

naws on news

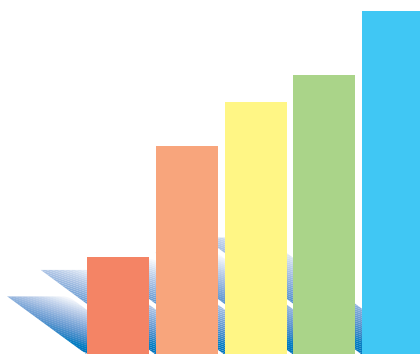
GREETINGS FROM YOUR WORLD BOARD



We met at the NA World Services office for our 11-14 July board meeting, which was our first time meeting there since October 2006. You may remember that we were in San Antonio for our January meeting and then in San Diego in April for our strategic planning session and retreat. It truly felt like “coming home” to be at the office again.

Since that time we have been busy with finalizing an array of material that has been sent to conference participants and with the 32nd World Convention that just occurred in San Antonio. It was a great event and we will be reporting on it in the next issue of *NAWS News*. We do want to call to your attention the following items:

The membership survey that takes place at each world convention is being distributed outside of the convention for the first time; it is available both online, and in a downloadable paper version. Please



log on to <http://naws.org/surveys/index.php?sid=1> to complete this form online or go to <http://www.na.org/PR/index.htm> to download or print the paper version. The survey will also be included in the October 2007 *NA Way Magazine*.

Because of the unexpected overwhelming response to the survey, we will be collecting these in both online and paper form until 31 December 2007. We hope that you will fill one out, as well as take it to your groups, areas, and regions and encourage others to do the same.

This type of information helps us to get a better picture of who we are as a fellowship and assists in efforts to explain Narcotics Anonymous to professionals and non-members. It saves paper and data entry if members can

fill these forms out online but we will happily accept paper copies. The paper surveys need to be mailed back to NA World Services. And remember, please complete only one survey per member.



Online Merchandise Sales

We have some WCNA-32 merchandise available for purchase online. The merchandise ordered online will be delivered within a few weeks after the order is received. The orders are processed by us but sent to you from a fulfillment service. You can view and order the items at <http://www.na.org/wcna32/merchandise.htm>

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In our last *NAWS News* we stated that we felt like we were functioning in a “full speed ahead” manner. With several projects reaching milestones, many scheduled fellowship development trips, and preparations for WSC 2008, it feels like we are rapidly approaching several finish lines all at once. This is a gratifying feeling, though, because we are able to see so much work coming to fruition that is intended to help and support our fellowship. The Basic Text approval draft is now distributed and available online at www.na.org/conference/bt. Input on the Youth IPs has been incorporated, and the drafts will be ready for publication in the 2008 *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)*, or sooner, if possible. We’ve drafted a document on consensus-based decision-making, which is available for your input. Also, we have completed the first set of service pamphlets and sent them out to conference participants, with development of several others to follow. The *Public Relations Handbook* with added resources is now available, and we’re progressing in both our strategic planning process for 2008–2010 and in our leadership discussions. Whew!

Here’s a little slower-paced look at how we worked through many of these items:

Our consultant, Jim DeLizia, led us through the second of three strategic planning sessions. We reviewed and agreed on objectives in each of the key result areas for the upcoming cycle and began to develop some approaches for each objective. What this means is that we began to identify what we see as the most important issues communicated to us from the fellowship that need to be addressed in the 2008–2010 conference cycle.

We had a day on leadership development in a joint meeting with the Human Resource Panel. Jim DeLizia facilitated our discussions of possible leadership development strategies based on our previous meetings. We also reviewed information from the fellowship leadership discussions. We had a detailed walk-through and discussion of our current HRP system and processes. As we reported in the last *NAWS News*, the new two-page World Pool Information Form is now available and can be found at www.na.org/HRP/wpif-default.htm.

We devoted most of one day to the draft of the Sixth Edition Basic Text and moved into the Youth IPs. In the course of discussing the Basic Text, we touched upon some translations issues that will need to be addressed as we move forward. The Youth IPs workgroup met in early July and incorporated input from the US

and seven other countries. We ended the day with a review of the service pamphlets that we approved for production.

What’s Ahead:

When we meet in October, we will focus our efforts on prioritizing the approaches for our 2008–2010 Strategic Plan. Once we have identified priorities, our next step will be to develop project plans that we will present at WSC 2008.

The upcoming Literature Distribution and Convention Workshop will be held 9–10 November 2007 at the Marriott Woodland Hills.

STRATEGIC PLANNING



Some of the objectives in the 2006–2008 Strategic Plan will remain the same; others have been updated based on work and experience during this cycle. We decided to reinstate the recovery literature objective into the Strategic Plan, as the Sixth Edition Basic Text is pending conference approval, and we identified two additional objectives, one aimed toward unity of vision and the other focused on World Board development. As many of us have learned from the Area Planning Tool, objectives are the identified goals, and achieving these goals may take more than one conference cycle.

Once our objectives were clarified, we started to formulate approaches. Approaches are the items that can be worked on in one conference cycle to help us reach the goals we establish in our objectives. We prudently reviewed each approach identified to be carried over in the 2008–2010 planning cycle and identified new approaches.

In the **Communications Key Result Area**, some of the approaches include looking at how we apply our principles in the reality of our daily service environment, writing service pamphlets, and employing new methods and technologies. We also created approaches that help members better understand what public relations means for them and how to apply the ideas, concepts, and practices included in the *PR Handbook* in their local NA communities.

In the **Fellowship Support Key Result Area** we identified an emphasis on revitalization of the service structure with new ideas and tools, a rewrite of the *Guide to Local Services*, and creation of a truly global vision state-

ment that is accepted and owned by the fellowship as a whole. Our focus in this area is on both emerging communities and established communities whose growth appears stagnant.

The **Leadership Key Result Area** includes a commitment to developing the World Board as a strategic leadership body and to furthering our efforts to identify, train, nurture, and cultivate leaders on a local level.

The **Resources Key Result Area** remains largely the same except for a focus on raising awareness and responsibility to increase funding of NA services through direct contributions rather than relying so heavily on literature sales to fund services.

It seems apparent from our discussions with members around the world about our service structure that the *Guide to Local Services* does not seem to adequately meet the needs of members who are providing service. Some think they need to establish and maintain all committees as they are outlined in the guide, and some have tried other ideas not contained in the guide very successfully. The structure outlined in *A Guide to Local Services* was developed more than twenty years when our service needs were very different. We believe we can better capture the actual experience and success from NA communities worldwide.

The issue discussion topic “Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?” has highlighted and acknowledged diversity in NA, and we are trying to promote the idea of true inclusion for all members. The issue really is: How do we make NA a place where addicts identify and believe they too can recover regardless of their background? We believe the approval drafts of the Sixth Edition Basic Text and the Youth IPs are steps toward bridging diversity and inclusiveness. The rich diversity of backgrounds and experiences in these approval drafts are part of an ongoing effort to help all addicts feel included and warmly and unconditionally welcome in NA. We are discussing additional pieces of targeted literature, a revision of *In Times of Illness*, which needs to be updated, and possibly a new book-length piece of recovery literature.

We held targeted or common needs workshops for the first time in over twenty years at the World Convention in San Antonio. These included gay and lesbian workshops, men’s and women’s workshops, parenting workshops, workshops for professionals in NA, and several youth workshops. We also held a young people’s and a gay and lesbian dance. We saw these simply as

one step in an ongoing effort to carry our message to some of the groups who have identified difficulties with “fitting in” in NA. We want them to know they are welcome and wanted.

With our many projects, we are increasingly aware of the need to evaluate the progress of our objectives and our capacity to perform these tasks on behalf of the fellowship. We also believe we need to develop ways to measure project outcomes and integrate these practices into our regular strategic planning process.

At our October meeting, we’ll generate a prioritized set of approaches that will guide us through the development of the project plans to be presented to the WSC in April 2008.

LEADERSHIP

The joint meeting between the board and the HRP began with a discussion about where we currently stand with leadership development, reviewing all the conversations we’ve had about leadership over the past two conference cycles, and recognizing the wealth of information and ideas from our fellowship. The HRP also led us on a walk-through of the current HRP process. The challenge now is to bring together these ideas and formulate recommendations to be considered at the 2008 World Service Conference.

Cultivating Leaders

We have taken some steps to provide tools to support effective leadership at local levels. Among these are the resources for “Building Strong Home Groups” published in the April *NA Way*. We also made session profiles available for local service leaders to conduct workshops on the Issue Discussion Topics. A series of board-approved service pamphlets are also available as a result of input received from fellowship discussions. In addition to these and other forthcoming pieces, revisions to *A Guide to Local Services* and *A Guide to World Services* may give us the opportunity to better integrate leadership cultivation strategies into routine services at all levels.

Identifying Leaders

Our process for identifying leaders at the world level has continued to evolve. For example, as directed by the WSC, the HRP developed a two-page World Pool Information Form. The original intent was to simplify the information form for translations and for members whose interest was workgroup service rather

than conference-elected positions. We found that the simplified form is versatile enough to replace the four-page form altogether.

Another change in leadership identification created the opportunity for region/board/zone nominations. RBZ nominations introduce candidates into the HRP process based upon observed performance. Our discussions on the next steps with leadership development led to the idea of assessment tools for use by regions and zones in forwarding nominations to the HRP. In our current discussions, we are considering that these assessment tools would incorporate many of the same criteria the HRP uses in its evaluations. If we were to model leadership identification at zonal and regional levels in this way, it might help alleviate the discomfort that sometimes comes with appraising potential trusted servants. Effective assessment tools can help us make use of our observations and experience as we evaluate trusted servants while we maintain objectivity. In our discussions we realized how difficult this can be, and we will continue to work on this at NAWS and share our experiences with you.

Conference Participants' Discussion Area

<http://www.na.org/IDT/IDT.htm>

The Issue Discussion Topic board may be getting plenty of posts and views, but the traffic on the conference participants' discussion area is still low. We have been talking about how to increase interest and participation. Send us your ideas—or better yet, if you're a current or past conference participant, log on and join the conversation about consensus-based decision-making at the WSC or the new service pamphlets or any other issues that you would like to see discussed.

YOUTH IPS

The review-and-input period for the Youth Information Pamphlets project ended 31 May, and we're happy to report that we received 183 pieces of input from our members in the US and seven countries around the world. Some of the communities we received input from were New Zealand, New York, North Carolina, Turkey, and Ireland. Area literature chairs, regional service committees, individual members, and youth groups held workshops and submitted input for these drafts. In addition, NAWS conducted workshops in Florida and a bilingual workshop at the Youth Convention in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

The workgroup met early in July to review fellowship input, and we are busy revising the drafts to be

released in the *Conference Agenda Report* or sooner, if possible. Our intention is to have both pieces go through the fellowship approval process, so that we are sure to have the fellowship's concurrence on the pieces. We're excited to move forward in these first steps in providing young people with the literature and resources they need.

BASIC TEXT PROJECT

After literally years of "updates" on this project, we are happy to report that our work is done. The approval draft of the Sixth Edition Basic Text is published. You can download copies for free from our FTP site or you can purchase copies for \$8.00, which includes shipping and handling. See the project page on our website for more information: www.na.org/conference/bt.

The cover essay for the draft details much of what we would report on here—the history of the project, the changes to the draft since it went out for review, the motions related to the Basic Text that will be in the *Conference Agenda Report*, production issues, and our discussions about translations policy. Rather than repeat ourselves here, we urge you to read the cover essay for the approval draft if you haven't already. You can access it on the Basic Text project page: www.na.org/conference/bt.

And while we've said it many times already, it bears repeating: a big thank you to all who participated in this project—conducting workshops, writing material, and sending input on the review draft. Thanks especially to the workgroup members who spent three years and countless hours working on this project. We send them our heartfelt gratitude. Together we have managed to put together a Sixth Edition draft that we can all be proud of.

SERVICE MATERIALS



As we reported after our April meeting, we have been developing several service pamphlets as resources for groups and service bodies. The idea for the service pamphlets came about from a motion at WSC 2006. This motion was made by delegates after lengthy discussions about the time required for service material development (two to four years) and the desire to capture the results of discussions at workshops and from the Issue Discussion Topics in a

more timely manner. The motion was overwhelmingly supported and adopted. We have tried to be sensitive to the trust that was placed in us to deliver this type of material to the fellowship.

We believe this process can be more responsive to the fellowship, as well as requests from professionals, than the past practice for service-related material. We signed off on the final content and format in July, and distributed the first five pamphlets to the fellowship in August. Quantities of these pieces have been distributed to conference participants, and they are available for purchase. We received a fair amount of comment about the definition of “clean” in the pamphlet, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*. In a list of NA terms, we described clean as “abstinent from all drugs (not including prescription medication).” We created this description in part in response to the many questions we receive from professionals as to whether or not people are welcomed in NA if they are on some type of prescription medication. But the passage has raised concern among some members that we have created a new definition of “clean.” It was not our intent to redefine what “clean” means for our fellowship and we regret the misunderstanding. Because this is an issue that is so important to us as a fellowship, we are pulling this service pamphlet to allow for further discussion amongst the board at our October meeting. As always, it is your input that will help us in our efforts to be more timely in providing relevant service materials for the fellowship.

We took extra care to be sure that these “SPs” will be easily distinguishable from recovery IPs by giving them a very distinct design and layout. The format of the service pamphlets is wider (in between the size of our IPs and our booklets), but they will still fit in our standard literature racks that accommodate booklets. Instead of bearing a “fellowship-approved” or “conference-approved” logo, the new SPs bear a corresponding “board-approved” logo. The five SPs that were approved in July are:

An Introduction to NA Meetings

Our meetings can seem strange and uncomfortable to those new to our fellowship. This piece may be a resource for referring professionals and a welcoming introduction to visitors and to newer members. (This piece has been pulled pending further discussion.)

Disruptive and Violent Behavior in NA Meetings

This piece is aimed toward groups looking for possible solutions to issues of disruptive and violent behavior at NA meetings.

Group Business Meetings

While all groups are autonomous, this pamphlet includes thoughts on effective group business meetings as well as a sample format and discussion topics.

Group Trusted Servants: Roles and Responsibilities

Groups are the first place most of us learn to serve NA. This piece summarizes and updates information from *The Group Booklet* and describes group service positions.

NA Groups and Medication

This pamphlet is a resource intended to help groups maintain unity as they navigate issues about which individual members hold a wide variety of opinions and feelings.

We made a concerted effort to put together the best possible pieces for our fellowship. Please keep in mind that these SPs can be adapted and improved at any time, based on responses we receive from the fellowship. Let us know how they work for you, whether we’ve missed anything, and ideas for other pieces you’d like to see developed. You may email us at worldboard@na.org or write us at NAWS. All of this information is on the cover page of each *NAWS News*. In the near future, we hope to put finishing touches on the following three pieces: *What Is NAWS?*, *Leadership*, and *The Benefits of Service*.

WEBSITE UPDATE

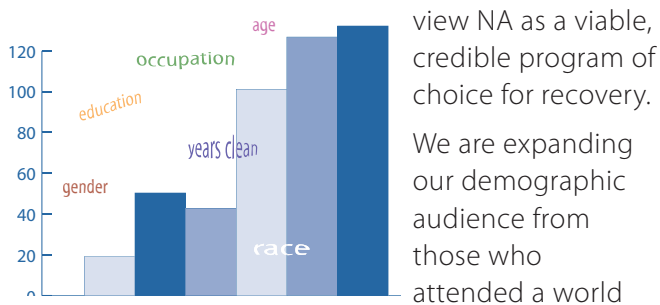


The website is updated often and has multiple additions each month, ranging from new issues of our periodicals to entirely new sections or webpages. Some areas that may be of interest are:

- The approval version of the Sixth Edition of the Basic Text, *Narcotics Anonymous*, is now available. We urge you to read the cover essay for the approval draft if you haven’t already. This essay highlights the history of the project, the changes to the draft since it went out for review, the motions related to the Basic Text that will be in the *Conference Agenda Report*, production issues, and our discussions about translations policy. You can access it on the Basic Text Project page: www.na.org/conference/bt.

For those who participated in the review and input process, the same user name and password will be used. We hope this makes it easier for those who have previously subscribed. New subscribers can register by going to <http://portaltools.na.org/PortalTools/subscriptions/Login.cfm>.

- The Issue Discussion Topics for this conference cycle are online at <http://www.na.org/IDT/IDT.htm>. Please check out this site, use the group worksheet (http://www.na.org/pdf/IDT_Frame_27Feb07.pdf), and send us your comments!
- We have some WCNA-32 merchandise available for purchase online. Visit <http://www.na.org/wcna32/merchandise.htm>
- NA members last completed an anonymous survey in 2003 at the World Convention in San Diego, California. We would like to update the information to more accurately reflect our membership today. The membership survey helps nonmembers and professionals see NA in a more realistic light, and help to dispel myths about our membership. It is our desire to have professionals who refer addicts to NA, as well as family members and the general public,



view NA as a viable, credible program of choice for recovery.

We are expanding our demographic audience from those who attended a world

convention to a more global membership by making the survey available online. We want to encourage you and your friends to complete this anonymous survey. By offering the survey online (in English and Spanish) as well as in a downloadable and printable version, we are seeking your partnership in helping to more accurately reflect the demographics of our worldwide fellowship. This survey will be online until **31 December 2007** at <http://naws.org/surveys/index.php?sid=1>.

We thank you for your efforts in completing the survey and for encouraging other members to complete it. And remember, please complete only one survey.

LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION AND CONVENTION WORKSHOP



A tremendous amount of our fellowship's human and financial resources are used to distribute NA literature and to plan and implement NA conventions. We will hold a two-day workshop in November to talk about the variety of issues that affect these two types of service. There will be joint sessions as well as sessions targeted specifically toward literature distributors (areas, regions, and offices) and toward convention-related issues.

We will be talking about the production and pricing changes proposed for late in 2008, including the possible approval of the Sixth Edition Basic Text, best practices amongst our various service bodies, and how we can be responsible and accountable to those we serve. You can find more information on the website.

NAWS Literature Distribution and Convention Workshop

9–10 November 2007 in Woodland Hills, CA

We will begin at 10:30 am on Friday and end at 6:00 pm on Saturday

This workshop offers a unique opportunity for convention committee and literature distribution trusted servants to discuss and share best practices. So, if you distribute literature or plan conventions come and join us!

Register or download flyer:

<http://www.na.org/nawsevents/event-reg.htm>

CONTRIBUTIONS

Since the last *NAWS News*, we have moved forward with the Business Plan Workgroup's recommendation to include a series of articles regarding contributions in *The NA Way Magazine*. We concur with the workgroup's belief that many NA members may not be aware of or may have inaccurate information about financial contributions and NAWS' sources of income. To that end, the April 2007 *NA Way* included an article about an individual's personal understanding of financial contributions and

how his commitment to contribute changed as he grew in his recovery. In the July 2007 *NA Way*, we included an article titled "Why Contribute?" which focuses primarily on income sources and explains the cost of providing services throughout the world. We will continue this



series in October with a focus on the many ways NAWS supports and funds fellowship development. We welcome your feedback and input on these articles. This issue is not one that just affects NAWS. We have repeatedly heard during workshops about the lack of human and financial contributions at the local

level to support services. We are increasingly getting requests for local workshops on funding and fund flow. It is obviously time we talked about this issue and how it affects our ability to carry the message.

FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Traveling Our Worldwide Fellowship

These are the events that we participated in between our April and July meetings. Many events have taken place since our last meeting, and you can read about them in the next issue of *NAWS News*.

Zonal Forums

Western States

NAWS participated in the July 2007 Western States Zonal Forum which was held in Ontario, California. Delegates and alternates from eleven regions in the western United States met to discuss a variety of service concerns. Topics included consensus-based decision-making, covering groups under regional insurance policies, events and activities, and phonelines. NAWS facilitated two sessions: "Implementation of the *Public Relations Handbook*" and "How to Be an Effective RD." These sessions stimulated helpful discussion about the changing shape of our service system and how to ensure that we're always doing the best we can to reach those who need NA's program of recovery. We trust that the delegates and alternates who participated in this zonal forum will continue these discussions in their regions and continue to communicate their thoughts and ideas to us at NAWS.

Southeast

The Southeast Zonal Forum (SEZF) includes six regions: Alabama/Northwest Florida, Georgia, the Carolina Region, North Carolina, Florida, and South Florida. Two zonal forums are held each year, with the location rotating to various sites within the member regions. Pineville, North Carolina, was the site of the most recent meeting of the SEZF, which took place in early June 2007. We were able to conduct several workshops at this event, including NAWS update, which is an opportunity to provide information and news on NAWS activities, including worldwide fellowship development. There were also productive discussions in workshops on the Issue Discussion Topics. We covered "Building Strong Home Groups," a topic that always seems to speak to local NA communities wherever we are. "Who Is Missing from Our Meetings and Why?" was also a topic of interest that generated valuable discussion and insight, and everyone shared their experience in the workshop on "Our Service System."

Occidente, Mexico Regional Anniversary

Guadalajara

In early May, NAWS participated in a two-day event to celebrate the eleventh anniversary of the Occidente Region. The event included workshops on a variety of recovery- and service-related topics.

This was a unique public relations opportunity because most of the workshops and events were held in an open tent in the town square in Guadalajara. The committee designed the event to be a public relations effort, with most sessions focusing on fundamentals such as *Am I an Addict?*, *Sponsorship*, and *We Do Recover*. Because the workshops were in this public venue, passersby would stop in, and some stayed for a session or two. Additionally, a table was set up with information pamphlets, and local members were available to answer questions or offer literature. Though this was an unusual location, the event did seem to prove fruitful as many nonmembers stopped in or took literature and meeting schedules throughout the weekend.

We conducted two interactive workshops, one on H&I and the other on the IDT "Building Strong Home Groups." We also did a presentation on NA history. The H&I session was held in a banquet hall as part of the first evening's events. This allowed us to incorporate the small group discussion format with those who attended. The "Building Strong Home Groups" session was held during the day in the tent in the public

square. This was a far more challenging session because of the public venue, but it was still a productive discussion.

Worldwide Workshops

Lincoln, Nebraska



The second worldwide workshop for this conference cycle was held in Lincoln, Nebraska, from 11 through 13 May. NAWS staff and World Board members conducted a NAWS

update session on Friday night, seven workshops on Saturday, and a wrap-up session on Sunday morning. Workshop topics consisted of the three Issue Discussion Topics for this cycle, plus "How to Be an Effective RCM," "Medication in Recovery," "Leadership in NA," and the Area Planning Tool.

The medication workshop in particular raised a lot of questions about where we should go with this sensitive and topical subject, confirming that we are on the right track with our efforts to create new resources and approaches for this issue. Around 130-150 members attended the two days of the workshop. Of those in attendance, approximately thirty-five were regional delegates or alternate delegates from around the US. The high attendance of delegates seems to raise the question of whether we should consider adapting the topics for some of the sessions at future US workshops. Our initial thoughts have us considering using the opportunity of having so many delegates together to have some form of training workshop alongside the more usual discussion-based sessions for the local fellowship.

Each session was well attended, with a wide variety of clean time and experience represented. We were gratified by both the warm reception from the fellowship and the satisfaction expressed by everyone who came to the workshop. Many attendees asked for copies of the notes each session generated and copies of the short movies that we showed through the course of the weekend. We are continuing to explore ways to make this happen.

France and England

Paris, France

NAWS returned to France for the first time since 1995 and facilitated a two-day workshop in Paris on 12 and 13 May. Even though the projected attendance was forty members, the workshop brought together over 100 enthusiastic members from throughout France and Belgium. These members were fully energized to participate in two full days of workshops; people traveled from as far away as Brussels, Belgium, and the South of France (about an eight-hour drive) to attend the Paris workshop.

We opened the workshop with a video and NAWS update, which set the tone for the workshop, "Building Strong Home Groups." One of the overarching themes for the weekend was established in this workshop: giving members' unconditional love. NAWS facilitated two Area Planning Tool sessions that seemed to illustrate to the members in attendance that they need to support their trusted servants, that planning for service is essential, and that to more effectively carry the message of recovery, public relations as well as public information is critical.

Even though there was speculation that the Sunday workshop would attract fewer members, we quickly learned that projection was wrong. Even more members came on the second day of the workshop, bringing enthusiasm and energy with them. NAWS opened the day by facilitating a "Medication in Recovery" workshop. The tone of the day was set when, after a small group activity that involved letter-writing, one table read their letter back to the full group. The letter stressed non-judgment and giving the member on medication love and support, which would demonstrate that we are a program of attraction and recovery. The medication workshop was followed by a session on "Our Service System" and a wrap-up session. The collective energy and desire to provide services within the region helped the region attract more members to service, and even fill the vacant regional treasurer's position.

Additionally, on Sunday, we had lunch with the regional public information committee. They discussed their short-term and long-term goals and how to improve their efforts to better carry the message of recovery. Paris has a unique situation, with only one treatment center that utilizes a twelve-step model. To help southern France, in particular Marseille, members from the regional PI committee will be taking a trip to assist their PI efforts.

Marseille, France

Because NAWS was in France, we were able to meet the request from the South of France for a workshop in Marseille. Even though this workshop was scheduled for a few hours, the energy and enthusiasm the weekend workshop generated in Paris were evident. Members were working together to provide services and discussed ways to support their NA neighbors several hours away. The focus for this workshop was on strengthening area services, effective public information, and use of the tools from the Paris workshop.

London, England

NAWS attended a cooperative professional event in London geared toward treatment professionals that has long been attended by the UK PI committee. They have done a great job in consistently attending and participating in this event. They set an example that many of us could follow and showed how they build and maintain relationships with the planners and attendees at this event. NAWS participated on the panel during a conference workshop and attended the open NA meeting for professionals.

With the close of the conference, NAWS facilitated a *Public Relations Handbook* workshop for local PI members that attracted over forty members. During this five-hour workshop, NAWS facilitated discussions about the practical application of the handbook, using it as a foundation for planning services, and sharing experiences with application of the traditions in service.

Moscow, Russia

This workshop brought together Eastern European NA communities who speak a common language. There were 160 funded participants from more than twenty-five NA communities throughout Russia, along with members from Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Additionally, members from the Moscow Area participated, which increased workshop attendance to over 200 members. This workshop was held on 30 June and 1 July.

The Moscow Area arranged to host its first public relations community presentation on Friday, 29 June, prior to the start of the workshop. NAWS was asked to participate on the panel and provide information about our worldwide fellowship. NAWS travelers met with the area public information subcommittee prior to the presentation. Despite the

fact that the Moscow Area had no PI subcommittee until one month before this event, these members quickly came together and were thorough and organized; each committee member had areas of contact responsibility and follow-up. The presentation was attended primarily by media and social services professionals. This presentation seemed to energize the members; they started planning for follow-up events.

The workshop opened Saturday morning to a room full of eager members with various lengths of clean time and service experience. NAWS facilitated several workshops focused on public information and H&I, orientation and training of members for service, our traditions, and structuring of service committees to effectively carry the message of recovery. Many developing NA communities are in the process of creating their service structure and seemed to benefit from hearing the experiences of more-developed Russian NA areas. There was discussion during the service committee session regarding the size of the Western Russia Region (which includes eleven time zones) and its ability to provide services. This topic will most likely be an ongoing discussion within the Western Russia Region.

Middle Eastern Workshops

Egypt



NAWS facilitated a three-day workshop in Cairo, where 106 members from all over Egypt had pre-registered to attend the first workshop

held in Egypt. Additional members joined during the course of the workshop, with a total of 179 members participating. The members were eager to learn and understand. Their questions centered on sponsorship, service structure, unity issues, treatment centers, and event registration. Often questions were raised following a session, which the group worksheet illustrated. There was a genuine hunger for information, and the experience was inspiring. The enthusiasm generated within the workshops and in the evening activities will surely help the Egyptian fellowship to continue to grow. As with all local NA communities, they have their share of problems and issues. But they have done much to make Egypt a growing and vibrant fellowship.

Most of what they are experiencing is growing pains from being so successful at carrying our message!

Bahrain

This workshop was a follow-up to one held in 2005. We were able to experience the progress as well as discuss remaining and new issues within and among the communities. The overarching workshop theme was unity and cooperation. Ten communities were funded to the three-day workshop: Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iran, Kuwait, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman, and Turkey. In all, there were thirty-seven funded delegates and 106 total registered attendees. Included in the participant mix were six recovering women; this is truly a miracle slowly unfolding as opportunities for women to find and maintain NA recovery remain limited in the Gulf region. All sessions were trilingual, with translators for Farsi and Arabic present.

Workshop sessions were on the group worksheet, service structure, sponsorship, public relations, traditions, and the Area Planning Tool. This tool helped the communities focus on and prioritize their goals for the next two years. A Middle East convention and improved communication among the member communities through a Middle East newsletter were the two top goals. Pursuing both of these goals will help them in their unity and communication efforts. Three volunteers offered their services for each of these goals so that they could address the needs of the English-, Arabic-, and Farsi-speaking members in this part of the world. Additionally, the workshop helped communities with fellowship development by pairing developing communities with those with more experience. This is truly a demonstration of our recovery principles—one addict helping another, neighbors helping neighbors to carry the message of recovery.

The NAWS team also had the opportunity to attend an NA meeting within a correctional institution. Prior to the start of the meeting, the travel team met with the warden, who is an advocate of NA and is supportive of NA. He had previously invited us to his facility in 2006 to celebrate the seventh anniversary of NA meetings in this facility. The warden has the Just for Today reading read every day over the prison public address system. The meeting was awesome, and NA was presented with a gift from the inmates—the NA symbol handcrafted from “behind the walls.”

Kuwait

This was NAWS’ first trip to this community. Many of the members from their three groups prepared for and attended the half-day forum. Three languages are spoken at the meetings in Kuwait—Arabic, English, and Farsi—which affects their communication and cooperation efforts. NAWS facilitated an open-forum session where members asked questions relating to the traditions, sponsorship, home group service, and women’s attendance at Arabic meetings. One of the unifying outcomes from this forum was the printing of a new meeting list that includes all groups.



Professional Events

Since the last publication of NAWS News, we have participated in two national professional events. In May, with the help of members from the local fellowship, NAWS exhibited at the American Jail Association conference in Nashville, Tennessee. In June, NAWS exhibited at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals in Washington, DC, with the assistance of local members. Many professionals have minimal familiarity with the NA program of recovery and even less information about our recovery literature, so these conferences, attended by 2,000 and 3,000 professionals respectively, continue to present an excellent opportunity for NAWS to further our public relations efforts.

Cooperative Events

Although there were fewer professional events attended by NAWS during this reporting period, there were twelve events where NA was represented by local service committees. NAWS participated in two of these events, and for one event NAWS worked with the European Delegates Meeting and local members. For most of the events, NAWS paid the cost of the exhibit booth and the local committees provided literature and NA members for the exhibit booth. These members interacted with various professionals from the criminal justice and treatment fields and government agencies. In the United States, NA was represented at conferences in Boise, Idaho; San Diego, California; Bellevue, Washington; Galveston, Texas; Menomonie, Wisconsin; Little Rock, Arkansas; and Williamsburg, Virginia.

There were five international events in this period. We partnered with the EDM and Iran for a professional

conference in Istanbul, Turkey. For a conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia, members from Hungary and Poland supported the event with the Slovenians. During this conference, these members were asked to give a presentation about the NA program and host an open NA meeting for the professionals in attendance. This was the same experience in the two conferences where NAWs partnered with the UK and Sweden. For the conference that was held in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, members disseminated information to the professionals about NA.

Members representing NA in these cooperative events are well prepared and perform excellent service on behalf of NA. Their post-event reports and pictures are truly appreciated. They display the excitement and recovery spirit that these events inspire.

CBDM AT THE WSC

As we have repeatedly reported, we have been working on capturing what we use as the process for consensus-based decision-making at the WSC. We have a draft out for review, and it is posted on the Conference Participant Bulletin Board. We are hoping to get your ideas and comments soon so we can make any changes or improvements to this piece and include it in the Conference Approval Track along with other proposed revisions to *A Guide to World Services in NA*. So please go to <http://www.naws.org/wsc-forum/> and let us know what you think!

HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL

Hello again from your HRP. We are excited to bring you another update of our work thus far this conference cycle. We met in July and were very busy indeed. As has become the norm, we are also pleased to report on our ongoing cooperative relationship with the World Board. We spent a day with the board in discussions about the current system and how we might move forward in improving on the limitations that have been identified. These meetings always leave us with a sense of gratitude and confidence that we are really moving forward toward a common goal in this effort.

During our July meeting, we reviewed our upcoming nominations process in detail. Because we are using the newly released two-page WPIF this cycle, we needed to make some adjustments in our process. As you may

remember, we previously reported that the new form will act as the only form needed to enter the World Pool. Because of its brevity, we find that we will need to ask more questions of those interested in being a part of the nominations process. As an example, our first mailing inviting members into the nominations process will be mailed, return receipt required, in mid-September. It will include a list of questions that must be answered and returned to us within a specific period, approximately thirty days. (Members will also have the option to respond to the questions online.) To retain status as potential nominees, those interested in being considered must respond in the time given or they will be removed from the process. We encourage everyone to remember this very important information as we move forward.

Also, you may remember that some delegates had questions at the last WSC regarding the nominations process; in fact, there was even a motion presented asking for more detail. We have considered that interest, and we are preparing to conduct a presentation at WSC 2008 that will provide all participants with a complete picture of nominations, including questions, scoring, and the evaluation process. In this way we hope that participants will have the highest level of confidence when selecting HRP nominees to serve.

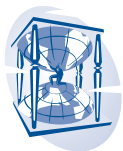
Additionally, it is our thought that interested members will be able to use this information to evaluate their own abilities and experience. But it is important to remember that we will not make available the details of any individual's scores. As we have said, we believe there is no reasonable way to do that and maintain the confidentiality required for a successful nominations process.

In preparation for the nominations process presentation, we spent a half day facilitating a similar presentation to the World Board that covered our nominations process in the last cycle. This was a great experience, and while this cycle's process will be quite different from last cycle's, the experience will serve as a solid foundation for our session at WSC 2008.

All of these discussions have identified for us the need to consider updating sections of *A Guide to World Services* that discuss the HRP, the World Pool, and the nomination process. As part of our work in preparation for WSC 2008, we intend to offer the World Board ideas

for changes to the guide that will more accurately reflect our current process. If we are successful in that effort, you may see those recommendations as part of the Conference Approval Track materials released in late January 2008.

As a final reminder, the deadline for submitting or updating your WPIF to be included in the HRP process was 31 August 2007. Those members who have never entered the pool or whose information is older than three years will not be considered for nomination by the HRP. Also, the deadline for the submission of regional, World Board, and zonal forum (RBZ) nominees is 31 October 2007. Those bodies interested in forwarding names must have their submission in by that date.



WORLD SERVICES CALENDAR AND DEADLINES

August 2007

Approval form of Sixth Edition Basic Text is available

31 October 2007

Deadline for region, WB, and zone candidate submissions

9–10 November 2007

Literature Distribution and Convention Workshop—Woodland Hills, CA

21 November 2007

2008 Conference Agenda Report is available

26 December 2007

Translated 2008 Conference Agenda Reports are available

25 January 2008

2008 Conference Approval Track material is available

25–27 January 2008

Worldwide Workshop—Sydney, Australia

27 April – 3 May 2008

2008 World Service Conference



NAWS PRODUCT UPDATE

Basic Text Sixth Edition Approval Draft

The approval draft of the Sixth Edition Basic Text is published; copies can be downloaded from our website www.na.org/conference/bt or purchased for \$8.00 including shipping and handling and all applicable taxes.

Item No. 9146

Price US \$8.00

Public Relations Handbook

Revised to integrate the release of additional resources to Chapters 3, 6, 10, 11, and 12 in both US and international formats.

Item No. 2102 & 2102-A

Price US \$8.50/each

PR Handbook Resource Material and Tabs

Resource material and tabs are made available for purchase as separate pack in both US and international formats.

Item No. 2102R & 2102-RA

Price US \$3.50/each

Service Pamphlets

Group Business Meetings

Item No. 2202

Price US \$0.21

Group Trusted Servants: Roles and Responsibilities

Item No. 2203

Price US \$0.21

Disruptive and Violent Behavior in NA Meetings

Item No. 2204

Price US \$.21

NA Groups and Medication

Item No. 2205

Price US \$0.26

German

Sponsorship

Sponsorschaft

Item No. GE-1130

Price US \$7.00

Hindi

White Booklet

नारकोटिक्स एनॉनिमस

Item No. HI-1500

Price US \$0.63