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

We hope you will continue to forward this page by email, or copy it for interested members, your ASCs, and your RSCs. We continue to encourage people to obtain e-subs to The NA Way and NAWS News. This helps us to communicate more effectively and control distribution costs.

Living Clean: The Journey Continues, our new Fellowship-approved book is available in hard and soft cover. Both are selling for $8.75. A limited numbered commemorative edition will be available 2 January 2013, priced at $30.

We have (unenhanced) electronic versions of the Basic Text, Sponsorship, and It Works: How and Why available. These are available for $8.90 each on Amazon and iTunes store with links on our website.

WCNA 35: As we celebrate 60 years of recovery (our diamond anniversary) at this world convention in Philadelphia, we will certainly be living the theme, “The Journey Continues”. Early registration packages are available. We encourage you to register for $79 and reserve your hotel package in our block of rooms. This discount is available through 31 January 2013. All who reserve a room in our room block by that date are eligible for a drawing for three free hotel nights. We will be drawing three names for this “early bird” giveaway. Pre-registration will still be available at $89 after January as well as hotel rooms. On site registration is $99. Visit www.na.org/wcna for updates.

Service System: We have initiated field testing for GSUs and LSUs. If you are trying any aspect of the proposals such as GSU, CDBM, etc. please share your experience with us at worldboard@na.org. The more help we can have translating the ideas in the proposals to actual practice on a local level, the easier it will be for us to frame a transition plan to present at WSC 2014. Updates about the project will be posted online as they are available: www.na.org/servicesystem.

Traditions Book Project: We have started gathering your ideas about what this book should look like with a session profile that has been used at fellowship workshops. This can be found at www.na.org/traditions. We want this book to answer the needs of the fellowship; we need your participation to make that possible. Please send your experiences and source material to worldboard@na.org or use the online form for your workshop results: www.na.org/traditions. Early next year, we will be initiating a Traditions Discussion Board.

An Introduction to NA Meetings is out for review and input from the fellowship until 30 April 2013. This is the service pamphlet presented with a project plan at WSC 2012 to have this piece be Fellowship-approved as an informational pamphlet. This will be in the 2014 CAR.

In response to input at WSC 2012 a new Conference Participant Bulletin Board has been launched. We value the participation from delegates and the board will continue to moderate and participate. This board is for conference participants only (those who attended WSC 2012 and any elected participants since). This is a private board which is password protected, delivers notice of posts, and is mobile friendly. In addition to the general NA Service Discussion Boards, we will create more fellowship-focused boards later in the year including the Service System Project, Issue Discussion Topics (Group Conscience, Delegation, and Accountability; Collaboration; and Supporting Our Vision), and the Traditions Book Project Plan.

We have had several members sign up for the online webinars, and we would like to encourage more area and regional chairpersons to participate. The areas of service we would like to bring together are conventions, H&I, and PR. If you would like to join us and discuss issues and solutions with others who are serving in these areas, please send your name, email address, trusted servant position, and region and/or area to events@na.org for conventions; handi@na.org for H&I servants; and PR@na.org for PR/PI trusted servants. We hope to begin these early 2013.

Financials: Although we are close to meeting our budget figures for BT sales and regional contributions, we, as a fellowship, are still falling short in terms of contributions. We each have a personal responsibility to contribute our fair share. We are committed to providing services worldwide, and all of us love NA and are proud that the Fellowship is in 129 countries. Let’s reflect that love and pride in our actions and financially contribute through our portal at www.na.org/contribute.

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

19737 Nordhoff Place | Chatsworth, California 91311 USA | worldboard@na.org
We experienced an industrious, motivated board meeting 24-27 October in Chatsworth CA. We started our board meeting on Wednesday with a discussion of the Conference Participation Bulletin Board and approved release of An Introduction to NA Meetings for fellowship review and input December – April 2013. The afternoon was spent discussing consensus-based decision making. The following day Jim Delizia facilitated a session on the Service System Project. We refined our approach to Field Testing, shared our understanding of the World Service Conference, and began to discuss possible seating criteria as well as service delivery for large and small states, nations, and provinces (SNPs). This will be a continuing discussion. We are also making time on our agenda in future meetings for issues that need further discussion such as the roles of zones and literature distribution.

The Traditions Book Project and its focus for this cycle were discussed Friday. We reviewed the session profile which is a first step for gathering input on what the fellowship might want from a Traditions Book. We gave the session a test drive at a workshop in October, and there seemed to be a measure of excitement. In addition to the session profile, in early 2013 we will launch a Traditions Book discussion page similar to Living Clean. We want to capture as much of the Fellowship’s input as possible prior to creating an outline for the book. That’s the best way to make sure that the book really meets the needs of the Fellowship and reflects our rich experience with the Traditions.

Additionally, we had a PR discussion on Friday, which we will highlight later in this NAWS News.

We spent time reviewing our fiscal picture and remain guardedly optimistic. Basic Text sales and regional contributions are beginning to increase slightly, but both remain below our fairly conservative budgeted forecast. Sales of the recently released Living Clean: The Journey Continues are brisk. We believe our best course is to maintain our streamlined approach and continue to ask for financial contributions to support services.

WCNA 35 will be on sale prior to this report. We are excited to offer early bird hotel/registration packages through January. Those members who avail themselves of the early bird package will also be entered into a drawing for three free hotel nights. We are close to finalizing the entertainment and will post information as it is available at www.na.org/wcna. We continue to look for ways for members to explore the various sites in Philadelphia through excursions to destinations like the Amish country, historical Philadelphia, and day trips to other locations.

In closing out our truly ambitious meeting of the cycle so far, we reviewed upcoming production items such as the commemorative Living Clean: The Journey Continues, discussed additional warehouse space, and considered a change in shipping charges for Europe.

**FISCAL UPDATE**

While book sales and contributions have increased slightly they are both still under budget. Regional contributions increased primarily through their events. Group contributions increased while member contributions decreased. The budget is approved by the World Service Conference and we know members want the services it outlines. This is our fellowship and it is our personal responsibility to provide services to addicts seeking recovery globally. We would love to see a day when our reliance on Basic Text sales has decreased and member contributions can fund the services requested through the WSC approved budget. For today, that is not our reality, thus we will maintain our streamlined approach to service delivery and continue to include these pleas in NAWS News and elsewhere.

Living Clean: The Journey Continues book sales remain on target toward budget projections. We realize that many members are just becoming aware of this new recovery resource. We are pleased to hear about so many members who have started Living Clean meetings using the book in their format. Our journey continues as does our recovery.

In the fiscal session of our meeting, we discussed direct shipping costs on the European continent. We found that we are supporting the shipping; members are not paying actual shipping costs. We are not able to continue this practice. We need members to pay euro amounts closer to actual costs for shipping. The planned increase for shipping costs for sales through WSO Europe will go into effect 1 July 2013.

The discrepancy between actual costs for shipping and what we charge was quite large for some categories, and this adjustment will get us closer to recovering the direct costs for shipping. For orders over 500 euros, we will charge the actual shipping costs. These are the fees charged by shipping companies and do not include any handling costs.
In rounding out this session of the board meeting, we explored the possibility of leasing additional warehouse space in a building adjacent to NAWS Chatsworth. We have exceeded our warehouse capacity and currently use an external location some distance from the office for additional storage. We anticipate entering into this new warehouse lease arrangement early 2013 to replace our current offsite storage.

We remain inspired by our primary purpose yet to fulfill our ability to carry the message worldwide we need your financial help. Please continue to contribute through our portal at www.na.org/contribute. Some members have let us know they would like to be able to set up a recurring monthly contribution, and at their request we offer this feature as well.

SERVICE SYSTEM

We've covered a lot of ground in the Service System Project since our last NAWS News. We have two main focuses for this cycle, to further flesh out the parts of the Service System Proposals that are vague or need definition, and to field test the ideas in the proposals. We've begun work on both of those fronts since our last board meeting. We'll cover some of the highlights briefly here. As always, let us know if you have questions or concerns. We've created an email address dedicated to the project: servicesystem@na.org.

Field Testing

As we mentioned in our recent eblast, we have begun field testing the ideas in the Service System Proposals. The field testing frame posted on the Service System Webpage www.na.org/servicesystem explains the field test in detail. There are a number of communities around the world who are already implementing parts of the Service System Proposals or who are talking about the possibility of doing so soon. Within that broad group, we’ve selected a number of ASCs to be “core community” field testers. Those communities have agreed to form LSUs and/or GSUs exactly as those bodies are described in the Service System Proposals. They are sending us all of their materials—agendas, guidelines, minutes, tools—and we have agreed to talk with them regularly—at least monthly—and support them however we can. Because of our resource limitations, these core communities are all located in North America. That will make it easier for us to travel if needed, or to bring some members of those communities together for a debriefing session at the close of the field test, if we decide to hold such a meeting.

The number of core communities is relatively small, but we are interested in any communities that are field testing or want to field test the ideas in the proposals. Let us know what’s happening in your community and how we can help. If you’ve adapted the ideas in the proposals in some way to make them “fit” better with your local community, let us know. We can learn as much from struggles as we can from easy transitions. All of it can be helpful information when we are drafting a transition plan.

Tools

We are working on developing tools for the field testing. We have posted quite a few tools for the GSUs on the Service System Webpage, and we are working on tools for the LSU as well as a brief CBDM Basics document. Please send us any input you have on those documents or any experience working with them, if you try them out on a local level. We had a great discussion about CBDM at our board meeting and you’ll see the results in the CBDM Basics draft. If you’re practicing CBDM on a local level, we hope you’ll send us your tools or ideas if you haven’t already. All of these tools that we are developing for the field test are works in progress, and we expect them to change as we learn more. We welcome your insight and ideas.

Webpage Update

There was a long period leading up to the conference and afterward that the Service System Webpage still had exclusively pre-WSC 2012 information. We’ve finally updated the page and we are regularly posting new material. In addition to the tools we are drafting for the field test, we have posted a couple of new PowerPoints for local workshops—a “101” session that gives a very brief overview of the Service System Proposals and an update session that explains the project focus for this cycle. We’ve also posted a document titled “Ongoing Discussions Related to the Service System Proposals” that highlights some of the areas in the proposals we know we need to talk about this cycle. We have posted this document so you know what we plan to discuss in our

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August-November 2012 Activities

upcoming board meetings and so that you can give input on any of the topics if you wish. We particularly encourage those involved at the zonal level to send ideas about the role of zones in a revitalized service system.

Seating and Large and Small State, Nation, and Provinces
Among those “ongoing discussions” are the need to develop seating criteria and the related topic of what to suggest for service delivery in particularly large or small states, nations, or provinces where a single service body may not make sense. We began those discussions at this past board meeting, and while we had a very good discussion, we aren’t significantly closer to drafting proposed seating criteria or a set of recommendations for large or small SNPs than we were before the meeting. In the end, we determined that these may be discussions we can have more productively if we “uncouple” them from each other. What makes the most sense in terms of a structure that ensures effective service delivery in a very large or small state, nation, or province may not be what makes the most sense in terms of a conference seating policy. We are putting aside the question of conference seating for now and will resume the discussion about state-, nation-, and province-wide service delivery at our next board meeting.

TRADITIONS BOOK PROJECT
As we reported previously, the Traditions Book Project is set to span two conference cycles, the first of which will be devoted to gathering fellowship ideas, input, and source material. Based on the responses to the 2011 literature survey and our interactions with members at workshops and through correspondence, it is clear that there are a variety of ideas in the fellowship about what this book should look like. Our hope is to achieve a broad-based consensus in this cycle. The project plan in the 2014 CAT will reflect the ideas gathered in this cycle as we look ahead to drafting the book in the 2014–2016 cycle.

We have created some resources to encourage discussion and gather input, including workshop materials and an online input form. These are available on the project page at www.na.org/traditions. We also plan to create a discussion board for the project which should go live early in 2013. We encourage you to hold local workshops using the session materials we created. Send your input to worldboard@na.org. (We also welcome any comments or suggestions you might have regarding the workshop materials.) Based on an eblast we sent after the board meeting concluded, we have already begun to receive input. There’s a lot of excitement about this project, and we’re very pleased to begin hearing your ideas. We also plan to frame solicitation of more specific experience on the traditions later in this cycle. In the meantime, we know there are resources that members use with the traditions, and we would like to have those resources as part of our input gathering stage. Please send us any tools you have that you use with your sponsor or sponsees.

AN INTRODUCTION TO NA MEETINGS
This service pamphlet was created by the board following WSC 2006. Initially, this piece was created as a PR service resource for professionals who refer addicts to NA so that professionals could give them something with information about what they may expect at their first NA meeting. As we reflected upon its intended use, we thought that this introductory piece may serve all potential members – any addict who is entering an NA meeting for the first time regardless of how they arrived at the meeting. Thus, we proposed a project plan at WSC 2012 to create a Fellowship-approved IP for use in all NA meetings.

During this board meeting we approved the pamphlet for release for fellowship review and input. We have extended the review and input period through 30 April 2013—longer than the requisite three months—in the hopes of producing the best piece possible. We are offering suggested review questions and hope that you take the time to review and participate. We look forward to hearing from you.
PUBLIC RELATIONS

NAWS attended the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM) Conference in Geneva, Switzerland October 2012. At this conference the non-addict physician researcher we have been cooperating with presented his survey findings to addiction physicians.

To take a step back, NAWS cooperated with this physician researcher by coordinating the distribution of surveys to groups in Pennsylvania, Florida, and Los Angeles County, CA. Survey results were forwarded to the researcher in 2011. His 2012 presentation reflected those findings which, in turn, mirrored and validated our own Membership Survey. At some point in the future his findings will be published in a medical journal.

Since this proved to be a worthwhile initial cooperative venture, we are considering cooperation for an additional survey whose primary audience will be recovering veterans. This researcher talked with a small sample focus group of recovering veterans, and this dialogue about their experiences of recovering in NA following a conflict helped to shape the idea for a second survey. The audience for the survey will be members in groups with additional questions for veterans. This is all in the pre-planning stages; we have no definite approach or plan as of this writing and we will continue to report progress toward a second survey.

Because NAWS attends two medical conferences, ISAM and the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), we are acutely aware of the trends with addiction medicine. Recently ASAM and the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) revised their definition of addiction to characterize it as a brain disease and treatable with medication. This is the sort of trend that may directly impact the NA Fellowship; we may feel the impact in our recovery meetings. The medication for treatment is most often drug replacement medications. Many potential members may be entering our meetings on these medications prescribed for their treatment. We know our responsibility is to welcome all members and to refrain from judging a member’s desire as illuminated in our Third Tradition. As it says in It Works: How and Why, “Desire is not a measureable commodity,” We encourage members to read the service pamphlet NA Groups and Medication and to read In Times of Illness. We understand NA is a program of complete abstinence, yet many of us have heard stories from members who came to meetings for a couple of years before they became willing to become abstinent. As the desire for abstinence grows in members, we continue to welcome them to meetings in an atmosphere of recovery, providing the hope they need to believe they can live drug free and recover.

In the course of this discussion, we reviewed Trustee Bulletin #29 written initially in the 1980s which seems to offer an opinion on an outside issue, namely methadone. We believe the service pamphlet NA Groups and Medication addresses some of the same issues without expressing an opinion on any outside issue. Trustee Bulletin #29 may have outlived its usefulness and was written in a period when we had less experience. We will continue to evaluate the value of Bulletin #29 as we begin our environmental scan January 2013.

WEBINARS

We are continuing our webinars with members of Step Writing Committees as part of Sponsorship Behind the Walls. These webinars offer the opportunity for information exchange and discussing solutions for common issues. We hope more members of Step Writing Committees will sign up to participate.

As we mentioned in a previous NAWS News, we anticipate holding Public Relations, Hospital & Institutions, and Conventions Webinars. We are encouraged by the members who have signed up to participate, yet we believe there are trusted servants who are not aware yet of this opportunity. Prior to initiating these webinars, we are asking area and regional chairpersons who have not signed up to please sign up and join us. We welcome the experience and hope together we can find solutions to common issues with PR, H&I, and Convention service. We would like to initiate the webinars January 2013.

Please send us your name, contact information (email address), trusted servant position, and your region, as well as ideas about what you would like to see discussed, to:

- Events@na.org for conventions
- HandI@na.org for Hospitals and Institutions
- PR@na.org for Public Relations/Public Information

We are excited about the prospect of being able to offer this service and connect trusted servants with others who perform the same service in their respective communities.

For members whose interest is the Service System, you will not be left out of an opportunity to dialogue. Please watch your email for updates about the Service System Project and avenues of discussion.
ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS, MOBILE APPS, NAWS WEBSITE

The IT team has certainly been busy. Here are some bullet points of the highlights of what we’ve been up to.

WEBSITE:

- Launched new, more user-friendly version in June with user survey,
- Survey responses overwhelmingly (80%+) loved new look, feel, functionality,
- Website constantly evolving as a living, dynamic project,
- Have been averaging over 250,000 visits per month with almost 35% being mobile (including tablets),
- Launched map-based meeting search in October – over 100,000 searches for meetings per month.

MOBILE AND DIGITAL MEDIA:

- Mobile site launched August, again well-received (http://m.na.org). Mobile version automatically loads when viewed on a smartphone,
- Launched digital versions of Basic Text, It Works How and Why, and Sponsorship on Amazon and iTunes bookstores in September,
- Working on mobile versions of meeting locator for both Android and Apple smartphones – expect early 2013.

OTHER eSERVICES

- Just for Today daily emails – well over 60,000 subscriptions sent out every night,
- Discussion boards for area and regional service as well as specific areas like translations,
- Boards for projects under development,
- Shopping cart being revised to make it more user-friendly which will happen early 2013.

WORLD CONVENTION UPDATE

WCNA 35, 29 August – 1 September 2013
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

“THE JOURNEY CONTINUES”

We are delighted to report that registration and hotel packages are on sale! We are offering early bird registration for $79 through 31 January 2013. We hope that members avail themselves of the hotel packages we’ve made available. We did our best to contract with hotels that seem to meet members’ needs as illustrated through the San Diego World Convention where we experienced hotel attrition. Since we would like members to use our hotels, we will be holding three drawings for three free room nights to members who book their reservation in these hotels by the early bird registration deadline. Since the hotels for this convention are close to the convention center, we will not be offering busing to members for meetings.

Once the early bird registration deadline passes, registration will be $89 from February through July; onsite registration will be $99. As a reminder, WCNA 35 will be a registration-required event. We hope that you will register early which will save you money that you may want to target for entertainment or an excursion around Philadelphia. Our entertainment contracts are nearly all in place; we are under contract for Blues and Jazz Luncheons and are finalizing entertainment for Saturday evening.

Since many members plan vacations around a world convention, we hope to offer various excursions to sites around Philadelphia such as an Amish country tour as well as those within Philadelphia such as the Liberty Bell. We have also started to discuss the possibility of a banquet at this convention. We have not had one since 2007. And, we may want to celebrate NA’s 60th anniversary as a fellowship with a banquet. After all it is our Diamond Jubilee. Yes, our journey most definitely continues.

Hopefully, those members who have a desire to serve on the WCNA workgroup made us aware by the 31 October 2012 deadline. We will need these experienced members to help make this convention a success. We anticipate the convention workgroup will hold its initial meeting February 2013. We truly look forward to working with you! We anticipate 17,000 members joining us in this recovery celebration; together we will make this convention memorable for everyone who attends.

Visit www.na.org/wcna for updates.
FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL

Greetings from your Human Resource Panel. As we have not met since the last edition of NAWS News, our report to you will be concise.

As previously reported, and in an effort to help everyone have ample time to participate in the RBZ recommendation process, we sent all regional delegates, alternates, zonal forum contacts, and the World Board an email in mid-September. This was a full six months earlier than in previous conference cycles. The email included attachments of the rationale questionnaire and submission form. We asked the service bodies to complete these forms for each candidate they submit.

In early October we sent all active World Pool members an email requesting them to complete the new World Pool Information Form (WPIF). The WPIF now includes a few personal recovery questions. This change was made for us to identify those members who are most likely to be nominated and excuse those who are not at the earliest opportunity. Thank you to those members who have already updated their WPIF and we encourage those who have yet to, to do so.

As a reminder, deadlines are 31 August 2013 to update your WPIF for consideration as part of the 2014 WSC nominations process, and 31 October 2013 for RBZ submissions from regions, the World Board and zones.

Your input and comments are welcomed and we encourage you to contact us at hrp@na.org. Again we thank you for your support and we look forward to reporting more as the cycle progresses.

CALENDAR FOR 2012-2014

Travel requests (considered by quarter)
- 15 February for April-June
- 15 May for July-September

Seating request (not resulting from regional split)
- 1 April 2013

Intro to NA Meetings Review & Input deadline
- 30 April 2013

WCNA 35 29 August-1 September 2013 Philadelphia, PA

World Service Conference 27 April–3 May 2014