

NAWS NEWS

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na world services news

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HELLO FROM YOUR WORLD BOARD

As we are sure that you noticed, this is the first *NAWS News* in almost a year. We apologize that our human resources did not meet our needs for that period of time. *NAWS* has recently hired two writer/editors. We hope that these new employees will help lessen the resource crunch, after an initial period of training and orientation. We truly thank you for your patience and understanding!

Since the projects are on track, many workshops have been held, and the convention is over, the board is energized with the upcoming release of the *CAR*, the *CAR* workshops and our biennial *WSC*. As we prepare for *WSC 2006*, we will be increasing our communication efforts. The *CAR*, *NAWS News*, and *Annual Report* will all be out at about the same time followed by the Conference Approval Track material and a *Conference Report*. We hope this will assist us all in our preparation for the 2006 *WSC* – as you know, it's all about **CARRYING THE MESSAGE**.

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WCNA-31...WOW!

Another world convention is behind us. And now it is time to begin planning for San Antonio in 2007.

Before we do, we want to say Mahalo (thank you) to the local Hawaiian fellowship for helping us to feel so at-home, and the Governor of Hawaii for presenting NA with a proclamation.

Overall, *our public image* was very positive, and, except for a few members (who, unfortunately, may have left the most lasting impression), NA conventioners demonstrated that *We Do Recover!* We want to thank the local Convention Support Committee, and all of the volunteers for their hard work.

In all there were 8,658 registrations, \$18,177 in newcomer donations, and an additional \$13,000 in our Unity Day collection! With our Unity Day telephone hook-up, we had linked members in 94 locations in 28 countries including 16 correctional facilities to listen with attendees to a message of recovery from members from around the world. We all shared a special moment during this call – a message of gratitude, hope, and recovery from a member in Iran who was denied Visa entry into the US to be with us at the convention. Aloha, until 2007!

WORLD BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING 2006–2008 CONFERENCE CYCLE

The board and staff met at our October meeting for our third planning session for the 2006–2008 Strategic Plan. This session was facilitated by Jim Delizia, who has been guiding us through this process for many years now.

Prior to the final prioritization, we discussed the available human resources for proposed projects. As is often the situation, we propose more projects than we can accomplish in a conference cycle. Although we discussed this at length at WSC 2004, this creates unrealistic expectations for us all. This conference cycle, we intend to plan more realistically. We will be more forthcoming about what we can realistically expect to complete, but will be offering additional project plans for items that we would like the ability to begin, if time and resources permit. The conference approval process requires that we present our ideas and ask the conference for support or wait at least two years for another opportunity.

We discussed the resources that are needed for Routine Services which is a term that describes the vast majority of all staff activity at NA World Services. These services represent what we consider to be the core of our overall mission and purpose. In reviewing the list of services, we recognize that calling these services “routine” is a misnomer when in actuality the services may be better termed “essential” or “core”. These services include the World Service Conference, literature production and distribution, translations, questions from members of the fellowship, the world convention, etc. In addition to changing the name to more accurately reflect the nature of the services we provide, we need to review some of our long standing processes at NAWS to see what can be improved or no longer serves the fellowship.

We also reviewed the list of projects that will be carried over into the 2006–2008 conference cycle. These include the Basic Text project, implementation of the *Public Relations Handbook*, the follow up on Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics from this cycle as well as new

topics for 2006–2008, a redesign of our website at www.na.org, an examination of our literature distribution system, and NAWS presence at professional events.

By day’s end, we realized that our carryover items would require almost the same level of time and attention as our projects did for this cycle. That means that at best, we can only add a few new items to the list or some of our core services—like NAWS News—will continue to suffer. What we considered the highest priorities are: outreach with targeted professionals, media, government officials, etc.; basic tools for group, area, and regional service; and targeted literature already identified and approved at WSC 2004.

This planning process illustrated that we are still evolving. Yes, we have made great strides in our ability to be a strategic board and with our planning. As we move forward, we are looking at a process to review and evaluate essential services, identify emerging needs and trends to be pro-active/strategic about change, and a process to evaluate new ideas and shift priorities. Your world board, and all of NA World Services, continues to learn, grow, and evolve.

WB SEATING WORKGROUP

On 17–18 October 2005 the WSC Seating Workgroup met to consider requests for conference seating. The workgroup consists of three regional delegates, Prudence G (RD–Montana), Toby G (RD–Spain), and Cedric S (RD–Western New York), and a World Board member. The group is charged with evaluating all seating requests and making recommendations on each to us as a board. We consider the workgroup’s input and make final recommendations to the conference. This conference cycle we received six requests for seating; two from US regions and four non-US requests. We will publish our final recommendations for seating in the Conference Approval Track material in January.

AUDIT AND FINANCIALS

An independent company audited the consolidated statements of the financial position of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. They conducted the audits in accordance with

auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that they plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statements are free of “material misstatement.”

An audit includes examining evidence of the amounts disclosed in the statements and assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management. The auditors also evaluate the overall financial statement presentation. The results are provided directly to us from the auditing company. Everything is going well, and they found nothing out of the ordinary. We would like to thank Executive Management and the WSO accounting staff for all their hard work in making sure that NA World Services’ funds are managed responsibly.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Our *Annual Report* presents an entire financial picture from the previous fiscal year (1 July 2004 – 30 June 2005) as well as a copy of the audit and will be mailed to you shortly and posted to www.na.org. In the meantime, we want to supply you with just some brief information about the first quarter of this fiscal year, July–September 2005. This information is reflective of all NAWS operations in Chatsworth, Belgium, Canada, and Iran.

Our literature income continues to be above budget. We also realized more income from WCNA-31 than was budgeted due to the large number of onsite registrations. We will provide a full financial report on this event in our next report. Fellowship donations are just under budget, but this is still encouraging considering that these are the first months following the largest donation year we have ever experienced, just over \$800,000. Thank you!

This fiscal year was actually adopted with a projected loss of \$74,215, offset by the previous year’s projected profit. We have kept expenses below budget in most areas with the notable exceptions being personnel and overhead. We have consciously decided to add employees, which have raised the personnel amount. We also know that this fiscal year has large upcoming expenses with the conference

and delegate funding. We have also continued to do an unprecedented level of fellowship travel.

In the last fiscal year we were able to donate or subsidize almost a half a million dollars in literature to those parts of our fellowship that needed it! Just as donations from the fellowship grew, so did our ability to ensure, on the fellowships behalf, that literature is available to those that need it. We need both of these to grow over this upcoming year—both our ability to help carry a message of hope throughout the world and the generous fellowship donations that help to make this possible. Together, we are carrying the message of recovery through literature to thousands of members worldwide!

WHAT’S NEW AT WWW.NA.ORG?

Where to begin?

All English IP’s and booklets can now be accessed online. There are new postings in Hindi and several other languages, with literature in various languages being added frequently.

A Guide to Local Service in NA, in English, has had numerous downloads without us having even announced that it is now available online. We recorded an awesome 2,585 downloads in September and 4,070 in October. Truly remarkable! Perhaps our Infrastructure discussion in this conference cycle has sparked interest among our members. Due to this level of response, we will be adding additional service material in the near future.

The *Public Relations Handbook* review version, section II (chapters 5-9), is available for member input until 30 November. And *The NA Way*—our fellowship’s magazine—is posted in five languages!

The website is constantly being updated, as are regional links, phoneline numbers, various service and member forms, world convention tape vendor information, and products.

We agreed to remove dated information that had been posted for professionals from the website. If someone clicks on this link, it will say “under construction.” As we develop new material for professionals it will be posted here.

Technology changes rapidly, and so does the NA website. Don't blink twice—you might miss something!

PUBLIC RELATIONS

In September, we traveled to Washington, DC, to participate in National Recovery Month activities, which included a planning meeting for Recovery Month 2006 and the kickoff of the 2005 recovery events. In the past four months, we attended professional conferences of the International Council on Alcoholism and Addiction (ICAA) in Budapest, Hungary (and stayed on for a fellowship workshop); the Twelve Step Advisory Committee for the California Department of Corrections, the Employee Assistance Professional Association (EAPA) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the American Parole and Probation Association (APPA) in New York, NY in July. Along with members from the Southeast zone, we will again interact with professionals at the Southeast Conference for Addiction Counselors (SECAD), in Atlanta, Georgia, in December.

- ◆ South East Zonal Forum
- ◆ Mid-Atlantic Learning Conference
- ◆ Asia-Pacific Forum with the Philippines Regional Convention
- ◆ Canadian Regional Assembly and Convention
- ◆ Florida Service Symposium
- ◆ Plains States Zonal Forum
- ◆ European Delegates Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany, Valencia, Spain, and Dublin, Ireland
- ◆ Western Services Learning Days
- ◆ Arizona Regional Learning Day
- ◆ Southern Zonal Forum, and
- ◆ Idaho Regional H&I Learning Day.

Of the many events identified, we have attended these multiple times! Additionally, we hosted a Middle East Workshop in Bahrain that brought together various NA communities, most of whom speak the same language, for a three-day event. We also hosted a multi-language translations workshop in India in conjunction with their regional meeting which brought together representatives from all of their areas.

Most recently, we attended Western Services Learning Days in Las Vegas, Nevada. NAWS was asked to present on four topics: The history of NA and corrections, websites, service and spiritual principles, and service delivery. All workshops were very well attended and feedback from members was positive and enthusiastic.

As you can see, we are doing our best to fulfill our commitment to increased interaction with the fellowship. The benefit to world services and our members is valuable—we all want to further our primary purpose and share our message of recovery. We are able to interact with many members of our global fellowship and we all learn from each other.

Let us take this opportunity to thank all of the trusted servants, and other NA members, who helped us during these events. We appreciate your hospitality and tireless efforts. We are grateful to all of our members who attend these events and actively participate in the sessions. After all, it is all about carrying the message!

Fellowship Development

Workshops and Events

Let us begin! As a continued commitment to increasing the effectiveness of our face to face communication with members and in response to requests from regions and zones, we attend as many workshops as possible.

So far in this conference cycle we have participated in and conducted workshops at the:

- ◆ Latin American Zonal Forum
- ◆ California Inland Regional Convention
- ◆ Western States Zonal Forum
- ◆ regional workshops in Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Venezuela, Peru, and Chile
- ◆ learning day in Juarez, Mexico
- ◆ Japan Regional Convention
- ◆ Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum

Worldwide Workshops

We completed two US worldwide workshops, one in California and the other in Tennessee. These are the only worldwide workshops scheduled for North America this cycle, but as you will read, in addition to the Indian and Middle East workshops we have planned three more workshops in Portugal in November, and the Ukraine and Lithuania early next year.

Burbank, California USA

The first worldwide workshop in the US for this conference cycle occurred on the weekend of 15–17 April 2005, in a hotel in the heart of the San Fernando Valley, Burbank, CA. The workshop was scheduled just prior to the April World Board meeting, and the Burbank location was just a few miles away from the World Service Office.

Attendance at the Burbank workshop was average for workshops, ranging from 100 to 200 members during the course of the weekend. Many members drove from neighboring states, such as Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. But unlike other recent workshops, there was an increase in the number of regional delegates and alternates in attendance.

Nashville, Tennessee, USA

The second US workshop was held in downtown Nashville, on the weekend of 27–31 May 2005. Attendance here was higher than anticipated, with members traveling great distances—from New Jersey, California, Nevada, and Colorado, USA, as well as Australia. Attendance reached about 300 members with even more regional delegates and delegate alternates participating.

Each of the workshops included a Friday NAWS update. The Saturday schedules included a full day of workshops as well as a recovery meeting, and the Sunday agendas included a wrap-up meeting. Displays, reports, and various additional resources were available, and of course, there was a set of steps, traditions, and concepts banners that was donated to the host region at the end of the event.

While there are commonalities about the worldwide workshops that have become familiar, other aspects continue to evolve and change. One of the more meaningful changes is

the wrap-up or conclusion portion of each session. You might say that we encourage members to “take the next steps” in these segments, discussing solutions to the various challenges that are identified. We hope the addition of this step will help members take back what they have heard and find a way to use these solutions in their own local NA communities to help better carry the message of recovery.

Moving Outside of the US ...

In October 2004, many of you may recall that we traveled to South Africa. It was the first time NAWS had visited this community. One of the primary reasons for our travel there was the fact that the NA members there were isolated—they had no regular physical connection to any other NA community. This trip helped to demonstrate for those members that they are connected to the world of NA. We were also able to bring members from the neighboring fellowship in Kenya to South Africa. Our spirits are energized every time we hear from the South Africans—they are growing, reaching out to more neighboring communities and the members feel more like a part of our worldwide fellowship. Today there is a small NA community in Mozambique, as well as a group in Tanzania. We are also pleased that IP #1 in Zulu is nearing draft completion as well as the initial stages for IP #1 in several other languages spoken in South Africa—Afrikaans, Sesotho, Xhosa, and Tswana.

Plans for a European worldwide workshop are in the works. We will be traveling to Lisbon, Portugal for this event. As with all the workshops, members of this region diligently worked to assist with coordination of the workshop. One of the considerations for the location of this workshop was a request for assistance with infrastructure issues. World services responded, and we will be sharing experience and providing workshops 19–20 November 2005.

Late in January 2006 we will be hosting a workshop in the Ukraine which will be followed by the European Delegates meeting and another workshop in Lithuania. The chill of the winter weather will be warmed by the love of NA

members attending. NAWS is funding over 100 Russian- or English-speaking members to these workshops from central and western Russia, and various locations in the Ukraine, as well as Latvia, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Croatia, Estonia, Moldova, Lithuania, Belarus, and Bulgaria. They will come together in one of these two workshops—all in an effort to more effectively carry our message of recovery.

Help Somebody!!

- به دیگری کمک کن
ساعد شخصا آخر .

NAWS Worldwide Workshop for Middle East NA Communities, Bahrain, February 2005

During the three days of this workshop the above slogan—which is quite popular in the NA Gulf—became the recurring cheer among the attendees and NAWS travelers alike. Shouted at the top of your lungs, it serves as a call to NA service, a call to carry the message to the suffering addict: Help somebody!!!

NA World Services welcomed more than fifty funded and unfunded participants from the Middle Eastern NA communities of Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Oman to this workshop. We send a special thanks to the Bahraini members for their outstanding work organizing the event. Prior to the workshop, participating communities filled out questionnaires, and the responses helped us plan the workshop structure and agenda.

Posters of our NA principles and vision, maps, and displays were put up in Arabic, Farsi, and English. Also, NAWS arranged for a consolidated literature order shipment to the workshop location, and the attending communities were able to take literature and the posters back to their groups.

After welcoming everyone and introductions, we encouraged the participants to share their hopes and expectations for this workshop—personal hopes as well as outcomes for NA service delivery in the Middle Eastern NA communities.

Our initial session focused on the service structure overall. Many of the problems that members identified are common in NA communities all over the world. This is truly “the ties that bind us” as were the solutions gathered from the group. “Helping the suffering addict” was a major focus of our second workshop—“Atmosphere of Recovery.” Cooperation among the Middle East communities was the theme of our third session. The key areas discussed were: translations, an adaptation of the NA *Just for Today* video for use in the Middle East, and the idea of a Middle East Zonal Forum.

We received overwhelmingly positive feedback in emails about the event. We hope this 2005 workshop will contribute to building a stronger foundation for NA in the Middle East, supporting healthy growth for our fellowship in each community, and encouraging continued solid recovery...with love for NA service and in the spirit of “Help Somebody!!”

...ساعد شخصا آخر



IRAN Service Office—Opens

NAWS opened its fourth office in June 2005. Prior to our decision to open this office, we were stymied at how to help meet the needs of more than 30,000 members in this community.

We had heard “rumors” that there were thousands of addicts recovering in Iran. We asked members in the Middle East to attend the Iranian convention and eventually two board members traveled to Iran and confirmed that the explosive growth that we had heard about not only had happened but was continuing! We were elated that so many members were embracing recovery. Then came our dilemma—

the members in Iran needed recovery material and resources—and the question—how do we meet their needs.

Three members from Iran were funded to attend the Middle Eastern workshop. We hoped to begin a discussion of how we could assist in better meeting their needs. Following that workshop, communication with Iran continued; during the April board meeting, we concluded that the most effective way to meet their needs today was to open a branch office in Iran. This actually came to pass with an office being opened in June with a lot of effort by Siamak Khajeian, who manages this location for us. We want to thank him for his tremendous effort in making this a reality. He is assisted by two part-time employees, Farhad Pormotaleb Porsohee and Farzad Atri

Today, Iran continues to experience unprecedented recovery growth—meetings are often held in parks to accommodate the vast numbers of addicts in recovery. We are told that there are instances where a sponsor has a hundred or more sponsees. Imagine trying to work the steps with a hundred people at the same time? We all extend our heartfelt welcome and support to our brothers and sisters in Iran.

Spanish Workshops

NAWS has traveled to and participated in workshops during 2005 that were held at the Peruvian Regional Convention in Lima in May; the Latin American Zonal Forum in Panama City, Panama, in July; the Chilean Regional Convention in Quisco in October; and the Venezuelan Regional Convention in Caracas in early November. We all worked together to improve our ability to better carry our message of recovery.

Additionally, workshops were held in El Salvador in August and Guatemala in October. These workshops were facilitated by Spanish speaking World Pool members.

TRANSLATING...



...LOVE

NAWS held a workshop for the India Region from 7 to 9 April 2005 in Delhi. Though recovery is an experience beyond words, we still need our literature translated in local languages so that every addict can have a clear sense of our essential message of recovery. Translation can bring life to a still-suffering addict.

This workshop was facilitated by NAWS and attended by thirty-four world services funded members from ten areas in the India Region: Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Orissa, Darjeeling, Sikkim, and South Bombay. Nine languages were represented among these ten areas: Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil, and Urdu. More languages from a single region were simultaneously represented at this NAWS translation workshop than ever before in the history of Narcotics Anonymous. Nine languages, ten areas, and thirty-four representatives! Could we have clarity in such multiplicity? In spite of the great linguistic diversity of the India region, we found that all of the linguistic groups faced the same essential problems and arrived at the same basic solutions when translating NA literature.

The main concern while translating from English is conceptual fidelity. Simple and obvious English words like “connection”, “addiction”, “using”, “clean”, etc are often difficult to translate into the various linguistic language groups. Conceptual fidelity means the communication of a basic idea, not merely a literal rendering of the words of a sentence into a different language. The heart of the matter is to get the whole idea across clearly. In essence, this workshop provided members with practical and effective ways of going about the translation process.

Now, let us take a moment and think about the NAWS vision statement that “every addict in the world has a chance to experience our message in his or her own language; ...”

Translations

We are currently involved with over 119 active translation projects, showing increased activity with languages of Eastern Europe, Southern Africa, and the Middle East.

Two of our more recent translations projects—the Japanese Basic Text and the Spanish *Sponsorship* book—were completed and will be available as an inventory item around the end of this year. In addition, we are working on the Italian *Just for Today* and the *It Works* books, as well as several booklets in German (*Twelve Concepts for NA Service, The Group Booklet, GTLS*), Norwegian (*The NA Step Working Guides, It Works*), and Danish Basic Text. Also, the French and Spanish White Booklet personal stories have been approved. Look for these in 2006.

In the last weeks, we published the first IP in Hungarian and Latvian, and we are excited to have translations in progress in five new African languages. We also have a version of our *Just for Today* video available with Arabic subtitles, which will be used for PI and H&I work in Arabic-speaking countries. We completed and published eleven IPs in Hindi and have translation efforts going on in several other Indian languages.



We are excited that this is the theme for the World Service Conference and for the 2006 *Conference Agenda Report*. We all can identify with and feel passion for carrying the NA message of recovery.

The primary focus of this year’s CAR is the Issue Discussion Topics from 2004–2006—Public Image, Infrastructure, Atmosphere of Recovery, and Leadership. These issues were discussed in all the zonal workshops, worldwide workshops, and convention workshops that NAWS attended. Based on the written material from all these workshops, there were common themes among our members with their obstacles with these issues and with their solutions. The board is gratified and enthused about our fellowship’s response to these topics and willingness to work toward resolving these issues.

One of our communications goals was the ability to achieve consistent reporting feedback from our numerous workshops this conference cycle. NAWS devoted time and energy to create session profiles to help ensure a consistent message to our members with an equally consistent message back from our members in these workshops. This is an aspect of the “reporting-feedback loop” from our strategic plan. This conference cycle we have realized that goal—reliable, consistent feedback from workshops. This is unprecedented in NAWS’ history of fellowship workshops.

We will be reporting what we have collectively learned thus far in our discussions and posing additional questions under each topic for CAR workshops and service workshops. For example, following the Public Image informational report, one of the questions will be “How can our service committees improve our ability to carry the message?” Hopefully, as our members thoroughly review the information and discuss the questions in a solution-oriented manner, we will have productive conference discussions. These will help us to more effectively carry the message of recovery.

In an effort to assist our discussion process, we will be including the questions themselves on the Regional Motion page. We are hoping this single page, an easily copied sheet, will help regional delegates forward their discussions. We look forward to interacting with you in the CAR workshops.

Who Is Missing from Our Meetings?

The issue discussion topic, Atmosphere of Recovery was one of the most widely discussed

topics throughout our fellowship. Our members generally agreed that in attractive NA groups' members can feel the empathy and love, and all members—regardless of age, race, sexual identity, creed, religion or lack of religion—feel at home.

There are times when addicts who attend our meetings do not feel like they belong and other times when addicts never make it to our meetings because of the perception that our program of recovery is not for them.

There are many things that we, as a fellowship, can try to see if they help us better carry our message. These ideas include engaging our members in a discussion, creating literature targeted at specific populations, and, on a local level, holding common needs or special interest meetings.

We can agree with the fact that addicts need to feel welcome and gain a sense of belonging at NA meetings. Feeling different can be fatal for us. We need to work to ensure that no addict feels excluded.

In this spirit we are planning to schedule some common needs meetings at the 2007 world convention in San Antonio, Texas. We recognize that our outdated convention guidelines state that we do not hold such meetings at a world convention. Therefore, we want to discuss this issue at the conference and offer information as to our rationale for this proposal. We do not desire to go through a formal policy change at this time—we prefer using the opportunity to review and further discuss the issue of special interest meetings with members. If there is to be a policy change, we foresee WSC 2008 as the opportunity for such a change.

Conference Approval Track (CAT)

Some members may be wondering what the CAT, or Conference Approval Track, is. This is a separate publication, at least ninety days prior to the conference that contains service materials, budget information, and project plans. This is the material that many members previously complained about being asked to review in the *CAR*, because it seemed to not affect them directly as well as material that previously was not provided until a month or

less before the conference. When we changed the review time of the *CAR* for the fellowship to one hundred and fifty days we also created the Conference Approval Track for conference related and service items. This year, in addition to the proposed budget and project plans, the Conference Approval Track material will contain the approval form of the first nine chapters of the *Public Relations Handbook* and a revised PR Statement for inclusion in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

This material will be sent to conference participants at least ninety days prior to the conference. In response to requests from the fellowship, it will also be posted to the website for the first time. Access to this material will be password protected, just as access to the review copies of the Public Relations chapters were password protected. That way we can ensure that only members see our proposed budget material and the approval drafts of service material.

The *Public Relations Handbook* project represents the first time that we are attempting to implement our service material approval process for a new piece of material. Granted, the *Treasurer's Handbook* was included in the CAT; however, this handbook was not new service material. We simply performed a copy edit on the existing handbook. So, this is a *first*—we are offering newly created service material that has gone through a review and input process.

What we are finding is that some of our policies are too rigid and do not appear to serve our current members' needs. We had a similar struggle when reviewing the Criteria for Recognition of New Conference Participants. So many of our current conference policies were written strictly as policy and the underlying spirit and purpose, which usually accompanied the policy when it was presented at the conference, is lost. In other words, we have no common purpose statement for these policies that adequately describes why they were created and what they are meant to accomplish.

The project plan from WSC 2004 for the *PR Handbook* is even more stringent than the service material policy. We added a ninety-day

review and input period for each section since this was the first service handbook that had been produced in some time. We meant well when we offered this review period; however, we have received very little input to date and this requirement has left us with two challenges. The last four chapters of the *PR Handbook* will go out for review from 1 December 2005 to 28 February 2006 which means they cannot be offered for approval at WSC 2006. The handbook addendum material, which is either service tools often sent by fellowship services to members upon request or sample letters and tools to use when contacting professionals, would technically need to be released for a ninety-day review and input process followed by a ninety-day approval process. This does not seem practical since the highlighted addendum material is largely already available.

If we look at the fellowship's needs, it seems to make more sense that resource service material, which needs to be updated regularly, be treated similarly to bulletins that simply require board approval. By designating them in the same category as bulletins, the addendum materials could be updated as needed—foregoing the two-year waiting period for usable, current service tools.

We look forward to discussing this “bump in the process” during the conference. We desire to provide our fellowship with an approved *Public Relations Handbook* for member use in their provision of services.

CAR Workshops

They are coming soon with the first one being held 3–5 December 2005. Please check our website at na.org for the entire CAR workshop schedule and locations. And, while at our website, visit the WSC section; look for the Issue Discussion portion for the session profiles for CAR-related discussion profiles.

Regional Reports

We will be sending a form soon for these reports and posting it to the website. This information is important to us, other delegates, and in the planning of the conference. Please remember that the deadline for submission is 15 February 2006.

WORKGROUPS & PROJECTS

BASIC TEXT PROJECT UPDATE

The collection period for submissions is coming to an end. The project plan that was passed at the last conference gives us until July, 2006 to “finalize the draft text, filling in any identified gaps.” The cut-off for submissions is 31 December 2005. However, if members send in submissions after that date, we still may be able to use them to fill gaps that have not yet been identified.

And yes, we still need submissions! We are committed to personally encouraging member submissions by soliciting two personal stories each. We cannot create the sixth edition of the Basic Text without your help. Our current “Call to Action” for this project is based on the principle of personal responsibility: We are once again asking our members to urge—friends, sponsees, and members they know—to submit their stories.

We also discussed the issue of members who have inspiring recovery stories, but limited writing skills. Three viable options surfaced that may help us with this issue: to have members write their story as best they can; to submit their name to be interviewed, and have NAWS staff transcribe the story for them; or to have the member dictate their story to another member, who has writing skills. With these approaches, we feel that members may feel encouraged to submit their stories.

We have reached consensus to retain some of the existing stories in the draft sixth edition of the Basic Text. While we still haven't determined how many or which ones, we are leaning toward 15 to 25 percent of the existing stories for inclusion. The existing stories are being considered on the basis of their historical relevance—both the historical role of the members who wrote them and the historical contents of the stories themselves.

With the new personal story submissions, we are evaluating these on the basis of criteria such as recovery content, quality, style, structure, length and how the story fits into the work as a whole. The board is looking to provide a broad spectrum of recovery.

We want the sixth edition of the Basic Text to be the best ever! So, please submit your stories, urge other members to do so, or help a member to write their story. Whatever way you choose, you will be taking part in the writing of your NA Basic Text.

PUBLIC RELATIONS STRATEGY WORKGROUP

The PR Strategy workgroup completed its work with submission to and acceptance of their report by us. We want to thank the workgroup for their dedication to the task. Many of our priorities for conference cycle 2006–2008 align with recommendations forwarded from the PR Strategy workgroup.

PR HANDBOOK WORKGROUP

This workgroup is moving toward completing its charge on time. The input from the fellowship has been factored into chapters 1 through 4. Chapters 5–9 (Media, Criminal Justice, Treatment, Healthcare, and Phonelines) were released early, and the workgroup is awaiting input from the fellowship. (The deadline for that input is 30 November 2005). We will then ready the material for inclusion in the Conference Approval Track. We decided to post all of this material on a password-protected page of our website.

We also agreed to release section 3 (chapters on Technology, Event Planning, Fellowship Development, and Government) to the fellowship on 1 December 2005 for review and input. The members of the workgroup willingly agreed to meet one additional time, over and above their current schedule of meetings, to complete their work on the handbook. Approval form drafts of section 3 will be sent to conference participants in March 2006.

As you read earlier, this is the first time that the board has put a project through the *Service Resource Material Process*. We are beginning to see what works and what doesn't. The addendum material (like the Area Planning Tool) is a resource that doesn't seem to fit neatly under the current policy. The intent seems sound, but locking ourselves into defined parameters may not serve us in the long run. Just for today, the *PR Handbook* is moving well towards becoming the tool it is intended to be.

world convention update

WCNA-32 • 29 AUG–2 SEPT 2007 IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, USA

WCNA-33 • 20–23 AUGUST 2009
BARCELONA, SPAIN

WCNA-34

The board has made its decision for 2011. There were several issues with the bids that were submitted for consideration by Denver, Colorado, USA; Los Angeles, California, USA, and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. San Diego, California, USA, made us an offer that the WB could not refuse. So: San Diego it is...again.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

For the third time this year, members of the board and human resource panel along with NAWS staff, discussed leadership cultivation and development for a full day of the October board meeting. As with the previous sessions, Jim Delizia facilitated the session.

During our first two sessions, we identified strengths and weaknesses with opportunities for involvement in the NA service structure. For example, one of the strengths identified in each area was that service structure lends a sense of community and there are many opportunities to contribute. Conversely, a weakness identified in each area was a lack of consistency in leadership experience from group to group and choosing leaders without regard for ability to do the job. We also identified various leadership development steps beginning with the group level and created strategies to assist with the cultivation. We believe the group and area levels are a cornerstone to leadership development.

In our third session, we focused on the world services track with opportunities for cultivation, identification, and development of potential trusted servant leaders.

In our assessment of the HRP/WB plan for a Leadership Development Strategy, we identified where we meet expectations, where we do not meet expectations, and where we need to evolve in the process. We believe our current strategy provides for an increased opportunity for members from around the world to be nominated, and that is one of the “met” expectations based on the original intent with the formation of the World Board and HRP. On the other hand, we agreed that our current strategy design doesn’t necessarily demonstrate members’ abilities, but does reveal member experience via the World Pool Information Form, HRP interviews, and reference checks. This is a shortcoming or an unmet expectation. Areas where we desire to evolve include a possible shift in the World Pool purpose, broadened consideration elements (the decision needs to be based on more than a self-nominating process via a WPIF and subsequent HRP interviews and reference checks), and an improved integration between the World Board identification system and HRP identification system. The above items are a simply an illustration of our discussions, not an exhaustive list. Action steps to help us evolve still need to be identified. However, we did create a list of factors that will help us be successful. These include WB and HRP working in tandem and communicating the same messages about change, keeping the process of change transparent, clarifying why the change is suggested, involving conference participants in the process, and effectively communicating our thoughts and ideas.

WSC 2006 Nominations

This is the first time that regions, zones, and the board are entering into the nominations process by submitting names to the HRP after the blind candidate profile review segment of their process. Since this is the “maiden voyage” with the change in the nominations process, the board and HRP agreed to see how the new process works prior to forwarding any suggestions to the WSC for policy changes.

In keeping with the HRP process and request that the names of those submitted not be released, the board will not be releasing the names of the candidates whom we forwarded to the HRP. It is important to remember that some

of our members are having their names submitted to this process and we all need to offer them the respect they deserve in indicating their willingness to be considered. After all it is possible that not all of those submitted will ultimately be nominated and those members’ feelings, to the extent possible, must be considered. In that same spirit, we are asking regions and zones to refrain from un-necessarily identifying the candidates whom they forwarded to the HRP. Let us all join together in this process and allow the HRP system to work to its fullest potential. Please allow the HRP in the March Conference Report to announce the list of candidate names for election consideration at WSC 2006. They will be including information about what service body forwarded a name, if it is applicable.

From the Human Resource Panel

Greetings from the Human Resource Panel. Since we recently distributed a report updating you on our current activities we thought we would use this opportunity to begin to get you thinking about the upcoming World Service Conference. But before we do, we wanted to thank the World Board for their ongoing invitations to participate in the Leadership Development discussions that have taken place this conference cycle, including the most recent session in October. Now on to the WSC:

As you may know, it is our charge to forward a list of members to be considered for election at the WSC, and as we reported in October, we are working very hard to do that. Each nominee put forward by the HRP will have been considered, interviewed, and discussed by the HRP, and will be among a group of members we consider to be the best choices available. We encourage you to remember our diligence in bringing this list to the conference so that, at election time, each participant can share our confidence in all of the nominees as the votes are cast. It is through such confidence that we are most likely to fill the

vacant World Board, HRP and Cofacilitator positions.

As part of our preparation we want to remind you that we are also considering the many potential candidates forwarded from regions, zones and the World Board. We are identifying these individuals as “RBZ” (region, board, zone) candidates. We wanted to remind everyone that while these candidates do not participate in our first, blind screening, they are, in fact, subjected to the rest of the HRP selection process, and, if nominated, will have the same HRP confidence in their ability to serve the conference. We encourage you to read more on these new candidates in our previously mentioned October report to conference participants, available online at www.na.org.

We continue to see the World Pool grow. There are currently 702 members in the pool. As always, we thank those of you who have made the decision to be available for service in this way. Finally, we appreciate your ongoing support and invite any thoughts or questions.

WSO staff updates

In addition to our new employees in Iran, we have new employees in Chatsworth. As we mentioned previously, we are pleased to welcome two new writer/editors, Tom Boscarelli from California, and Catherine McCormick (who comes to us all the way from Adelaide, Australia!).

He’s baaaaaack: After a brief hiatus (time to do other things), Shane Colter has returned to NAWS as an administrative assistant, specializing in translations.

Martha Avalos is the newest member of the warehouse/shipping team.

Last, but certainly not least, Eric Swindler has joined the fellowship services staff.

Please welcome these newest members of the NAWS team, when you come to visit.

world services calendar and deadlines

23 November 2005	English Conference Agenda Report available
23 December 2005	Translated Conference Agenda Report available
23 January 2006	Conference Approval Track material mailed
15 February 2006	Deadline for Regional Reports
23–29 April 2006	World Service Conference

2005 NAWS Product Update

Anglicized

- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*

Brazilian

- ◆ *The NA Step Working Guides*

Brazilian/Portuguese

- ◆ New Medallion Design
(18 months and 1-30 yrs)

Bulgarian

- ◆ IP No. 1: *Who, What, How, and Why*
- ◆ IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*
- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*
- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*
- ◆ IP No. 12: *The Triangle of Self-Obsession*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*
- ◆ NA: *A Resource in Your Community*
- ◆ Group Reading Cards (Set of 6)

Croatian

- ◆ Keytags: Welcome – Multiple Years

Danish

- ◆ *Intro Guide to NA*
- ◆ IP No. 5: *Another Look*
- ◆ IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*
- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*
- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship*
- ◆ IP No. 14: *One Addict's Experience...*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*
- ◆ IP No. 23: *Staying Clean on the Outside*
- ◆ Keytags: Welcome – Multiple Years

English

- ◆ Basic Text, Pocket-Sized Version
- ◆ *Sponsorship*, Gift Edition
- ◆ New Medallion Design (18 months and 1-50 yrs) Bronze, Bi-Plate, Gold-Plate, and Silver Medallions
- ◆ NA: *A Resource in Your Community*, 2005 Version

- ◆ Information about NA, 2005 Version
- ◆ 2003 Membership Survey
- ◆ 8-Pocket Literature Rack
- ◆ The NA Way Mug

Farsi

- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*

French

- ◆ *The Twelve Concepts for NA Service*
- ◆ New Medallion Design
(18 months and 1-30 yrs)

German

- ◆ *Just for Today*

Greek

- ◆ IP No. 5: *Another Look*
- ◆ IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*
- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*
- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*
- ◆ IP No. 9: *Living the Program*
- ◆ IP No. 14: *One Addict's Experience...*
- ◆ IP No. 16: *For the Newcomer*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*
- ◆ IP No. 22: *Welcome to NA*
- ◆ IP No. 23: *Staying Clean on the Outside*

Hebrew

- ◆ IP No. 2: *The Group*
- ◆ IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*
- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*
- ◆ IP No. 9: *Living the Program*
- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*
- ◆ IP No. 12: *The Triangle of Self-Obsession*
- ◆ IP No. 16: *For the Newcomer*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*
- ◆ IP No. 22: *Welcome to NA*
- ◆ IP No. 24: *Hey! What's the Basket For?*
- ◆ Bronze medallions
(1 through 25 years and 18 months)

Hindi

- ◆ IP No. 1: *Who, What, How, & Why*
- ◆ IP No. 5: *Another Look*
- ◆ IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*
- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*
- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*
- ◆ IP No. 9: *Living the Program*
- ◆ IP No. 12: *The Triangle of Self-Obsession*
- ◆ IP No. 16: *For the Newcomer*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*
- ◆ IP No. 22: *Welcome to NA*
- ◆ IP No. 23: *Staying Clean on the Outside*

Icelandic

- ◆ IP No. 1: *Who, What, How, & Why*
- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*
- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*
- ◆ IP No. 16: *For the Newcomer*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*
- ◆ IP No. 22: *Welcome to NA*
- ◆ Keytags: Welcome – Multiple Years

Italian

- ◆ *The NA Step Working Guides*
- ◆ *An Introductory Guide to NA*
- ◆ *NA: A Resource in Your Community, 2005 Version*

Latvian

- ◆ Keytags: Welcome – Multiple Years

Lithuanian

- ◆ IP No. 6: *Recovery and Relapse*
- ◆ IP No. 8: *Just for Today*
- ◆ IP No. 9: *Living the Program*
- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*
- ◆ IP No. 14: *One Addict's Experience...*
- ◆ IP No. 19: *Self-Acceptance*

Moldovian

- ◆ Keytags: Welcome – Multiple Years

Norwegian

- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*
- ◆ "We Do Recover" Reading Card

Polish

- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*
- ◆ IP No. 22: *Welcome to NA*

Portuguese

- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*
- ◆ *NA: A Resource in Your Community, 2005 Version*
- ◆ 3 replacements quotes (Labels) for JFT

Russian

- ◆ IP No. 1: *Who, What, How, & Why, Rev*
- ◆ Group Reading Cards (Set of 7)

Slovak

- ◆ IP No. 7: *Am I an Addict?*

Spanish/Castilian

- ◆ *Just for Today, Revised*
- ◆ *Intro Guide, Revised*
- ◆ *NA: A Resource in Your Community, 2005 Version*
- ◆ Information about NA, 2005 Version
- ◆ New Medallion Design (18 months and 1-30 yrs)

Swedish

- ◆ IP No. 11: *Sponsorship, Revised*

Turkish

- ◆ *NA: A Resource in Your Community*

Ukrainian

- ◆ Keytags—Welcome through Multiple Years