

What's happening in NA World Services that you may want to know...

We hope you will continue to forward this page by email, or copy it for interested members, your ASCs, and your RSCs. We continue to encourage people to obtain e-subscriptions to *The NA Way* and *NAWS News*.

This helps us to communicate more effectively and control distribution costs.

- ✦ To receive *The NA Way*, a new subscription can be created anytime. Please sign up for e-sub (cost effective!), paper, or bulk subscriptions at www.na.org/subscribe. Please pass on this information.
- ✦ The Service System webpage is online and has all of the material distributed since the conference, as well as background reports and a current update with the shortened session profiles for local workshops. A link to a bulletin board for the project is there as well. Updates will be posted online as they become available: www.na.org/servicesystem.
- ✦ If you are a current conference participant or were one during the 2008-2010 cycle, please sign up for the conference participant bulletin board at <http://disc.na.org>. This board can be viewed by any interested member. We have a lot to talk about this cycle.
- ✦ As we approach the busy CAR season we are asking all new Regional Delegates, and Alternate Delegates, to be sure that we have their current contact information to help ensure communications are received promptly.
- ✦ The approval draft of *Living Clean: The Journey Continues* is available for purchase for \$8.95 including shipping. It may also be viewed online at www.na.org/?ID=Living_Clean_Project.
- ✦ A draft of the new *Social Media* service pamphlet has been sent to conference participants for a 90-day review and input period, ending on 31 October 2011.
- ✦ We have persisted with our efforts to reduce expenses across the board; we continue to ask for your financial support in providing services that help in carrying the message worldwide. Please see the members' contribution portal on na.org at www.na.org/?ID=donation-external-index.
- ✦ There has been a five percent across-the-board price increase on all items in our inventory, with the exception of the Basic Texts, all gift editions, *Miracles Happen*, and self-support IPs #24 and #28. This was effective 1 July 2011. Details can be found on page four.
- ✦ WCNA 34 is being held in San Diego, 1-4 September 2011. We want you to come celebrate your recovery with us! You can check for information about this event at www.na.org/wcna.
- ✦ We have several new products available at :
 - The sixth edition Spanish Basic Text, as well as a special commemorative Spanish edition;
 - two new tri-plate medallion colors in stock - pearl/pink and black/silver; and
 - a new gift edition of *It Works: How and Why*.

Please check the product news flash for upcoming releases at www.na.org/?ID=catalog-products.

Go to *NAWS News* at www.na.org/?ID=reports-nawsnews-nawsmain

OUR VISION, OUR FUTURE



CONFERENCE CYCLE 2010-12 CONTINUES TO UNFOLD

We met 15-19 June 2011 at WSO Chatsworth. We had an ambitious four-day agenda after cancelling our March meeting to conserve resources. We spent two days focused on the Service System Project; day one we collaborated on processes for various aspects of the proposed system, and day two was facilitated by Jim Delizia, who helped us refine the proposals which we will forward in the *CAR*. Our Service System Workgroup partners were with us for these two days, which was bittersweet as this was the last meeting of the workgroup. The workgroup will be communicating by email as we move the proposals forward. In this *NAWS News*, there is a synopsis of points from our meeting, and the website is a great source for current and past information about this project. We hope that you take the time to visit the Service System area on the website, www.na.org/servicesystem.

WSC 2012 is quickly approaching and we spent a day in early stages of development for the 2012-14 *NAWS* Strategic Plan. An extensive environmental scan had been completed prior to this meeting. This scan encompassed external trends which provide us with information about the field of addiction medicine, government policies and other issues affecting potential members, and internal trends which help to inform us about addicts already in NA. Two external trends clearly emerged. These are the changing demographic base of potential members, i.e. younger and older (age 55+), and the likelihood of increasing use of medication to treat addiction. Even though these are "outside issues", they affect NA, our ability to effectively carry our message to the addict who still suffers, and require local discussions about how effectively we deal with these types of potential members. Internally we recognized the trend of growth in emerging communities, advances in technology, and how these affect members. We reviewed our 2010-12 strategic objectives and framed possible objectives for the upcoming cycle. Needless to say, there are always more objectives than can reasonably be addressed in a conference cycle. Our scan also included a self-assessment – how we are functioning as a board and areas where improvement is needed. In October, we will continue to develop our strategic plan for the upcoming cycle.

In addition, we spent time with the HRP discussing the results from the election survey and how we were proceeding. We learned that a Likert scale (a rating range) approach which we used provides us with a pulse of the respondents yet offers minimal clear cut points. There is more about our discussions later in this report.

We are moving forward with proposals for the *CAR*, in lieu of motions, and will be working with regions. As many are aware, the deadline for regional proposals was 1 August 2011 for the *CAR*. As we outlined in the January *NAWS News*, we are aiming for a new business WSC with no regional motions; we believe proposals and regional ideas for consideration by the body will help with producing a cohesive conscience. Of course, there will be motions specific to the budget, for example. Our desire is for all of us to walk through this conference cycle (2012 *CAR* and WSC) with this plan and revisit it together at the conference. We honestly believe we can be helped by this proposal, and we will learn as we go.

Our agenda also covered WCNA 34 plans and registration data, the literature survey data, and discussion of a draft of the *Social Media* service pamphlet. We have already released an electronic version of this draft for conference participants to review until the end of October. With the ever increasing use of social media, we will offer this as a resource to help members navigate these media in a way that respects our traditions and principles.

At this meeting, we refined our list of potential board nominees which will be forwarded to the HRP. We deliberately considered board criteria, skill sets needed for the board, and an absence of some skills in the board today that could benefit all of us in the coming years. We would like the conference to understand and hopefully appreciate our conscientious efforts with consideration of nominees that will be forwarded.

In rounding out our ambitious meeting, we reviewed our current financial status; both sales and contributions continue to be down compared to previous years and against the 2010-2012 WSC approved budget. We will continue to clearly and dutifully inform members about our need for funds during our interactions in workshops and through our communication vehicles. NA is a worldwide fellowship with a mission close to all of our hearts. We believe the newly adopted vision statement guides us in our goal to make recovery available to every addict in every corner of the world, and we need your continuing support.

FISCAL UPDATE

As is our practice, we provide you with our financial picture in each *NAWS News*. Fiscal year 2010-11 closed 30 June 2011, which represents one year of our WSC approved budget. We did not meet the approved budget with fellowship contributions; yet, we are closer this year than 2009-10.

We ended the year in the black for the first time in several years. Although donations and literature sales improved slightly this year, cutting costs coupled with prudent fiscal management were the primary factors in reaching this accomplishment. We are also aware that our literature sales were artificially inflated in June, as service offices planned ahead and made larger purchases before the price increase took effect 1 July 2011.

We were able to suspend the Emergency Action Plan; gratefully, we have money for 65 operating days on reserve. We were able to gain seven days, which affords some breathing room. This was made possible with continued support from the fellowship and an austere program at WSO-Chatsworth where we now function with nine less staff members. Minimally, the aim is to hire two staff in the upcoming fiscal year.

We are being cautious and conservative, yet we may be able to provide increased public relations activity, which has been nearly non-existent, and may be able to expand fellowship development efforts in our ever growing worldwide fellowship. As we all know, NA continues to grow and we all need resources to provide the services that foster our growth. As much as NAWS needs continued fellowship contributions, local services do too. Gratefully, addicts continue to come to meetings – locally and worldwide. The self-support IPs #24 and #28 may be a valuable reflective and action resource with contribution discussions. We continue to embrace our vision that one day addicts throughout the world will be able to experience recovery in their own language and culture. Freedom from active addiction is an energizing force.

We will continue to ask members to *Invest in Our Vision* and encourage regions to contribute to our fellowship. Ties that bind us together include freedom from a life dominated by drugs, dereliction and depravity; we want to be able to afford any addict seeking recovery that same opportunity - to experience the gift of freedom. We need your help to accomplish that; i.e., coming together with a common vision, we will succeed.

LITERATURE PRICE INCREASE - IN EFFECT

As we stated previously, NA World Services had postponed any across-the-board price increase for ten years, since January 2001. Given rising production costs and the current economic climate, we implemented the price increase which became effective 1 July 2011. This is a five-percent across-the-board price increase on all of our inventory items, *except* the Basic Texts, all gift editions, *Miracles Happen*, and self-support IPs #24 and #28. The items that fall into the price increase are all: keytags, medallions, booklets, pamphlets and book-length recovery literature. Again, the price of the Basic Text remains the same.

This increase applies to WSO-Chatsworth, WSO-Europe, and WSO-Canada.

Our current financial model perpetuates a reliance on the sales of NA literature to fulfill our service efforts. Our aim is for services to be paid for more by member contributions rather than a reliance on the sales of literature, especially our primary recovery text. We realize that any price increase is inconvenient at best; however, production and cost of goods charges do not stand still. We are all familiar with the reality that the cost of most things goes up over time. NA is not exempt from this reality.



SERVICE SYSTEM

We met jointly with the Service System Workgroup over two days of our June meeting, with one of these days being facilitated by Jim Delizia. Since our January 2011 meeting, we have released a revised copy of the Service System Proposals document and added a number of resources to the project webpage, including session profiles and PowerPoints for local workshops. These can be found online here: www.na.org/servicesystem. We also put together a session profile and accompanying PowerPoint focused on A Vision for NA Service, an integral part of the earlier stages of the Service System Project. This material can be found online at: www.na.org/?ID=IDT-IDT.

We reviewed the fellowship input we received on the proposals since our last meeting, talked about a number of key aspects of the proposals, and began to discuss what material will be in the 2012 *Conference Agenda Report*. We've received a few questions about how long we will be taking input on the proposals, and we want to clarify: In a broad sense, we appreciate input at any point since any changes to how we deliver services need to involve collaborative efforts and the more conversation we can have together, the better. In terms of having a specific effect on the written proposal report, however, input received after the October board meeting is unlikely to effect the third draft proposals because we will need to draft the *CAR* and finalize the third draft proposals shortly after our October meeting.

As we have reported previously, the issues of how groups get their literature, how funds flow through the service system, and how shared services work in a revitalized system are among the things that need further definition in the proposals. These topics were a focus of our discussions in our two-day meeting. We also spent time talking about the possible roles of zonal forums, how service body boundaries might be established, and the possible advantages of more effectively coordinating planning cycles across the system. We expect to offer more material

on all these topics in the near future as we move towards a third draft of the proposals for inclusion in the 2012 CAR.

We discussed seating issues beyond our January decision to propose seating state, national, or provincial bodies at the WSC, such as what further seating criteria will be needed, and ideas for how to accommodate service provision in both very large and very small states, national or provincial service bodies.

Our other major task was to begin to frame a series of “agreements in principle” which would be included in the 2012 CAR and voted on at the 2012 WSC. The third draft proposal report will be included in the CAR but provided more as background information for the thinking that led to the agreements in principle. The proposal report itself will not be voted on. The agreements are broader in nature—thus the “principle” part of “agreements in principle.” Our belief is that each of these agreements will provide an essential piece of the foundation for the next phase of the project. Because we are proposing a system, really these agreements in principle all work together. In this respect it’s almost artificial to separate them into distinct ideas to vote on, but we understand that is the way that these ideas will be workshopped and discussed. After a discussion, we decided that including them as distinct ideas to be voted on separately would be easier for all and would allow someone who agreed with most of the ideas but strongly disagreed with one to register that disagreement. As we reported in January’s *NAWS News*, we also expect to offer a project plan to form some sort of transition workgroup as part of the Conference Approval Track material in January.

June saw the last meeting of the Service System Workgroup. We want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to the workgroup members, who have spent three years and countless hours working on this project. One unique aspect of this project is that for the first time we met jointly with a workgroup. We believe that this has been a great success, due in part to the experience and hard work of the workgroup members. Thank you all for your dedication.

We also want to thank all those members who have organized and attended service system workshops throughout our fellowship. Your ongoing participation is an invaluable part of this project.

LITERATURE SURVEY

We received and performed a cursory review of the data from the survey. We need to consider the data from a worldwide fellowship – Iranian members submitted 7700

surveys, US members completed 2700 surveys, and members from the rest of the NA world submitted 460 surveys. Now, we need to compare and consider responses to determine what piece(s) of recovery literature may appeal to the entire fellowship. And, we may determine that we need to create a priority list to gain a clear sense. We are reviewing the responses now and will thoroughly discuss and decide on a plan of action at our October meeting.

ELECTION SURVEY

We reviewed the results of the survey which were not as definitive as we hoped. Overall, the responses seemed to indicate satisfaction with the current process; now, if that is true, why is it so difficult to elect? We feel that with using a rating scale, we are more apt to choose the middle ground rather than either end of the scale. This action doesn’t provide us with enough information to determine improvement areas. We hoped the survey would help us to have a more fruitful process; yet, respondents generally supported what we have. However, the survey was clear in wanting more time with the candidate profiles, preferably before the conference. We are considering two options: 1) a password protected site with the caveat that the information is solely for the viewer or 2) hard copies of the profiles sent to conference participants 30 days prior to the conference and asking delegates to bring their profiles to the conference. We are willing to try this; however, any dissemination of candidate information would prompt us to cease immediately. We anticipate that conference participants will be responsible and respectful. We, the HRP and the WB, will ultimately choose what we think works best to protect candidates’ information and provides conference participants a reasonable chance for review. If you have ideas, they are certainly welcome.

During our discussion with the HRP, we talked about how the WSC body can become more comfortable with the candidates offered and express their confidence through voting. The HRP has a few ideas that they may incorporate into their process. We thought that discussing our nominations process with you might be helpful. We want to describe our deliberative process, which may help you feel more confident in those we nominate. We looked closely at who is missing from our board in terms of experience and skill sets, and who is rolling off and what we lose with them no longer serving the board. As we have stated previously (prior to 2010 WSC and today), we would benefit from board members with a business background. Ideally these potential board members would be familiar with organizational dynamics and business financials as an aspect of serving in the capacity of a director for a non-profit organization. In addition to skill sets considered, we also have worked with the nominees that we forwarded – either through a workgroup and/or as an RD. We culled



our own list. Initially, we identified many more candidates than we forwarded to the HRP.

The candidates forwarded, in addition to meeting criteria, were also supported by the board. We wanted to take this opportunity to inform you of our process and hope it is helpful to you in your upcoming deliberations.

WSC 2012 PLAN – REGIONAL AND NEW BUSINESS IDEAS

We are continuing to remind members that WSC 2010 unanimously supported an experiment for WSC 2012 that would replace the current regional motion process with a process to allow ideas to be discussed. The straw poll at WSC 2010 covered both regional motions in the *CAR* as well as regional motions in new business.

In moving more toward consensus-based decision-making, we believe that this type of process would eventually apply to much more than just regional motions. We believe that the conference supported this action as a first step, keeping in mind that conference policies for NAWS motions on items like literature, budget, etc., are much more involved and do not contain “new” ideas.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL

Our proposal focuses on an “idea process” rather than motions. Regions submit their ideas both in the *CAR* and during the conference itself. We aim to try a process to lend weight to these regional ideas, consider what level of support they have among conference participants, and then move them into the planning process. Action may be taken on the idea or we may simply report back on them. Similarly, for new business, there will be a process at the conference for regions to submit their proposals for discussion during the conference week. These will also be discussed and “weighted” in some way at the conference.

Please remember that this is simply a first step and will require discussions at WSC 2012 about what worked well, what did not, and what we would like to see handled in this way for the future.

PLAN FOR 2012 WSC

We are proposing that for this trial, we stick as closely to the existing timelines and processes as possible. In the existing process, the deadline for submission of regional motions is 1 August 2011. The deadline for getting the motion into the conference’s required format is 1 September 2011. In this new process we are using 1 August 2011 for initial submission by regions, and 1 September 2011 for the final wording of the proposed idea for the *CAR*. Since we are not trying to get to the final wording of a new policy, however, the goal during this period is to achieve a practical, clearly stated proposal. The current policy limits the rationale for regional motions to 150 words. We would

like to be more liberal with this experimental process and ask that ideas be stated in one page or approximately 250 words. This would still allow us to keep our translation deadlines and keep the length of regional submissions to something easily workshopped and discussed.

The *CAR* processes in groups for these ideas are to discuss, perhaps refine, and measure support for, each idea rather than vote on a motion. The process at the conference would be to bring these local discussions forward and see which ideas seem to have the greatest support of the fellowship. These ideas will be discussed and straw polled as they are now, but will not be included in the actual business sessions for decision. Similarly, there will be a deadline as there is now for new ideas that arise in the creative mix of the conference, and these will be discussed and straw polled during the new business discussion, but will not be included in the new business session itself for decision.

Anything that rises to the level of a decision that the conference clearly wishes to make will be put before the conference in the wrap-up session, much as the idea that resulted in this proposal was in 2010. The board will clearly state its understanding and intent on the matter, and we will seek consensus through a discussion and straw-polling process.

Matters that require a change in conference policy will be carried forward to the following conference through the *CAR* and *CAT* processes as appropriate for action in the business session of the conference.

We will be working closely together, both with submission of the idea and during the conference. This is an initial step which we all may find beneficial and one that will need to be refined following implementation. Ideas are generally thought-provoking and inspire discussion. We hope this will be our outcome.

SOCIAL MEDIA SERVICE PAMPHLET

At the 2010 World Service Conference, there was substantial discussion about the topic of social networking sites and the challenges we face in applying our principles when using those sites. As a result of that discussion, we have created a draft of a service pamphlet meant to offer members some thoughts on how they can uphold our principles when interacting with one another and with the general public in online forums. The service pamphlet isn’t meant to encourage or discourage use of these sites, but simply offers some thoughts on how (and why) members can protect their anonymity in these settings. We have offered some “best practices” that we are aware of and hope that this resource will be useful to members in their online interactions.

In keeping with the conference’s wishes, the draft service pamphlet is being reviewed by conference participants for

a 90-day period, 1 August – 31 October 2011. Once that 90-day period is over, we will make any final revisions that are necessary before the piece is made available to the fellowship.

THE NA WAY MAGAZINE E-SUBSCRIBE NOW

We continue to see progress as a result of *The NA Way Magazine* subscription changes implemented in late 2010. Electronic subscriptions are still gradually increasing following the discontinuation of automatically-mailed paper copies to groups, service bodies, and trusted servants, and purging the database of individual paper subscriptions. We saw an approximate 20% increase in e-subscriptions from October 2010 to January 2011, and an increase of just under ten percent from January to April. The change in automatic distribution allowed us to save over \$100,000 this past year and we thank you wholeheartedly for supporting this effort.

We hope our members are drawn to the enhanced electronic *NA Way Magazine*, which includes embedded links and additional multimedia content not included in the paper version. In addition, we are beginning to introduce some of the electronic enhancements in the translated versions. Our subscriptions page, www.na.org/subscriptions, is a convenient place to access information about all NAWS periodicals; members can also visit www.naway.org to subscribe, submit material, and access the online magazine. As always, we thank you for continuing to help spread the word about *The NA Way Magazine*.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

WCNA 34 – SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

We are putting finishing touches on our program and will be offering members four PR Workshops at WCNA 34. Two of these are focused toward members who are providing H&I and PR/PI service in their NA communities and for those members who are interested in being of service. We recently released two service pieces, *H&I Basics* and *PR Basics*, and our world convention is a perfect opportunity to provide workshops centered on these pieces. These types of resources are valuable to members when utilized widely and this is an opportunity to become familiar with these service tools. These workshops are interactive and may involve role play, as that tends to bring the written material to life.

We are also offering two professional workshops centered on the principle of cooperation. Our current aim is to have a criminal justice workshop whose panel members include a Director of Rehabilitative Services for in-custody addicts.



Our second aim is to have a workshop with drug court professionals. Currently, we are asking drug court judges to participate. We realize that drug courts are a frequent and continuing topic among members; we think bringing members together with drug court professionals will be a benefit. We recognize that drug courts will continue to increase; our desire is to help members and committees cooperate and find solutions to challenges with your help. We collectively have the same goal – to help the suffering addict. Our approach to the goal is different – drug courts send these potential members to us and we welcome them in meetings to show them that they too can find freedom from active addiction.

We hope to see you in San Diego at these PR workshops!

NAWS MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The NAWS Membership Survey will be rolled out at WCNA. We will pass these surveys out to members attending the Friday night meeting and have them available onsite at the PR booth and NAWS onsite office. We ask members to take a few minutes to complete them. Professionals who refer potential members to NA welcome this information. This survey has helped dispel the notion that we are solely for heroin addicts. The survey illustrates that we have substantive clean time in NA and the quality of our lives has improved dramatically. These facts are attractive to those who refer to us. NA has a long-sought goal of being a program of choice and a credible, reliable program of recovery in every community. Let us all participate so that one day every addict in the world may experience recovery.

For those members who are unable to attend the world convention, we once again will be offering the survey online. We encourage you to tell as many members as possible to participate in this survey. Those who have completed the online survey have helped to increase the validity of NA in the eyes of the public and potential members. We want addicts to find us, gain a sense of belonging and identification and begin their recovery journey. Participate!

MEMBER SURVEY – TRIAL

As some of you may recall, we asked members of various groups to complete a survey as part of our cooperative effort with a physician researcher. We have completed one aspect of the survey; getting the survey out to members in three geographic locations (northeast and southeast US and Los Angeles County, CA, US) and getting the surveys back to NAWS. We would like to thank our coordinator member partners in this endeavor! As many may know, this is a first venture for us. We didn't know whether we would obtain enough surveys to make a random sample, which was a



predetermined number of surveys returned from members. Yet, we did! We are grateful to the members in the three geographic locations who participated.

All the survey returns have been sent to the physician researcher who is in the process of entering the data. We have a conference call with him for an update on his data entry, to see whether he has learned anything, and a timeframe for a report to us. We are cautiously excited with the prospect of receiving information about us, yet we may learn some things that could illustrate areas of improvement for us in carrying our message of recovery. Needless to say, we will continue to report on this trial.

PLANNING BASICS

Our newly released service booklet, *Planning Basics*, was designed to streamline the planning process for local NA communities. Many service bodies embraced the *Area Planning Tool*; we took many of the steps from that piece and reformatted them. We have years of practice throughout our worldwide fellowship with the APT. We found that we could simplify the steps and are hopeful service bodies will find this basic planning piece useful. We initially heard from the Carolina RD who wanted to go on record (stake a claim) as “being the first RSC to use it.” The introductory paragraphs under “Why Plan” were placed into their policy verbatim. We were gratified to read his email; we hope regions and areas worldwide find this booklet to be an asset in their service delivery.

We tried to provide you with specific information to assist you in gathering information (scanning) for your NA service community and the community in which you reside. As you read earlier in this *NAWS News*, we find this action of immeasurable value to our planning process. We need to know what is going on in NA worldwide and we need to know what is going on in society. How can we be effective without this information? We all want to carry the message to addicts to help them find freedom yet we need to know who they are, who is referring them, and how responsibly we are providing services. We used the word “all” as planning at this scanning stage involves each and every member – those involved in service, those who used to be of service, and any interested member.

This piece goes on further to identify the planning steps and suggests four planning meetings to accomplish them. We briefly explained the first meeting – scanning (gathering information). The second and third meetings may have familiar actions – developing goals, approaches, and action plans. The fourth meeting is focused toward monitoring and evaluation which may be a neglected yet important step. How do we know our plans are accomplishing what we intended if we forego evaluating our action plans, or how do we know if we are

on track to complete without monitoring these action plans? We just need to look at the feedback loop to see the importance of monitoring and evaluating.

Finally, and equally important to the success of planning are communication and a calendar. We get the word out to members to come and participate and state the importance of planning; we also review current calendars to ensure we are not in conflict with other ongoing activities. Once we have identified dates, we spread the word to many. We are all responsible for effectively carrying a clear NA message of recovery.

We look forward to hearing from you and we hope that you find *Planning Basics* beneficial. And, for those attending WCNA 34, we invite you to a workshop solely focused on planning. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you have not seen the booklet, check it out at [na.org](http://www.na.org/?ID=handbooks-handbook-index): <http://www.na.org/?ID=handbooks-handbook-index>.

LIVING CLEAN: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

Do you have your copy yet?

The approval draft of *Living Clean: The Journey Continues* is available for purchase. The price is \$8.95 including shipping. It may also be viewed online from the link below.

Living Clean is a book-length recovery piece based in members’ experience of living a recovery journey. Some of the life topics covered are relationships, employment, moving in recovery, and spiritual growth. We encourage you to take the time to read the approval draft.

The draft will be included as an addendum to the *Conference Agenda Report* for the 2012 World Service Conference. Approval requires a two-thirds majority vote in favor by regional delegates. If approved, the book will be designated as “Fellowship approved.” For additional information, please visit: www.na.org/?ID=Living_Clean_Project.

WORLD CONVENTION UPDATE WCNA 34 – IN THE SPIRIT OF UNITY

1-4 SEPTEMBER 2011, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Very soon we will be enthusiastically celebrating our recovery at WCNA 34 in San Diego. We and the workgroup have been diligent in our efforts to provide attendees a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Granted, we were in San Diego for NA’s 50th, yet this is a brand new day.

We open onsite registration on Wednesday, 31 August at 11:00 am. Come early! San Diego offers many sites including the Pacific Ocean. Breathe in the salt air and bask in the gift of freedom that recovery brings.

As we have stated, everyone needs to be registered and wearing their badge in the convention center. A registration badge gives members the ability to attend many dances, coffee houses, the convention festival on Friday evening along with full access to the convention center. Be one of 16,000 members who celebrate our worldwide fellowship *In The Spirit of Unity*. We have 42 countries registered; members can meet and hug addicts from our global community. Recovery works all over the world.

Many of us look forward to the entertainment which seems to be the icing on the cake. There are still tickets available for the Thursday Night Comedy Show – who in recovery doesn't like to laugh? And, there is seating availability for the Blues Luncheon and Jazz Brunch – both are opportunities to listen to music, eat, and hear a message of recovery. Finally, for members who love rock and for those who want to get to know that music, we have tickets for the Saturday Night Concert. Let's have some fun and share our recovery together!

We have WCNA updates on the website: www.na.org/wcna - please visit for the most current information. And, see you in San Diego!!

WCNA 35

29 August – 1 September 2013, Philadelphia, PA

HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL

Hello from the Human Resource Panel!

We have just completed our June meeting, and are fast approaching a few important deadlines and we wanted to remind everyone of them.

In March, we sent all Regional Delegates, zonal forum contacts, and the World Board an email with links to information on how to utilize the RBZ process. Attached to that email was the new rationale questionnaire and submission form. We asked the service bodies to complete this form for each candidate they submit. The deadline for candidate submission is 31 October 2011.

Concurrently, we contacted all members in the World Pool who have not updated their World Pool Information Form (WPIF) in the last three years. If we do not receive updated WPIFs for these members by 31 August, they will be removed from consideration in the upcoming nominations process and will be deemed inactive. This is a requirement outlined in *A Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous*.

Once again, the important upcoming deadlines are:

31 August 2011: deadline for individual members to submit WPIFs, and deadline to update any WPIFs (three years or older) in order to be considered for a WSC 2012 HRP nomination.

31 October 2011: deadline for region, board and zone candidate (RBZ) submissions to the HRP (with the new questionnaire form).

As previously reported, we have made some changes to some of the resources and processes we use to identify the best nominees for service. For the first time we will be asking the "home region" of any traditional candidate to complete a brief, three-question form so that we might gain a local perspective of the member, in the same way that we ask those service boards who forward RBZ candidates. And also for the first time, we will be scoring RBZ candidates in the same way we score traditional candidates. This will be separate from and after the traditional scoring process. These two efforts will result in having the same basic information about both pools of candidates, RBZ and traditional.

Additionally, we have initiated a process for interviewing outgoing and former World Board members. Our hope is that this exercise will further strengthen our perspective on what it is to be a World Board member and therefore how to best choose nominees for your consideration. Since this is the first time we are trying this, it is likely we will find ways to improve it as we move forward.

In reviewing the recent elections survey we were pleased that our efforts seem to be in line with what conference participants find of value in the elections process. And we support getting the candidate information to participants as early as reasonably possible, so that you are able to identify the best nominees for service.

We thank you again for the opportunity to serve. Please feel free to forward any thoughts, ideas, or concerns to the HRP, c/o NAWS, or via email at hrp@na.org.

CALENDAR FOR 2010-2012

Travel requests (considered by quarter)

15 November for January–March

15 February for April–June

15 May for July–September

15 August for October–December

WPIF deadline for updates 31 August 2011

WCNA 34 1-4 September 2011, San Diego, CA

World Unity Day 4 September 2011

RBZ candidate submission deadline 31 October 2011

English CAR available 21 November 2011

Translated CAR available 21 December 2011

CAT material available 21 January 2012

Regional report deadline 1 March 2012

WSC 2012 29 April – 5 May 2012

