

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.

- Almost 40,000 copies of the Traditions book, *Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions* have been distributed. A hand-numbered, limited edition is now available at www.na.org.
- 2016–2018 NAWS Workplan Project Updates:
 - Recovery Literature: Input is being sought on an IP on recovery and mental health/mental illness (www.na.org/mhmi) and a daily meditation project (www.na.org/meditationbook). Input deadline is 1 June 2017.
 - Conventions and Events Tools: All experienced or interested members are asked to assist in developing this resource. Submit your name to conventions@na.org and attend the first web meeting 4 February 2017, 2:00 pm (PST). Updates will be posted to www.na.org/conventions.
 - Local Service Toolbox: There is a survey to prioritize tools at www.na.org/toolbox, and members interested in participating can submit their names at toolbox@na.org. The first web meeting, which covered CBDM, was held 17 January 2017.
 - Collaboration in Service: This will initially focus on collaborating with regional delegates in the NAWS strategic planning process. Questions to ask delegates to gather input for the environmental scan have been sent out, with a deadline of 30 April 2017 for responses.
 - Future of the WSC: Discussions this cycle will focus on WSC processes, use of the time between Conferences, and the future of seating. A report for ideas about WSC processes will be out in the near future. A virtual seating workgroup will be formed again this cycle. Interested delegates are encouraged to contact us.
 - Fellowship Development and Public Relations: We are beginning this project by talking with zones about ideas to improve our PR efforts. Please let us know if you have a zonal contact at worldboard@na.org.
 - Social Media as a PR Tool: We are continuing to investigate the use of social media by other non-profits and twelve-step programs. Initial research did not yield much of an NA PR presence. Please contact pr@na.org if you have experience with this.
 - Issue Discussion Topics: Material for this cycle's IDTs is available online at www.na.org/idt.
 - Delegates Sharing Workgroup: We are currently contacting workgroup members and the first meeting will be in the next few months. Email session ideas to delegatessharing@na.org.
- Financials: NAWS finances remain stable and we are grateful to have received over \$1,000,000 in Fellowship contributions for the second year running. The new accounting system and shopping cart will be online in early 2017.
- *A Guide to World Services in NA*: The updated GWSNA was sent to delegates for a 90-day review and input period. That input is due by 15 March 2017. New delegates and alternates are encouraged to update their contact information with us by emailing elaine@na.org.
- The 37th World Convention of NA will be 30 August–2 September 2018, in Orlando, Florida.
- The Human Resource Panel is currently accepting potential candidates for consideration to the World Board. Here is the link for more information: www.na.org/?ID=HRP-Info8.

Go to *NAWS News* at www.na.org/nawsnews



HONESTY, TRUST, AND GOODWILL

A CONTINUATION OF THIS CYCLE

Our second meeting of this cycle was held 7–10 December 2016 in Chatsworth, California. Our primary focus for this meeting was our project titled Future of the WSC. This comes directly from our Strategic Plan and focuses on processes between Conferences, processes for decision making at the WSC, and viable options for seating. We spent our entire first day in a review of the last 30 years of the WSC to come to a common understanding of where we have been, how far we have come, and where we have and have not made progress. We reviewed ideas and Conference actions from the early 1980s through the last two Conferences in the Future of the WSC sessions.

Thursday was spent reviewing Board workgroup possible proposals for the Future of the WSC. We all agreed that any possibilities for WSC change need to begin with spiritual principles. The internal Board workgroups each presented their broad conceptual models without details. Options ranged from regional to zonal, with hybrids also discussed. Our goal is to present viable options in a way that can engender discussion, rather than to present just one proposal from the World Board. Sustainability and effectiveness are our foundation and are called out in the language for this project adopted at WSC 2016. Processes and seating seem to encompass an overwhelming amount of information for one report, so we plan to send this out in at least two reports soon.

We started Friday with a financial update and other corporate responsibilities. We are grateful to have 92 operating days in reserve, due largely to cautious spending and the unprecedented contributions we have received for the past two fiscal years. Ninety-two days may seem sufficient,



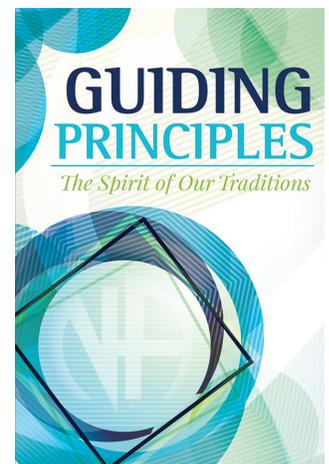
however, our goal is one year of operating days which is standard non-profit practice. We reviewed and approved the scope of a literature distribution evaluation, which had been postponed in the last cycle. We moved to a public relations report that covered the steps taken in Vietnam, both in Hanoi and in Ho Chi Minh City; a presentation during the Middle East Convention in Oman; and a plenary session demonstrating twelve-step effectiveness at the International Society of Addiction Medicine Conference in Montreal. We closed on Friday with a draft of an H&I video that we are in the process of developing that showcases the Fellowship's efforts in implementing this important service and contribution of these efforts to Fellowship development.

Closing out the meeting week, we recapped the possible models for the Future of the WSC and reviewed the conversations that are already happening among current and past participants. The audit for the last fiscal year has not been presented to us yet, but we anticipate that the Annual Report will be ready in the first quarter of 2017. We moved on to early discussions of WCNA 2018. The deadline for information from the surrounding regions about possible workgroup members and themes is not until January, so we will be continuing this discussion. WCNA 37 will be held 27 August through 2 September 2018 in Orlando, Florida. We also had preliminary discussions about WCNA 2021. We are currently seeking quotes and information on availability from Melbourne, Australia; Cape Town and Durban, South Africa; and Dubai and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: THE SPIRIT OF OUR TRADITIONS

This book was approved at WSC 2016 and was available to the Fellowship beginning in October 2016. We have distributed almost 40,000 copies in the few months it has been available. As it says on our website, NA's newest Fellowship-approved book contains tools, text, and questions meant to facilitate discussion and inspire action in our groups, in workshops, and in sponsorship. This book is a collection of experience and ideas on how to work through issues together, using the principles embodied in the Traditions.

Our 2017 Product Catalog has been posted online at www.na.org. It reflects all of our currently available material including the limited edition of *Guiding Principles* that is now available.



FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

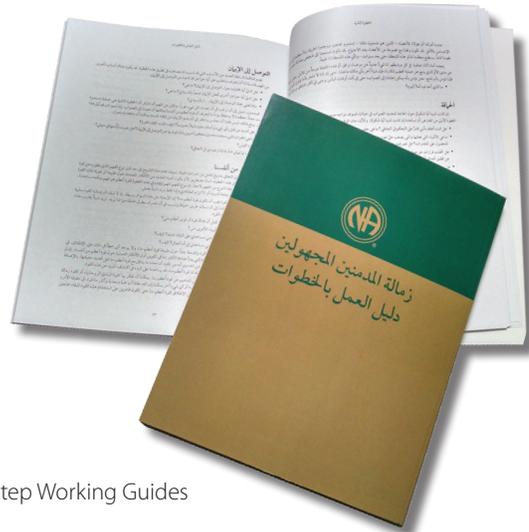
Since our last Board meeting, we have sent travelers to several large events. The 30th Western Service Learning Days was held in San Diego. It is impressive that our members have been able to keep a service-oriented event going for 30 years, and we send huge congratulations. They always have many, many workshops and we were able to help with several. The *Guiding Principles* workshop was standing-room-only, which is amazing for a Traditions workshop.

We attended the Colombian Regional Convention and were able to help with a number of sessions. Literature availability, applying our principles to social media, maintaining an atmosphere of recovery, and unity are topics of discussion that seem to be requested all around the world. The passion and warmth of their gatherings shone through.

We sponsored the Afri-can Zonal Forum in South Africa. Twelve of the member communities were able to attend, ranging from Ethiopia in the north to Lesotho in the south of the continent. Three years ago these were primarily struggling NA communities, and now there is a marked difference. They go to extraordinary lengths to include all communities, and stay connected by monthly internet video calls. The heart-to-heart language rang like a bell in the forum, and the participants were all focused on how to get recovery to everyone in their communities. They are a great example of Fellowship development in action.

We also attended the fourth Middle East Convention in Oman. This event was created from a desire expressed at a Middle East workshop, and they have worked to make and keep it a reality. We were able to take the first copies of the *Arabic Step Working Guides*, which is a direct result of many of these communities working together. The Omanis hosted a PR event in conjunction with this convention, with over 700 people from the community present.

Most of our other FD-related travel is covered in the PR section below. All of these events were amazing examples



Arabic Step Working Guides

of what can be accomplished through collaboration and goodwill. We seem to be able to surmount any obstacles if we pull together. Thank you to all of our hosts for their tireless work for the Fellowship and for making us all feel so welcomed.

2016-2018 NAWS WORKPLAN

As previously mentioned, we reviewed the workplan for the cycle and are aware of the fact that we have fewer funds available for all projects than are usually spent on one project. We are looking at ways to use technology, focus groups, and other, less resource-intensive ways to accomplish our work. We are committed to advancing our projects for this cycle in a variety of new ways.

RECOVERY LITERATURE



Objective 1: Develop new recovery literature and/or revise existing literature to meet the Fellowship's needs.

We have posted material seeking your ideas and input to help us frame both an IP on recovery and mental health/mental illness (www.na.org/mhmi) and a daily meditation book (www.na.org/meditationbook). To date, we have received input from 573 members with ideas for the meditation book, and 221 members have provided thoughts for the mental health/mental illness IP. We would like your support by spreading the word that this information is available online. We want many members to help shape the focus and direction of these pieces so that we can present project plans to WSC 2018 that are reflective of what members would like.

SERVICE TOOLS PROJECT



Objective 2: Develop concise, accessible, relevant, and adaptable tools that address basic concepts and that inspire users in their service efforts

At the last World Service Conference, delegates used results from the 2016 *Conference Agenda Report* survey to help

Maono ya huduma ya NA

Juhudi zote za Narcotics Anonymous zinaongozwa na kusudi kuu la vikundi vyetu. Juu ya huu msingi wa kawaida twasimama na nia.

Maono yetu ni kuwa siku moja:

- Kila miralibu duniani anayo nafasi ya kuujua ujumbe wetu kwa lugha yake asili na tamaduni na kupata nafasi ya njia mpya ya maisha;
- Kila mshirika, akiongozwa na zawadi ya upataji nafuu, atazoea ukauji wa kiroho na kutimzwa kupitia huduma;
- Viungo vya huduma vya NA kote duniani hufanya kazi pamoja lewa roho ya umoja na ushirikiano kusaidia vikundi kueneza ujumbe wetu wa upataji nafuu;
- Narcotics Anonymous ya tambulika na kuheshimika duniani nzima kama mpango wa upataji nafuu unaofanyakazi.

Ukweli, uaminifu, na nia njema ndio msingi wa juhudi zetu za huduma, zote zilwa za tegemea mwongozo wa nguvu kuu yenye mapenzi.

shape the focus of literature and service material projects as well as Issue Discussion Topics.

This cycle we will be working on tools for conventions and events as well as material for a “local service toolbox”—something that can be used on a local level at area service committees and local service conferences. Both of these were highly rated in the *Conference Agenda Report* survey. Many of our service materials are outdated, and we are overdue to concentrate our efforts on producing new or revised tools. Our budget limitations mean that we are not planning to develop a standing workgroup for service materials, but we hope these limitations will actually work in our favor. We plan to utilize technology to pull in as many interested members as possible as we draft these tools.

Conventions and Events Tools Project

At WSC 2016, as a part of the Service Tools Project Plan, and considering input from the 2016 CAR survey, we took on the work of developing resources for delivering NA conventions and NA events locally. Our goal is to compile and develop new material that represents current best practices and experiences of our service committees responsible for overseeing these events. If you have local convention or event experience, then your participation is needed in this process. We are also looking for any templates, worksheets, or forms that your convention committee uses in support of its work. Please share locally developed materials with us by sending them to conventions@na.org.



There are a number of different topics associated with local conventions and events, and we can't tackle them all at once. So, in preparation for our work, we announced and conducted an online survey that will help with the initial focus. Our thanks go to those who participated in the survey. Our first web meeting is scheduled for 4 February at 2 pm (PST). We will be sending more information about that meeting to those who have written and expressed an interest in the project. If you have convention experience or are interested in developing resources for local events, please consider adding your name to the list by writing to conventions@na.org. We have also set up a webpage in support of the project. Updates will be posted there as they become available. That link is www.na.org/conventions.

Local Service Toolbox

We already have some tools for local service delivery, such as *PR Basics*, *Planning Basics*, and *H&I Basics*, but there are so many more that we lack or that we have not revised or adapted in years. The “Basics” seem to be a good approach for us because they are perhaps less overwhelming than a large handbook, and they are easier to translate and revise. We believe a “toolbox” with small-scale pieces will have the same advantages.



We just began work on this project, but there is already much to report. We have a survey posted online to try to get a sense of what tools you believe are most important to work on first and to build a list of interested and experienced members who would like to be involved in the work. If you'd like to be involved and you haven't let us know yet, you can either fill out the survey from the link on the project page (www.na.org/toolbox) or drop us an email at toolbox@na.org.

The first tool we would like to draft is Consensus-Based Decision Making Basics, unless the survey results indicate otherwise. We already have a draft that was created for the service system field test, and we also have quite a few locally developed tools and workshops on CBDM that members have sent to us. Please send us any locally developed materials or best practices that you think would be useful. We will use these materials together with ideas from web meetings to revisit the draft of CBDM Basics and then send it out to interested members for input.

We had our first web meeting 17 January 2017 at 12:00 noon PST. Because this is the first time we will use web meetings in this way—to join together to work on draft tools—and because we are not sure how many are interested in joining us, this first meeting was a “test drive” as much as anything. We provided a general introduction to the project and started to get a sense of who has experience with CBDM and what should be included in CBDM Basics.

When we have a draft that seems ready, we will move on to the next prioritized tool. Our goal is to put together draft tools for inclusion in the 2018 Conference Approval Track material for approval at the 2018 World Service Conference.

Project updates will be published in *NAWS News* and sent to everyone who signs up to be on the project email list.

COLLABORATION IN SERVICE PROJECT



Objective 3: Raise awareness of the value, impact, and spiritual necessity of collaboration, demonstrating the relevance of the NA Vision for Service to each body within the service system.

As we stated in the project plans, our initial strategy is to collaborate with regional delegates by further involving them in the NAWS planning process. We have created questions to ask delegates in order to garner their input for our environmental scan, and these questions are out to the delegates. We have adapted our timeline this cycle to give delegates and interested regions the time to participate. We are asking for responses by 30 April 2017 to allow for the variety of scheduled regional meetings. We hope delegates will plan for this and make time for discussion at their regional meetings. We believe strongly that the NAWS Strategic Plan will be enhanced through this type of collaboration and incorporation of regional ideas into the plan.

FUTURE OF THE WSC PROJECT



Objective 4: Continue work to make the WSC a more effective resource to help achieve the Vision for NA Service.

As we have reported previously, we have three main focuses in the Future of the WSC project: WSC processes, use of the time between Conferences, and the future of seating.

Regarding processes, at WSC 2016 there were four committed proposals and a straw poll, all supporting the elimination of formal Old Business. With this as our foundation, we will be recommending that we eliminate the formal Old Business session, and make final decisions on those items in the Old Business discussion session. This is a simple solution that seems to have the support of Conference participants, and is another step toward a consensus-based WSC. Improving the New Business process will likely take a more creative approach, and we are working on some ideas. As many Conference participants know, the time spent and the outcomes of that session are often less than optimal. At this writing, we are not prepared to offer any recommendations for a future web meeting, but we hope to have them soon.

We are continuing to think through the other focuses, including how to use the times between WSC meetings to share and discuss ideas. We also spent time at our last meeting discussing the future of WSC seating, but again, there are no recommendations at this time. As we mentioned, we hope to gather virtually with Conference participants to discuss the future of the WSC after we test-drive the technology in January. We will need your participation in the discussions to help shape the outcomes. Please be sure to participate in the web meetings and to offer any input or ideas as we move forward.

On a related note, we will be forming a virtual seating workgroup again this cycle to make recommendations about the applications for seating to be considered at WSC 2018. We asked delegates again recently by email to let us know of their interest, and we are in the process of contacting possible workgroup members.

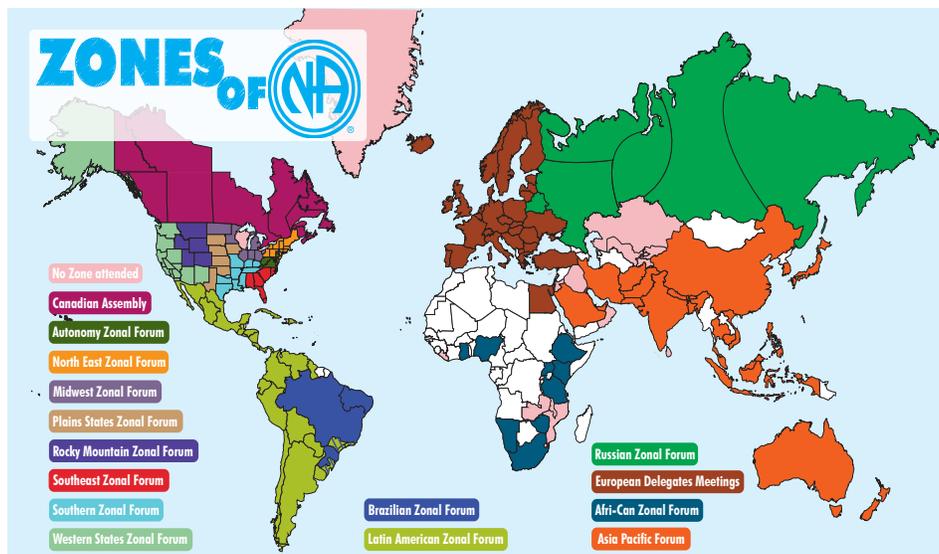


FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS PROJECT



Objective 6: Increase understanding that effective fellowship development efforts depend upon public relations work, emphasizing the need for collaboration among service bodies.

Our first step in this project is to have a conversation with representatives from zonal forums to discuss ideas on how to improve our PR efforts and focuses. We have asked any zonal forums that are interested to identify a contact person. This will be an information-gathering process, and we hope that zonal forums, particularly in the US, will participate. Many of the forums outside the US have already indicated their willingness to brainstorm together. We aim to have our initial web meeting in February 2017. Please let us know if you have a zonal contact at worldboard@na.org.



SOCIAL MEDIA AS A PR TOOL



Objective 8: Raise awareness and understanding of Narcotics Anonymous among the general public and potential members.

We will be researching the use of social media by nonprofits, including other twelve-step programs, to learn of their experiences—what challenges occurred and how these challenges were resolved. We will also be looking at NA public PR pages whether they are at the group, area, regional, or zonal level. We are seeking experience with public pages—those that simply inform the public about NA. Our initial research didn't find that twelve-step programs have a social media presence. In our review of NA service body pages, we viewed the content that seemed to be aimed toward members and/or potential members. If your service body has a public PR page, please let us know. We would love to communicate with you.

ISSUE DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR 2016–2018

You can find all of the 2016–2018 Issue Discussion Topics at www.na.org/idt; Spanish translation is available now and additional translations are underway. Each new cycle ushers in new Issue Discussion Topics for members to workshop, whether at the area, regional, or zonal service level. We test-drove a couple of these at recent events and members seemed receptive and interested in participating. Our aim is for the topics to bring value and discussion for members. Our topics for this cycle are:

- Applying Our Principles to Technology and Social Media
- Atmosphere of Recovery in Service
- How to Use *Guiding Principles*

We have created a variety of tools, posted online, to help you hold these discussions locally, and we hope you will let us know about your experience. For *Guiding Principles* we have only posted material for the first three Traditions. You can also easily adapt the session material to any other Tradition by choosing a question or questions from the “In Service” section of each Tradition. These workshops have created some very interesting Traditions discussions. We encourage you to adapt this session to your local needs and to let us know about your experience. Sending your results to worldboard@na.org can help to shape future

Fellowship resources and services. We hope to evolve some of these topics as the Conference cycle progresses.

DELEGATES SHARING

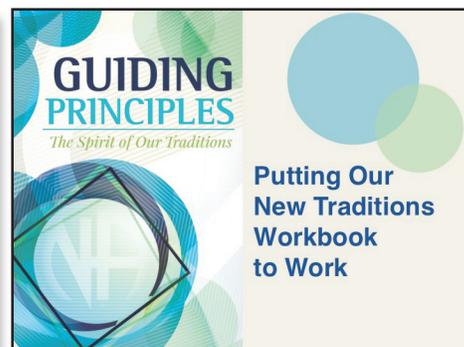
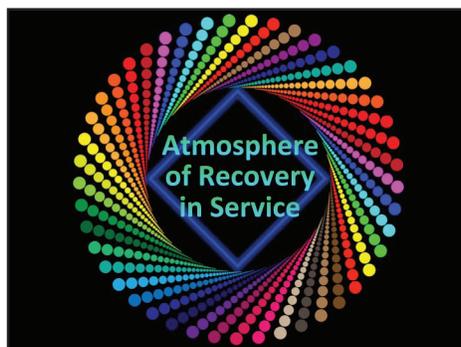
The Delegates Sharing Workgroup was established by a WSC 2014 proposal to develop a WSC sharing session for delegates. The intent of the workgroup is for delegates to prepare a session for the WSC that allows participants to talk about issues they find important, and to exchange experience with each other in order to foster unity. Potential DS Workgroup members are being contacted and work should begin within the next few months. Anyone interested in submitting ideas or suggestions can email the workgroup at delegatessharing@na.org.

FISCAL UPDATE

NA World Services has 92 operating days in reserve, which means that NAWS can fulfill all obligations for that period of time. As many may recall, our goal is a one-year (365 days) reserve. Again, we are extremely grateful for having had over \$1,000,000 in contributions from the Fellowship for the past two years, and we ask that contributions continue. We are able to assist and support our global Fellowship as a result of your contributions, which we deeply appreciate. We are guardedly optimistic that we, as a Fellowship, may be moving toward being fully self-supporting through our own contributions for services that we have requested. Currently, 13 percent of contributions have been from home group involvement; previously, that had been 9 percent. We are delighted that group contributions continue to increase. At the same time, we recognize that some groups do not have the funds to be able to contribute. Some groups are barely able to cover their rent.

We framed the scope of our literature distribution project, which was on hold from last cycle. This will be an undertaking over many months, perhaps through this cycle. In an ever-changing world, issues of duties, customs, and shipping costs change frequently. Reviewing and understanding practices and our current system in North America is another component. Additionally, we need to consider sustainability and gain a full picture of customer types such as regional offices, areas, groups, and individuals.

Staff remains busy getting the new accounting system ready to go online in early 2017. Part of that new system will be a new shopping cart, which is long overdue.



GWSNA

We have updated *A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA)* for the 2016–2018 Conference cycle to reflect decisions made at WSC 2016. We sent a notice to Conference participants of a 90-day review on 20 December 2016. We are asking you to send any input on this draft by 15 March 2017. The draft has been posted to the Conference participant FTP site and the final version will be posted online after any revisions.



Photo of a clinic in Hanoi, Vietnam

PUBLIC RELATIONS

In addition to the review of the current status of the two PR projects, we received updates of recent PR travel. At one conference in Borneo, Malaysia, where NA was presented to professionals from Malaysia and India, we learned that NA is growing in Malaysia and that there is an NA Malaysia website. During the trip to the Middle East in Oman, NA was presented to a 700-person audience ranging from professionals to family members. These are small NA communities, yet they seem primed for growth. In the follow-up Vietnam trip, two cities were visited—Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City—where the basics of NA were presented, including a demonstration meeting to approximately 110 physicians and social scientists. Vietnamese addicts were also in attendance. We remain optimistic that one NA meeting may begin in Hanoi at a clinic, and in Ho Chi Minh City we perceive that three NA meetings may begin, with one being at a clinic, one at a private treatment center, and the third in a community peer-support meeting. We will continue follow-up with Vietnam in the coming months.

WCNA37

30 August – 2 September 2018

We are looking forward to the 37th World Convention in Orlando, Florida. We will be considering themes at our April 2017 meeting. Regions had until 31 December 2016 to

provide theme ideas and requests for workgroup consideration. Moving forward, the workgroup will begin its duties eight-to-nine months prior to the Convention. We have signed all WCNA contracts, and we are looking into smaller venue hotels to be able to offer an array of housing options. We are hoping to go on sale one year prior to the Convention so that people can plan for it. As folks who may have visited Orlando know, it is a city tailor-made for conventions, offering consumer friendliness as well as being a family destination. Please mark those dates in your calendar; we look forward to seeing everyone in Orlando, Florida.

NEW STAFF ADDITION

We are pleased to let you know that Andrey Glazkov was hired full time effective 1 January 2017. Andrey had been previously working on a contractual basis and his current position is Administrative Support Specialist/Writer-Editor.

HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL

Hello, everyone. The HRP has not met since the last *NAWS News* was published, but we wanted to take the opportunity to remind you that the regions/World Board/zones (RBZ) process is open for the current Conference cycle. Regions, zones, and the World Board have the ability to forward potential candidates to the HRP for consideration. The information and forms supporting the 2016–2018 RBZ process were emailed to all Conference participants back in November 2016. If you did not receive the information on the RBZ process or need it to be re-sent, please contact us at hrp@na.org. Also, here is a link for more information on the process: www.na.org/?ID=HRP-Info8.

The next HRP meeting is scheduled for February 2017. We look forward to continuing our work on improvements to the World Pool and other aspects of our process as reported in the November 2016 *NAWS News*. As always, we invite any comments, concerns, or questions about our work. Please feel free to contact us at hrp@na.org.

CALENDAR

Travel requests (considered by quarter)

Please send in your requests as early as possible.

1 May for July–September

1 August for October–December

Input and ideas to help shape two pieces of literature

www.na.org/projects

Deadline 1 June 2017

GWSNA review for 90 days

Deadline 15 March 2017

Environmental scan input

Deadline 30 April 2017

RBZ submission

Deadline 31 Oct 2017

WSC 2018

29 April–5 May 2018

