



- [World Unity Day flyer](#)
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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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From the editor

At my home group, a member shared that as he enters a meeting, he reminds himself that he's entering sacred space. This reminded me of the 2018 World Service Conference theme: *Upon this common ground, we stand committed*. This line is from [A Vision for NA Service](#) and is preceded by this sentence: *All of the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous are inspired by the primary purpose of our groups*—a reminder that carrying the NA message is our primary purpose and the common ground we share is a spiritual place. This was a WSC characterized by many history-making firsts—perhaps in part because the theme was a guide for the spiritual nature of the business being conducted on behalf of the NA Fellowship. We've summarized some of that work in this issue, but please read *NAWS News* (www.na.org/newsnews) and visit www.na.org/conference for more detailed information.

Our Sharing section is bursting at the seams, including memories of some members who attended WCNA 19 in Orlando who will be returning for [WCNA 37](#) this year; plus, a member shares his experience helping to plan and put on WCNA 22 in Toronto. We also have an extended Picture this section, celebrating worldwide home groups and events. Many of you will be reading this at WCNA 37 and, hopefully, many of you are reading this online so you can enjoy the extra features included with the electronic NA Way. If you're not, please visit www.naway.org.

It's time for an [NA Way reader survey](#) (p 17). We are dedicated to providing recovery and service information and recovery-related entertainment that speaks to current issues and events relevant to NA members worldwide. Please take the time to complete this survey. You can complete, print, and fax, mail, or email the survey in this issue or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NAWay> to complete the survey online.

[De J. Editor](#)

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Electronic subscribers can click [here](#) for additional content.

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.

Recovering in Thailand

My name is Nat, an addict from Chiang Mai, Thailand. I haven't always been here, though; my using days were in Los Angeles, California. I used on and off for 13 years. I would stop, just cold-turkey stop. My abstinence didn't last long, a couple of years at most. Being egotistical, I thought I was finally okay, and then life got mundane really fast. Boredom kicked in, and the vicious cycle of using turned again and again.

Until one day I had had enough. I hated EVERYTHING, even drugs, but mostly I hated myself. Drugs weren't working anymore, and I didn't have the guts to end my life, so I decided, "Fine! I'll live."

Despite NA getting started in the Los Angeles area, I didn't know anything about NA then. I just existed without using, I was hateful, and I became numb. That path was lonely and I was being destroyed from the inside. My physical health was fine; I didn't use anymore, but my mind and spirit were in pure agony, which, of course, I buried and ignored. I wanted to run far away, so I moved to Thailand—and it was here that I found NA.

I walked in the NA room a skeptic, but I kept going back. I kept going back because each time I felt a little better than when I walked in. I felt a little less lonely. Days turned into weeks and weeks into months, until I realized someone really understood me and I knew that I did belong in NA. The path to recovery isn't easy. We don't change our thinking overnight. My head is still tricky, but I don't have to walk this path alone anymore.

I live where NA isn't widely known to local Thais. Even if there are meetings, the stigma of being an addict is so severe that it makes it hard for us to seek help, especially for women. There are hardly any Thai women in the rooms of NA. I know in my heart there are more of us who are still hurting out there. *Where are you, sisters?*

My experience at the first [Asia Pacific Forum](#) Convention of NA in [Kathmandu \(Nepal\)](#) was amazing. The convention gave us women special recognition and the Asia Pacific Forum welcomed us with open arms and friendliness. This is a program for everyone, regardless of gender identity. It filled me with hope that one day the Thailand NA community will be full of native Thais, and that women will feel safe to come together as we are.

In my using days I lived in a city where there are hundreds of meetings a week, yet I had never stepped foot into one. Now, here I am, where local meetings in Thai are scarce and resources in Thai are limited. I have to believe that it is a grand design of something greater than me that I am here with bilingual ability and the willingness to serve. We can only keep what we have by giving it away, truly.

Nat A, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Reprinted from *Asia Pacific Forum News*, #44, May 2017



Basic caption contest

Here's your chance to participate in *The NA Way Magazine* in a whole new way. Write a caption for this image, send it to us, and you'll be magically entered in our caption contest. We'll choose the best (and maybe a few others) for publication in an upcoming issue. Your prize will be the satisfaction of seeing your name in *The NA Way*!

Email your entry with "Basic Caption Contest" in the subject line, and be sure to include your name and where you're from in the body of the email: naway@na.org.



Photo: Conor H, Dublin, Ireland

What message did this member find in his fortune cookie?

The NA Way @ WCNA 37: Share the magic of YOUR recovery

- Create "magic moments" to share with the Fellowship
- Clear your mind and create beautiful NA coloring pages
- Complete *The NA Way* Reader Survey
- Get your e-subscription set up
- Gather stories and reports as an NA Way Roving Reporter
- Volunteer to help in the NA Way area at WCNA 37

Interested? naway@na.org

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Trans addict

I am a transgender addict with 34 years clean. I go to four or five meetings a week and I am involved in service. I live in a geographically remote location. We have an NA meeting about ten miles from me that meets twice a week. I have to travel about 45 miles to the next-nearest NA meeting. When I cannot do that, I attend meetings of other fellowships, but my heart is in NA, and that is the only place I do Twelve Step service. I wish I could attend four or five NA meetings a week, but here in the mountains there just is not enough support. Our local NA meeting fluctuates between three and eight attendees, and there have been many nights when it was just me.

I attend our area service committee meeting regularly, even when I do not have a service position there. My first sponsor was our literature chair, and I took over from him when I had about 18 months or so. Back then, I could carry the area's literature in one suitcase. Over the years, I have served as literature chair in several areas in several states. Literature is my favorite service. I like the thought that when I say I carry the message, I mean that literally. Our area has about 30 or 40 groups, and we distribute about \$2,500 worth of literature every month. Our current inventory fills about eight storage bins. I am not the chair now, but I do show up to help fill literature orders whenever I can.

I mentioned earlier that I am transgender. The reason I mention this is because NA has been very important to my coming out and my transition. I have attended quite a few gender-support groups, but I never find there what I find in NA—solutions. The transgender community suffers greatly from addiction, depression, and so on. I have read studies that show transgender adults are 14 times more likely to think about suicide and 22 times more likely to attempt suicide than the general public. In the gender-support groups I have attended, there is much talk of problems but little talk of solutions other than surgery. In my opinion, that is not the solution to the "real" problem. For me, I think the "real" problem has been my lack of acceptance of myself and my fear of everything about coming out.

So, I lived in secret, including during 29 years in recovery. After deciding to come out, I have seen how living the principles of NA has allowed me to grow and be happy as the woman I am. Principles like honesty, acceptance, integrity, willingness, faith, and perseverance have transformed me into the person I am today. The love and acceptance of everyone in the rooms has helped me immeasurably. I still plan to have surgery in the not-too-distant future; however, it is only to make a physical change, not to fix me spiritually. NA has been doing that for me for 34 years and will continue to do so, one day at a time, until I get my infinity coin (which I am in no hurry to collect).

Stephanie P, Colorado, USA



At last

My name is Shahryar and I am an addict. I always liked doing things to be seen and to have attention. I liked to be cool; my friends were always older than me, and their habits were always against the law. But there was a strange feeling inside me that made me unhappy about what I had. It seemed like everything in my life was trying to make me an addict! I began to use drugs for pleasure at first, but after some years I became a dangerous addict who sought drugs in any condition. I was a professional thief and a perfect parasite who stole his friends' and loved ones' property. I went to prison for using and possessing drugs several times. I decided to give up using, but I couldn't. I decided to marry, thinking perhaps this would help me, but that was the wrong dream, too. Eventually, everybody left me—my parents, my friends, and my lovely wife. I was deeply alone.

At last I received the message of NA from one of my dear friends. I didn't believe that an addict could get clean and recover because I had tried every way to quit, and I was disappointed every time. I went to an NA meeting. I don't understand what happened, but that was one of the most beautiful nights I had ever seen. In my past life, my loved ones wished for my death. At that meet-

ing a miracle happened, and for an addict like me whose will was just one night without using, the dreams were changing into reality. That night someone hugged me—someone who didn't know me! A kind member squeezed my hand, sharing pure love with me. I went to meetings regularly, as other members told me to. I chose a sponsor and did my Steps. I could change my behavior by working the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous.

Nothing is as precious as an addict in recovery helping another addict, and in this case I began to help others, too. I decided to make amends with my sponsor's help. It was an amazing and happy day when I made amends for the hurt I had caused my sister, and I'll remember that day for the rest of my life. My family forgave me, and after four and a half years, my wife came back to our home. After one year of living with her again, on my six-years-clean birthday, my son was born, and he is the best gift that God has granted to me. Soon, my son will be six years old and I will be twelve years clean.

I appreciate NA. I owe my life to Narcotics Anonymous, and the best time of my life is when I share my recovery with another addict. To be a servant for another addict is like a warranty for life.

Shahryar N, Tehran, Iran

Success story

This addiction and recovery thing started when I was young. I was addicted to anything that made me feel good and things that gave me a natural high. I was involved in sports and athletics. The feeling of being accepted by my friends was an integral part of my life—and I was addicted to that. I was searching for the best and most challenging feat that I could possibly accomplish. I was motivated and really committed to things that I worked at, such as school and teams. I was a successful student and worked hard and partied more intensely. The composition of the drug didn't matter. Running was a natural high, and then the chemicals that running released caused me to seek out a higher feeling and state of physicality. I became a part of many

different groups in school and became part of the drug culture. I abused the chemicals that were available to me, and running was put on the side. Gradually, the drugs I used took control of my life.

I went away to college and then flunked out because of mental collapse. I was mentally unstable, and my supporters in life came and brought me back from school. I was slowly degenerating, and then something powerful happened. I was introduced to recovery and NA. Mentally, I became stable through recovery systems. I am a success story today in that I am currently working at a job where I have been for almost a year. I was unable to keep a job for even a month when I was mentally unstable. Clean days pile upon clean hours and clean minutes. I am in recovery for the long haul and a success to my peers, family, and the community.

Today I have addiction days and I have recovery days. Addiction days are when the disease is rearing its head and I act out on a defect, resentment, or anything else that is a direct result of me having the disease of addiction. I take part in art shows and exercise regularly. My life is full and powerful. My goal is to reach out to a newcomer and be there to give support. I have dreams as well that I am realizing because of NA. NA is the power that I didn't even see as being a savior or a reality. Running and exercise and art and photography were my addiction, and drugs were the hiccup along the way that brought me to where I am. Just for today, I live without drugs, and I want to thank NA for everything in my life and what's to come. Today I choose recovery.

Craig M, Michigan, USA

Service strengthens

My story is one that only dreams are made of. When I first came into recovery, I didn't grasp the concept of *others*—it was all about me, myself, and I. Likewise, I didn't comprehend what service was. That was something someone else did, right?! I thought that I was not yet ready for service; I was too early in recovery.



Rich W, South Carolina, USA

The truth is that service makes me more ready for many things and more able to do whatever it is I need to do.

So, first I did tea and coffee at meetings, and then I was involved in starting a new meeting. After that I joined the phonline subcommittee, and then I became GSR of that group. At the time that I'm writing this, I am serving as the chairperson of our phonline subcommittee.

I never thought I would be able to stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and discover a new way of life. What I knew for sure was that I'd be doing the same thing until the day I died: using drugs. I cannot believe this is me—anxious, shy, awkward me, who hates being the center of attention and is no leader. But today, I know and comprehend that being of service is not about me, it's about others; so, I can be anything I need to be in that role. The blessings I have today are indescribable.

Lindie P, Cape Town, South Africa

A continuous process

Living life on life's terms and in a Fellowship called Narcotics Anonymous saved my life. This program has changed my insecurities, complexes, fears, lack of trust, irresponsibility, manipulation, and especially my isolation. I am no longer incapable of holding onto a job, and I no longer believe that I will die using. Today I am a productive, trustworthy member of society, and I have improved every aspect of my life.

I have learned through my defects of character that I am not worse or better than anyone else; I am only who I am. Criticizing, deceiving, and confronting have manifested themselves throughout my life. Denial and ego can lead me to resist change, which hampers my recovery process. My disease tries to tell me that I am not like that, that this doesn't happen to me, and that I will never do what some other members do. Addiction tries to keep me far away from the one thing that can save my life.

I continue healing, especially by serving our Fellowship so that any suffering addict seeking recovery is aware of NA. My disease has been unmasked through a wide sphere of experiences over many years, such as the passing of two of my children, ending of relationships, divorces, bankruptcy, and geographical changes. But I have also learned and grown through trustworthy relationships in recovery with fellow members who have been vital in my recovery.

So, recovery is a continuous process of discovering enough information and

maturity to achieve change and to heal. Working the Steps, sponsorship, seeking help from well-informed professionals, and being of service in NA and in my community are a part of this process for me. I find solutions through one addict helping another: talking to sponsees and my sponsor, newcomers, and those with long-term recovery. Thanks to these experiences and our program, today I am responsible for my actions, I live in peace, and I am free.

Jose R, Corozal, Puerto Rico



**BECAUSE SOMETIMES,
WHEN U NEED TO CHECK UR
PERSPECTIVE, U DON'T HAVE
A NOTEBOOK HANDY.**

**AND SOMETIMES THE THINGS
U'RE GRATEFUL FOR AREN'T
THINGS AT ALL.**

Sabrina E, West Virginia, USA

Imagine the freedom

**WCNA 22: 3–6 September 1992
Toronto, Canada**

Editor's note: In 1992, unlike today, NA World Convention sites were determined through a bidding process and the local host committee was accountable to the World Convention Board of Directors.

In the fall of 1989 a group of five members from Toronto met to discuss the possibility of forming a bid committee to submit a proposal to host the World Convention. A couple of us had been to the World Convention in New Orleans, which thousands attended, and we were overwhelmed with fear over such a huge undertaking. We agreed to meet again and review the guidelines for submitting a bid.

At the time, there were about 20 meetings in the [Toronto Area](#), including Hamilton and Barrie. Our area service committee and the Ontario Region were four years old. Toronto had successfully hosted 200 members at the first regional convention at the University of Toronto.

During our meeting to review the bid guidelines it was clear we were in way over heads—and, as was often the case in those early years, this was not something we were even close to being capable of doing. No one had near the cleantime requirements, we didn't have enough convention experience in the area or region, our area was too small, and there was no way the Toronto Area or [Ontario Region](#) would support the idea. Combining spiritual doses of blind faith and courage, we made the unanimous decision to go for it anyway!

We received support to form a bid committee from both the area and region. There were meetings with the City of Toronto. Our bid included the costs to use the recently built Toronto Convention Centre, rooms in multiple hotels downtown, transportation between venues, and a number of events in different locations. Within a few months, the bid for WCNA 22 in 1992 was complete, just a couple weeks short of the deadline. We held a dinner for our last meeting and packaged the bid for mail delivery to the World Service Office (WSO). Our bid committee was dissolved and it was now in God's hands.

Weeks later, I received a call from the WSO to acknowledge our bid. Two WSO employees came to Toronto to meet with the bid committee and review every aspect of our proposal. We spent three days together. It was all becoming very real as they shared their experience and vision. There were also bids from Montreal and Vancouver. In 1990, the World Convention Board of Directors decided Toronto would host WCNA 22! Hurray!

Whoa! Yikes! We formed a convention committee in Toronto, and began the two-year planning process. It started with project-



ing attendance and creating a budget. While we were planning the World Convention, Canada NA was experiencing growth in other areas, too. The WSO was developing the Canadian Distribution Center in Mississauga, which would help to improve shipping of NA literature and products throughout Canada. And soon after the distribution center opened, we formed the [Canadian Assembly](#) (zonal forum). It was an exciting time to watch our local NA community growing and maturing.

The weekend prior to the Convention, about a hundred members attended a barbeque at the host hotel and we prepared thousands of registration packages. Hundreds of boxes of merchandise were piled on pallets in the loading area below and we had to inventory and organize all of that, too.

More than 4,500 NA members attended WCNA 22, and it was a success! Many longtime members who volunteered/attended still remain in recovery today. I honor the pioneering spirit of the original bid committee: Michelle F, Susan S, Rachelle A, and Wayne (whose last name I can't remember), along with the amazing convention committee and hundreds of volunteers who made WCNA 22 a success. Acting as chairperson for the Convention remains one of my greatest life experiences. I wrote this in July 2017—25 years since WCNA 22—and I thought of addicts around the world who can still *imagine the freedom* of living clean and recovering the NA way!

Sean S, Ontario, Canada

WCNA 19: The magic was real



29 years ago

WCNA 19, Orlando, Florida... I was there with three years clean! I got really inspired by the oldtimers talking about the growth of NA, and WOW, we have seen SO much growth since then. Grateful I've stuck around to see it and to enjoy living clean. Just for today, no matter what, I'll have 31 years when this Convention [WCNA 37] rolls around. Hugs & love, y'all.

Duncan B, California, USA

Magic memories

I'm excited about this year's WCNA being in Orlando again, because I attended WCNA 19 in Orlando in 1989. I was five years clean and had attended the two previous WCNAs: New Orleans in 1987 and Anaheim in 1988. So, I was feeling like an experienced WCNA recovering addict.

This was only my second time in Florida; I had attended a World Service Conference quarterly in Miami earlier in 1989. Orlando was absolutely beautiful. The city was full of buzz because the Magic, their professional basketball team, would debut around the same time as WCNA. Our Convention's theme shared the word *magic* with Orlando's pro basketball team. Pictures of their star player (a skinny rookie by the name of Shaquille) were posted everywhere. Every conversation with local residents centered on this excitement.

One of the biggest thrills was sporting my "The Magic Is Real" convention jacket. Man, I loved that jacket, and I hate that I lost it over the years. I am so excited that this year's WCNA theme and logo are almost the same as WCNA 19's. I can't wait to get my new jacket. I'll do a better job of keeping track of this one.

My final memory may not seem exciting to some. I remember John K, a grateful recovering addict from New York, canvassing the Convention and asking members to sign a petition that he would subsequently submit to the WSO requesting dances with music that African Americans could dance to. I can't recall if there were a lot of African Americans at WCNA 19, but I do recall John and his petition. I recall being excited and eager to sign the petition.

It's funny because I was recently asked by some members to make a request to NA World Services and the World Board for a "steppin' set" at WCNA 37. A steppin' set is a dance popular among many African American NA members that includes R&B music. I made the request, and I believe John would be proud. We will know soon if our request will be granted. More will be revealed!

David W, Georgia, USA



Gary and Wendy P, Arizona, USA

Back to Orlando

My first World Convention was WCNA 19, back in 1989: *The Magic Is Real*. I had three years clean, a wonderful spouse, and two small kids. We spent our days with "the large rodent" down the road; and once the kids were asleep on their feet, we returned to the hotel, put them to bed, and I headed up the highway to WCNA. Those kids are grown (one is in recovery), that marriage is completed, and the mouse is still doing his thing. And me, I am heading back to Orlando for WCNA 37, still as excited as the first time I attended WCNA back in 1989, just a bit older, and hopefully a bit wiser. *The Magic Is Still Real!*

Anonymous, California, USA

Click [here](#) for more stories from WCNA 19.



The 2018 World Service Conference took place 28 April–5 May 2018, in Woodland Hills, California. Every two years, the WSC is the time and place where all of our World Services come together to consider issues and questions significant to our worldwide Fellowship. The WSC supports the Fellowship as a whole according to the group conscience of NA.

For several years, the WSC has been evolving from using parliamentary procedure to using a consensus-based decision-making process. This Conference included many changes in operating procedures and policies to move closer to that model. It was also a Conference of many firsts—including the opening session, aptly titled “First Things First.” This session is an opportunity for introductions and a time for the body to come together in spirit before business begins. At the end of this opening session, the Serenity Prayer is shared in all of the languages present (25 this year)—and the electronic issue of this *NA Way* includes an audio recording of that spiritually moving event.

We can’t cover every detail of the eight-day WSC here, but we’ve included some highlights and encourage all members to visit www.na.org/conference for more comprehensive information, including a draft summary of decisions.

Conference Firsts

- Some participants attended and participated through an internet connection: The Iran regional delegate and the alternate delegates from Iran and Australia, who were unable to obtain visas, participated virtually.
- Zonal delegates from five zonal forums attended as nonvoting participants: the [Asia Pacific Forum](#), the [Canadian Assembly](#), the European Delegates Meeting, the Russian-Speaking Zone, and the [Southern Zonal Forum](#).
- No formal business sessions using parliamentary procedure took place. Decisions were made with an evolving form of consensus-based decision making.
- The Grande São Paulo, HOW, and Rio de Janeiro Regions participated as seated members.



WSC small-group discussion, with Iran RD participating via internet (on laptop screen)



The opening session of the WSC ends with the Serenity Prayer in all the languages present at the Conference.

To hear the Serenity Prayer in 25 languages click [here](#).

WSC 2018 Election Results

World Board

Hammed A-T
Irene C
Lib E
Paul F
Tana A
Yoel G

Human Resource Panel

Craig R
Nathanael M

WSC Cofacilitator

Daniel C

2018–2020

Issue Discussion Topics

(The WSC selected the top two from the *Conference Agenda Report Fellowship* survey and, at their June meeting, the World Board added a third topic.)

- Attracting Members to Service
- Carrying the NA Message and Making NA Attractive
- Drug Replacement Therapy (DRT) and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) as it relates to NA

2018–2020 Projects

- WSC of the Future
- New Daily Meditation Book
- Mental Health/Illness IP
- Training and Tools
 - Local Service Toolbox
 - Conventions and Events Toolbox

For more WSC details,
see **NAWS News**
(www.na.org/nawsnews),
the **Draft Summary of Decisions**,
and other documents at
(www.na.org/conference).



NAWS executive director and World Board chair at WSC 2018

After a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer, and a rousing welcome to the World Service Conference, World Board Chairperson Arne H-G offered these "flight instructions" to participants.

Welcome to WSC Airlines



Thank you for joining us this week on our flight to serenity. Our arrival time at the end of this "flight" is May fifth. We will be traveling at an altitude of approximately three to ten feet (I know we're all familiar with being higher). You're in good hands today as we have a seasoned veteran in the cockpit: Our pilot today is God.

We ask that you have worked your Steps and that your "baggage" is safely stowed for the duration of the flight. Once we reach cruising altitude, feel free to roam about the cabin. When you are in your seats, we ask that you keep your seatbelts fastened for your safety.

In the event of turbulence, the "feelings" light will come on. Please do not panic. Sponsors will drop from the overhead compartment automatically. Please engage them, breathe normally, and work the Steps—or simply call them and ask for help. If you're traveling with a newcomer, please work the Steps first before putting the program on them.

If for whatever reason we have to make an emergency landing over the "sea of confusion," there are Basic Texts located across the hall. Remove them from their plastic wrappers and simply open them. They are a great flotation device.

We have a new piece of safety equipment on board today. We have life preservers that are manufactured by a company called "ego." We have found that this piece of equipment actually works better when you do NOT use it. The ego, however, may automatically deploy. Once again, I cannot stress this enough: Please do not use the ego! Nothing is more dangerous in an aircraft than an inflated ego. If you notice that one of your fellow passengers has accidentally deployed their ego, please point it out to them, but note that their first response may be defensive.

We are delighted to have you on board. Please put your chairs in the upright position, and fasten your seatbelts in preparation for takeoff. Thank you for flying WSC Airlines, and we sincerely hope you have a rewarding flight.

Arne H-G, Ontario, Canada

WSC 2018 Statistics

- Of 118 seated regions, 114 regional delegates (RDs) participated. Iran participated via internet. Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, and France did not attend.
- Of the 114 RDs from seated regions participating, 65 were from the US, 5 were from Canada, and 44 were from outside the US and Canada.
- Of 89 alternate delegates (ADs) from seated regions participating, 63 were from the US, 4 were from Canada, and 22 were from outside the US or Canada. Iran and Australia ADs joined via the internet.
- Conference participants included 154 men and 67 women—RDs, ADs, World Board (WB) members, and zonal delegates (ZDs).
- Conference participants were from 39 countries and spoke 25 languages (based on Serenity Prayer languages at the close of the First Things First session).
- There were 127 voting members at this WSC—114 RDs and 13 World Board members. And there were 89 ADs, 5 zonal delegates, 4 HRP members, 2 cofacilitators, 3 translators, and 1 parliamentarian.
- Three regions were newly seated: Netherlands, Mexico/Occidente, and Ukraine.
- Thirty-six motions passed, 1 was committed to the WB, 21 failed, and 7 were withdrawn or not introduced. Some of the motions that passed included:
 - **Motion 1:** Develop a project plan to convert *Social Media and Our Guiding Principles* service pamphlet into a recovery IP.
 - **Motion 5:** NA Service prayer using language already in the Basic Text, substituting the word write with the word serve: *GOD, grant us knowledge that we may write serve according to Your Divine precepts. Instill in us a sense of Your purpose. Make us servants of Your will and grant us a bond of selflessness that this may truly be Your work, not ours, in order that no addict, anywhere, need die from the horrors of addiction.*
- **Motion 9:** Develop a project plan to create or revise a piece of recovery literature to address DRT/MAT. (At their June meeting, the World Board added DRT/MAT as it relates to NA as an Issue Discussion Topic, which will help in developing the project plan.)
- **Motion 12:** Hold a public relations week beginning in 2019.
- **Motion 13:** Authorize the WB to define more special days, like Unity Day, in the yearly calendar.
- **Motion 16:** Present a project plan at 2020 WSC on the role of zones, their relationship to the wider Fellowship, and integrating zonal delegate participation in decision making at WSC.
- **Motion 18:** Any zonal forum with two or more zonally seated regions or communities that are not seated at the WSC may choose to send one ZD to the WSC to represent those communities or regions.
- **Motions 19, 20, 21:** Zonal delegates are voting members at the WSC with one vote; ZDs are eligible for the same funding as RDs when attending the WSC (travel, lodging, meal expenses); alternate ZDs may attend WSC with same rights and limitations as ADs.
- **Proposal A:** Approve remote participation at WSC for Conference participants unable to attend due to visa issues.
- **Motions 26–29, 50–59, and 30:** Procedural motions for how business is handled at the WSC—as an experiment for 2018, but will become policy if they work well; and approve minutes of WSC 2016.
- **Motions 31, 32, 33, 34:** Approve project plans for WSC of the Future, Mental Health/Illness Informational Pamphlet, New Daily Meditation Book, Training and Tools Project Plan.
- **Motions 35, 36:** Approve the budget and 2018–2020 reimbursement policy.
- **Motion 37:** Service materials produced by Local Service Toolbox Project and Conventions and Events Project will be distributed as drafts to Conference participants for a 90-day review and will be identified as World Board-approved.
- **Motions 38, 39, 40:** Seat Netherlands, Mexico-Occidente, and Ukraine Regions.

GOD, grant us knowledge that we may serve according to Your Divine precepts. Instill in us a sense of Your purpose. Make us servants of Your will and grant us a bond of selflessness that this may truly be Your work, not ours, in order that no addict, anywhere, need die from the horrors of addiction.



World Unity Day

**Sunday
2 September 2018
11:30 am (EDT)**

Join thousands of recovering addicts for the closing meeting of the World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous 37!

Our worldwide NA Fellowship will come together to hear the NA message carried from Orlando, Florida to households, meeting rooms, institutions, correctional facilities, and activity halls around the world.

Access the free, online audio stream at:

English: <http://mixlr.com/nawsstream/>
Spanish: <http://mixlr.com/nawsstream2/>

If you're gathering to listen, let us know about your event. We'll use that info to invite a few communities to "shout out" live to members in Orlando and around the globe (and we may use your info/pictures in *The NA Way Magazine*).

Please send event details and contact info to keri@na.org or call 818.773.9999, extension 156.



We'll also audio-stream the WCNA 37 Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night main meetings.

Visit www.na.org/wcna37streaming for meeting schedule and audio webcast links.



To determine your local time, visit www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html.

This free internet stream replaces the telephone system used in the past, except for institutions that are unable to access the internet stream. For info about institutional connections: janen@na.org or 818.773.9999, ext 159.



PICTURE THIS

NA communities are invited to send photographs of their meeting places and events. Sorry, we cannot use photos that identify NA members. Please tell us the group/event name, location, how long it has been in existence, format or special traditions, and what makes it a unique part of your NA community. Please send submissions to naway@na.org.

Recovery goes to the park

In Porto Alegre, the capital of Rio Grande do Sul (the southernmost state of Brazil), there is a park called Redenção. It is a huge place of 370,000 square meters dedicated to sports, chimarrão wheels (traditional drink), or simply rest and leisure with family and friends. But the park is also occupied by drug users and traffickers. So it was there that on 25 February 2018, the first outdoor meeting of the group Milagres do Meio-Día (Mid-day Miracles) de Narcóticos Anônimos was held.

About two dozen members attended, and in between each share, one could hear the singing of the birds and the rustle of the tallest trees that surrounded the meeting. Among the shares were

confessions like "I've used drugs in this place," and even "I've dealt drugs in here." The emphasis, however, was on recovery—from the place and the life. Before the closing, the sound of a flute played by a member rocked the practice of Step Eleven.

Yes, in the most popular park in the city, so often used as a haven for criminals or a hideout for addicts experiencing human misery and absurd fears, on that sunny Sunday it was the recovery that made the "room" beautiful, green, healthy, and free.

Cris B, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil



Pioneer Group, Kansas, USA (NA Way, October 2014)

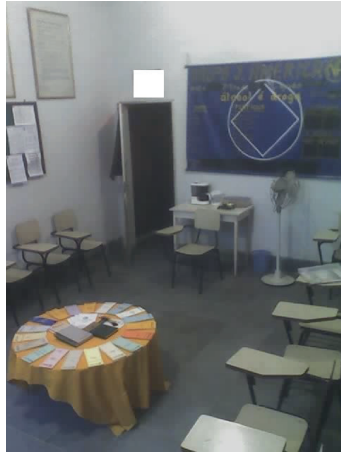


Tenth Learning Day, Mumbasa, Kenya, October 2013





Pioneer Valley Area, Massachusetts, USA
(NA Way, October 2016)



J. America Group, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
(NA Way, October 2006)



Au Coeur de la Nature (At the Heart of Nature) Campout; Quebec, Canada
(NA Way, July 2016)



Blue Ridge Area of NA Campout, Virginia, USA (NA Way, January 2012)



Friday Night Group, Manchester, England (NA Way, July 2011)



Ain't Dead Yet Group, Colorado, USA (NA Way, April 2004)



Grupo Nunca Mas Solos (Never Alone Again), Santiago, Chile (NA Way, July 2014)



Clean & Free Group, Wyoming, USA (NA Way, October 2014)



Northwest Michigan Service Committee, Michigan, USA (NA Way, April 2015)



North Hollywood Step Study Group (aka The Cigar Meeting), California, USA (NA Way, October 2017)



Planning Assembly Workshop, Khabarovsk, Russia, 2013



New Freedom Group, Texas, USA (NA Way, January 2005)



Nesa Group, Nesa, Iran (NA Way, April 2017)

NA Way Reader Survey: Help us improve your magazine!

1. Are you an NA Way Magazine subscriber?

- Yes: electronic version
- Yes: print version (skip to question 4)
- Yes: print and electronic
- No (skip to question 4)

If yes, for how long have you been a subscriber?

2. If you are an electronic subscriber, how do you access the magazine?

- I click the link in the eblast email
- I go to www.na.org
- I don't open/read it

If you don't open/read it, why?

3. If you read the magazine electronically, which of these features do you regularly access? (check all that apply)

- View/print the cover poster
- Read additional articles
- View/print additional photo features
- Follow links to related literature
- Follow links to related NA websites
- I don't access any of these features

If you don't access these features, why?

4. How would you describe the look and feel of the magazine? (check all that apply)

- Contemporary-looking
 - Dated/old-fashioned-looking
 - Articles too long
 - Articles too short
 - Overcrowded
 - Finish size (8½ x 11 inches) too large
 - Other (please specify)
-

6. On a scale from 1 to 10 (1=terrible, 10=excellent) how would you rate *The NA Way Magazine* overall?

7. If it's not a 10, what would make it a 10 for you?

8. In what country do you live?

9. How long have you been clean?

- Less than 1 year
- 1–5 years
- 6–10 years
- 11–15 years
- 16–20 years
- 21–25 years
- 26–30 years
- 30–40 years
- 40+ years

10. What is your age?

- < 17
- 18–29
- 30–39
- 40–49
- 50–59
- 60–69
- 70–79
- 80+

Complete survey online at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NAWay>.
Or mail to NA Way Magazine Survey;
19737 Nordhoff Place; Chatsworth, CA 91311.
Fax to 818.700.0700 or email a photo of
completed survey to naway@na.org.

5. Please rate how relevant or interesting each section of the magazine is to you. (1=not relevant/interesting, 5=very relevant/interesting)

	Not relevant or interesting	Somewhat not relevant or interesting	No opinion	Somewhat relevant or interesting	Very relevant or interesting
From the Editor	○	○	○	○	○
Feature/Sharing	○	○	○	○	○
Service Center	○	○	○	○	○
Fellowship Development/PR	○	○	○	○	○
Picture This	○	○	○	○	○
Basic Caption Contest	○	○	○	○	○
World Services Updates/Info	○	○	○	○	○
Calendar	○	○	○	○	○
Product Update/Coming Soon	○	○	○	○	○



CALENDAR

Multiday 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.)

Canada

Saskatchewan 17-19 Aug; Southern Saskatchewan Area Convention 34; Core-Ritchie Centre, Regina; southsksna.org/events

Prince Edward Island 19-21 Oct; Canadian Convention 26; canadianconvention.com

Denmark

Skanderborg 3-5 Aug; Convention & Camp 11; Audonicon, Skanderborg; namidtyjylland.dk/konvent/index.htm

Finland

Lahti 17-19 Aug; Finland Region Anniversary Convention 20; Sibelius Hall, Lahti; nasuomi.org/na30beta/in-english

Germany

Berlin 7-9 Sep; Berlin Area Convention; Statthaus Bocklerpark, Berlin; na-berlin.de/de/service/bcvk

India

Goa 27-29 Sep; Bangalore Area Convention 8; The Byke Old Anchor, Goa; blacna8.org

Ireland

Letterkenny 19-21 Oct; Irish Regional Convention 33; Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny; na-ireland.org

Mexico

Tijuana 12-14 Oct; Baja Costa Area Convention; Gamma de Fiesta Inn, Tijuana; event info: 858.277.6438; (Mex) 664.491.5915

Netherlands

Amsterdam 10-12 Aug; Netherlands Regional Convention 30; Pakhuis West, Amsterdam; nanl30.nl/en

Paraguay

Asuncion 28-30 Sep; Paraguay Regional Convention 2; Granja Mi Retiro, Asuncion; na.org.py

Turkey

Fethiye Mugla 26-28 Oct; Turkey Regional Convention 16; Jiva Beach Resort Hotel, Fethiye Mugla; na-turkiye.org

United States

Alabama 5-7 Oct; Greater Mobile Area Convention 21; Mobile Marriott, Mobile; gmacna.com

Arizona 21-23 Sep; Productive Members of Society Group Women's-Oriented Retreat 20; Whispering Pines Camp, Prescott; arizona-na.org

(2) 28-30 Sep; Southeastern Arizona Convention 4; Windemere Hotel, Sierra Vista; naticson.org/convention.html

California 2-5 Aug; Campout 9; Rollins Lake-Long Ravine Resort, Colfax; <http://flyers.sonomacounty.ca.gov>

(2) 10-12 Aug; Mountain High Campout; Meeks Bay Resort, Tahoma; event info: [mmsmiley71@yahoo.com](mailto:msmiley71@yahoo.com)

(3) 24-26 Aug; 11th Step Retreat 6; Belden Town Lodge/Campground, Belden Town; event info: singinquinquigley@gmail.com

(4) 5-7 Oct; First Band of Brothers Men's Convention; Holiday Inn, San Jose; bandofbrothersconvention.org

Colorado 24-26 Aug; Colorado Regional Women's Retreat 5; YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch, Granby; wrcna3.org

Connecticut 24-26 Aug; Central Connecticut Area Spiritual Weekend 30; Enders Island, Mystic; ctna.org

Hawaii 25-28 Oct; Hawaii Regional Convention 26; Royal Lahaina Resort Hotel, Kaanapali; na-hawaii.org

Illinois 9-11 Nov; Greater Illinois Regional Convention 22; Four Points by Sheraton, Fairview Heights; centralillinoisna.org

Indiana 28-30 Sep; Central Indiana Area Convention 15; Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport, Indianapolis; centralindianana.org

Louisiana 9-11 Nov; Camp Recovery; Lake Bistineau State Park, Doyline; nlana.net

Maryland 14-16 Sep; Unity Retreat River of Hope 12; Lions Camp Merrick, Nanjemoy; cprna.org

Michigan 10-12 Aug; R&R at the Fort; Camp Fort Hill, Sturgis; michigan-na.org

(2) 9-11 Nov; Macomb Area Convention 8; Wyndam Garden, Sterling Heights; michigan-na.org/macomb-area/

Montana 28-30 Sep; Montana Regional Fall Convention 8; Radisson Hotel, Billings; namontana.org

Nevada 27-30 Sep; Region 51 Convention; Gold Coast Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas; region51na.org

New Mexico 25-26 Aug; White Sands Campout & Meeting Under the Full Moon; White Sands National Monument Park, Alamogordo; loma.riograndena.org

New York 20-23 Sep; Western New York Regional Convention 22; Radisson Hotel Niagara Falls, Grand Island; nawny.org

(2) 18-20 Jan 2019; Nassau Area Convention 16; Huntington Hilton, Melville; nacna.org

North Carolina 3-5 Aug; Surrender to Win 16; Best Western Plus Hotel & Spa, Winston-Salem; tcana.org

Oregon 7-9 Sep; Ride 4 Recovery; Camp Remote, Myrtle Point; ride4recoveryoregon.com

(2) 12-14 Oct; Sisters in Spirit Women's Retreat; Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, Warm Springs; ccanasistersinspirit.com

Pennsylvania 28-30 Sep; Delaware County Area Convention 5; Marriot Renaissance Philadelphia Airport, Essington; nadelco.org

South Dakota 14-16 Sep; South Dakota Regional Convention 21; Best Western Plus (Ramkota Hotel), Sioux Falls; sdrna.com

Texas 12-14 Oct; Frolic in the Woods 27; Garner State Park, Concan; eanaonline.org

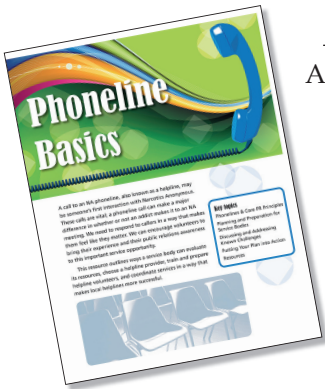
Vermont 16-19 Aug; Back to Basics Campout 34; Boy's Camp, Wallingford; gmana.org

Virginia 3-5 Aug; Almost Heaven Area Convention 32; Northern Virginia 4-H Center, Front Royal; almostheavenareana.org

(2) 31 Aug-2 Sep; Marion Survivors Group Campout; Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center, Marion; event info: mfisher71@hotmail.com

Washington 17-19 Aug; Summer Sizzlers 30; Red Lion Hanford Inn, Richland; 3citiesna.org

NAWS Product Update



Phoneline Basics

A brief guide to coordinating an effective phoneline, adapted from the *PR Handbook*.

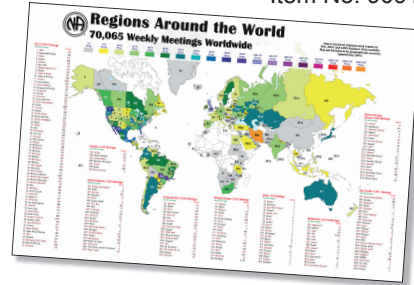
Item No. 2117
Price US \$1.85/1.54 €

2018 Banners

World Regional Meetings Map

Item No. 9090 Price US \$82.10/69.85 €

Item No. 9091 Price US \$50.30/42.70 €



Afrikaans

IP #7: Is ek 'n verslaafde?

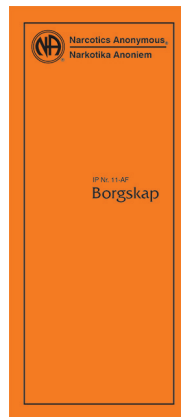
Item No. AF3107 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

IP #9: Leef die program uit

Item No. AF3109 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

IP #11: Borgskap

Item No. AF3111 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €



IP #22: Welkom by Narkotika Anoniem

Item No. AF3122 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €



Arabic

Information about NA

معلومات عن زمالة المدمنين المجهولين

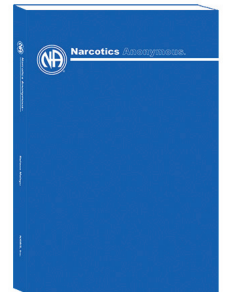
Item No. AR2302 Price US \$0.32/0.29 €

Bahasa Melayu

Basic Text (5th Edition)

Narcotics Anonymous

Item No. BM1101 Price US \$8.30/7.25 €



IP #7: Adakah Saya Seorang Penagih?

Item No. BM3107 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

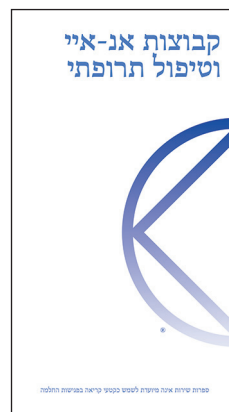
קבוצות אנ-איי
וטיפול תרופתי

Hebrew

NA Groups & Medication

קבוצות אנ-איי וטיפול תרופתי

Item No. HE2205 Price US \$0.33/0.28 €





Japanese

IP #7: 私はアディクトなのうか?

Item No. JP3107 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

IP #14: ある仲間の経験——受け入れること、信じる心、本気で取りかかろうとする決意について

Item No. JP3114 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

IP #16: 新しく来た仲間へ

Item No. JP3116 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €



IP #22: ナルコティクス アノニマスへ ようこそ

Item No. JP3122 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

IP #23: 施設や病院を出たあともクリーン を続けるには

Item No. JP3123 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €

Polish

An Introductory Guide to NA

Wprowadzenie do Wspólnoty Anonimowych Narkomanów

Item No. PL1200 Price US \$2.15/1.85 €

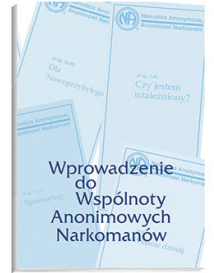
IP #21: *Samotnik - Pozostawanie czystym w odosobnieniu*

Item No. PL3121 Price US \$0.33/0.28 €

Disruptive & Violent Behavior

Zakłócające i agresywne zachowanie

Item No. PL2204 Price US \$0.25/0.22 €



Portuguese

IP #13: *De Jovens Adictos para Jovens Adictos*

Item No. PO3113 Price US \$0.33/0.28 €

Russian

Social Media & Our Guiding Principles

Социальные сети и наши путеводные принципы

Item No. RU2207 Price US \$0.33/0.28 €

Coming Soon!

NA Service Prayer poster

Approved by WSC 2018, small service prayer poster will be added to our existing paper set.

Item No. 9078 Price US \$1.55/1.45 €

The Basic Library

A box set of our five basic recovery books in softcover: Basic Text, *Just for Today*, *It Works*, *Living Clean*, and *Guiding Principles*

Afrikaans

Basic Text (5th Edition)

Narkotika Anoniem

Item No. AF1101 Price US \$8.30/7.25 €

Arabic

It Works: How & Why

إنه ينجح

Item No. AR1140 Price US \$9.00/7.90 €

Swedish

Living Clean: The Journey Continues
Living Clean: Resan fortsätter

Item No. SW1150 Price US \$10.35/8.15 €

