

JULY 2006
VOLUME TWENTY-THREE
NUMBER THREE

IT'S ALL ABOUT **CARRYING** THE MESSAGE

تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است.

SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE

ЭТО ВСЁ ДЛЯ ТОГО ЧТОБЫ НЕСТИ ВЕСТЬ SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE

IL S'AGIT AVANT TOUT DE **TRANSMETTRE** LE MESSAGE וכל קשור בלשאת את הבשורה

ALLT HANDLAR OM ATT FÖRA BUDSKAPET VIDA 「議題はすべて、メッセージを運ぶことがテーマです」

SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE 「議題はすべて、メッセージを運ぶことがテーマです」

O IMPORTANTE É **LEVAR** A MENSAGEM ЭТО ВСЁ ДЛЯ ТОГО ЧТОБЫ НЕСТИ ВЕСТЬ SÓLO SE TRAT

וכל קשור בלשאת את הבשורה IL S'AGIT AVANT TOUT DE **TRANSMETTRE** LE MESS

تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است. SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE

ЭТО ВСЁ ДЛЯ ТОГО ЧТОБЫ НЕСТИ ВЕСТЬ SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE O IMPORTANTE É

وכל קשור בלשאת את הבשורה IL S'AGIT AVANT TOUT DE **TRANSMETTRE** LE MESSAGE

تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است. O IMPORTANTE É **LEVAR** A MENSAGEM

SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است.

SÓLO SE TRAT تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است. ЭТО ВСЁ ДЛЯ ТОГО ЧТОБЫ НЕСТИ ВЕСТЬ

وכל קשור בלשאת את הבשורה IL S'AGIT AVANT TOUT DE **TRANSMETTRE** LE MESS

SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE ЭТО ВСЁ ДЛЯ ТОГО ЧТОБЫ НЕСТИ ВЕСТЬ

تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است. O IMPORTANTE É **CARRYING** THE MESSAGE

IL S'AGIT AVANT TOUT DE **TRANSMETTRE** LE MESSAGE וכל קשור בלשאת את הבשורה

「議題はすべて、メッセージを運ぶことがテーマです」

ALLT HANDLAR OM ATT FÖRA BUDSKAPET VIDA

SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE O IMPORTANTE É **LEVAR** A MENSAGEM

ЭТО ВСЁ ДЛЯ ТОГО ЧТОБЫ НЕСТИ ВЕСТЬ

ALLT HANDLAR OM ATT FÖRA BUDSKAPET VIDA

IL S'AGIT AVANT TOUT DE **TRANSMETTRE** LE MESS O IMPORTANTE É

تمام سعي ما براي رسانيدن پيام است.

SÓLO SE TRATA DE **LLEVAR** EL MENSAJE

وכל קשור בלשאת את הבשורה



THE
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

EDITOR
De Jenkins

COPY EDITORS
David Fulk
Lee Manchester

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Fatia Birault

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD
Muk H-D, Gail D, Keith N, Marc S,
Redmer Y, Sheryl L

World Service Office
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 Canoga Park, 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

Most of us have things we need to put off until after tomorrow, next week, or after we finish some project. It's one of the ways we can be lured away from living in the moment. One of my favorite sayings is "Warning: Dates on calendar are closer together than they appear!" Funny, yes; but it also reminds me I have no control over the passage of time, but I do have control over how I pass my time. I hope, for the next series of moments, you'll enjoy this issue of our magazine, which is bursting at the seams with information and recovery.

De J, Editor

IN THIS ISSUE

Feature		Service	
• Ah-ha! Moments from WSC 2006	3	• 2004-2006 Fellowship Issue Discussions: Leadership and our Public Image	21
Sharing		News Bytes	
• What my sponsee means to me	7	• WCNA-32 Announcements	23
• Two letters	8	• World Unity Day 2006	25
• Only the weak can cry	10	Picture This	26
Did you know?	10	Calendar	27
Basic Text Project Update	11	Product Update	30
2006-2008 Fellowship Issue Discussions	13	Home group	32

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.

The NA Way Magazine, published in English, French, German, Portuguese, 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."

AAA AH-HA!



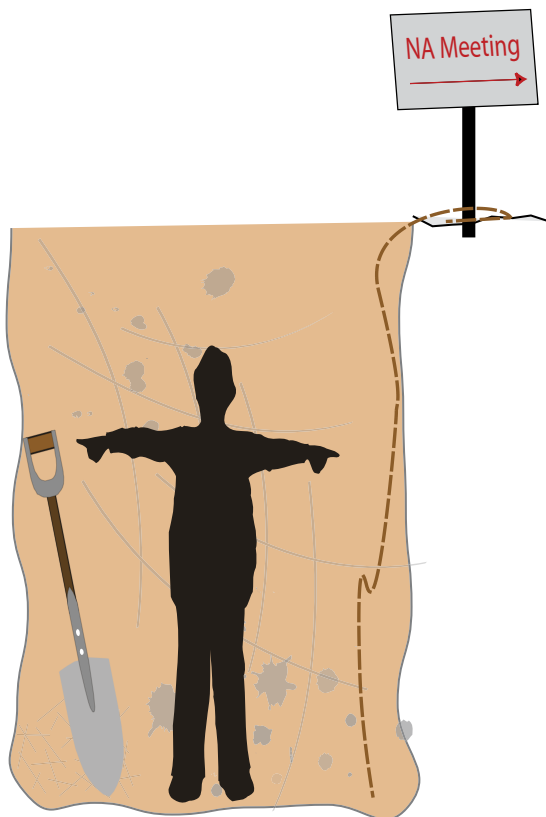
Moments from WSC 2006

There are times in our lives we will always remember—childhood and school memories, first jobs, the birth of a child or grandchild, an amazing performance. Do you remember when you first “got” the NA message, when it was finally clear to you that you had real hope for recovery? And what about other experiences later in recovery when the clouds seemed to part and everything seemed to come together like a bright ray of sunshine in our lives? These are what we call our “ah-ha” moments. We posed these questions to WSC 2006 participants and gathered their responses to share with you here.

No guarantees

My youngest daughter died after a fire in our home when I had two and one-half years clean. From that experience, I learned what it really means when we say, “You don’t ever have to use again, no matter what.” I learned that staying clean is not a guarantee that bad stuff doesn’t happen, but that the principles in the steps teach us how to live life on life’s terms and give us the courage, the strength, and the maturity to face anything and stay clean. We are able to live lives of joy and purpose, despite what our experiences are.

Debbie E, Missouri, USA



Shovel or rope

As I was sitting in a psychiatric ward after another attempted suicide, a staff member in recovery asked me if I really wanted to die or if I was willing to take a chance on a new way to live. She told me to envision that I was living in a deep hole and had hit bottom again. I had two choices: I could choose the shovel I had been using to dig my hole, and if I chose to dig myself to a new bottom, I might as well put the dirt on top of myself because I was just digging my own grave. My other choice was a rope hanging down. On the other end of it were all of you. If I chose the rope, there would be some easy times of climbing out of my hole, but there would also be difficult times. My fingers might bleed, clinging to the rope with every one of you helping to pull me through. All I needed to remember was to not let go of the rope. It has been a little over twelve years since I set down the shovel and grabbed that rope, and I still hold that rope tightly today. Thank you to all of you for being on the other end of my rope. I love you all.

Larry K, Wisconsin, USA

Regardless of...

I attended meetings, but I didn't identify with other members. Instead, I compared myself to them, until one day, a friend (who was the craziest person in town) shared in a meeting that he had been clean for three months. In that moment I knew that if he could do it, I could also do it. I continued attending meetings until, one day, a gay member celebrated his first birthday, and his story was just like mine. That day, I understood that I was part of something real big, and that things like age, gender, race, and religion didn't matter. I am still here, and I am staying here. Just for today.

Luchy G, Cartagena, Colombia

The therapeutic value

When I heard the woman who would become my sponsor, at three months clean, I was hearing for the first time someone talk openly about a Higher Power. She was glowing from within, and I wanted that. It was the first time that I let God speak to me, through her; I hadn't even wanted to hear that word before. I wish to express my gratitude to her for teaching me how to recover, and how to let a loving God open my heart.

Lucie P, Quebec, Canada



A higher goal

During my first days clean, I came to understand that I had to do some things I don't like to do, and that the purpose was to reach a higher goal. It didn't matter if I liked it or not, or if I wanted to or not; I can make an effort to stay clean one more day and, in the process, serve my Higher Power in spite of everything.

Martin Garcia, Montevideo, Uruguay



In a wheelbarrow

When I was struggling with the words "faith" and "belief," another addict explained to me that, if she stretched a tight-rope across the Grand Canyon and told me she could push a wheelbarrow across it, that is belief. To exercise faith, I would have to get into the wheelbarrow and allow her to wheel me across the canyon on that tightrope.

Letha H, Texas, USA

Not for you, Kristine

One of the girls who used to work for me and had been in jail came to my house to try to score. She left behind an old NA Little White Booklet she had gotten in an H&I meeting. After she left, I read it and kept relating to all the stuff I was reading. I wished they had something like NA in Brisbane. Some time later, through a series of events, I found my way to a meeting—not long after NA was started in Brisbane. I felt relieved. My psychiatrist at the time said, "NA may work for some people, Kristine, but not for you." Although it took me two constant years of relapse and recovery, I knew recovery was possible. Something inside me knew this program would work and I would stay clean. Today, I am nineteen and one-half years clean.

Krissy A, Queensland, Australia

Identity statement

After being in a treatment center for two and one-half months, I was taken to an NA meeting. I had learned that I was addicted to many substances, so I found it important to introduce myself, "Hi, I'm Toby, and I am an addict to all substances that alter my mind." After about a month, a veteran member approached me at the end of a meeting and asked me in a very loving manner why I made that distinction. He then went on to explain that "we" are all addicts. And that's when I said to myself, "Ah-ha, it's not about me; it's about us."

Toby G, Malaga, Spain

Found in translation

My "ah-ha" moment was at the opening meeting of the NA world convention in Paris, France. I looked around the room and noticed how many addicts were wearing headphones. Then I noticed all the translator booths in the back of the room. It was at that moment that the whole global aspect of this fellowship hit me. The tears began to well up in me and I cried during the whole meeting. It was at that moment that I knew for the first time with certainty that I was going to be alright.

David M, Florida, USA



One disease

I started my recovery in another twelve-step fellowship, where I had to alter my language to fit their program. The NA regional convention was meeting not far from my hometown, and I decided to join some other members on a road trip to the event. For the first time I finally discovered a path of recovery that fit who and what I was. The literature, the language, and the feelings that were shared with me during that convention made me feel like I could really belong somewhere for the first time in my life. I realized that I suffered from addiction, not more than one disease, and that I could share my experience, strength, and hope about what I had felt for my entire life without having to "fit" my life to a fellowship.

Don T, Colorado, USA



Welcome home

At one and one-half years clean, I was going through a divorce and moved to another area. I went to a big meeting, expecting to be welcomed, but I was not. I was hurt and isolated, and I struggled for about a year. One day, at a meeting, I noticed a person whom I had never seen before ride up on a moped. He stood off by himself, and no one approached him. I remembered when I came to that meeting for the first time, so I introduced myself and took him around to meet others. Four years later, I was at an anniversary meeting, and he was the speaker. He shared that when he was released from prison and came to his first meeting, he was scared and unsure, but that someone welcomed him and helped him feel at home. He glanced over at me, smiled, and winked. I had learned that it's not all about me.

Don L, South Carolina, USA

Growing old in NA

A woman came to New Zealand for a visit. She hung out with us and shared her story with us. She was older than me, which made me feel like it was going to be okay to stay clean—and get old in NA.

Hamish A, Wellington, New Zealand

Never alone

One of the programs of the treatment center was to go to NA. I went to NA meetings out of obligation, but it never dawned on me that it was something I needed. Rather, I thought I should quickly “graduate” NA. When I finished the one-year treatment program, I stopped going to NA meetings. I started to accumulate more and more stress. Just when I thought I should use again because living was getting so tough, a fellow member who happened to have less clean time than I did invited me to go to a meeting with him. I went just for the sake of friendship. As I shared my story, those around me in the meeting were nodding their heads. I could truly feel that I didn’t have to be alone as long as I kept coming to NA meetings. That was so comforting. At that moment I felt it was okay for me to stay here and then a deep sense of serenity came over me.

Sohshi K, Tochigi Prefecture, Japan

I had a choice

My first “ah-ha” was at my first meeting, when the chairperson said, “Just for today, you don’t ever have to use again.” It was the first time I ever knew that I had a choice—that getting high was an option, not a necessity.

Jimmy Lee P, California, USA

Dignity and strength

When I was new in recovery and worked the steps for the first time with my sponsor, I thought I’d never understand the steps and no one would ever want what I have. Years passed and I worked the steps many times again. Women with more clean time asked me to sponsor them. I thought this was because of the lack of women with clean time in service. After my husband was diagnosed with cancer, I cared for him for over two years until he died. I realize today I am no longer the messed-up girl I was when I was using. Through recovery and my Higher Power I have become a woman of dignity and strength—with an understanding of our steps and a lot to offer other women in recovery.

Sandy P, Alaska, USA





What my sponsee means to me

I never expected to enjoy being a sponsor as much as I do. I've been sponsoring her for about six months. She is the first one in my nine years with whom I have really "clicked." Before I was her sponsor, she had relapsed and come back to us. When I saw her at that first meeting back, we both knew we needed each other. We have been working her steps together ever since. I am confident that she will stay clean (if she continues to listen to me!), and eventually she will sponsor other women. This cycle is one of the most beautiful parts about NA. I am reminded of watching time-lapse photography of a caterpillar changing into a butterfly. It's one of those true clichés.

She makes me feel like I am a better person than I think I am. She shares her most painful and most inane feelings with me, and I feel honored to be the one she calls. We end up laughing at most things, which is my time-tested method of coping. Laughing works very well for us, in addition to applying the principles of recovery.

We have a lot in common, and I'm not just saying that. When we are reading out of our NA books, we often discover that both of us have underlined the same passages, and we laugh about that, too. We are two young women who have the same difficulties, but I am the one of us who has learned to use the program to live in balance. And, because I am grateful for my life, I share everything I know with her. I am not afraid to let her know that I still get angry and sad and lazy and lonely, but I also let her see how I eventually pull through those feelings and go on to the next victory or disappointment and still stay clean. All the while, we faithfully go to two meetings a week together, talk to newcomers, and give hugs to people.

Having her in my life has added another dimension to my self-concept. I feel more useful to the universe. I am being as useful as I can be, and I am not pretending or denying anything with her. I feel like my particular experiences have unfolded just so that I can help this woman and be her recovery companion. She and I are very similar in our proclivities and our tendencies, and I can see with certainty that she is a delightful, spectacular creature; therefore, so am I! (Who knew?) We are two addicts helping each other see how awesome they really are.

You can read about sponsee/sponsor relationships in our pamphlets and books, but my relationship with my sponsee goes beyond what I have been told to expect from recovery. I am obligated to share my gift with others who are ready. I am so grateful for my life that I am happy to do so. When I help her, my gratitude multiplies. I get a new high from my sponsee; higher and better than I ever thought I could be while still clean. I'm really glad I've stayed here long enough to feel this.

Erica R, California, USA

Two letters

March 2006

Dear Editor,

Greetings! Throughout my incarceration, I have had the privilege of access to NA literature, books, meetings, and your publication. I now have two weeks left to serve. I have enclosed my last article to you from prison. I hope it meets your criteria for publishing, but if it doesn't, at least it helped me to write it.

Please start sending my subscription to my home address. I thank you for sending me The NA Way Magazine free for these last four years of my recovery. The magazine certainly helped me grow, and it brought me comfort through the many contributors during a time in my life when I needed you the most. Mere words cannot express my gratitude. "Thank you" just seems too inadequate. I am truly grateful to have been exposed to NA and The NA Way Magazine. May the God of your understanding continue to bless every one of you in all that you do. I carry you in my heart, thoughts, and prayers.

Gratefully yours,
Michael T, Virginia, USA

3/15/06

Dear Editor,

Greetings:

April 2006

Dear Editor,

Greetings! It is 9:00 am on 3 April 2006. I was released from prison after serving a seven-year sentence to arrive home and open your letter to me dated 24 March 2006. Enclosed is a signed release form for the article I sent in March.

I am writing to you while sitting at my kitchen table, drinking a cup of coffee. For the first time in a long time, it's not instant coffee! My family is still asleep and the house is extremely quiet. I haven't been in complete silence in years and, to be honest with you, it is a little unsettling in a cool sort of way.

Tonight I am going to attend my first NA meeting in the free world, with my sponsor. Thanks to NA and the God of my understanding, I feel I have a better-than-average life ahead of me.

I will continue to write to The NA Way because it is very therapeutic for me and I want other inmates to know that, as long as they embrace NA and work the steps, they can get out and lead a wonderful and productive life.

With warmest regards,
Michael T, Virginia, USA

71409-90

con
my life
mere words

hor.
magazine
ou
ed
my
me in
most.
ruf

Only the weak can cry

When I was a child, I cried if I wanted to gain something from my parents. When I grew older, I learned the same as everyone else around me: that only the weak can cry.

Later, during my drug abuse, when I got to the point of total despair, I cried and wished this whole thing would be over so that I could die. I grew thinner, I was beaten, and I abased myself; but I didn't die. I thought that no one would understand what had happened to me, and I would never be able to digest the things that had happened to me. I didn't think I could ever cry again. I became tough, and according to many, I was like a savage in the early years of my recovery—a savage who cannot and does not want to use drugs, and only hopes in his deepest soul that somewhere in the world a happier life exists. A savage from whom human feelings are very far, but who, deep in his heart, really wishes to feel them.

Then I found NA, and NA found me. My life improved and my lost dreams awoke. I trusted again. In recovery, I found friends, which I never thought I would be able to do. A wonderful period had begun. I fell in love with a girl, with whom I have lived together since then, and she is also in the program. Once, when I was telling her about my past pains, I started to cry. More exactly, I wanted to cry, but something was in my way. It was that belief that got in my way—that only the weak can cry.

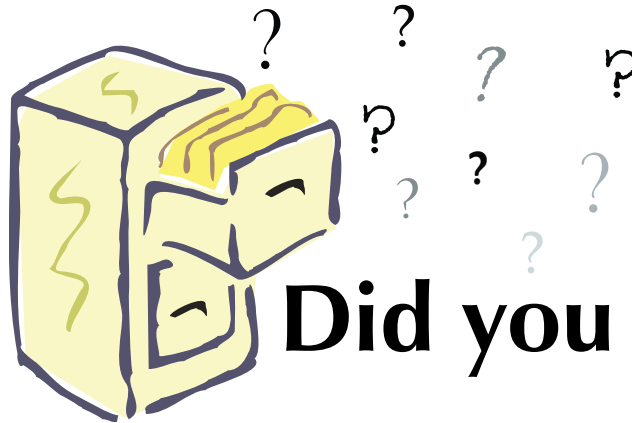
Last autumn, I realized the dream of my life and went to the World Convention of NA in Honolulu. It was wonderful. It was the most beautiful and, at the same time, most difficult experience of my life, because my girlfriend and I fell out with each other and she didn't come with me. When I was riding a motorbike by the ocean, I thought to myself that, five years earlier, I had lived on the streets, and now I could be here. I felt like crying again, but I still couldn't. Only the weak can cry.

A few days ago we celebrated the sixth anniversary of the NA community in my town, Pécs. A speaker who is kind

to me spoke about how NA was formed in Pécs six years ago. Something started in me then. I cried—no, I sobbed—for the first time in many, many years. It was a fantastic experience to allow the suppressed feelings of many years to break out from me. It was fantastic to realize, while I was sobbing, that NA had saved my life. At last, it could happen to me.

From now on, I can be weak also—and, you know, only the weak can cry.

Feri S, Csongrad, Hungary



Did you know?

The Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous has come a long way since our early beginnings in 1953. We have grown from that first meeting held in Sun Valley, California, USA, to over 33,500 weekly meetings held in approximately 123 countries worldwide. Our history is rich with diversity, and we want to share the facts of that history with you, the little known as well as the well known. If you have an interesting and historic fact, send it to us at naway@na.org or NAWS, Attn: *The NA Way Magazine*, PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

- Did you know** NA Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) had its first convention in February 2006? The cost of registration was US \$10, which included breakfast, lunch, and afternoon tea.
- Did you know** the first NA meeting in Kunming, China, was held 21 February 2006, and there were twenty addicts present?
- Did you know** NA was introduced in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 1994? The Everest Group of Nepal was formed, and the meeting's average attendance was fifteen recovering addicts. So far this year, members of this NA community have conducted H&I presentations in three jails, two hospitals, and a detox unit.
- Did you know** the first Asia Pacific Forum meeting was held at the 1992 WSC in Dallas, Texas, USA? The APF began with a few individuals in the Pacific Rim area having informal talks about how they might be of service to the fellowship in that part of the world.
- Did you know** the Aotearoa New Zealand Region recently published a membership survey *and* a book chronicling the history of NA in New Zealand titled "Keeping New Zealand Clean: A Brief History"?
- Did you know** the Japanese first made contact in 1979 with an NA member in Hawaii, and started an NA meeting in Japan around 1980? In 1986, a couple of members from Japan visited the WSO to discuss translations. Twenty years later, the Japanese Basic Text was published and was made available for sale at the 2006 WSC.
- Did you know** NA in Australia first began in Melbourne many years before its first area convention in July 1987? Sydney started meetings in the early 1980s, and at the twentieth regional convention, in October 2004 in Adelaide, five members celebrated twenty years clean.

Basic Text Project Update

The moment many of you have been waiting for is here. You can now sign up to receive the review-and-input draft of the Sixth Edition Basic Text. (For background on the project, see the solicitation flyer and other material on our website: www.na.org/conference/bt/index.htm.)

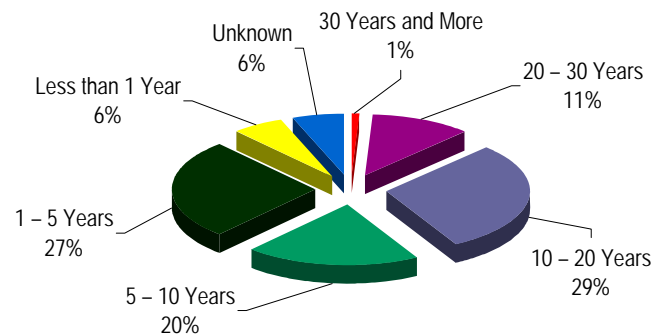
The draft will contain a new preface, a revised collection of stories relating personal recovery experiences, and an introduction to the personal experience section. The “personal stories”—and we may even have a new name for that part of the book when the review draft is issued—will each have an abstract describing them, and they may be divided into sections of some kind. Those of you who have read our reports from the beginning of the project have seen all of these ideas in the past, but now they are really taking shape in the draft itself. It’s exciting and sometimes even daunting, honestly. We have never attempted this sort of revision on the personal experience in the Basic Text, and we are all learning as we go. We want to put together the best book possible and we are breaking new ground here in many ways. We’re not here to tell you that we have it all put together and polished up and ready for your stamp of approval. We are still in the process, and we hope you will help us by reading and giving input on the draft and continuing to spread the word. We will try to answer below some of the more obvious questions you might have.

What have we received so far?

We want to thank each of you who contributed to the project so far. Whether you helped hold a workshop, sent us ideas about what kind of experience you’d like to see in the text, or wrote down your own experience and sent it in, we are so grateful for your contributions. We received more than 700 submissions. Your sharing has moved us, and we know that it will save lives. Thank you.

Clean time

More than 30 years clean: 6
 More than 20 years clean: 79
 Between 10 and 20 years clean: 204
 Between 5 and 10 years clean: 137
 Between 1 and 5 years clean: 185
 Less than 1 year clean: 39
 Unknown clean time: 41



Location

United States: 534 (from 46 states plus the District of Columbia)
 Outside the United States: 161 (from the countries listed below)

Argentina	Germany	Mexico	Puerto Rico	Turkey
Australia	Greece	Nepal	Russia	United Kingdom
Belgium	India	Netherlands	Saudi Arabia	Venezuela
Brazil	Ireland	New Zealand	Spain	West Indies
Canada	Israel	Nicaragua	Sweden	
Colombia	Italy	Norway	Switzerland	
France	Japan	Portugal	Trinidad	





What kinds of revisions would be possible?

Of course, the answer to this question depends in large part on what you tell us you'd like to see. There will be a new preface and an introduction to the personal experience section of the book; the input on these items should be fairly straightforward. What may bear explaining are the possible changes to the personal experience section.

One of the primary considerations is a vision of the work as a whole. It has been quite a job to evaluate more than 700 pieces of writing and to compile the collection you will see in the draft. But our job isn't over yet. The task in front of us now is to make sure the text paints a broad demographic picture of our fellowship. Think of it like an orchestra—we don't want too many strings and not enough horns. We are working hard to fill the gaps in the experience we have so far. For instance, we are still actively trying to collect material from some parts of the world—the Middle East, Africa, and so on. It may be that the final collection published in the approval form may have some pieces not in the review form, or that some of the pieces in the review form may not be in the approval form. We have tried to put together a set of experiences that work in concert, so adding a piece of writing may mean taking out another—or vice versa.

It's also possible that the editing may be within specific pieces. As we have mentioned throughout the course of the project, most of the pieces contained in the draft will be subject to editing. Many of us who can move everyone in a meeting to tears when we speak have trouble getting our thoughts and feelings down on paper. Editing can help us share our recovery in print—to be as effective on the page as we are in our meeting rooms. The pieces you will see in the review-and-input draft will have already been edited, and it may be that we will do further editing because of the input we receive.

In sum, we want to make everyone aware that there may be changes between the review-and-input and approval drafts. In fact, input wouldn't count for much if it couldn't change a text. So please be a part of the process. Sign up and tell us what you think. Be a part of history.

“From the isolation of our addiction, we find a fellowship of people with a common bond of recovery. NA is like a lifeboat in a sea of isolation, hopelessness, and destructive chaos. Our faith, strength, and hope come from people sharing their recovery.”

Basic Text, page 94

How do I get a review-and-input draft?

We will send a copy of the draft to all conference participants, all regional service committees, all area service committees, and any members with interest who sign up. You can sign up online—access the link from this page: www.na.org/conference/index.htm—or you can contact NA World Services via email or post and have a hard copy of the draft sent to you:

NAWS, Inc.
PO Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
worldboard@na.org

And then what happens?

After you sign up, when the review draft is published, we will either send you a copy in the post, or you will be able to download it. The review period for the draft will be six months, from 1 September 2006 to 28 February 2007. We are trying to make it as easy as possible for you to give input, and so we will be accepting input in a variety of ways. We will have a form posted on our website that you can fill out online or download and fill out, or you can send input via email or post. It's easiest for us if you sign up and give input electronically, but we welcome input in whatever form it comes.

Your input will help shape any changes to the text. The revised version will be issued as the approval draft, which is the draft that will be voted on at the 2008 World Service Conference. The approval draft will be published in September 2007.



2006-2008 Fellowship Issue Discussions

The last time we distributed the Issue Discussion Topics in *The NA Way Magazine*, more members seemed to know about and discuss the topics—so we are trying it again. These discussions are giving many of us new ways to talk together about the things we care about in NA. The theme for this cycle’s Issue Discussion Topics is “It’s All About Carrying the Message,” and we believe that this discussion process is a part of how we will improve our ability to more effectively carry NA’s message.

Having Fellowship Issue Discussions

These fellowshipwide discussions give you a chance to talk about the things that affect your local NA communities. There is tremendous value in talking to each other rather than only coming together for motions and business. Identifying common challenges and sharing ideas about how to address those challenges have become an invaluable part of these discussions. These discussions also give us a chance to gather your input about what you need to carry the message in your local communities. By the end of the next two years, our discussions can help all of us hear a common story about the issues affecting us most. Your input will help us know what tools and resources you need, what is working in your local groups, and what you are still struggling with. Your input will also help shape the discussions we have at the World Service Conference in 2008. We can only move forward with our efforts to carry NA’s message with your help. The new discussion topics come out of the discussions we’ve been having the past two years, and it is our hope that these new topics will continue to provide us all with a chance to gain new awareness, find solutions, and talk together about how to improve the ways we carry NA’s message.



Go to www.na.org/discussion_boards.htm for all the latest info on Issue Discussion Topics, and participate in Online Issue Discussion Bulletin Boards!

There will be session profiles to help with facilitating these discussions and electronic forms to submit information; both will be available at www.na.org. These tools are routinely updated, so be sure to check the website for new information.

The New Issue Discussion Topics and Where They Came From

“Building Strong Home Groups” and “Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?”

Our discussions about a group’s Atmosphere of Recovery began in 2002. We finished that first round of discussion with a great sense of the importance of this topic, but no tangible conclusions. The fellowship then asked that we continue our discussions about Atmosphere of Recovery in the 2004-2006 conference cycle. We asked members to comment on what makes NA groups attractive and strong. The need to take personal responsibility for unity in NA meetings and the role sponsors play in leading by example were mentioned as crucial in creating an atmosphere of recovery. Participants also offered solutions that focused on the need for tools and guidance to help strengthen groups (strong meeting formats, tools for members at the group level, and recovery literature to strengthen a group).

Because of what we heard from these discussions, world services is planning to develop basic tools to support members in local groups. This list includes:

- ◆ updateable materials that cover group trusted servant roles and responsibilities and how to carry them out
- ◆ discussion tools for running certain types of meetings
- ◆ information about creating a safe environment at meetings that addresses issues like medication, disruptive behavior, etc.

We also asked members to look at what local groups are already successfully doing to create an atmosphere of recovery and carry NA's message. Conversely, we asked what happens when we aren't able to create an atmosphere that is attractive and welcoming in our groups. From these questions, two important themes emerged: first, the need to find ways to preserve and build upon our existing strengths. This is where the topic of *Building Strong Home Groups* came from. This new topic is meant to allow members to take a more conscious look at what we do that works and how we might build upon and improve those efforts.

Building Strong Home Groups

As described above, the conversations we've had over the past four years about a group's atmosphere of recovery have reinforced the need to build on our existing strengths. We know that there is a need for basic tools at the group level, but the importance of strong home groups really seems to resonate with what members are actually doing to carry NA's message. The discussion questions on page 17 ask us to take a closer look at what we are already doing and how we could possibly do it better. Having a conversation about what a strong home group means to you, how you are building strong home groups, and how those groups are functioning can only help us better carry NA's message.

The second theme to emerge was a need to take a further look at *Who Is Missing from Our Meetings* and how to reach them. We know we do a good job of creating an attractive atmosphere, but sometimes that atmosphere is not one that appeals to a variety of people. We heard similar input—that we could do a better job of helping addicts identify when they first come to NA—from professionals during the Public Relations Roundtable. In the discussions we've already had about who is missing, we have identified several groups of addicts:

- ◆ racial and ethnic groups (Asian Americans and Native Americans were repeatedly mentioned as specific examples of who is missing from local groups in the USA)
- ◆ those from various language groups
- ◆ both younger and older people in the community
- ◆ professionals
- ◆ members in NA service and members with clean time

World services is trying to take the first steps to address this issue through the development of targeted literature and holding common needs meetings at the world convention. The current list of targeted literature includes:

- ◆ youth and recovery
- ◆ medication and recovery
- ◆ the benefits of NA service in personal recovery
- ◆ the spiritual development of members with longer clean time, and how to continue to engage them in the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous
- ◆ older members and recovery
- ◆ issues regarding gender

All of these efforts are only a start and depend on local efforts to make any real difference. There cannot be any issue more important to us, as a fellowship, than what a person finds when they walk into an NA meeting. We hope that this topic will only work to strengthen the ways we carry NA's message.

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?

The theme of this cycle's Issue Discussion Topics is *It's All About Carrying the Message*, and asking ourselves who is not getting NA's message seems to be a necessary question. Our discussions about a group's atmosphere of recovery already identified the need to reach people from various racial and ethnic groups, as well as young people, professionals, and people with clean time, but how can we do this? And how can we begin an ongoing discussion about how to reach more people in our communities who aren't in our meetings? The discussion questions for this topic focus on ways groups can begin this discussion and start addressing this important aspect of the way we carry NA's message.

“Our Service System”

We proposed the topic of Infrastructure in 2004 because of the input we continually heard from members, groups, areas, and regions about the challenges they were having in providing services to their local communities. These challenges seemed to be a result of committees trying to operate in a service structure that doesn't necessarily allow for things such as the ability to easily communicate and cooperate within that structure. We asked members to first look at what is working in the service structure, in local groups, and with individual members. The solutions identified seemed to point to the need for our service structure to operate in a more cooperative and efficient fashion. The goals of an area service committee, for example, were not listed as the problem. The problems that seemed to be challenging local service efforts were subcommittees duplicating service efforts (e.g., three different people, who haven't talked to each other, responding to a call from a local high school) or members volunteering for commitments and then becoming so frustrated and overwhelmed that they leave those commitments after receiving no support or training.

The next step in these discussions really started to ask members to examine the system in place for carrying NA's message. We asked members to think about whether or not the current service structure in their local NA community is best suited to carrying the message, and what about the current structure could be better suited to carrying the message. Again, it became clear that our challenge is not in clarifying the goal of our service efforts; it's in how we reach that goal. Members reiterated this by listing the need for more attractive service meetings, stronger groups, frequent inventories, stronger communication, open-mindedness, and knowledge of the traditions and concepts.

Most of us in Narcotics Anonymous are passionate about carrying NA's message to suffering addicts. What we seem to need is guidance about how to focus that passion so that our service efforts can be more productive, creative, and attractive. This is where the topic of *Our Service System* came from. There seemed to be a need to have a “holistic discussion” about how the various “levels” of service (groups, areas, regions, and zones) relate to each other, the ways in which subcommittees operate within an area, and how neighboring areas communicate and cooperate with each other. The Area Planning Tool, presented with the *Public Relations Handbook*, is one way world services has tried to help areas address this need for more effective planning and coordination of services. Yet, this tool cannot be useful without local discussions about how we can better work together to carry NA's message.

Our Service System

The discussion questions for this topic focus on the need to take a closer and more holistic look at our service system. The discussion we had about our infrastructure helped us identify some of the systemic problems we face when trying to provide services. We know from our previous discussions that the goal of local service efforts is not the problem—for the most part, all of us in our local service committees are striving to carry NA's message. Yet, how we reach that goal continues to be a struggle. This topic gives us a chance to hear your voice about what world services can create to support your efforts to carry NA's message. These questions also give you a chance to focus on how we can all work together to improve the ways we provide services.

Your Discussion Sessions

The discussion questions included here are meant to encourage and support your discussions. You may decide to try to answer all of the questions, or you may pick only a few questions for your discussion. No matter how you decide to discuss these topics, we encourage you to try using small groups. Included here are copies of Suggested Ground Rules and Brainstorming Guidelines to support your small-group discussions. The goal is to share ideas and experiences in a supportive environment.

It's a good idea to ask one person to facilitate the group. That person can give everyone a fair opportunity to speak (keeping time, if necessary). The facilitator can also plan how much time will be allotted for each set of questions and can work to keep the discussions going.

A list of materials that may be useful for a small-group discussion session includes:

- ◆ copies of Suggested Ground Rules and Brainstorming Guidelines for all participants
- ◆ a large flip-chart, Post-it pad of paper, white board, or chalkboard
- ◆ markers or chalk
- ◆ clock or stopwatch to keep time
- ◆ a room set up with tables or groups of chairs where small groups can sit together

Be creative! Your discussions could take place at your home group's business meeting, or more informally with a group of members after a meeting. An area, region or zone could plan a special workshop during, before, or after its regularly scheduled meeting. An NA community could also plan a learning day or workshop, or use the discussion questions as topics for a local convention workshop.

We want to hear about your discussions!

Send your results to world services at:

NAWS, Inc./World Board

PO Box 9999

Van Nuys, CA 991409 USA

Fax: 818.700.0700 or Email: worldboard@na.org



“Leadership” and “Our Public Image”

There were two other important discussions that took place these last two years. The results of the discussions we had about Leadership and Our Public Image are recapped on page 21.



2006-2008 Fellowship Issue Discussion Questions

IT'S ALL ABOUT **CARRYING** THE MESSAGE

Our vision is 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. . .*

Building Strong Home Groups

1. What do you personally see as the difference between a home group, a group, and a meeting?
Is there a difference in your responsibility or behavior with each of these?
2. What are the benefits of a strong home group (to you, to newcomers, and to other members)?
3. In what ways do strong home groups contribute to our common welfare?
How does a home group help you to gain a sense of belonging and purpose?
4. How does participation at a home group teach you how to be of service in NA?
How do home groups provide or encourage a foundation for leadership?
5. How do we build strong home groups and what do we need to do to encourage members to join a home group?
6. What are things you can do to keep meetings open, attractive, and welcoming?
Does your group encourage and welcome this responsibility? If so, how?
7. How does the principle of "you have to give it away to keep it" apply to your personal contributions?

*Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect
as a viable program of recovery. . .*

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?

8. Does your group identify who is missing from its meetings and discuss its responsibility to carry the message?
9. How can groups help to keep both newcomers and experienced members fully participating in meetings and engaged in the NA program?
10. What actions can be taken to ensure that members and potential members know that our meetings exist?
How can we improve these efforts?
11. How can groups and areas work together to help in these efforts?
How can local service efforts be targeted to reach those missing from our meetings?

*NA communities worldwide and NA World Services work together
in a spirit of unity and cooperation to carry our message of recovery...*

Our Service System

12. In what ways can we bring recovery principles into our service meetings?
13. How can our current service system better allow for new ideas and creative approaches?
In what ways can we improve relationships and communication with other service bodies
(committee to committee, area to area, area to region, region to area, zone or world services, etc.)?
14. What are some ways we can evaluate our service efforts?
What value is there in following up on these efforts?
How can we improve our follow-up efforts?
15. What aspects of the system may need changing?
What steps can be taken to help build a more productive and responsive service structure?
16. Who is missing from our service structure?
How can we better cultivate, support, and encourage leadership within the service structure?
How can we help to get people the information, tools, and support they need to be successful
in their service efforts?
17. How can NA communities expand their resources (members, tools, and finances) and better use those resources?
How do your group contributions help to carry the message at all levels of the service structure?
18. How can we make service more interesting, stimulating, and rewarding? And perhaps even fun?





BRAINSTORMING GUIDELINES

One good idea leads to another . . . good idea.

"No" and "can't" do not exist.

Creativity has no limits.

Be part of—participate.

Think fast, analyze later . . .
judging, evaluating, and criticizing
are not brainstorming.

And above all . . .

HAVE FUN!



SUGGESTED GROUND RULES

Stay **OPEN-MINDED**.

LISTEN and **SHARE** the time.

Remember **TO PLAY WELL** with others.

Don't forget **WHY** we're here!

STAY FOCUSED on the subject at hand.

Lively **CONVERSATION** is productive.

TO AGREE AND TO DISAGREE...that is the process!

One more time—**AVOID REPETITION**.

It's important to **START** and **STOP** on time.

AND

**NO KICKING, SCRATCHING,
OR BITING ALLOWED...!**



Leadership and Our Public Image

Although the discussions we had these past two years about *Leadership* and *Our Public Image* don't directly lead into new discussion topics, a review of what we heard and an outline of the discussions' outcomes are a valuable piece of the discussions process.

We spent a good deal of time these last two years talking about Leadership. We repeatedly heard about the challenge of attracting members to service. We heard comments such as "a lack of trusted servants," "no one wants to be of service," and "how do we get members to be willing to be of service?" The topic of *Leadership* stemmed from this desire to get members involved, and it made sense that creating and maintaining ways to develop leadership in our local services is crucial to attracting members to service (which, in turn, helps us more effectively carry NA's message). During our initial fellowship discussions about leadership, NA members identified typical characteristics of a successful leader in NA:

- ❖ humility, willingness and love (including things such as compassion, empathy, understanding)
- ❖ leading by example
- ❖ strength and courage
- ❖ knowledge and vision
- ❖ ability to motivate others
- ❖ skill at interacting with others (listens well, is receptive, etc.)
- ❖ knows when to ask for help
- ❖ flexible and open-minded, not judgmental
- ❖ ability to make decisions
- ❖ reliable, honest, and operates with integrity

In addition to identifying leadership characteristics, members began discussing avenues for leadership development and cultivation in Narcotics Anonymous. Several commonly identified approaches for development were:

- ❖ sponsorship and mentoring
- ❖ leading by example
- ❖ sharing the positive side of service
- ❖ creating opportunities to be of service
- ❖ recruiting members for specific service positions

Members also noted that recognition—offering praise for service well done and providing thanks for being of service—is an important factor. Service may have its own rewards, but acknowledging efforts seems to foster goodwill. Goodwill may help stem the perceived closed-minded, apathetic tide that appears to be eroding our services.

selfLessness
intEgrity
accountAbility
spiritual Depth
honEsty
trustwoRthiness
willingneSs
Humility
faIth
oPEn-mindedness

In order to focus our discussions on how to move toward helping trusted servants become more successful leaders, we next asked members to discuss what we can do as a fellowship to better match people with positions. Listed below are some of the common responses:

- ❖ identify responsibilities and tasks of positions
- ❖ identify, cultivate, and train members to fill positions
- ❖ do not compromise requirements to fill the positions
- ❖ use forms to identify skills
- ❖ sponsorship

Once we identified characteristics associated with leadership, avenues for matching trusted servants to positions, and approaches for leadership development, we asked members to identify the steps we can take to help trusted servants be more successful through mentoring, training, and orientation. Members responded with the following solutions:

- ❖ encourage participation before commitment
- ❖ solicit people for positions
- ❖ send trusted servants to workshops and learning days
- ❖ have a clear, written definition of duties
- ❖ training materials
- ❖ overlap terms of service positions
- ❖ help members find their service "niche"
- ❖ use experienced members as a resource

All discussions identified leadership as an action that includes principles such as giving, inspiring, listening, and educating. Leaders are members willing to accept these responsibilities and be models for others. It seems apparent from these fellowshipwide discussions that we all agree there is value in leadership. We need to attract members to service. We must also provide the resources and training members need in order to be successful in service. Without strong leadership for our services in NA, we will not be able to attract members to recov-

ery. We know that we want every addict to be able to experience the freedom we have found in NA.

Those of us involved in world services also spent time discussing leadership. From the fellowship's leadership discussions and from our own discussions, we found that there is a lack of a systemic approach to helping and encouraging leaders. A more systemic approach to leadership, or what we are calling a Leadership Development System, is one outcome of all of these leadership discussions. We recognize that sponsors often encourage their sponsees to be of service, and we know how important that is in developing leaders in NA. This is, however, only the beginning of leadership development. There seems to be a real need for a systematic and practical path to cultivating leaders in all levels of NA service. We also recognize that every member will not pass through each level, nor should they. Service in NA is an unselfish act of giving back to the fellowship after receiving the gift of recovery, and the ways in which members contribute with their service involvement are personal decisions. However, our discussions highlighted the need to ensure that all members' potential and contribution can be fully realized. We felt that this can be accomplished through leadership cultivation and development. At world services, we will be spending time these upcoming two years taking the next steps to develop a system that encourages and cultivates leaders in Narcotics Anonymous.

Our discussions about *Our Public Image* initially came as a result of the roundtable conversations we had with professionals who interact with addicts. We learned that our ability to effectively carry the message of recovery is hampered by our public image—how we are perceived by society.

To better understand how we are viewed, we asked members to take a step back and think about NA from the perspective of someone who is not an NA member. What is the image that we are projecting to someone who is approaching and interacting with NA for the first time? Many of the commonly reported perceptions were similar to what we heard from the Public Relations Roundtables:

- ❖ NA is for heroin addicts and/or criminals
- ❖ NA meetings are not safe for young women
- ❖ NA *has* no long-term recovery
- ❖ NA has no public image, and what we do still remains a secret to the public
- ❖ the judicial system seems to have a positive perception of NA, based on their willingness to send potential members to NA meetings

These discussions also identified that a positive public image begins with members accepting personal responsibility. Granted, we cannot change our members' behavior and attitude, but we can instill a sense of personal responsibility and inform our members that their individual behaviors affect NA's public image and potential members' ability to experience the message of recovery. Making our services more responsive, illustrating long-term recovery in NA, and treating our meeting facilities with more respect were identified as crucial points to creating a positive public image. Members also discussed ways to take personal responsibility for NA's public image and ways in which service bodies can take responsibility for NA's public image.

The *Public Relations Handbook* is one way we are trying to address the issues raised in these discussions. We hope that this handbook will be a vehicle for members to discuss some practical solutions to the ways our services can work together to create a more positive public image for Narcotics Anonymous. The implementation of the *Public Relations Handbook* is another way we are hoping to address the issues raised in these discussions. By "implementation" we mean ways we can bring the handbook to life for members in local NA communities. New PSAs and training videos, training throughout the fellowship, and resources that support the ideas discussed in the *Public Relations Handbook* are some of the ways we are hoping to do this. Again, these tools can only be successful with the involvement and enthusiasm of local members.

We're looking to lasso speakers for WCNA-32

Howdy y'all! As we start preparing for our worldwide celebration of recovery in San Antonio, Texas, 29 August to 2 September 2007, we need your help identifying potential convention and workshop speakers.

Clean time requirements are ten years for main meetings and five years for workshops. Workshop speakers will be selected from the convention's pre-registration list. So if you know a member who meets the requirements, has a great message, and is planning on going to the convention, submit their name for consideration!

To submit names and/or tapes, complete the form below and send it to the WSO via mail, fax, or email. Recommendations/tapes for speakers must be received no later than 31 December 2006.



Person to be considered as a speaker _____
First Last

Street Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

Daytime Telephone () _____ Evening Telephone () _____

Email _____ Clean Date _____

Person submitting speaker _____
First Last

Telephone () _____ Email _____

Please fax or email completed submission form to 818.700.0700 or renee@na.org.
Mail to: NA World Services; WCNA-32 Speakers
PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409

PLEASE NOTE

While tapes are not required in order to be considered to speak at the convention, they are very helpful. All members are encouraged to submit one if possible.

WCNA-32

Speaker tape evaluators needed...

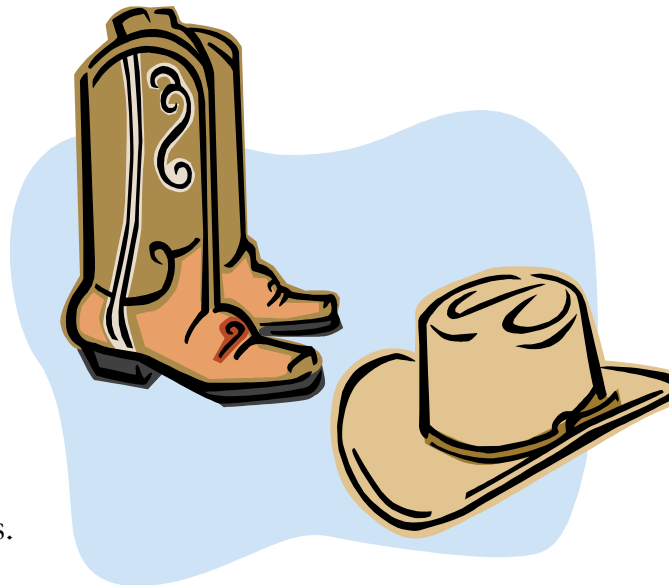
One of the many parts of the speaker selection process for the world convention includes a name/tape submission from members of the fellowship. You can help the World Board identify possible speakers for the world convention by listening to and evaluating about 100 tapes between January and May 2007.

Qualifications:

Five years clean time, willingness to serve and commit the necessary time, and ability to work with short deadlines.

To Be Considered:

Please complete and submit the attached form by **31 January 2007**. You **MUST** also have submitted a World Pool Information Form that is available on our website at www.na.org.



Name _____ Clean Date _____

Street Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

Day Telephone () _____ Evening Telephone () _____

Email Address _____

Please Note: If you have submitted a tape and/or request to speak at WCNA-32, you may not serve as an evaluator.

Send completed forms to:
NA World Services
Speaker Evaluators
PO Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
Fax: 818.700.0700 Email: events@na.org

If you have additional questions, please call 818.773.9999

3 September 2006



World Unity Day 2006

3 September will be our worldwide day of unity. At one moment it is the same day around the entire world...
A simple prayer that for one moment we will say together as a fellowship...no telephone link, no big event.

You may have an event, you may join together with some friends, or you may just take a moment to yourself as we pray together on this day of unity.

In a spirit of unity, we will join together around the world and say the Serenity Prayer at the same time...

Or, at some point during the day on 3 September (hopefully in a meeting), take a moment to reflect on our worldwide fellowship and say the Serenity Prayer for the addict who still suffers...

5:00 am New Zealand • 6:00 am Samoa • 7:00 am Hawaii, US
8:00 am Aleutian Islands, US • 9:00 am Alaska, US • 10:00 am California, US
11:00 am Edmonton, Canada • 12:00 pm Mexico City, Mexico • 1:00 pm New York City, US
2:00 pm Rio de Janeiro, Brazil • 3:00 pm Greenland • 4:00 pm Cape Verde
5:00 pm (GMT) Greenwich • 6:00 pm London, United Kingdom • 7:00 pm Warsaw, Poland
8:00 pm Tel Aviv, Israel • 8:30 pm Tehran, Iran • 10:00 pm Karachi, Pakistan
10:30 pm India • 11:00 pm Bangladesh
(4 September 2006) 12:00 am Thailand • 1:00 am China 2:00 am Korea
2:30 am Northern Territory, Australia • 3:00 am Sydney, Australia • 4:00 am Russia (Zone 9)

For more information visit www.na.org or call 818.773.9999

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.).



Recovery Quilt

The Women's Hope and Faith group of Snohomish, Washington, USA, created this recovery quilt as a group project that began at their annual retreat. Each member, ranging in clean time from a few months to many years, chose a recovery-oriented saying or design for her square. The women laughed and stitched together, and those with experience helped others who were not familiar with sewing or embroidery. The quilt was auctioned to raise money for the area service committee that supports the groups. For every square, there is a story of a member who is committed to NA service and who carries the message of recovery in this and other creative ways.



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.

Argentina

Buenos Aires Province 24-26 Nov; Convención Regional Argentina XIV; Hotel Luz y Fuerza, Mar de Plata; www.na.org.ar

Australia

Queensland 13-15 Oct; Australian Regional Convention; Tallebudgera Recreation Centre, Gold Coast; hotel rsvns: 61.422.064.143; registration: 61.411.478.914; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Aug; write: Australian Region; Fellowship Service Office; First Floor, 204 King Street; Newtown, NSW 2042; Australia; www.na.org.au

Belgium

Antwerp 26-27 Aug; Belgium Conference and Convention VII; Zeemanshuis, Antwerp; hotel rsvns: 32.472.26.94.94; event info: 32.484.89.47.83; www.na-belgium.org

Brazil

Rio de Janeiro 5-8 Oct; XV Convenção da Região Brasil; Sesc Grussai, Praia de Grussai; Rio de Janeiro; www.na.org.br/xvcrna

Canada

Quebec 6-8 Oct; Quebec Regional Convention XIX; Sheraton-Laval, Laval; hotel rsvns: 800.667.2440; event info: 514.968.0692, 514.523.5017; www.crqna.org

Colombia

Meta 19-21 Aug; Convención Regional de Colombia XV; Hotel Villavicencio Plaza, Villavicencio; hotel rsvns: ventas@hoteleraturistica.com; event info: 4.2500053; www.nacolombia.org

Germany

Rheinland-Pfalz 1-3 Sep; Speyer Convention V; Haus Trinitatis, Speyer; hotel rsvns: 00496232317206; www.na-suedwest.de

Hungary

Csonrad 18-20 Aug; Hungarian Regional Convention V; Eco Park, Szeged; www.na.info.hu

Japan

Tokyo 15-18 Sep; Japan Regional Convention IV; National Olympic Memorial Youth Center, Tokyo; www.najapan.org

Mexico

Baja California 27-29 Oct; Convención Baja California XIV; Grand Hotel, Tijuana; hotel rsvns: México: 01.800.026607, USA: 866.472.6385; event info: 818.765.5593, 925.753.5074; speaker tape info: 858.277.6438; speaker tape submission deadline: 1 Oct; write: Area Baja Costa; CBCNA XIV; Box 439056, PMB 80; San Diego, CA 92143-9056

Sinaloa 8-10 Sep; Convención Area Sinaloa Centro I; Hotel Ejecutivo, Culiacán; hotel rsvns: 667.7143468; email: convencion_inasinaloacentro@hotmail.com

New Zealand

Canterbury 27-29 Oct; Aotearoa Regional Convention XX; Arts Centre, Christchurch; event info: 64.3.3795842; registration: 64.3.9807995; www.nzna.org/events.htm

Norway

Oslo 22-24 Sep; More Will Be Revealed Area Convention; Marienlyst skole; event info: 47.45699792; http://www.nanorge.org/pdf/flyer/konvent_oslo_2006.pdf

Portugal

Oporto 28-30 Jul; European Conference and Convention XXIII; Seminário de Vilar-Massarelos; Porto; hotel rsvns: 351.936.607.421; event info: 351.932.451.689; www.eccna23.org

Puerto Rico

San Juan 21-23 Jul; Unidos Podemos XVII; Caribe Hilton Hotel, San Juan; event info: 787.274.0488; <http://groups.msn.com/p2p4d6eianbbejp5skrgfqdds6>

Dominican Republic

Boca Chica 17-19 Nov; Convención en República Dominicana V; Hotel Don Juan Beach Resort, Boca Chica; hotel rsvns: 809.6879157; event info: 809.7764737, 809.6968678

Turkey

Mugla 6-8 Oct; Turkish Area Convention IV; Hotel Pelin, Fethiye; hotel rsvns: 90.252.6221080; event info: USA: 240.793.5215, Turkey: 90.555.3573202, 90.538.2632054; www.na-turkiye.org

United Kingdom

Northumberland 21-23 Jul; North East of England Area Convention IV; The Castlegate, Newcastle upon Tyne; event info: 447796525421; www.neena.org.uk

United States

Alaska 13-15 Oct; Alaska Regional Convention; Millennium Hotel, Anchorage; hotel rsvns: 800.544.0553; event info: 907.333.3462, 907.245.0545

Arizona 18-20 Aug; Mt Lemmon Bash; Rose Canyon Group Area, Tucson; hotel rsvns: 520.275.0308; event info: 520.275.0308

California 1-4 Sep; Summer Bash; Jackson Flat Campgrounds, Wrightwood; event info: 760.868.5043

2) 15-17 Sep; Rainbow Convention XI; Ramada Plaza Hotel International, San Francisco; hotel rsvns: 800.227.4747; event info: 707.816.2064; registration: 415.948.1345; www.sfna.org/rainbow

3) 1-8 Oct; NA Cruise IV; Carnival Cruise Lines, Long Beach; hotel rsvns: 818.790.0300; event info: 562.806.2263, 818.576.1212; www.todayna.org/activities/html/cruise06.html

Colorado 11-12 Aug; Standing on Higher Ground Campout; Wilson Mesa, Telluride; www.nacolorado.org/events/calendar.php

2) 6-8 Oct; Colorado Regional Convention XX; Sheraton Steamboat Resort and Conference Center, Steamboat Springs; hotel rsvns: 970.879.2220; event info: 970.904.0827; www.nacolorado.org/crcna/

Florida 25-27 Aug; Big Bend Area Convention IX; Holiday Inn Select, Tallahassee; hotel rsvns: 850.222.9555; registration: 850.575.3833

Georgia 3-6 Aug; Midtown Area Convention XVI; Marriott Atlanta Marquis, Atlanta; hotel rsvns: 800.228.9290; event info: 404.806.0812, 770.478.3251; www.midtownatlantana.com

Hawaii 25-27 Aug; Annual Maui Area Gathering XVIII; Camp Pecusa, Oluwalu, Maui; hotel rsvns: 808.661.4303; registration: 808.269.1046; www.na-hawaii.org/Global_Pages/Gatherings.htm

2) 8-10 Sep; Annual Kauai Gathering of NA VII; YMCA Camp Naue; Haena, Kauai; www.na-hawaii.org/Global_Pages/Gatherings.htm

Illinois 8-10 Sep; Chicago Metro Unity Convention IV; Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont; hotel rsvns: 800.233.1234; www.chicagona.org/cmucna

Indiana 25-27 Aug; End of Summer Celebration XI; Prairie Creek Reservoir, Muncie; event info: 765.286.2115

2) 22-24 Sep; Central Indiana Convention III; Adams Mark Hotel-Airport, Indianapolis; hotel rsvns: 317.248.2481

Kentucky 6-8 Oct; Here and Now Spiritual Retreat V; Mammoth Cave Hotel, Mammoth Cave; hotel rsvns: 270.758.2225

2) 6-8 Oct; Bluegrass-Appalachian Regional Convention; Days Inn, Bardstown; hotel rsvns: 866.348.6900; registration: 270.403.2047

Louisiana 31 Jul-3 Aug; New Orleans Area Convention IX; Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans; hotel rsvns: 800.253.6156; www.neworleansareaofna.org

Maryland 1-4 Sep; FreeState Region Unity Weekend; Camp Pecometh, Centerville; event info: 443.206.1509, www.freestatena.org

2) 29 Sep-1 Oct; Ocean Gateway Area Convention VIII; Clarion Fountainebleau Resort, Ocean City; hotel rsvns: 800.638.2100; event info: 410.912.2448, 410.251.6351; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Jul; write: Ocean Gateway Area; Box 2740; Salisbury, MD 21804-2740; www.ogana.org

Massachusetts 25-27 Aug; Fun in the Sun Campout IV; Camp Lyndon Center, Sandwich; event info: 774.836.3934, 508.292.0791

Michigan 28-30 Jul; No Addict Need Ever Die Retreat; Camp Ronora, Watervleit; event info: 773.719.9300

Mississippi 21-23 Jul; Mississippi Delta Area Convention Alive and Free II; Days Inn, Grenada; hotel rsvns: 662.226.2851; event info: 662.902.3844, 662.404.1980

Nebraska 22-24 Sep; Nebraska Regional Convention XXIII; Howard Johnson Executive Inn and Suites, Omaha; hotel rsvns: 402.397.3700; event info: 402.453.4328, 402.933.3733

Nevada 14-16 Jul; California Nevada Arizona Area Convention; Riverside Hotel Resort and Casino, Laughlin; hotel rsvns: 800.227.3849; event info: 928.846.0458, 702.298.3924

2) 25-27 Aug; East Las Vegas Convention; Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall, Las Vegas; hotel rsvns: 800.634.6371; event info: 702.457.5595; registration: 702.466.2525; www.elvcna.org

New Hampshire 21-23 Jul; Freedom under the Stars XVI; Goose Hollow Campground, Thorton; hotel rsvns: 603.726.2000; event info: 603.767.9817, 603.692.0094; registration: 603.427.0965; www.gsana.org

2) 4-6 Aug; Granite State Area Convention IV; Sheraton Nashua, Nashua; hotel rsvns: 603.888.9970; event info: 603.645.4777; www.convention.gsana.org

New Jersey 25-27 Aug; Greater Paterson Area Convention IV; Marriott at Glenpointe, Teaneck; hotel rsvns: 800.992.7752; event info: 609.883.8781, www.nanj.org/nnjrsc/areas/GPAC2006-05-15.pdf

New York 21-23 Jul; Mohawk River Area and ABCD Region Campout; Camp Skully at Snyder's Lake; hotel rsvns: 518.382.9360; event info: 518.243.9520; registration: 518.221.9149; www.abcdrna.org

2) 28-30 Jul; Lighting the Way VI; Sheraton Hauppauge, Hauppauge; event info: 646.229.1522, 631.252.0236

3) 4-6 Aug; Mid-Hudson Area Recovery in the Catskills Convention XI; Fallsview at the Nevele Grande Resort, Ellenville; hotel rsvns: 845.647.6000; event info: 845.471.6654, 845.417.4063

4) 25-27 Aug; Through NA, Dreams Do Come True; Crowne Plaza Albany, Albany; hotel rsvns: 518.462.6611; event info: 518.427.9280, 518.447.1875; www.abcdrna.org

5) 1-4 Sep; Recovery in the Woods XX; Camp Pioneer and Retreat Center, Angola; event info: 716.563.7870, 716.874.4944; www.nawny.org

North Carolina 14-16 Jul; New Hope Area Convention; Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center, Durham; hotel rsvns: 800.325.3535; event info: 919.452.5976, 919.949.3489; www.nhacna.org

2) 4-6 Aug; Twin City Area Surrender to Win X Convention; Embassy Suites, Winston-Salem; hotel rsvns: 336.724.2300; event info: 336.580.1740; registration: 336.771.8730; www.tcana.org

Ohio 14-16 Jul; North Coast Recovery Roast and Campout XVIII; Country Lakes Family Campground, Montville; hotel rsvns: 440.968.3400; event info: 440.364.9410, 440.521.0108

2) 9-10 Sep; Shattering the Illusion with a New Vision III; Maurice McCracken Center of Peace, Cincinnati; hotel rsvns: 513.931.9866; event info: 513.403.0207, 513.226.5970

Oklahoma 3-16 Oct; Shawnee Fall Convention; Shawnee; speaker tape info: William E; 1900 Dover, Apt B; Norman, OK 73071; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Aug; <http://wasc.okna.org/>

Oregon 6-8 Oct; Pacific Northwest Convention XXIX; Hilton Hotel, Eugene; hotel rsvns: 800.937.6660; write: Pacific Cascade Region; Box 41923; Eugene, OR 97404

Pennsylvania 14-16 Jul; Just for Today Spiritual Campout Retreat V; Chapman Dam State Park, Clarendon; registration: 814.723.7443; <http://mysite.verizon.net/vze8nque/Retreat06.html>

2) 21-23 Jul; Butler Area Spiritual Retreat XV; Coopers Lake Campground, Slippery Rock; hotel rsvns: 724.368.8710; event info: 724.968.0121

3) 25-27 Aug; Serenity in the Mountains Campout; Mauch Chunk State Park, Jim Thorpe; hotel rsvns: 570.325.3669

4) 25-27 Aug; The Journey Continues X; Camp Harmony, Hooversville; www.lmhana.com

5) 15-17 Sep; Little Apple Area Birthday Convention XXV; Days Inn Conference Center, Allentown; hotel rsvns: 888.395.5200

6) 22-24 Sep; Williamsport Area Ain't No Mountain High Enough Convention XX; Split Rock Resort, Lake Harmony; hotel rsvns: 800.255.7625; event info: 570.323.4251; registration: 570.322.4663

South Carolina 18-20 Aug; Welcome Home XI; Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia; event info: 803.429.1297

South Dakota 6-13 Aug; Sheridan Lake Campout; Sheridan Lake, Black Hills; event info: 605.335.9847; www.sdna.org

2) 8-10 Sep; South Dakota Regional Convention IX; Ramada Inn, Aberdeen; hotel rsvns: 605.225.3600; event info: 605.360.2529, 605.376.6097; www.sdna.org

Texas 1-3 Sep; Duncanville Group Twentieth Anniversary; Duncanville Group, Dallas; hotel rsvns: 972.754.8035; event info: 972.754.8035, 469.855.9075

2) 22-24 Sep; The Message is Hope and the Promise is Freedom; Park Plaza, Austin; hotel rsvns: 888.201.1803; event info: 512.589.5024, 512.653.3944; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Jul; write: Miracles and Solutions Group; 2207 MLK Blvd; Austin, TX 78702

Utah 10-12 Nov; Utah Regional Convention; Park City; www.utahna.info

Vermont 17-20 Aug; Back to Basics Campout XXII; Wallingford Boys Camp, Wallingford; event info: 603.239.4055, 603.585.9453; registration: 603.209.1552; www.gmana.org

Virginia 14-16 Jul; Blue Ridge Area Campout XXV; Natural Chimneys Regional Park, Mt Solon; event info: 540.910.2538, 540.448.4214; www.branar.org

2) 4-6 Aug; Almost Heaven Area Convention XX; 4-H Education Center, Front Royal; event info: 304.261.2435; registration: 304.283.9077

Wisconsin 20-22 Oct; Wisconsin State NA Convention XXIII; Telemark Resort, Cable; hotel rsvns: 877.798.4718; event info: 715.468.4574, 715.635.2033; www.wsnacna.org

Get yours today!

Subs are not just for traveling underwater. Your e-sub will be delivered directly to your email—and in full color! Your e-subscription is delivered to you in the format of your choice (HTML or PDF) and defrays printing and postage costs.

<http://portaltools.na.org/portaltools/subscriptions>

To submit material for publication:

by email: de@na.org

by post: *The NA Way Magazine*
PO Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA

by fax: 818.700.0700



WSO PRODUCT UPDATE



It Works Audio CD Set

the six audiotapes of the entire book converted to 5-CD set

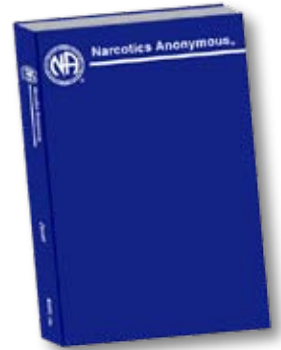
Item No. EN-8821
Price US \$16.75

Danish

Basic Text

Narcotics Anonymous

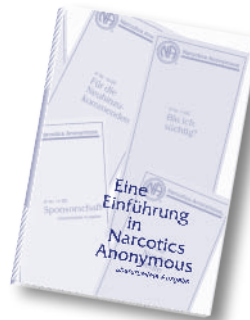
Item No. DK-1101 Price US \$9.70



Wallet Cards (Bundle of 15)

Group readings now available in four-panel wallet cards for easy reading.

Item No. EN-9127 Price US \$1.05



German

An Introductory Guide to Narcotics Anonymous, Revised

Eine Einführung in Narcotics Anonymous

Item No. GE-1200 Price US \$1.70

Keychain Medallions

Old design bronze medallions set in keychain and in an antiqued finish

Available in 18 months, 1-19 years, and 21-45 years while old design stock lasts.

Item No. EN-75XX Price US \$5.00



A Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous

Ein Leitfaden für Service auf lokaler Ebene in NA

Item No. GE-2111 Price US \$6.10

Arabic

IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*

هل أنا مدمن؟

Item No. AR-3107
Price US \$0.21

IP No. 8: *Just for Today*

لليوم فقط

Item No. AR-3108 Price US \$0.21

IP No. 11: *Sponsorship*

التوجيه

Item No. AR-3111
Price US \$0.21



Twelve Concepts for NA Service

Zwölf Konzepte für NA-Service

Item No. GE-1164
Price US \$1.10



The Group Booklet

Das NA-Gruppenbüchlein

Item No. GE-1600 Price US \$0.63

Group Reading Cards - Set of Five

Item No. AR-9130 Price US \$2.50

Farsi

Basic Text
کتاب پایه

Item No. FA-110

Price US \$5.50



The NA Step Working Guides

راهنمای کارکرد قدم

Item No. FA-1400 Price US \$7.30

*An Introductory Guide to
Narcotics Anonymous*

یک راهنما جهت معرفی NA

Item No. FA-1200 Price US \$1.70

Working Step Four in NA

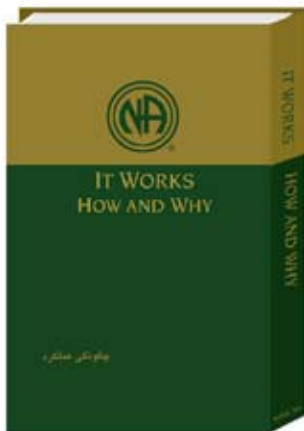
کارکرد قدم چهار در NA

Item No. FA-3110 Price US \$0.65

It Works: How and Why

چگونگی عملکرد

Item No. FA-1143 Price US \$7.25



French

IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*

Le parrainage, révisé

Item No. FR-3111 Price US \$0.21

Indonesian

Group Reading Cards – Set of Five

Item No. ID-9130 Price US \$2.50

Italian

IP No. 26:

*Accessibility for Those
with Additional Needs*

*Accessibilità
per chi ha
bisogni
supplementari*

Item No. IT-3126

Price US \$0.21



Lithuanian

*An Introductory Guide to
Narcotics Anonymous*

*Ižanginis vadovas į
Narkomanus anonimus*

Item No. LT-1200 Price US \$1.70





Join the World Pool

Here's your opportunity to give back what was so freely given to you!!!

- ❖ Send in your World Pool Information Form.
- ❖ Trusted servants for NA World Services projects and elections come from this pool.

Visit our website at www.na.org/HRP/hrp-wpif-pt1.asp to access and submit an interactive form.

You can also reach us by letter or phone at

HRP

NAWS

PO Box 9999

Van Nuys, CA 91409

or 818.773.9999

or email us at HRP@na.org

Home GROUP

