

NAWS NEWS

VOLUME 2
June 2000

NA WORLD SERVICE NEWS
PO BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91409

Issue 4
WORLD-BOARD@NA.ORG

GREETINGS FROM YOUR WORLD BOARD

We are pleased to report that our historic World Service Conference 2000 was a resounding success. This was a particularly moving and emotional conference for many of us, as we said good-bye to some long standing trusted servants and welcomed new ones. We also went back in time and delved into the history of NA with a History Workshop that featured a panel of members, many with over 30 years clean—and one member with 44 years—who attended NA meetings in the 1950s and '60s. Along with a feast of tasty food and fellowship fun at the World Service Office's open house, this very special WSC was off to a winning start!

The actual conference meeting included addressing all of the business that was scheduled; strengthening our global unity with community building efforts such as small group sessions, general discussion sessions, group activities, and open forums; and beginning the two-year conference cycle. We made every attempt to stay on schedule with only a few long and tiring sessions that stretched the days into long nights. Many of the goals and objectives that we established were achieved during the conference week, and we hope that most of the attending conference participants walked away from WSC'00 with a sense of accomplishment and pride.

In this issue we will present a short summary of the conference, the motions that were adopted by the WSC, and give a brief update of where we are today with upcoming projects and other NAWS-related business. We want to stress again that we hope to engage you, the members of NA, in a dialogue, but we need to hear from you. If you have any questions, have any input, or need any information on a particular topic and/or item, please contact your World Board via the WSO.

NA NEEDS YOU!!!



Here's your opportunity to give back what was so freely given to you!!! Help build the World Pool by sending in your service resume. Trusted servants for NAWS projects and elections will come from this pool. You can reach us by letter, phone, email, or visit our website at www.na.org to request your resume form.

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE 2000

Celebrating 25 Years of Service

On Saturday, 29 April 2000, a History Workshop took place with 17 of NA's early members sharing their experiences of attending Narcotics Anonymous meetings in the 1950s and 1960s. Their lengths of clean time varied, and some of the stories the participants shared reached as far back as the 1940s, when one member attended meetings in Lexington Prison. It's hard to believe, and nothing short of a miracle, that NA ever got off the ground considering the legal gymnastics and political difficulties that addicts faced when they attempted to gather together during those developing years. We cannot forget that in many states (as in some countries today), two or more addicts meeting in one place was against the law! A special thanks to these 17 members who came and shared their experience, strength, and hope with us.

The WSO will continue to carry the three-tape set collection of the Saturday portion of the workshop through 30 September 2000. The tape set is available for \$15.00, plus shipping and handling. The work to continue gathering this historical data will move forward over the next two years due to the conference's approval of the 2000-2002 Historical Data Collection Project. We will also continue to report on the progress of this important project on a regular basis in various upcoming NAWS publications.

Following that insightful workshop, three buses took conference participants to an open house hosted by the World Board and the WSO. Tours of the office and the displayed archival materials were offered before everyone sat down to classic Southern California hospitality in the form of a "finger-licking good" Mexican feast.

George Hollahan, WSO Executive Codirector, opened the 2000 World Service Conference with a warm and inviting welcome to all conference participants on Sunday, 30 April. George shared his gratitude for all the love and support he has received from the fellowship during his illness, as well as some thoughts on his many years of service to the WSC. It was encouraging to see the progress he has made since he suffered his stroke in February, and his presence added a note of gratitude to the celebration

theme of this year's conference. In honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the WSC, Michael McD (WB Chairperson) asked the regional delegates to stand up in the order of the year their region was first seated at the World Service Conference, and then form a circle around the room for the opening prayer. A cake was then presented as participants sang "Happy Birthday" to the conference. Each conference participant received a copy of the 1976 WSC minutes and a 25th anniversary commemorative medallion that features the copyrighted group logo designed by Jimmy K.

The sense of global community that we wanted to build during this year's conference came to fruition in many ways during the weeklong business sessions and various activities that were scheduled. There were two new regions we welcomed and seated—the Guatemala Region and the Baja-son Region. This made a total of 110 conference participants, representing 93 regions, and 27 countries.

The small group discussions were engaging, with most of the conference attendees enthusiastically participating. We wanted this conference to be more discussion oriented, and we believe that the small group sessions helped us to achieve that goal. Some of the other goals of these small groups included building community; offering a common focus for the week by utilizing the action group process; and reinforcing our mission and vision statements. In the orientation session, an overview of what was planned for the week was presented to conference participants, as well as discussing personal and group objectives. There was also a question and answer session at this meeting to help everyone get a better perspective of what we hoped to accomplish during the scheduled business sessions. The topic discussion and the CTF small group sessions were both filled with passionate and revealing dialogue from most of the participants. We feel these sessions have been helpful to us, and it is our hope that the input from these discussions can be used to further develop an ongoing dialogue with members of the fellowship and, perhaps assist in the development of future bulletins and/or position papers.

The coveted "Mike Hog" Award was ceremoniously retired this year to the WSO archives after enjoying 12 years of *honoring* those participants who worked so fervently to give new definitions to the term "long-winded." And finally, we bade farewell to several of our trusted servants who gave many years of faithful service to the conference and our fellowship—Mario T and Mary

Kay B from the World Board, along with Sonny J, Tata M, and Jeff S (Spence) from the Human Resource Panel. We also said good-bye to Vinnie F who served as WSC Co-facilitator for the last two conferences. Each trusted servant was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a special photo of the service body they served with. We also acknowledged the many delegates who would not be returning to the WSC. It was a spirited ending to an effective, relatively composed, and memorable conference.

SUMMARY OF WSC 2000 ADOPTED MOTIONS

The following list highlights the motions that were adopted at WSC'00. Due to the space constraints of this report, they are presented in an abbreviated form since some of the motions were quite lengthy and contained revisions to *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure* and other documents.

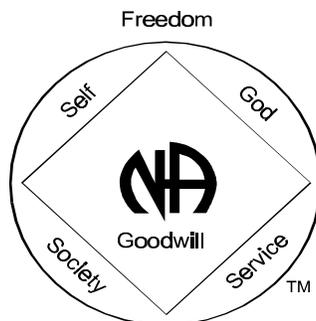
- ♦ "To adopt the Rules of Order for WSC 2000."
- ♦ "To approve the WSC 1999 minutes."
- ♦ "To approve the WSC 2000 Election Procedures, replacing the language on page 2, Section C, number 5(b) with the following: 'The World Board nominees receiving the most votes above the required 60% majority will be elected to the twelve (12) available positions on the World Board.'"
- ♦ "To seat the Guatemala Region as a voting conference participant."
- ♦ "To seat the Baja-son Region as a voting conference participant."
- ♦ **Motion #1:** "Shall the fellowship proceed with a comprehensive evaluation of revisions and additions to the entire Basic Text and the Little White Booklet? Yes or No? **YES-58; NO-28; ABSTENTIONS-5**
- ♦ **Motion #2:** "That the World Board offer a detailed project plan to begin this evaluation (per Motion 1 above) in 2004.
- ♦ **Motion #3:** "That the World Board encourage area and regional literature committees to develop source material about sponsorship in 2000, with the board starting a preliminary evaluation of the issues relating to the sponsorship material in 2001."

- ♦ **Motion #4:** “To affirm the general direction of the proposed literature development plan as summarized...” (Please refer to the Conference Agenda Report for the complete text to this motion).
- ♦ **Motion #5:** (as revised): “To approve the following process for the approval of service material...” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion).
- ♦ **Motion #6:** “To adopt the following section titled “The Work Cycle between Conferences” for inclusion in *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure*.” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion.)
- ♦ **Motion #7** (as revised): “To adopt the following section titled ‘World Service Conference Publications’ for inclusion in *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure*.” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion.)
- ♦ **Motion #8** (as revised) “To adopt the following description of zonal forums for inclusion in *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure*. In addition, the chart of the ‘Narcotics Anonymous World Service System’ in *TWGWSS* will be changed to reflect this relationship with the WSC.”
- ♦ **Motion #9:** “To approve the following section, ‘Criteria for Recognition of New Conference Participants,’ as conference policy for inclusion in *TWGWSS*.” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion.)
- ♦ **Motion #10** (as revised): “To approve the following as conference policy: ‘The World Service Conference funds the attendance of a delegate from each seated region to the meeting of the WSC held every two years. This funding includes travel, lodging, and meal expenses only. This policy would cover all previously seated regions that have attended one of the past three conferences.’”
- ♦ **Motion #11:** “To limit seating on the conference floor to one delegate and one alternate per region.”
- ♦ **Motion #12:** “To adopt the following section, titled ‘The World Service Conference,’ for inclusion in *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure*.” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion.)
- ♦ **Motion #13:** “To adopt the revised version of *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure* contained in Addendum C [of *Conference Agenda Report 2000*] as amended.”
- ♦ **Motion #14** (as revised): “To make housekeeping changes to the Operational Rules of the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* that reflects a two-year conference cycle and the Unified Budget process already adopted. Also by replacing the language in the Policy Affected section, Section 12, trustee reporting obligation (page 20) from ‘at least 90 days’ to ‘within 90 days.’”
- ♦ **Motion #15:** Two issue discussion topics chosen by participants for the next conference cycle:
 - 1) *How can we continue to provide services to our fellowship and at the same time decrease our reliance on funds from events and conventions?*
 - 2) *How can we create a bridge that builds and maintains a connection to service for home group members?*
- ♦ **Motion #16** (as revised): “To add to *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure* (1999 edition) on page 15, under EXTERNAL GUIDELINES FOR THE WORLD POOL AND HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL, section “Guidelines for General Eligibility and Implementation,” the following language...” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion).
- ♦ **Motion #17:** “To add to the duties of the Human Resource Panel the ability to provide the World Service Conference with a list of individuals best qualified for election to the position of the Human Resource Panel. This would be accomplished by amending *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure* (1999 edition) as follows...” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion).
- ♦ **Motion #18:** To amend the term of office for the Human Resource Panel to two (2) conference cycles. This change in term of office will begin with the HRP members elected at WSC 2000. This would be accomplished by amending *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure* (1999 edition) as follows...” (Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion).

- ♦ **Motion #72:** “To adopt the 2000-2002 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Budget as presented.”
- ♦ **Motion #47:** “That the ‘NA World Services Vision Statement’ and ‘The World Service Conference Mission Statement’ be included regularly as a component of the *Conference Agenda Report*.”
- ♦ **Motion #57:** “To request the criteria for site selection of Narcotics Anonymous World Services events (i.e., worldwide workshop, world services meetings, world conventions, etc.) include strong preference for non-smoking facilities, so that all members of NA be able to attend the functions.”
- ♦ **Motion #24:** “To add the following language to the EXTERNAL GUIDELINES FOR THE WORLD POOL AND HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL, TWGWSS, page 17, under ‘Nominations,’ 2nd paragraph, 3rd sentence, ‘The Human Resource Panel cannot nominate current HRP members to any World Service position.’”
- ♦ **Motion #56:** “That all project plans be approved one-by-one in the budget session. The routine services (Fixed Operational, Capital, and Reserve Funds) will still be approved as a whole.”

MOTIONS COMMITTED TO THE WORLD BOARD

- ♦ **Motion #19:** “To include in *A Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous* between the General Table of Contents, page iii, and the chart ‘NA Service Structure,’ page iv, the following description of the different units of our service structure in NA.” (*Please refer to the CAR for the complete text to this motion.*)
- ♦ **Motion #63:** “To include in TWGWSS as WSC policy the WSC Rules of Order. Said proposal to be included in the 2002 CAR or presented at WSC 2002.”



A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE ENTIRE BASIC TEXT AND THE LITTLE WHITE BOOKLET

The final session of the conference was planned to update the delegates as to what the board heard from the discussions and business sessions held during the week. The majority of this session focused on the general impressions from the delegates regarding their perceptions of the fellowships’ desire for a comprehensive evaluation of revisions and additions to the entire Basic Text and the Little White Booklet. This discussion pointed out that Motions 1 and 2 were the only CAR motions that were carried by a simple majority, rather than the overwhelming support that the remaining motions received. Recovery literature requires a 2/3 majority for adoption, and there was concern that we, the board, would be beginning four years of major work on an item that lacked clear direction from the conference. This is extremely important, and because of the enormity of this particular project, we sought help in clarifying the general fellowships’ response to the whole issue.

The following statements sought to determine what the regional delegates heard in the CAR workshops and are only for the purpose of gaining information to use in developing the evaluation process. Some of those responses were: the majority of conference participants did not believe that the Little White Booklet and the Basic Text were deficient in meeting our members’ needs; most of the participants heard that the Little White Booklet and Basic Text contain material that is outdated; the majority of conference participants heard that the Basic Text and Little White Booklet would be improved with the addition of new material; most heard comments about adding chapters to the Basic Text regarding sponsorship and service work; many members also heard to leave both the Basic Text and the Little White Booklet alone; and lastly, the majority of delegates heard that members understood that, “revisions” meant substantial deletions and/or changes in the Basic Text and stories.

It was pointed out to conference participants that the questions used during this session were taken from the CAR, emphasizing that the questions were solely for the purpose of *planning* an approach to the evaluation process and to design a process for evaluating the publications. We believe that we now have some sound input to begin compiling an effective evaluation process that will help us meet this goal.

ELECTION RESULTS

World Board Election Results **New members elected to the WB**

Giovanna G (Colombia)
Ron H (New Mexico)
Saul A (Panama)
Tom M (Hawaii)

Members re-elected to the WB

Bob J (Florida)
Daniel S (Germany)
David J (UK Region)

Human Resource Panel Election Results

Charlotte S (Iowa) – 1st term
Garth P (Australia) – 1st term
James E (New York) – 2nd term
Mike L (Minnesota) – 1st term

WSC Co-facilitator Election Results

John H (Wisconsin) – 2nd term
Steve R (Pennsylvania) – 1st term

RESOLUTION A

On the last day of the conference, a discussion was held regarding Resolution A. The World Board will continue to work on refining the way we do things at the conference. We believe that we have already begun to make great strides in many of the issues identified in Resolution A. The funding for attendance to the WSC for each delegate from a seated region helps to equalize participation at the WSC. We will continue our efforts to make the conference a more discussion-oriented session that leads towards consensus building, and we believe that delegates support this effort. The purpose of this discussion was to recap where the conference has been with this issue and discuss where the conference would like to go. Although it was an interesting discussion, the conclusion was that the majority did not have a desire to see any work done on this issue during the next conference cycle. And, in concluding this session, Mario T (WB) noted that our maturity as a fellowship is reflected at the WSC. This conference truly reflected the statement made in the WSC Mission Statement, "The World Service Conference brings all elements of NA World Services together to further the common welfare of NA."

COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE SUMMARY

We engaged in some extremely productive discussions at the WSC 2000 regarding several of the long-standing communication challenges that we face in NA World Services. We conducted a survey with conference participants, and we are still in the process of analyzing those results. Also, we are still in the process of analyzing the data of what we learned from the eight focus groups that were conducted around the world over the past nine months. One of the largest communications challenges that did come out of these groups is the fact that most of our members at the group level are not aware of what world services activities are or what products and services are available to our members from world services. The results of all of this work will be reported to the fellowship in a more comprehensive report later this year. The second phase of this work will take place during the upcoming conference cycle with the conference's approval of a project to develop communication goals for NA World Services. The Communications Standards Project will be focused on developing and implementing solutions designed to remedy the problems that the board's and the CTF's work and research have identified.

NEW PROJECTS

The *Guidelines for the Unified Budget for NA World Services* calls for a four-tiered allocation that includes fixed operational funds, variable operational funds, capital funds, and reserve funds. Based on these requirements, a specific process has been created for the consideration, evaluation, development, and approval of world service projects and those activities that vary from year to year. This is our first attempt at forecasting the activities and needs of world services for a two-year period. We have developed the following plans for those items that we believe can be completed or begun in this budget cycle. Each project is included in the approved budget under the appropriate category and then under variable operational funds. (*Variable Operational Funds* are those funds allocated toward world service projects and/or activities that vary from budget year to budget year. This includes those items prioritized by the World Service Conference.)

Since we have no experience with a two-year conference cycle, the project plans are very different from plans that the conference has

considered in the past and the plans are presented to seek authorization by the conference for the work they contain. We believe that the spirit of the budget process adopted by the conference requires conference approval of the work of world services. Therefore, we are presenting all items that could possibly be begun before the next meeting of the WSC. We will continue to report our activity regarding these projects throughout the conference cycle. The following project plans and a brief description of those plans follows:

➤ **Historical Data Collection**—the purpose of this project is to gather historical information from some of the longest standing members in NA. We plan to gather some of our longest standing members in one location and record their discussions and perspectives about the beginnings of NA. We expect to conduct personal interviews and possibly a follow-up meeting with the members who participated in the meeting held in conjunction with the WSC'00 or who were unable to attend the first workshop. We would also like to plan a meeting of members in the Eastern US later in this conference cycle. Long standing NA members will be used as the resource for this project.

➤ **Information Management System**—the objective here is to initiate a comprehensive information management system for world services. The first phase is for the assessment and implementation of an information management system at the WSO in 2001. This includes gathering standardized fellowship information as called for in the Fellowship Development Plan. The second phase will include the beginnings of implementation of a standardized information management system at the WSO.

➤ **Recovery Literature Development**—to proceed with a comprehensive evaluation of revisions and additions to the entire Basic Text and Little White Booklet; to have the World Board offer a detailed project plan to the WSC 2004 to begin this evaluation following WSC'04; to have the World Board encourage area and regional literature committees to develop source material about sponsorship in 2000, with a preliminary evaluation of the issues relating to the sponsorship material to be done in 2001; and finally, to affirm the general direction of the proposed literature development plan. (Please refer to the *2000 CAR* for a more in-depth description and explanation of the aspects of this project.)

➤ **Service Material Evaluation and Development**—the purpose of this project is to evaluate the need for an events handbook; to evaluate the current drafts of the Public Information, Literature, Hospitals & Institutions, and the Treasurers' Handbooks, as well as the existing draft material for training workbooks. Revision or creation of handbooks or new bulletins will be based on the results of these evaluations. After each piece has been evaluated, issues will be identified for discussion in world service publications and the Worldwide Workshops. These discussions will determine whether the existing material needs to be revised or supplemented by articles or bulletins on relevant topics. We are aware of many of the problems in the application of our current handbook material in a worldwide fellowship. Until input is sought from the fellowship, we are not settled on what formats and information will best serve our diverse fellowship today.

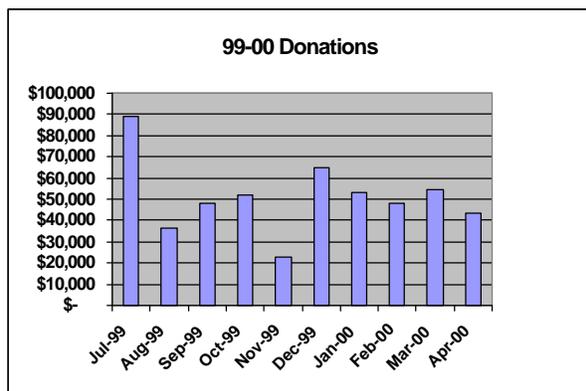
➤ **Standards for World Service Communication with the Fellowship**—this project is to assess the problem profiles and recommendations resulting from the Communication Task Force (CTF), develop additional recommendations as necessary, and create a plan for the implementation of those recommendations to achieve a set of standards for world service communication with the fellowship. The objectives are to evaluate each problem statement identified and establish clear guidelines to improve the effectiveness of world services communications with the fellowship and to set up a system in which our effectiveness is checked and evaluated on a regular basis.

➤ **World Service Meeting**—to hold a meeting that allows the World Board to interact with regional delegates about current world services projects. This meeting is being planned to address the communication challenges inherent in moving to a two-year conference cycle. The work of the World Board, its committees, and the current world service projects will be addressed. Since all seated delegates will be funded by world services to WSC 2002, the optional funding pool for delegates typically associated with a World Service Meeting has been removed.

➤ **Worldwide Workshops**—the purpose of this project is to hold up to six workshops in this conference cycle throughout the fellowship and to engage in various discussions on a variety of service

and NA philosophy issues with as many members as possible. In this first cycle, up to six workshops will be planned in conjunction with delegates and zonal forums. There will be one workshop each in Latin America, Europe and Asia-Pacific, and up to three workshops in North America. The future of these workshops will be decided at WSC 2002.

A financial update was provided to conference participants. A complete financial report for the fiscal year July 1999–June 2000 will be provided in the *Annual Report* due to be mailed in September. World service finances are still not where we would like them to be in order to provide a stable resource for the future, but they have improved drastically over the past few years. Our literature sales are less than projected so far in this fiscal year, but the shortfall has been largely offset by the donations received from the fellowship. Through April, donations for this fiscal year total \$512,808. This represents an increasing trend that we hope will continue so that we can maintain our services, support, and literature to a worldwide fellowship.



WCNA-28 UPDATE

Nuestra Esperanza de Vida (New Hope for Life)

31 August – 3 September 2000

Conference participants were treated to a tantalizing video highlighting the beauty of our next world convention site, Cartagena, Colombia. This world convention presents a unique opportunity to interact with a large portion of the growing Latin American NA community. For many members—not just in Latin America—their only opportunity to attend a world convention is when it is located within driving distance. This will be the first world convention held in Latin America,

and the members of this NA community are excited about welcoming the world to experience recovery with a Latin flair! They are handling their part with enthusiasm and anticipation. All that's left is your part—making your plans, pre-registering, and showing up ready to celebrate.

As we have mentioned in our recently published WCNA-28 convention newsletter and several other NAWS publications, we are continuing to monitor the civil unrest in Colombia. We remain confident that your trip to Cartagena will be safe. The unrest in that country, as reported by our State Department, is far inland—not in the vicinity of the convention site. To date, we have found no such activity in or near the city of Cartagena. Again, we assure you that we have no intention of exposing our members to unnecessary risks, and we will keep you informed about this issue. We will continue to watch this, but nothing we have seen to date would have us say anything but come on, let's get together with our Latin American family and celebrate our recovery!

World Unity Day Celebration!

Join us for a two hour, "listen only" telephone hook-up and hear the Unity Day Speaker. Every region is being offered one free hook-up. See flyer or visit our web site, www.na.org

WHEN: Saturday, 2 September 2000

TIME: 8:30 pm Eastern Daylight Time

WHERE: Live from Cartagena, Colombia!!!

Nuestra Esperanza de Vida

ONLINE MEETING DIRECTORY

During WSC 2000, we demonstrated our new online meeting directory. To locate meetings around the world, simply go to www.na.org and then to NAWS International Meeting Search. **We know that much of the information we have in our current database is incorrect. We need your help to correct this so that people can locate your meeting!** We have the group form posted on the site so that you can complete it online. In the near future, there will be a mailing to every group, area, and region in our database that includes the

