couple more months. Maybe they can help you, too.”

Recovery brings a flood of feelings. As I type about this boy I could cry, but at the time, I just shrugged him off and headed toward the door. But meeting that kid, that night, was a key in my recovery. He sparked something.

Mom threw my garbage bag of clothes into her car while yelling and threatening me with rehab, etc. I got to the doorway, but thoughts of the kid stopped me. I wondered, “Why is he here? Why does he like it here? Maybe I’ll just stay. If a child can do it, maybe I’ll let them get me a place to

live.” (It was still all about me.) I sent my mother home. She told me I was nuts. Deep down, I was in agreement.

They call it “trudging,” and that’s what I did in the beginning. I trudged to meetings, tried to share, but mostly cried. I wanted to go home, but was afraid of what I would do if I did—terrified of being caught up in the waves again. Most of my “yets” had already come to pass. I looked down on the addicts who didn’t

Being the miracle to me means riding the wave and passing it on...

use the drugs I used. Now I was one of them. I looked down on the prostitutes, but I had become one, too, because I gave all of myself to whoever had the drugs I wanted.

A month went by. I had begun to write on Step One, and I’ll never forget the day I realized what it really meant! What a bittersweet moment in time that I still work hard to remember! I rode the same out-of-control wave for so long. Realizing that those ten years of doing the same things over and over again expecting different results was insanity was tough to accept. Once I did, the sky was the limit! With Step Two, I realized the “coincidences” were really God in my life, not luck, and this made a huge impact on my self-esteem. Having a God helped me believe that my destiny in life was not to die in an alley as the scum of the earth. I have a purpose that gets clearer the longer I stay clean.

Fast-forward five short years. I expected to get only the things in life I thought I could acquire on my own. Most importantly, I thought I might be able to have visitation with my five kids I had lost in addiction. Or maybe I would end up with three different crappy jobs trying to take care of them, and somehow God would help me keep my head above water. Today, I’m a stay-at-home mom with six children. (I had another baby in recovery.) I actually live in the suburbs and drive a minivan. I not only got married to an excellent man, (something I was sure I’d never do), my kids also came home to me, and they have a stepdad they adore!

I have received more than I ever thought I deserved. I got the fairy tale after living the hurricane nightmare of my addiction. God is good every day. I can look back and see what He did for me through others—like through a homeless child at a shelter. Today I pray for people who touched my life in such significant ways.

I look at the long-term effects of addiction on my children, and some

days I think they suffered more than I did. On days when guilt outweighs gratitude, I think of that homeless kid. When I watched my son get into a limousine to attend his senior prom, I wondered about that boy. When my younger son received an award at school and thanked me from the podium, I was grateful my kids got to come back home to me. When my daughter makes me cookies, I see that I can continue to expect the unexpected—like receiving a Christmas gift from my seven-year-old. The gifts I have received in recovery are staggering.

I heard someone say once, “Just knowing I am a miracle isn’t enough. I have to BE the miracle.” Being the miracle to me means riding the wave and passing it on, sharing with others this magnificent gift we call recovery.

April P, Pennsylvania, USA

A beautiful gesture

During the third LAZF event for NA in Cuba in September 2012, I was given a copy of *It Works: How and Why* as a gift. I was told that a member from Venezuela who has been clean in NA more than 25 years sent it for me, and he was suffering from a grave illness that would probably soon take his life. He asked one of the trusted servants from Venezuela to give his book to the person who was leading the opening meeting of the event. That day, thanks to God and to the NA way of doing things, I was being of service. I was very happy when I was given that book. I didn’t have a copy of *It Works* and it would have been a long time before I would be able to buy it even though NA literature is currently sold at a low price due to the economic situation we experience here. Afterwards, I decided to send a letter to the NA member in Venezuela who gave me the book to thank him for such a beautiful gesture and to tell him how fortunate I was to enjoy and benefit from his gesture. I am soon going to celebrate one year clean, and I love NA. It is really the only thing that is worth it. Here in NA, I found my mate, my work, my best friends, everything. They saved my life. Thank you so much!

Dalian, La Habana, Cuba*

**Click here for additional
electronic content.**

* Name has been changed to protect identity.

Our common welfare

First, to *NA Way* readers, thank you for working the program in your lives and for all the work you have done to provide your experience in print for us. The conclusions and cohesive perspectives that result from your shared experiences can take years or decades for an NA group or an individual NA member to achieve. If not for our sharing with one another and our NA literature, we might be repeating the devastating mistakes described in this story. We found our literature to be rich with information in dealing with group problems. Our home group strayed from the [Twelve Traditions](#) just enough to get into trouble. We paid a heavy price to regain a clear understanding and application of the Twelve Traditions and a stable NA group.

In December 1990, two of us started an NA meeting and formed our home group. We have been a stable group for all of these years, except one. Attendance rose and fell many times. About seven years ago, the other cofounding member began bringing his fiancée (who is not an addict by her own determination) to our open meeting. We were in the habit of allowing nonaddicts to share in our meeting, and she began to “share” regularly. Her “sharing” was never about recovery from addiction or even about addiction itself. More often than not it was a response or rebuttal to something she heard in the meeting. We knew that what was happening in our meeting felt wrong, but none of us had the courage to confront the oldtimer’s bride-to-be, so it went on—for years. We kept thinking, “It can’t continue; surely this one will tire of instructing us.” We were wrong.

The day came when we had to find another meeting place due to a building closure. The cofounding member with the fiancée offered space in a building he owned (which was also our original meeting place). We moved to the old meeting place, wooed by the sentimental influence of returning to our place of origin, the dubious privilege to smoke in the meeting place, and our unwillingness to hurt anyone’s feelings.

Within a few months the building became a halfway house under the fiancée’s management. The control she exerted in the household spilled over to us before, during, and after our meetings. Our meeting filled up with residents of the halfway house who followed her example. They didn’t identify as addicts and they spoke of many topics outside of NA recovery. Our nonaddict landlady/cofounder’s fiancée started introducing herself in meetings with, “My name is _____. I am not an addict, but I consider myself a member of this group, and I think...” followed, usually, with a rebuttal to someone’s sharing in the meeting. She also began to attend our group conscience business meetings, and as we feared, also decided she could vote on our business.

In desperation, after a brief discussion at a business meeting, the group voted unanimously to exclude nonaddict sharing during meetings. This was followed by long, irate discussions as we tried to explain the Twelve Traditions. The few who were unhappy with the group’s decision tried every means to convince us that nonaddicts’ membership was guaranteed by the Third Tradition, continuously citing the slogan, “You are a member when you say you are.”

We studied the Basic Text and *It Works: How and Why*, and met to discuss it again. We called NA World for guidance. We spoke to members of other groups and then met again. We talked to our sponsors, and read [The Group Booklet](#), and met again. We wrote letters to NAWS and received responses that included other groups’ experiences and references to literature, and we met again. In the end, the group upheld its decision: “If you have used drugs today, or do not identify yourself as an addict, please refrain from sharing in this meeting and speak to some of us afterward.”

Our long-time friend and cofounding member renounced NA as a whole, then later came back to inform us that he would be at every group conscience meeting to fight us, and promised to make us as miserable as he could. At one point, another member voiced displeasure with his behavior and was verbally abused and physically threatened for it. We also had to cope with abusive

“sharing” in the meetings, name-calling, labeling, defamation, and such. In our city, you cannot have the person who owns a building removed from an event or meeting in the building he owns, so we moved out of the building.

The controversy, self-will, and abuse that scarred our unity also decimated group attendance. Members new and old stopped attending. Some newer members went back to using. Attendance was very low for about a year, just three to seven of us per meeting in a town of about 90,000.

We hope our experience will serve an NA group somewhere, or comfort an addict who is disturbed about his or her home group’s atmosphere of recovery. We encourage everyone who has doubts or strong feelings about nonaddicts participating in Narcotics Anonymous meetings to read all of the literature. You may find yourselves headed down the path we took and find that you can avoid unbearable trouble by acting earlier than we did. We were lax and fearful about following the Traditions, and we must have thought that not disturbing anyone, ever, was the same as patience, tolerance, and unity.

We still welcome nonaddicts to our open meeting, but we are a fellowship of addicts, by addicts, for addicts. If you are an addict, you are a member when you say you are. We do not pound a newcomer on the head with the Twelve Traditions, but we are clear that our Traditions are not negotiable, and should never be compromised. Those of us who stood by the group’s conscience, the Traditions, and the literature are not popular or much admired for it, but we stayed clean, we have an NA group, and we are no longer confused by these issues. We have learned through our grief that our common welfare must come first. Thank you, NA, for all your love, for your encouragement, for your help, and for understanding and comforting us. Those of us who remain now believe this: As surely as an addict who does not work the Twelve Steps will use drugs again, a group that strays too far from the Twelve Traditions will fold or will have to start over.

Bryan H, Texas, USA

NA Renaissance

What a privilege it was to be part of a fellowship development trip to Haiti undertaken by the [Latin American Zonal Forum](#) and NA World Services. We had the opportunity to share information about NA with medical and treatment professionals who will be able to help their patients find NA. We also carried the NA message directly to addicts seeking recovery—and we were able to help them set up their first NA group and hold their first meeting!

Tuesday, 11 December 2012—We arrived to Port-au-Prince Haiti, in the afternoon. A member from the local AA group who was interested in helping get NA started there picked us up at the airport. After dinner, Eduardo S and I reviewed and practiced our presentation.

Wednesday, 12 December—We did a presentation about NA for about 15 therapists and doctors from the treatment center and other clinics. They asked a lot of questions and were interested in what NA has to offer their patients and clients. They told us that the twelve-step meetings currently being held in the treatment center were not receiving wide support.

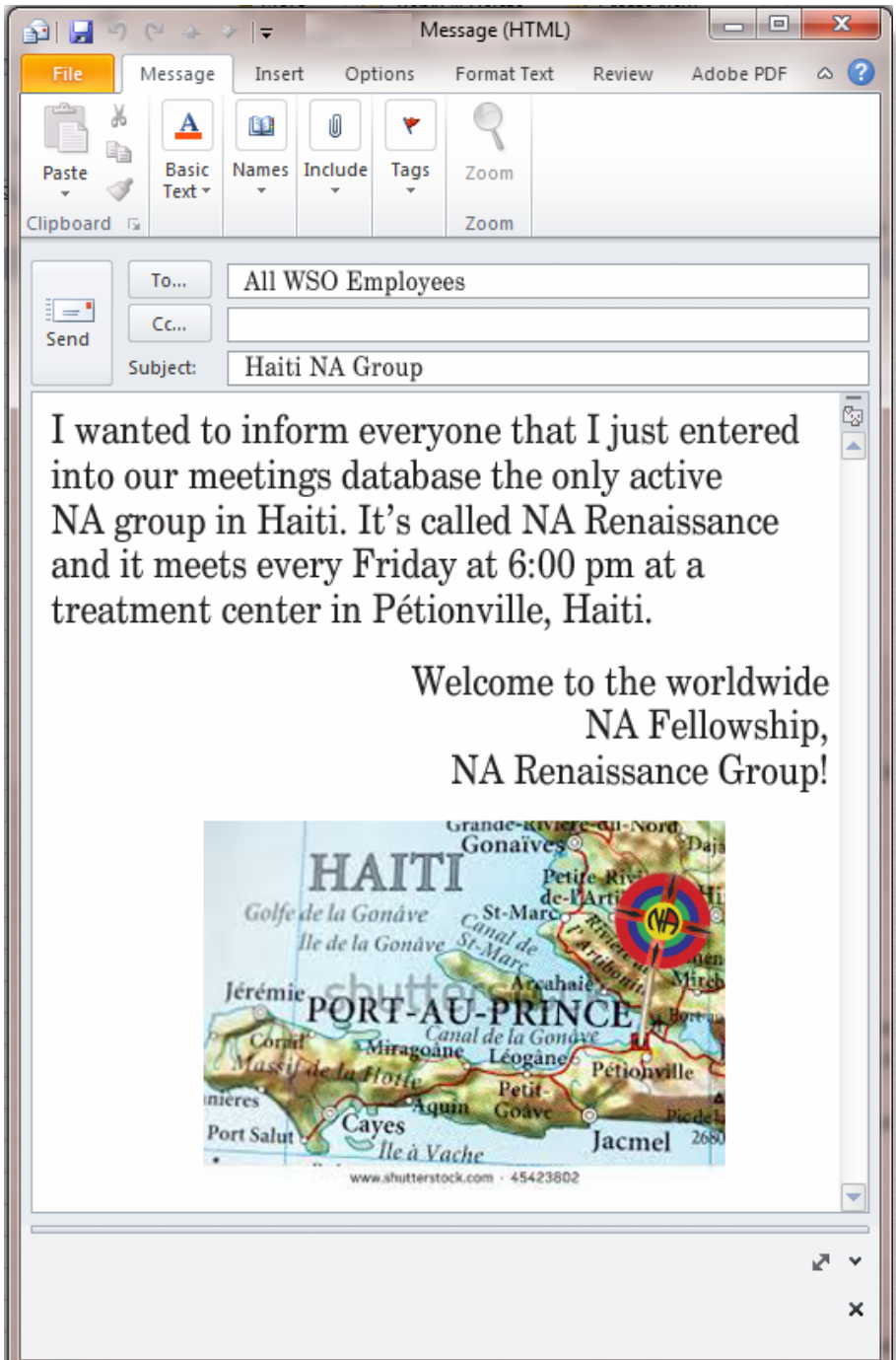
Thursday, 13 December—Our day began with a presentation for the patients at the treatment center. About eleven people attended, amongst them two women who later identified themselves as addicts. When the presentation concluded, we asked if they would be interested in forming an NA group. They said they would—and asked if we could have the first meeting right there and then. Of course, we said, "Yes!"

First we had a short business meeting to discuss and decide on meeting format and schedule. The local home group members decided to choose a name for the group the next day. Coincidentally, there was a man who had relapsed after being in recovery a long time due to the lack of meetings. He lived outside of the city and said he identified very well with the NA program and that he was willing to open another NA group where he lived. After the business meeting, we

had the sharing portion of the meeting. We ended round 2:30 pm and they decided to have another meeting the next day.

Friday, 14 December—We left Haiti in the morning to travel home. That evening I received a message from one of the members notifying me that they had met again. They chose the name NA Renaissance Group, which would meet every Friday from 6:00 to 7:45 pm. Thank you for allowing me to be of service!

*José Luis A, San Juan, Puerto Rico
LAZF Growth and Development Workgroup*





Narcotics Anonymous

WORLD SERVICES



Want to take your recovery with you? NA World Services continues to dedicate resources to remain as current as possible with ever-evolving electronic endeavors. Despite a very aged technology infrastructure and limited resources, the IT team continues to keep us electronically alive and thriving! Click on each of the features below for direct access. All of these electronic resources are certainly a convenience, but more importantly, the increased access gives us avenues to carry the NA message of recovery to more and more addicts, helping to achieve our primary purpose and our vision that one day...

[Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life.](#)

www.na.org • [eblasts and emails](#) • [recovery](#) and [service material](#) • [publications](#)
[eLiterature](#) • [mobile website](#)

Service System Update

Where we've been:

The Service System Project was first approved at the 2008 World Service Conference. Since then we developed A Vision for NA Service and proposed eight resolutions that were passed at the 2012 WSC. For a more in-depth look, the latest *NAWS News* recaps the history of the project

Where we are:

We are continuing to field test ideas for local service described in the proposals, and we've posted a variety of resources on the website, including presentations and workshop materials, and tools for local communities.

Where we're going:

Core community field testing ends July 2013. We'll report on the field test when it's concluded, and information we gather will help inform the *Conference Agenda Report* and the Conference Approval Track material.

For complete project information and materials, visit
www.na.org/servicesystem



Webinars

We are excited about the prospect of being able to offer this service to connect trusted servants with others who perform the same service in their respective communities.

We are continuing our webinars with members of step-writing committees as part of sponsorship behind the walls. These webinars offer the opportunity to exchange information and discuss solutions to common issues. We hope more members of stepwriting committees as part of sponsorship behind the walls will sign up to participate.

We held a public relations web meeting 22 February. Hospitals and institutions held their initial web meeting 27 March. We have scheduled follow-up web meetings and would love for you to join us. Conventions webinars are on the horizon. We are encouraged by the members who have signed up to participate. All PR, H&I, and conventions trusted servants are welcome to sign up. We welcome the shared experience and hope, so that together we can find solutions to common issues.

Please send us your name, contact information (email address), trusted servant position, region, and ideas about what you would like to see discussed to:

events@na.org for conventions

handi@na.org for hospitals and institutions

pr@na.org for public relations/public information

For members interested in the service system project, please watch for updates and avenues of discussion.

Traditions Book Project

The first phase of the Traditions Book Project is well underway, and there is a lot of enthusiasm about the possibilities for this new resource. Many NA communities have held or are planning to hold brainstorming workshops to provide input. The session profile for this workshop is available for anyone who wants to participate in the project at www.na.org/traditions. We have also received source materials like worksheets and essays, so please consider submitting those if you have them, too.

We are framing ideas for an online project discussion board and considering possibilities for more focused input as the cycle moves forward. When it is set up, the discussion board will be available through a link on the project webpage at www.na.org/traditions. We will also post any additional workshop materials on the project page and we will provide notification about those materials through eblasts. To subscribe to NAWS Updates eblasts, please visit www.na.org/subscribe. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far! We look forward to receiving your input and/or questions about the project at worldboard@na.org.

An Introduction to NA Meetings

The review and input period for this pamphlet ended 30 April 2013. Thank you to everyone who provided input! We appreciate your feedback, which will help to ensure that the approval draft is the best it can be. The approval draft will be included as an addendum to the 2014 *Conference Agenda Report*.

World Convention of NA 35: The Journey Continues

NA's 60th anniversary—our Diamond Jubilee!

For the first time along our journey, we'll gather in Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love. Many of you already know that Philly is a great city where we'll be able to create a special and unique world convention. We hope you'll join us for this celebration of our worldwide recovery, diversity, and unity!

Pre-registration and Registration

Early bird registration is closed, but you can still pre-register for \$89 until 31 July. After that, registration will be available onsite for \$99. Please remember that WCNA 35 is a registration-required event—and your early registration allows us to plan much more realistically and practically.

Pre-registration Merchandise

Some pre-registration merchandise is now available only in limited quantities and sizes. For details visit www.na.org/wcna.

Entertainment

Banquet and NA's 60th Anniversary Celebration – Saturday, 31 August. Saturday evening banquet tickets are still available, but we have limited seating, so purchase yours early to guarantee your seat to celebrate NA's 60th anniversary as a fellowship.

Main Concert – Styx – Saturday, 31 August. Spawned from a suburban Chicago basement in the early 1970s, Styx became a prototype arena rock band by the late '70s and early '80s, and they are still going strong.

Comedy Show – Gabriel Iglesias – Friday, 30 August. Comedic superstar Gabriel Iglesias delights audiences worldwide, proclaiming, "I'm not fat...I'm fluffy!" He produces and hosts Comedy Central's "Gabriel Iglesias Presents Stand-Up Revolution," and his credits include The Tonight Show, Conan, Jimmy Kimmel Live, and the movie *Magic Mike*.

Blues Lunch – Royal Southern Brotherhood – Thursday, 29 August. The blood of American music royalty courses through the veins of RSB, fronted by Cyril Neville and Devon Allman, who carry the southern blues-rock lineage of the Neville Brothers and the Allman Brothers.

Jazz Breakfast – Boney James – Friday, 30 August. Make direct contact with the moody and soulful jazz grooves of Grammy-nominated, Billboard chart-topping saxophonist, Boney James.

For more entertainment information, details, and videos, visit www.na.org/wcna.

Being of Service - Volunteer Registration

Want to help make our recovery celebration a success? We will be seeking volunteers to help with entertainment and events, merchandise, program, registration, and many other tasks. For more information, please visit www.na.org/wcna and click on the link to sign up to volunteer at the convention.

Planning Your Journey

Hotel Accommodations – We are constantly adding more rooms on our site, so please check back frequently. To reserve rooms and to get more hotel information, please visit the Conference Direct website at https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupID=17026444.

Local Sites and Travel – Since many members plan vacations around a world convention, we are offering various excursions to sites in and around Philadelphia such as a pre-convention cruise and tours of nearby Amish country, the Liberty Bell, historical neighborhoods and Longwood Gardens. You can also explore Philly's spooky haunts, take a river cruise, explore local shopping, or head to nearby New York City for the day. Learn more at www.phillytour.com/local-sightseeing-tours/p48.

Chartered Buses – If you're planning to charter a bus trip to the convention, please contact Johnny Lamprea (johnny@na.org) for information about your trip's contact person and expected drop-off and pickup times and locations. We will need to arrange for bus permits for convention center drop-offs and pickups. Find more information for you and your bus company here: www.discoverphl.com/travel-trade/transportation-and-bus-parking/.

Other Links

Scooter rentals:

www.scootaround.com/rentals/n/na/

Discounted car rentals:

www.enterprise.com/car_rental/deeplinkmap.do?bid=028&refId=PHILCONV

To receive WCNA email updates (and to subscribe to other NAWS updates and publications), visit www.na.org/subscribe.

www.na.org/wcna





Live from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA!

WORLD UNITY DAY

1 September 2013 — 11:30 am (EDT)

Individual members, groups, areas, and regions can join in the celebration of NA World Unity Day. This is a two-hour telephone hookup to the Sunday morning closing meeting of WCNA 35. We will come together on a worldwide conference call beginning at 11:30 am Eastern Daylight Time. (Go to www.timezoneconverter.com to determine the local time for your community.)

The cost is \$50.00 for calls within the United States and Canada. Complete the registration form below and fax or mail with your check, money order, or credit card information to NAWS; attn: WCNA 35 Unity Day; PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 or fax it to 818.700.0700 on or before **1 August 2013**.

One free hookup will be provided for each region outside of the US and Canada. Please note that free regional links outside the US and Canada must have approval of the region, and we are only able to provide one free hookup per region.

Please provide the following information

Contact Name _____ Contact Phone Number _____

Contact Email Address _____

Region/Area/ Group/Event _____

Event Street Address _____

City/State _____ Country _____ Postal Code _____

Type of event _____ Expected attendance _____

Outside US/Canada? Phone number you will use for the Unity Day call _____

Form of Payment (Check One) Check or Money Order AMEX VISA M/C Discover Diners Club

Cardholder Name _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

Upon receipt of registration, we will provide registrants with a confirmation and meeting access information.

Questions? Call Johnny at 818.773.9999, extension 149 or email johnny@na.org.

Registrations must be received no later than 1 August 2013

www.na.org/wcna



LIVING CLEAN THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

In our lives and in the lives of addicts around the world, we can see change—not only from the desperate, lonely people we were when we got here. We can see great changes

in ourselves and in the way we relate to others from the first time we work the steps compared to our next pass, and our next. Our experience in NA service teaches us to interact with others in environments that are sometimes stressful, and to remain loving and open even as we stand our ground. We learn when it's important to stand for principles, and when it's best to step aside in the name of unity, knowing that a loving God is ultimately in charge. We plan for the future just for today and let go of the outcome, even when we really want it. Living, loving, surviving loss, and celebrating success, we find that the tools of recovery that gave us our lives also help us to live with grace, integrity, and joy. As we practice principles, our understanding grows and deepens.

[Living Clean: The Journey Continues](#),
Chapter One, "Living Clean"



CALENDAR

Multi-day events and those occurring between publication dates are printed according to the schedule posted online. To enter events or to access event details, visit the online calendar at www.na.org/events. (If you don't have Internet access, fax or mail your event info to 818.700.0700, attn: NA Way; or *The NA Way*; Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA.)

Brazil

Iranduba 30 May-2 Jun; Amazonas Area Convention 2; Pousada Amazonia, Iranduba; irandubaadicto@yahoo.com.br

Canada

Alberta 31 May-2 Jun; Edmonton Area Convention 28; Kilkenny Community League Hall, Edmonton; www.eana.ca/index.php/convention

Ontario 17-19 May; Ontario Regional Convention 26; Blue Mountain Resort, Blue Mountains; www.orcna.ca

Denmark

Frederiksberg 17-19 May; Copenhagen Area Convention 20; Sofus Franck School, Frederiksberg; www.nakbh.dk

Ecuador

Loja 24-26 May; Ecuador Regional Convention 15; Centro de Convenciones Punzara Real, Loja; www.naecuador.org

Germany

Berlin 3-5 May; German-Speaking Region/Berlin Area International Convention; Berliner Stadtmission, Berlin; www.binac.de

India

Himachal Pradesh 6-8; First Punjab Area Convention; Hotel Royal Palace, Mcleodganj; Info: 91.9876281649

Mexico

Monterrey 14-16 Jun; Noreste Area Convention 8; Fiesta Inn Monterrey Centro, Monterrey Nuevo Leon; www.canna8.com

Tanzania

Dar es Salaam 21-23 May; First East Africa Regional Convention; Kipepeo Village Palm Beach Hotel Ltd, Dar es Salaam; www.ea-na.com

United Kingdom

Scotland 25-26 May; Scotland-East Coast Area Over Time, Not Overnight; Queen Street Church, Aberdeen, Scotland; cosmicringo@yahoo.com

United States

Arizona 14-16 Jun; Arizona Regional Convention 27; Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa, Tucson; www.arizona-na.org/arcna

California 7-9 Jun; 916 North Area Unity Day/Campout; Loafer Creek Recreation Area, Oroville; www.916northna.org

2) 14-16 Jun; Central Coast Area Serenity under the Stars Campout; Lake San Antonio, North Shore, Bradley; www.serenityunderthestars.net

Connecticut 10-12 May; Straight from the Hip Group Women's Sponsorship Retreat 9; Incarnation Retreat Center, Ivoryton; Info: Straight From the Hip Group; 164 Hanover Street; Meriden CT 06450

Florida 3-5 May; Daytona Area Convention 14; Plaza Resort & Spa, Daytona Beach; www.daytonana.org

Georgia 2-5 May; A Little Girl Grows Up Convention 5; Hilton Atlanta Airport, Atlanta; www.alittlegirlgrowsup.net

2) 7-9 Jun; Central Savannah River Area Convention 25; Marriott Hotel & Suites, Augusta; Info: 706.825.4876

Illinois 24-27 May; Primary Purpose Area River Run 27; Forest Glen Preserve, Westville; www.ppana.org/events

Louisiana 24-26 May; Louisiana Regional Convention 31; Best Western Landmark, Metairie; www.larna.org

Maryland 14-16 Jun; East Coast Convention 17; Washington College, Chestertown; www.eccna.org

Mississippi 3-5 May; Foglifters Group Fellowship under the Stars Campout 4; Roosevelt State Park, Morton; www.mrscna.net

Montana 14-16 Jun; Montana Gathering 25; Symes Hot Springs Hotel, Hot Springs; www.namontana.org

Nebraska 25-27 May; Nebraska Region Run for Fun 33; State Recreation Area, Alexandria Lakes; www.nebraskana.org

2) 14-16 Jun; Kearney Groups Mid-Summer Nights Campout 23; Sandy Channels Campground, Elm Creek; www.nebraskana.org

New Jersey 10-12 May; Frontline Recovery Group United States Service Conference; Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, Atlantic City West; write: Frontline Recovery Group; 423 N Ohio Avenue; Atlantic City, NJ 08401

2) 14-16 Jun; Suburban Essex Area Convention 2; Hanover Marriott, Whippany; www.nanj.org

New York 17-19 May; Recovery in the Woods 25; Camp Pioneer & Retreat Center, Angola; www.nawny.org

2) 24-26 May; Heart of New York Area Convention 9; Holiday Inn Convention Center, Liverpool; www.honyana.org/na_events.htm

3) 31 May-2 Jun; Albany Rensselaer Area Promise of Freedom Campout; Camp Scully, Wynantskill; www.abcdma.org/campout

North Carolina 17-19 May; Inner Coastal/Down East/Cross Roads Area Convention 8; City Hotel & Bistro, Greenville; Info: 919.344.6564

2) 7-9 Jun; Capital Area Convention 24; Hilton North Raleigh Midtown, Raleigh; www.capitalareancna.com/Convention.html

Ohio 4-5 May; Saturday Noon Group Anniversary 23; King Island Conference Center, Mason; Info: 513.746.8277

2) 24-26 May; Ohio Convention 31; Clarion Hotel, Hudson; www.nabuckeye.org

Oklahoma 3-5 May; Never Alone Group Men's Spiritual Retreat; Saints Grove, Glencoe; Info: 405.343.2289

Oregon 17-19 May; Pacific Cascade Regional Convention 19; Red Lion Hotel, Coos Bay; www.pcrna.org

Texas 3-5 May; Habla Hispana de Tejas Area Convention 2; Lake Palestine Resort, Frankston; www.natexas.org

Utah 7-9 Jun; High Uintah Area Celebration of Recovery 27; American Legion Hall, Vernal; www.nautah.org/High_Uintah.htm

Virginia 24-27 May; Marion Survivor's Group Campout 18; Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center, Marion; write: Marion Survivor's Group; 139 West Main Street; Marion, VA 24354

Washington 17-19 May; Washington/Northern Idaho Regional Convention 28; Great Wolf Lodge Convention Center/Water Park, Grand Mound; www.wnirna.org

Wyoming 17-19 May; Upper Rocky Mountain Regional Convention 14; Plains Hotel, Cheyenne; www.wyo-braskana.org

Telephonic 17-19 May; First Telephonic Convention; Phoneline, United States; 209.647.1600 (access code 473468#); www.recoveryonthegona.org

NAWS Product Update

French

*Une ressource
près de chez-vous*

Item No. FR-1604 Price US \$0.35

Enquête sur les membres

Item No. ZPRFR1101 Price US \$0.26



Hungarian

*Egy függő tapasztalata
elfogadásról, hitről
és elköteleződésről*

Item No. HU-3114 Price US \$0.22

Önefogadás

Item No. HU-3119 Price US \$0.22



German

It Works: How & Why
(Softcover)

*Es funktioniert:
Wie und Warum*

Item No. GE-1140 Price US \$7.60



Norwegian

In Times of Illness
Ved sykdom

Item No. NR-1603 Price US \$2.90



PR Basics

Item No. GE-2102B Price US \$1.60

*Geld ist wichtig
Selbsterhalt in NA*

Item No. GE-3124 Price US \$0.48

NA-Dienste finanzieren

Item No. GE-3128 Price US \$0.32



Disruptive & Violent Behavior
*Störendes und
gewalttätiges Verhalten*

Item No. GE-2204 Price US \$0.22



Russian

*Работа над Шагом Четвертым
в Анонимных Наркоманах*

Item No. RU-3110 Price US \$0.70



NA Groups & Medication

NA-Gruppen und Medikamente

Item No. GE-2205 Price US \$0.28

*Social Media
& Our Guiding Principles*

*Soziale Medien
und unsere Prinzipien*

Item No. GE-2207 Price US \$0.28



Spanish

*Un recurso
en su comunidad*

Item No. SP-1604 Price US \$0.35



Swedish

En resurs i samhället

Item No. SW-1604 Price US \$0.35



To Be Discontinued

Available only until limited supplies are sold out

Audiotapes

Basic Text Plus
6-tape set | Item No. 8800

It Works: How and Why
6-tape set | Item No. 8820

Keychain Medallion Holders

Item No. 6090 & 6091

All NA Wallet Cards

Item No. 9060 through 9063

Audio CDs and CD-ROMs

Step Working Guides
Audio CD | Item No. 8830

CD-ROM | Item No. 8911

It Works: How and Why
CD-ROM | Item No. 8910

25-Pocket Literature Rack

Item #9056

Coming Soon



Finnish

The NA Step Working Guides

*Nimettömien
Narkomaanien
askeltyöskentelyopas*

Item No. FI-1400 Price US \$7.70

Norwegian

Sixth Edition Basic Text

Anonyme Narkomane

Item No. NR-1101 Price US \$11.00



Deeply discounted

WCNA. Merchandise

spirit & unity

is available online!

www.hicorpinc.com/na

Clothing, caps, mugs, travel mugs, specialty items like screen/eyeglass cleaning cloths & other WCNA merchandise, too.

Treat yourself or buy a gift for a friend or sponsee/sponsor.

All sales are final and quantities and sizes are limited to stock on-hand.

