

THE  
**NAWay**  
MAGAZINE<sup>®</sup>

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



OCTOBER 2014  
VOLUME THIRTY-ONE ♦ NUMBER FOUR



- [Healing and amends](#)
- [WCNA 36: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil!](#)
- [Traditions Book Project](#)



THE  
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL  
OF  
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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

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The NA Way Magazine welcomes the participation of its readers. You are invited to share with the NA Fellowship in our quarterly international journal. Send us your experience in recovery, your views on NA matters, and feature items. All manuscripts submitted become the property of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Subscription, editorial, and business services: PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9099.

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# From the editor

I've been looking at years of collected photographs, thinking about the idiom, "a picture is worth a thousand words." Photos capture a single moment, but that moment is a microscopic, two-dimensional slice of a much greater and more complex story. A smiling face might mask untold pain. An empty circle of chairs may look lonely, but is home to memories of great joy and unity. We have filled this issue with images from NA members. Many are familiar to us, and they remind of us the life-changing contact that we know occurs in these settings. We hope this issue evokes pleasant memories, serenity, and hope. And we hope it inspires you to send your images and stories to help us share the NA message with tens of thousands of NA Way readers.

We also want to thank all of you who have discontinued your paper NA Way subscriptions. We know some of you still want the paper copy, and we understand that, but we also want you to benefit from the additional content in the electronic version. Many e-subscribers are printing some or all of their electronic copy on home printers or at local copy/business centers. Your simple choice to subscribe electronically greatly decreases production and distribution costs. [The electronic NA Way](#) offers extra goodies like unique photo/art attachments, additional articles, and live links. We hope that providing you with this extra content helps express our appreciation—and encourages you to e-subscribe, which you can do at [www.na.org/subscribe](http://www.na.org/subscribe).

De J, Editor

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Cover photo: Background: Grupo Desejo has meetings every day of the week in Santa Catarina, Brazil; Rogerio S, Santa Catarina, Brazil. Top left: NA group logo vitrail light; Claude G, Quebec, Canada. Bottom left: Ten home groups host 29 of the Florida Funcoast Area's 114 weekly meetings in Tampa; Dan W, Florida, USA. Top right: Southside Survivors Group's "Basic Building," Pueblo, Colorado; Mac M, Colorado, USA.

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.

# 15 cents

“Can I get a pack of menthol silvers, please?” The grungy-looking clerk moves slowly, bends down, and grabs the pack of cigarettes. “Five-fifteen,” says the clerk with the sideways name tag. I toss five bucks on the counter and dig through my pockets. I feel the hot metal of coins, grab them all, and slap them on the counter. My hand caresses one coin in particular. It’s large and golden in color, and it has writing all over it. My mind is instantaneously teleported somewhere vaguely familiar.

Agonizing pain sweeps through me as I remember myself four years earlier: My palms are sweaty, but I don’t drop the little sealed bag of relief. I reach under my passenger seat and pull out my tools to conduct the morning’s ritual. How I loathe this. Despair and hopelessness storm through my mind, eating large chunks of the tattered remnants of my dignity. I glance around the parking lot to make sure no one is watching. Then I remember, “Wait, I don’t give a f\*#k; not anymore.” My friend is tiny and sharp, stinging like a mosquito as it enters my arm.

Three days, I tell myself. I walk outside into frozen, midwinter Medford. I feel so alone and so very cold. Every part of my body aches. It hurts just walking to the smoking section outside the rehab. I brush the snow off the old wooden bench and sit in the corner, away from everyone. Huddled for warmth, I fumble through my pockets, trying to find my lighter. My brain staggers around like a drunken man not knowing how to walk. I can’t even find my lighter, and I feel as if I’m about to cry. A tidal wave of emotions crashes through my brain, destroying everything in its path, showing no mercy, leaving no survivors. There’s nowhere to hide. “Do you need a lighter?” I look up and see a bitter old man staring at me. In a vain attempt to hide the flood of tears in my eyes, I look back down. He doesn’t ask this time. He hands me his blue lighter and wraps my shivering body in the warm blanket that was around him. I begin to cry at this random act of kindness. I don’t deserve this.

Thirty days, I tell myself. I look around the room of people sitting in a circle, drinking coffee, and joking with one another. My heart races and I feel faint. I have to stand up and get my 30-day keytag. My body heats up as if I am engulfed in flames. I can’t breathe. I’m being suffocated by some imaginary being choking the life out of me. I ask God to vanquish this feeling I despise. I look around, and no one even notices my attempts to complete this simple act of breathing. Once my breathing slows, I finally feel grounded and I hear someone start the meeting. “Thirty days?” echos around the room. I rise from my seat and walk toward this person who seems to be filled with such life as applause erupts through the tiny room. I feel the vibrations in the air as I meet this woman holding a bright orange keytag. She embraces me with a heartfelt hug, hands me my keytag, and asks me who I am. “I’m an addict named Steve, and I have 30 days today.” I choke on the words but somehow spit them out of my mouth. Everyone in the tiny room claps again. Pride in myself flows through my veins. As I walk back to my seat with my head held high, I feel the presence of something much greater than myself watching me, and for the first time in over a



Drawings: Christopher W, Texas, USA.  
Reprinted from *Reaching Out*,  
October 2014



decade I don't feel alone. I feel peace. Do these people really love and accept me when I can't love and accept myself?

Three hundred and sixty-five days, I tell myself. I smell the burning candles in the familiar church in Ashland where we meet every Tuesday night. I look around at the many faces I've come to know over the past year. I've been asked to share my story once I get my medallion. I gladly agreed to share because I was told a grateful addict shares. One of my friends starts to hand out keytags. Once he gets to nine months, I know one year is next. I've upgraded from cheap plastic to hard metal, paying for the upgrade with blood, sweat, and tears. I've leveled up in life. He calls out, "One year," and smiles at me. I slowly stand up, stroll over to him, and accept this small token that symbolizes earning one year clean. I retake my seat and pray that the right words come out of my mouth during the share. I have

## *My pulse soars off the charts...*

become very close to this powerful being I've begun to call God; talking to him daily has become my norm.

A vivid recollection of this past year plays in my mind, like a short film before the movie. I know now what I will share about. As the room grows quiet, I only see the flicker of the small white candle dancing before my eyes. Words are no longer hard to express, as they once were; instead, they flow from my mouth with ease. I briefly retell the events that led to me getting clean. I wince at the pain these thoughts give me; I prefer to focus my energy on positive change in the now. I play with a small, crinkly piece of dry paper as I open myself up to old friends and complete strangers in this small, dark room. I divulge truth from my heart with no fear of judgment. My pulse soars off the charts as I still struggle with my anxiety. My palms are sweaty, and I taste bitter air in my dry throat. I press on through the fear, and continue my share despite my social anxiety. I touch briefly on being anxious, acknowledge it, and begin to feel the warmth of comfort cover me like a warm blanket on a cold night. I

end my share with "My name's Steve and I'm a grateful recovering addict."

"Do you have 15 more cents, sir?" the clerk asks. I stare blankly as my mind tries to grasp the significance of this large gold coin lying on the counter before the clerk. I move the mixture of metal coins around and find a combination of fifteen cents. I press the coins toward the clerk. I look back up and smile. "That's a nice coin, man," the clerk says with a smile. "I have one too."

Steven M, USA

## Basic caption contest

Here's your chance to participate in *The NA Way Magazine* in a whole new way. Write a caption for this comic, 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](mailto:naway@na.org).



Pat G, California, USA



# Healing and amends

I have been a member of Narcotics Anonymous since 1989, and at the time of this letter I have appreciated continuous abstinence for more than 24 years. During my second year in recovery, while in his active addiction, my 16-year-old son fatally stabbed another teen. Wanting to make an example of him to other teens, the judge gave him a life sentence, to serve a mandatory ten years before being eligible for parole.

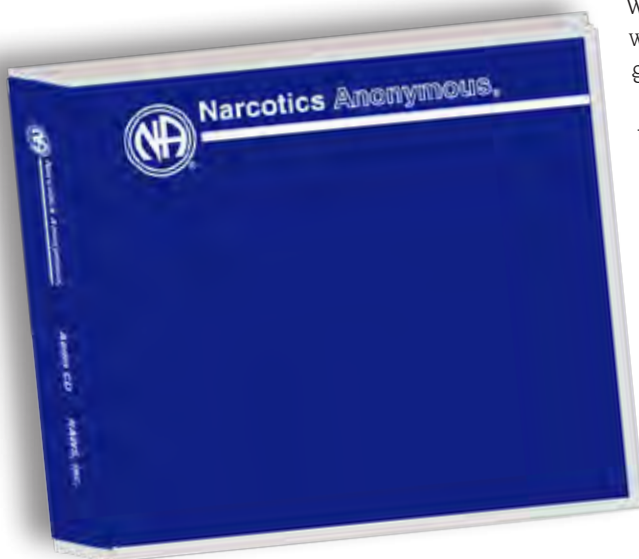
As painful as it was, I went to a lot of meetings, worked the steps with my sponsor, got involved with service, and stayed clean. At the end of his ten-year sentence, parole was impossible as my son was hopelessly addicted to drugs and deep in the mix of prison violence. It was at this time that I was spiritually directed to leave my home in California and move to Port Cartier, Quebec (Canada), to stay near him until he either died or freed himself with NA's life-giving steps and traditions.

Accepting the love our fellowship has to offer, my son got clean just a few months after my arrival and stayed clean under the most adverse conditions. For the next nine years he healed as I did what I was taught, taking trains, buses, and even walking in frigid, below-zero weather to selflessly carry the message of hope and freedom. I had very little money, could not speak or understand the local language, and was so far up north that there were no NA meetings in either French or English. What I did have was a Basic Text, some speaker tapes and CDs, and a whole lot of willingness and perseverance to share what was so freely given to me.

After his initial ten-year sentence, it took my son nine more years to work his way down to lesser-security penitentiaries and finally free himself to the outside world. Although he will be on parole the rest of his life, he's been out of prison for almost four years. His dreams to be free, work as a tattoo artist, and have a family have all come true.

NA's message that any addict can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live has made a difference not only in the life of my son, but also in the life of the mother of the boy my son killed. She has taken my son in her arms and forgiven him, and now she and I speak on forgiveness in prisons and to victims' rights organizations. As a mother who felt so guilty and ashamed for the harm I caused my children in my active addiction, I can honestly say I have made my amends.

*Supriya D, Nova Scotia, Canada*



# Why I serve

At first, I served because my sponsor guided me to—home group setup, then GSR, and so on. My first taste of grateful service happened at about four months clean. I was setup/coffee maker/chair for my home group, a late-night meeting at a halfway house and crisis center. I was in a lot of pain emotionally simply from the diseased noise in my head. I didn't want to set up or be there, but I had a commitment, so I was there. Only four other addicts came to the meeting. We all had plenty of time to share, and I didn't share anything too profound, but as I was cleaning up afterward, I overheard two members talking—not about me or anything I said—they were saying how grateful they were for the meeting and that they had needed it to stay clean. Ever since then, I have gratefully served.

More recently, I got to experience another blessing in my life—a painful one but a blessing. My mother—who stood by my side throughout my active addiction, even when that meant being forcibly introduced to walls when she got in my way—was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer in September 2012. After months of treatments and care, in February of 2013 she went to the emergency room one last time. Through the course of the night her condition deteriorated to the point where she was mentally gone, and further treatment was causing irreparable damage. At 6:00 am, I called my two sisters and my brother to let them know what was happening and to seek guidance. When I got clean in 2004, none of them wanted anything to do with me. That morning, they each told me they trusted me to make the right decision. At 8:00 am, I gave the order to halt life support. At 8:15 am she passed. NA gave my mother back her son, my siblings back their brother, and me the strength to be selfless and let her body go in the spirit of love. This is why I serve.

*Dennis M, Northern New York Region, USA*

## Recovery reflection

My wife Suzanne and I are both very grateful members of Narcotics Anonymous and have been for many years. The other day she received a text from a parent at the school where she teaches. The parent was planning to offer the school community a mirror, but wanted to give Suzanne first dibs. Suzanne took one look at the mirror and immediately accepted the gift. What's really amazing is that Suzanne maintains her anonymity at school, and the parent had no idea that this mirror would hold such significance for us. It did take a slight modification to the hardware on the back so it would hang the "NA way." A few days later, Suzanne was showing it to her sponsee, Lisa. Lisa saw herself in the mirror and quickly snapped a picture. This gave Suzanne the idea to host a barbecue so our friends could all get their own mirror pictures. We invited our sponsees, friends, and

our area's local service board members who had spent the past year field-testing the new service system proposals. We had a wonderful day eating, fellowshiping, looking at old pictures, and taking new ones. Check out the photo to see what the attraction was.

*Guy A, California, USA*



# Traditions Book Project

The Traditions Project Workgroup held its first meeting in June, discussed the overall project, and began work on the first batch of review and input (R&I) material.

**We plan to release the first batch—consisting of an introduction and Tradition One—in October 2014.**

To meet that goal, the workgroup will convene again in September to finalize the first R&I batch and begin work on the next release, which will consist of Traditions Two through Seven.

The deadline for input (initial experience and ideas for possible inclusion in the draft materials) on Tradition One was 31 July. By that date we had received a tremendous amount of input—well over 300 pages from members, groups, and service committees from all around the world.

**We will continue accepting input on Traditions Two through Seven through the end of November, but we encourage everyone to focus on Traditions Six through Twelve.**

We've already received quite a bit on Traditions Two through Five.

**It takes an entire Fellowship to create the best NA literature possible.**

We encourage everyone to participate by joining the discussion on the discussion board (<http://disc.na.org/trads>), workshopping the materials from the project webpage ([www.na.org/traditions](http://www.na.org/traditions)), and holding review and input workshops once the R&I materials are released.

**We're very excited to see this project move forward—please stay tuned and stay involved!**

Outlines for the Traditions Book mini workshops are available at [www.na.org/traditions](http://www.na.org/traditions).

We welcome your feedback and ideas at <http://disc.na.org/trads> and [worldboard@na.org](mailto:worldboard@na.org).  
Thanks for participating!

Traditions Book



Project



# Public Relations

## Knocking on doors

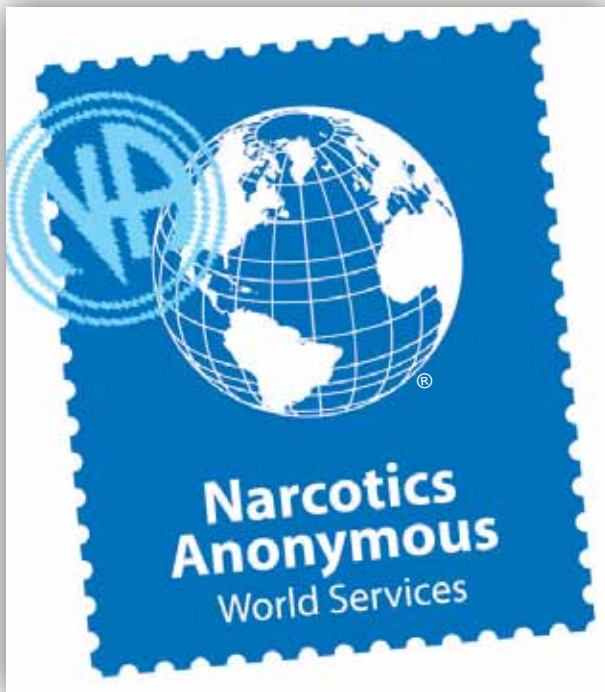
What does "knocking on doors" have to do with NA public relations? More than anyone may be aware of or consider. Often, public relations service includes poster drives, health fairs, and presentations at secondary schools. Perhaps public relations committees attend professional conferences in their geographic area or seek to place public service announcements on television or radio. Yet, how many have ever considered "knocking on doors" of those who are in a position to affect the lives of many addicts just to ask to meet with them to explain the Narcotics Anonymous program of recovery?

This approach has been used in two recent settings and has been met with success. Prior to our WCNA 35 recovery celebration in Philadelphia in 2013, the secretary who oversees all addiction treatment for the state of Pennsylvania was contacted to inquire about an appointment. This same approach was followed with a request to meet with Pennsylvania Department of Corrections officials. Surprisingly, both of these state-level professionals agreed to meet with NA. These meetings may have been happenstance, yet the outcomes keep giving. There were professionals from these state agencies who participated on the professional panels at WCNA 35, which spawned the idea of training for all correctional officers in all facilities in Pennsylvania. Consider what the opportunity brings: Addicts who may not be served by H&I may be able to be introduced to NA, and correctional officers who previously knew nothing about NA may learn that NA can help addicts and may contribute to a decrease in recidivism.

The above scenario is being repeated in California. Many sheriffs are unaware of our program and its benefits to addicts, so they are reluctant to allow access to H&I trusted servants to carry the message in their facilities. A knock on the door of the California Department of Corrections to invite participation in the 2011 Unity Day call further strengthened NA's relationship and, as a result of that relationship, an opportunity developed to address this challenge. They requested a statewide training for all sheriffs so that NA members can present information about NA.

If PR committee trusted servants consider who we want to reach and then make a plan for this effort, how many more addicts could hear the lifesaving message of NA? That may sound dramatic, yet it is true. Often we tend to hold ourselves back from trying new things in PR, choosing to do what the previous committee was doing. The strategy for contacting and meeting with government professionals can be applied to hospitals with emergency departments and local government offices such as social services. Chapter Four in the *Public Relations Handbook* offers practical and experienced tips for interacting with professionals and the general public.

Once NA has opened the door and started a relationship with these professionals, it is just as important (maybe even more important) to follow up with them to assess whether their expectations were met and learn how we can be of further service. These cooperative relationships are premised on the understanding that they must be maintained in an attitude of goodwill. Public relations service is about carrying the message of recovery; let's hope that we do not leave any stone unturned in our efforts to make our message available through those who have direct contact with addicts in their professions.







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## **NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS COPYRIGHTS AND LITERATURE**

**T**his essay is being distributed in response to illicit publication and distribution of the Basic Text. As many of you know, this is not a new issue, but recently this activity has increased along with extensive outreach campaigns to members to join forces, obtain free or low cost literature, and distribute it. Some have even challenged World Services to take legal action, using Fellowship funds to do so. We do not want to have to resolve this matter in court, and we believe most of the Fellowship does not want that either. This has become a politicized matter to a great extent, but what's most important to us, as a fellowship, isn't about politics or even the law; it's about spiritual principles.

We are certainly not strangers to the idea that some members of our Fellowship are critical of World Services. However, there is no justifiable reason for the illicit production and distribution of NA literature; it is just wrong, and frankly, it's contrary to the clearly expressed group conscience of the Fellowship and principle of unity expressed in our First Tradition. We owe our lives to the message of recovery and hope contained in our literature and that the current controversy must not ever be permitted to threaten the integrity of that message.

The fact is, the approval of the Sixth Edition Basic Text at the 2008 World Service Conference was a unanimous expression of consensus. The vote was followed by "hugs, tears, and a standing ovation" (WSC 2008 minutes). The Sixth Edition is the only approved edition of the Basic Text in English.

Part of our job at World Services is to protect the Fellowship's property on its behalf. We would prefer to never have to write an essay such as this, but we are simply trying to fulfill our responsibilities and honor the trust that was placed in us as members of the World Board. Our duty is clearly outlined in *A Guide to World Services in NA*, the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*, and our bylaws. These policies are the result of much controversy and pain in the late 1980s and early 90s, long before any of us served in our current positions. The issues were taken up in numerous *Conference Agenda Reports*, discussions at World Service Conferences, and even a lawsuit against a member. That painful process culminated with representatives of all parties involved sitting down and hammering out an agreement to pose the issues in dispute to the Fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report* and let group conscience decide. The Fellowship overwhelmingly voiced its conscience on these matters at WSC 1991, passing several motions including one "To reaffirm and ratify that the ownership of all of NA's intellectual and physical properties prepared in the past, and to be prepared into the future, is held by WSO, Inc., which holds such title in trust on behalf of the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, in accordance with the decisions of the World Service Conference" (67 yes, 9 no, 3 abstaining).

This led to the Fellowship's adoption of the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)* in 1993. The purpose of the FIPT is to "hold and administer all recovery literature and other intellectual properties of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in a manner that will help addicts find recovery from the disease of addiction and carry that message of recovery to the addict who still suffers, in keeping with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of NA" (FIPT).

The recent publication and distribution of the Basic Text by members not authorized by World Services seems to ignore all of these Fellowship decisions. This is about protecting the future of Narcotics Anonymous so that the message, as

### **1991 WSC Motion**

**passed by 2/3 voice vote:**

**To reaffirm that the World Service Office, Inc. is the exclusive publisher and distributor of all World Service Conference-approved literature, including all books, pamphlets, handbooks, and other intellectual and physical properties, as directed by the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous through the World Service Conference.**

expressed in our literature, is available to the addict who hasn't found us yet. If you are a trusted servant, you may have been asked questions about illicit NA literature or you may have questions yourself. Here are a few of the more common things people ask about.

### **Why is it so important to protect our copyrights?**

This is first and foremost about the integrity of the NA message and the need to protect NA's property so that NA can continue to own its own material. We have a duty to ensure that Narcotics Anonymous literature contains text agreed upon by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. Protecting our copyrights is the only way to guarantee the conceptual fidelity of NA literature and to safeguard the property of the NA Fellowship.

### **Why can't we have free literature or a low-cost Basic Text?**

The Conference has repeatedly entertained and soundly defeated motions to create a low-cost Basic Text. This is fundamentally an issue of economics. Most of World Services' income comes from profit on the sales of literature, and we give away or subsidize more than a half million dollars' worth of literature each year. The money you don't spend on literature impacts our ability to respond to requests for literature from addicts across the globe. We are not a normal business; we are a spiritual fellowship that has to manage a business. But in order to fulfill our mission—to work toward a future where "every addict in the world has a chance to hear the message in his or her own language and culture"—we need to remain financially stable and to protect the property of Narcotics Anonymous. Similarly, many regions and areas depend on the sales of literature to keep phonelines running, texts getting delivered to prisons, and so on.

At the same time, it is important that our message remains accessible to all addicts regardless of their financial situation. *An Introductory Guide to Narcotics Anonymous* is an inexpensive piece of literature that contains the basics of the NA program. The Intro Guide was created through Conference action as an alternative to a low-cost Basic Text.

### **What can I do about illicit publication of the Basic Text and other NA literature?**

The only people who can really protect the Fellowship's property are NA members and groups. Only our members and groups can effectively enforce the decisions made by the Fellowship and put a stop to illicit distribution of NA literature. We are asking you not to participate in this sort of activity and not to condone it. Please help us protect NA's property and take a stand against its illegal production.

Educate yourself and those around you. This memo has been motivated by the purposeful illicit production of NA literature, but there is also a great deal of unintended violation of the *FIPT*—a service body decides to copy IPs and sell them to groups, a member gets a .pdf of a text and shares it with sponsees; these actions are actually not in line with the Fellowship's decisions and copyright laws. If you are unsure of what is and isn't okay in terms of reproducing NA literature or trademarks, the bulletins related to the *FIPT* answer most any question you might have: [www.na.org/fipt](http://www.na.org/fipt).

For more background information, including a brief factual history of the development of the Basic Text, please see the September 2014 Bulletin at [www.na.org/fipt](http://www.na.org/fipt). (Translated versions of this information will be posted as they are available.)

## World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous 36

### **The Gift Is Freedom O Presente é a Liberdade**

11-14 June 2015, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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Narcotics Anonymous is a bridge to life, and a path we can walk throughout our lives. The gift is freedom. Each level of freedom we experience opens us to greater freedom beyond, just as each level of awareness allows us to recognize how much we do not yet see. Although we may live very differently from one another, we share the same journey. We are so grateful to have found recovery, to be living clean, and to know, wherever we are in our travels—the journey continues.

*Living Clean, Chapter One*

The theme of WCNA 36, “The Gift is Freedom,” is a quote from the opening chapter of *Living Clean: The Journey Continues*. In our recovery journey, we find freedom and we rejoice in its gifts. We are free to pursue our dreams and bring them to fruition. We hope to celebrate this freedom with many of you in Rio de Janeiro!

We understand many of you are planning to attend WCNA 36 and are waiting for more information to help you with those plans. We are actively finalizing all of the details, but we want to provide you with the information we have now even though it is not complete.



The primary location of WCNA 36 will be the Rio Centro Convention Center, located approximately 30 km southeast of Rio de Janeiro. In an effort to secure hotel properties near the beach many of the hotels will be in an area called Barra da Tijuca. One very important thing to note is that (particularly if you are planning a vacation in Rio immediately before or after the event) although it is not a great distance, the trip between central Rio and Barra is not normally commutable, in fixed timeframes, because of traffic. Without making that unpredictable commute, you will find beautiful beaches adjacent to the majority of the hotels in Barra, just as there are in other portions of Rio. We will also be arranging for pre- and post-convention trips in Rio and in other areas of Brazil for those who want to explore more of this extraordinary country. We are still in the process of finalizing hotel and convention center details. We believe we will be able to open convention registration and hotel room blocks sometime in November.

Members traveling from several countries will need a visa to enter Brazil. US passport holders must have a passport that is valid through the end of 2015, prior to applying for a tourist visa. As we understand it the Brazilian Embassies do not accommodate mail in Visa requests. So it will be necessary to use a visa processing



service or walk in embassy service to process a tourist visa. Once we open registration, we will try to provide more information about where to go or services to use to process visa requests. For a complete list of countries requiring visas and their requirements please visit: [http://sistemas.mre.gov.br/kitweb/datafiles/NovaYork/en-us/file/qgrv-simples-ing-26\\_03\\_2014\(1\).pdf](http://sistemas.mre.gov.br/kitweb/datafiles/NovaYork/en-us/file/qgrv-simples-ing-26_03_2014(1).pdf)

If you or someone you know speaks English and would like to be considered to speak at a workshop or main meeting at WCNA 36, please complete the online information form at [www.na.org/wcna](http://www.na.org/wcna).\* Cleantime requirements are five years for workshop speakers and ten years for main speakers.

We are also asking for English-speaking volunteers with at least five years clean to help by listening to and evaluating potential convention speakers over the next few months (Nov 2014-Feb 2015). If you are interested in serving as a speaker evaluator, please complete the online information form at [www.na.org/wcna](http://www.na.org/wcna)\* before **30 November 2014**.

Our members in Brazil are enthusiastically looking forward to convention preparation and the chance to welcome so many members to their country. Glorious sights abound, and a vibrant culture awaits you!

- To stay informed of WCNA news via email, subscribe here at [www.na.org/subscribe](http://www.na.org/subscribe).
- To purchase CDs or MP3s from previous conventions, including WCNA 35, please visit [www.siattend.com/Association.aspx?aic=NA](http://www.siattend.com/Association.aspx?aic=NA).



\* Since many Portuguese speaking members do not usually have audio recordings, a separate speaker consideration process will be facilitated in Brazil for these members.

**Note about form:** *If you are using the Chrome browser, please make sure that you either have Adobe Reader as your PDF reader or download the form onto your hard drive and open it there.*

# 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.

## Join us in Cheyenne



The Clean & Free Group began in or about the year 2002 in Cheyenne, Wyoming, with one meeting on Tuesday night. We have done an It Works: How and Why study every Tuesday night for at least ten years through several location moves. Shortly after our first move we started a Friday night meeting, which gave our group two meetings per week for the next several years. When our meeting location closed in 2013, forcing us to find a new home, we added two additional meetings on Wednesday and Saturday nights. In our new home at a regional medical center, we celebrate "birthday night" on the last Saturday of every month, enjoying cake and fellowship along with heartfelt sharing. Other Saturday nights we read and study our newest book, Living Clean: The Journey Continues.

If you happen to be traveling, please join us on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday night. Cheyenne is conveniently located in the Mountain Time Zone at the intersection of Interstates 80 and 25, 100 miles north of Denver, Colorado.

*Tommy O, Wyoming, USA*







The [Afri-Can Zonal Forum](#) was formed in 2013, bringing together NA communities on the continent to share resources and work together to carry the NA message. Many East African NA communities are growing and developing. Zanzibar was the location for a Traditions workshop held in May 2014. NAWS facilitated this day-long event after also providing workshops on Building Strong Home Groups and NA's Service System at the Second East Africa Convention held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. During the same trip, NAWS met with members about the Swahili Literature Translation Committee (LTC). Following the Traditions workshop, Tanzania held its first area service committee meeting.



## Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam





## Recovery rock



These photos are from the front yard of Pioneer Group of Emporia, Kansas. The rock was purchased at an auction at the [Mid-America Regional Convention](#) by several Pioneer Group members who pooled their money. It was made by an addict in Kansas. Our NA group started in 1987 in the basement of a treatment house in a 24-square-foot room. That room was our home for 13 years until we moved to our current location in the summer of 2005. We are proud to have our own meeting hall. In the spring of 2014, we refreshed the garden and installed new siding on the building.

Our group currently holds 15 meetings per week. We have about 15 core home group members, with average evening meeting attendance of around 30 and a few less than that for our noon meetings.

We host a free campout every year and we usually host several other functions as well, including a fund-raiser for the Mid-America Regional Convention. Every year we open our doors on Thanksgiving and Christmas for food and fellowship. We have dances for Halloween and New Year's Eve, and we have been known to hold picnics and barbecues. We love any excuse to get together and celebrate recovery!

One of my all-time favorite events was in 1995 when we had a live phone hook-up with huge audio speakers to the Unity Day meeting from WCNA. Last year, seven from our home group attended the World Convention in Philadelphia—quite a big deal for a group with such humble beginnings.

Carla D, Kansas, USA





Here are two photos I took in the Netherlands showing creative ways to collect our Seventh Tradition.

Lutz B, Bochum, Germany



Nässjö-gruppen is a Monday night group in the small town of Nässjö, 40 kilometres away from Huskvarna where I live. Right now they have cake at every meeting because one of the members works at a bakery. ;-)

Veronica B, Huskvarna, Sweden



# Leave resentments at the door



The Phoenix Recovery Group meets Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday nights; and Wednesday morning at 6:00. Each meeting lasts one hour. We meet in a senior center in Williamstown, West Virginia. We open each meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Our meeting format asks members to refrain from "preaching or judging" and to leave all resentments and grudges at the door so that our NA message is not blurred. We have NA-related announcements at the beginning of the meeting, but no reports or business is conducted during the meeting. Monday is a literature study with readings from the Basic Text, *Living Clean*, or an IP. Tuesday and Thursday are open discussion, and Wednesday is a meditation meeting. Saturday is an *It Works: How and Why* study.

A couple years ago we lost our meeting space of almost ten years....

*Kristina C, West Virginia, USA*

Click here to read the rest of the story.

The telescope of a still-operating Soviet-built space observatory in Uzbekistan.

*Bella A, Victoria, Australia*



This is a solar light in the flower bed next to my front walk. I see the NA service symbol in many places, and thought it was cool that the approach to my front door is lined with them.

*Larry B, Oregon, USA*





# CALENDAR

Multi-day events and those occurring between publication dates are printed according to the schedule posted online. To enter events or to access event details, visit the online calendar at [www.na.org/events](http://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.)

| Issue   | Events Occurring        | Submission Deadline |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| April   | 10 April – 31 July      | 15 January          |
| July    | 1 August – 31 October   | 15 April            |
| October | 1 November – 31 January | 15 July             |
| January | 1 February – 30 April   | 15 October          |

## Brazil

4-7 Dec; Grande Sao Paulo Regional Convention 3; Navio Cruzeiro, Santos; [www.3crgsp.com.br](http://www.3crgsp.com.br)

## Egypt

14-16 Nov; Middle East Convention 3; Coral Domina Bay, Sharm El Sheikh; [www.namec.org](http://www.namec.org)

## Mexico

21-23 Nov; Desierto Area Convention; Hotel San Angel, San Luis Rio Colorado; [www.bajason-na.org](http://www.bajason-na.org)

## South Africa

21-23 Nov; South Africa Regional Convention 21; Bergkroom Wellington, Wellington Cape Town; [www.na.org.za](http://www.na.org.za)

## Venezuela

21-23 Nov; Venezuela Regional Convention 8; Hotel & Resort Aguasal Fiesta Inn, Higuerote; [www.navenezuela.org](http://www.navenezuela.org)

## United States

**Alabama** 14-16 Nov; Greater Birmingham Area Convention 19; Sheraton, Birmingham; event info: 205.317.0267

**2)** 16-18 Jan; Central Alabama Area Convention 18; Double Tree Downtown, Montgomery; event info: 716.579.4550

**Connecticut** 2-4 Jan; Connecticut Regional Convention 30; Hilton Stamford Hotel, Stamford; [www.ctnac.org](http://www.ctnac.org)

**Florida** 21-23 Nov; Greater Orlando Area Hispanic Convention 8; Ramada Gateway, Kissimmee; [www.orlandona.org](http://www.orlandona.org)

**Georgia** 26-30 Nov; West End Area Anniversary 28; Renaissance Hotel, Atlanta; event info: 404.468.6886

**Illinois** 7-9 Nov; Greater Illinois Regional Convention 18; Decatur Conference Center, Decatur; [www.centralillinoisna.org](http://www.centralillinoisna.org)

**2)** 1-4 Jan; Chicagoland Regional Convention 27; Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Chicago; [www.crcofna.org](http://www.crcofna.org)

**Maryland** 28-30 Nov; Free State Regional Convention 22; Hunt Valley Inn Wyndham, Hunt Valley; [www.fsrcna.org](http://www.fsrcna.org)

**Michigan** 14-16 Nov; Macomb Area Convention 4; Best Western, Sterling Heights; [www.michigan-na.org/macomb](http://www.michigan-na.org/macomb)

**Missouri** 20-22 Nov; Saint Louis Area Convention; Sheraton Chalet Westport, Saint Louis; [www.stltna.org](http://www.stltna.org)

**Ohio** 28-30 Nov; Greater Cincinnati Area Convention 20; Millennium Hotel, Cincinnati; [www.nacincinnati.com](http://www.nacincinnati.com)

**2)** 2-4 Jan; Central Ohio Area Ultimate Speaker Jam 26; Crowne Plaza North Worthington, Columbus; [www.nacentralohio.org/](http://www.nacentralohio.org/)

**Pennsylvania** 13-16 Nov; Tri-State Region Start to Live Convention 32; Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Seven Springs; [www.tristate-na.org](http://www.tristate-na.org)

**2)** 30 Jan-1 Feb; Bucks County Area Convention 9; Sheraton Bucks County, Langhorne; [www.bcana.eparna.org](http://www.bcana.eparna.org)

**Tennessee** 28-30 Nov; Volunteer Regional Convention 32; Sheraton Music City Hotel, Nashville; [www.natennessee.org/home](http://www.natennessee.org/home)

**Texas** 16-18 Jan; First Esperanza Area Convention; Hilton San Antonio Airport, San Antonio; [www.eacnaonline.org](http://www.eacnaonline.org)

**Vermont** 7-9 Nov; Champlain Valley Area Convention 25; Sheraton, Burlington; [www.cvana.org](http://www.cvana.org)

**Virginia** 9-11 Jan; Annual Virginia Convention 33; Holiday Inn, Lynchburg; [www.avcna.org](http://www.avcna.org)

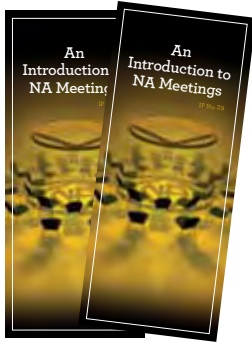
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# NAWS Product Update



## IP No. 29, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*

Offers a welcoming introduction, explains practices unfamiliar to those at their first meetings or in early recovery, and provides tips to help groups preserve an atmosphere of recovery.

Item No. 3129 Price US \$0.24

*Our meetings vary widely in size and style. Some are small and intimate; others are large and loud. The practices and terms used in our meetings also vary widely from one place to another. Most importantly, our meetings are where we share our experience, strength, and hope. If you're an addict, keep coming back and share recovery with us!*

[Read more...](#)

**Material for your public relations efforts, now revised with updated 2014 statistics**

## *NA: A Resource in Your Community*

Item No. 1604 Price US \$0.40

### *2013 Membership Survey*

Item No. ZPR001001 Price US \$0.30

### *Information about NA*

Item No. ZPR001002 Price US \$0.30

## Demographic Poster (for I-stand)

Item No. 9092 (35" x 84")

Price: US \$33.00



## World Regional Meeting Map Banner

Item No. 9090 (5' x 7') Price US \$77.45

Item No. 9091 (45" x 63") Price US \$47.45

## Literature Timeline Banner



Item No. 9095 (2.75' x 9') Price US \$98.20

Item No. 9096 (2' x 7.25') Price US \$60.10

## Chinese 康复与复发

Item No. CH-3106 Price US \$0.24

## Chinese (Traditional) 進一步的探索

Item No. CT-3105 Price US \$0.24

### 康復與復發

Item No. CT-3106 Price US \$0.24

### 就在今天

Item No. CT-3108 Price US \$0.24



## Portuguese (Brazil)

### *Para aqueles em tratamento*

Item No. PB-3117 Price US \$0.31



## Spanish

### *NA: Un recurso en su comunidad*

Item No. SP-1604 Price US \$0.40

### *Encuesta a los miembros*

Item No. ZPRSP1001 Price US \$0.30



### *Información sobre NA*

Item No. ZPRSP1002 Price US \$0.30

## Croatian

Basic Text (5th Edition)

### *Anonimni narkomani*

Item No. CR-1101 Price US \$7.90



## Japanese 塀の中で

Item No. JP-1601 Price US \$0.95





## Thai

จากผู้ติดยาเสพติดวัยรุ่น  
เพื่อผู้ติดยาเสพติดวัยรุ่น

Item No. TH-3113 Price US \$0.31

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และความตั้งใจจริง ของผู้ติดยาเสพติดคนหนึ่ง

Item No. TH-3114 Price US \$0.24

ข้อมูลสาธารณะ และสมาชิกของเอ็นเอ

Item No. TH-3115 Price US \$0.24

## Coming Soon

### Italian

Sixth Edition Basic Text  
*Narcotici Anonimi*

Item No. IT-1101 Price US \$11.55

**Portuguese (Brazil)**  
Sixth Edition Basic Text  
*Narcóticos Anônimos*

Item No. PB-1101 Price US \$11.55

### Thai

Basic Text (5th Edition)

สมาคมผู้ติดยาเสพติดนิรนาม

Item No. TH-1101 Price US \$7.90

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