

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-subscriptions to *The NA Way* and *NAWS News*. This helps us to communicate more effectively and control distribution costs.



2010 World Service Conference (WSC) related material and information:

- **2010 Conference Agenda Report (CAR)** – Available in six languages at a cost of \$8.00 including shipping, or by download for free.
- **2010 Conference Approval Track (CAT)** – Available since 25 January at a cost of \$10.00, including shipping and handling.
- **Regional Reports** – Whether you are a seated WSC region or not, we want to hear from you! The form is online or can be completed and faxed by 15 February. We publish the information we receive in the *Conference Report* and use the summary to help guide our discussions at the conference. As a friendly reminder, reservations for the hotel and travel need to be made before 15 March.
- **All conference-related items, including session profiles and PowerPoints for workshops, are posted at <http://www.na.org/conference> and can be downloaded at no charge.**



Membership Survey – We thank you for participating in the survey. Data is being entered and results tabulated. We anticipate presenting the survey outcomes at WSC 2010.



“Living Clean” – The second review and input period for three chapters of “Living Clean” is 1 April until 30 June 2010. You can help contribute source material even before the review by sharing your experience with any of the topics in the outline at <http://www.naws.org/lc/>, or by simply emailing your ideas based on the outline.



Financials – We are in a new fiscal year and find we need to continue to ask for your financial support in carrying the message worldwide in these challenging times. Please check it out at <https://cart.na.org/portal.htm>



New Products – For more information, see our November 2009 Product News Flash at <http://www.na.org/?ID=catalog-products>



WSO-E Online Literature Sales – Now online and operating. If you live in Europe, please check it out at <http://www.na.org/?ID=OrderLiteratureOnline-ESO>



Human Resource Panel (HRP) – The panel is now busy with the nomination process and wants to thank all members, regions, zones, and the World Board for participating in the process.

Go to *NAWS News* at <http://www.na.org/?ID=reports-nawsnews-nawsmain>



MOVING FORWARD IN THIS CYCLE; MOVING TOWARD THE WSC – OUR VISION, OUR FUTURE

The World Board met 13-16 January 2010 in Chatsworth, California. We spent the majority of our four-day meeting planning for the World

Service Conference. We mapped conference week sessions, finalized the Conference Approval Track (CAT), discussed service system and WSC seating options, and reviewed the audit and NAWS financials. We do not plan to reprint all of the CAT information in *NAWS News*, and strongly encourage you to read that document as well as the 2010 *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)*. We are also reminding you to look forward to the *Conference Report*.

“Our Vision, Our Future,” the theme for the 2010 WSC, will be the focus of WSC sessions and the 2010–2012 conference cycle. The service system and WSC seating sessions will showcase options for a more efficient, effective service delivery system and a focused, purposeful worldwide conference. We spent a half day walking through a facilitated discussion of the work of the service system workgroup, and a full day of discourse, deliberation, and consensus-based outcomes with the service system and WSC seating options, facilitated by Jim DeLizia.

Our meeting, with its ambitious agenda, addressed the CAT materials, affirmed the Strategic Plan 2010–2012 with its six project plans, ratified a conservative 2010–2012 budget that maintains cost containment, deliberated on cost-reduction strategies for *The NA Way*, examined the current financial picture of NA World Services, approved the audit, and reviewed both the initial budget and plans for WCNA 34 and the role of the support committee. Additionally, the approved drafts of a new PR Basics booklet and a revision to Basic H&I Guide are included in this mailing. The outcomes from our meeting truly represent Our Vision, Our Future.



2010 CONFERENCE APPROVAL TRACK

The 2010 CAT is one of the first in many cycles that has not contained specific service material for approval. We encourage you to read the CAT online and wanted to take this opportunity to comment on three items contained in the CAT cover memo.

The NA Way Magazine

When compiling the 2010 CAT material, we discussed how to effectively have a conversation with conference participants about ceasing the automatic distribution process of *The NA Way*. Our recommendation does not involve charging for the magazine or ceasing distribution, but is simply to have people subscribe and indicate their choice of paper or electronic version to read the magazine. Many of us have seen stacks of unopened brown envelopes addressed to groups sitting at ASC meetings. We previously provided our reasoning for this request in the 2010 *CAR*, in both the *NAWS Resources* and *Summary of Motions and Other Issues to Be Discussed* sections. This recommendation, like so many of our decisions of late, is driven by what is possible and affordable rather than what we might like to see happen. We have made progress in reducing costs for *NAWS News* and other publications but *The NA Way* has cost us approximately \$250,000 already this conference cycle, with six months left to go.

When we reviewed existing conference policy in detail, it became obvious that the language of many of our old WSC policies is very specific and differs in tone and detail from more recent conference decisions. What seemed the simplest solution to us is to ask that some of the specifics of the current WSC policy about the magazine be removed and that we seek the conference’s concurrence for what we plan to try in the 2010–2012 conference cycle. We will come back to WSC participants for any future changes.

The description we are seeking to remove identifies specific languages *The NA Way* is published in as the “primary languages spoken in Narcotics Anonymous.” In an ever-changing NA world, this statement creates more confusion than guidance. The other specific language we hope to remove mandates that *The NA Way* be distributed four times per year at no cost to every trusted servant and NA group contact in the WSO database, as well as anyone who asks to be included. We are not even certain what that means exactly. We want to experiment with stopping all automatic distribution and having people subscribe, at no cost, if they wish to read the magazine. We do not believe that we have enough information to know if this is a “fix” for our challenges with this magazine. What we do hope, however, is that future discussions about the magazine can be based



on what we all want to see as an effective communication strategy from NAWS rather than a debate on the specifics of the policy.

WCNA Support Committee

We held a very similar discussion about the specifics called out for the WCNA Local Support Committee. None of the current workgroups of the WB, for any other project or task, have this kind of specific policy language. The current policy comes from a different time, before workgroups became a routine part of NAWS' operations. The current policy is outdated, and asking for a committee to be elected by a region that then is responsible to NAWS, skews accountability lines and has always caused confusion and conflict. Our current practice of using workgroups to accomplish specific work for the board has proven most effective. Workgroups are selected by the board for particular tasks with set responsibilities and time frames, and they are accountable to the board. We believe the same principle and practice should apply to a WCNA workgroup.

In addition to how these positions are elected, the current policy calls out cleantime and requires co-chairs and a secretary/treasurer. Our actual practice has been much more varied, depending on location and local needs, than this policy indicates. In Spain, for example, we used one chair, had members from throughout the country serving on the support committee, and had a local hospitality committee. Making this responsibility function like all other workgroups at NAWS would allow members to be selected from the actual location of the convention as well as from those in close proximity to it. We would be able to create clearer lines of accountability to the board and more well defined responsibilities. This approach has proven itself over the last ten years to afford greater flexibility in accomplishing work, allow for members from the surrounding geographic areas to be involved regardless of the regional borders, and help allow us to create a talented, diverse workgroup for each world convention.

With our initial planning for San Diego in 2011, and looking forward to Philadelphia in 2013, we saw this as an appropriate time to address this outdated policy, with very similar reasons for our proposed changes to *The NA Way*. Both world conventions are expected to attract more than 15,000 members. Both hosting regions have neighboring regions in close proximity and may have experienced members in adjacent NA communities. We viewed these facts as an opportunity to create a WCNA workgroup of members who will help us host a worldwide celebration of recovery and remove an outdated policy that no longer serves us effectively and efficiently. For specifics of our policy language proposals, please refer to the CAT cover memo.

WSC Seating



WSC 2008 adopted a moratorium on the current Criteria for Recognition of New Conference Participants from *A Guide to World Services in NA* until WSC 2012. This motion states that the World Board will continue to make recommendations for regions that did not result from a regional split during that time. We have done so in the CAT for regions seeking seating at this conference. What we are recommending is that the conference amend this moratorium so that for one cycle, 2010–2012, no regions are considered for seating. We believe the conference and the affected regions will be best served by waiting until these discussions progress this cycle about the future of our service system, which includes the WSC. We believe we can support those regions that may consider seeking seating in the next cycle in other ways, and that we will all be better served by simply putting seating on hold for one cycle.

CAR ERRORS

We offer our sincere apologies for misrepresenting the history of the Basic Text development in the CAR (pages 29-30). We made two errors when recounting that history, and one of our long-term members called the mistakes to our attention. First, we were quite wrong when we wrote that “fellowship review” for the Basic Text was “not the same as what we now know as review and input; it was more akin to our current approval-form literature. Input and revision took place among those relatively small groups of members who attended world literature workshops, and the drafts that were available to the fellowship were more or less in their final approval form. Any changes to be made to those drafts had to come in the form of motions on the floor of the conference.” The “Gray Form” of the Basic Text was, in fact, essentially a review draft as we know it today. There was a form for input attached to the “gray form,” and input received was reviewed and responded to in literature workshops. Second, while the body of the CAR essay makes clear that the approval period was six months for Chapters One through Ten and three months for the personal stories, the chart accompanying the article does not, and merely says the book had a three-month approval period. Thank you very much to the member who pointed out our mistakes, and we remain grateful to all of those members who worked on the development of the book. We regret any error, but one concerning the Basic Text grieves us more than most. Again, our apologies.

OTHER CONFERENCE PROJECTS

Service System

Following our input at the October board meeting, the workgroup revised their ideas for the structural component of a service system. One of the main goals of our joint meeting in January was to combine the workgroup's ideas about structure with our ideas about seating so that we could have a unified set of structural options to discuss at the conference. We reviewed the workgroup's new ideas, and their beginning thoughts on the processes we use to deliver services. We also reviewed the structural ideas for seating options at the WSC, and discussed how these interfaced with the service system models. Together with the workgroup, we talked through ideas until we constructed two basic models of the structure, each of which has a series of options to make it more flexible and adaptable. In a general sense, we feel strongly that form should follow function, and want to find a way to ensure that communities have the ability to create a structure that works best for them.

All of our ideas throughout this process have been guided by four key principles. We feel the most effective service system will be:

- ◆ Purpose-driven: Each of the proposed service system units should answer a specific need or group of needs, and the responsibilities of each unit should be clearly defined and understood.
- ◆ Group-focused: Each model offers ideas for better aiding groups in their efforts to carry our message.
- ◆ Defined by geopolitical boundaries: Following established geopolitical boundaries for at least some of our service bodies would allow us to better interface with professional and legislative bodies, making it easier for professionals and the general public to find and communicate with us.
- ◆ Flexible: Each model offers ideas for extra service bodies to answer specific needs, but does not mandate their existence if they are not needed.

We know some of these ideas are a radical departure for many regions. We will be offering more complete information for review and discussion on both WSC seating and our service system in the *Conference Report*. It is important that we be able to talk together at the conference—delegates and the board—because these are big ideas. In order to make any useful changes to our service system and conference seating practices, we'll have to have extensive conversations throughout the upcoming cycle. The conference will be the beginning of that dialogue. We are looking forward to hearing from conference participants about whether we are on the right track with our ideas and how you think they might be practically implemented.

"Living Clean – The Journey Continues"

In response to the first round of input from the fellowship, Chapter One is being extensively revised and the outline has been reordered. "Living Spiritually" is now Chapter Three, and the book will end with the chapter currently called "The Journey Continues." This spring the two remaining chapters, identified in the outline as "Moving Beyond Social Acceptability" and "The Journey Continues," will be drafted. While we are focused on those two final chapters, there is still time for additional input on all of the chapters in the book. We invite you to hold input-generating workshops using the session profiles located on the project page, and to begin planning review and input workshops now for the chapters that will be sent to you in April.

A great big "thank you" to all of the communities who have held input-generating workshops. We have received input from a wide variety of NA communities, including some from Alabama, Maryland, and Quebec, to mention a few. Some of the workshops are being hosted by area committees; some are organized by interested members who are arranging for a time and space for others to sit down together to write about the topics on the outline. All of the input contributes to our goal of having a book that reflects our members' experience of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous.

Upcoming Review and Input period

1 April – 30 June 2010

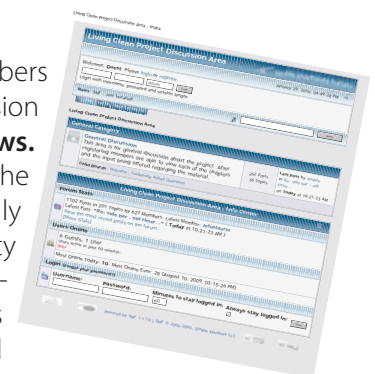
Three chapters of Living Clean—"Living Spiritually," "Our Physical Selves," and "Relationships"—are being prepared for review and input. The time frame for this is 1 April–30 June 2010. When the material is released, there will be a link on the website for members to download the material and a link to submit input on the chapters out for review.

These chapters may be considered lengthy at approximately 15–20 pages each. NA communities may want to schedule separate workshops for each chapter, or make sure that enough time is allotted to review the material.

The links mentioned in this report can be found on the project page at http://www.na.org/?ID=Living_Clean_Project.

Discussion Board

As of January, there are 600 members on the "Living Clean" Discussion Board at <http://www.naws.org/lc/>. The membership of the discussion board is geographically diverse, although the majority of members may be English-speaking North Americans (Canada and US), based on email addresses.



The discussion board allows members to contribute and participate regardless of their physical location; members in Mumbai, India, have the same opportunity as do members in Miami, Florida, USA, for involvement in this book.

There are members on the board from Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Greece, India, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, South Africa, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

FISCAL UPDATE

2009 was a difficult financial year for us. The *NAWS Annual Report* for the fiscal year ending 30 June 2009 is being released at the same time as this report, so we will not cover the same material. We have continued to reduce expenses where possible, and have thus far been able to forestall service reduction and/or elimination. Unlike in the 2009 fiscal year, in the first half of this fiscal year we have also seen a reduction in the overall sales of recovery literature. Fellowship contributions have remained down.

We have implemented phase one of our emergency action plan, which basically calls for reductions in spending. In order to participate in the large number of zonal requests for review of the *CAR* prior to WSC 2010, we have reduced travel. In many instances there is one board member attending a zonal forum. We continue to look for ways to reduce expenses further. We also know we have the WSC in April, with associated costs of over \$400,000. We are asking regions to seriously consider a contribution that would help to offset the expenses currently covered by NAWS for at least their delegate.

Even though this may sound somewhat alarmist, in fact, we do have concerns. We will continue to manage our limited resources as effectively as possible. By the time WSC 2010 occurs, we will be over nine months into our fiscal year and will be able to engage delegates in a discussion about our future. All expenses, direct or indirect, are aimed at serving and supporting NA's efforts to reach the suffering addict and carry the message.

WSO-E

In reviewing our financials, we decided to hold off any price increase at WSO Europe for this year. What this means is that the second increase proposed for 1 July 2010 will not happen as scheduled. WSO-E is breaking even for the first time in years and that is all we were hoping for from the onset. If there is a need for a price increase in the future, we will provide ample notice. We need time and sales history to assess whether this second stage of the increase is even necessary.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

We thank the members who participated in this survey! Participation grew from the numbers we had in 2007 with over 6,600 submitted online and about 12,000 total respondents. Data from mailed survey responses are currently being factored in with the online survey data. We anticipate receiving a report from the statistician for our March board meeting, and we plan to present the results of the 2009 Membership Survey at WSC 2010.



WORKSHOPS

We have mentioned that we had requests for twenty-two *CAR/CAT* workshops. Furthermore, in early December NAWS traveled to Japan for the first time since 2004 to host a workshop in Nagoya. The workshop took place in conjunction with a meeting of the Japan Regional Service Committee, which helped to draw in members from throughout the region. NAWS also invited a couple of members from Korea to participate, so four NA members from various cities in Korea came to take part in the workshop.

In addition to discussions with the Korean members, with the Japanese Literature Translation Committee (LTC), and with regional trusted servants, NAWS conducted a number of workshop sessions over the course of the weekend. These sessions were aimed at providing NA Japan members with skills and experience to enhance the services they provide in their areas and groups. The participants were especially enthusiastic about sessions on Taking Inventory and Taking Action and Application of Our Traditions and Concepts.

We were also asked to conduct a session on Our Principles and a Higher Power, in part to help address the concern of how to make our program accessible to a diverse population in a largely secular society. This session provided a unique opportunity to model a literature study format for participants, as the NA community in Japan has only had an approved translation of the Basic Text for just over three years. Focusing on selections from the Basic Text, members were encouraged to discuss with each other, in small groups, the practical application of our principles in their lives; then they came together as a large group to hear some of what was shared.

All in all, this workshop was a wonderful opportunity for members in Japan and Korea to network and share with one another and with NAWS. These ongoing relationships will be important as NA continues to spread and grow throughout Asia, and we will continue in our efforts to support these communities. With Japanese translations of *It Works: How and Why* and *The NA Step Working Guides* in progress, it seems clear that NA Japan will continue to flourish. Members with cleantime ranging from less than a week to

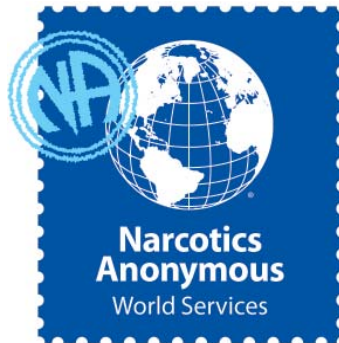
29 years participated enthusiastically throughout the entire weekend, making NA Japan's passion for recovery through service quite clear.

WCNA

The financial report for WCNA 33 is contained in the 2009 *Annual Report* that is now online. We will have additional information about WCNA 33, our plans for WCNA 34, and the world convention in general in the *Conference Report*.

H&I AND PR BASICS

We have approved drafts of a revision to the existing Basic H&I Guide and a new piece called PR Basics. As the cover memo accompanying these drafts states, Basic H&I Guide is updated to reflect current service practices. This piece has been published since the inception of the *H&I Handbook*. PR Basics is a digest of information contained in the *PR Handbook* aimed toward the member who wants to be involved and gain a simple understanding of public relations service. The material contained in PR Basics is not newly created, just newly formatted. If this format proves helpful to our members, we plan to create additional PR Basics service material with different focuses. We receive repeated requests for information on how to plan and lead a local committee, make presentations, etc.



We have offered drafts of these pieces to members who provide these services at Western Services Learning Days and Washington/Northern Idaho H&I/PI Learning Days; yet we desire broader distribution to the members who provide these services, and we are asking delegates to help us. The existing Basic H&I Guide predates any approval process. Both pieces will be Board-approved items in keeping with the current policy for PR material, but we wanted take the time between now and the WSC to send them to delegates for review. We will not be publishing them in their final form until after the conference. Our contact information for specific trusted servants doing H&I and PR service at a regional or area level is not reliable so we are asking delegates to please forward these drafts to the service community members who actually provide these specific services locally. As always, we welcome your ideas and input.

FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL

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

Since our last meeting we have been busy with our nominations process, considering prospective candidates. Our initial blind screening has been completed and we are currently involved with the interview segment. Even though we have not completed the nominations process quite yet, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was willing to be considered for nomination. You will be hearing more from us in the upcoming *Conference Report*, where we will announce our nominees for the 2010 WSC elections. We look forward to seeing everyone at WSC 2010.

As always, we invite any thoughts or questions. Feel free to contact us at hrp@na.org, or contact Roberta at NA World Services at 818.773.9999 ext 121.

CALENDAR FOR 2010

Deadlines

15 February 2010

Regional report deadline

15 March 2010

Hotel reservation and travel deadline for WSC 2010

25 April–1 May 2010

World Service Conference

23 April Registration opens

24 April Pre conference activities begin

