



THE
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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Are we ready for a sixth edition?

The World Board will be recommending revisions to the personal stories in the Basic Text, as well as adding a new preface. The board's full recommendation will be published in the 2004 *Conference Agenda Report*. For more information, go to www.na.org/newsmain.htm.

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NA at 50: A legacy of hope; a future of promise

Today, in the year 2003, many of us cannot imagine life without Narcotics Anonymous.

Those of us who are now recovering in NA have inherited the legacy of dreams our founding members left in our keep. We are witnesses to the miracles the simple solution of NA offers. Over the years we have all experienced, in one form or another, the truth of the early statement: "We cannot change the nature of the addict or addiction. We can help to change the old lie 'Once an addict, always an addict,' by striving to make recovery more available."

From that first recovery meeting held in 1953 at the Salvation Army Dad's Club in Sun Valley, California, USA, we as a fellowship have made great strides in carrying our message and making recovery more available. Even back then, the power of the therapeutic value of one addict helping another was evident, and there was hope to harness even more of that power through literature. Think about what it must have been like in those early years, trying to understand our steps and traditions with no books, not even a pamphlet to read and to give to newcomers, and no tools to guide us.

The first NA publication, "Narcotics Anonymous," was printed around 1956. It was an eight-page information pamphlet containing "20 Questions," a synopsis of the NA program, the Twelve Steps, and the addresses of groups in Studio City and San Diego, California. This led to the creation of the original *Little White Booklet* in 1962, which began the legacy of literature development as we have come to know it today.

Those early years were not without struggle and turmoil. As NA began to grow beyond California, it was scattered, loosely structured, and members often did not have a clue as to what was going on with groups outside of their own. It soon became apparent to those early members that in order to have unity within the fellowship, some sort of structure was needed.

In 1975, *The NA Tree* was written, and the first World Service Conference was held in November 1976. That unity led to the publication of our Basic Text in 1983, which had dramatic effects on our fellowship. Almost 30 years after NA first began, we finally had a common voice that spoke for and to us all. The Basic Text helped to bring a sense of unity, legitimacy, and singleness of purpose to a fellowship that sometimes seemed dysfunctional and much too loosely organized.

It was not only literature that brought a sense of unity to our fellowship. Seeing addicts join together to celebrate recovery at conventions can be an awesome experience for many.

In 1971, the first world convention was held, though it was called a conference in the invitation letter. It was held in California with just a handful of attendees—nothing compared to some area and regional conventions we have today with thousands in attendance. And yet, seeing just those few addicts together sharing their experience, strength, and hope was enough for them to keep coming back. How fortunate for us!

What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

"It's okay if you want to use, all you need to do is keep coming back. We will love you until you learn how to love yourself. You never have to use again."

Jamie L, England, United Kingdom

Jimmy K, one of our founding members, summed up those early years of NA at a speech he gave during the 20th anniversary dinner for NA in 1973. He said: "...you know, we're funny people, the more we try to do things together, the more we fight each other and the more we tear each other apart—tear down the very thing we try to build. And that's been the history, up until a few short years ago, of Narcotics Anonymous. We tore down as fast as we built. That's the kind of people we are, and we must recognize that to recover. All of us must know the nature of the illness, the nature of the addict, and the nature of recovery. All these things are necessary to grow, and to live, and to change."

And change we have. Through the growth of our service structure and literature development, we have created tools to help us carry the NA message around the world. As NA's growth has exploded, we are now faced with challenges which only ten years ago would have been unimaginable. With our expansion into countries struggling through religious wars, social and racial discrimination, and economic displacement, we are confronted with situations that test many of our program's core principles. And yet the Twelve Traditions empower us to work together as one. Where else can members of so many different faiths and cultures come together to discuss spiritual principles and hug each other afterwards?

The longer each of us stays clean and in recovery, the more we become a power of example, and society has started to take a serious look at what the fellowship of NA has to offer. This is due in part to the efforts of our Public Information and Hospitals & Institutions work of carrying our message even further.

No longer forced to operate under the cloak of shadows and darkness, addicts today can freely attend any of the 30,000-plus NA meetings held in over 106 countries. In many places, laws have been changed or created that specifically address how addicts are treated. Treatment facilities operate in large metropolitan hubs and smaller cities on a global scale, as well as some of the most remote areas around the world. While the stigma of being an addict still follows

many of us, society is slowly coming to accept that the lie *is* dead—we, as recovering addicts, do become productive and responsible members of society.

Part of our vision statement states that NA will have universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery. We have made tremendous progress but still have a long way to go. Part of that has to be learning how to carry our message with respect for both our diversity and our unity.

Where do we go from here?

We have been given such a remarkable gift in Narcotics Anonymous. By staying clean just for today we have the freedom to live a life many of us never thought possible. But the Fellowship of NA today is not some living, breathing entity that can maintain itself into eternity.

No. Narcotics Anonymous depends on you and you and you. It is the "we" that makes this fellowship so special. Together we can, but we must each offer our own contributions. The continuation of NA into the near and distant future depends upon the footwork each one of us does.

When was the last time you reached out to a newcomer and offered to take him out for coffee after a meeting?

Did you hurry over to that homeless woman, who was not dressed like you, as she slipped quietly out of the meeting? Did you hug her and offer to give her your phone number?

How many Twelfth Step calls have you been on in the last month? What about over the last year? Do you know what a Twelfth Step call is?

What are you doing to encourage diversity in your local NA community? Do you go to the same meetings every week or do you try different ones in different areas of your town?

Are we truly embracing the "regardless of" principle? Or are we getting too comfortable in our established meeting routines, so that newcomers feel as if they interrupted some special meeting instead of feeling like they just came home?

Are we becoming the inclusive fellowship we have been talking about? Does our literature speak to all of our members, or just to newcomers?

Jimmy K went on in his 1973 speech to say: "We're growing faster now than we ever did before....There are more opportunities for each and every one of us to find our place in Narcotics Anonymous and carry the message of recovery to addicts all over the world now. But it's going to take everything all of us got, it takes everything we've got to stay in this program. This is a blood-and-guts program....If you're an addict, you've got a lot of guts to begin with or you wouldn't be here; so let's put them to good use. Let's take this thing that we've got and make something better, even than it is, out of it. You know that I've said many times, a long time ago, that a man without a dream is only half a man, and a fellowship without a vision is a farce. And I still believe that and know damn well that we can find fulfillment in living a day at a time here. And a day at a time, our vision and our fellowship can become a greater reality. This is a program of life and living. I've been serious long enough, and I hope for the rest of the night we all have a hell of a lot of fun, because that's what living's all about!"

The reality of recovery is our legacy. By staying clean and practicing the principles of the NA program, we are given the ability to share our message of hope with another person, and that person with another person, and so on and so on.

The power embodied in the simple principle of one addict helping another can bring our vision to fruition so that "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."

NA World Services



"There are people out there on La Cienega Boulevard dying of our disease. There are people all over this world dying of our disease. And believe it or not, we are truly the only people who can really help them. Let's never forget that. You and I have been given, through illness, through suffering, and through disease, a talent for helping other human beings like ourselves. Let's never forget that..."

Excerpt from Jimmy K's speech at the 20th anniversary celebration of NA

What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

"I heard an older woman talking about things that I thought only I had done. (I was 25.) They were the things I was most ashamed of; I never told anyone about them. Those were some of the sickest feelings I ever lived through, and yet here was this woman talking about them. She gave me such hope. She looked great and so confident. And she had 27 years clean."

Mohamed A, Cairo, Egypt

A bit of NA history

The following article was taken from the October 1993 issue of The NA Way Magazine. We have reprinted it exactly as it appeared in that issue.

In last month's issue, we looked at the formation of NA's first service body, a group steering committee. In a talk given at the 20th anniversary celebration of NA, Jimmy K spoke of how these founding trusted servants struggled to establish an identity separate from Alcoholics Anonymous. Bylaws were written, a purpose defined, and a meeting hall secured. This month we'll hear about the first recovery meetings and other events occurring in NA's first 20 years.

An additional note: Particularly in a posthumously published work, the reader has a right to know what, if any, editing has taken place. Because of the historical significance of this audiotape transcription, only punctuation has been added to help the reader through incomplete sentences, etc. Other than that, this article is printed verbatim.

Jimmy K: I got news for you. The Sunland Lumber Company (a company near the site of NA's first recovery meeting) is now defunct, but we're still living. The Salvation Army hall is still there. There are two pictures of it up on the top line... It is now a Spanish church. Some of the other pictures up there are where we had some of our "rabbit meetings." We called them "rabbit meetings" then because we never knew where we were going to meet. If there were five or six of us at a meeting tonight, we decided then whose apartment or whose house we'd have the meeting in next week. And you would take the cups and sugar bowls and the format with you, and then we'd meet at your place next week.

It wasn't that we who were getting into the program then were so afraid of the law, but the newcomers were scared to death. I made a sign and we put it outside of the front door of the church there... About twice the size of this, three times the size of that, that said, "NA Meeting Tonight at 8:30." And then we opened the door for business and we'd get about a dozen alcoholics in there who came to help us. And then a car would pull down around the corner slowly and they'd look at the sign and then they'd split. Nobody trusted nobody. You know, they thought it was staked out. They wouldn't believe us when we told them there was no surveillance. And we weren't too sure in the beginning ourselves.

Because as a group we decided we were going to get right with the law at least, we went down to the Narcotics Division and we told them—we didn't ask them—we told

them we were going to have a meeting of addicts. And they raised their eyebrows a little bit when we first mentioned it. But there were five of us down there. A Miller, I forget if he was a lieutenant or a captain there, he listened and he said, "It's about time something like this happened. I've been trying to help addicts for years and with no success; I can't help anybody." And so he called in a lieutenant to listen in on our conversation and see what he thought. And he was a hard-nosed, old-style, hope-to-die cop who knew for sure that none of us could recover, you know. And he listened and Miller was saying, "I like that idea. I'll go along with that idea. I buy what you have to say. I'll do everything I can to help you."

All the way down the line he was all for us. He kept his word, by the way. And he said to this lieutenant, "What do you think?" The lieutenant said, "Ain't gonna work: once a junkie always a junkie. You know that, goddamn it. There's never any of them gonna get any better. I don't care what you say, I don't care what these people say, it ain't gonna work."

So he looked back at us and I didn't know what the hell to say, you know, I'm only one of the group. I looked at Doris and she didn't know what to say. And Frank didn't know what to say. And old Pat, who was sitting back there with his mouth shut all this time and never opened his mouth says, "Lieutenant, my name is so-and-so, I was born and raised in such-and-such a place, I got arrested the first time for such-and-such a thing, and I was sentenced such-and-such a time for so many years; and starting there I want you to go back and check my record all the way through. I've been in every goddamned federal pen, except Dannemora, in the country. I'm the last of the Petermen, and I haven't had a bit of junk for 18 years. I haven't been in jail for 18 years, and this program works for me. Now you look it up and prove it to yourself because I was never out of jail from the time I was a kid until the time I found this program." And the guy didn't know what to say. Pat said, "Now I mean it, check it out."

Whether the guy ever checked it out, I don't know, but I know that the police department and the Narcotics Division

kept their word to us. And they never staked us out, they never busted us in any way, shape, or form, never roused us coming or going to meetings. And so we, in turn, kept our word. We policed ourselves and we followed the traditions as best we knew how. And this is what has made us basically begin to grow in the last twelve years.

A few of the pictures up there were men, one man in particular, who started AA within some of the federal institutions many years ago and helped us start Narcotics Anonymous in Walla Walla, in San Quentin, and a few other places. Les has since died too.

I don't know what the hell I made these notes for, anyway, 'cause I'm not following them.

We did begin in 1960 again, the beginning of 1960, with about four people. And started to build the group up again according to the original concept: the steps for the individual and the traditions for the groups. And we've been growing slowly and steadily ever since. Primarily, I believe, we've been growing because we haven't had the domination of any one group of people, particularly in the area that most of us know, the California area. I think primarily that is the reason, the main reason, for the big difference. Plus, the fact that more and more addicts know the value of Twelfth Step work. It used to be we could never get addicts to go on Twelfth Step calls.

Some strange things used to happen, you know, when about eight or ten addicts in a group would descend on some poor, unsuspecting little junkie who was dying in a back room someplace in his mother's home. And we'd descend on him like hornets. Whooo!! You know! Everybody'll get scared. We had to go in groups because nobody would go alone or singularly or in couples to go. Everybody was afraid they would get loaded if they went and called on another addict. So that was another one of the myths that we built up ourselves, that we can't go and call on somebody who's using without using ourselves. One of the greatest lies of all time. You know it ain't true, not a damn bit true. And this is one of the reasons we grow. Plus the fact that we follow, possibly, the best thing that

any of us can do: We are willing to listen.

Bob, what did you do with my other notes? Steal them? Oh, here they are.

I resigned one time as chairman of NA before it really got going again because of the very thing I'm talking about. I resigned because we were not following the traditions of Narcotics Anonymous. It's a strange thing, I said I was going to mention it tonight and then I decided against it, but I am going to talk about it. Because actually, although we had meetings going for several years, for about four years there was no Narcotics Anonymous. Because one of the things we said: that we would call ourselves an NA organization and fellowship as long as we used the steps and the traditions. So when we stopped using the traditions and became a one-man-rule proposition there was no longer really any NA.

I mention it for two reasons, because it died out and there were only a few of us left, but it also points out the fact that this program—once we begin to live it, we can't let it go—it's going to grow again. This program is not going to die out if all of us in this room right now, and this is a miracle in itself, if all of us in this room don't make it, this fellowship is not going to die out. Not because I say so, but because that's the very nature of recovery: that once there is the knowledge that something can be done it is never lost, somebody will pick it up and continue. We've come an awful long way. I paraphrase commercials an awful lot and there's a good paraphrase in our structure of Virginia Slims: "You've come a long way baby, you know, to get where you are now." And, I'm not going to say a hell of a lot more because, ah, I'm too high right now. I'm going through the ceiling right now....

There are people out there on La Cienega Boulevard dying of our disease. There are people all over this world dying of our disease. And believe it or not, we are truly the only people who can really help them. Let's never forget that. You and I have been given, through illness, through suffering, and through disease, a talent for helping other human beings like ourselves. Let's never forget that we have it and that we are responsible for others. But primarily, we must

be responsible to ourselves. And I seldom talk about Higher Powers, the particular concept of a Higher Power that I have, around the group but, believe me, I have it. And I don't know how many people are in this room tonight. I don't know if there's a 100 here or 110 or 112, but over and above all of us, and in and through all of us, there's a power that there isn't anywhere else in the world.

That's what Narcotics Anonymous is all about. That's what it will always be all about. And I'm serious tonight. And I hope for the rest of the night we all have a hell of a lot of fun, because that's what living's all about. Thank you very much.

Recovering in Sweden

The following article and artwork were printed in the January 1991 issue of The NA Way Magazine.

I am a recovering addict in the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in Stockholm, Sweden.

I have had six weeks of vacation from work during my first year in recovery. Most people outside the fellowship would think I was crazy. Five of these weeks were spent in a treatment center for drug addiction, and the last one I just spent doing my first Fourth and Fifth Step with my sponsor.

While writing my inventory, I felt almost nothing when my "deep dark secrets" surfaced. I had to share them in my Fifth Step and was worried that it would become just "simply a reading of Step Four" with my sponsor. Since "worrying is a lack of faith," I decided to trust the God of my understanding and go on. When I sat down in front of my sponsor, I knew everything would be just fine. As I started to share the things that I felt most ashamed of having done I had to pause because I felt all tied-up. In that pause (I do talk a lot) he just said one sentence and I experienced the feelings. I started crying, and I was crying over me.

I was there when it happened. I did those things to myself, not only to the people I had hurt. I had hurt myself the most. I felt as if that one sentence had pulled out a plate of steel separating my head from my guts. I walked out of my sponsor's house on light feet. I felt so good. I felt like I had thrown a rucksack off my back.

The following day I went to the convention in Uppsala, just north of Stockholm, that our ASC and the group in Uppsala had arranged for the weekend. What a thrill. One hundred and three people registered and the countdown showed our total clean time to be 123 years, eleven months, and seven days. The fellowship in Sweden is only four years old, and today there are over 20 meetings in the eastern area alone. During the convention I received several spiritual gifts. Two of them were special to me.

For the first time I agreed to be someone's sponsor. Secondly, a woman I vaguely recognized walked up to me. With a spark in her eyes she said: "You were the first one who talked to me at my first NA meeting six months ago." It turned out she now had 60 days clean. I could feel that her program worked. I felt elated over the gifts and more, that I was able to receive them.

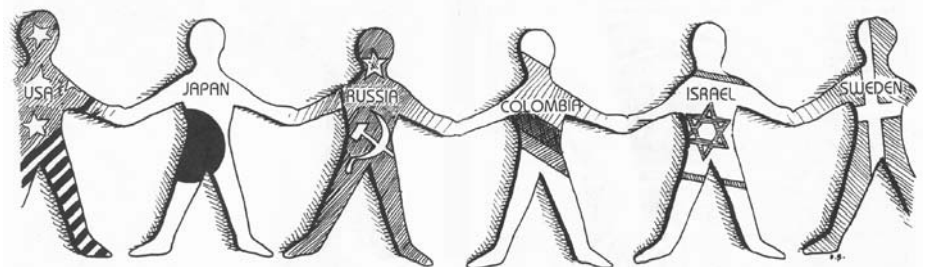
I am forever grateful to all the addicts in NA from the first group in 1953, over every link in the chain that finally reached me, to every newcomer yet to walk into these rooms. I am not ashamed anymore.

KG, Sweden

What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

"I heard the 'we.' I remember coming in from the cold to an embracing welcome. I felt at home at once and have not left since."

Sisko H, Sweden



NA in Hong Kong, Malaysia, & Singapore

The following article and artwork were printed in the September 1991 issue of The NA Way Magazine. (In 1990, a member traveled through three developing NA communities and sent NAWS this report.)

Hong Kong

I arrived in Hong Kong on Friday night, 9 November 1990, and was met by two members of the Hong Kong fellowship who I had been speaking with by telephone since the early planning of this trip. I left my arrangements for accommodation, week-end schedules for talks, and a business meeting to the local members, and they were very helpful and hospitable.

Background of the NA community

1. Correspondence with World Service Office over the last couple of years has been mainly for two specific purposes:
 - A. Meeting list details.
 - B. Literature orders.Because there is no formal service structure in this NA community yet, this has covered five individual members' addresses, with no central files being kept. The Hong Kong mailing address is: 10 Borrack Rd, Hong Kong.
2. This NA community emerged in the summer of 1987 with the help of three AA members and one NA member who visited Hong Kong on a regular basis. They started a weekly meeting. In 1988, three members came to work in Hong Kong, and the fellowship hosted two meetings per week in Kowloon.
3. It is worth noting that this fellowship had no assistance, referrals, or cooperation from professionals or institutions until very recently. There is a lot of work to do in this area (PI and H&I), and they will need assistance and support from World Services.
4. There are only four core members in this community. Two are dedicated to service work, and they attend only NA meetings. The rest of the membership is made up of travelers (e.g., merchant seamen) and other members who come intermittently. Most newcomers come from referrals from another Twelve-Step fellowship and one particular institution.
5. When other Twelve-Step members drop in, the meeting usually takes on an extremely different atmosphere—usually a “drinkalogue.” For this reason, the Hong Kong members asked that the article on suggested language/format be mailed to them.
6. This community has been operating under the NA name since 1987 but it is still struggling. It has always used conference-approved literature right from the start. Group service positions and traditions are now being adhered to (since February 1989).
7. Clean time varies from zero to five years. Except for the Hong Kong rep who has over five years clean time (and who originally got clean in the United Kingdom), the average clean time would be five-six months. Male to female ratio is approximately 2:1.

8. For about the last three months there has been a loose service structure in operation. Hong Kong currently has one group operating two meetings. Group positions are secretary and treasurer.
9. The Hong Kong NA community does not participate at the WSC. The reason for this is only financial. They did send a report last year, but it obviously did not reach its destination. Now that there is a service structure, they will try to send a report this year to the WSC.

Aims and objectives of this visit

The aims and objectives of visiting this part of the world are obviously to open up communication lines in the South Pacific/Asian community, which has had very little World Service attention. Due to the enormous potential of the incredible concentration of addicts in this part of the world, NA must begin twelve-stepping in this area. I believe we have opened the door.

General questions

Due to their consistent receipt of the *Newsline* and *The NA Way*, they were surprisingly up-to-date with current issues within the fellowship.

They asked if they could get some standard letters to health professionals, etc., that may aid them in their PI and H&I efforts. They also asked that they be sent anything on file that has proven beneficial to other new and emerging communities that could help them.

This NA community is entirely white European and middle class. No native (Chinese) members have yet found their way to NA. There are six million people in Hong Kong. Two percent of those are non-Chinese. There are something like 50,000-60,000 heroin addicts, by government estimates. There are treatment centers, but no Twelve-Step programs within this community. The local Hong Kong members could not imagine the native Chinese coming to their meetings due to the cultural differences.

For NA to be available to natives of Hong Kong, they said, we would need literature in Cantonese. Also another problem pointed out was that the “admission of powerlessness” would be an

incredibly hard thing for the Chinese to identify with, as it is totally foreign to their culture.

H&I and PI can be done with the British expatriates, but to reach Chinese addicts, we would need translations of our literature so that the professionals could help to our message. All professionals work with their clients in Cantonese. The local fellowship welcomes any support we can give them to reach these professionals, as long as they get a copy of what is being sent so that they could follow up. There is no pre-existing opinion among professionals about NA at the moment, as it is so small and unheard of. The main problem here is that there are "the Westerners and the rest," or "the Chinese and the rest," with no in-between.

The biggest encouragement to the Hong Kong fellowship is communication and networking with the Americans and Australians who travel through, and the established pen pals they have from these countries. This fellowship depends at the moment on visitors/servicemen for fresh recovery and they urged me to let everybody know of their existence and desire for communication. The Hong Kong fellowship also asked that loners in Asia contact them, so that they may pass their contact name onto travelers passing through Hong Kong. They were aware of members in Malaysia, Philippines, and Manila, but no formal contact has been made. The Hong Kong fellowship asked the WSO to send them a

contact list of other Asian members. This could easily be the beginning of a South Pacific service conference/convention.

They have a phonenumber with an answering machine that lists the NA meetings.

The only periodicals that the Hong Kong group gets are the *Newsline* and *The NA Way Magazine*. They have requested future copies of the *Fellowship Report*, *Meeting by Mail*, *PI News*, and *Reaching Out*, and any literature reviews coming up, e.g., steps and traditions, H&I, as well as international phone directories and current H&I guidelines.

Meetings are listed in the *World Directory*. Although they have a phonenumber, the committee currently has a letterbox, not a PO Box.

Some general information

AA has eight meetings per week with a membership of about 60-70 people. They have just celebrated their 21st anniversary.

As you can see, there is some work to be done in this NA community. AA has obviously had its struggles, and maybe we can learn from this experience.

It was a learning experience but I am optimistic we can help the Hong Kong fellowship mature and grow.

Malaysia

The aims and objectives of this trip were:

1. To make contact.
2. See how World Services can be of assistance.
3. Check to see if our information is up-to-date.
4. Link up the Malaysian fellowship with Hong Kong, Singapore, and Australia.
5. Show them that we care.

The member who I did most of my communicating with got clean in Sydney, Australia, and had attended NA regularly prior to being deported. He now has approximately six years clean time and is a founding member of the Malaysian fellowship.

Background of the NA community

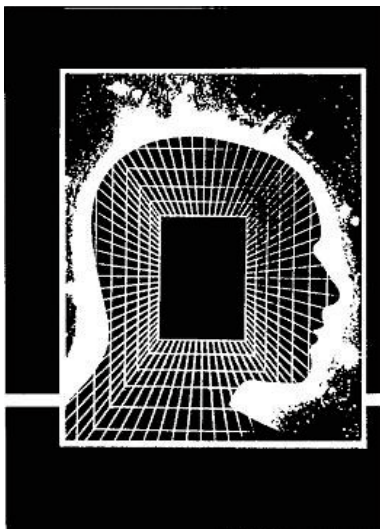
1. There has been no previous correspondence with World Services other than registration of their group on a goat farm in Kuala Lumpur, which has been operating for approximately one and one-half years, plus Malay translations of:
 - a) *Who is an addict?*
 - b) *What is the NA program?*
 - c) *How it works.*
2. In 1987 this NA member, along with AA members, started the first NA meeting in Kuala Lumpur. This was at the suggestion of some AA members that addicts would better identify in their own fellowship.
3. Of the 15-20 members, there are approximately four key members who are the steering force behind NA in Kuala Lumpur.
4. The Kuala Lumpur fellowship has been operating under the NA name since 1987. Group service structure is in place (i.e., secretary and literature person), but there is no other formal service structure.
5. This group is aware of the traditions and is self-supporting, but there has been no H&I or PI work done yet. This fellowship uses only NA literature, they have never heard of NA tapes and requested the possibility of having some sent there.

General questions

All of the four members I contacted were extremely helpful. They were excited that someone was bothering to contact them.

World Services was perceived to be very far removed, but helpful as far as literature.

When I asked these members if World Services could be of service, there was a resounding "yes!" The way they need help is by giving professional PI presentations to their government, as no treatment programs or agencies can set up in Malaysia without going through the home ministry. NA will need to have credibility in order to get referrals. We



need to educate the government officials who run the treatment programs. Members informed me that drug addicts are considered number one public enemies of the country.

At present there are no female members in Malaysia. I was told that this was the result of the tradition and culture of this country.

Most agencies/treatment centers' attitudes towards NA is not positive because they believe addiction is curable. In the same geographic zone, close to this NA community, there is one prison (whose population of approximately 1500-2000 are addicts exclusively), one treatment center, and two halfway houses, none of which advocate NA meetings.

All available translations have been forwarded to WSO. The closest NA community to Kuala Lumpur is in Singapore and is held in a halfway house. Apparently it would be unusual for Malays to visit that meeting.

This NA community has no office or central literature distribution point.

To the best of these members' knowledge, they do not receive any of the regular world service periodicals such as the *Fellowship Report*, *Newsline*, *Meeting by Mail*, *PI News*, or *Reaching Out*.

Singapore

If you are a drug addict in Singapore they confiscate your passport. Most addicts in Singapore end up in prison. Drug trafficking is penalized by the death sentence. I was participating in a field trip to Seralang Prison where all the inmates were there for drug addiction. When we left, I got on the wrong bus. This bus took me and ten other participants to a halfway house. After a guided tour, they gave us a 20-minute seminar about their program. At the end of the seminar, the presenter said that they have a self-help group every Wednesday night, and it was called an NA meeting. I returned to the hotel, collected my two fellow Australian NA members, and returned to the halfway house to attend our only NA meeting in Singapore.

The meeting was great! All the NA members, except for us, were Islamic. All the literature was conference-approved. Although it had a treatment-center atmosphere to it, it was still an NA meeting. Because we were visitors and had clean time of 16, 12, and 11 years respectively, guess what, we were the guest speakers. After we finished sharing, all the other members also shared—some in English, some in Islamic. It was a great atmosphere. The meeting has been sponsored by one of the older members for some time. He got clean in the US and knew the value of NA.

At the end of the meeting there was no Serenity Prayer. The prayers came from the Koran.

Interestingly, the female member with us was the only female addict in the room. The majority of the members in the room were residents of the halfway house. Women may have a problem recovering here due to tradition and cultural restraints, as in Malaysia.

Taking into account all of the above, it was a great meeting, the members in Singapore identified with us emphatically, they were very hospitable and were quick to collect all the leftover literature from the conference I was attending.

It would be very unusual for any Singaporean to attend an Islamic meeting. So, once again, like in Malaysia and Hong Kong, cultural/religious barriers need to be overcome or sorted out for NA to build some sort of foundation.

There is no H&I or PI work being carried out due to the stigma of addiction in this country. Recovering addicts are scared to show themselves. Generally, treatment centers at the moment are not encouraging NA. It is still illegal for addicts to congregate or meet in public.

There is no phonenumber or mailing address for NA, only the halfway house where this meeting is held.

I left this fellowship with warm feelings of acceptance and they also asked me to tell everyone in Australia to drop in when traveling through.



**For an update on China, visit our website at www.na.org.
Click on NAWS News April 2003.**

Personal from Panama

The following article and artwork were printed in the April 1988 issue of The NA Way Magazine.



I got out of treatment in New Orleans in July of 1987 and returned to my home in Panama. I started attending Spanish language NA meetings with the group established there. As I am not too proficient with the language, I was having a difficult time listening and sharing. Sometime in August I decided to start an NA group in English.

The local AA group had an open night on Thursdays, so I asked them if I could use their meeting hall to try and form an NA group. They gave permission, and we announced the meeting through various substance abuse counseling services.

At the first three or four meetings were myself, a coffee pot, and old HP. Sometimes, an alcoholic would come by and share with us. Finally the message started to get out. One or two people showed up around the end of September.

HP sent us a gift. A member from Texas who had 19 years clean came to Panama. He helped to arrange an event at another member's house. We had a super party with Tex-Mex food and loads of dancing and fun. From that point on, the two groups have been supporting and helping each other.

After every meeting, we all gather at a coffee shop in Panama City and have great fellowship until around midnight—about five or six nights a week.

Both groups continue to grow and add more meetings. The Panama Canal group is up to three meetings a week and has eight to ten regular members. The Spanish group has 30 to 40 regulars and six meetings a week. One of the Spanish group's trusted servants keeps us in close contact with the NA groups in Medellín, Colombia.

Anyway, this is to let you know that NA in Panama is alive and well, and will continue to be so as long as it's HP's will. If any of you are traveling through, please give us a call. We would really be pleased and honored to share what we have with you.

I've recently had the privilege of visiting the World Service Office and was given a tour of the facilities. What a super group of people! They really did all they could and more to make me feel comfortable and a part of the group, as well as showing me all of the Spanish literature that I needed for our group in Panama. I am so grateful for this program and a loving God who made it possible for me to be here today and to be able to share with you.

JG, Panama

What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

"I heard people saying how they were staying clean, even serene. I heard about being drug-free heroes just for one day, about doing the dishes even when you feel like throwing in the towel, about every bad thing passing—about how NA actually worked."

*Redmer Y,
Wellington, New Zealand*

Jeden Uzależniony Pomaga Drugiemu
Seorang Pecandu Menolong Pecandu Lainnya

En rusavhengig hjelper en annen

50 willik iyilesme kutlanıyor

成癮者相互幫助

האנו מציינים 50 שנה

30,303 Meetings a week

19,742 Groups

106 Countries

50 Years of Anniversary

47 Languages

28 Years of service

12 Steps, Traditions, and Concepts

9 Keytags

4 sides of the pyramid

3 of these that are indispensable are...

1 Message

“An addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way of life”

This graphic submitted by
Our Primary Purpose Group, Tel Aviv

Ένας ναρκομανής που βοηθάει
আরোগ্যের পথ শি বছর উদযাপন

Празднование 50-ти летыздоровления

مساعدة لمدة 50 سنة

回復50周年のお祝い



Primary Purpose

"There are many ways of doing things in Narcotics Anonymous. And just as all of us have our own individual personalities, so will your group develop its own identity, its own way of doing things, and its own special knack for carrying the NA message. That's the way it should be. In NA we encourage unity, not uniformity."

The Group Booklet, pg. 1

This is a column for you, about you, and by you. We invite you to share any challenges your group may have faced, how your group reached a solution, or its "special knack" that keeps you coming back!

Newcomer to NA, but during a business meeting?

We all agree that the newcomer is the most important person in our meetings, but what happens when a newcomer arrives for the first time during a business meeting or during a group conscience meeting?

A group in my area decided that when a newcomer arrived at one of its meetings, they would talk about the First Step to help him or her relate. In the following two weeks, that group greeted at least one newcomer each day. Soon after that, the group felt it had been saturated and changed that policy so they could share about the rest of recovery, as well.

A few years ago in my home group, the member who led the meeting was eager to make the newcomer feel at home and asked the newcomer to share just as he arrived at the meeting. I might not have objected to this, but the newcomer was loaded and ended up telling jokes in the meeting.

These situations taught me that newcomers can cause a lot of disruptions in groups when members who have been around for a while are not clear about how to maintain the atmosphere of recovery at the meeting.

In defense of the newcomer, I have seen a lot of outrageous things in NA meetings. Experience, especially mistakes, can teach us valuable lessons. But we cannot grow if we continue making the same mistakes over and over.

A while ago I attended one of my region's business meetings. A lot of us have the bad habit of not arriving on time to these meetings. This is something that discourages us and keeps us from doing service work more efficiently. So we wait a few minutes before starting the meeting.

After waiting a while longer, we had a surprise. We saw a beautiful girl enter the room looking for an NA meeting. Apparently she was confused; she arrived at the right place but on the wrong day.

She seemed very disappointed, but at the same time it seemed like she really wanted to talk to someone about her problem. As one of my fellow members realized that she needed help, he asked someone to accompany her to a different room and to share with her, without interrupting our business meeting.

The majority of the members decided to invite the newcomer to stay with us in our meeting. And, of course, the business meeting continued to be postponed until the majority of the members were sure that the newcomer was calmer.

I asked myself if it was necessary to distract that many people to accomplish this. I had put aside some time and energy that evening to attend a business meeting for my region, but I ended up listening to stories about drug use, withdrawal symptoms, and recovery predictions. My facial expression could not hide my anger—I can never hide this. Then someone told me in a defiant and mocking manner, "The newcomer is the most important person in our meetings."

I agree. Thanks to that. I have been clean in NA for eight years. However, I have learned something. When my son was born, my conception of the newcomer took a different path. I understood that the baby (newcomer) couldn't do anything without his parents (oldtimers). But I also understood that it does not make any sense that both his father and mother do the same job to pay attention to him.

While one parent is changing his diapers the other can prepare his milk bottle. In the same way we can warmly greet and take in the newcomer, and also continue with the business at hand. It is only a matter of priorities. In my opinion, anything else has to do with ego.

Yes, the newcomer is the most important person in our meetings, but our oldtimers, our loner members, our members who have relapsed—you and I—are also important. All of us in one way or another are "the addicts who still suffer."

Our business meetings are also important. After all, the newcomer may not find what he is looking for in NA if trusted servants avoid our responsibility. It's important that we do not try hard to carry the message only on the pretext of appearing as very spiritual and generous people to the newcomer who comes to NA for the first time.

It has been some time since this episode above took place, but I still ask myself about principles before personalities. I often wonder if my fellow members and me would have acted in the same way if that newcomer had not been a pretty girl but a dirty, smelly man.

Anonymous, Lima, Peru

Signs of spiritual growth evident at WCNA-29

Saturday, 6 July 2002 was the hottest day of the year in Atlanta, with the temperature near 100 degrees Fahrenheit and the humidity soaring. Thousands of recovering addicts were steadily converging on the CNN Center, and the lobby was beginning to look more and more like a giant can of sardines.

By 2:00, it was getting hard to move around, but new faces from faraway places kept showing up on the steps. Occasionally, a home group or area member would pop up out of the crowd with smiles and hugs.

Although the heat and long lines of waiting took its toll on those smiles, the serenity was still there and the air of recovery was refreshing and cool. That was a day I'll never forget.

On Friday, I worked as a "serenity keeper." The merchandise line was stressful. Lots of people crossed over the chain barriers in line for legitimate and illegitimate reasons. I saw tempers flare, and small arguments broke out between serenity keepers, police, and members. There were also some dangerous situations involving crowd control around entrances and escalators.

I went home after the merchandise sold out because I only had two hours of sleep the night before. My energy level was low from standing and asking people to show their tickets at the jazz breakfast. I needed a shower and rest.

All in all, I was encouraged to see so much spiritual growth and patience in spite of the stress. I was thinking about how so many of us used to be, in our old behavior, when we would crash down fences and gates at concerts and splatter authorities with full cans of beer. Man, we've come a long way!

I honestly don't think 30,000 normal people could have handled themselves as well as 30,000 addicts did on the hottest weekend of the summer at WCNA-29!

As a recovering addict who owes my life to my Higher Power and the NA program, I wish to express my appreciation to all who had a part in WCNA-29. Some of you worked harder than others and found yourselves in awkward, unfair, and potentially dangerous situations during that convention. You are the ones who made it possible for WCNA-29 to be the place of spiritual growth that it surely was.

Barry B, Georgia, USA

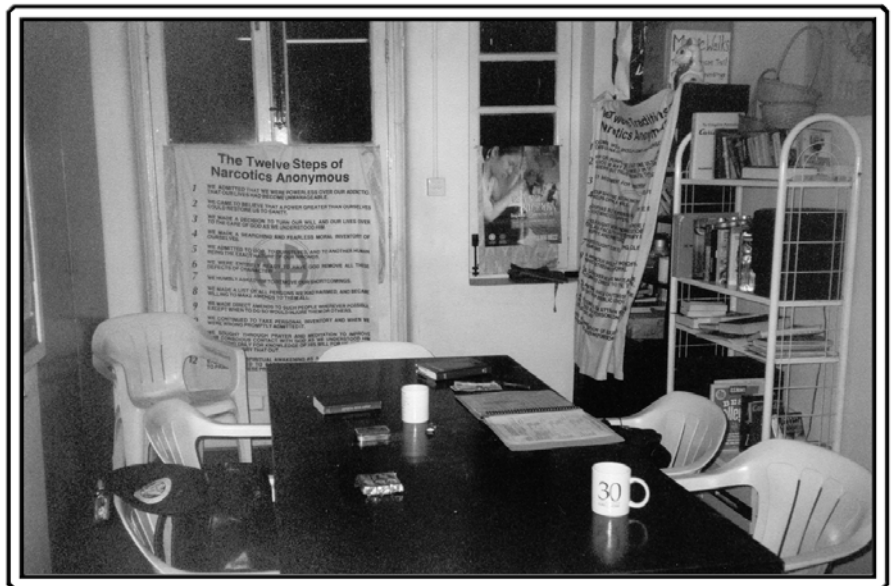
What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

"A man I had only met once came up to me, asked me how I was, and remembered my name. For me, it was a really big deal that he remembered my name."

Mike C, Maryland, USA

Picture this

NA communities are invited to send photographs of their meeting places. We especially welcome photos that include meeting formats, recovery literature, posters, dirty coffee cups, and anything else that makes the meeting place look "lived in." Sorry, we cannot use photos that identify NA members. Please tell us about your meeting, its name, the location and city, how long it has been in existence, and what your format consists of (speaker, participation, etc.).



I recently traveled to Hong Kong, and as I usually do, I try to find meetings I can attend. Well, I was really lucky because they only have one meeting. The meeting is held at an AA clubhouse. There are four home group members who were all very loving and willing to help. They may only have one meeting a week in this city of eight million, but they seem to make the best of the bond they have in recovery. I am very proud to be part of their family.

John R, Colorado, USA



Awakened dreams, new possibilities

What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

“The most important thing for me was finding out that I have a disease, and that there were thousands of people like me staying clean and enjoying life without drugs. I realized if it worked for them, why not me?”

Jorge P, Lima, Peru

At WCNA-29, the promise of recovery was spelled out this way: “When the drugs go and the addict works the program, wonderful things happen, lost dreams awakened, and new possibilities arise.” For me, nothing could be truer.

As I traveled to that world convention, I was filled with anticipation, believing I was on my way to a spiritual experience. It was my first world convention, but recovering addicts I knew and respected had been telling me for months to expect a great experience, so I was at a fever pitch to join the celebration of recovery.

I arrived at my hotel to find a number of members I knew from South Florida and immediately began to experience a sense of unity with my fellow addicts. Then things got even better.

As always, I was reminded that God was in charge, not me. After checking into the hotel, I started searching for my sponsee who had driven to Atlanta with a van full of recovering addicts and had no idea of how to find our hotel. I called him on his cell phone and discovered he was sitting in a restaurant less than a block away from the hotel. A “God-shot” for me.

After we all got settled in, I volunteered to help at two convention events with no idea what service I’d be called upon to perform. When I reported to the volunteer coordinator, I was assigned to stand about a yard from the stage of the “Funky Theme Party.”

Of course, all my recovering brothers and sisters were full of joy, stirred by emotions and by the 70s music that filled the hall. To my amazement, no one—not one person—tried to cross the imaginary line between crowd and stage! That was another “God-thing” for me.

As the convention progressed, I met many other NA members, talked with my sponsor and sponsee nightly, and attended several forums and workshops by day. The magnitude of what was being accomplished by my God and NA and its recovering members hit home in a way I’d never experienced before.

Outwardly I was calm and collected, but inside I was doing the James Brown “I Feel Good!” song and dance.

And why not? I was living my dream of experiencing a rich and full life without drugs. Seeing fellow addicts, clean and free, around Atlanta with their name tags displayed proved the power of the program again and again. It gave me a much stronger sense of belonging to the worldwide fellowship.

I was also living my dream of a life in which my thinking and behavior was God-centered. During the time I spent at WCNA-29, I experienced NA in a new way and life in a new way. I left Atlanta with a new sense of gratitude for this beautiful program and all of my fellow NA members around the world.

Trevor P, Florida, USA



H&I Slim

For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of meeting him, H&I Slim is "the ultimate H&I kinda guy." He hangs out in hospitals and jails all over the world. You might say he's always in the know and always on the go. Got a question about H&I? Need some help? Write H&I Slim in care of the WSO.

Dear Readers:

Instead of presenting a question from a member out there in fellowship-land, along with a response from me, I thought it would be interesting to offer a bit of H&I history in celebration of NA's 50th anniversary.

Although I will start with information found in *Miracles Happen*, most of this month's column is drawn from our archives. I went through the files to trace the development of the tools we use in local H&I work today.

Institutional work, as it was called during our early years, began in NA after 1962. Members of the AA Fellowship suggested to one of the addiction treatment facilities in California that they should contact Narcotics Anonymous because our focus was on addiction rather than alcoholism.

In the World Service Office archives, I found a copy of the 1978 *Southern California Regional Institutional Guidelines* and a copy of the committee's minutes from the same year. It seems that they were providing H&I services in five facilities, facilitating 16 H&I meetings per month. That is amazing to me. Unfortunately, I couldn't find any area or regional H&I minutes until 1986, although I'm certain that H&I services were being provided elsewhere than Southern California.

Following are some highlights in the development of World Service H&I.

H&I guidelines/handbook

- ❖ Prior to 1984, H&I used a version of guidelines created by the World Literature Committee. It was determined by the WSC H&I Committee in 1984 to hold workshops to rewrite those original H&I guidelines.
- ❖ At the World Service Conference in 1985, the conference approved the "navy blue version" of the H&I guidelines.
- ❖ The name was changed from "Guidelines" to "Handbook" in 1986, and discussions of a major revision started in October of that year.
- ❖ WSC'89: the conference approved the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook* unanimously, without any further revisions.
- ❖ WSC'96: the conference approved minor changes to some existing chapters, the new chapter "Forensic and Psychiatric Units," and revisions to the "Learning Days" and "Preparation for Learning Days" chapters.
- ❖ WSC'97: the conference approved changes to the "Do's and Don'ts" in the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*.

H&I funding

- ❖ Prior to 1981, "H&I cans" were passed as a separate collection from "the basket" in the groups of some regions and areas. WSC'81 recognized the H&I can, but starting in 1984, there were questions raised by various areas and regions regarding the necessity, accountability, and appropriateness of the H&I can.
- ❖ WSC'87 overwhelmingly approved the motion presented by WSC H&I, to eliminate separate funding practices for H&I, returning the responsibility for funding H&I to the service structure as a whole.

Open/closed H&I meetings

- ❖ After numerous requests for clarification, the following motion carried within the 1986 WSC H&I Committee: "All H&I meetings are considered 'closed' (by invitation of the local H&I committee only)." This motion was approved by the conference at WSC'87.

WSC H&I newsletter, *Reaching Out*

- ❖ The first printing of the *Reaching Out* newsletter was in 1985. The newsletter is first mentioned in the October 1984 H&I minutes. The 1985 minutes reflect a change in the newsletter format to the one we used until 1989. Today there are 1530 single-issue subscribers, who are primarily incarcerated addicts, "behind the walls."
- ❖ After gathering input from the fellowship via questionnaire, the H&I committee at WSC'91 decided unanimously to petition the World Service Office Board of Directors to find out if the WSO could assist with a subscription plan. The Board agreed. After an extensive subscription drive, the July 1991 edition of *Reaching Out* was the first to be sent by subscription, along with the nor-

mal mailing list. There were 60 subscriptions the first mailing (July), 90 with the second (October), and over 100 with the third (January, 1992).

Literature stockpile

- ❖ As a result of discussion in 1984 regarding surplus funds collected through the H&I can, WSC'85 passed a motion instituting the Special Fund, which was designed to handle literature requests from area and regional H&I committees and addicts and/or professionals in H&I settings.
- ❖ The WSO H&I Project Coordinator presented reports on the disbursement of literature from the inception of the Special Fund in 1985 to its depletion in December 1988.
- ❖ As a result of continuing requests from area and regional H&I committees and addicts and/or professionals in an H&I setting, the committee decided at WSC'89 to include a line item within its annual budget to meet these needs. The method of disbursement is the same as the process mentioned in the July 1985 minutes.

IPs/booklets originated by WSC H&I

- ❖ In 1984, the committee started work on an IP, which eventually became *Hospitals and Institutions Service and the NA Member*. That pamphlet, after passing through the literature review process, was approved at WSC'86.
- ❖ The committee completed work on *Staying Clean on the Outside* in 1985 and voted to give the draft to the WSC Literature Review Committee during a workshop in July 1985. This pamphlet was approved at WSC'88.
- ❖ At the July 1985 workshop, the WSC H&I committee requested that the Colorado Regional H&I Committee begin work on a pamphlet that eventually became *For Those in Treatment*. The committee voted in October 1986 to turn the booklet over to the

Literature Review Committee. For *Those in Treatment* was sent out for fellowship review and input after WSC'88, and the pamphlet was approved at WSC'91.

- ❖ The committee started discussion of a correctional pamphlet in August 1985. After the workshop in September 1988, the name of the booklet was changed to *Behind the Walls*. It was placed in the 1990 *Conference Agenda Report* for fellowship approval. The booklet, *Behind the Walls*, was approved unanimously by the conference in 1990.

Tape (Mock) panel presentations of H&I meetings

- ❖ At WSC'93, the H&I Mock Panel Presentation/H&I Orientation audiotape was overwhelmingly approved. It eventually became a part of the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*.

To give you an idea of the growth of the fellowship and of H&I service across the fellowship—there are currently 347 area H&I subcommittees registered with NAWS, although we don't have addresses or contact information for 41 of them, and there are 70 registered regional H&I subcommittees, two with no addresses.

I know this has been different from our usual format, but I hope you have enjoyed learning about our development. If you believe your area and/or regional subcommittee doesn't have current contact information at the World Service Office, please update it at your earliest opportunity. If your local subcommittee has records of its early history, we'd love to add that to our archives. And if you have any questions for H&I Slim, please send them in. We'll resume our normal format in the next issue.

*In loving service,
H&I Slim*

“So that no addict seeking recovery...”

Help NAWS keep your phonenumber information current.

Please notify NAWS at 818.773.9999 if changes are made to your area or regional phonenumber. This will help ensure that any addict seeking recovery can find help.

FSteam@na.org

Help Wanted!

The WSO is always on the lookout for qualified and skilled applicants for various positions, so send in your resume or contact **Roberta@na.org** if you are interested in becoming a special worker. Currently, positions are available for a staff accountant and writer/project coordinator.

The internal solution

Why has it become customary to open our meetings with the Serenity Prayer?

As many of you may know, the Serenity Prayer, as we use it, is a shorter version of a longer, Christian prayer. (A brief digression: even the word “prayer” has inherent religious connotations, but that is not the focus of this article.) This article will propose the elimination of the Serenity Prayer in Narcotics Anonymous.

I know there are those who would suggest I use the Serenity Prayer in order to overcome my objections to it. Yet, the very nature of the prayer is change-resistant. The language of the Serenity Prayer legitimizes the notion that I have no power to affect change in my environment by asserting that I ought to accept the things I cannot change.

I will begin my argument by discussing big “G” God. Shifts have been occurring in the ideologies concerning God that have challenged notions of God’s otherworldly, ethereal presence. Instead of looking outside ourselves to realize God or the godly qualities we possess, in “New Age” spirituality we focus our sights inward and reclaim God as internal to us all.

One of the characteristics of addiction is that it is an external solution to an internal problem. If one of our problems is a lack of serenity, courage, or wisdom, or any combination thereof, and we are asking God for these qualities, then isn’t it possible that a request for God to bestow these attributes upon us would fall under the category of an external solution?

Now, comparatively speaking, God as an external solution may not be as bad as... say... drugs, but anything that inhibits our journey to wholeness or acts as a barrier to truth is part of the problem, not the solution.

I know what you’re thinking. Well, at least what some of you are thinking. There is a heretical bent to my thinking. After all, doesn’t the program encourage us to develop a relationship with God? Shouldn’t our conscious contact with our Higher Power be our utmost concern?

The answer to these questions is obviously *yes!*

However, there is nothing that demands that the source of God cannot be found within us—within our own hearts.

If I am right about this, then it follows that God cannot give me that which I already have. If God is within me, then so are all the godly and godlike qualities that I am asking God to give me when reciting the Serenity Prayer.

Yet the repetitive requests within the Serenity Prayer presume a lack of these very qualities. For example: Asking for the “wisdom to know the difference” is, in a word, redundant. Wisdom is the result of experience. Experience is the vehicle through which I gain knowledge. Through the process of gaining awareness, I can better apply that knowledge to determine the kind of person that I would like to be. Wisdom is knowledge applied, accumulated through experience. It is, fundamentally, a great cause-and-effect relationship. It is within this framework that I realize that concepts such as serenity and courage are not only the result of having overcome adversity, but also the traits that determine one’s ability to face life’s challenges.

Another objection to the use of the Serenity Prayer in Narcotics Anonymous stems from an obvious, but often overlooked, contradiction. Our Eleventh Step states that we ought to be “praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.” Clearly, the Serenity Prayer is a direct request for serenity, courage, and wisdom. Although these traits may very well be God’s will for us, is not asking for these, or any other guiding principle, to be bestowed upon us, a backdoor approach to imposing our own will?

After all, sometimes God’s will for us may be chaos, cowardice, and ignorance because we can only know serenity, courage, and wisdom relative to what they are not. It seems to me that asking for any particular process, event, feeling, belief, or state of mind is a direct violation of the imperative to surrender to our Higher Power’s will.

A third, and final, objection to the use of the Serenity Prayer is our incessant repetition of it. The qualification of this premise rests with the assumption that

God is indeed the “bestower” of serenity, courage, and the like.

The repetitive recitation of the Serenity Prayer suggests two possibilities: **1)** That the qualities being requested are never actually acquired from the source or **2)** That the God who grants these qualities does so arbitrarily, and withholds or revokes them with no apparent rhyme or reason.

If the first possibility were true, then would it not be considered insanity to repeatedly ask for something that will not be realized? Yet it would be wrong to assert that the attributes contained in the Serenity Prayer are never realized. Obviously, as told and retold in the experiences of many NA members, we do experience various levels of these qualities.

If we experience them then we must have them, and if we already have them, then why would we continually ask for them? Could it have anything to do with the insatiable desire for more, characteristic of the disease of addiction?

If the second premise is correct, then there is something strange occurring here. A God who is loving and caring would not, it seems to me, arbitrarily grant to some and not to others the very principles designed to help us recover from the self-centered obsessions and compulsions that keep us sick. Nor does it make any sense that a God would give and then take away the spiritual gifts outlined in the Serenity Prayer.

When all is said and done, what is there left to do? Any inclination toward serene acceptance carries with it the recognition that challenging established norms leaves one slightly marginalized. The lull of convention is not conducive to initiating change. Acceptance, though, does not mean compliance. The seeds of resistance can be nurtured through non-violent protest—the refusal of the masses to participate in the ceremonious chanting of the Serenity Prayer.

Let “the courage to change the things we can” stand beyond the moments of silence, in the quiet wisdom of personal responsibility where we, alone and collectively, have internalized choice and sought to divorce ourselves from external solutions.

*Yours in gratitude,
James T, Ontario, Canada*

The first time

I will never forget my first Narcotics Anonymous meeting. It was August 1969 in North Hollywood, California, USA, and I had already been clean for seven months.

There was no NA where I got clean. Some of the people in “the other fellowship” told me there was this group in Southern California called Narcotics Anonymous. They said it was small but it was working for people like me.

I was nervous when I went to my first NA meeting. I was used to being around older people who had stories I couldn’t relate to but who were very kind to me. I instinctively knew that when I came to NA, I would be around people like me who would know me on the same level that I would know them. I knew there would be no more hiding around *soft* honesty. Addicts tell it like they feel it and tell it like it is.

At my first NA meeting there were about 15 people—all “junkies.” It seemed everyone had a tattoo on the right forearm and had “pulled a nickel” (served five years in the penitentiary).

When I went to the restroom at the meeting, there was a guy nodding on the bathroom floor. He had just used. I thought, well, welcome to Narcotics Anonymous!

The meetings were rough. Not much was shared about God or the steps, and honestly, it was a bit depressing. But there were a few members who made all the difference. These people had me awe-struck. One member had eight years, and that much clean time really scared me. I figured this dude had to be a mean you-know-what.

I felt that the other fellowship didn’t take us very seriously. It was as if we were some kind of “little brother” organization. The only thing we in NA had to identify us was this one little white booklet.

Back then, everyone attended meetings in the other fellowship and identified as such. The dependence we had on that fellowship really hurt our growth, but it kept many of us alive until we could stand on our own feet.

Members today who have a low tolerance of members with that kind of background just don’t understand what it was like back then. Being politically correct while saving our lives was not an issue.

I remember when we started to change the way we identified ourselves at meetings. Talk about trying to teach old dogs new tricks! It was difficult. A lot of members just refused and told us where to shove it.

Try to imagine a whole wave of newcomers coming into the program today and telling you, “You ain’t doing it right!” I bet you would have some attitude.

We lost a lot of people. Personally, I lost a lot of friends. I wish they could’ve stayed around. I know they would be so proud of where we are today.

I don’t think anyone in NA could see beyond his or her noses back then. I believe the only person who had any vision was Jimmy K. He was the only member who thought we would one day be in every corner of the world. I have a lot of respect for Jimmy, and he earned every bit of it.

While he did contribute a lot to NA, there were others who were also doing a lot. Much of the responsibility that fell in Jimmy’s lap had to do with the fact that Jimmy was one of the very few stable members with a home and a business, not to mention a ton of clean time. More importantly, he cared deeply and passionately about NA.

There have been members all over the world who have experienced that kind of responsibility (by default) and took it on. In some way, it is one of Jimmy’s legacies.

One of my big thrills and privileges has been to watch our phenomenal growth across the United States and around the world. This July we will be celebrating 50 years, and this work we do is only just beginning. I get chicken skin just thinking about it.

Anonymous

What did you hear at your first few NA meetings that made you want to come back and give NA a chance?

“The two most powerful messages I heard were that I belonged here and I never had to be alone again.”

Richard B, Florida, USA



CALENDAR

We encourage you to publicize your event by having it published on our website and in *The NA Way Magazine*. You can inform the WSO about your event by fax, phone, or regular post, or through our website. We encourage using the website because you can check to see if we already have a listing on your convention and, if not, you can enter your own convention information. It is then reviewed, formatted, and added to the online convention calendar on our website in approximately four days. Just go to www.na.org, click on "NA Events," and follow the instructions.

Convention announcements entered through the website and those received by other means are also given to *The NA Way*. *The NA Way* is published four times a year in January, April, July, and October. Each issue goes into production long before its distribution date, so we need a minimum of three months' notice to ensure your event will be published in the magazine—that's three months before our publication date. For instance, if you want your event published in the October issue, we need to know by 1 July.

Canada

British Columbia: 15-17 Aug; British Columbia Regional Convention of NA XXIV; Hilton Vancouver Metrotown, Vancouver; hotel rvns: 800.HILTONS; event info: 604.879.1677; speaker tape info: 604.946.7071; event registration: 604.940.2033; write: British Columbia Region, BCRCNA XXIV, Ladner Postal Outlet, Box 18603, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; www.bcrscna.bc.ca

Nova Scotia: 18-20 Jul; Pig Roast and Campout; Recovery in the Woods, Blomidon Provincial Park; hotel rvns: 902-765-6234; event info: 902.582.7354; write: Annapolis Valley Area, Annapolis Valley ASC, Box 522, Kentville, Nova Scotia, B4N 3X3; www.nearna.com/avana

2) 25-27 Jul; Spiritual in Nature; Howard Johnson Hotel Halifax (Keddy's), Halifax; event info: 902.430.7300, 902.443.2948; write: Central Nova Area Halifax; Box 65 Central, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L4; www.centralnovaarea.ca

Ontario: 28 Jul-4 Aug; Bridging The Gap; Blue Lake Provincial Park, Vermillion Bay; write: Winnipeg ASC, Box 25173, 1650 Main St, Winnipeg MB R2V 4C8

2) 7-9 Nov; The Adventure XI (L'Aventure XI); Ameri-Cana Resort, Niagara Falls; hotel rvns: 800.263.3508; event info: ccnaxi@msn.com; speaker tape submission deadline: 1 Jul; <http://cana-acna.org/new/convention.html>

Quebec: 18-20 Jul; EANAC IV; Free for the Miracle; John Abbott College, St. Anne de Bellevue; hotel rvns: 514.941.7136; write: EANA, Box 453 NDG Station, Montreal, QC Canada

2) 10-12 Oct; 16th Annual Quebec Regional Convention; Auberge des Seigneurs, Saint-Hyacinthe (near Montreal); hotel rvns: 450.774.3810; event info: 514.326.2153, 514.253.0513

Colombia

Antioquia: 10-13 Oct; XII Convención Regional de NA Colombia; CSA Sur de Antioquia, Medellín; hotel rvns: +57.4.2511665; event info: +57.1.2252095, +57.03.310 2311666, +57.4. 2312016; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Aug; write: Colombia/Bogotá, *OSR Colombia, Calle 48 #48-14 Of. 806 Edificio Nuevo Mundo-Medellín; or *OSA Bogotá, Calle 63 #11-27 Local 211, Bogotá D.C.; www.na-colombia.org

Denmark

Allinge: 5-7 Sep; BOKNA III; Love and Cliffs (Kærlighed og Klipper), Allinge-Sandvig Borgerskole, Allinge; event info: +45.56486806, +45.56483372; write: Bornholm Area, NA Gruppen Område Bornholm, Box 73, 3700 Ronne, Denmark

Greece

Halkidiki: 10-12 Oct; ECCNA 20; Let Your Spirit Fly; Kassandra Halkidiki (Palini Beach Hotel), Halkidiki; hotel rvns: +30.237.4022100; event info: +30 210 9849366, +30 944 521894; write: ECCNA 20/Greece, Box 75064, Post code 17610, Kalithea, Athens Greece; <http://www.eccna.com/>

Norway

Oslo: 26-28 Sep; OØKNA VII; Stepping Through Life (Trinnvis gjennom livet); Nordseter skole, Oslo; event info: +47.67123610; event registration: +47.62531233; www.nanorge.org

Puerto Rico

Rio Grande: 25-27 Jul; Puerto Rico Convention XIV; Westin Riomar Hotel, Rio Grande; event info: 787.274.0488

United Kingdom

Scotland: 4-6 Jul; Glasgow Convention V; Kelvin Park Lorne Hotel, Glasgow; write: Glasgow Area, NA Glasgow, Box 16177, Glasgow, G13 2YT

United States

Alabama: 12-14 Sep; Surrender in the Mountains; A Spiritual Retreat; Cheaha State Park, Mt. Cheaha; hotel rvns: 800.ALA.PARK; event registration: 334.541.5154; event info: 334.541.5154; write: Alabama/NW Florida Region, AL/NWF RSC, 2701 Mall Rd, PMB 180, Florence, AL 35630; www.alnwflrscna.org

2) 26-28 Sep; MS, AL, TN Third Annual Unity Celebration; Webster Hotel & Suites, Sheffield, AL; hotel rvns: 256.383.4100; event registration: 731.824.2189; speaker tape info: 731.824.2189; write: Trail of Tears ASC, Box 880, Humboldt, TN 38343

Arizona: 31 Oct-2 Nov; Western Service Learning Days XVII; Our Primary Purpose; Best Western Grace Inn at Ahwatukee, Phoenix; hotel rvns: 800.843.6010; event registration: 602.564.2823; speaker tape info: 602.282.8198; event info: 480.921.4303; <http://wsld.org>

California: 3-6 Jul; 7th Annual Family Reunion Campout; Lake Siskiyou, Mt Shasta; event info: 530.926.0617; speaker tape info: 530.235.2253

2) 3-6 Jul; WCNA-30; 30th World Convention; 50th Anniversary of NA; San Diego Convention Ctr, San Diego; write: NA World Services; 19737 Nordhoff Pl, Chatsworth, CA 91311, www.na.org

Colorado: 25-27 Jul; Western States Unity Convention; Sheraton Denver Tech Ctr, Denver; hotel rvns: 303.799.6200; write: DASC of NA, Box 8808, Denver, CO 80201; www.wsuc.org

2) 10-12 Oct; Never Alone, Never Again; The Westin Westminster, Westminster; hotel rvns: 800.937.8461; write: nacolorado-crcna.org

Delaware: 4-5 Jul; 50th NA Birthday Bash; Wyndham Hotel-Wilmington, Wilmington; hotel rvns: 800.WYNDHAM; event info: 215.483.5154, 215-483-5154, 215.849.2239; write: Greater Philadelphia Region, 6212 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19128; www.naworks.org

Florida: 10-12 Oct; MidCoast Convention; MCCNA; Embassy Suites/Boca Raton, Boca Raton; hotel rvns 561.994.8200; speaker tape submission deadline: 1 Aug; www.midcoastarea.org

Georgia: 14-17 Aug; MACNA XIII; Unity is the Key; Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta; hotel rvns: 404 659-6500; event info: 404 328-9997; write: Midtown Atlanta Area, Box 5831, Atlanta, GA 30307-1562; www.grscna.org

Hawaii: 23-26 Oct; 12th Annual Hawaii Regional Convention; E Pupukahi (We Are One); Royal Lahaina Resort, Kaanapali; hotel rsvns 800.222.5642, 808.572.5100; event info: 808.280.5060; write: Hawaii Region, Box 6160, Kahului, Hawaii 96733-6160; <http://www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm>

Idaho: 15-17 Aug; Serenity in The Wilderness XVI; Chemeketan Campgrounds, Sawtooth Mountain Range; event info: 208.388.4880; www.sirma.org

2) 24-26 Oct; Pacific Northwest Convention XXVI; DoubleTree Riverside Hotel, Boise; hotel rsvns: 800-222-8733; event registration: registration@sirma.org; speaker tape info: programs@sirma.org; event info: coninfo@sirma.org; write: Southern Idaho Region, Box 651, Wendell, ID 83355; <http://www.sirma.org/pnw26.htm>

Illinois: 22-24 Aug; Living the Dream Area Convention III; Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield; hotel rsvns: 217.522.1507; event info: 217.899.9437, 217.522.9906, 217.528.9225; write: Living the Dream Area, 1512 N 15th St, Springfield, IL 62702; www.gircna.org/ltd

2) 29-31 Aug; Chicago Metro Unity Convention III; Radisson O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont; hotel rsvns: 847.297.1234; write: North Suburban/North City/Lake Borderline Areas, Box 594, Waukegan, IL 60079; www.chicagona.org

3) 31 Oct-2 Nov; JACNA VI; Changing Attitudes in the City of Hope; Crystal Lake Holiday Inn, Crystal Lake; hotel rsvns: 800.465.4329; event info: 815.919.0324; write: Joliet Area, Box 336, Joliet, IL 60433

Maine: 12-14 Dec; Multi Regional Learning Event VIII (MRLE); Notre Dame Spiritual Ctr, Alfred; event info: 603.622.4464, 603-798-4329; write: Northern New England Region, NNERSC, Box 1274, Saco, ME 04072

Massachusetts: 11-13 Jul; Serenity in the Berkshires XIV; Camp Stevenson-Witawentin on Lake Onota, Pittsfield; event info: 413.442.7321

2) 8-10 Aug; Growing In Recovery, A Decade of Growth; Marriott Hotel, Springfield; hotel rsvns: 800.228.9290; event info: 413.598.8637; speaker tape info: 413.747.5654; event registration: 413.796.4797; speaker tape submission deadline: 10 Jul; write: Western Massachusetts Area, Box 5914, Springfield, MA 01104

Michigan: 14-17 Aug; NBS Recovery Retreat VIII; Fort Custer Recreation Area, Kalamazoo; hotel rsvns: 616.628.5342; event info: 616.998.9409, 616.544.0735; write: NBS NA, 24739 S 29th St, Gobles, MI 49055

2) 22-24 Aug; R&R at the Fort; Camp Fort Hill, Sturgis; event info: 269.273.4137; www.r-n-r-at-the-fort.org

3) 29 Aug-1 Sep; MRCNA XIX; One Promise, Many Gifts; Valley Plaza Resort & Convention Ctr, Midland; hotel rsvns: 989.496.2700; event info: 616.304.3058, 616.522.0370; write: Michigan Region, Box 21051, Lansing, MI 48909-1051; <http://www.michigan-na.org/mrcna>

Minnesota: 18-20 Jul; Pig 2003 Campout; Country Camping, Isanti; hotel rsvns: 763.444.9626; write: South Suburban Fireside Area, Pig Committee, Box 2583, Inver Grove Hgts, MN, 55076; www.naminnnesota.org

Mississippi: 17-19 Oct; MRCNA XXI; When At The End of The Road; Ramada Inn, Greenville; hotel rsvns: 800.272.6232; event info: 662.335.4952, 662.334.9747, 662.332.6108; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Aug

Missouri: 25-27 Jul; 24th Annual High on Life Picnic; Bucksaw Point, Truman Lake, Clinton; hotel rsvns: 660.477.3900; event info: 417.781.9420, 918.540.0836; write: Ozark Area, Box 2923, Joplin, MO 64804

Nebraska: 26-28 Sep; Nebraska Regional Convention XX; Ramada Inn & Conference Ctr, Kearney; hotel rsvns: 800.652.1909; event info: 308.240.3236, 308.530.3039; write: NRCNZ-XX, Box 205, Kearney, NE 68848

New Jersey: 22-24 Aug; Spiritually Refreshed, Glad To Be Alive; Paterson; event info: 973.684.3421; write: Greater Paterson Area Convention; Box 2435, Paterson, NJ 07509

2) 31 Oct-2 Nov; In The Spirit of Unity IX; Sheraton Airport Hotel, Newark; hotel rsvns: 973.690.5500; event info: 732.669.0129, 908.355.3200, 973.923.6643; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Aug; write: Northeast New Jersey Area Convention, Box 409, Roselle, NJ 07203

New York: 29 Aug-1 Sep; Recovery In The Woods XVII; Camp Pioneer & Retreat Ctr, Angola; write: Buffalo Area Service Committee, Box 64, Buffalo, NY 14207; <http://www.nawny.org>

2) 3-5 Oct; Western NY Regional Convention; Holiday Inn Resort & Conference Ctr, Grand Island; hotel rsvns 716.773.1111; event info: 716.894.5719, 716.570.6995; speaker tape info: 716.834.1871; write: WNYRCNA VIII, Box 151, Buffalo, NY 14207-0151

North Carolina: 1-3 Aug; When At The End Of The Road X; Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Ctr, Durham; hotel rsvns: 800.325.3535; write: New Hope Area, Box 25043, Durham, NC 27702

2) 12-14 Sep; More Powerful Than Words XI; Holiday Inn Express, Salisbury; hotel rsvns: 800.465.4329; event info: 704.788.4653; speaker tape info: 704.630.9632; write: Central Piedmont Area, Box 5293, Concord, NC 28027

Oklahoma: 18-20 Jul; Roman Nose Spiritual Retreat; Roman Nose State Park, Watonga; hotel rsvns: 800.892.8690; event registration: 918.225.4685; www.okna.org/pasc/activities.htm

2) 10-12 Oct; Shawnee Fall Convention; Ramada Inn, Shawnee; hotel rsvns: 405.275.4404; event info: 405.964.5218; speaker tape info: 405.447.7814; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Aug; write: Shawnee Group, 1120 1/2 North Kickapoo, Shawnee, OK 74801

Pennsylvania: 18-20 Jul; The Just For Today/Day By Day Group Annual Spiritual Retreat III; Chapman Dam State Park, Clarendon; hotel rsvns 814.723.7443; event registration: 814.723.7443; event info: 814.723.7443, 814.968.3722; write: Just For Today Group, Box 194, Clarendon, PA 16313-0194

South Carolina: 22-24 Aug; Welcome Home VIII Convention; Clarion Town House Hotel, Columbia; hotel rsvns: 800.277.8711; event info: 803.739.9308, 803.422.0473, 803.739.0334; write: Central Carolina Area, Welcome Home Convention, 709 Woodrow St, Box 418, Columbia, SC 29205; <http://www.CRNA.org>

2) 10-12 Oct; This Is HOW We Do It Again #1; Quality Hotel & Conference Ctr, Spartanburg; hotel rsvns: 864.503.0780; event info: 864.595.1209, 864.433.1861; speaker tape info: 864.591.1387; speaker tape submission deadline: 19 Jul; write: HOW Again Convention, Box 938, Duncan, SC 29334

South Dakota: 19-21 Sep; SDRCA VI; Oaks Hotel, Sioux Falls; hotel rsvns: 605.336.9000; event info: 605.728.6841, 605.498.3413

Tennessee: 15-17 Aug; Unity V; One Disease, One Promise; Marriott at Vanderbilt, Nashville; hotel rsvns: 800.285.0190; speaker tape info: 615.506.0205; event registration: 615.329.0853; event info: 615.586.3300; write: Middle Tennessee Area, Box 100525, Nashville, TN 37224

2) 3-5 Oct; NA Nashville History Conference; Nashville; event info: 615.258.3811, 615.371.5441, 615.855.6643; www.nanashville.org

Texas: 25-27 Jul; Recovery by the Sea XIX; Padre Island, Corpus Christi; hotel rsvns: 361.814.4777; write: CBANA, 3458 Topeka, Corpus Christi, TX 78411; www.cbana.org

2) 12-14 Sep; Miracles and Solutions Group, Celebrating 10 Years of Recovery; Austin Airport Marriott South, Austin; hotel rsvns 800.228.9290; event info: 512.719.5899, 512.748.0415, 512.322.9234; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Jul; write: Miracles & Solutions Group, 2915 MLK Blvd, Austin, TX 78702

3) 3-5 Oct; 12th Annual Frolic in the Woods; Garner State Park, Concan; hotel rsvns: 512.389.8900; write: Esperanza Area, 2186 Jackson Keller, No. 335, San Antonio, TX 78213; www.eanaonline.org

Utah: 25-27 Jul; Utah Region Campvention XX; East Gate Campground, Zion National Park; event info: 801.644.2423; write: URCNA, Box 994, Springville, UT 84663; www.utahna.org/campvention.htm

Vermont: 15-17 Aug; Green Mt Area Back to Basics Campout XIX; Wallingford Boys' Camp, Wallingford; hotel rsvns: 603.585.9453; event info: 603.588.3132; write: Green Mountain Area, Box 6414, Brattleboro, VT 05302

Virginia: 18-20 Jul; 22nd Annual BRANA Campout; Natural Chimneys State Park, Mt Solon; hotel rsvns: 888.430.CAMP, 540.350.2510; area hotline message service: 540.885.7800; write: Blue Ridge Area, Box 1959, Chesterfield, VA 23832-9109

2) 1-3 Aug; Almost Heaven Area Convention XVII; 4-H Ctr, Front Royal; event info: 304.264.1450, 304.728.2274, 304.229.4520

3) 12-14 Sep; OLANA UnityFest XI; Got Recovery?; Holiday Inn, Chesapeake; hotel rsvns: 800.HOLIDAY; event info: 757.686.3934, 757.484.9542; speaker tape info: 757.638.5542; write: OLANA UnityFest XI, Box 1063, Franklin, VA 23857

West Virginia: 31 Oct-2 Nov; True Colors XVII; Vision Without Limits; Cedar Lakes, Cedar Lakes/Ripley; hotel rsvns: 304.372.7860; event info: 304.768.1626, 304.325.9803; write: Mountaineer Region, Convention Sub-Committee, Box 2381, Morgantown, WV 26502-2381; <http://www.mrscna.org/convention.html>

Wisconsin: 1-3 Aug; 14th Annual Unity Jam Campout; YMCA Camp Y-Koda, Sheboygan; hotel rsvns: 920.458.7078; event registration: 920.254.4220; event info: 920.750.6329, 414.254.4221; write: Kettle Moraine Area, Box 1022, Sheboygan, WI 53082-1022; www.wisconsinna.org

2) 17-19 Oct; WSNAC XX; Marriott Hotel, Madison West, Madison; hotel rsvns: 608.831.2000; event registration: 608.257.1990; event info: 608.845.3428; speaker tape info: 608.877.2909; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Aug; write: WSNAC XX, Box 1666, Madison, WI 53701; www.wsnac.org

Home GROUP



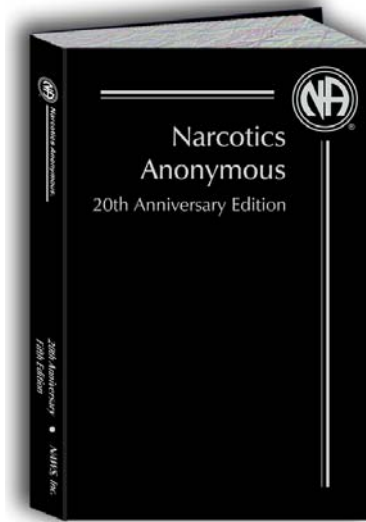
WSO PRODUCT UPDATE

English

20th Anniversary Basic Text

2003 marks the 20th anniversary of the first publication of the Basic Text. To commemorate this event, we have produced a limited-edition of the Fifth Edition Basic Text. Each book is hand-numbered with a black leatherette cover, platinum-foil embossing, platinum-gilded edges, and a sewn-in black satin bookmark.

Item No. 1104 Price US \$25.00



English

It Works: How and Why on CD-ROM

A CD-ROM version of our book featuring searchability by words or phrases.

Item No. 8910 Price US \$18.85

The NA Step Working Guides on CD-ROM (for PCs only)

An interactive, user-friendly CD-ROM. Members can type in their answers in response to each step's questions and save as a Word document.

Item No. 8911 Price US \$18.85

Just for Today on CD-ROM (for PCs only)

An interactive version of our daily meditation book with the ability to display the current day's meditation when you turn on your computer, as well as a journaling feature.

Item No. 8912 Price US \$18.85

CD-ROM/Book Packages

Our books packaged with their respective CD-ROM versions.

Basic Text CD-ROM/Book Package	Item No. 8930	Price US \$27.00
It Works CD-ROM/Book Package	Item No. 8931	Price US \$25.00
The NA Step Working Guides CD-ROM/Book Package	Item No. 8932	Price US \$25.00
Just for Today CD-ROM/Book Package	Item No. 8933	Price US \$25.00

Farsi

IP #9: Living the Program

زندگی به روال برنامه

Item No. FA-3109 Price US \$0.21

Finnish

Group Reading Cards

Item No. FI-9130 Price US \$2.20



Nederlands

Basic Text

NA-Anonieme Verslaafden

Item No. NL-1101 Price US \$9.70

Portuguese

Just for Today

Só por hoje

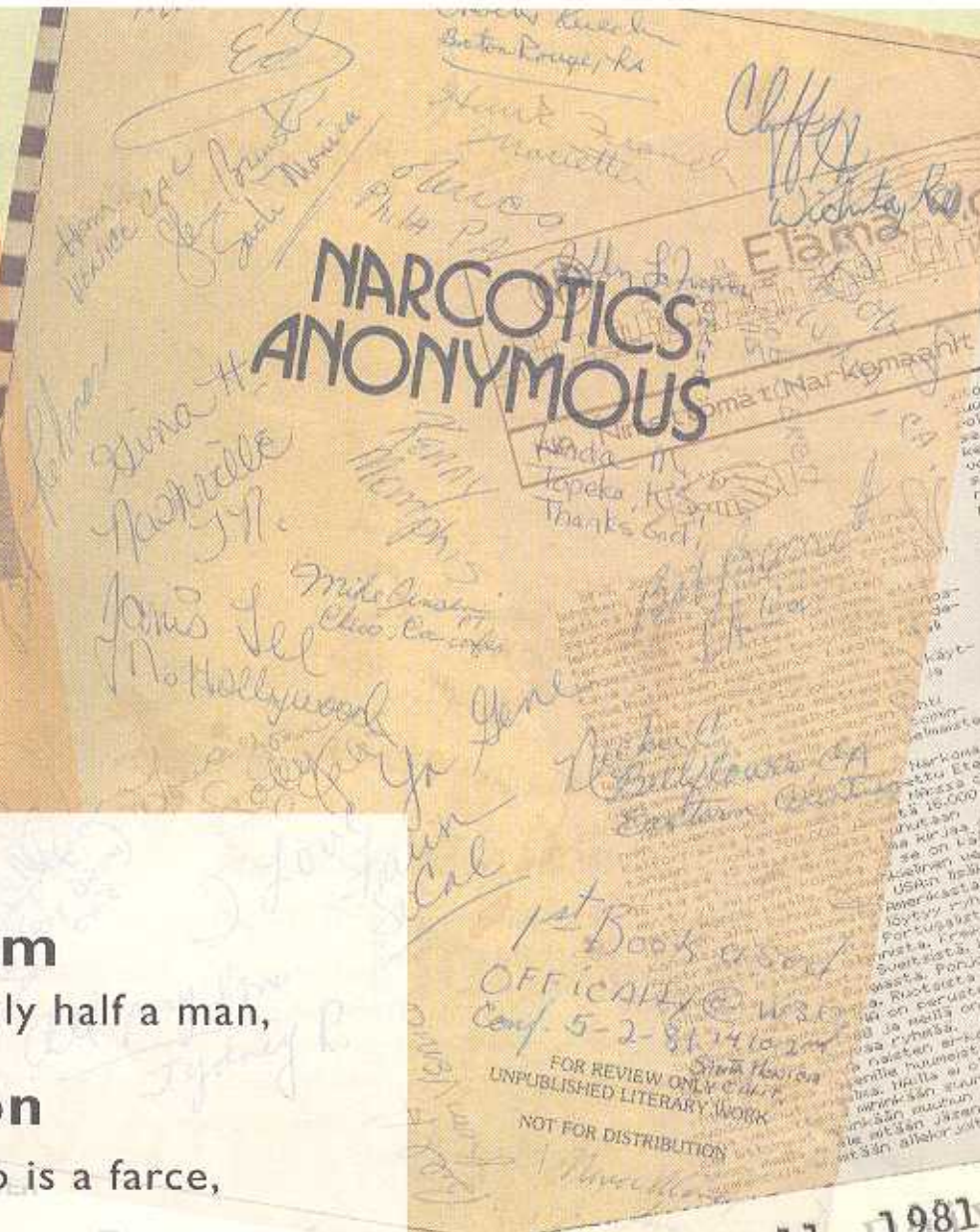
Item No. PO-1112 Price US \$7.70

Russian

IP #22: Welcome to Narcotics Anonymous

Добро пожаловать в Анонимные Наркоманы

Item No. RU-3122 Price US \$0.21



“without a **dream**
a man is only half a man,
without a **vision**
a fellowship is a farce,
with both
all things are possible”

THE Daily Surrender
Our Common Welfare Should Come First
June/July 1981
MICHIGAN REGIONAL CONVENTION
OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

May 11, 1981
Dear Jimmy,
Many thanks to you and
Albert for the material
I've seen that it has
gone to the right people.
If they need help in
translating I'll lend
a hand.
Very best wishes,
Clare Seefeld

REPORTS FROM THE CONFERENCE

RSR REPORT FROM WSC '80	RSR ALTERNATE REPORT FROM WSC '80	FREEDOM'S CONVENTION CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
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Dear Members:
Many of you recently voted an agent that organized our World Service "Boards and Committees". As the vote was split, the voice of our Michigan Region had to give all members with the exception of Missouri. To vote 1:2, 41:19 back to the World Literature Committee to be placed on the A-List for further evaluation.

When I returned from the World Service Convention last week and was informed that the deadline for getting an article into this issue was about 11:00 AM, I was concerned about being able to tell you everything that happened in a concise format that would enable you to read and feel everything that was said and done. The specific substance of the conference sessions that passed or failed, discussed, planned and approved, which is