

THE
NA Way
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THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



INTRODUCING...
THE SIXTH EDITION
BASIC TEXT



NA Way articles:
1998 – 2008

WCNA 33
Pre-registration

Living Clean
The Journey Continues

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Sixth
Edition

NAWS, Inc.

Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous



THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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From the editor

The Basic Text was first published in 1983, when we had about 3,000 weekly meetings (mostly US). Today, with more than 50,000 meetings in over 130 countries, our fellowship illustrates that addicts are found in all walks of life, "regardless of..." and that any addict can find recovery in NA. After years of work, including worldwide discussion, submissions, and input, the Sixth Edition Basic Text is complete. This revision marks the first changes to our book in two decades. It was approved unanimously at 19:26 on 29 April by the 2008 World Service Conference, followed by a standing ovation and song of celebration. The Sixth Edition is a truly international Basic Text that reflects the diversity and strength of our worldwide NA Fellowship.

In 1987, I received a Basic Text, signed by participants of a PI learning day in Rockford, Illinois. I eventually passed it to a new sponsee, who didn't have a Basic Text. After moving from the town where I got clean, where my sponsee and family lived, my mom asked if I thought NA could help her. We talked, I asked my sponsee to visit her; and my mom ended that visit as the new owner of the Basic Text I'd given to my sponsee. Imagine my joy and sadness five years later, as I found that Basic Text among my mother's belongings when I returned home to bury her. It's still on my shelf today...next to my new Sixth Edition.

De J, Editor

Cover photo: The Sixth Edition Basic Text and the 25th Anniversary Commemorative Edition of the Basic Text. For a detailed summary of the creation of the Sixth Edition, please see the 2008 CAR, available at www.na.org/conference/2008car-toc.htm

IN THIS ISSUE

Feature: NA Way articles: 1998 - 2008 (3); Humor: Home Group (4); Sharing: NA means home at any age (5), Who was Jimmy K? (7), Only the weak can cry (8), How it works (8), No matter what (9), Eighty-four days (9); WCNA 33: Information and registration (11), Speakers/Evaluators (19), Volunteers wanted (24); Living Clean project (17); Did you know? (20); PR News (22); Primary purpose (21); Calendar (23); Product update (25); Picture this (10)

The NA Way Magazine welcomes letters from all readers. Letters to the editor can respond to any article that has appeared in The NA Way, or can simply be a viewpoint about an issue of concern in the NA Fellowship. Letters should be no more than 250 words, and we reserve the right to edit. All letters must include a signature, valid address, and phone number. First name and last initial will be used as the signature line unless the writer requests anonymity.

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



NA Way articles: 1998 – 2008

This issue of *The NA Way Magazine* is a walk down memory lane. *The NA Way* was first published in 1982 as a monthly publication in a smaller format (5 ½" x 8 ½"). It was available by paid subscription and was published only in English. Subscriptions were initially \$12.00 per year; after fifteen years the final subscription rate had only risen \$3.00 to \$15.00 per year. The first year *The NA Way* was published in its current form was 1998. The magazine became a free quarterly journal published in English, French, German, Portuguese, and Spanish. More recently, we added Farsi as one of the translated languages in 2006. At the time of the conversion, NA World Services estimated the cost of providing this free publication (mailed to approximately 26,000 readers) at about \$85,000 per year. Today, *The NA Way* is mailed to more than twice that many subscribers, and annual production costs are closer to \$200,000. We're also emailing the magazine to over 8,000 e-subscribers, which saves production and postage costs and provides the magazine in a more current format.

With the changes of the late 1990's, the physical format evolved from a small booklet to a larger and more contemporary layout. In addition, the magazine took on the role of more widely providing service information that was previously published in *Newsline*, *Conference Digest*, *PI News*, and *H&I News*. This expanded role allowed NA World Services to more widely provide service-related information to the average NA member and to groups and service committees seeking experience from their peers. Our goal over all these years has been to provide relevant and useful material to our readers.

One thing that has remained constant is the goal of helping to carry the message of recovery in these pages. So, we've included some of the articles published during these past ten years, along with some pretty significant current information as well, like the release of the Sixth Edition Basic Text, WCNA 33 materials, your PR update, and more. We hope you enjoy this walk down memory lane and that, perhaps, it will inspire you to write about *your* NA community's history or your own personal recovery journey—and submit your writing for possible publication in *The NA Way*. As was explained in late 1997: "*The NA Way Magazine* belongs to you, the members of NA. We encourage you to read it, and write for it... We'll be watching our mailbox."

The NA Way Magazine is a broad-based service magazine for the NA member. Besides standard reports from world services, editorial content ranges from personal recovery experience to opinion pieces regarding topics of concern to NA as a whole, to humor or nostalgia about the recovery experience. We look for a spirit of unity and mutual respect, and we don't back off from controversy if a constructive solution is offered. We accept submissions in the same languages in which we publish editions of *The NA Way*: English, French, German, Portuguese, and Spanish.

January 1998

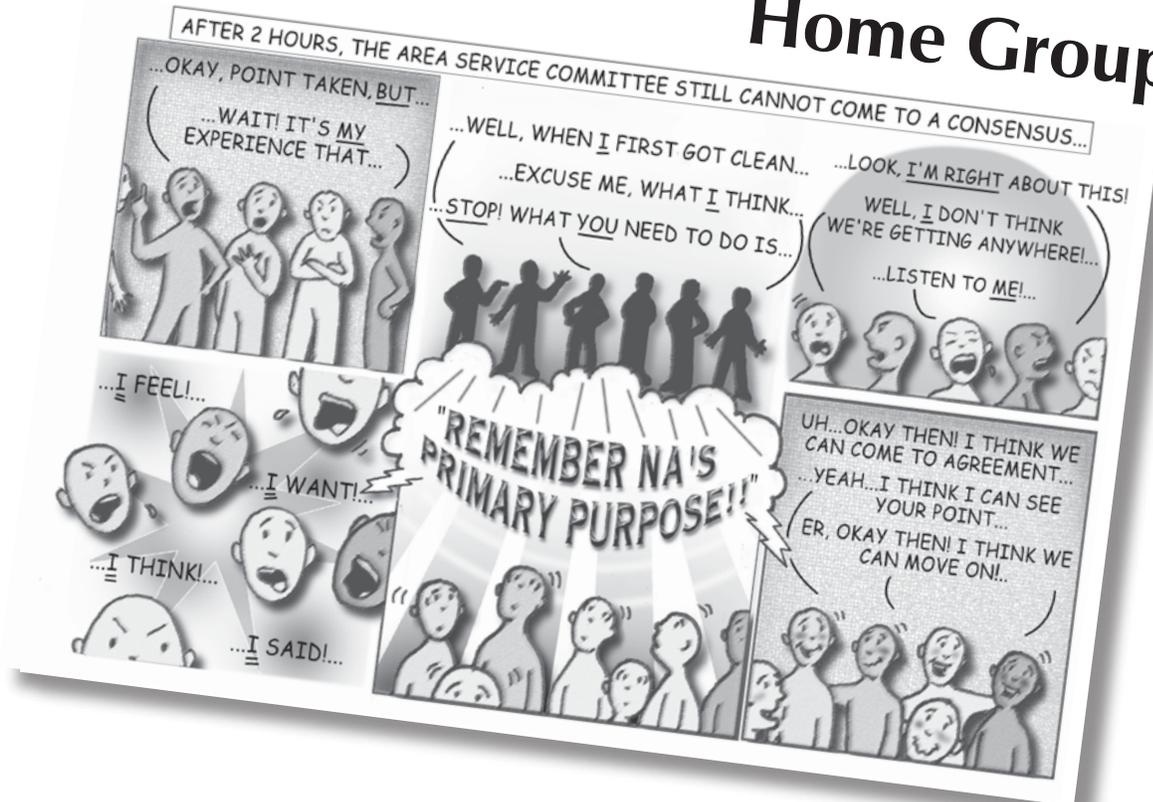


Everyone and everything changes with time, right? The October 1997 issue of *The NA Way* reintroduced the existing Home Group cast of characters. Then, in January 2001, our Home Group looked very different, as a whole new set of group members contemplated the challenges and chuckles of recovery

Home Group



Home Group



NA means home... at any age!

So what does being “young” in NA mean? Does it really make a difference? Isn’t recovery about creating an atmosphere of identification rather than separation?

Just about every addict who comes to NA tends to look for the differences. Our disease seeks them out, makes them real, and sometimes allows them to guide our decisions about whether or not we stay in NA.

The three of us have written this article to celebrate the differences among young people. We would never presume that this is the full range of experiences or that this article speaks for all younger addicts. We just wanted to honestly share our process, our different choices, and what we’ve done to stay clean and find a home in Narcotics Anonymous.

Coming into the rooms...

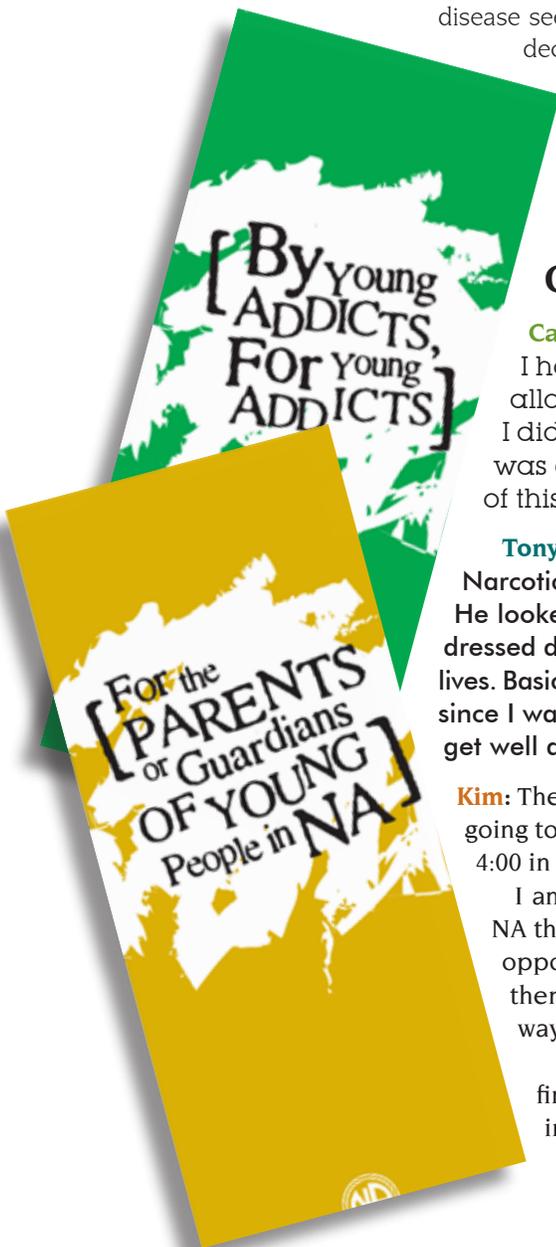
Carrie: I can remember my first meeting like it was yesterday. After I had been sleeping for three days straight, the treatment center allowed me to go to an NA meeting. Sucked up, sweaty, and numb, I didn’t know what to expect. All I knew was that I was desperate. I was desperate for something—relief or peace or just to feel a part of this universe from which I had isolated myself for so long.

Tony: I never wanted to be a “young people” in NA. When I came to Narcotics Anonymous there was only one guy who was younger than me. He looked completely different from me—we listened to different music, we dressed differently, he liked girls and I liked guys, and we had different family lives. Basically, we were completely different—on the outside. But it didn’t matter, since I wasn’t planning to spend too much time here anyway. I just wanted to get well and go back to all of my “friends.”

Kim: There were already other younger members when I came to NA. They were going to NA dances together, sleeping with each other, and playing poker until 4:00 in the morning.

I am a morning person. Besides, I was so wounded by the time I got to NA that social activity was traumatic, especially in large groups and with the opposite sex. It was hard to be myself. And the funny thing is that, although there were other younger members around when I got clean, I still found a way to feel different.

I had to be patient and find people who shared my interests. I had to find out what I liked to do. And I had to tell myself that I did have a place in Narcotics Anonymous.



Finding a home...

C: Being 21 years old when I got clean, I was afraid that I would be looked at as “too young” to be an addict—and a few members did regard me in exactly that way! They didn’t know my story or me.

Just because I’m young in age doesn’t mean that I haven’t been through life and experienced as much as any “adult” has experienced. These people didn’t know how I watched my mom suffer with cancer for three years and then die when I was only eleven years old. They didn’t know that I had been betrayed by family members and forced to raise myself.

I destroyed just as much behind my addiction as anyone in this fellowship. Let’s just say that by the time I got to NA I was spiritually bankrupt. No self-respect, no dignity, and no voice—I had completely lost myself.

I heard people share about sticking needles in their arms for 30 years and being on methadone for ten years after that. Well, I never did heroin, so I began to separate myself from many addicts.

I heard people say things like “I spilled more drugs than you could ever do.” I thought, maybe I should leave and come back to NA when I’m homeless, selling my body, and have lost everything—20 years from now.

Well, thank God I didn’t talk myself into that one! Despite my so-called differences, I stayed. And I heard something here: the message of recovery.

I began to reach out to other young, recovering addicts, as well as to those older addicts who had gotten here young and stayed. I went to dances, out for coffee, and out to eat constantly—anything—to keep my mind off my old lifestyle. Finally, I began to feel a part of.

T: I did what the program suggested—I went to 90 meetings in 90 days, I got a sponsor, and I started to work the steps.

I stuck around—and so did the younger guy. We started doing service work together. We went out for coffee with all the “old” people and did the best we could. It was difficult when we were grounded and couldn’t go out with everyone after the meeting. But, pretty much, the members in our area acknowledged and welcomed us—not as young people, but as addicts seeking recovery.

It actually wasn’t until I had a few years clean that I started being acknowledged as a “young” person in recovery, mostly because other younger members started rolling in off the street. While they could have walked the same path that we did, they were able to walk in and find identification a little easier—there were others who were just like them.

It is so easy for me to focus on the differences, but I’ve learned over time to focus on the similarities. Now, later in my recovery, I know that’s what it means to find identification through diversity.

K: I eventually met two women in my area, and we went to every meeting together. One was 13, the other 15, and I was 20. I was the one with a car, so I picked them up every night. Maybe it was our shared love of punk rock music, or our awkwardness, or that we all really wanted recovery that bonded us together.

Some people say that those who remember how hard and degrading using was are the ones who will stay clean. We were all pretty young, but active addiction had left a deep mark on each one of us. We were scared of relapsing, scared of having to do the same things we did when we were using, so we stuck together.

We went to old diners after meetings and ate pie, took trips to meetings in other areas, and lived on Thai food. We drove in my VW bus to Washington to hear my sponsor share at a convention. Four of us went to the world convention

in my bus, each taking sleeping shifts in the back because there was only room enough for two at a time. We told each other the truth, we shared our deepest wounds, and we stayed clean together those first few years.

Discovering our message...

C: When I heard the readings at the beginning of every meeting, it confirmed that I have a place here. The NA literature says that we belong here “regardless of age, race, (or) sexual identity,” and that “we don’t care how much you used or who your connections were,” which means to me that it doesn’t matter how horrendous your story is or how many decades you’ve been using for! It means that if you used drugs and have the desire to stop using, then welcome!

T: I hear in meetings that one day you will be able to carry the message to someone who will only be able to hear it from you. I was way too self-centered to make that a reason to stay when I was new. It wasn’t until I started working the steps and getting results that I actually wanted to keep anything I had, and the only way to do that, you said, was to give it away.

I think that diversity is our strength; I don’t think we can pretend that we are this nameless, faceless body of people—because we are not. We are like a mural that is larger than the sum of all its parts. We are like a picture that has been painted over an ugly wall called the disease of addiction. The picture is bright and beautiful, as well as dark and scary at times; the picture is life on life’s terms. But each part—each addict—makes up a different color, a different shape, and a different piece whose commonality is that, together, we make up the mural called Narcotics Anonymous.

I am glad to be a part of that mural—I am the “young people” in recovery today. I am the addict

who got clean at 17 years old and has six years clean today. I am the gay addict, the white addict, the addict who is a service junkie, the addict who is a special worker, the addict who “sponsors all the young guys,” the addict who is the child of addicts, the addict who has his own Higher Power—not one that’s based on dogma.

I’m the addict who has found his “edge.” That edge is the thing that only I will be able to say to someone (or write to someone) who will *hear* or *read* this for the first time and finally *get* the message of recovery. I am glad that I have found that thing which someone may only hear from me. Today it gives me a purpose and a reason to continue to grow.

Today my diversity is more than my strength—my diversity is my gift from my Higher Power. My gift is the sponsees who have come into my life because they felt they could relate to no one else. My gift is the privilege of being able to contribute to this magazine—regardless of the reason!

K: One of the biggest issues facing younger addicts coming into NA is trying to recover while living in the old, often abusive family environment in which we grew up.

I couldn’t keep living with parents who preferred me loaded, didn’t respect me, and didn’t know how to help me. Fortunately, there were no laws stopping me from leaving. I could work, and I could legally make my own decisions.

My two friends, though, were in a different position. They had to deal with parent-teacher school conferences, being sent to psychiatrists, and living among their abusers. Sadly, only one of them is clean today.

I wouldn’t want to even speculate why one stayed clean and one didn’t. I just know that my friend who stayed here in NA now lives in her own apartment, completely supports herself, and is living her dreams. She is 20 years old now, and she’s been clean for almost five years. She speaks two languages, has studied in Costa

Rica, and is a different person from the wounded girl who walked into the rooms.

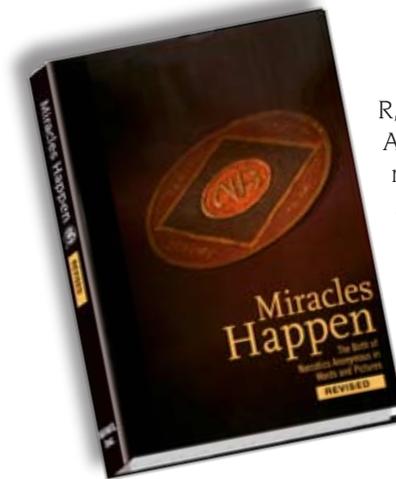
When I came to NA I felt used up and damaged. I felt hard, and scared, and angry. But the longer I stay clean, the younger I feel! I don’t quite know what to make of the “oh, you’re so young” comments. I feel like it’s belittling and condescending. I look at the older women with recovery in NA with admiration and respect. I want to learn how to practice their honesty, their self-respect, and their courage.

I met the woman who would eventually become my sponsor at the third NA meeting I attended, and I walked away from her muttering

obscurities. Although I wanted someone to tell me the truth—I was dying for someone to tell me the truth—I wasn’t very comfortable hearing it. She never once let me squirm away from the principles of this program under the guise of innocence, feigned naiveté, or mere *youth*. She held me to the same tough surrenders we all must make if we are going to recover in Narcotics Anonymous.

Anyone is capable of embracing the principles of recovery here in NA, especially those of us in our youth. We’ve got the energy for it, and we’ve got our whole lives ahead of us to live out our recovery.

Carrie B, Tony G, Kim Y, California
October 2001



Who was Jimmy K?

Together with Frank and Doris C, Guildia K, Paul R, Steve R, and others, Jimmy K founded Narcotics Anonymous in Southern California. He and these members held a series of meetings beginning 17 August 1953 in order to organize what was then referred to as “San Fernando Valley Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous” The first documented recovery meeting in Southern California was held on 5 October 1953.

Jimmy is a key figure in NA’s history for several reasons. He wrote several portions of the Little White Booklet, the most famous of which is the “End of the Road” section. He designed the NA

logo (later modified by the WSO). He served as the volunteer office manager of the WSO from the time it began to 1983.

Jimmy K lived from 1911 to 1985. The last 36 years of his life were spent as a clean and recovering member of Narcotics Anonymous.

April 1998

Those interested may read more about Jimmy K and NA’s early years in *Miracles Happen: The Birth of Narcotics Anonymous in Words and Pictures, Revised*.

Only the weak can cry

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

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

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

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

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

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

Feri S, Csongrad, Hungary
July 2006

How it works

My name is Kiran. I am from Nepal. With only eight months clean, I had to move to Qatar (on the Persian Gulf) for a job. It was very hard, as I was told that it was too early in my recovery to make such a move. I had to make that move due to some family reasons. I was serving as treasurer in my home group in Damak. My fellowship there gave me lots of courage and support before my departure. One member gave me a copy of *The NA Way Magazine* and told me to contact the NA World Services staff to sign up for a subscription. I was told that the magazine would help me if I could not find any meetings in the Gulf. I can still remember the hugs we gave each other before I left. When I reached Qatar, I felt very lonely, especially since with the language barrier there was no one for me to communicate with. So many obsessions came, but one sentence from the program hit me: "No matter what happens, you must not use." I finally decided to email *The NA Way Magazine*. I did not even hope to get a quick response, but someone wonderful from the WSO quickly responded to me and spread the word about my isolation in the Gulf. Soon, an NA member from a nearby country contacted me and managed to give me his phone number, as well as the numbers of some NA members in Qatar. The WSO has already entered my address in the database to receive a subscription to the magazine, and I am hoping

to receive it soon. The whole thing happened so quickly that it was amazing to have all this without putting in much effort—except having the desire not to use. I am planning to write more after getting connected with the fellowship from here. Thanks to NA, the WSO, my wonderful fellowship, and my Higher Power.

Kiran K, Doha, Qatar
January 2005



The NA Way Magazine,
January 2005 and July 2006

No matter what

I feel like I barely remember being a mother. My loss includes two sons. The word loss understates the void in my life caused by their deaths. My sons died three months apart. Traumatized, I found myself operating on pure gut instinct. I had no previous experience with death in my immediate family, but I did know the role of victim/survivor, and I felt defeated. When that gut instinct kicked in, I knew what I had to do. My reactions were based on the tools my recovery

why me?

in NA had given me. Step One: "I can't." Step Two: "We can." Step Three: "I need help." I asked for help. Over and over, I meditated on a simple prayer for help as well as the Serenity Prayer. I felt that my Higher Power was carrying me, and I came to believe that I could stay clean no matter what. My family, friends, and local community were in disbelief. The loss was difficult to comprehend—not just for me, but also for them. Often I just needed someone to be with me so I was not alone. NA placed many people in my life, sense of belonging somewhere. My trust issues, abandonment issues, and grief issues took a toll on my family, as well as on those relationships I had built in NA. Naturally, being the good addict that I am, feelings of uniqueness, shame, insecurity, and self-centeredness were created. All I could think about was, why me?

You see, my sons committed suicide. Up until that happened, my understanding of how to deal with grief was basically a Band-Aid solution. You know, cry at least one time; write a goodbye letter; say whatever you want; read it out loud to someone; and then let it go! Today I know it's not that simple.

It's difficult and sometimes overwhelming to be around people, places, things, or events that trigger memories of my sons. The action plan I use today to get through those times includes planning around dates, events, and whatever else may arise in the day. My feelings change rapidly, and sometimes I

can't deal with life on life's terms; hence, my need to have some sort of a plan. My sponsor, friends, Higher Power, and family support me on those days. I have revised the Band-Aid approach. Here's what works for me now: crying as often as needed. Writing. Talking. Sharing whatever I need to share, as often as I need to share it. And letting go the best that I can. I often let go of things by practicing a ritual of reflection. I burn letters, personal items, or duplicated pictures along with some sage or sweet grass. This ritual helps me feel like I'm offering a gift

of love. As the smoke rises, I visualize a thought of placing my sons into God's hands. This energy can feel nurturing, even though I know nothing can bring back the dead. Taking a silent moment makes me feel as if I can do something.

I send my love and energy to them every day. I may think about my HP in many ways and engage in a number of comforting rituals. I do know, however, that what's truly important is staying clean, living just for today, and sharing and caring the NA way.

Debbie N, Minnesota
October 2002

Eighty-four days

My name is Habib and I am an addict. Greetings to all the addicts at the Central Prison of Qazvin, and to all NA groups around the world.

I am writing this letter as I pass the final moments of my life. I am very close to death. I wish to send a message to all fellow members: I got clean through a Narcotics Anonymous meeting in jail, and through attending these meetings, I stopped using drugs. I have become very close to God, I feel good, and I am at peace with myself and the world. I have accepted the will of God.

I'd like to ask you fellows to stay clean and be of service. Try to help other addicts stay clean physically, mentally, and spiritually. Please continue this path to save other addicts. I have nothing else to say. My name is Habib, and by dawn my life will end. I will be hanged for the crimes I committed, but I have been clean for eighty-four days beside you. I wish success for all addicts...members and non-members. God bless.

Habib, Qazvin, Iran
October 2006

Editor's note: Following the formation of the H&I subcommittee in Iran, Payam Behboodi (the Iranian NA community's recovery journal) has been receiving letters from prisons across the country on a regular basis. The following letter has a different story. It is from someone who got to know NA while imprisoned, despite drugs being widely available in their jails at low prices.



Picture this

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

Sólo por hoy

We are very happy to have just opened on 28 February 2004, a new NA group called Sólo Por Hoy, located in downtown Tegucigalpa, the capital city of Honduras. It is good to know that most Central American countries—Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and now Honduras—have a group called Sólo Por Hoy.

This new group meets Monday through Saturday from 6 to 7:30 pm. We have closed meetings, step studies, public information, topic discussions, and speaker meetings. Once a week we visit treatment centers and other groups so that we can share our experience, strength, and hope with other people who suffer from the disease of addiction.

In Honduras, we have very few NA groups—three in Tegucigalpa and one in each of the different regions of the country, for a total of seven groups. Unfortunately, in Honduras, the population does not know well the purpose of Narcotics Anonymous.

On 15 March, an important national weekly magazine published a story about NA in our country. We are very happy because we feel that more members of the public, as well as addicts who are still suffering, will come to our groups in an effort to obtain more information about NA.

In our group, we meet in a round-table style, and on the table we place the readings and literature. We begin the meeting with the Serenity Prayer, and then we continue with the readings, the thought of the day from Just for Today: Daily Meditations for Recovering Addicts and some of the references that can be found in the Basic Text. During our closed meetings we try to have each member share in the "NA way," and at the end we hug in a circle to symbolize the fact that what we could not do alone, we are doing together.

We send hugs to all our fellow members in the NA Fellowship around this planet! Thank you for allowing me to share with you about our group.



Carlos I, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
July 2004

Recovery may be a *journey*, but there is *one* hot vacation *destination* for recovering addicts in 2009...

BARCELONA

You Are Invited...

Please join us for the 33rd World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous, Amor sin fronteras, in the breath-taking city of Barcelona, Spain. Barcelona is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and we cannot think of a better home for WCNA 33. We know that NA members from every corner of the world are excited about this NA World Convention, making it, quite possibly one of the most diverse conventions ever.

In order to give you plenty of time to plan your trip to Barcelona, we are starting sales earlier than ever before.

Why Pre-Register?

- * Limited onsite registration *new!*
- * Helps NAWS plan a better WCNA
- * Get event tickets before they sell out
 - * Better seats at ticketed events
- * One-of-a-kind pre-reg merchandise

Registration for a World Convention Includes...

- * Early access to merchandise
- * Daily events like dances & non-ticketed music events
- * Assured access to main meetings (based on convention attendance)*

*If we reach capacity at CCIB, access to main meetings will be restricted to those with registration badges.

You can register for the convention, book a hotel, and make airline reservations now at www.na.org/wcna.

Journey to a place without borders...

Experience the **Love** that is Barcelona,

the **Diversity** that is NA,

the **Feeling** of it coming together in

one place, **one** time,

like never before...



WCNA 33

Amor sin fronteras

LOVE WITHOUT BORDERS

BARCELONA, SPAIN | 20-23 AUGUST 2009

Register now to guarantee that you'll be in Barcelona in August 2009...

www.na.org/wcna



Pre-Registration and Limited Onsite Registration

Changes in WCNA 33 Planning...Be Sure to Pre-Register

It is in your best interest to pre-register. Make sure you have the opportunity to participate in as many events as possible. You need a registration badge to attend ticketed events, dances, coffee houses and, possibly, certain main meetings (based on convention attendance). All of these events may have limited seating. **The pre-registration fee is €85.***

NA World Services determined it is not prudent to plan a world convention for those who choose not to pre-register or to not register at all. Therefore, we will provide **a limited number of onsite registrations at WCNA 33 for €95.** Once we sell out of onsite registration badges, onsite registration will be closed.

** Payment Methods and the Euro (€) – Prices for WCNA 33 are posted and charged in Euros. Airfare and additional pre/post events through travel agencies are published and charged in US dollars. Hotel prices and all other pricing are listed in Euros unless otherwise noted. Checks are generally not accepted in the European Union. Credit cards are the preferred payment method. You must use credit card to register, make hotel reservations, buy pre-registration merchandise, or purchase event tickets at a later date.*

How, When, and Where to Pre-Register?

Register online now. Go to www.na.org/wcna and click on WCNA 33.

If you cannot register online, please use the pre-registration and reservations form. Pre-registration and event tickets may be purchased until **1 July 2009**, based on availability, after which NO refunds, cancellations, or exchanges can be made.



Did you know that over 95% of the people who pre-register for an NA World Convention do so online?

Pre-Registration Merchandise

We are offering completely unique merchandise to pre-registrants only and may be purchased until **1 May 2009**. Get a commemorative mug for €15, a men's or women's t-shirt for €20, and a camp shirt for €60. These items will not be on sale at WCNA 33. There is no quantity limit, but you can only pick up this merchandise in Barcelona... *and only if you are pre-registered for the convention.*

Events and Tickets

We've always offered tickets to events beginning with the sale of pre-registration...before we knew who the entertainment would be. For WCNA 33, we will sell tickets as events are booked, so you'll know exactly what you're buying a ticket for! All events will have limited seating. Event tickets may be purchased until **1 July 2009**; however, tickets may sell out before that date. If you buy tickets for events with assigned seating, **your seating assignment will be based on your original pre-registration date.** If you register earlier, you will have better seats than if you register later.



As additional events are scheduled...

We will send e-blasts to pre-registrants and to those subscribed to *WCNA Updates*. We will also post updates on the World Convention page at www.na.org/wcna.

Plan Your European Vacation Right...

Pre- and post-convention activities, events, and cruises are listed at www.na.org/wcna. NA groups, areas, and regions in Europe are encouraged to list events before and after the convention. Please send info about events to events@na.org and be sure to submit them for inclusion on the online calendar at <http://www.na.org/wcna/comingup-toc.htm>.

For information call 818-773-9999 ext. 771

When does the convention start? Convention registration opens Wednesday afternoon, 19 August 2009. The convention officially begins on Thursday, 20 August and ends on Sunday afternoon, 23 August 2009.

WCNA reserves the right to refuse any purchase or request.

Hotel Reservations

Barcelona is one of the most popular vacation destinations in Europe during August. We encourage you to make your hotel reservations early. Hotels will sell out!

Online Reservations www.na.org/wcna

If you do not have Internet access, please use the hotel reservation form. All hotel questions and issues will be handled by GP Destination Management at www.na.org/wcna or by telephone at +34.93.363.88.09 or by fax at +34.93.419.31.29

Deposit and Cancellation Policies

New for WCNA 33: A one-night deposit is required for each room at the time of booking.

Any reservation cancelled after the reservation is made will result in a cancellation fee (deducted from the deposit) based on the following schedule:

- Cancellations on or before **30 June 2009** will be assessed a €50 cancellation fee.
- Cancellations made on or after **1 July 2009** will forfeit entire deposit.

NA World Services may be required to provide different deposits to some hotels for attendee room blocks. Deposit schedules in those properties may vary.

Hotel Options

Rates include all applicable taxes and breakfast.
(past WCNA rates did not include tax)

There are a limited number of hotels within walking distance of the convention center. All others are specifically selected because they are within walking distance of the Metro, which goes to the CCIB (the convention center). Some lines require only one transfer. **There will not be shuttles to and from WCNA hotels.** Many of the hotels are located in the center

of Barcelona, whereas the CCIB is considered to be “outside town.” The trip from the CCIB to the center of town is about a 20-minute underground train ride (the L4 Metro line) or a €10 taxi ride that takes about 10-15 minutes. If you are looking for a “Barcelona experience,” you may prefer to stay at one of the hotels in the center of town, close to some of the best shopping, *cortados* (coffee), restaurants, tapas, fashion venues, museums, and parks in Europe—all within the backdrop of the “Spanish Paris,” with its amazing buildings and the famous architecture of Gaudi! The hotels in this part of town are within walking distance of the world-famous La Rambla. Trains and buses run from the CCIB to the heart of Barcelona 24/7 during the convention, and multiple-trip passes are available for about €7 and up. The CCIB is considered to be in the “suburbs” of Barcelona, connected to a shopping mall, but surrounded predominately by condos in a part of town that has just recently been renovated. While it is very nice and new, many members looking for a European vacation will prefer to stay in the heart of Barcelona and go to the CCIB for convention events.

AC Barcelona is the headquarters hotel. We are currently planning on having all dances and marathons meetings at the AC, which is connected to the convention center.

Low-Cost Housing & Hostels

For a list of low-cost housing and hostels please go to www.na.org/wcna. In order to ensure that as many members as possible can join us at WCNA 33, we are offering links to all of the information we have about low-cost options in Barcelona. We cannot assist in making reservations at these locations and can make no guarantees as to the properties listed, but we are happy to provide you with names and numbers.





Discount Airfare

Special round-trip airfares to WCNA 33 from the US are available through Montrose Travel. For the best discounts, go to www.na.org/wcna, and make your reservation online or call 800.301.9673.

NA World Services is not affiliated with any hotel, reservation center, or travel agency listed. We simply enter into contractual agreements in order to provide members with discount pricing. We were unable to locate a contract for intra-European travel that afforded members any real benefit.

Want to feel "part of"?

Volunteer to serve at WCNA 33 by completing a Volunteer Information Sheet online at www.na.org/wcna!

The official language of WCNA 33 is English

Just like the European Conference and Convention (ECCNA), the official language of WCNA is English. Translations and language group meeting rooms will be provided. If you are interested, capable, and available to translate, please complete a Volunteer Information Sheet at www.na.org/wcna. If you require translations, please send us an email at events@na.org. The more information we receive, the better prepared we will be!



Registering for WCNA 33

If you cannot register online, please use this pre-registration and merchandise form.

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE/STATE/COUNTRY _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDITIONAL REGISTRANTS _____

Part 1—Pre-registration

A LIMITED number of onsite registrations will be available for purchase at the convention for €95. NOTE: All prices are in Euros. Charges will appear on your credit card in US dollars based on the current exchange rate. Due to our planning a world convention in Euros, we will not be able to accept checks.

	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Pre-registration	_____	@ €85 = €	_____
Newcomer Donation		€	_____
Total Part 1			€ _____

Part 2—Merchandise

Pre-registration merchandise must be ordered by 1 May 2009.

Commemorative Mug	_____	@ €15 = €	_____
Men's and Women's Printed T-shirt	_____	@ €20 = €	_____
MEN	S _____	M _____	L _____
			XL _____
			XXL _____
WOMEN	S _____	M _____	L _____
			XL _____
			XXL _____
Men's and Women's Camp Shirt	_____	@ €60 = €	_____
MEN	S _____	M _____	L _____
			XL _____
			XXL _____
WOMEN	S _____	M _____	L _____
			XL _____
			XXL _____
Total Part 2			€ _____

Part 3—Amount and Method of Payment

Part 1 € _____ + Part 2 € _____ = Total € _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT (CHECK ONE)

AMEX VISA MASTERCARD CASH EUROS (IN-PERSON ONLY)

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ SECURITY CODE _____ EXP DATE _____

CARDHOLDER NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____

Mail this form to WCNA 33, c/o NAWS, PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409, USA, or fax to 818.700.0700. For information call 818.773.9999 ext. 771.

Hotel Reservation Form—Mail or Fax

Mail/fax reservations receive confirmation within 15-30 days.

Part 1—Contact Information

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE/STATE/COUNTRY _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDITIONAL REGISTRANTS _____

Part 2—Room Reservations

Rooms are assigned when form is received. If first choice is not available, next choice will be assigned. **If more than one room is required, please photocopy this form.**

1ST HOTEL CHOICE _____ 2ND HOTEL CHOICE _____ 3RD HOTEL CHOICE _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

SPECIAL REQUEST

SMOKING ROOM (IF POSSIBLE) ADA EQUIPPED (IF POSSIBLE)

ROOM TYPE

(SINGLE) 1 BED/1 OR 2 PERSONS (DOUBLE) 2 BEDS/2 PERSONS*
 IF MY ROOM TYPE IS SOLD OUT, PLACE ME IN A SINGLE-BED ROOM TO KEEP ME IN ONE OF MY CHOICE HOTELS.

**Double occupancy rooms typically have 2 single beds that accommodate a maximum of 2 people, unlike US rooms which typically accommodate 4 people.*

Part 3—Deposit

New for WCNA 33: A one-night deposit is required for each room. Any reservation canceled at any time after the reservation is made will incur a cancellation fee (see Deposit and Cancellation Policies in brochure).

My signature confirms my reservation requests and that I have read and understand the policies and information in the WCNA 33 brochure and this form.

SIGNATURE _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT (CHECK ONE)

AMEX VISA MASTERCARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ SECURITY CODE _____ EXP DATE _____

CARDHOLDER NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____



Planning for Your European World Convention

You will find that some things will be very different from a typical world convention held in North America. Please pay close attention to this brochure and other convention information to help you plan your successful world convention. Some of the unique qualities of a convention in Europe (besides all the good food and beautiful people) are:

Shuttle Services will not be provided to and from WCNA hotels. All hotels are within walking distance of either the convention center or the Metro Line that goes to the convention center.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) is an American policy, not enforced in the European Union. As a result, many facilities and locations will not be as accessible as in the US. In Europe, elevators are small and sidewalks are not as accommodating for wheelchairs or scooters. Many of the access-related services NAWS has provided at past world conventions will not be provided in Barcelona. Consequently, there will not be a formal ADA plan in place for WCNA 33. Please note these differences so that you may plan accordingly. Available public transportation may include underground trains, buses, or taxis. Due to the cost and location of the convention, NAWS will not be providing scooters at WCNA 33. If you decide that Barcelona may be too much of a challenge, remember that WCNA 34 will be back in San Diego, California, in 2011. If it is important for you to be at a hotel close to the convention center due to additional needs (such as aided or limited mobility), please make your reservation as soon as possible. The WCNA 33 housing bureau in Barcelona is not prepared or able to provide preferential treatment or to hold a block of rooms at “walking distance” hotels for those with disabilities.

Make reservation online at www.na.org

or by completing this form and sending to: **GP Destination Management**
C/ Travessera de les Corts, 241 Entlo 1º • 08028 Barcelona (Spain)

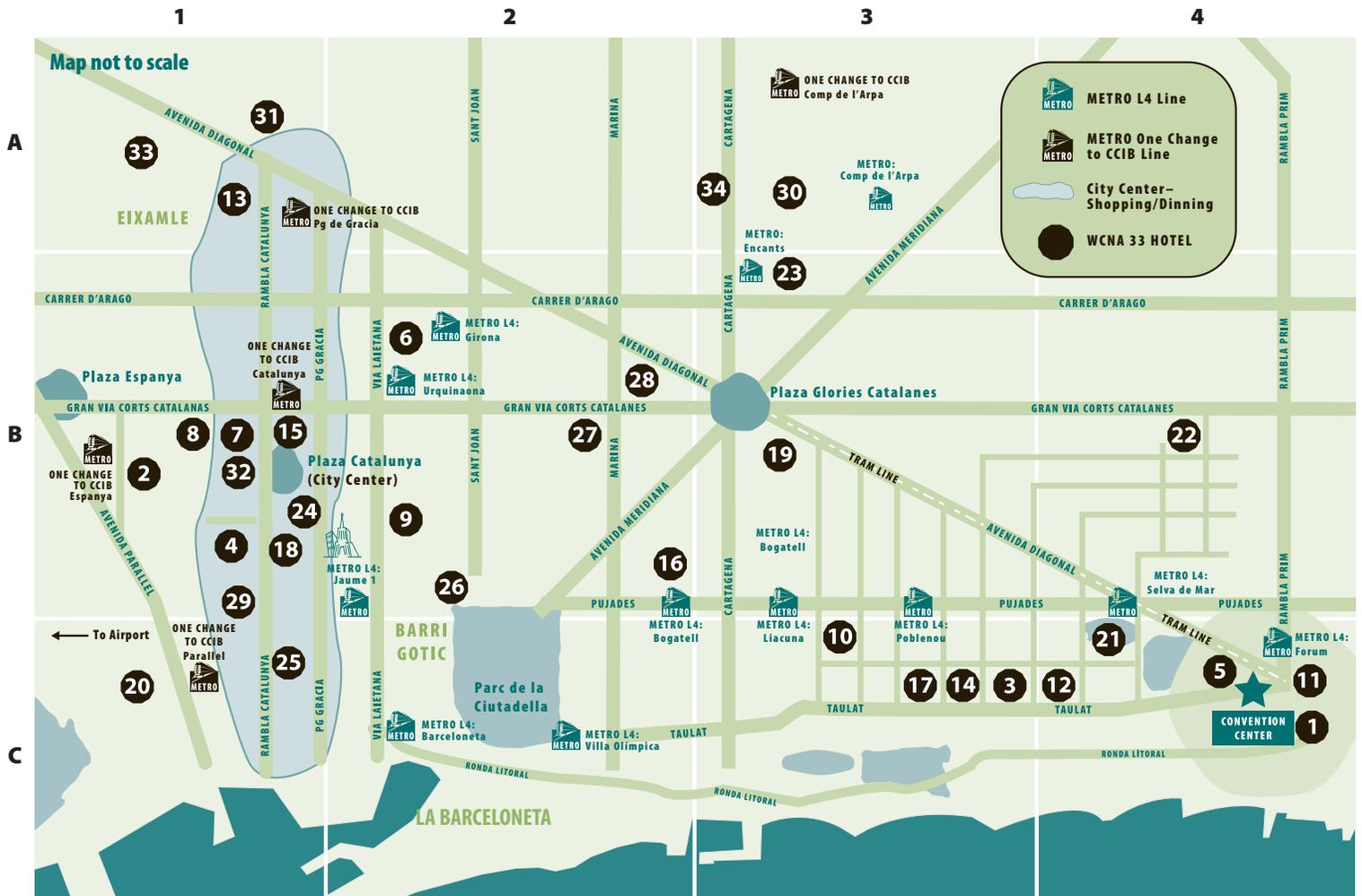
TEL +34 93 363 88 09 FAX +34 93 419 31 29 EMAIL wcna-33@gpdm.com

Map	Key	Hotel Name/Rating	Double for Single Use	Double*
4 STARS ★★★★★				
1	C4	AC Barcelona	€192.60	€208.60
		Junior Suites	€301.74	€301.74
2	B1	AC Vilarmarí	€122.00	€137.00
3	C3	Barcelo Atenea Mar	€128.40	€144.45
4	B1	Barcelo Raval	€165.00	€180.00
5	C4	Barcelona Princess	€145.00	€165.00
6	B2	Catalonia Berna	€128.40	€149.80
7	B1	Catalonia Duques de Bergara	€139.10	€160.50
8	B1	Catalonia Ramblas	€160.50	€171.20
9	B2	Confortel Almirante	€123.05	€133.75
10	C3	Confortel Barcelona	€133.75	€144.45
11	C4	Diagonal Zero	€165.00	€183.00
12	C4	Front Maritim	€130.00	€145.00
13	A1	Gran Catalonia	€110.00	€130.00
14	C3	Hesperia del Mar	€143.38	€169.06
15	B1	Husa Barcelona Mar	€155.00	€170.00
16	B3	Pere IV	€128.40	€149.80
17	C3	Rafael Diagonal	€167.99	€187.25
18	B1	Rivoli Ramblas	€133.75	€149.80
19	B3	Silken Diagonal Mar	€144.45	€176.55
20	C1	Tryp Apolo	€139.10	€155.15
21	C4	Vincci Marítimo	€129.47	€146.59
22	B4	Vincci Condal Mar	€129.47	€146.59

Map	Key	Hotel Name/Rating	Double for Single Use	Double*
3 STARS ★★★				
23	B3	Catalonia Aragón	€107.00	€123.40
24	B1	Catalonia Albinoni	€117.70	€134.10
25	C1	Catalonia Avinyó	€117.70	€134.10
26	B2	Catalonia Princesa	€110.00	€125.00
27	B2	Confortel Auditori	€133.75	€144.45
28	B2	Glories	€101.65	€123.05
29	B1	Husa Oriente	€135.00	€135.00
2 STARS ★★				
30	A3	Amrey Sant Pau	€86.00	€104.50
31	A1	Medium Confort	€100.00	—
32	B1	Medium Monegal (DBL not permitted)	€96.30 (Individual)	€105.00 (DUI)
33	A1	Medium Prisma (DBL not permitted)	€85.00 (Individual)	€100.00 (DUI)
1 STAR ★				
34	A3	Medium Abalon (DBL not permitted)	€95.00	—

* Double occupancy rooms typically have 2 single beds that accommodate a maximum of 2 people, unlike US rooms which usually have 2 double beds that accommodate 4 people.

continued on next column





Living Clean The Journey Continues

*We are
recovering in the
here and now
and the future
becomes an
exciting journey.*

Basic Text

<http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en>

worldboard@na.org

www.na.org

“More Will Be Revealed,” the Basic Text tells us – and more *has* been revealed in the lives of countless addicts around the world in the twenty-five years since our text was published. “Hopeless living problems have become joyously changed. Our disease has been arrested, and now anything is possible,” it goes on. Inspiring words, to be sure, but what exactly does that mean for you? This is the question with which we begin our newest literature project, *Living Clean – The Journey Continues*.

As we live the program we find that dreams really do come true. We also find that we struggle sometimes with real-life problems we may never have expected. Who among us expected to get old? (For that matter, many of us never meant to grow up at all.) How have we dealt with a loved one struggling with addiction? How have we dealt with material or financial success (or ruin)? We could go on and on. You know the particular challenges you’ve grown through – and we want to hear about them.

The same principles that got us clean continue to be the tools that help us live happy, productive lives as we stay clean through all kinds of life events. But we may struggle sometimes in knowing how to apply those tools, or even in believing that they are still relevant to us.

Our vision for *Living Clean – The Journey Continues* is that it will be a book for all of us as we grow in recovery. We want to collect our experience as a fellowship in dealing with the very human challenges that make up our lives, and the very particular ways our addiction – and our recovery – lead us to respond and grow.

To realize this vision, we need you. We invite you to share your experience in recovery. Tell us about the times when life threw you a curve – good or bad – and NA gave you the tools to respond to it. Tell us about finding the passion – or being graced with it – to make NA a way of life for you. Tell us about the night the newcomer in your home group said the words that changed your recovery. We want to hear about it.

In the twenty-five years since the Basic Text came out, without question, More Has Been Revealed. Miracles have happened in all our lives. We have grown. And we have learned. Please join us in bringing together our collective experience and wisdom, so we can learn from each other and share what we’ve learned with the members we haven’t met yet.

We’ve included some questions to get you started. You can answer them online at <http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en>, email your responses to worldboard@na.org, or you can write down your answers and send them to us (NAWS, Living Clean; PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA). You can answer the questions alone or with your home group, friends, committee, or sponsees. Interview an oldtimer. Ask the guys smoking outside

the NA dance to tell you the best thing they've heard at a meeting. But please – take some time to tell us what rocks your recovery.

Pass this on. If you got this as an email, please forward it. If you received a paper copy of this announcement, make more copies. Announce it at meetings. Take it to area. Tell your friends. Pass the word – and send it in. We're waiting to hear from you.

The questions that follow are a guide to get you started, but don't let them limit you – if you have a story you want to tell us, or a great line you want to share, by all means include it. You can answer these directly at <http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en> or use them as a guide – whatever feels right to you.

Turning points

Think about a time when it didn't seem to make sense to stay in NA.

What made you re-commit? What did someone say that clicked? What happened that made going to meetings, or working a program, feel meaningful again? How did another addict get in when your walls were up?

Overcoming obstacles

What obstacles along the path have you overcome? What warnings would you caution others about in recovery? What was the closest call to a relapse you encountered?

Growing in recovery

Tell us about the things you've heard, or experiences you've had, that have stuck with you throughout your recovery.

What are the experiences that deepened your recovery? What gems have you heard shared that made an old message seem new? What lessons have you learned in recovery that changed your perspective and caused you to appreciate your recovery on a deeper level?



World Convention of NA 33

Barcelona, Spain — 20-23 Aug 2009

Love without Borders

Excitement is mounting for WCNA 33 in Barcelona, and many of you have contacted NA World Services for registration, travel, and hotel information. We've posted information on the website at the World Convention page (<http://www.na.org/WCNA/>) and we will also email updates directly to you as soon as they're available if you subscribe online to the convention newsletter, *WCNA Updates*, at <http://portaltools.na.org/PortalTools/subscriptions/Login.cfm>.

We'll also be seeking convention speakers and volunteers to assist in the speaker evaluation process. Cleantime requirements are five years for workshop speakers and speaker evaluators, ten years for main speakers. If you or someone you know is interested in serving as a workshop or main speaker at WCNA 33, please send your CD or electronic audio file along with the form below. Please submit the following information to be considered to help evaluate possible convention speakers, to recommend a speaker, or to volunteer to speak:

Speaker

Speaker Evaluator

full name _____

street address _____ city _____

state/province _____ country _____ postal code _____

daytime telephone _____ evening telephone _____

email address _____ potential speaker's/evaluator's cleandate _____

name of person submitting CD _____

Send your CD or electronic audio file along with the contact information listed above by email or post to:

wcna@na.org
NA World Services
WCNA 33 Speakers
Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA





Did you know?

The Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous has come a long way since our beginnings in 1953. We have grown from that first meeting in Sun Valley, California, USA, to more than 50,000 weekly meetings in over 130 countries worldwide. Our history is rich with diversity, and we want to share the facts of that history with you—the little-known facts and tidbits of information others might not otherwise know. Share your interesting NA facts with us by email at naway@na.org, by fax at 818.770.0700, or by postal mail at *The NA Way Magazine*; Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA.

- Did you know** Jimmy K would have been clean for fifty-three years at NA's Fiftieth Anniversary celebration in San Diego, California, USA, in July 2003.
- Did you know** NA in Trinidad celebrated nineteen years in August 2003.
- Did you know** Hungary had its third NA convention in September. There are currently eight NA groups in Hungary, and NA members can now get keytags in their native language.
- Did you know** NA's first piece of literature, the Little Brown Booklet, was published in 1954.
- Did you know** The epigraph that introduces the preface of our Basic Text, page xi ("The full fruit of a labor of love lives in the harvest, and that always comes in its right season ..."), was sent via telegram to the (then) World Service Conference Literature Committee meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, USA, by Jimmy Kinnon. The date was 7 February 1981. These meetings, called World Literature Conferences, were held specifically to work on creating our Basic Text of recovery.
- Did you know** The Fellowship Services Team at the World Service Office in Chatsworth, California, USA, receives eighty to 110 letters a week from incarcerated addicts.

- Did you know** In 1993 the first Latin American Conference (now known as the Latin American Zonal Forum) was held in Lima, Peru, with representatives from five regions in attendance. The LAZF held in San Jose, Costa Rica, in 2001 had representatives from nineteen NA communities.
- Did you know** More NA literature has been translated into Spanish than any other language.
- Did you know** The first Area Service Committee—the San Fernando Valley ASC—was created on the north side of the city of Los Angeles, California, USA in 1973.
- Did you know** NA recovery chips and medallions were first produced in 1982.

January 2004



Primary purpose

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

The Group Booklet

Integrity and effectiveness

The Eighth Concept tells us "Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications." We could add that almost everything in Narcotics Anonymous depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications—our personal recovery, our reputation with the public, our unity as a fellowship, having the resources to carry the message, and, yes, how much we trust our trusted servants.

We strive to be forthright, honest, and clear in our communications, yet we need to balance these qualities with perceptiveness and sensitivity. Being forthright is often a challenge, especially when we know that what we have to say is going to be painful to hear. Though it's tempting to want to soft-pedal bad news, or precede it with a lot of justifying and rationalizing, doing so has the same effect as making excuses when we're making amends.

Honesty is one of NA's most fundamental principles. We begin to practice it right from the beginning of our recovery when we admit our powerlessness and unmanageability. We get more skilled at being honest as we communicate with a sponsor and a Higher Power.

Being clear in our communications is complex. We can't include every single detail, or our message will get lost. However, we can't be so concerned with brevity that we leave out important details. It's important to communicate in definite, specific, and concrete terms, especially in a fellowship as diverse and multilingual as ours.

Perceptiveness and sensitivity are crucial. If we're going to communicate effectively, we must know something about our listeners. What do they care about? What do they want to know? What do they need to know? We need to be sensitive to their perspective, even though it may not be the same as ours. Sensitivity helps us know when it's better to keep our opinion to ourselves.

Most important of all, communication in Narcotics Anonymous must be a dialogue, not a monologue. We need to listen as much as we speak. Every service board and committee, every group, and every member has a stake in NA's stability and growth, and we need all their voices to be complete.

October 2000

NA in South Africa: A diamond in the rough

In 1991, in a tiny room in a recreation center in Johannesburg (known as "The Bronx" in South Africa), I reluctantly attended my first NA meeting. Inside there were five other addicts, the air thick with smoke, everybody clutching a bright blue book and talking at the same time. It was more out of defiance toward my family than a belief that I could go through life without drugs that I continued to return to that meeting. My mind was a mess, yet somehow something penetrated the fog: If you don't take the first one, you won't get loaded.

On 4 March 1992, on the brink of death, I stopped taking that first one.

At the end of 1992, there were only three meetings in the entire Johannesburg area. There were only six regular members. All the service was being done by one member who, sadly, picked up again a few years later and shot himself. In January 1993, we were told that all the existing members would have to attend to everything themselves: obtaining literature, getting a phonenumber, PI, H&I, the treasury, etc. How we hated that, but our love for the fellowship brought us through.

Today, NA in Johannesburg is thriving. Our country is undergoing many changes. Among other things, we have the unfortunate reputation of being the drug capital of the world. But the opportunity to carry the message is always there. We have meetings every night, often more than one. In October 1998, we had our Seventh National Convention in Durban. For the first time, a member of our fellowship represented us at the World Service Conference in 1998.

I've been clean for six years, four months, and I owe my life to NA. Being given the opportunity to do service since the early part of my recovery has allowed a dream to be fulfilled: that in the new South Africa, irrespective of race, color, or creed, we are all coming together in recovery.

*Janet F, South Africa
April 1999*

The South Africa Region was approved at the 2006 World Service Conference to be seated at WSC 2008. The region is now comprised of four areas and 131 weekly meetings, and will hold its 15th regional convention in October 2008. The region has a national helpline (083.900.MYNA) and a website (www.na.org.za) that includes interactive discussion forums.

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

What's in a name?



The NAWS public relations team is busy. In addition to attending professional events and working with regions to plan cooperative events, we are providing support to the *In Times of Illness* workgroup. We understand from fellowship workshops and board discussions that medication in recovery tends to be one of those "opinionated" topics. The workgroup is striving to update this booklet and to add a section that focuses on mental health issues. The booklet will not discuss drug replacement therapies; rather, experience will be shared about chronic pain in association with a chronic and/or terminal illness. The World Board hopes to have a review and input draft of the booklet out by 1 February 2009. An update will be provided for you in the next *NA Way*.

Another project for this conference is to create "Public Relations Basics." This is a condensed version of the *Public Relations Handbook* and the term "PR Basics" is the current working name. This project is embryonic, yet one that we hope will be completed this conference cycle.

We continue to receive communication from members about whether service bodies need a PR subcommittee or a PI subcommittee. In our responses, we reassure members that the new handbook was not intended to change committee names; public relations is how we create and maintain relationships with treatment providers, phonenumber providers, correctional professionals, etc. In addition, we continue to inform the public that Narcotics Anonymous is a viable, credible program of recovery. Some committees have decided to change their name to "public relations subcommittee" because it tends to reflect their function, while other committees have chosen to maintain the name "public information subcommittee." Both are correct. Each service body should inventory itself and make an informed decision as to the purpose and function of the subcommittee to determine if a subcommittee name change is in order.

We have also heard from several trusted servants asking whether their area needs to form a PR subcommittee that encompasses PI, H&I, and phonenumber subcommittees. Again, this is the service body's decision, which usually occurs through an inventory process that is based on consideration of function, purpose, and trusted servant and financial resources. We have heard that some smaller NA communities find it beneficial to form this type of an umbrella subcommittee, while some larger areas have determined that service provision is optimal with separate committees for H&I, PI, and phonenumber. Committee structure is ideally based on function, resources (trusted servant and financial), and NA community size. Chapter Three in the *Public Relations Handbook* discusses effective service provision, and its addenda have resources that may help with planning and an inventory.

We would like to hear from you. You can write to us directly at pr@na.org.

October 2008



CALENDAR

NA groups and service bodies can publicize events in *The NA Way Magazine* and in our online calendar at www.na.org. To submit event information for the online calendar and the magazine, just click on the "na events" link at www.na.org and follow the instructions. (If you don't have Internet access, fax your event info to: 818.700.0700, attn: NA Way; or mail it to: *The NA Way Magazine*; Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA.) Only multi-day events are printed in the magazine. Events remain on the online calendar until the week after the event. Please submit information according to the magazine publication schedule below.

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

Argentina

Cordoba 21-23 Nov; Convencion Regional Argentina 16; Luz y Fuerza, Villa Giardino; rsvns: 541143246659; www.na.org.ar

Bahamas

New Providence 31 Oct-2 Nov; Celebration 19-Bahamas Area Convention; British Colonial Hilton, Nassau; rsvns: 242.302.9000

Brazil

Sao Paulo 4-7 Dec; 16^a Convenção Regional do Brasil; Navio Zenith, Santos; rsvns: 55.11.2136.0800; www.16crna.com.br

Dominican Republic

Boca Chica 14-16 Nov; Dominican Republic Convention 7; Resort Don Juan, Boca Chica; rsvns: 809.687.9157; event info: 809.697.4073, martindiazbello@hotmail.com

Greece

Nafplion 24-26 Oct; Greek Regional Convention 8; Iria Mare, Nafplion; rsvns: 302752094267; www.na-greece.gr

India

Jharkhand 12-14 Dec; Indian Regional Convention 5; Galudih Inn, Galudih; rsvns: 91.9830042544; www.naindia.org/IRCNA5.htm

Luxembourg

Differdange 29-30 Nov; First Luxemburgish Convention; Differdange; 00352.621317000; www.na-luxembourg.org

Mexico

Baja California 24-26 Oct; Convención Baja California 16; Grand, Tijuana; rsvns: (USA) 866.472.6385, (Mex) 01800.026607; event info: 858.277.6438

New Zealand

Wellington 24-26 Oct; More Will Be Revealed Convention; Rutherford House, Wellington; www.nzna.org

Philippines

Misamis Oriental Province 9-11 Jan; Pilipinas Regional Convention 14; Pryce Plaza, Cagayan de Oro; rsvns: 63.88.858.4537; www.napilipinas.org

South Africa

Western Cape 24-26 Oct; South African Regional Convention 15; Dennebos/Pineforest, Cape Town; www.na.org.za/convention/convention.php

Spain

Barcelona 20-23 Aug; NA World Convention 33; Centre Convencions Internacional (CCIB), Barcelona; www.na.org/WCNA

Venezuela

Distrito Capital 14-16 Nov; Convencion Regional de Venezuela 5; Circulo Militar de Caracas, Caracas; www.na-venezuela.org

United States

Alabama 7-9 Nov; Greater Birmingham Area Convention 14; Sheraton, Birmingham; rsvns: 800.325.3535; event info: 205.422.7361; registration: 205.322.4033

California 9-11 Jan; Monterey Bay Area Convention 3; Monterey Convention Center/Portola Plaza and Spa, Monterey; rsvns: 831.649.4511; www.mbcna.org

2) 9-11 Jan; TAC Convention 9; Red Lion, Eureka; rsvns: 707.445.0844; www.tac-convention.org

Colorado 24-26 Oct; Colorado Regional Convention 22; Rocky Mountain Park Inn and Estes Park Conference Center, Estes Park; rsvns: 800.803.7837; www.nacolorado.org/crcna

Florida 7-9 Nov; Unidos en Recuperacion 4; Ramada Inn Gateway, Orlando; rsvns: 800.327.9170; www.orlandona.org

Georgia 31 Oct-2 Nov; West End Area 22nd Anniversary; Renaissance Concourse, Atlanta; rsvns: 888.391.8724; event info: 404.428.6897

Illinois 14-16 Nov; Lake Borderline Convention 2; Illinois State Beach Resort, Zion; rsvns: 847.625.7300; event info: 847.338.4479

2) 14-16 Nov; Greater Illinois Regional Convention 12; Northfield Inn Suites and Conference Center, Springfield; rsvns: 217.523.7900

3) 1-4 Jan; Chicagoland Region Convention 21; Hyatt Regency, Chicago; rsvns: 312.565.1234; www.crcxxi.org

Kentucky 31 Oct-2 Nov; Bluegrass-Appalachian Regional Convention 3; Ramada Conference Center, Lexington; rsvns: 859.299.1261; www.nakentucky.com

Maryland 31 Oct-2 Nov; Ocean Gateway Area Convention 11; Clarion Fontainebleau Resort, Ocean City; rsvns: 800.638.2100; event info: 410.251.3787

2) 28-30 Nov; Free State Regional Convention 16; Waterfront Marriott, Baltimore; rsvns: 410.385.3000; www.freestatena.org

Michigan 31 Oct-2 Nov; Southwestern Michigan Area Convention 4; Radisson Plaza, Kalamazoo; event info: www.michigan-na.org/sw_michigan

Mississippi 7-9 Nov; Surrender by the Seashore; Super 8 Motel, Biloxi; rsvns: 228.385.7919; event info: 228.249.1269;

Missouri 31 Nov-4 Dec; Freedom to Change 15; Hilton KCI, Kansas City; rsvns: 800.525.6322; www.ftckc.com

Nevada 31 Oct-2 Nov; Sierra Sage Regional Convention 13; Circus Circus Casino, Reno; rsvns: 800.648.5010; www.ssrna.org

New Jersey 17-19 Oct; First Greater Atlantic City Area Convention; Clarion Inn and Convention Center, Atlantic City West; rsvns: 800.782.9237; event info: 609.271.8157

2) 28-30 Nov; North East New Jersey Area Convention 14; Doubletree Inn and Executive Meeting Center, Somerset; rsvns: 800.222.8733; event info: 862.368.6118

3) 31 Dec-1 Jan; Bergen Area Service Committee New Year, New Life 15; Hanover Marriott, Whippany; rsvns: 800.242.8681; speaker tape submission deadline: 10 Nov; www.bergenarea.org/events.html

4) 30 Dec-1 Jan; Greater Newark Area Convention 5; Marriott at Glenpointe, Newark; rsvns: 201.836.0600; event info: 973.819.1073

New York 31 Oct-2 Nov; Western New York Regional Convention 13; Holiday Inn Grand Island, Grand Island; rsvns: 716.773.1111; www.nawny.org

2) 9-11 Jan; Nassau Area Convention 6; Long Island Huntington Hilton, Melville; rsvns: 631.845.1000; event info: 516.369.0062

Ohio 28-30 Nov; Greater Cincinnati Area Convention 17; Crowne Plaza, Cincinnati; rsvns: 800.227.6963; registration: 513.793.4500

2) 2-4 Jan; Central Ohio Area Convention 20; Renaissance Inn, Columbus; rsvns: 800.417.1057; www.nacentralohio.org

Oklahoma 16-18 Jan; Norman Winter Convention; Embassy Suites, Norman; rsvns: 800.362.2779; event info: 405.525.6578; speaker tape deadline: 30 Nov; write: Western Area of Oklahoma; Box 1455; Norman, Oklahoma 73070

Pennsylvania 21-23 Nov; Start to Live 26; Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Champion; rsvns: 800.452.2223; event info: 412.956.9103

South Carolina 23-26 Oct; Serenity Festival; Myrtle Beach Convention Center, Myrtle Beach; rsvns: 800.703.6507; event info: 910.409.0518

Tennessee 26-30 Nov; Volunteer Region Convention 26; Holiday Inn, Chattanooga; rsvns: 800.872.2529; event info: 423.517.0857

Texas 7-9 Nov; Best Little Region Convention 20; Clarion, Midland; rsvns: 432.697.3181; event info: 432.661.1920

Utah 7-9 Nov; Utah Region Indoor Convention 10; Prospector Square Lodge and Convention Center, Park City; rsvns: 888.283.3030; www.uricna.org

Vermont 7-9 Nov; Champlain Valley Area Convention 19; Sheraton, Burlington; rsvns: 802.865.6617; www.cvana.org

Wisconsin 24-26 Oct; Wisconsin State Convention 25; Sheraton, Brookfield; rsvns: 262.786.1100; www.wsnacna.org

Want to feel part of?

Volunteer to serve at WCNA 33

**by completing a Volunteer Information Sheet
online at www.na.org/wcna!**

WCNA 33
Amor sin
fronteras
LOVE WITHOUT BORDERS
BARCELONA, SPAIN | 20-23 AUGUST 2009



NAWS PRODUCT UPDATE



Sixth Edition Basic Text

This new edition reflects the international diversity and strength of our NA Fellowship. It includes ten chapters on "Our Program" and a new section of recovery experience from NA members in fifty-one countries called "Our Members Share." The stories are organized as "Beginnings" (excerpted from earlier editions of the Basic Text), "Coming Home" (journeys from addiction to recovery), "Regardless of..." (staying clean in spite of age, race, religion, sexual identity, etc.), and "Life on Life's Terms" (challenges and successes in recovery). The Sixth Edition also includes abstracts of each personal story and brief member experiences called "Reflections." Available in hard and softcover.

Item No. 1101 & 1102 Price US \$11.00/each

Roman Numeral Bronze Medallions

Traditional bronze finish in English, Castilian, and French.

Item No. 43XX Price US \$2.75

Japanese

Just for Today

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Item No. JP-1112 Price US \$7.70



Norwegian

Twelve Concepts for NA Service

Tolv konsepter for NA service

Item No. NR-1164 Price US \$1.75

Behind the Walls

Bak Murene

Item No. NR-1601 Price US \$0.81

NA: A Resource in Your Community

AN: En ressurs i ditt

lokalsamfunn

Item No. NR-1604 Price US \$0.32

Poster Set - Set of Six

Item No. NR-9070 Price US \$8.60

Twelve Concepts Poster

Item No. NR-9077 Price US \$2.85



Hungarian

IP No. 16: *For the Newcomer*

Az újonnan érkezőnek

Item No. HU-3116 Price US \$.021

IP No. 22: *Welcome to NA*

Üdvözlünk a Narcotics Anonymous-ban

Item No. HU-3122 Price US \$0.21

Lithuanian

Twelve Concepts for NA Service

Dvylika koncepcijų NA Tarnybai

Item No. LT-1164 Price US \$1.75

Nepali

IP No. 8: *Just for Today*

आजको निम्ति मात्र)

Item No. NE-3108 Price US \$0.21



Russian

Twelve Concepts for NA Service

Двенадцать Концепций Служения АН

Item No. RU-1164 Price US \$1.75

Keytags

Welcome -

Multiple years

Item No. NE-4100—4108

Price US \$0.45/each





Coming soon



Basic Text Commemorative Edition

Celebrate the Basic Text's 25th anniversary—and the Sixth Edition release—with this hand-numbered, limited version. The handsome deep blue and purple leatherette cover, punctuated by a debossed NA logo and silver lettering, opens to a stunning title page where a three-dimensional rendering of the NA logo is accompanied by those familiar words: *...that an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live.*

Available late November 2008

Item No. 1103 Price US \$25.00

Tri-plate Roman Numeral Medallions

These new medallions feature a three-color paint design on a gold-tone base. A choice of color combinations will be offered, priced at \$20 each or \$16 each for orders of 25 or more pieces.

To be released late 2008

Service Pamphlets

To be released late 2008

An Introduction to NA Meetings

Revised based on fellowship input, this piece offers a welcoming introduction to NA meetings. It explains some of the practices that might be unfamiliar to those at their first meetings, and offers tips on ways to help the group preserve an atmosphere of recovery.

Leadership

Our Fourth Concept highlights the importance of effective leadership for quality NA services. This pamphlet addresses how our principles are applied in service. It also highlights some of the skills and qualities of effective leaders, and includes ideas about how our service bodies can work to attract and cultivate such leaders.

The Benefits of Service

Our Basic Text states, "Service gives us opportunities to grow in ways that touch all parts of our lives." This pamphlet touches on a few of the ways that service benefits each of us as individuals, and how our efforts benefit NA as a whole.

Brazilian/Portuguese and Hebrew

Roman Numeral Bronze Medallions
Traditional bronze finish in Brazilian/Portuguese and Hebrew.

French

Sponsorship

Le parrainage

Item No. FR-1130 Price US \$7.00

