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our message

**HOPE**

our promise

**FREEDOM**

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# From the editor

Learning to swim was pretty much a requirement in my family. We spent weekends boating and water skiing where my grandparents lived. It was the entire family's responsibility to help each family member learn to swim. I remember a confusing blend of fear and determination—fear that the person holding me would drop me into the murky water, and determination to push forward so that I could swim like everyone else. My grandmother was my favorite swimming teacher. She was steady and consistent, firm in what she expected of me, but tolerant and patient, with a love that I guess only grandparents possess. Besides, she *lived* at the lake, so I figured she was a swimming expert.

This issue of *The NA Way* sparked memories of those long, hot summer days at the lake. Of course, "How long can you tread water?" started the thought process, and then "Why contribute?" reminded me of how everyone in the family contributed to helping others learn to swim, loading and unloading the boat, and installing the dock every spring. Members' shares on change and growth took me back to the mix of fear and excitement of learning new things, developing a new role in the family, and growing up over the course of the summer. And this month's "Picture this" (a little bit different from what you're used to seeing in these pages) reminds me of the love of my families—both my childhood family and our amazing worldwide NA family.

De J, Editor

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*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, Farsi, 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."



# Why contribute?

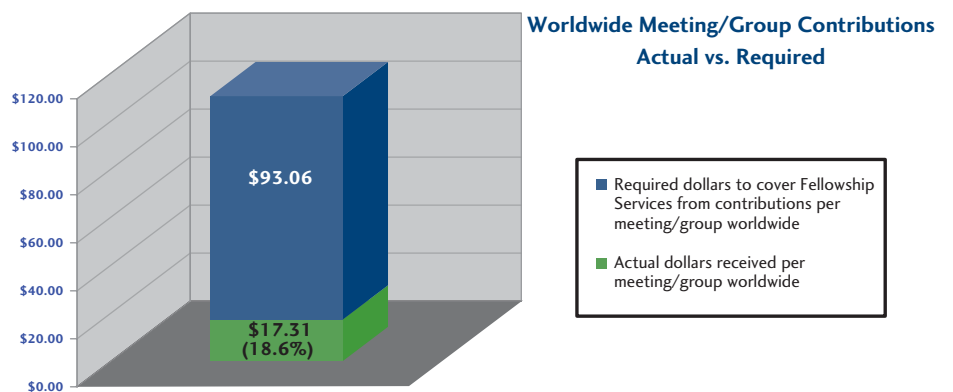
Supporting our services through contributions has been a challenge for us for a long time. Many of us don't like to talk about money—it somehow feels unspiritual to do so; and yet, the money we contribute is just as valuable as resources like trusted servants or effective presentation formats. We all seem to understand the need to keep our groups self-supporting, and yet we seem to forget that it is the money we contribute to our areas, regions, and world services that also helps carry NA's message. We all have the responsibility to fund the services that are provided on our behalf, and yet we still seem reluctant to contribute in a meaningful way. This is the first of a series of articles that will begin a conversation about contributions and self-support in Narcotics Anonymous.

We know that funding services through member contributions is not only a problem for us at world services, but occurs in areas and regions around the world. We are repeatedly asked to discuss this topic at workshops or to provide some sort of guidance to trusted servants in area and regional positions. Service committees struggle to fund the services they provide on behalf of NA groups. Oftentimes, this is due to low member contributions and money getting "stuck" somewhere in the service structure. We know that we tend to hold on to our money when we feel afraid or unclear about how that money is being spent. As your world board, our hope is to clarify the relationship between member contributions and the services NA World Services provides on behalf of members and groups. We encourage areas and regions to do the same.

At world services, the reality is that approximately eleven percent of our total available funds come from member contributions. In 2006, NAWS's total income, less discounts, was US \$6,830,772; of that, US \$764,393 (11.19%) was from contributions. That figure is only as high as it is because of the generous contributions of a small number of well-organized and financially viable regions. It is also worth mentioning that the value of the NA literature we give away to groups worldwide nearly equals the amount we receive in contributions.

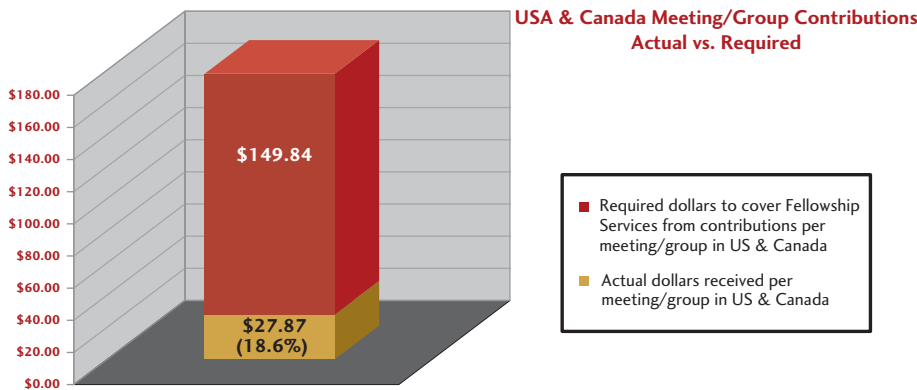
We are often asked what it would take for our services to be completely funded by contributions. In trying to answer this question, we've developed the following chart that breaks down dollars contributed by groups worldwide and in the USA and Canada. This data shows approximately how much each individual group or meeting would need to contribute in order to fully fund the services provided directly to the fellowship by NAWS each year.

***Our vision is that one day: Every addict in the world has a chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life.***



*In other words, meetings/groups currently contribute just over 18% of the total cost of services provided by NAWS. Every meeting/group in every country around the world would have to contribute a little more than US \$93 each year to cover the cost of services provided by NA World Services.*

Although we receive contributions from all over the world, the largest portion of member contributions comes from the USA and Canada. As a result, we generated the same data looking only at how much each individual group or meeting in the USA and Canada would need to contribute in order to fully fund the services provided directly to the fellowship by NAWS each year.



*In other words, dollars donated by US and Canadian meetings/groups currently covers about US \$28 (18.6%) of the nearly US \$150 dollars needed to cover the cost of services provided by NAWS. Every meeting/group in the USA and Canada would have to contribute nearly US \$150 each year to cover the cost of services provided by NA World Services.*

In the past several years, we as a fellowship have moved closer to realizing our vision of a world in which "every addict in the world has a chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life." NAWS has increased its efforts to foster fellowshipwide discussions about issues that affect NA groups. We have led workshops and training sessions all over the world, increased translations efforts, and attended a historically high number of professional and fellowship events. We have increased our cooperative efforts to have neighboring regions, language groups, and zones help local communities with fellowship development and PR efforts, and we are constantly looking for ways to evaluate both our efforts and our costs.

NA World Services does a lot on behalf of the fellowship we all love and serve, and we believe our efforts have made our message move available to more addicts around the world than ever before. We are always left with a steadily increasing demand for services, while the funds available to cover the costs of those services are not increasing to match. This increased demand is a logical and expected result of our successful efforts to make our message more available. This is not bad news. It means that addicts around the world are finding recovery in NA and that we are fulfilling the underlying spirit of our Twelfth Step "to carry the message to the addict who still suffers." The point of this article is to provide some way for all of us to better understand the role our contributions can play in helping us better reach the still-suffering addict.

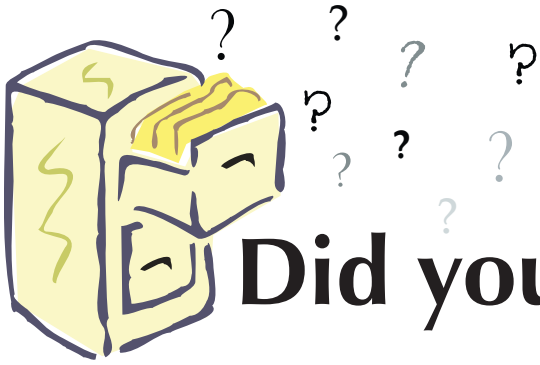
We hope to continue to demonstrate the relationship between members and groups, the service structure of NA, and the delivery of NA's message to those who need it. One way we're trying to make this connection is through articles like this one, discussions at workshops, and the Issue Discussion Topics. But making this connection is only part of the solution. All of us still have the essential role of demonstrating our support for the service efforts we have asked for, either directly or indirectly, through funding those services.

Many of us are aware of the ways in which our time and energy make it possible to carry NA's message to others. The money we contribute is just as valuable to making NA's message of hope and recovery available to more and more addicts. Our Twelfth Step teaches us that the more we help others, the more we help ourselves—and the generous act of contributing money to ensure our success at helping other addicts is no different.

Being a member of Narcotics Anonymous means more than just saying that we are members. Being a member means taking responsibility for supporting the services that continue to carry NA's message to other addicts in our home groups and around the world.

## How to contribute to NAWS

Many members, groups, and service committees don't realize that they can contribute directly to NAWS. If you would like to make a direct contribution to NA World Services, visit the donations portal at our website at: <http://www.na.org/donation-external/index.htm>



# Did you know?

The Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous has come a long way since our beginnings in 1953. We have grown from that first meeting in Sun Valley, California, USA, to more than 44,165 weekly meetings in over 127 countries worldwide. Our history is rich with diversity, and we want to share the facts of that history with you—the little-known facts and tidbits of information others might not otherwise know. Share your interesting NA facts with us by email at [naway@na.org](mailto:naway@na.org), by fax at 818.770.0700, or by postal mail at *The NA Way Magazine*; Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA.

**Did you know** it is common for members in some parts of France to devote one year to work a step?

**Did you know** there are members in Iran who hold a celebration to mark a member's completion of working the Twelve Steps?

**Did you know** many groups in Southern California have as many as a dozen trusted servants? To provide ample opportunities for involvement, these services may include greeters, coffee and refreshments, sign and poster hangers, room setup, and cleanup, clean-time celebrations, timekeeper, literature—and, of course, GSR, secretary, and treasurer.

**Did you know** in Nepal, many members treat their contribution to the Seventh Tradition basket as *bhakti* (devotion or offering). Before placing their contribution in the basket, they may first touch the money to their forehead, lips, and heart to bless their offering.

**Did you know** "Eat cheese, drink milk, and read the Basic Text!" is often chanted (loudly!) at the close of meetings and events in Wisconsin, which is known in the USA as the Dairy State?

**Did you know** when celebrating a clean-time birthday/anniversary in Washington, DC, many members choose a specific meeting, date, and time to celebrate? This information can be announced at other meetings, with an invitation to all those interested to attend.

What customs, routines, and rituals are common in your local NA community?

Share with the worldwide NA Fellowship by sending us your experiences at  
NA Way Magazine; Box 9999  
Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA  
or by emailing us at [naway@na.org](mailto:naway@na.org).



The review-and-input period for the Youth Informational Pamphlets project ended 31 May, and we're happy to report that we've received 183 pieces of input from members in seven countries around the world. We've heard from members in New Zealand, New York, North Carolina, and Turkey. Area literature chairs, regional service committees, individual members, and youth groups have all held workshops and submitted input for these drafts. In addition, NAWS conducted a workshop in Florida and a bilingual workshop at the Youth Convention in Montreal, Canada. The workgroup has just met to review the fellowship input and is busy revising the drafts to be released in the *Conference Agenda Report*. We are excited to be taking these initial steps in making NA's message more accessible to our growing membership of young addicts around the world.



## Our best thinking...

I've heard it said that going into our own heads is like going behind enemy lines.

You're only lost in thought because it's unfamiliar territory.

Don't let your mind wander; it's too small to be out on its own.

Your head's a bad neighborhood. Don't go there on your own.

Why is an addict alone in bad company? Because he is with the last person he used with.

Sponsor to a sponsee who is at home alone, thinking about things: "Get out as quickly as possible. You're in the house with a killer!"

Regarding thoughts versus obsession: I can't help it if a bird poops on my head, but I don't have to let it build a nest there.



A man in a hot-air balloon realized he was lost, so he descended a bit and shouted to a man on the ground, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The man on the ground replied, "You're in a hot-air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude."

"You must be a sponsor," shouted the balloonist.

"I am," replied the man. "How did you know?"

"Well," answered the balloonist, "I believe everything you told me is technically correct, but I have no idea what to make of your information, and I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you've probably delayed my trip."

The man below responded, "You must be a sponsee."

"I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well," said the man on the ground, "you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise, which you have no idea how to keep, and you expect other people to solve your problems for you. And, you are in exactly the same position you were before we met—but now, somehow, it's my fault!"

*Author unknown*



## Still stepping

The energy in the room was electrifying. The countdown was at fifteen years, and my anticipation started to build. The secretary called out "sixteen years" and my heart was pounding; "seventeen years," my palms were moist; "eighteen years," my stomach had butterflies; "nineteen years," and I could barely contain myself. Finally, with the words, "twenty years," I leaped out of my seat with unbridled excitement. I had really made it! In my mind, I shouted, "Thank you, God!" I laughed with joy, thanked Narcotics Anonymous, and humbly accepted my twenty-year chip.

When I returned to my seat, I allowed my mind to travel back to a night twenty years before. That night, the room was vibrating with excitement and recovery was in the air. Everything inside of me trembled as my mind waged war against itself. I was terrified by my own thoughts. I told myself, "Don't do it; it will hurt. They will laugh at you, and the embarrassment will cripple you for life." My hand shot up without my consent. The leader called on me. I stood up and took one step. My mind shouted, "Run! Run!" I took a second step and my feet felt as heavy as lead. Step three, then step four—I stumbled and thought, "Just tell them a lie; they won't know." With my fifth step, I had arrived, and I braced myself on the podium.

Ignoring my thoughts and my body, I spoke my truth: "My name is Brenda and I am an addict, and I relapsed three days ago. I tried to do it my way, but now I'm back to do it the NA way. I am going to go where I have never gone before, and that is inside me." Instantly, my mind became quiet, my body calmed down, and I was embraced by a peace I had never known before.

My physical steps transformed into spiritual steps, and I walked into my brand-new life of recovery. In my new life, my way was no longer clouded and misdirected. I had lights to guide me. Each of the twelve steps illuminated a portion of the path for me. When my sister died, they showed me how to resolve my guilt and grief. When I had major surgery, the steps helped me take medication as directed. When I felt lonely and depressed, they helped me replace these feelings with love and laughter. When my heart was broken, the steps showed me how to forgive.

For twenty years I've used the steps of Narcotics Anonymous to walk the path of recovery. Today, I can truly say I love the life I live, and I live the life I love.

*Brenda M, California, USA*

# How long can you tread water?

This fellow where I work had a using problem. I tried to talk to him, since everyone on the crew (including him) knew that I am in recovery. He assured me, however, that I need not have bothered; all he needed was a little willpower. After several warnings from the foreman about coming to work late, and in poor condition, he was finally suspended for several days.

When he returned from suspension, he managed to get to work on time for just over two weeks. Toward the end of that period, he was sort of stumbling in with only a minute or two to spare. Finally, he showed up over two hours late and spent his coffee and lunch breaks isolating in the basement. I tried some friendly “hellos,” but he shut me out.

Someone on the crew commented that he’d had such a good start at reforming his ways, and wondered how he could have lost it. Suddenly, seemingly out of nowhere, I commented that it wasn’t really a good start, but more like treading water. I then compared willpower to treading water, which is only good for a short duration until all of the swimmer’s energy is used up. I compared a recovery program to drownproofing, which is a relaxed survival method of staying afloat face down, popping up every five to ten seconds for air, and then returning to the relaxed, face-down position. There’s even a drownproofing travel stroke where one takes a stroke and glides—face down — after each breath, which allows the swimmer to move along at a slow, measured pace.

Some learn this technique readily, while others (such as me) only learn it after a long struggle. For those who have never experienced and don’t understand active addiction, it may be difficult to understand this comparison, but I have found through help from other NA members that I can achieve this kind of measured progress in my own recovery program.



## Tea and cookies

In the beginning of my recovery, I had a hard time eating. To have a spoon of soup, a bite of food, or a sip of soda—these were difficult tasks for me in the first days of my new way of living. I mean, I had never had a cup of tea, and many times I saw cookies as dreams, impossible to have. Today, I am an addict doing my best to save my life. I make some sacrifices to give away what has been given to me for my own life.

When I remember where I came from, I feel happy to recognize the importance of all aspects of our fellowship: our primary purpose, the only requirement to stay clean—and even the flavor of the tea and cookies served during our meetings to satisfy the hungry addict. These are all connected, and they help us work on personal growth, acceptance, and freedom.

*Carlos S, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*



This is a way to explain why willpower so often fails and why, as addicts, we must find a new way to live. While this comparison is imperfect, it often helps the nonaddict understand recovery.

Since the foreman had watched me grow over the last few years from the street person they'd cautiously hired into a valued employee, he gave it some serious thought and resolved to encourage this fellow to seek help.

*Peter W, Victoria, Canada*

## Helping hands

I have been a member of NA for sixteen years. I enjoy the diversity and abundance of meetings in the city where I live. One meeting I attend has a lot of newcomers and just a few oldtimers. One particular day, I witnessed a miracle in progress at this meeting.

I noticed one member wanted to share really badly. He almost fell off his chair raising his hand to share. When the chairperson called on him, I realized the member couldn't speak, but the addict sitting next to him knew sign language, so he gave him a voice. The member shared that he had fifty-eight days clean, and he was thinking about giving up on NA because he understood all that we were sharing, but no one understood him, and he really wanted to share sometimes. He said he would continue to show up.

His sharing brought tears to my eyes, but the best of the miracle was yet to come. After the meeting, I talked to the addict who did the sign language. I asked him how long the two of them had been attending meetings together and told him it was a great thing to see. He said he noticed the sounds the other member was making and figured out that he had no voice, so he indicated through sign language that he understood and would help.

"But, I've never seen that guy before in my life," the addict-interpreter said. "I'm just coming back from a relapse, and the seat next to him was the only empty chair in the room."

*Otis G, Pennsylvania, USA*

## Taking insanity out with the trash

After five months "in the rooms" (and relapse after relapse), that last week in September found me ready to give up. My cravings and obsession to use never ceased. As our literature puts it, "Self-pity is one of the most destructive of defects; it will drain us of all positive energy." (Basic Text, "Recovery and Relapse" chapter) Tearful and angry, I wondered why I hadn't gotten "a break." Outside, a rainy deluge battered our New York streets. In my dark crack-den of an apartment, I prayed for dead friends to intercede with God on my behalf. Spiritually, I was one sick puppy, craving drugs and obsessing about drug-fueled sex. On the positive side, I was planning to attend a 6:00 pm meeting that evening.

I searched for an appropriate poetry book to get me through the next few hours. Instead, I played a favorite CD and desperately prayed for the singer to guide me or to intercede with our Higher Power. There is no way to really explain what followed, other than to say that hearing the music awakened in me "the necessity for vigorous personal action" (Basic Text, "Recovery and Relapse") and the application of spiritual principles in my life.

The porn tapes and DVDs strewn across my floor might have been staph lesions; the box of sex toys, a cancerous growth. The metal Droste cocoa box in my kitchen cabinet glaringly reminded me that I had not truly surrendered to the program—rather, that I was fudging it. Why had I held onto my digital gram scale—to measure cumin? Why would I need a heavy-duty, stainless-steel pill crusher? My Higher Power helped me determine that these things needed to go, and right then. The contents of the sex-toy box, the array of porn on the floor and on my shelves, and my cache of drug gadgets went directly into a large,



black garbage bag. Twist-tied, the bag went directly into the trash. While the

idea of selling or giving away this paraphernalia lingered, my Higher Power couldn't accept the transfer of that karma elsewhere. In an effort to further defuse the horrible karma of my drug addiction and its allied sexual issues, I burned sage in a Native American purification ritual.

In the days that followed, I felt enormous freedom. It was as if those totems had obstructed positive spiritual growth and healing. More than a year and a half later, I see that afternoon as a beginning in my spiritual awakening. It marked my first period free of obsessions and cravings, something I hadn't ever thought possible. I finished working my first formal Fourth Step with my sponsor. Gratefully, I remembered that dark September afternoon, with its healing music by a beloved composer/performer that opened a door for my Higher Power. It was a milestone for my cleantime and sanity.

*Jon N, New York, USA*

# 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*

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

## An English thought

In the early days of NA in Mumbai, meetings were held in English. A few non-English-speaking members, who stubbornly stayed clean in this English-speaking atmosphere, would share in Hindi, a local language. Over a period of time, these few non-English-speaking members grew into large numbers. They began voicing their need to have meetings held in Hindi. Many members who previously shared only in English began to share in Hindi for the benefit of the newcomer. Some even spent time and energy to translate our literature from English into Hindi. Eventually, all meetings held in Mumbai were entirely in Hindi.

This caused a peculiar problem. English-speaking members went from being a majority to a minority at meetings in Mumbai. They found it difficult, while sharing in Hindi, to freely express their thoughts as they would in English. A need sprang up for a meeting exclusively in English for those members who thought, hoped, and dreamed in English. As soon as this need was identified, in a typical addict reaction, many members resisted. The irony of this resistance was that it did not come from non-English-speaking members, for they understood the situation from their earlier experience in starting the Hindi-speaking meetings. Opposition was mainly from resistant English-speaking members, who voiced several reasons.

Some said that addicts identify with sharing from the heart, regardless of the language. Many reasoned that these meetings would not grow due to lack of support because, statistically, there are fewer English-speaking addicts in Mumbai. A handful of members who had a different perspective on the situation went to the extent of negating this idea by blaming it on "elitist" English-speaking members living in South Mumbai. When all arguments failed, as a final recourse, they screamed that NA unity was at stake. They claimed that an exclusively English-speaking meeting would cause disunity in the fellowship, but reasons given for how and why NA unity was at stake were blurred and obscure.

After many arguments, counterarguments, resistance, and doubt, an exclusively English-speaking meeting was started on 3 December 1996 at the YMCA in Colaba, South Mumbai. To this day, this meeting is held every Tuesday night. We call our meeting "A Ray of Hope."

Nine years have passed since we started this meeting. It has not caused disunity, but instead has brought about more unity within the local NA community. By attending A Ray of Hope, English-speaking members experienced a feeling of belonging to the NA Fellowship. A few non-English-speaking members regularly attend the meeting to learn or brush up on their English. Following the success of our meeting, another English-speaking meeting was started in Mumbai. Delhi, too, has an English-speaking meeting.

A Ray of Hope is a product of the love, openness, and empathy of its members. If you ever find yourself in South Mumbai, you are welcome to join us in our devotion.

*Ivan, South Mumbai, India*

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## NAWS Literature Distribution and Convention Workshop

9–10 November 2007  
in Woodland Hills, CA

If you distribute literature or  
plan conventions, this workshop  
is just for you!

Register or download flyer:  
[http://www.na.org/nawsevents/  
event-reg.htm](http://www.na.org/nawsevents/event-reg.htm)

# Who's Missing: Identification and Unity

As your world board, we've been focused on creating more and more ways for addicts to find and experience NA's message of recovery. We've been targeting literature to young addicts with the Youth IPs, planning for common needs events at the upcoming world convention in San Antonio, and listening to what members have said in fellowshipwide discussions about who's missing from their local NA communities. This is one of many articles addressing the Issue Discussion Topic of *Who's Missing*.



Go to

[www.na.org/  
discussion\\_  
boards.htm](http://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 resources available in this section to help you facilitate discussions, as well as information about submitting your input. These resources are routinely updated, so be sure to check back regularly for new information.*

## Identification...

This issue is important, because we repeatedly hear from professionals and others about addicts who do not identify when they come to NA. These potential members either go to another fellowship where they can find that initial identification, or they never find recovery. We probably cannot help all of them find recovery in NA, but we know that we can make a difference. Reaching young people is a great example of how these efforts make it possible for newcomers to see others like themselves when they come to NA. The result is that young people have undoubtedly been better able to find recovery in NA. Many of the members who get clean at young people's meetings eventually explore other meetings, serve in the service structure, and help create a diverse and unified fellowship.

## Unity...

Many of us may have found the rooms of NA without these additional ways of identifying. It's also true that many of us eventually found certain groups where we could hear NA's message more easily because we were able to identify with the members there. And yet, for most of us, it is the unity we've experienced with other members—who may look or sound different from us—that we cherish.

We like to think of our efforts at addressing the question of who's missing as creating more ways for members to experience that unity. We often come to NA with a need to identify other faces and stories that seem to match our own. In our recovery, many of us find comfort in members who have faced challenges and experiences similar to our own. Yet, many of us have also experienced the powerful sense of unity that comes as another member from a completely different background touches our recovery and changes us forever.

## Next steps...

We seem to be comfortable talking about efforts to reach youth and oldtimers. When it comes to other populations, however, such as Spanish-speaking members in the USA or gay and lesbian members, we seem to balk at talking about what we can do. As members who have a primary purpose to carry NA's message to other addicts, we each have to uncover the reasons why we might resist talking about ways to better reach these addicts.

We recognize that the need to identify with NA's message is crucial for many newcomers and that identification often comes from hearing the message in a voice to which we can relate. Our efforts to address the question of who's missing aren't meant to compromise our unity. Rather, we want to make it possible for more and more addicts to have a chance to experience that unity. How can we take the next steps in reaching more and more addicts who haven't yet had a chance to experience NA's message of hope? We cherish the unity that is the foundation of our ability to come together from a variety of backgrounds and share in NA's message of recovery. Our hope is that more and more addicts will continue to find NA, through a variety of ways, and have a chance to experience the unity and diversity many of us hold so dear.

**European Delegates  
Meeting Fellowship  
Development Trip  
Greece, 2006**



**Orissa Area Convention  
India, 2007**



**Middle East Workshop  
Bahrain, 2007**

# **NA hugs around the world**

*Many thanks to NAWS staff, World Board members, and Conor H, Dublin, Ireland for photos*

*Spiritual growth, love, and compassion are idle potentials until shared with a fellow addict.*

Basic Text, Chapter Ten



**Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention  
USA, 2007**



**Regional Convention  
Argentina, 2006**



**First NA Kuala Lumpur Convention  
Malaysia, 2006**



**European Convention  
and Conference  
Portugal, 2006**

# Basic Text Project Update

The approval draft of the Basic Text is scheduled to be published in September—right around the corner. It will also be included as an addendum to the *2008 Conference Agenda Report*. In these final months, we are busy revising the draft according to input you've sent us, as well as incorporating stories to fill the "gaps" in the text. Those of you who have seen the review draft (and that's quite a few of you; we distributed more than 7,500 copies of the draft—4,493 paper copies, 3,009 electronic) will notice many changes in the approval form:

- Reflections: We received more input about reflections, the shorter pieces of experience collected at the beginning of each section. While many people thought they were confusing or too fragmented, others praised the idea of including short "shares," particularly for those who may not read English well or who have shorter attention spans. To help make them less confusing, we will reference the reflections in the table of contents and include a short explanation of them.
- Beginnings: Many of you asked why we didn't include reflections at the start of this section as well, so we added reflections here collected from passages from the Fifth Edition stories.
- Preface and Introduction: We have revised parts of these pieces according to your suggestions.
- Stories: There are a number of changes within the stories, some reflecting your suggestions, and some resulting from communication with the members who wrote the pieces. Your input also helped us refine our list of experience that is missing from the draft, and we have managed to collect a number of stories that make this a more well-rounded collection in terms of geography and experience. We are working to integrate those new pieces into the draft, but this means that some of the stories in the review draft will have to be removed so that the book is a manageable size for publication. We love all of the pieces in the draft, and these decisions will be among the most difficult we have to make.

That's not to say that reading and discussing the input has been easy. Oftentimes, the most passionate pieces of input are directly contradictory. One group (or member or committee) will say, "That was the best story I read because it covers every single aspect of the program," and another will say (of the same story), "There is too much talk about using and not enough recovery. Not interesting." In cases like this, input shows us what we need to pay attention to, but doesn't necessarily give us any clear direction. We have read every piece of input, discussed the issues they raised, and done our best to revise the draft responsibly.

In closing, we want to thank those of you who read the review draft and sent us your thoughts. You have helped to make the draft better.

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More information about the project, including how the material will be framed for consideration at the 2008 World Service Conference, is available at [www.na.org/conference/bt/index.htm](http://www.na.org/conference/bt/index.htm).





# Public relations



## Cooperation

In an effort to further NA's message of recovery, we are asked to cooperate with various professionals—addiction treatment specialists, drug-court judges, social workers, the clergy, and others. How do we effectively cooperate with professionals without compromising our traditions? Recently, we heard from some members regarding cooperation with drug courts. We are offering suggestions for working with drug courts for members who wish to welcome drug court-referred addicts to NA.

### Drug Courts

Drug courts seem to represent a challenge to many groups and, at the same time, represent a public relations opportunity. Groups are often overwhelmed with the influx of addicts referred from the courts, and sometimes the courts send nonaddicts to meetings. Drug courts tend to follow a standard approach with their contracted treatment agencies. Clients in this form of treatment may be asked to participate in NA meetings for up to two years, obtain sponsors that the courts want to verify, submit step work to the courts, and have their sponsors testify in court. Obviously, there are some requests we just should not submit to, which has caused some members to wonder what the group, as an NA group, should do in response to these requests (which may feel like demands) from the drug courts.

Each NA group's primary purpose is to carry the message of recovery to the addict who suffers. As members, we are cautioned to refrain from judging anyone's desire to stop using. Groups may want to discuss this with the area service committee to see whether the area can plan to manage this influx more effectively, for everyone's benefit. With planning, the area would look at all issues and identify practical goals and approaches for the issue. Usually, a first step would be to meet with the referring agency to inform them about the NA program and listen to the agency's concerns. Together, the agency and NA members can come up with solutions. One solution may be to have panel meetings at the drug courts for members; another solution may be to hold newcomer meetings for drug court-referred clients. Additional approaches an area may consider are outlined in Chapter Six of the *Public Relations Handbook*.

One of the most common challenges for groups seems to be the signing of attendance cards. Groups that have decided to sign these cards do so in the spirit of service to the addicts attending the meeting. How groups handle these cards varies. Some groups call them "welcome slips" and ask that they be placed in the basket and picked up at the end of the meeting. Some groups use a stamp rather than having the group secretary sign the slip. For groups that want to participate in this service, additional ideas can be found in *NAWS Bulletin #31 Meeting Attendance Cards*, and the *Public Relations Handbook*, Chapter Six. Often, groups have to decide how to handle the signing

of cards when someone drops their card in the basket, leaves the meeting, and then returns at the end of the meeting to collect their card. These groups (or area representatives) usually have met with the referring agency to inform the professionals that signed attendance cards are not verification of attending the entire meeting. Most drug courts are aware that mandated attendance at NA meetings does not mean compliance with the NA program of recovery. Open and consistent communication with drug courts helps us work through issues with the referred clients.

Of course, each group is free to decide whether they want to sign attendance cards or not. We hope that groups will discuss the matter thoroughly and search their conscience before making a decision. As group members deliberate upon this issue, they may consider asking themselves, "What creates a welcoming atmosphere?" How do we know when an addict is ready to surrender to the NA program of recovery? Are we being guided by spiritual principles in the spirit of service? We might do well to remember that our literature says, "We are not interested in what or how much you used or who your connections were, what you have done in the past, how much or how little you have, but only in what you want to do about your problem and how we can help." (Basic Text, Chapter Two) Would signing an attendance card be considered helping the addict?

After thorough deliberation, a group's conscience may be to not sign attendance cards. If that happens to be a group's decision, please let your area service committee know. The phonenumber committee can have the information available for addicts who contact them, and meeting lists or schedules may designate "no cards signed" at particular meetings.

We understand that some members have strong feelings about the impact of requests placed on clients referred by drug courts, and this article is not meant to minimize those feelings. Rather, it is meant to provide possible solutions for groups that choose to cooperate with drug courts to help addicts, while recognizing that there may be challenges in working with drug courts.

# NA has no opinion on outside issues

We continue to hear from professionals that, at some NA meetings, our members share their individual opinions regarding medication, and professionals perceive these opinions to be those of NA as a whole. Expressing our individual opinions affects our public image. It also affects addicts who are referred to our program of recovery as well as members who need to take prescribed medication once abstinence has been achieved. To effectively carry our message of recovery to all addicts, we want to embrace our Tenth Tradition and truly adhere to the principle that "NA has no opinion on outside issues."

## Medication

NA is a program of recovery with a fundamental principle of complete abstinence. In the course of daily living, some NA members are confronted with physical and mental health issues that may require medication. Other members interact with healthcare professionals on behalf of our fellowship, carrying the message of recovery. Unfortunately, both healthcare professionals and members who take prescribed medication often hear individual opinions from NA members about the use of medication, rather than the message of NA's traditions—that NA, as an organization, has no opinion on outside issues, like the use of medications.

In the booklet, *In Times of Illness*, members share their practical experience confronting surgery, chronic illness, and mental health issues. This booklet is a resource written to assist members who may need to take medication.

When NA members share their individual opinions about the use of medication by recovering addicts, it tends to create a negative public image with professionals and detracts from our ability to effectively carry a message of recovery. When this happens, we lose credibility, and NA's reputation is harmed.

In the *Public Relations Handbook*, we clearly state that "trusted servants can educate NA members that it is inappropriate to interfere with medications that have been prescribed to members by healthcare providers." (Chapter Eight) In our Basic Text, we further state that NA has "no staff psychiatrists, doctors, lawyers, or counselors. Our program works by one addict helping another. If we employed professionals [such as those qualified to express medical opinions about the use of specific medications] in NA groups, we would destroy our unity." (Chapter Six)

To more effectively carry our message of recovery, and to improve our credibility with professionals, we may want to accept a stance of neutrality. We can share our personal opinions in private with our sponsors, and maintain a loving and welcoming atmosphere of recovery in the relatively public meetings of our groups and in our contacts with professionals. When we refrain from expressing opinions, we strive to embody the principles of our steps and traditions, demonstrating that "Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence, the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy." (Tradition Ten)

Imagine healthcare providers and professionals viewing NA as their first referral choice for addict patients. Imagine members who take prescription medication feeling welcomed and loved in meetings. In these ways, we truly would be helping addicts to recover from the disease of addiction and fulfilling our primary purpose.

## Drug Replacement

Our Third Tradition says, "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using." Ours is a program of complete abstinence; so, how do we effectively carry our message of recovery to those on drug-replacement medication and maintain credibility with the professionals who operate drug-replacement programs? We accept a posture of non-judgment, welcoming addicts to meetings as equals seeking recovery.

Individual members can share about their recovery and freedom from active addiction, which will speak much more



loudly to an addict participating in drug-replacement therapy than would judgment and condemnation. After all, our desire is to carry the message of recovery. Equally important, a non-judgmental attitude and an attractive message are more likely to lead professionals to view NA as a program of choice for their clients.

How can we help our members understand the Tenth Tradition of neutrality on outside issues? How can we welcome and embrace addicts on drug-replacement medication? We can discuss the principles of our traditions in group business meetings, and we can participate in learning days. We can practice our individual program of recovery by offering love, support, and a non-judgmental attitude.

And how can we uniformly present our program of recovery to professionals in a positive light? We can work together in unity to help realize our tradition that "NA has no opinion on outside issues." These actions will help to further NA's credibility, build goodwill among professionals, and help to ensure that no addict seeking recovery need die from the horrors of addiction.

Many members work with drug courts and with professionals in other fields that serve addicts seeking recovery. What solutions have you found in your cooperative efforts with professional? We would love to hear from you. Write to us at PR News; PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA USA 91409, by fax to Attn: PR News, 818.700.0700 or by email at [naway@na.org](mailto:naway@na.org).

# The 32<sup>nd</sup> World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous

*Our Message Hope,  
Our Promise Freedom*  
San Antonio, Texas, USA  
30 August - 2 September 2007

Have you registered yet? Have you made your travel arrangements? Have you gone to [www.na.org/wcna32/index.htm](http://www.na.org/wcna32/index.htm) for updates? You will not want to miss out on this world convention. As NA World Services shifts into "world convention mode," the Program Group has given us final recommendations for main speakers and is beginning to take a look at workshop speakers based on the pre-registration list. We are also beginning to develop workshop topics and finalize entertainment (including the Saturday concert), and we will have some of the very best merchandise yet!

For your convenience, we have posted the approximate start and end times for events on the website. We hope this will help you plan your arrival and departure and, more importantly, help you figure out what times you can volunteer. If you haven't filled out a Volunteer Info Sheet, please go the website and do that now. Once you've signed up to volunteer, please expect a call from a member of the WCNA-32 Support Committee. They are working hard to get in touch with everyone who filled out a form.

## ADA Information

Also available online is ADA information for those with disabilities. If you or anyone you know require things like scooters, wheelchairs, special shuttles, or accommodation for any special need, we ask you to go online and fill out the form. This will help us better serve your needs during the world convention.

## Alternative Merchandise Store

The Alternative Merchandise Instructions and Letter of Agreement are also available online. If your area or region is interested in selling merchandise at WCNA-32 on Sunday, 2 September, you must register for an assigned table slot by filling out the application by 1 August and you must obtain a tax permit issued by the Texas state controller. People who have not obtained a seller's permit from NAWS and have not obtained a tax permit will not be authorized to sell in the alternative merchandise store. You can fill out the WCNA-32 Alternative Merchandise Seller's Permit on our website, and you can fill out the Texas state controller tax permit application by going to [www.window.state.tx.us/taxpermit/](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxpermit/).

## World Unity Day Telephone Hookup

Registration is now available for a World Unity Day telephone hookup to the worldwide conference call to take place on Sunday, 2 September, during the last day of WCNA-32. We are offering one free regional hookup to every region outside of North America. If you can't make it to WCNA-32, you can still be a part of the experience and plan an event with your group, area, or region. Maybe your event will be announced around the world! If we don't see you in San Antonio, then we hope to hear from you on Unity Day.

For all this and more, go to: [www.na.org/wcna32/index.htm](http://www.na.org/wcna32/index.htm)

our message  
**HOPE** our promise  
**FREEDOM**



San Antonio, Texas  
**WCNA 32**  
29 AUGUST-2 SEPTEMBER 2007

# WORLD UNITY DAY

## 2 SEPTEMBER 2007

live from san antonio, texas!

Join NA communities around the world as we celebrate "**Our Message Hope, Our Promise Freedom.**" Regardless of language, culture, or distance, NA unites to carry our message and celebrate our promise. Together we can... say the Serenity Prayer. Together we can... listen to the Unity Day main speaker at the 32<sup>nd</sup> World Convention. Together we can... be there in person and be there in spirit. Together we can and do recover. The language of NA transcends words and is a language of the heart. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September we join together to hear that heart beat.

Unity Day will be on Sunday, 2 September 2007. Plan events at your group, area, or region. Between **11:00am and 1:00pm Central DST** we will come together on a worldwide conference call. To plan the time of your own event you can go to <http://www.timezoneconverter.com> and see what the exact time will be in your area. Individual members, groups, area/regional functions, and institutions can join in the celebration of World Unity Day on this two-hour, "listen only" telephone hookup to hear the Unity Day main speaker. Simply complete the telephone link registration form below and fax or mail it to the World Service Office with your payment. The cost is \$50.00 for calls within the United States/Canada. For calls outside the US/Canada, there will be an additional charge depending upon the telephone rate of the country. **One free hookup will be provided for each region outside the US and Canada!**

--- Please Provide the Following Contact Information ---

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Group (Region/Area/Institution) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Outside US/Canada?** Phone number you will use on day of call: \_\_\_\_\_

**Form of Payment (Check One):**  AMEX  VISA  M/C  Discover  Diners Club

**Credit Card Number** \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Check/Money Order**

**Free Regional Link outside the US and Canada.** Must have approval of region. Include name and phone number of regional chairperson. **[One per region]**

Regional Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed application with your check/money order to **NAWS, c/o Unity Day, PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409** or fax it to **818.700.0700** with credit card info. After 1 August 2007, you will receive a confirmation via email or mail, which will include call-in number and password for call. Confirmation will outline agenda for call and explain how to phone in on day of call, and what to do if you experience problems during the call. **Questions? Call 818.773.9999, extension 114.**

**Registrations must be received by 1 August 2007**



# The NA Way Magazine



## Letter to the Editor

We invite you to pen a letter to the editor that expresses some of the things you like and dislike about *The NA Way Magazine*, and that offers us some ideas for change. Thank you for your time and thoughts!

**E-subscribers/readers:** Just place your cursor in the box below each question and type away. Then, save your completed form and email it to us at [naway@na.org](mailto:naway@na.org).

**Print subscribers/readers:** Mail your response to: *The NA Way Magazine*; Letter to the Editor, PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409; or fax it to us at 818.700.0700, attn *NA Way* Letter to the Editor.

Dear NA Way Editor:

I am writing to tell you how much I love *The NA Way*, especially. \_\_\_\_\_

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However, I really don't like \_\_\_\_\_

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I would like to see more \_\_\_\_\_

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I have an e-subscription and I think \_\_\_\_\_

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A cool/funny/inspiring/helpful thing *The NA Way* could do is \_\_\_\_\_

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Thanks for letting me share!

Optional information about me:

female	male	NA member	cleandate month/year	age	my primary and/or secondary language(s)	non-member

I receive *The NA Way*:

at home	via my ASC/RSC/RSO	at an NA group	by email	at <a href="http://www.na.org">www.na.org</a>	elsewhere (please specify)



# CALENDAR

We encourage NA groups and service bodies to publicize events in *The NA Way Magazine* and in the online events calendar. To submit event information, just click on the "na events" link at [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) and follow the instructions. (Those who do not have Internet access can submit information by fax at 818.700.0700, attn. NA Way; by telephone at 818.773.9999 x179; or by postal mail at *The NA Way Magazine*; Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA.) We use the online calendar to create the NA Way Calendar, but only multi-day events and events happening between publication dates are printed in the magazine. The magazine is produced approximately three months before publication, and is usually distributed no later than the first week of the publication month. For your event to be included in the *The NA Way Magazine*, please submit information according to the schedule below. For additional event information, visit [www.na.org](http://www.na.org).

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Submit event info by</b>	<b>For events taking place during</b>
January.....	5 October .....	second week of January through first week of April
April .....	5 January .....	second week of April through first week of July
July .....	5 April .....	second week of July through first week of October
October .....	5 July .....	second week of October through first week of January

## Australia

**Queensland** 14-16 Sep; Gold Coast Area Convention; Greenmount Beach Resort, Gold Coast; rsvns: 800.073.211; event info: [gcnac@msn.com](mailto:gcnac@msn.com)

## Bermuda

**Hamilton** 10-12 Aug; Bermuda Islands Area Serenity in Paradise 6; Fairmont Hamilton Princess, Hamilton; rsvns: 800.441.1414; registration: 441.295.5300; write: Bermuda Islands Area; Box DV 690; Devonshire DV BX; Bermuda; [www.bermudana.net](http://www.bermudana.net)

## Brazil

**Rio de Janeiro** 25-28 Oct; Latin American Convention 8; SESC-GRUSSAÍ, Grussaí; event info: 550212187870049; [www.clanaviii.com](http://www.clanaviii.com)

## Canada

**British Columbia** 17-19 Aug; Strathcona Area Camp Bananarama; RR #3; Kent's Beach Resort, Powell River; rsvns: 604.487.9386; event info: 604.483.2311, 604.483.3323; email: [marylou@vatp.ca](mailto:marylou@vatp.ca); [mamatone@shaw.ca](mailto:mamatone@shaw.ca)

**Nova Scotia** 16-22 Jul; Pig Roast and Campout 18; Blomidon Provincial Park, Blomidon; write: Annapolis Valley Area; Box 522; Kentville, Nova Scotia B4N 3X3; [www.avanasc.zoomshare.com](http://www.avanasc.zoomshare.com)

**Ontario** 20-22 Jul; London Area Campout; Springwater Conservation Area, London; event info: 519.859.4749

**2)** 3-6 Aug; Niagara Area Fun in the Sun Campout 5; Sherkston Shores, Crystal Beach; event info: 905.358.9792, 905.937.4878; registration: 905.735.5053; write: Niagara ASC; Box 29088; 125 Carlton Street; St Catherine's, ON L2R 7P9; [www.niagarana.com](http://www.niagarana.com)

**Quebec** 25-26 Aug; English Area Convention 7; Days Inn Hotel Montreal Métro-Centre, Montreal; rsvns: 877.468.3550; write: English Area of NA of Quebec; EANAC; Box 453; NDG Station; Montréal, Québec H4A 3P8; [www.eana-mtl.org](http://www.eana-mtl.org)

**2)** 5-7 Oct; Quebec Regional Convention 20; Hôtel des Seigneurs, Saint-Hyacinthe; rsvns: 450.774.3810; speaker tape submission deadline: 27 Aug; [www.crqna.org](http://www.crqna.org)

## Colombia

**Risaralda** 18-20 Aug; Convención Regional de Colombia XVI; Teatro Santiago Londoño, Pereira; rsvns: 57.3136207456; [www.nacolombia.org](http://www.nacolombia.org)

## Ireland

**Munster** 26-28 Oct; Irish Regional Convention 22; Oriel House Hotel, Cork; rsvns: 00353.21.4208400; event info: 00353861612661, 00353862848098; email: [f\\_fogarty@yahoo.com](mailto:f_fogarty@yahoo.com); [bertobin@msn.com](mailto:bertobin@msn.com); speaker tape submission deadline: 26 Sep; write: Irish Region of NA; 4/5 Eustace St; Dublin 2, Ireland; [www.na.ireland.org](http://www.na.ireland.org)

## Kenya

**Great Rift Valley** 26-30 Aug; Opening the Doors of Recovery for Africa; KTC Health Farm, Gilgil; event info: 254724223322, 254722703365; registration: 2545050673; speaker tape submission deadline: 28 Jul

## Mexico

**Aguascalientes** 23-26 Aug; Regional Convencion of Mexico Occidente; Hotel Las Trojes, Aguascalientes; rsvns: 800.714.9999; event info: 449.977.6286, 449.141.1606; [naaguascalientes@hotmail.com](mailto:naaguascalientes@hotmail.com)

**Baja California** 26-28 Oct; Convención Baja California 15; Grand Hotel, Tijuana; rsvns: USA-866.472.6385, Mex-01.800.026607; event info: USA-818.765.5593, 858.277.6438; Mexico- 664.188.5957, 619.618.5201; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Sep; write: Baja Costa Area, BC Mex; CBCNA; PMB-80; Box 439056; San Diego, CA 92143-9056

## Norway

**Oslo** 21-23 Sep; Together We Are Strong; Marienlyst Skole, Tusentrippen 5; N-0361 Oslo; registration: 47.948.845.18; [www.nanorge.org](http://www.nanorge.org)

## Puerto Rico

**San Juan** 27-29 Jul; Convencion de Region del Coqui 18; Hotel Condado Plaza, San Juan; rsvns: 787.721.1000; event info: 787.274.0488; registration: 787.549.2833; <http://groups.msn.com>

## South Africa

**KwaZulu Natal** 26 -28 Oct; South Africa Regional Convention 14; Natalia Beach Resort, Winkelspruit; registration: 27.82.9072725; write: South Africa Region; Box 46404; Orange Grove; Johannesburg 2119, South Africa; [www.na.org.za](http://www.na.org.za)

## United States

**Alaska** 24-26 Aug; Kenai Campvention; Church of God, Kenai, rsvns: 907.283.6522; event info: 907.252.5336, 907.398.1939; write: Kenai Peninsula Area; Dopeless Hope Fiends; 1127 Walnut Dr; Kenai AK 99611

**Arkansas** 10-12 Aug; Central Arkansas Area Convention; Crowne Plaza Hotel, Little Rock; rsvns: 866.276.6648; event info: 501.223.3000; www.caasc.org

2) 12-14 Oct; Let's Spend the Night Together Cove Lake Campout 14; Cove Lake, Paris; rsvns: 918.635.5168; event info: 479.774.1199

**California** 20-22 Jul; Napa Solano Women's Spiritual Retreat; Golden Pines RV Resort and Campground, Arnold; rsvns: 208.795.2820; event info: 707.330.1916, 707.384.4922

2) 3-5 Aug; How It Is Men's Retreat; Salt Springs Campground, Salt Springs; event info: 209.466.4748, 916.730.8511

3) 17-19 Aug; Napa/Solano Co-Ed Spiritual Campout; Orchard Springs Resort, Rollins Lake; event info: 707.429.0438, 707.337.7282

4) 28-30 Sep; Convención Area Habla Hispana Sur California 2; Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys; rsvns: 818.997.7676; event info: 562.298.2948; registration: 818.317.0612; speaker tape info: 714.501.7092; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 Aug; write: AHHSCNA; Sub Comite de Convención; Box 2216; Buena Park, CA 90621; www.todayna.com

5) 12-14 Oct; Rainbow Convention 12; Ramada Plaza Downtown, San Francisco; rsvns: 800.227.4747; event info: 925.200.6493; registration: 415.948.1345

**Colorado** 26-28 Oct; Colorado Regional Convention 21; Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Longmont; rsvns: 303.776.2000; event info: 720.318.4924; registration: 303.522.1252; www.nacolorado.org/crcna

**Connecticut** 24-26 Aug; Forever Green Campout; Moosemeadow Camping Resort, West Willington; event info: 860.454.0114; email: jclark4686@hotmail.com

**Florida** 3-5 Aug; Big Bend Area Convention 10; Holiday Inn Select Downtown, Tallahassee; rsvns: 850.222.9555; event info: 850.264.2868

2) 3-5 Aug; Uncoast Area Convention 9; Paramount Plaza Hotel and Suites, Gainesville; rsvns: 877.992.9229; event info: 352.262.3864, 352.283.8766; registration: 352.283.6642; www.uncoastna.org

3) 20-23 Sep; South Florida Regional Convention 13; Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club, Naples; rsvns: 800.866.1946; event info: 239.775.7192, 585.200.2313

4) 19-21 Oct; Heartland Area Convention 5; Westgate River Ranch Resort, River Ranch; rsvns: 888.808.7410; event info: 863.670.0148, 863.245.6989

**Georgia** 2-5 Aug; Midtown Atlanta Convention 17; Renaissance Waverly, Atlanta; rsvns: 888.391.8724; event info: 678.758.6899; www.midtownatlantana.com

2) 12-14 Oct; West End Area Twenty-First Anniversary; Renaissance Concourse Hotel, Atlanta; rsvns: 888.391.8724; event info: 404.228.8804, 770.912.4017; speaker tape info: 404.428.6897

**Hawaii** 3-5 Aug; Maui Area Gathering 19; One Ali'i Park, Maui; event info: 808.385.5858

2) 25-28 Oct; Hawaii Regional Convention 15; Makaha Resort & Golf Club, Makaha; rsvns: 808.695.9544; registration: 808.381.5249; speaker tape info: 808.228.9584; speaker tape submission deadline: 29 Jul; www.na-hawaii.org

**Idaho** 26-28 Oct; Pacific North West Convention 30; DoubleTree Inn, Boise; rsvns: 208.343.1871; event info: 208.433.1199; www.sirna.org

**Illinois** 24-26 Aug; Living the Dream Area Convention 6; Route 66 Hotel, Springfield; rsvns: 217.529.6626; www.girscna.org/ltld

**Indiana** 24-26 Aug; End of Summer Campout and Hog Roast 12; Prairie Creek Reservoir, Muncie; event info: 765.396.2457, 765.284.1136

2) 21-23 Sep; Central Indiana Area Convention 4; Adams Mark Hotel Airport, Indianapolis; rsvns: 317.248.2481; www.naindiana.org

**Kentucky** 14-16 Sep; Freedom between the Lakes 20; Land between the Lakes; www.nawestky.org

**Maine** 14-16 Sep; Miracle 24; Notre Dame Spiritual Center, Alfred; event info: 207.671.9980; email: miracle@namaine.org; www.namaine.org

**Maryland** 21-23 Sep; First River of Hope Unity Retreat; Lions Camp Merrick, Nanjemoy; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Jul; www.cprna.org/events/index.htm

2) 5-7 Oct; Ocean Gateway Area Convention 10; Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, Ocean City; rsvns: 800.638.2100; registration: 410.341.0895; www.geocities.com/jpjeanie55/OGACNAX.html

**Massachusetts** 24-26 Aug; Cape Cod Area Fun in the Sun Campout; YMCA-Camp Lyndon Center, Sandwich; rsvns: 508.362.6500; event info: 508.540.7674, 774.200.3869; newenglandna.org

2) 31 Aug-3 Sep; Rough'n It in Recovery Campout 11; Camp Yomechas, Middleboro; rsvns: 508.642.2424; event info: 508.802.3395; registration: 508.557.1525

**Minnesota** 3-5 Aug; HopeFest 3; McGowan's Park, Mankato; event info: 507.340.5307, 507.304.1300

2) 7-9 Sep; Vermilion Campout; Camp Vermilion, Cook; rsvns: 715.392.4626

**Mississippi** 20-22 Jul; Mississippi Delta Area Convention 3; Days Inn, Grenada; rsvns: 662.226.2851; event info: 662.645.8877; registration: 601.613.0158

2) 12-14 Oct; Mississippi Regional Convention; Days Inn, Grenada; rsvns: 662.226.2851; event info: 662.645.5853, 662.404.1980;

**Missouri** 14-16 Sep; Campvention; Lake Ozark State Park, Kaiser; event info: 314.280.8776

**Montana** 3-6 Aug; Holland Lake Campout; Holland Lake Campground, Condon; event info: 406.756.8487, 406.837.0871

**New Hampshire** 20-22 Jul; Freedom under the Stars 17; Goose Hollow Campground, Thorton; event info: 262.237.2385, 603.866.1082; registration: 603.427.0965; www.gsana.org

**New York** 27-29 Jul; Lighting the Way 7; Melville Marriott, Long Island, Melville; rsvns: 800.228.9290; event info: 631.650.9657; registration: 631.834.6999; www.sasna.org

2) 27-29 Jul; Northern New York Regional Convention; DoubleTree, Rochester; rsvns: 585.475.1510; event info: 607.794.0751, 585.802.3593; email: bigleef686@yahoo.com, tmc dew@rochester.rr.com

3) 8-10 Sep; Serenity under the Stars; Delta Lake Conference Center, Rome; write: Heart of New York Area; Box 442; Syracuse, NY 13204

**North Carolina** 27-29 Jul; New Hope Area Convention 14; Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center, Durham; rsvns: 800.325.3535; event info: 919.949.3489, 919.641.3196

2) 24-26 Aug; Piedmont Area Convention-Unite for Life; Clarion Hotel, Greensboro; rsvns: 336.299.7650; write: Piedmont Area Convention; Box 36554; Greensboro, NC 27416

3) 14-16 Sep; More Powerful than Words Convention 13; Holiday Inn, Concord; rsvns: 704.637.3100

**Ohio** 21-23 Jul; North Coast Recovery Roast 19; Country Lakes Campgrounds 17147, Montville; rsvns: 440.968.3400; event info: 440.521.0108; www.glasna.org

**Oklahoma** 20-21 Jul; Spiritual Retreat 14; Roman Nose State Park, Watonga; rsvns: 800.892.8690

**Pennsylvania** 24-26 Aug; The Journey Continues 11; Camp Harmony, Hooversville; www.lmhana.com

**South Carolina** 17-19 Aug; Welcome Home Convention 12; Marriott Grand, Columbia; rsvns: 800.228.9290; event info: 803.518.0400, 803.968.0465; www.crna.org

**South Dakota** 5-12 Aug; South Dakota Region Sturgis Rally Campout; Suzie Squirrel Campground/Sheridan Lake North, Hill City; rsvns: 605.574.4768; event info: 605.391.4106, 605.574.4402; http://www.sdrna.org/SturgisRallyCampout.html

**2)** 14-16 Sep; South Dakota Regional Convention 10; Cedar Shore Resort, Chamberlin; rsvns: 605.734.6376; event info: 605.941.4118; www.sdrna.org

**Tennessee** 24-26 Aug; Middle Tennessee Area Convention Unity 8; Sheraton Music City, Nashville; rsvns: 800.325.3535; www.nanashville.org

**2)** 24-26 Aug; Recovery on the Ridge 13; Big Ridge State Park, Maynardville; rsvns: 865.992.5523; event info: 865.973.5376, 865.740.0580; www.knoxvillena.org

**Texas** 17-19 Aug; Texas Unity Convention; Redwood Lodge, Whitney; event info: 254.694.3412, 832.385.3021; www.tucna.org

**2)** 30 Aug-2 Sep; World Convention of NA 32; Alamodome, San Antonio; event info: 818.773.9999; http://www.na.org/WCNA32/index.htm

**3)** 21-23 Sep; Miracles and Solutions Group Fourteenth Anniversary; Radisson Austin North, Austin; rsvns: 800.333.3333; event info: 512.736.9102, 512.740.4005

**4)** 12-14 Oct; Esperanza Area Frolic in the Woods Campout 17; Garner State Park, San Antonio; rsvns: 512.389.8900; www.eanaonline.org

**Utah** 12-14 Oct; Western States Learning Days 21; Marriott, Ogden; rsvns: 888.236.2427; event info: 801.628.4334, 801.645.1242; http://www.nuana.org/WSLD.htm

**Vermont** 16-19 Aug; Back to Basics Campout 23; Wallingford Boys Camp, Wallingford; event info: 802.579.4842, 603.209.1552; www.gmana.org

**Virginia** 20-22 Jul; Blue Ridge Area Campout 26; Natural Chimneys Regional Park, Mount Solon; event info: 540.910.2538, 540.383.5906; www.brana.org

**2)** 3-5 Aug; Almost Heaven Area Convention 21; Northern Virginia 4H Center, Front Royal; 304.283.9077, 304.279.3033; www.rovna.org

**Wisconsin** 21-23 Sep; Let Loose 2; Wyalusing State Park/Hugh Harper Indoor Group Camp, Bagley; event info: 608.784.1737, 608.779.9675; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 Jul; write: Big Rivers ASC; Box 3765; LaCrosse, WI 54602-03765; www.bigriversna.org

**Wyoming** 17-19 Aug; Unity Days 14; Pole Creek Campground, Laramie; event info: 307.634.6668, 307.635.1166; www.wyo-braskana.org

# Coming soon

## *Public Relations Handbook Resource Material*

Partial resources for Chapters 3, 6, 10, 11, and 12.

For more information, visit <http://www.na.org>. Check periodically for updates or register with us at <http://portal-tools.na.org/PortalTools/subscriptions/Login.cfm> to be notified of updates.

## *Service Pamphlets*

We are pleased to announce the upcoming release of a new line of service-related pamphlets. Drawn from collective experiences of groups and trusted servants, some of the titles that will be available are:

### *An Introduction to NA Meetings*

Our meetings can seem strange and uncomfortable to those new to our fellowship. This piece may be a tool for referring professionals and a welcoming introduction to newer members.

### *Group Trusted Servant: Roles and Responsibilities*

The group is the basic unit of our fellowship and service system, providing the meetings where we share recovery. Groups are also the first place most of us learn to serve NA. This piece describes some of the group service positions.

### *Group Business Meetings*

While all groups are autonomous, this pamphlet includes some thoughts and ideas on effective group business meetings.

### *Disruptive and Violent Behavior in NA Meetings*

Groups looking for possible solutions to issues of disruptive and violent behavior at NA meetings may find this writing helpful.

## **German**

### *Sponsorship*

### *Sponsorschaft*

Item No. GE-1130 Price US \$7.00

## **Hindi**

### White Booklet

### नारकॉटिव्स एनॉनिम्स

Item No. HI-1500 Price US \$0.63

# NAWS Product Update

## English

### *Public Relations Handbook*

Revised to integrate the release of partial resources to Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 11 in both US and international formats.

Item No. 2102 and 2102-A Price US \$5.00/each

## Arabic

IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*

التعافي والانتكاس

Item No. AR-3106 Price US \$0.21

IP No. 23:

*Staying Clean on the Outside*

البقاء ممتنعاً في الخارج

Item No. AR-3123 Price US \$0.21

## Chinese

### Keytags

30 days through multiple years

Item No. CH-4101—4108 Price US \$0.37/each

## French

### Twelve Concepts poster

Item No. FR-9077 Price US \$2.40

## Japanese

IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*

回復とリラプス

Item No. JP-3106 Price US \$0.21

### Group reading cards (Set of 7 cards)

Item No. JP-9130 Price US \$2.50

## Norwegian

*It Works: How and Why*

*Det virker:  
Hvordan og Hvorfor*

Item No. NR-1140  
Price US \$7.70



## Russian

IP No. 12: *The Triangle of Self-Obsession*

*Треугольник Самонаваждения*

Item No. RU-3112 Price US \$0.21

IP No. 14: *One Addict's Experience...*

*Опыт одного зависимого:  
принятие, вера и преданность*

Item No. RU-3114 Price US \$0.21

IP No. 17: *For Those in Treatment*

*Для тех, кто находится на лечении*

Item No. RU-3117 Price US \$0.26

IP No. 23: *Staying Clean  
on the Outside*

*Оставаться  
чистым  
после лечения*

Item No. RU-3123  
Price US \$0.21



IP No. 24: *"Hey! What's the Basket For?"*

*«А Для Чего  
Же Нужна Шанка?»*

Item No. RU-3124 Price US \$0.21

## Swahili

### Keytags

Welcome through multiple years

Item No. SH-4100—4108 Price US \$0.37/each

## Swedish

Basic Text, Pocket-Sized Hardcover Version

*Anonyma Narkomaner*

Item No. SW-1105 Price US \$10.00



## Human Resource Panel News

We are very excited to announce the availability of the new two-page World Pool Information Form. The online version can be found at <http://www.na.org/HRP/wpif-default.htm>.

We are fast approaching the following important deadlines:

- ❖ 31 August 2007 – deadline to submit WPIFs to be considered for a WSC 2008 HRP nomination, and to update any current WPIFs (three years or older).
- ❖ 31 October 2007 – deadline for region, board, and zone candidate (RBZ) submission forms recommending prospective candidates for the WSC 2008 nomination process.

For more details on HRP activities, read the most recent *NAWS News*.

# Home GROUP

