QUICK NOTES

We are closing in on 10,000 followers for our Instagram account, @narcoticsanonymous, and that is a magic number for Instagram. At 10,000 followers, we can have live links on posts. Please follow us if you haven’t already and help push us over the top.

PR week was the first full week in June, and communities around the world planned events to raise members’ awareness about PR service and inform the public about NA.

Unity Day is 4 September. Flyers have been posted to www.na.org/nawsevents. Join addicts around the world by saying the Serenity Prayer at 10am PDT.

All of the zonal forums have been meeting regularly as the Role of Zones Project to exchange experience, and the zones seated at the WSC had a “spin-off” meeting to share their experience with the new position of ZD.

The Spiritual Principle a Day (SPAD) Project has posted the sixth of six batches of entries for review through 13 September: www.na.org/spad. The text of the whole book will be in the 2022 Conference Agenda Report for approval at WSC 2022.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

More than a year into the pandemic, our most pressing news continues to be financial.

First, the good news—for the first time in decades, contributions represented 25% of our income during the last fiscal year. That’s up from 10% the year before. Our gratitude is boundless. Thank you everyone who has contributed and helped us stay afloat for the past 16 months.

NA members tend to be good in a crisis, and contributions are higher than they have ever been before. However, that is only part of the story: Literature sales continue to be depressed. It is going to take us a long time to build back from the financial crisis of the past year. Until NA meetings worldwide are taking place in-person again, we do not expect literature sales to be anything near what they used to be. Without the PPP program and contributions from members, groups, and service bodies, we would be in dire shape. Our reserves have kept us functioning, and building them back up is part of regaining the ground we have lost.

So all of that is to say, thank you and keep it up!

We still believe the silver lining of the pandemic is that it has given us the opportunity to finally make the long-needed shift from a dependence on literature sales for income to a future where NA is self-supporting through member contributions (including contributions from service bodies, groups, and NA events). Our long-term goal is to cover at least 70% of the expense for services through contributions. And we have made significant progress: We are almost 40% of the way there. However, it’s important to remember that part of the reason the percentage has risen so much this past year is because we were forced to furlough or lay off so many staff and we have not been traveling to Fellowship events or having in-person Board or workgroup meetings.

The remaining staff have been working through the entire pandemic, but the World Service Office in Chatsworth remains closed to the public until we are able to raise our staff levels enough to accommodate walk-in orders or tours.

We look forward to a future when we are able to resume some of this activity and create a new normal for NA World Services.

Thank you for your help getting there.
DONORBOX ANNOUNCEMENT

As you may have read in a recent email from us, we have changed our payment provider. The new provider makes it easier for members to track their contributions and gives them more options for recurring contributions.

It also made it possible for us to introduce the option to make a contribution in honor of someone. Whether to celebrate an anniversary, send a virtual hug, or pay respect to someone who has passed, you can now send a card with a contribution and let someone know you’ve made a contribution to celebrate them, send some love, or acknowledge a loss. Just click the Send Some Love option on www.na.org/contribute.

WSC 2022

The World Board and Conference participants are in discussion about the 2022 World Service Conference—whether an in-person WSC will be possible or not, given the existing and potential travel restrictions, health considerations, and the continuing financial strain on World Services.

Regardless of where or how the Conference takes place, we are already looking at a full plate of work, between the projects passed at 2020 that we have been unable to work on given our funding and staffing shortages plus the CAR motions that were not addressed in 2020 that will be reintroduced in 2022. The Board is asking regions and zones to reach out with issues and concerns in the hopes that resolutions can be worked out without the recourse to a CAR motion or a new project.

WORLD CONVENTION

We are also still uncertain about WCNA 38 in Melbourne, Australia. We currently have a contract at the convention center for November 2022, but we are not sure if travel restrictions and the global health situation will allow the convention to take place. We have until October of this year to cancel the contract without penalty if that seems like the prudent thing to do. There are some who question the decision to have a World Convention in 2022 even if conditions make it possible. We take the World Convention zones’ ability to host WCNA very seriously. The World Convention zones and rotation are WSC policies called out in A Guide to World Services in NA. The current rotation plan would not take us back to this part of the world for 27 years. Because of this, the Board believes that every chance should be given for WCNA 38 to happen. We do share the concern about finances, and will create a much different financial model for WCNA 38 if it proceeds.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent Virtual meeting survey posted from March through the end of May 2021. A total of 4,230 responses were received from members, groups, and service bodies in 62 countries. From within the US, members in 46 states, as well as Puerto Rico and Washington DC, responded.

The survey was posted in five languages: English (1,958 responses), Farsi (872 responses), Portuguese (856 responses), Spanish (421 responses), and Polish (123 responses).

One of the questions the survey asked was,

“Do you believe that virtual meetings meet the criteria to be NA groups, as listed in The Group Booklet?”

There was a consensus among respondents that virtual meetings do meet the criteria: Yes - 3466 (82%), No - 407 (10%), and Not Sure - 357 (8%).

This survey was a helpful way to gather input. The Board will review the results, and if they have recommendations for Conference decisions related to virtual meetings, they will discuss those recommendations with delegates before including them in the Conference Agenda Report.

Just a reminder: virtual meetings are listed in the NA meeting finder (search using “web” or “phone” for country), and each service body is free to make their own decisions about member groups (or areas or regions). The question of whether to recognize virtual meetings as groups at NA World Services is a different type of decision that must be made by the NA Fellowship as given voice by the regional and zonal delegates at the World Service Conference. This does not and should not affect local decisions by service bodies to recognize these meetings as groups.
SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY LITTLE WHITE BOOK & FIPT INFORMATION

We have posted notice on www.na.org/fipt that we intend to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Little White Book (LWB) by bringing together all of the stories contained within the different language versions into one English-language commemorative edition.

The Operational Rules of the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) allow the Board to bundle, excerpt, and repackage Fellowship-approved literature, with 120-day notice to the Fellowship. We posted the notice on 25 June and emailed our list of over 150,000 to let them know.

Since then, we have heard from a few members who wondered why we are taking on new “projects” when we have not had the resources to accomplish some of the work approved at WSC 2020. We want to clarify that the 60th anniversary LWB isn’t a project—it doesn’t require a workgroup, Fellowship review, a survey, collecting or drafting new stories. It’s simply a repackaging of already published material, using translations that were made at the time of initial publication for the Board’s review for conceptual fidelity.

In other FIPT news: we had posted some proposed revisions to the FIPT for six-month review, and received no objections. The proposed revisions are simply to update the FIPT to add zonal delegates as decision makers, in line with current Conference policy. We did not expect the revisions to be controversial, and we plan to offer them in the Conference Agenda Report for WSC decision.

The last FIPT-related item we want to draw your attention to is the video posted at www.na.org/fipt that explains what the FIPT is and why it is important to you.

TRANSLATIONS

In the six months since we last mentioned translations in NAWS News, we have published 38 translated pieces in 18 languages, including the Sixth Edition Basic Text in French and Georgian, Kannada, and Tamil White Booklets. We published almost twice as many translated titles compared to pre-pandemic numbers. We have been able to achieve that through using outside resources, by refocusing staff efforts on this, and because of the pause on other work such as the publication of the NA Way in five languages. Thank you so much to all of the members who work to make the NA message accessible to addicts in their own language and culture.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

Don’t forget that you can download and repost memes from the Social Media section of the Media Page (www.na.org/media). And that the resources posted at the Virtual Meetings Page (www.na.org/virtual) and the Local Service Resources Page (www.na.org/localresources) are updated on an ongoing basis. We just put together a hybrid meetings section on www.na.org/virtual. Send us any local resources you think others would benefit from.

FELLOWSHIP WEBINARS

While you are visiting the Media Page (www.na.org/media) and the Virtual Meetings Page (www.na.org/virtual), check out the reports, videos, and other resources from the FD and virtual meetings webinars that are posted. It’s inspiring to hear about efforts to carry the message around the world.

We plan to schedule a Fellowship-focused webinar each quarter. We would love to hear your ideas for topics. What would you like to learn more about? What do you think your local groups or service bodies want or need to hear? Let us know: wb@na.org

HRP REPORT

Hello from the Human Resource Panel. We want to remind all Conference participants and eligible World Pool members who are interested in being nominated for a World Services’ position that we are asking all candidates to acquire an RBZ (Region, World Board, Zonal Forum) recommendation this cycle. Our nominations process starts soon, and while we welcome early submissions, the deadline for submitting an RBZ recommendation is 30 September 2021.

If you have any questions about the RBZ process, you may want to review our report from the December 2020 NAWS News. Here is that link: www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/nawsnews/en/NN_Dec2020.pdf

We are also asking delegates to refrain from submitting a Nomination from a Conference Participant for WSC 2022. We believe that the WSC does not have confidence in this process since these nominees are not evaluated by the HRP, and in the past 20 years, not elected at the WSC.

We welcome your ideas and input: worldboard@na.org