

## HELLO FROM YOUR WORLD BOARD



We experienced a rewarding and fulfilling World Service Conference 27 April–3 May 2008 in Woodland Hills, California. Our diverse global fellowship came together at our biennial meeting whose theme was “Our Freedom, Our Responsibility.” We all have been given the gift

of freedom from active addiction, and we all have the responsibility to carry our message of recovery and fulfill our service efforts.

This *NAWSNews* will provide an overview of the conference week activities and decisions. This report is not reflective of all the discussions that we had at the conference, and the highlights reported here are merely synopses of the conference activities.

We are gratified by the decisions of the delegates and the direction that we are moving in. We are grateful for the trust that the conference has placed in us and plan to continue to honor that trust by finding more effective ways to hear from the fellowship and the conference. We are maturing as a fellowship and becoming a credible, viable recovery resource in many communities. Of course, our work is ongoing, as this report will illustrate.

We are enthusiastic about the 2008–2010 cycle, which asks us to remain vigilant with communication. We have several projects, essential services, Issue Discussion Topics, and a world convention to bring into being. We have two new projects that will span two conference cycles and an additional seven projects for the 2008–2010 cycle. Although we adopted a new section for *A Guide to World Services in NA* on consensus-based decision making, there are still many improvements that we need to make to have the WSC truly be a place to talk about the issues that face our fellowship. We are pleased with the interest we in NA have generated and the progress we have made with the fellowship Issue Discussion Topics, but think there are still improvements needed to better connect these discussions to the *CAR* and the conference. We will strive to remain responsible with the trust that you gave to us; we embrace our freedom and want all addicts to experience recovery in their respective cultures and languages.

## BUILDING COMMUNITY

Since the World Service Conference meets every two years, we purposely scheduled activities that brought us together. The day preceding the WSC was a Unity Day where conference participants and local members shared their experience, strength, and hope during recovery workshops. Another activity of the pre-WSC events featured an open house at the World Service Office in Chatsworth, along with a Mexican buffet where we were able to renew old friendships and begin developing new ones. The Unity Day was capped off with an international set of speakers at the recovery meeting before the dance, a world market, and, for the first time, NA Jeopardy.

During conference week, there were poolside meetings each morning at 7 am (some were able to embrace their jet lag by attending the meetings). We spent a community-building afternoon at a local ranch where good food, sports, and a recovery meeting provided the opportunity to be outdoors and created the environment for personal connections. We also held a closing luncheon where we acknowledged the efforts of all of the conference participants and heard from some outgoing participants. We believe that activities such as these allow us to strengthen the bonds among the participants who serve our worldwide fellowship; that sense of community reminds us of our commitment to

### What's Inside?

#### WSC 2008 Overview

<b>Newly Seated Regions &amp; WSC Moratorium</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Public Relations</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Projects for 2008–2010</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Service Pamphlets</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Fellowship Development</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Leadership in NA</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Election Results</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>World Convention Update</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Human Resource Panel</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Staff Updates...</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Summary of WSC 2008 Motions</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Product Update</b>	<b>14</b>

carry the message of recovery and provides us with support for the sometimes long days of the conference.

We want to thank the West End Area as our always-willing volunteer partner and also the San Fernando Valley Area for their efforts throughout the conference week. These two areas provided volunteers who helped conference participants with airport transportation, rides to local meetings (when possible), directions to local grocery stores/shops, and Southern Californian hospitality. Thank you, thank you, and thank you.

## TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS

Prior to formal business, conference participants were asked if they would be comfortable using the new rules of order as proposed in the Conference Approval Track material on a trial basis. Most of the participants were familiar and comfortable enough with the proposed rules of order, so the conference voted to use those rules on a trial basis before approving them in new business.

Much like at the previous two conferences, discussion sessions prior to formal business allowed for significantly smoother business session proceedings. During these discussion sessions, all participants had the opportunity to make comments, voice concerns, or pose questions about motions, and to express their ideas without the restrictions of parliamentary rules. We offer our appreciation and thanks to Jimi S for so ably facilitating the conference through its business and discussion sessions.

We left the conference with a written summary of the decisions made at WSC 2008. This document can be found on our website at [http://www.na.org/conference/WSC\\_2008\\_Summary\\_of\\_Decisions.pdf](http://www.na.org/conference/WSC_2008_Summary_of_Decisions.pdf).

We deeply appreciate the continued support and confidence demonstrated by the fellowship through the passing of new business motions, including the project plans and budget for 2008–2010. We thank you and look forward to the work that we can accomplish together in the two years ahead of us and beyond.

## NEWLY SEATED REGIONS & WSC MORATORIUM ON SEATING OF REGIONS

WSC '08 voted to seat seven new regions; the regions of Egypt, El Salvador, Nepal, Nicaragua, North Carolina, Poland, and Southern Brazil will be joining us at WSC 2010 as our newest conference participants.

The following appeared as part of the seating recommendation report that was distributed with the Conference Approval Track materials:

**The conference has discussed its own growth and how to deal with issues related to representation for years without coming to consensus. We all agree that the growth of NA is a positive thing, but we haven't yet come to an agreement about how to**

**reconcile our growth as a fellowship with the need to conduct business effectively at the conference.**

**In consideration of these issues, we are calling for a moratorium on seating regions that have resulted from a split as well as a moratorium on using a workgroup to make seating recommendations to the board until 2012. Perhaps the conference will be able to discuss the issues more effectively if there is a deliberate decision not to seat regions from regional splits for the next two conference cycles, and the conference uses this time to discuss what will work best for its immediate future without having these discussions colored by the specific regions requesting seating. We hope to have a proposal for the conference to consider in 2012.**

Following discussions about the proposed moratorium, the gathering of regional conscience, the focus of a World Service Conference, and the structure of our service system, conference participants adopted the following:

**To place a moratorium on the current Criteria for Recognition of New Conference Participants from *A Guide to World Services in NA* until WSC 2012. The World Board would continue to make recommendations to the conference in 2010 and 2012 concerning regions that did not result from a division of a conference-seated community.**

We will continue to discuss the issues related to seating and work on formulating a proposal, for consideration in 2012 that better serves the WSC regarding seating of new conference participants. We will update you throughout this conference cycle, and as we progress we will be seeking conference participants' thoughts and input. We are depending on our partnership with you and look forward to working together on WSC seating recommendations during this moratorium period.

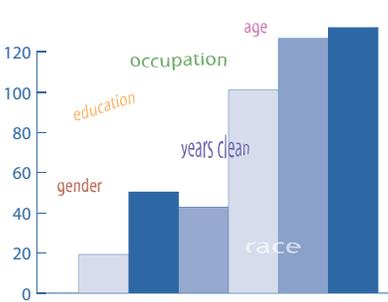


This session highlighted public relations activity during the 2006–2008 conference cycle. A review of NAWS' participation at professional events opened the session. NAWS attends these conferences to provide attendees with information about our program and to introduce them to our literature. The professionals

who attend these conferences directly interact with potential members who could be referred to NA.

For six of the attended conferences (World Federation of Therapeutic Communities, NYC, NY; International Congress on Addictions, Mexico City, Mexico; United Kingdom/European Symposium on Addictive Disorders, London, UK; International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, Stockholm, Sweden; International Society of Addiction Medicine, Cairo, Egypt; and National Seminar for Therapy and Rehabilitation, Jakarta, Indonesia), NAWS presented information in professional workshops. In these types of sessions, workshop attendees are able to directly interact with NAWS

representatives and ask questions about our program. Often, professionals think that NA is solely focused on opiate addicts because our name gives them that impression. We use these opportunities to inform professionals about the origin of our name, which helps dispel this misperception. We are also able to use information from our membership survey to illustrate that NA members used a variety of drugs.



The second component of this WSC session focused on results from the 2007 Membership Survey. Nearly 13,500 members responded either at WCNA-32, online, or through mail/fax responses. The data collected indicate that our average cleantime

is 9.09 years, information that helps dispel the misperception that “there is no recovery in NA,” which we sometimes hear from professionals. The survey results also illuminated members’ educational advances, with more members reporting in 2007 that they have achieved a college degree as compared to the figures from 2003. The 2007 survey featured a question regarding quality-of-life improvement areas. This is a topic that piques the interest of professionals because it appears to be an indicator of sustainable life changes and improvements. Our members reported that in the areas of family relationships and social connectedness, they had experienced greater than an 80 percent improvement since coming to NA. Area and regional committees that interact with professionals in corrections, treatment, and healthcare settings through phonedlines, H&I, and public information/relations may find this survey helpful. It is available at [www.na.org/PR/2003\\_Membership\\_Survey.pdf](http://www.na.org/PR/2003_Membership_Survey.pdf)

Cooperative events were covered during the third segment of the PR session. These events are generally conferences that attract professionals from a specific geographic area. NAWS usually participates in national and international conferences, but NA communities that have a PI/PR subcommittee and willing members may partner with NAWS on such events. NAWS partnered with regions/zones for over forty cooperative events in 2006–2008. We work together with conference registration and literature for distribution at the conference, and NAWS serves as a resource to the local PI/PR subcommittee. Members who attend these conferences tend to be surprised that some professionals have never heard of Narcotics Anonymous. NA members collect contact information from conference attendees; follow-up with them is imperative for our credibility to be maintained. Most NA members are energized by their participation in these events, and they realize there is more work to be done to have all professionals view Narcotics Anonymous as a viable, credible program of recovery for all addicts.

## PROJECTS FOR 2008–2010

The conference supported all of the projects proposed by the board. These were divided into three categories: priority, second, and third rankings. These rankings were initially assigned by the board, and conference participants were also asked to indicate by straw poll what their perception was of the importance of each project. This occurred on the closing day of the conference, Saturday, a day that began with an early morning (1:30 am) closing of new business. One of our goals is to continually report on and to provide updates on these projects to help us all to remain familiar with our ongoing conference cycle work. In order to meet the timelines established in the project plans individually adopted by the conference, we need to begin work on most projects immediately. The priority ranking allows us to make adjustments in the cycle if resources become an issue. We offer a myriad of projects, yet some are ongoing in every cycle, like the Fellowship Issue Discussions. We thank the conference for their support with the projects that were approved.

### Priority Ranking

- **Business Plan Workgroup**

This has become such an integral part of our business operations that the conference agreed that this workgroup could be considered an essential service in the future.

- **Fellowship Issue Discussions**

This project covers both the 2008–2010 Issue Discussion Topics and any work on capturing the fellowship’s input on the topics from the 2006–2008 cycle.

- **Public Relations**

Much of what we call public relations is already included under essential services in the NAWS budget. This project is for conducting focus groups for medical, corrections, and treatment professionals and creating material targeted to speak to these professions.

- **Service System**

This project will begin with developing a vision statement for all NA services. It will create options and frame discussions about improvements to our service structure in this cycle. This is a two-conference-cycle project.

- **Targeted Literature**

Although there is a long list of potential targeted literature, the work for this project this cycle will focus on a revision to *In Times of Illness*. This booklet will be updated to reflect our current experience with long-term illnesses and mental health issues.

- **Workshops**

This project covers the variety of ways that we support the fellowship in face-to-face interactions, ranging from NAWS-sponsored workshops to cooperative events, attendance at zonal forums, and a US-focused literature and convention workshop.

## Second Ranking

- **“Living Clean – The Journey Continues”**

This is a working title only for a book covering a collection of issues that we deal with in recovery. The topics that will be covered in this book are many that have been prioritized in literature surveys going back to 1999. One of our first areas of focus will be to develop an outline for this piece. This is a two-conference-cycle project.

- **Leadership Orientation Material**

We walked delegates through the first two pieces for this project, facilitation training and the first piece developed to have local workshops on leadership.

- **Self-Support Pamphlets**

This project covers the development of two new pieces on self-support—one a simple graphic representation to show members the variety of ways and places where we can contribute, and the other a discussion of our principle of self-support. These two pieces are intended to replace our current self-support pamphlets.

## Third Ranking

- **Service Material**

Although this may be the project that we are not able to get to in this cycle, presenting the project plan allows us to begin work on a variety of service topics covered in current and discontinued handbooks if we have the time to do so.

The above projects represent a portion of our workload for the upcoming conference cycle. There are still ongoing responsibilities for reporting and gathering feedback, framing issues like WSC seating for discussion, and all of the other ongoing work of NAWS.

Our members are a very valuable resource in helping us complete conference-related projects. If you are interested in participating in a workgroup or you know someone who may have a desire for workgroup participation, please submit (or update) a World Pool Information Form at <http://www.na.org/HRP/wpif-default.htm>. We are also interested in hearing from delegates why you think someone might be a good candidate for a project. You can always send this information to us.

## REDESIGNING THE WEBSITE



The redesign of [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) is a major undertaking that is proceeding and will be live before the end of this year. We are not only speaking of a cosmetic face lift of the website, but a complete restructuring of the functionality of a site that encompasses six different domains and ten servers. There is a detailed discussion about the changes in the *Conference Report*.

One of the changes to the website that we have decided to initiate by July instead of waiting for the redesign roll-out is increasing the number of fellowship discussion boards. We began the Issue Discussion Topic boards four years ago and have seen a marked increase in the interest in and content of these boards in the last two years. We plan to add new topic-focused discussion boards in response to the requests we have heard from members wishing to have a forum to share their experience, strength, and hope. Our new boards will be focused on:

- **area and regional service**
- **conventions and activities**
- **H&I**
- **literature distribution**
- **PR and PI**
- **websites and webmasters**
- **the new Issue Discussion Topics**
- **the Conference Participant Bulletin Board**

We will send out an e-blast once we have these boards online, but please spread the word in your local community. We hope conference participants will continue to share with each other as they did at the World Service Conference. To that end, we will be seeding a discussion on how to be an effective RD on the bulletin board, and we encourage delegates to share their practices with others.

## FELLOWSHIP ISSUE DISCUSSION TOPICS

The issue discussion process has become progressively more helpful with continually increasing participation throughout the fellowship, and this was apparent during the past cycle. Regions, areas, and members are coming together to consider these issues and, in addition to finding solutions for their own NA communities, their feedback benefits other NA communities around the world. As a result of the IDT process, valuable feedback led to the creation of the Strong Home Groups Worksheet and the Area Planning Tool.

Because of the receptivity we've experienced in the past two cycles, we will continue to distribute IDT information and questions through *NAWS News*, *The NA Way Magazine*, and the website. The IDT process has a threefold purpose:

1. **Connecting with others:** creating a sense of community, and inspiring and generating enthusiasm.
2. **Focusing our thinking and energy:** illuminating the common principles of NA, and applying them to new areas and in new ways.
3. **Learning and teaching:** communicating new ideas, and passing information to and from other NA communities and levels of service.

The topic “Our Freedom, Our Responsibility” follows from the IDT “Our Service System.” One of the things we learned during

this past cycle is that we are still struggling with the spirit of our service work—we continue to struggle with apathy and a lack of a sense of commitment and responsibility. Of course, “Our Freedom, Our Responsibility” was also the theme for the WSC and is the theme for the 2008–2010 conference cycle. We hope that this IDT will help us look more closely at our responsibilities and the freedoms we gain from them.

At the conference, the IDT session on “Our Freedom, Our Responsibility” focused on both the individual and fellowshipwide application of these principles. We began by breaking down the word “responsibility,” realizing that at its base it simply means “the ability to respond.” Individual members had an opportunity to share about their experiences in learning how to take personal responsibility and how that led to personal freedoms.

This became one of the most “hands-on” sessions, as some tables were asked to construct a model house, while others were given a prefabricated model. Participants were asked to consider the difference between attending (simply being present) and participating (being involved with others and co creating). Participating in our service allows us to build a better fellowship. The session’s activity seemed to emphasize that we value what we are responsible for creating. When we are responsible for creating the freedoms we have, we cherish them, and in doing so we strengthen them for ourselves and for those to whom we pass them.

The other IDT for this cycle is “Building Communication.” In order to have effective services that help us better carry our message of recovery, we need to strengthen our communication at all levels of the service structure. We seem to struggle with deciding what needs to be communicated, who needs to receive that information, and how best to deliver that communication. When our communication is impaired, our ability to carry the message is compromised. We believe that, fellowshipwide, we have both the desire and the experience in NA to come up with more effective communication tools and practices, and that focusing discussion on this topic will help us find effective solutions.

Please join us in these discussions by using the Fellowship Issue Discussion Board (<http://www.na.org/IDT/IDT.htm>). The July *NA Way* will contain session profiles that include an introduction to the topic and questions for group dialogue, and these will also be posted online.

**SERVICE PAMPHLETS**



We facilitated a session to help conference participants better understand the board’s difficulty with classification of literature. As many of you recall, action

at WSC 2006 gave the board the ability to create service pamphlets. Over the course of this past conference cycle, we developed and released a number of those pamphlets. Input from members prompted us to remove one pamphlet that included a definition of the word “clean.” In general, the development and distribution process for these service pamphlets seemed to work well. The concerns about An Introduction to NA Meetings illustrated the responsiveness of the board approval track (we were able to withdraw the pamphlet promptly). But a number of questions remained.

This conference session centered around one of the primary issues with which we have grappled as a board: the fine line that defines the difference between “recovery” and “service” literature. When writing policy to distinguish this new development track (board-approved) from the two existing tracks (conference-approved and fellowship-approved), we had a difficult time as a board defining the differences between these categories. Participants were able to experience the board’s dilemma as they were asked to classify several pieces of literature as either recovery- or service-based. Some of the pieces were more obvious than others, and that provided the basis for this session’s discussions.

Discussion about the draft pamphlet *Introduction to NA Meetings* helped to illustrate the board’s distinction between recovery and service material. This piece was developed in response to the large influx of new people coming to our meetings from drug courts and other referral agencies who have not been given even a basic description of what NA is or what happens at an NA meeting. This pamphlet was developed using existing NA material as the foundation, it conveys no new ideas about NA philosophy or principles, and is intended primarily for distribution in PR efforts to these referral agencies. With this intended audience, and the content being really a repackaging of existing ideas, conference participants seemed to support the board’s idea that this is not a new piece of recovery literature.

The discussion surrounding service pamphlets recurred throughout the conference week as we worked together to try to refine the development process for this new “track” of material. The board’s desire is to work with conference participants in the production of these service pamphlets. After discussion, the conference agreed to modify the development process to facilitate that cooperation. Service pamphlets will continue to be developed by the board and, prior to their release to the fellowship, regional delegates will receive a copy of the content for a ninety-day review-and-input period. RDs have the flexibility to involve other members in the review process or offer comments themselves. Once the ninety-day review period is over, the input will be considered and the pamphlet will be revised and, if appropriate, approved by the World Board. We are gratified that we could work together to resolve this issue.

Currently, the drafts of service pamphlets that were included in the Conference Approval Track mailing are being reviewed, and we have already received a healthy amount of input. **The deadline for input on these pamphlets is the end of July.** We hope that we can consider your ideas and release revised pamphlets to our fellowship in the fall.

We have no immediate plans to begin working on more service pamphlets. The months following the conference are usually taken up with the onset of work on the projects that were passed. As we did mention in the mailing that we sent out, we have considered revising the pamphlet *NA Groups and Medication*, with an eye to somehow combining this piece with our existing bulletin on methadone so that we have one piece that addresses these issues, rather than two. We were unable to take on that revision before the conference; however, any work we do on that topic—if we do any—will probably happen later in the cycle after the Targeted Literature project is up and running.

### BASIC TEXT, MEDALLIONS, AND YOUTH IPS

Perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of WSC 2008 for many participants came with the approval of our Sixth Edition Basic Text by unanimous consent. The passing of the Basic Text motions marked the first changes to the Basic Text in two decades. Following approval of the final motion, a delegate went to the microphone to declare that the 2008 World Service Conference had made history with the passing of the Basic Text motions at 7:26 pm on 29 April 2008. This resulted in a standing ovation and a song of celebration by the conference. We now have a truly international Basic Text that reflects the diversity and strength of our truly international NA Fellowship. The current plan is for the book to be available by October 2008, with a special edition volume as well.



The approval draft of *By Young Addicts, For Young Addicts* was approved by unanimous consent. This pamphlet will replace our existing IP #13, Youth and Recovery. This decision was followed shortly thereafter by an overwhelming majority approval of *For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA*. These new pieces of literature will be produced with a fresh, new appearance and style, distinctly different from our existing IPs. We believe these pieces will be very useful in helping young addicts find recovery in NA.

As most of our members know, there were two old business motions dealing with the production of medallions; additionally, there was an online medallion preference survey that was conducted. Of 5,739 responses to the medallion survey, nearly 75 percent chose Roman numerals over Arabic, and about 55 percent chose the bronze over the nickel finish. Although both motions in the *CAR* failed, as a result of fellowship input NAWS will change our current medallions to Roman numeral medallions in bronze finish beginning in October.

During conference discussion on the motions related to the medallions, some participants suggested that precious, limited time at the conference should be focused toward the important work of carrying our message of recovery worldwide rather than be spent in discussion about a production matter which has always been under NAWS' purview.

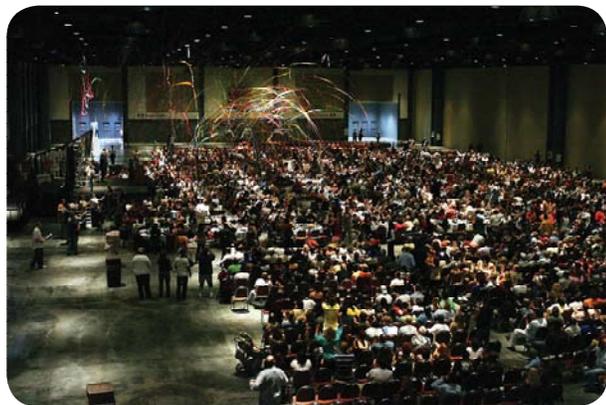
The medallion issue is a good opportunity to give you an idea of what we believe the majority of participants want to see the conference become. Using our old system, the only way that most regions knew how to have an issue considered was to make a regional motion. While our system has changed, that approach has not always changed along with it. We agreed with the makers of these motions that medallions seem to be something many of our members care about. We just believed that a survey was a more effective way to get a sense of what the fellowship wanted. The conference seemed to support this belief, and what will be produced is what the majority of survey respondents seemed to prefer, regardless of each of our own personal preferences. While the right of regions to make motions remains, the reality of a discussion-oriented conference makes motions an ineffective way to have an idea considered. We are asking you all to work with us. Send us your ideas and concerns and/or post them to the conference participant bulletin board. We are restating our ongoing commitment to discuss the ideas we receive and to report them back to you. We do not always know how to create a true discussion in the fellowship or even at a regional level on a particular issue, but if delegates work with us we are certain that we can make this a reality.

### FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The WSC fellowship development session is consistently one of the more inspiring sessions at the conference. As members, we love to see recovery around the world as well as in our own backyards.

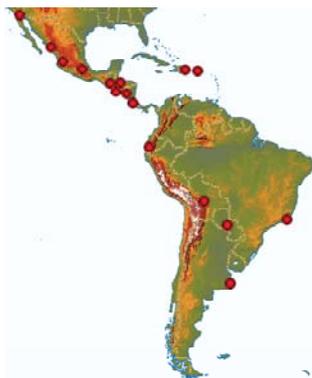
As it has in past conferences, this session centered on a presentation focused on NAWS events and trips over the last two years. For budgeting purposes and within the WSC sessions, FD activity was separated from public relations activity, even though the two are often carried out in tandem and have similar goals of carrying the message of

recovery and sharing information about NA using various avenues. In fellowship development we tend to focus on members and their service efforts, while public relations usually focuses on those who can refer addicts to NA and members in NA communities who perform this service. We try to balance our activities with the needs of the fellowship worldwide. These needs seem to increase each cycle, and we use a variety of resources to answer the growing number of requests. World Board members, NAWS staff, and World Pool members have all hit the road during the last cycle to cover the many requests for our participation and/or facilitation. In some cases, we may also fund local members' attendance



at service events, especially for those whose geographic and financial constraints would otherwise prevent their participation. Without this funding, these members and their NA communities might never be represented in such events.

NAWS activity was represented geographically on a map, beginning in North America, where we attended fifteen zonal forum meetings, fourteen service events, and ten regional and area conventions. We also celebrated recovery with a world convention held in San Antonio, Texas; two Worldwide Workshops, one held in New Orleans, Louisiana, and the other in Lincoln, Nebraska; a literature and convention workshop in Woodland Hills, California; and attendance at a Day of Twelve-Step Fellowships at the AA General Service Office in New York.



In the Latin American zone, NAWS attended one meeting of the Latin American Zonal Forum (LAZF) and eleven other fellowship events, funded World Pool members on two trips to developing communities, and conducted workshops in Costa Rica and Honduras with help from surrounding communities. NAWS has several Spanish-speaking staff who help to keep

contact with this huge geographic zone. We will continue to plan events in cooperation with LAZF members. At WSC

2008 they asked NAWS to begin work on the Spanish Sixth Edition Basic Text.

In our fellowship development efforts in the Asia Pacific zone, we attended two meetings of the Asia Pacific Forum, held a series of workshops in Nepal, and funded 100 members from across Indonesia to attend a workshop in Jakarta. We also held a worldwide workshop in Australia (our first visit to Australia since 1991), attended three regional conventions, and revisited China, potentially one of the largest emerging NA communities. In India we maintained our ongoing commitment to this community by attending seven service events and workshops, and continued to seek solutions for the challenges of producing and distributing NA literature on this vast subcontinent.

The Middle East is still experiencing rapid growth, and we have committed to supporting these developing communities. NAWS participated in eleven workshops across the region, including the Middle East workshop, which was attended by eleven NA communities whose members we funded to attend. In addition to these workshops, we had the opportunity to travel to Iran, where we conducted thirteen workshops in seven Iranian cities and met with medical and governmental professionals.

Moving to the European continent with our fellowship development efforts, we attended the European Delegates Meeting, visiting them four times in the last cycle. We conducted a Worldwide Workshop in France (which marked our first development efforts there in ten years), a Russian-speaking PR workshop in Moscow with NAWS-funded participants from Lithuania to Siberia, a service workshop in Denmark for the first time in ten years, and an Eastern European workshop in Budapest with NAWS-funded participants and with the cooperation of the EDM FD subcommittee.

In Africa the main focus of NAWS activity has been translations. We showed delegates images of four southern African language versions of IP #1, keytags in the East African language of Kiswahili, and a handwritten draft of Am I An Addict? in the Ethiopian language of Amharic.



Fellowship development continues to be rewarding and fulfilling as we participate with members in service workshops, helping their NA communities grow and attract addicts to recovery. Our FD activities bring us closer to our vision that one day all addicts will have the ability to experience recovery in their own language and culture. Your delegates have copies of all of these presentations. Encourage them to share them with you!

## LEADERSHIP IN NA

We continued our fellowshipwide discussions regarding leadership at this conference by moving from gathering information into practical application. To assist the conference with this process, we used the services of a professional consultant, Jim Delizia. Jim is no stranger to NAWS and the WSC; his skills with facilitation and teaching have supported us in further examining how to cultivate leaders in NA. Many conference participants remembered him from WSC 2006 and WSC 2004.

### Facilitation

This session opened with a small-group ice breaker; conference participants were asked to consider the following scenario: A new trusted servant is attending a regional service meeting for the first time. What suggestions would participants give to this member about his or her ability to impact the meeting? Following this warm-up brainstorming activity, Jim reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the regional delegate as a partner with NAWS, and prompted the delegates to be the agents of change within their respective regions.

Jim reviewed the differences between being a spokesperson and being a facilitator. A facilitator in a service or committee meeting:

- ❖ **creates an environment that allows for open discussion;**
- ❖ **ensures the topic to be discussed is clearly understood by all participants;**
- ❖ **maintains the focus on the topic;**
- ❖ **allows enough time for the group to explore the topic before asking them to make a decision; and**
- ❖ **listens effectively to understand what is being said.**

A facilitator also has the role and function of helping participants with decision making, and can assist these efforts by:

- ❖ **clarifying the decision and then restating the goal the group is working to achieve;**
- ❖ **reflecting on the input received from participants and identifying common thoughts/ideas;**
- ❖ **building solutions or options to address the issue;**
- ❖ **evaluating the proposed solutions/options with the group;**
- ❖ **choosing the solution that will best meet the group's goals; and**
- ❖ **preparing the group for action and implementation of the decision.**

A facilitator does all of the above without dominating the discussion or inserting his or her own viewpoints. Facilitation techniques such as probing, synthesizing, and bridging were

described. These skills improve a facilitator's effectiveness by helping the group make connections and process the information they generate.

### Small Groups

Another helpful method is using small groups to discuss large subject matters such as regional budget planning and difficult concerns such as theft of NA funds. The small-group process includes three components: setup, discussion, and process. Setup describes the purpose of the group discussion and background information necessary for the discussion. Discussion occurs among participants at a table as they work toward a solution. Process describes how all participants reach a common solution by bridging ideas from various tables and recapping input and decisions.

### Practical Application

Conference participants were led through a series of exercises to help them practice their facilitation skills. Some of the practice sessions focused on ways to probe for additional useful information, synthesizing divergent viewpoints and ideas and bridging seemingly conflicting statements back to the original theme or point.

The final exercise concentrated on a problem that was probably familiar to most conference participants—apathy at the area level and how the facilitator or chairperson of that area can increase enthusiasm and involvement to accomplish the area's goals.

This session wrapped up with suggestions on how to conduct these workshops in local NA communities. Several participants asked if the workshop material could be made available electronically as soon as possible; it was explained that an FTP site would be set up where conference participants can access all of the information from the conference for use in their home communities. To assist conference participants with leadership development in their communities, the workshop materials will be distilled for easier use and will be available as soon as they are edited and simplified.

## THE SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY

The final Saturday morning of the conference opened with a session titled "The Spirit of Generosity." Initially, the board thought this session's focus would be on "Money and Spirituality," with an emphasis on our personal giving and the difficulty we have talking about this topic as a fellowship. During our board meetings, with further examination of this topic, it became clear that this was not just about money. We realized two key things. First, we easily learn that we keep what we have by giving it away, and we are readily able to practice this principle in the giving of our time, experience, and energy, but when it comes to money we seem unable to apply this same principle. Second, we identified that

this topic is about integrating spiritual principles with our material world.

For example, we can all relate to the spiritual connection of one addict sharing with another, and one of the ways we capture the spirit of our message is through our literature. We need resources to translate the message from the spirit or heart into the printed material in our books and pamphlets. To do that we must talk about the spirit of generosity that inspires what goes into the basket. The growth and development of NA has happened because of the spirit of individual members who have persevered against great odds to help this miracle come about.

One of the outcomes from the discussion was recognizing that the greatest resource we have is not our money, but our spirit. When we first come into recovery we are broken, desperate, and in pain. As we grow in our recovery, we move from this desperation to stability and security and, eventually, to a place of abundance where we are able to share of ourselves and our resources with the passion of our spirit.

**ELECTION RESULTS**

The conference elected two cofacilitators, two World Board members, and three Human Resource Panel members.

**WSC Cofacilitators**

- Jimi S, Chesapeake-Potomac Region
- Jack H, Washington/No. Idaho Region

**World Board**

- Jim B, Chicagoland Region
- Junior B, Brazil Region

**Human Resource Panel**

- Paul F, UK Region
- Valerie D, Carolina Region
- Margaret H-M, Tejas Bluebonnet Region

**WCNA-33**

**20–23 August 2009  
Barcelona, Spain**



We are looking forward to a celebration of recovery experience in Barcelona, Spain, and would like every member to join us. We realize that attending the world convention in Barcelona may require more advance planning for some of our members.

We want to help by providing information sooner about the hotels and lodging choices. We hopefully will be making

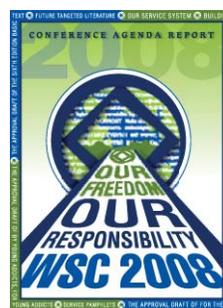
registration flyers and accommodation information available in August 2008. Watch your mail for the flyer and check for additions in the world convention area of [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) for the latest WCNA-33 information.

We believe Spain is truly a wonderful setting for a celebration of our recovery. We hope you will join us.

**WCNA-34**

**20–23 August 2011 in San Diego, California, USA**

**OUR FREEDOM, OUR RESPONSIBILITY**



We will have our first board meeting of the new cycle on 7–9 August 2008; at that board meeting we will be discussing the project plans adopted at WSC 2008 along with the ongoing stream of other activities that occur in a worldwide fellowship. We will recap the discussions regarding seating of new conference participants and continue that discussion through this

cycle and into the next; we have committed to providing recommendations to improve the process by WSC 2012. We will be readying the Issue Discussion Topics materials at this meeting in preparation for fellowship workshops. We will also orient our new board member and elect our leadership. This is only a sampling of the agenda for that first meeting of the cycle. We are energized and enthused as we see our fellowship grow into what it is today and lay the groundwork for what it will be tomorrow. We are eagerly looking forward to the opportunity to serve for this coming cycle.

We are grateful that Jim B was reelected to serve our fellowship and that Junior was elected to the board. Both will be valuable assets for your World Board.

We want to express our gratitude for the trusted servants who completed their service at WSC 2008. Two members of the HRP, Mindy A from Missouri, USA, and Sergio S from Panama, fulfilled their terms at this conference and were given an opportunity to offer some parting thoughts at our final session of the WSC. Both Mindy and Sergio have spent countless hours over the years serving the fellowship, and we are confident that somehow, somewhere they will continue to be involved in service at some level. Thank you both from all of the board and the staff at NA World Services.

The World Service Conference of today could not happen without the hard work and dedication of several translators. We want to thank Luigi P for his assistance with the Italian, Jay M for his assistance with the Japanese, and Laura R and Jose Luis A for their help with the Spanish.

**FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL**

Greetings from the Human Resource Panel. We are preparing for the first meeting of the HRP for the 2008–2010

conference cycle. Thanks one last time to Mindy A and Sergio R for their service to the HRP over the past four years, and congratulations to our newly elected HRP members, Margaret H-M, Valerie D, and Paul F. Greg S, the current HRP panel leader, is looking forward to working together with these newly elected members.

In recalling our discussions at the WSC, we appreciate the vote of confidence from the conference regarding the use of non-HRP members in various support roles as we move through our process. As we said at the WSC, we are still talking about this, and have not made any decisions about bringing in anyone as yet. We will keep you apprised of any decisions to bring others to our meetings.

As we discussed, the process of forwarding potential candidates to the HRP from regions, zonal forums, and the World Board (aka the RBZ process) has seemed to add value to the elections process. With nine out of fifteen HRP candidates coming from the RBZs, it seems in everyone's best interest to support strengthening all aspects of this cooperative partnership among regions, zones, the World Board, and the HRP. So again, we encourage any service body that has developed any resources in support of forwarding RBZs (e.g., guidelines, procedures, forms, etc.) to share those with others by sending a copy to us. We will see that they are posted on our ftpsite.

We also appreciate your support for our idea to have those who forward candidates to us under the RBZ process include the reason why this person should be considered. We will be working to frame what information would be helpful to us in this recommendation from regions, zones, and the World Board and will keep you informed of our discussions. As always, we also welcome your ideas.

Finally, we were pleased with the interaction we had with conference participants during the recent WSC. Thanks to all for your support, interest, and input. We look forward to continuing our efforts to provide conference participants with highly qualified nominees for NAWS trusted servant positions. We are also open to all ideas regarding ways to have the most efficient and effective HRP system possible. Your input is always appreciated.

For now, we will leave you with our gratitude for your continued support of your Human Resource Panel. We look forward to this new conference cycle of reviewing our process and solid communication with those we serve.

## NAWS STAFF UPDATES

**Rebecca (Becky J) Jamison** started on 14 April 2008 as a writer/editor. She relocated from Kennewick, Washington, where she served as the Regional Literature Chair for the Washington/Northern Idaho Region of NA.

**Daniela Abravaya** will be joining the Fellowship Services Team on 9 June. She has worked in the addiction treatment field with adolescent groups and as a residential counselor.



## CALENDAR FOR 2008–2010

**Service Pamphlets Input Deadline** (mailed with the CAT in January)  
31 July 2008

**Travel requests** (considered by quarter)  
15 November for January–March  
15 February for April–June  
15 May for July–September  
15 August for October–December

**World Unity Day 2008**  
30 August 2008

**WCNA-33**  
20–23 August 2009  
Barcelona, Spain



**The following motions appeared in the  
Conference Agenda Report (CAR)  
but were NOT adopted at WSC 2008;  
they are included here in the interest  
of clear communication.**

**Motion #9: It was M/S/F**

To add English Roman Numeral Medallions in Bronze to NAWS inventory as a specialty item and direct the World Board to price them accordingly.

**Action:** Motion failed by voice vote.

**Motion #10: It was M/S/F**

To direct the World Board to add to NAWS inventory Roman numeral medallions in all current finishes and languages produced by NAWS. Whether these medallions are an addition to inventory or a replacement for the current Arabic numbered medallions is left to NAWS discretion.

**Action:** Motion failed by voice vote.

**Motion #11: It was M/S/F**

To direct the World Board to provide financial support to the Northern New Jersey Region in the amount of \$36,000.

**Action:** Motion failed by voice vote.

**Motion #12: It was M/S/F**

To require that all NA Service pamphlets intended for group and individual use be included in the Conference Agenda Report for approval.

**Action:** Motion failed by standing vote (33 in favor / 62 opposed / 1 abstaining / 4 present, not voting)

**ADOPTED NEW BUSINESS MOTIONS**

**Motions #15, 16, 17, 18, & 19:**

To recognize Egypt, El Salvador, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Poland as seated World Service Conference participants beginning at the close of WSC 2008.

**Action:** Motions carried by voice vote on each individual motion.

**Motion #20:**

To place a moratorium on the current *Criteria for Recognition of New Conference Participants* from *A Guide to World Services in NA* until WSC 2012. The World Board would continue to make recommendations to the conference in 2010 and 2012 concerning regions that did not result from a division of a conference-seated community.

**Action:** Motion carried by voice vote.

**Motion #21:**

To adopt the proposed *Human Resource Panel External Guidelines* and the proposed *World Pool Policy* as a replacement for the existing *External Guidelines for the World Pool and the Human Resource Panel* in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

**Action:** Motion carried by voice vote.

**Motion #22:**

To adopt the proposed language for the following sections of *A Guide to World Services in NA: The World Service Conference, The Meeting of the World Service Conference, Consensus-Based Decision Making, and The Work Cycle between Conferences* as a replacement and revision to current language.

**Action:** Motion carried by voice vote.

**Motion #23:**

To adopt the proposed *Approval Processes for NA Material* as a replacement for the current section for *Approval Process for Service Material* and amend the *Approval Process for Recovery Literature* in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

All service-related informational pamphlets, whether conference-approved or World Board-approved, are easily distinguishable from recovery pamphlets by their appearance and should be used by members, groups, and service committees as a resource rather than being read in an NA meeting. *Before approval and distribution, service pamphlets will be sent out to conference participants for a ninety-day review and input. Service tools, PR material, bulletins, and other material will continue to be developed and approved by the World Board.* The World Board has long been able to approve bulletins, but these bulletins only had limited distribution to those who knew that they were available. The advantage of this approval process for informational pamphlets is that material is made readily available, and can be easily changed or pulled from inventory if there are concerns.

**Action:** Motion carried as amended by voice vote. (Note: The *italicized* wording in the paragraph above reflects the amendment which was adopted without objection.)

**Motion #24:**

To adopt the proposed language for the *WSC Rules of Order* as a replacement for the existing language in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

**Action:** Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Motion #25:**

To adopt the proposed language for the *NA World Services, Inc. Annual Report* and *The Conference Report* as a replacement for the existing language for these sections and the Quarterly Report section in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

**Action:** Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Motion #26:**

To adopt the proposed language for the World Service Translation Policy as a replacement for the existing language in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

**Action:** Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Motion #27:**

To adopt the proposed language and map for the World Convention Rotation Plan as a replacement for the existing language in *A Guide to World Services in NA*.

**Action:** Motion carried by voice vote.

**Motion #38:**

To adopt the 2008–2010 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget. (All of the project plans were also adopted by separate motions.)

**Action:** Motion carried by voice vote.

**Motion #61:**

To recognize North Carolina as a seated World Service Conference participant beginning at the close of WSC 2008.

**Action:** Motion carried by roll call vote (78 in favor /35 opposed /2 abstaining / 1 present, not voting).

**Motion #62:**

To recognize Southern Brazil as a seated World Service Conference participant beginning at the close of WSC 2008.

**Action:** Motion carried by standing vote (94 in favor /17 opposed /2 abstaining /2 present, not voting).

**Motion #47:**

To make Chapters Five through Thirteen of the *Public Relations Handbook* adaptable and revisable with World Board approval.

**Action:** Motion carried by voice vote.

**The following motions were committed to the World Board.**

**Motion #60: It was M/S/Committed**

To include in the WSC agenda one small group session, facilitated by delegates, where delegates discuss topics of particular concern in their respective regions in order to enhance understanding, communication, and a feeling of unity.

**Motion #71: It was M/S/Committed**

That NAWS study the possibility of investing in resources needed so that the material from the CPRs\* for candidates for the WB, HRP, and cofacilitators can be made available prior to the conference in the languages of all regions seated in the conference.

\*Candidate Profile Reports = CPR

**Motion #39: It was M/S/Committed**

To encourage the World Board to update the Public Service Announcements as soon as possible.

# Narcotics Anonymous Product News Flash

June 2008, Issue 6



## Sixth Edition Basic Text

The new edition of the Basic Text in hardcover and softcover is scheduled to be available 1 October 2008, at which time we will remove all versions of the Fifth Edition stock we still have in the inventory. Large-print, line-numbered, and CD-ROM versions will also be published soon.



## Roman Numeral Medallions

*back by popular demand*

Roman numerals medallions in bronze finish, and the specialty medallions (bi-plates) will be released 1 October 2008, at which time we will remove all Arabic numeral medallion stock we have in the inventory. We will only accept returns of the existing silver medallions held by our contract customers.

**We are announcing these release dates in advance as a reminder to adjust your current inventory levels accordingly.**

New Products	ITEM No. / PRICE
<p><i>By YOUNG ADDICTS, FOR YOUNG ADDICTS</i> Approved at WSC 2008 to replace IP #13, <i>Youth &amp; Recovery</i></p>	<p>AVAILABLE 1 JUL 2008 3113 / \$0.26*</p>
<p><i>FOR THE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN NA</i> Approved at WSC 2008 to provide information about the NA program to caregivers</p>	<p>AVAILABLE 1 JUL 2008 3127 / \$0.26</p>
<p>SIXTH EDITION BASIC TEXT Approved at WSC 2008 to replace the Fifth Edition; 6X9" format in hard and softcover</p>	<p>AVAILABLE 1 OCT 2008 1101 &amp; 1102 / \$11.00*</p>
<p>BASIC TEXT COMMEMORATIVE EDITION celebrating both the release of the newly approved Sixth Edition and the 25th anniversary of the Basic Text</p>	<p>AVAILABLE 1 OCT 2008 1103 / \$25.00</p>
<p>ROMAN NUMERAL BRONZE MEDALLIONS Traditional bronze finish in 18 months, 1 thru 50 years, and eternity</p>	<p>AVAILABLE 1 OCT 2008 43XX / \$2.75</p>
<p>ROMAN NUMERAL SPECIALTY MEDALLIONS Bi-plate finish in 18 months, 1 thru 50 years, and eternity</p>	<p>AVAILABLE 1 OCT 2008 53XX / \$12.13</p>

\* New pricing will apply to translated versions of IP #13 and the Sixth Edition Basic Text as they are published.

## Price Increase

1 July 2008 New Price			
Title	Price	Title	Price
Twelve Concepts for NA Service	\$1.75	Bronze Medallions	\$2.75
The Group Booklet	\$0.81/0.70	Wallet Cards	\$2.25
Behind the Walls	\$0.81/0.70	Group Reading Cards	\$4.00
In Times of Illness	\$0.81/0.70	Small Posters	\$1.25
IP #25, Self-Support: Principle & Practice	\$0.48/0.46	Large Posters	\$2.85
Keytags	\$0.45	Poster Set	\$8.60

## To Be Discontinued

*available in limited quantities until inventory is depleted*

Gold-plate Medallions (#7300-7399)	Silver Medallions (#6100-6199)	Recovery Tapes (#8802-8806)
Pocket-sized Basic Text (#1105-1106)	20th Anniversary Basic Text (#1104)	Large PI Poster (#9109)