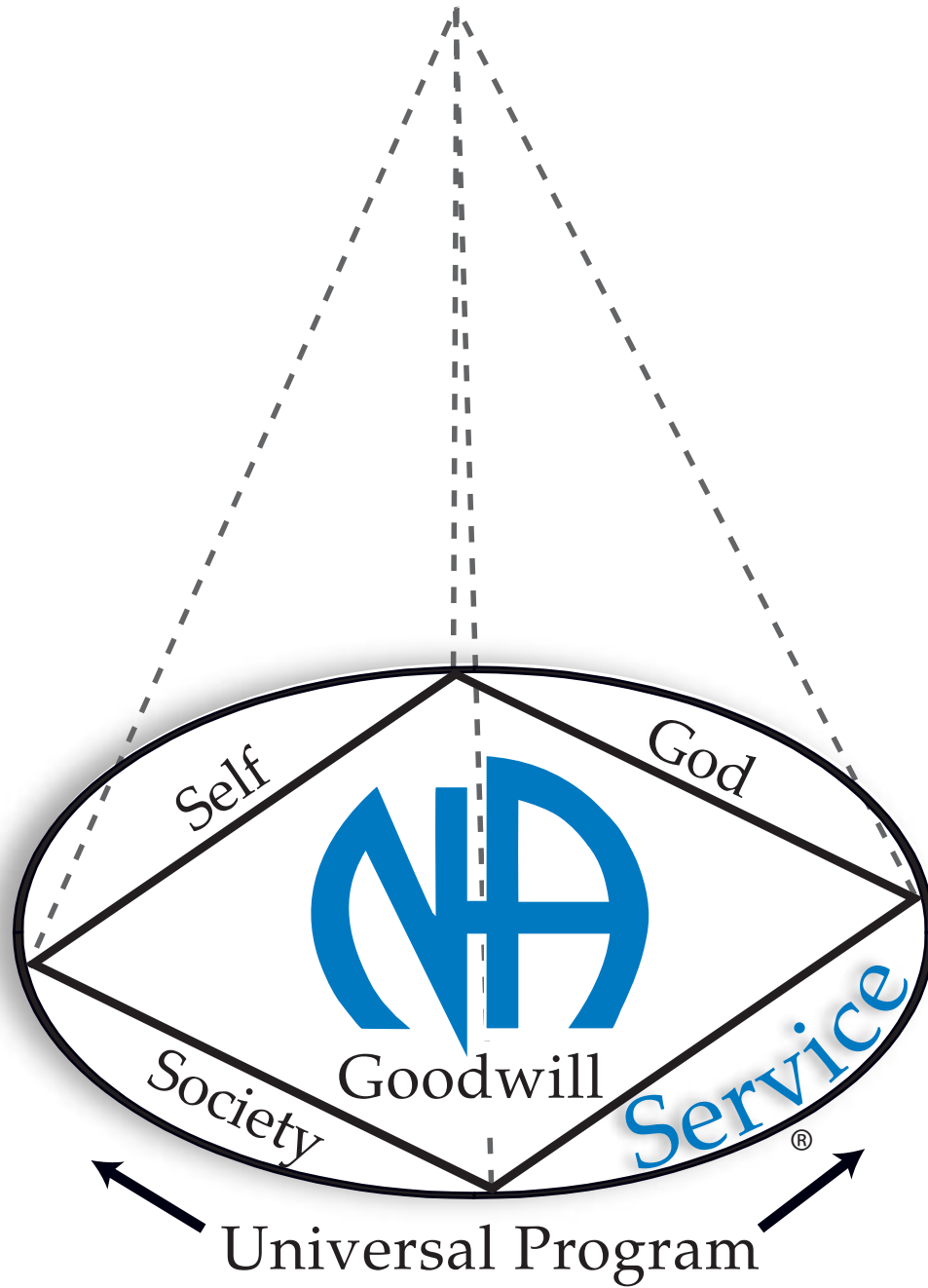


Freedom



-
- ◆ Invest in Our Vision
 - ◆ From Damascus, Syria
 - ◆ Service basics
 - ◆ Friday night in Manchester
 - ◆ The FIPT
 - ◆ Going back clean



THE
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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

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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.

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From the editor

It's summer in most of the world, and for many that means camping. Me, I'm not much of a camper. At six years clean, my then-husband and I participated in our first NA campout. We arrived at 10:30 pm and—by our truck's headlights—raised a massive cotton canvas tent we bought at a garage sale. We spent the next night at a local hospital following a frighteningly hilarious volleyball injury (a mild concussion for my partner), and wrapped it all up with the worst case of poison ivy and poison oak my aged physician had ever seen. (Oh, *and* I was pregnant at the time.) Not much camping for me after that, but then I camped with a bunch of NA friends on a very hot, dry, and extremely windy June weekend last year. Our campsite was about 60 miles north of downtown LA, at a campground with one tree, a lot of dust, and a very large population of chiggers. (If you don't know what they are, you're lucky!)

So, why is there a camping packing list on the desk in front of me as I type this? Well, for me, camping is a bit like NA service. Sure, it can be challenging and frustrating; but in service and in camping, we work and create together, share experiences and resources, and laugh and bond—in a closing prayer circle or around the campfire. We accomplish something meaningful and rewarding together.

Our group leaves Friday for a site north of Santa Barbara. I have several forms of insect repellent and I know that, together, we'll all have what we need. Even if there are extremes or challenges, we'll laugh hysterically every time we retell the stories of our weekend together—just as we have since the last campout. I'll let you know how it goes.

In the meantime, please enjoy this issue, created through the service of dedicated volunteers and staff, and NA members willing to share their experience, strength, and hope with you. Our focus this issue is service.

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.

Going back clean

On 3 January 2011, I went online to make my reservations for the upcoming 34th World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous in San Diego, California. I want to share the miracle of recovery and what it means to me to be going back to San Diego after 16 years.

In July 1995, I was directed by the chapter leader of a motorcycle club in Connecticut to meet with the leader of the West Coast chapter in California for “some business.” The details I had about the trip were very limited; I was told I would be picked up at the airport. After saying goodbye to friends and family, I boarded the plane, hoping it was my last hurrah, and my final experience in a lifestyle I was so tired of living. In the past, I had given up and switched off of certain drugs that I thought were my problem; at that time, I thought the lifestyle must be my problem. I was told later by friends and family that they felt it might be the last time they saw me alive. I thought I was going to overdose, get beat up, maybe crash a car, or just disappear. Most of the trip was a blur, from the desert near Big Bear to my final day in California, which was three days before I got clean. I missed my scheduled flight back to Connecticut because I was being tattooed in a San Diego tattoo parlor. I don’t remember getting back home, but my HP already had all my ducks in a row. My life was about to change.

A month and a half before the trip, the woman who was to become my first sponsor was placed in my life at a motorcycle-run fundraiser. We met as the day was winding down and figured out we had previously lived in the same townhouse community. I was riding alone and she was on the back of some guy’s bike with a crew of people who invited me to ride with them. To my dismay, we landed in a coffee shop instead of a bar.

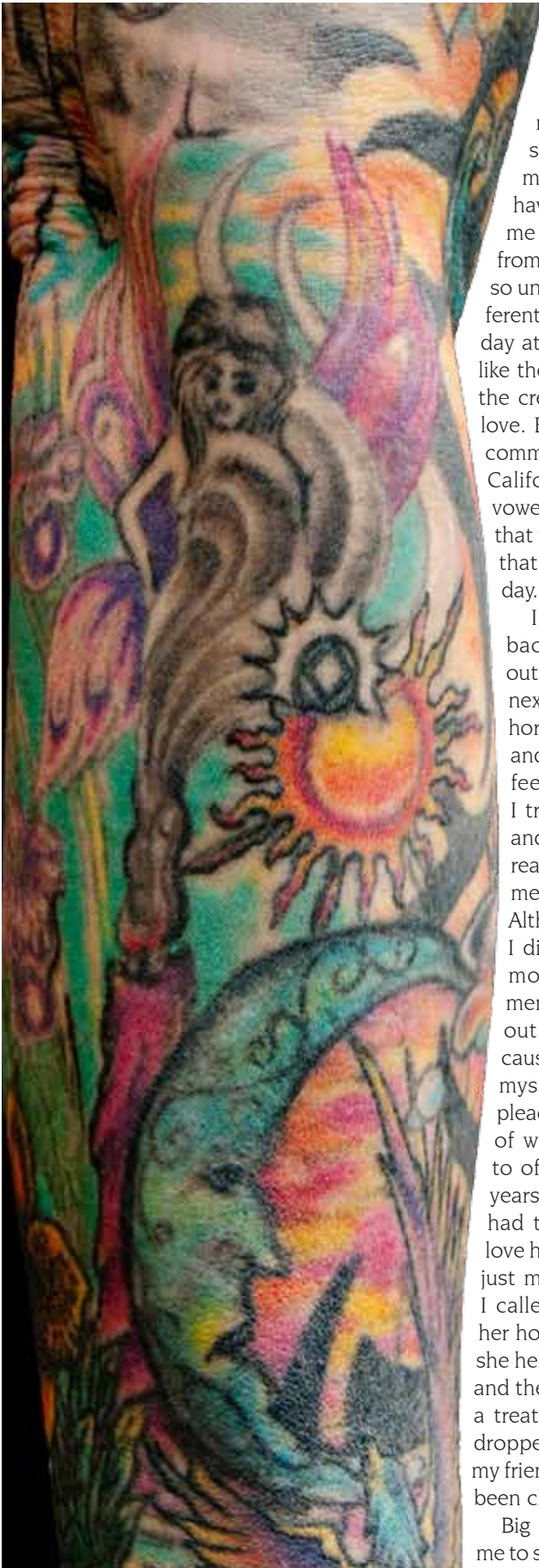
Our friendship grew quickly, and she shared that she was in NA. The seed of recovery was planted in me at that moment. After just a couple weeks, we made plans to go to a bike week in New Hampshire—well, her, me, and this hot guy who was also in NA. (The hot guy thing worked out great for a while—a good diversion from not using drugs. What I would later come to know was that using guys was a

form of substitution.) Before we left, my new friend made what I thought was a bizarre request. She asked that I not use during the trip, which I reluctantly agreed to; but, of course, I had some stuff just in case. I didn’t know how I was going to feel without using drugs.

The day we had planned to leave, the guy who was supposed to take my bike on his trailer was arrested, so my bike wasn’t going to make it. I didn’t know how to process anger without using, so I used. I believe I had my first spiritual awakening then. I felt something I never felt before: guilt. So, without understanding why, I told my new friend I had used and agreed not to use the rest of the weekend. It was all part of HP’s plan.

These two people (my girlfriend and the hot guy) knew I was going to California soon after this trip. They gave me the name and number of an NA member in California. I contacted him not because I had to, but because I wanted to. We had a blast, and I believe this was my second spiritual awakening. Sitting at a beach together, this guy shared some of his story with me





through tears, and it was such a parallel to my life.

For the first time, the idea of getting clean crossed my mind. This man sharing and showing emotions blew my mind. I don't know if it would have had the same impact on me if I had heard these stories from a crying woman. I always felt so unfeminine, hardened, and different from other women. After our day at the beach, wow, it was just like the movies: The music played, the credits rolled, and we were in love. But I had to get back to my commitment, the reason I was in California in the first place. We vowed that what we felt was real, that we would talk and write, and that we would be together some day. I never saw him again.

I made it home alive, went back to partying, and passed out the evening of 11 July. The next afternoon I came to with a horrible sense of dread. I used, and it didn't go away. I had coffee, and it still hung around. I tried some martyr behaviors, and then this intense need to really punish myself came over me. I grabbed my .22 Beretta. Although I never wanted to die, I didn't know how to live anymore with only fleeting moments of relief. I tried to figure out where to shoot myself to cause harm, but not kill or maim myself. I was sobbing, rocking, pleading, and I suddenly thought of what my friend said NA had to offer: freedom. She had eight years without using, the hot guy had two, and my new California love had almost two years. Maybe, just maybe, it could work for me. I called my friend and stayed at her house that night. The next day she helped me clean out my house, and the following day I got a bed in a treatment facility. The day I was dropped off at treatment, I asked my friend to be my sponsor, and I've been clean ever since.

Big changes had to happen for me to stay clean—they had to—and

some of these changes have happened through a lot of pain. While I pissed and moaned, I learned to become accountable, and I didn't use no matter what. For me, the greatest pain isn't from the change, but because of my resistance to it.

What works for me is having a home group where I serve, having a service commitment outside my home group, working my steps, and going to meetings regularly. Besides a few "life on life's terms" bumps in the road, my life is far beyond my wildest dreams. My recovery extends out from the meetings into my community and society, into my state, across the country, and to other parts of the world. I try to wake up curious, grateful, and open-minded, because I never know who HP is going to put in my life to save it.

I hope I continue to learn and stay willing. I hope I respond instead of react, so I can let go of defects before they become shortcomings. I hope I can see more miracles in more places, and most of all, I hope I'll see you in San Diego! I'm going back clean! That tattoo shop is still there, too, so maybe I'll pop in for a tattoo commemorating the completion of this circle.

My clean date is 13 July 1995.

Ana G, Connecticut, USA



Journey in recovery

NA has sent me in the most amazing directions. When I first read, "more will be revealed," I never realized this would include physical, mental, and spiritual aspects. I figured I might learn a few things, but this ongoing process teaches me how I can be open to the miracles of recovery if I stay teachable and go to uncomfortable places in my inner self and beyond.

This year I traveled to the Asia Pacific Forum (APF) meeting in Bahrain, from there to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Turkey, and the European Delegates Meeting (EDM) in Malta. I attended recovery and service meetings in each place, being of service in some. I had a service commitment in Bahrain, but the other destinations were a choice I made from somewhere inside of me. I'm not rich; I'm on a fixed income, but I save to travel and deal with being broke afterwards. My life is blessed beyond measure. Here are a few of my travel memories.

- ⊗ Twenty Asian and Middle Eastern communities, from Hawaii to Saudi Arabia, around a table in Bahrain, planning fellowship development to Bhutan, Oman, UAE, Afghanistan, and more.
- ⊗ Dancing with abandon and heart in the desert night to reggae music with a bunch of crazy addicts letting it all out.
- ⊗ Witnessing the APF giving back to NAWS in a monetary and symbolic gesture of learning to be fully self-supporting.
- ⊗ Attending a meeting in UAE, hearing about life challenges we all face. Meeting two wonderful NA women who held my hand and gave me directions.
- ⊗ The honor of attending a literature translation committee meeting in Turkey; heatedly discussing the meaning of a word (faith) because there wasn't a direct Turkish translation! Having tea with newcomers in the freezing cold of Istanbul after being led through the mosques.
- ⊗ After a car accident in Turkey, calling another addict to translate to the tow-truck driver—a slight low point, but I moved on.
- ⊗ Being in Malta, in the EDM meeting room, watching and listening to communities from Europe and beyond; contemplating APF and EDM similarities; continuity of recovery; our primary purpose bringing us all together.
- ⊗ The language and spiritual belief differences; cultural discrepancies that fall away in the love of fellowship; learning, sharing, laughing, crying, disagreeing...and then all of us coming together once again.

The friends I make all over the world, with a primary purpose like mine, teach me humility, compassion, giving and receiving, hope, and most importantly, that I am not alone. Through my 23 years of recovery, despite personal upheavals, emotions, health challenges, and "living life on life's terms," I'm still learning and staying teachable, still amazed by the gift we give each other. I am humbled by the NA Fellowship and the spiritual principles that allow me to take incredible trips in this earthly world as a traveler, and in my interior spirit world where the principles mold my heart and soul. Thank you all for being a part of my journey.

Kimmy Y, Hawaii, USA

.....
Electronic subscribers can
click here to see Kimmy's
photo of a Turkish NA
meeting place.
.....

Step Two

You know those Magic Eye® puzzles found in newspapers? I could never do them. I'd try...and never get anything. And then, one day, I noticed something below the picture: step-by-step directions. Well, I'd never followed directions for anything, so I guessed this was an opportunity to practice the principle of open-mindedness that Step Two suggests. When I followed the directions, the picture came to life right before my eyes! It was through this experience that I was able to look at Step Two in a new way.

Coming into recovery, I found that when I put down drugs, my behavior from "out there" automatically kicked in. If I didn't know something, I'd just make anything up and eventually believe it to be true. NA offers step-by-step direction on how to "stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live." Even though I wanted it on my own terms, I realized these "directions" might provide a solution for me.

NA teaches us that insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. For me, that meant if I was going to give recovery a shot, I needed to do something different, and that meant learning to follow directions. The directions are clear and simple:

- Attend meetings regularly.
- Work with a sponsor.
- Do some service work.
- Work the steps.

Oddly enough, I always thought of myself as a leader. However, true leaders know when to take and follow direction. If I was going to master recovery and serve as a leader, I was going to need to learn how to follow, to surrender. Much like when I learned to see the Magic Eye®, the instant I surrendered to the process, a new dimension revealed itself. I came to believe in the program and what it had to offer. When I surrendered the insanity of my way and started to follow this new path, life revealed itself in a way I had never experienced before.

Anonymous, Manitoba, Canada

Reprinted with permission from the November 2010 Manitoba Area Newsline



"Mirror," Michelle G, California, USA

Reprinted with permission from

Sonoma County NA Voice of Recovery, March 2011

Electronic NA Way subscribers

can click here for a printable version of Michelle's artwork.

One addict's experience with Step Seven

Steps Six and Seven were huge turning points for me in my recovery process. In Step Six, I identified my character defects (with the anxious help of family and friends!), put names to them, and became entirely ready to have God remove my defects. To replace these defects, in Step Seven, I identified the spiritual opposites of each defect.

My sponsor gave me an awesome assignment: Each day, for 21 days, I identified one defect (I could have identified many, but that wasn't the assignment), how it manifested in my life that day, how it made me feel, what the spiritual opposite was, and how things may have turned out differently if I had acted on the spiritual principle instead of the defect. By doing this, I found that I acted on a couple of my defects often and repeated some quite often, so these probably required the most vigilance. I also discovered defects that were hiding behind secondary emotions. As I moved through the 21 days, defects were revealed that had become so commonplace in my life that I began to get excited by the prospect of change. Just like when I first got clean and discovered there was a way to live free from active addiction, I could gain freedom from the defects that imprisoned my spirit. I no longer had to experience the paralyzing feelings that accompanied some of my shortcomings.

Today I have two sponsees who are currently working on this assignment. Each day when I receive their emails identifying their own defects and spiritual opposites, I am reminded of my experiences with this step, and I am able to share those experiences with them. My gratitude speaks when I care and when I share the NA way!

Anonymous, California, USA

*Reprinted with permission from
NA Cleantimes, Southwest Area*

By email from Damascus

Hi fellows! Today (13 December 2010), by the grace of God, with the help of this fellowship and my own efforts, I completed seven years of recovery. I am grateful to my family, God, friends, and fellowship for their support.

When I look back, I see that my life was full of misery and confusion. I almost died of this disease. I was all messed up! I never thought that I could stop using. Sometimes I don't believe I was once an addict who used everything to get high.

Today, when I look back at the early days of my recovery, I laugh at myself. I did funny things, and of course my character defects often made me insane. My obsession, which is the biggest of all my defects, made me act impulsively. However, I don't regret any of my behavior because I am clean. I am learning from every little thing. In fact, I can say that I am growing. Being clean is a gift.

Recovery has not always been easy for me, but I know one thing for sure: If I stay clean, I will be able handle the worst situations, and I have experienced this several times already. In these seven years, I have experienced losing jobs and someone important in life, dishonesty, staying a night in custody, accidents, financial bankruptcy, ruined friendship, relationships, betrayal, manipulation, and more.

Of course, I have also experienced many good things in life, like a beautiful wife and amazing daughter, family responsibilities, a wonderful job, touring, conventions, best friends, spirituality, honesty, taking care of myself, being helpful, letting go, and getting involved in service.

Things are good, and I am enjoying every moment of life. I am thankful to you guys. For the first time in life, I experienced snowfall. I walked in snow to work. It was incredible! I had only seen it in movies, and on television.

My experience and fellowship support has taught me to stay clean, even when I am in a city where clubbing and drinking are common. My feelings are natural and I do miss my family badly when I travel, especially my daughter. As I struggle to find fellowship while I am here in the world's oldest city, Damascus, I thank you all for reading my email.

Kiran K, Damak, Nepal



Editor's Note: Kiran left Syria for his home in Nepal in early May 2011. There were still no NA meetings he was aware of in Damascus when he left.

The importance of NA service for me

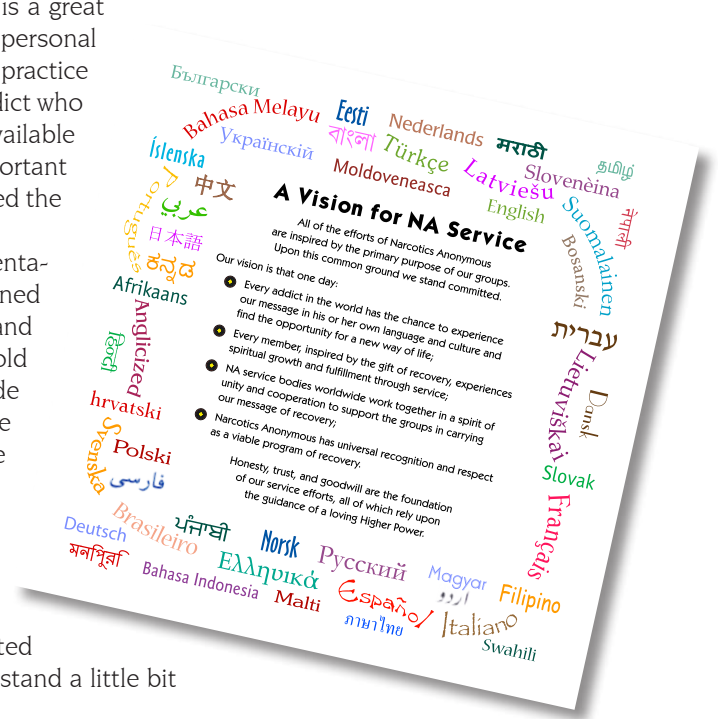
Every week, I hear on television and in the news about what the disease of addiction does to the addict. Many in our society still believe that old lie, "once an addict, always an addict." In NA, we know this is a lie because, thanks to God as we understand him, we do recover!

I sometimes hear members saying that the newcomer is the most important person because they show us "how bad it is out there." Everyone has the right to think as he wants, but our literature teaches us that the newcomer is the most important person for another reason: "We keep what we have only by giving it away." I'm not narrow-minded or blind because I'm a member of NA. I live in society, too, and I know what is going on. I don't need the newcomer to remind me that addiction is frightening. But, in order to keep what I have, to grow as an addict in recovery, and to serve as a productive member of society and a pleasure to my Higher Power, what I really need is to be available and contribute to the fellowship.

NA is not a secret fellowship. Our public information and public relations (PI/PR) services are precious to each of us, and those of us who serve in this way must be aware of the responsibilities of NA public relations. PI/PR is a great way to share information about NA without affecting our personal anonymity. I benefit from this type of service by being able to practice our principles. My efforts help carry the message to the addict who still suffers and help make society aware that recovery is available for people who want to be drug-free. It's also just as important that PR service allows me to keep what I have because I need the newcomer, too, to help me find new spiritual awakenings.

Our PI/PR subcommittee spoke to a government representative about putting up an outdoor sign for a group. We explained what NA was and the politician understood our purpose, and promptly wanted to donate the outdoor sign. We politely told him that we are self-sufficient and could not accept outside contributions. The politician stood there looking at the ground with his mouth open for a few seconds, because he could not believe we didn't want anything like favors or prestige. He immediately authorized the sign, and again asked if we were sure we didn't want anything else. So, we suggested that if he knew anybody with a drug problem, he could tell them that there is a fellowship of people who found a new way of life free from drugs. We also invited him to attend one of our meetings so that he could understand a little bit more about how NA works.

I am just another grateful member, one recovering addict, a human being full of character defects, providing service and hoping that our NA vision will be met.



Marcel C, Brasilia-DF, Brazil

Service basics

Planning makes our services more effective and helps us work toward our common goal of supporting the groups in carrying the message of recovery.

Planning Basics contains an explanation of planning, moves through planning steps, and finishes with a facilitator's outline and service inventory. It offers a practical way to plan for local services, and is designed to assist members in their efforts. It can be applied to area, regional, and zonal planning.

PR Basics offers members a synopsis of the *Public Relations Handbook*. Members can read introductory information about various aspects of public relations, and then use the *PR Handbook* for specific details.

H&I Basics is updated from the original draft, "Basic H&I Guide." It contains practical steps, including the do's and don'ts of H&I service, all found in the *Hospitals & Institutions Handbook*.

All of these resources are available for purchase at
www.na.org/?ID=OrderLiteratureOnline-content

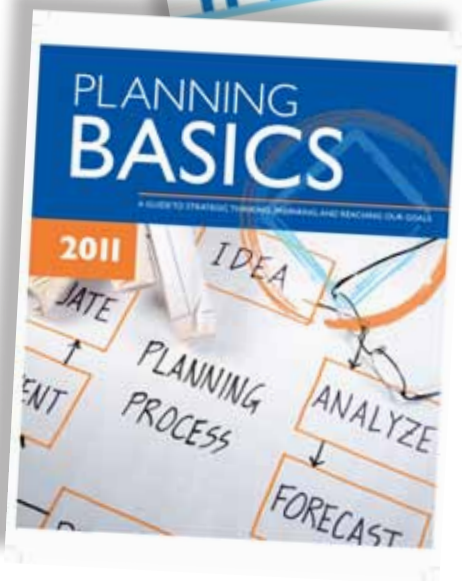
or for review, use, and download at

www.na.org/?ID=PR2

for H&I Basics and PR Basics and

www.na.org/?ID=handbooks-handbook-index

for *Planning Basics*.



"Behind Your Back Service," Ben C, Maryland, USA

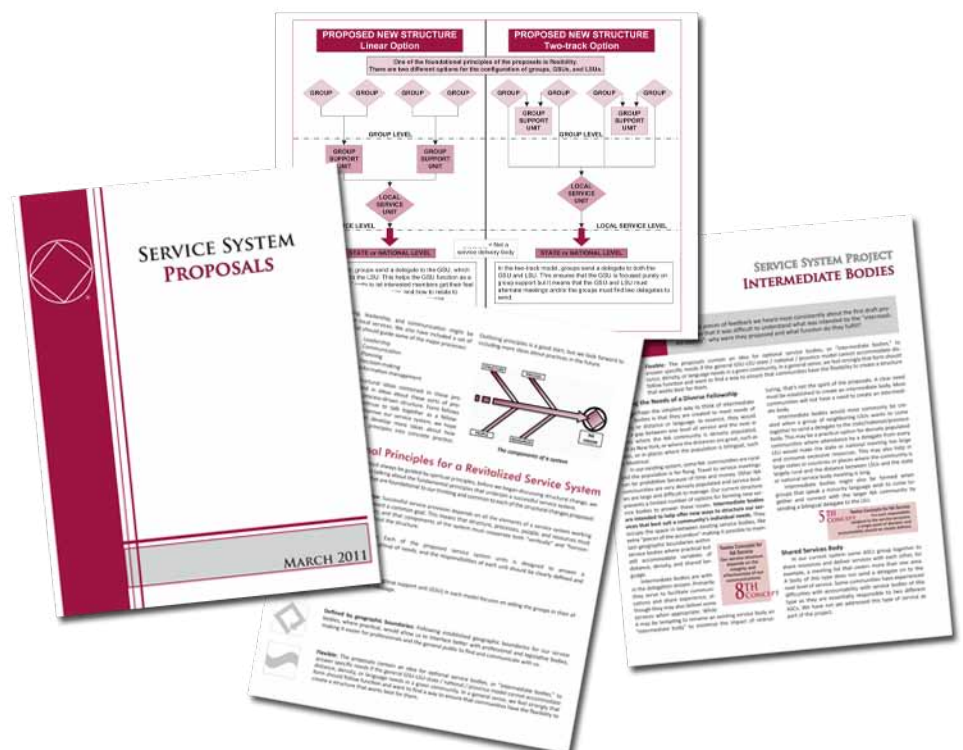


SERVICE SYSTEM PROJECT UPDATE

There is not much new to report on the Service System Project since the last *NA Way Magazine*. We released revised proposals in March. That draft and all other materials related to the project—including session profiles and PowerPoint presentations for the current proposal draft—can be found at www.na.org/servicesystem. That page will be updated with the latest information, including any ideas that come out of the June joint meeting of the World Board and Service System Workgroup.

Please continue to spread the word about the project. The 2012 *Conference Agenda Report* will include a set of “agreements in principle” related to the proposals to be voted on at the World Service Conference in April 2012. If those agreements pass, the board will present a project plan for some form of transition workgroup for the 2012-2014 cycle.

For additional and updated information, please visit:
www.na.org/servicesystem



LIVE!
FROM SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

4 SEPTEMBER 2011

Narcotics Anonymous

World Unity Day

**NA members
around the world
will come together to share
our recovery, diversity, and unity
during the closing
Sunday morning meeting
of WCNA 34.**

**Individual members, groups,
area/regional functions, and
institutions can join in celebration
of World Unity Day.**

Join us...

In the Spirit of Unity

**Within the US and Canada, the two-hour live telephone hookup cost is \$50.
One free hookup will be provided for each region outside of the US and Canada.
Specific event time will be announced in the near future.
To plan and register your event, download the registration form, or to get more details:**

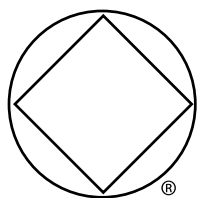
www.na.org/wcna34/unityday

or

818.773.9999 x149

Unity Day telephone hookup registrations must be received by 1 August 2011.

The FIPT?



Can my NA group make t-shirts with the NA logo on them?

I lost my job in this economy, and would like to help support my family by selling hand-carved NA keytag racks and plaques to my area's groups and NA members. Is that okay?

We are writing to seek permission to reprint a portion of Chapter One of your book, *Narcotics Anonymous*, in an article we are writing about...

Is it okay to include an NA logo in a cross-stitch tapestry I'm making for a friend?

We're happy that many of our readers have responded to our request for submissions to help us "picture you." As material was submitted, we realized that some NA members might not be aware of something called the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* (the *FIPT*). We figured this was a good opportunity to inform or remind members of the *FIPT*.

Since 1993, NA World Services has been charged by the NA Fellowship with sole responsibility for publishing Fellowship-approved literature and protecting NA copyrights and trademarks. The rights and responsibilities of this agreement are outlined by the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*.

NA literature and logos belong to the NA Fellowship, and through the *FIPT*, the fellowship has made it a duty of NAWS to protect these trademarks and copyrights from misuse and abuse (intended or unintended). The goal of the *FIPT* is to protect the fellowship's property and ensure that useful resources and services are available to the fellowship. We are notified regularly by members, groups, and service bodies about fellowship copyright infringements. In some cases, members (and nonmembers) violate NA copyrights simply because they don't know about the law. In other cases, people may be unhappy with the decisions of the fellowship as a whole or may want to profit from misuse of NA property. When such issues are brought to our attention, we strive to resolve the matter as peaceably as we can. Every NA member can help us in that effort by *not* supporting any activities that misuse NA property.

Protecting the fellowship's trademarks is often challenging because misuse is difficult for our members to identify—and because NA members love NA memorabilia! We have tried to learn from some of AA's experiences (such as the fact that they no longer own their triangle/circle logo) by ensuring that the NA name and logos—as well as our literature—continue to belong to, and are controlled by, the NA Fellowship. Any NA group or registered area or region has broad parameters for use of our fellowship's trademarks. NA's trademarks include the name Narcotics Anonymous; the group, stylized NA, public relations, and world globe logos; and the service symbol. Placing the letter "R" in a circle or "TM" to the right of NA trademarks shows that NA legally owns them, which is one way we help preserve our fellowship's legal right to ownership of our trademarks (but doesn't preclude the above-mentioned use limitations).

NAWS also grants licenses to vendors to use our logos. By licensing a vendor to produce NA jewelry, for example, we retain control and ownership of the fellowship's trademarks even though we do not directly produce the jewelry. Again, every member can help by ensuring that merchandise purchased is produced by a registered service committee or a licensed vendor.

NA World Services uses Internet technology to make NA literature more available, while endeavoring to prevent copyright infringement of electronic versions of our literature. Under the *FIPT*, groups and service committees do not have the authority to publish NA literature online. However, with so much literature now available on the NA website, we encourage local service committees with websites either to post links to those resources or to embed the files directly in their pages. We currently have informational pamphlets available online in 40 languages and two book-length pieces of recovery literature in English—the Sixth Edition Basic Text and *It Works: How and Why*—and the Basic Text in several other languages as well. NAWS also offers the popular and free daily email service of *Just for Today* meditations.

ALL of this information is available through NA World Services or online at www.na.org. The *FIPT* bulletins (which summarize sections of the Trust in simpler terms) and the full *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* are available here: www.na.org/?ID=legal-bulletins-fipt.

To subscribe to the *Just for Today* daily email service, please email your request to jft@na.org or go to www.jftna.org/jft-subscription.htm.

Picture this

NA communities are invited to send photographs of their meeting places. 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, your format, and what makes it *your* home group.

Friday night in Manchester

I recently took a photo of our meeting venue on Friday night in Manchester, England, United Kingdom. We regularly have 30 people attend, and we all go out for food after this meeting. This is partly due to the fact that the Manchester NA community is now quite large, so we have someone's cleantime celebration every week, but we also have a great culture of fellowship outside of the meetings and spend lots of time doing other NA activities.

The group does not have a specific name; there are not many groups in Manchester that have names. This group has been meeting for longer than I have been clean, which is more than ten years. My sponsor, who is 25 years clean, reliably informs me that the meeting has been around for 25 years. The longest-running meeting in our area, the Monday night group, is 27 years old. That group changed venues two years ago after maintaining the same venue for 25 years.

At the moment, our Friday night group has a full service committee, which consists of chairperson, literature person, tea person, treasurer, and group service representative. This group is part of the current (may change in the next year) North West England and North Wales Area Service Committee, which meets on the first Saturday of the month. This makes it quite easy to have a business meeting/conscience before or after the meeting preceding the ASC meeting.

Since I started attending meetings in the Manchester area in 2001, I have seen a good bunch of service-hungry members go out and do lots of service such as H&I and PI, and generally stick together. During this time I think our local NA community increased in size because a treatment center fed the fellowship with new members. But I think one of the biggest contributing factors to our unity and success as an NA community that people visiting from other areas always comment on, is the amount

of social activities we have together outside of the meetings (i.e., lots and lots of meals together, days out, and fellowship fun days). This helps people feel a part of rather than apart from.

The group pays a donation of £5.00 (≈\$8.00) per meeting for space rental. We always have lots of literature and we give books to anyone who is celebrating a cleantime birthday of 30 days or more.

*Stephen M, Manchester,
England, United Kingdom*



.....
Electronic subscribers
can click here for an
additional photo spread.
.....



Living Clean: The Journey Continues

Approval draft available

The approval draft of the book, *“Living Clean: The Journey Continues,”* is now available. The book has been in development since the adoption of the project plan at the 2008 World Service Conference. We gathered fellowship input between June 2009 and December 2010; so, rather than seeking additional input, this approval period offers our fellowship the opportunity to read and consider the proposed text as it stands.

The vote regarding fellowship approval of “Living Clean” will take place at the 2012 WSC in April. The project plan calls for the text to be released for a one-year period in “approval form.” The book will be included as an addendum in the *Conference Agenda Report* and will be a part of old business at the 2012 WSC.

Expressing our gratitude

The participation of so many members from across the NA Fellowship really shaped the book, and taught us the power of the prayer, “... grant us a bond of selflessness, that this may truly be Your work, not ours...” (Basic Text, Introduction) We want to extend our deepest appreciation to all who contributed to the development of “Living Clean.” NA members guided the writing and revision of this book, from member contributions of source material in the beginning of the project to later stages of review and input on every chapter. “Living Clean: The Journey Continues” could not have been written without our members’ participation; for your time and effort, we are deeply grateful.

How to obtain the draft

Hard copy: The approval draft may be purchased for \$8.50 (including shipping and applicable taxes), and may be ordered online by searching the online literature sales area on our website. Click on “Purchase Online Literature” from the homepage at www.na.org and use “Living Clean” as the search term. The draft will only be available as a stand-alone item until the *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)* is published in November 2011. After that, the draft will be part of the CAR and will no longer be available to purchase separately.

It's never too late to start over, reconnect with the fellowship, work steps, have a spiritual awakening, and find a new way to live. As long as we are willing to stay clean and keep coming back, our recovery continues to unfold in ways we couldn't imagine. We are living clean, and every day the journey continues.

“Living Clean: The Journey Continues”

Online:

Please visit the project page to access the approval draft online and for additional and updated information:

www.na.org/?ID=Living_Clean_Project

Send us your...

embroidery

WOODWORK

origami mosaic

photography

tattoo art

SCULPTURE

quilting

painting

illustration

short video

calligraphy jewelry

GRAPHIC DESIGN

knitting ceramics

...visual art!

Just as we get to know NA groups around the world in our "Picture this" section, we want to "picture you" through your visual arts.

All over the world, NA members express themselves artistically, and we want to share your talent in *The NA Way Magazine*.

Principles first: no anonymity-breaking images and please avoid political, religious, or other "outside issue" topics. Please submit material as high resolution photograph or in PSD, JPG, or EPS format.

Email submissions to
naway@na.org

NA Way webpage and online archives

To improve your NA Way experience, we've been tidying up the NA Way webpage at www.naway.org. We streamlined the content on the main page, which should make the website more user-friendly. We added a direct link to the subscription option and combined "Past Issues" with "Archive Issues" so that all previous issues are available in one place.

Looking for a particular article, author, or topic?

We replaced past and archive issues with pdf scans of the actual magazine. (We previously had a mix of pdf and html files.) Just click on "NA Way Archives" to access issues in each translated language for the past 14 years. Using the document reader software, you can search or find whatever you're looking for just by entering a keyword or words.

Want to share, print, or reprint an article?

NA groups and service bodies may reprint NA Way articles in their newsletters or other materials that support their service. To ensure that readers know where the material came from, we ask that you reprint the articles exactly as they appear in *The NA Way*, and please include a statement citing the original source, such as "Reprinted with permission from NA Way Magazine, January 2011."

We're pleased that more readers are choosing electronic subscriptions to *The NA Way Magazine*, and it is perfectly okay for individuals and groups to print all or part of the magazine on their home printers to read on their own, share with other members, use in service work, or distribute at their groups. Be sure to check out the options available to you through your web browser or document reading software, which also allow you to email or otherwise share *The NA Way Magazine*.

www.naway.org

The screenshot shows the NA Way website homepage. At the top, there is a logo for Narcotics Anonymous World Services and a banner image of a group of people. Below the banner, there is a navigation menu on the left with links such as Home, Information about NA, NA Literature, Facts About NA, Is NA for Me?, Find a Meeting, Order Literature Online, Public Relations, Resources for Professionals, Periodicals and Reports, The NA Way Magazine, Contact NA World Services, and Search the Web Site. The main content area features the NA Way logo and the text "THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MAGAZINE". Below this, there is a section for "NA Way Current Issue" with links for "The NA Way Home Page", "Submission Guidelines", "NA Way Archives", and "Subscribe to The NA Way". A table lists language options for April 2011: English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Farsi. At the bottom, there is a disclaimer stating that the online version of the magazine is only available in PDF format as of March 2010, and that the PDF files are large, so users are recommended to download them to their local hard drive and then open the file. The disclaimer also mentions that NA World Service does not endorse or support Adobe or have any affiliation with them, and that users should read their policies concerning the downloading of their software before using their products.



CALENDAR

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

Australia

Victoria 5-7 Aug; Victoria Area Convention; Gasworks, Melbourne; event info: 61416879417; www.navic.net.au/news/

Bermuda

Southampton 16-18 Sep; Bermuda Islands Area Convention 7; Fairmont Southampton Princess, Southampton; hotel rsvns: 441.238.8000; www.nabermudaconvention.info

Brazil

Pará 10-13 Nov; Belém Area Sozinho Nunca Mais Convention 4; Parque dos Igarapes Eco Resort, Belém; www.ivccsabelem.com.br

Canada

British Columbia 23-25 Sep; British Columbia Regional Convention 28; Roundhouse Community Centre, Vancouver; www.convention.bcma.ca

Nova Scotia 11-17 Jul; Annapolis Valley Area Pig Roast/Camp Out 22; Blomidon Provincial Park, Blomidon; event info: 902.692.1031

Saskatchewan 29-31 Jul; South Saskatchewan Area Unity Weekend 7; Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp, Elbow; www.ssascinc.sasktelwebsite.net

Germany

Hesse 22-24 Jul; Frankfurt International Convención; Saalbau Titus Forum, Frankfurt am Main; www.na-mitte.de

Greece

Peloponnese 9-11 Sep; Nafplio Group's "We're Here Eight Years Later"; Xení Camping & Bungalows, Peloponnese; www.na-greece.gr

Mexico

Baja California 5-7 Aug; Area Puerto Convention 4; Hotel San Nicolas, Ensenada, BC; event info: elprimernicifore@hotmail.com

New Zealand

Napier 12-14 Aug; Hawkes Bay Fellowship Back-2-Basics Campout; Omatua Camp Rissington, Napier; www.nzna.org/documents/b2b.pdf

Norway

Sandefjord 26-28 Aug; East Area Convention 2; Breidablikk Ungdomskole, Sandefjord; www.nanorge.org/tingskjer.asp

Puerto Rico

Carolina 29-31 Jul; Región del Coquí Convención 22; Hotel Verdanza, Isla Verde; www.prna.org

United States

California 15-17 Jul; Napa/Solano Area Woman's Spiritual Retreat; Golden Pines RV Resort & Campground, Arnold; event info: NSWSR@yahoo.com

2) 1-4 Sep; World Convention of NA 34; San Diego Convention Center, San Diego; www.na.org/wcna

3) 23-25 Sep; Area de Habla Hispana Sur de California Convención 6; Culver City DoubleTree, Culver City; www.todayna.org/espanol.html

Colorado 12-14 Aug; Serenity Unlimited Area Campout; Wilson Mesa, Telluride; www.nacolorado.org

Florida 12-14 Aug; Big Bend Area Convention 14; North Monroe Conference Center, Tallahassee; www.bigbendna.org

2) 19-21 Aug; South Florida Regional Convention 17; Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa, Weston; www.sfrca.org

3) 30 Sep-2 Oct; Tampa Funcoast Area Convention 27; Embassy Suites at USF campus, Tampa; www.tampa-na.org

Illinois 26-28 Aug; Living the Dream Area Convention 8; Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conference Center, Springfield; Living the Dream Area; Box 1025; Springfield, IL 62705

Maryland 16-18 Sep; Tri-County Area A River of Hope 5; Lions Camp Merrick, Nanjemoy; event info: 301.751.1388; speaker tape deadline: 31 Jul; Tri-County Area; Box 613; Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Massachusetts 19-21 Aug; Cape Cod Area Fun in the Sun; YMCA Camp Lyndon, Sandwich; www.berkshirena.org

Mississippi 15-17 Jul; Mississippi Delta Area Convention 7; Holiday Inn, Batesville; www.mrsrna.net

Nebraska 30 Sep-2 Oct; Nebraska Regional Convention 28; New World Inn & Conference Center, Columbus; www.nebraskana.org

Nevada 15-17 Jul; California/Arizona/Nevada Area Convention 19; Riverside Hotel & Casino, Laughlin; www.canana.org

New Jersey 19-21 Aug; First Suburban Essex Area Convention; Marriott Hanover, Whippany; event info: 201.889.6039

New York 2-5 Sep; Buffalo Area Recovery in the Woods 23; Camp Pioneer & Retreat Center, Angola; www.nawny.org

North Carolina 5-7 Aug; New Hope Area Convention 18; Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Center, Durham; www.nhacna.org

Ohio 5-7 Aug; Greater Cincinnati Area Abnormal Weenie Jam 31; Kincaid Lake State Park, Falmouth; www.naohio.org

Pennsylvania 23-25 Sep; Springfield Area Convention; Holiday Inn, Springfield; hotel rsvns: 937.323.8631; http://www.naohio.org/function%20fliers/SASCNA_Convention_2011.pdf

2) 29-31 Jul; First Diamonds in the Rough Women's Convention; Radisson Hotel Greentree, Pittsburgh; event info: 412.867.0394

3) 19-21 Aug; Little Apple Area Convention 30; Holiday Inn Conference Center, Allentown; event info: 484.201.0961

4) 26-28 Aug; Laurel Mountain Highlands Area Unity Retreat 15; Camp Harmony, Hooversville; www.lmhana.com/Pages/journeycontinues.htm

South Carolina 12-14 Aug; Central Carolina Area Convention 16; Courtyard by Marriott, Columbia; www.midcarolinana.org

South Dakota 16-18 Sep; South Dakota Regional Convention 14; Ramkota Hotel Best Western, Rapid City; www.sdma.com

Tennessee 26-28 Aug; Middle Tennessee Area Unity Convention 10; Millennium Maxwell House Hotel, Nashville; www.nanashville.org/unity

Texas 23-25 Sep; Hourglass Group Serenity in the Sand; Travelodge SPI, South Padre Island; www.rgvareaofna.org

Utah 15-17 Jul; Utah Regional Campvention 28; Whiting Campground, Mapleton; www.cuana.org/FLYER/campvention.pdf

Vermont 18-21 Aug; Green Mountain Area Back to Basics Campout 27; Wallingford Boys Camp, Wallingford; www.gmana.org

Virginia 15-17 Jul; Blue Ridge Area Campout 30; Natural Chimneys Campground, Mount Solon; branacampout.org

2) 5-7 Aug; Almost Heaven Area Convention 25; 4H Educational Center, Front Royal; www.na2day.tripod.com/index.htm

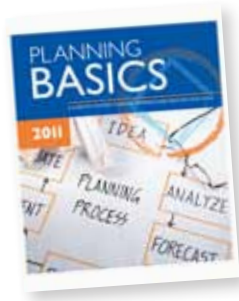
Washington 5-7 Aug; Tri-Cities Area Summer Sizzlers 23; Red Lion Hotel Richland Hanford House, Richland; www.3citiesna.org

Wisconsin 30 Sep-2 Oct; Wisconsin State Convention 28; Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton; www.wsnac.info

NAWS PRODUCT UPDATE

“Living Clean: The Journey Continues”

Approval Draft
Item No. 9146 Price US \$8.95



Planning Basics
Contains an explanation of planning, planning steps, a facilitator’s outline and service inventory.
Item No. 2116 Price US \$1.85



Heat-Sensitive Mug

Item No. 9416
Price US \$15.75



Wallet Readings Card

Updated to include “Just for Today” and “We Do Recover,” which are published in our regular Group Reading Cards set.
Item No. 9127 Price US \$2.40



Danish *Just for Today* *Bare for i dag*

Item No. DK-1112 Price US \$8.10

In Times of Illness *I perioder med sygdom*

Item No. DK-1603 Price US \$2.90



IP No. 10 *Fjerde Trins-arbejde* *i Narcotics Anonymous*

Item No. DK-3110 Price US \$0.70

Italian

Disruptive and Violent Behavior *Comportamenti violenti e destabilizzanti*

Item No. IT-2204 Price US \$0.22



Japanese

It Works: How and Why *なぜ どのように: 果があるのか*

Item No. JP-1140 Price US \$8.10

Latvian

IP No. 12

Apsēstības trīsstūris

Item No. LV-3112 Price US \$0.22

IP No. 19

Sevis pieņemšana

Item No. LV-3119 Price US \$0.22

IP No. 22

Laipni lūgts *Anonīmo Narkomānu* *sadraudzībā*

Item No. LV-3122 Price US \$0.22



Norwegian

The Group Booklet *NA-gruppen*

Item No. NR-1600 Price US \$0.85





Coming soon

For release dates, please check our online Product Catalog:

www.na.org/?ID=catalog-products

Tri-Plate Medallions

To celebrate recovery milestones, four new striking color combinations will be available in September: gold/pearl, violet/pearl, translucent green/pearl, and orange/black.

Price US \$21.30



New and Improved Acrylic Medallion Holders

New design includes pin-closure and 3 interchangeable, 2-sided artwork backgrounds, (inspired by WCNA 32 & 34, and recovery language like serenity, love, courage, etc.).

Displays front and back of medallion.

Item No. 6099 Price US ~~\$25.00~~ **Price Cut!** \$18.00



Hebrew

The NA Step Working Guides

המדריך לעבודת הצעדים
במכורים אנונימיים

Item No. HE-1400 Price US \$7.70



Italian

Just for Today

Solo per oggi

Item No. IT-1112 Price US \$8.10



Got Art?

Do you know about [Reaching Out](#)? This quarterly newsletter is a valuable resource that provides hope and inspiration to NA members behind the walls. We offer free subscriptions to incarcerated addicts and 20-copy bulk subscriptions for \$32.60 per year to service committees.

Recently, we were pleased to introduce a new art section, featuring beautiful logos and artwork created by H&I committees, members, and ASCs. We believe NA artwork carries a powerful, creative message of recovery. If you would like to see your artwork in *Reaching Out*, send it!

Please support the efforts of *Reaching Out* through subscribing and contributing. In addition to logos and artwork, we are always looking for written submissions from members who:

- Found recovery in NA while incarcerated
- Participate in area or regional H&I service
- Provide sponsorship behind the walls

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Email: handi@na.org

Mail: Reaching Out; NA World Services; PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA

