

UPPER CUMBERLAND AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Minutes From December 16, 2007 Next Meeting January 20, 2007

Meeting Opened By Dale S.
Service Prayer Randy E..
12 Traditions Lester A.
12 Concepts David L.

| GROUP | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| CROSSVILLE NA | YES | |
| DAILY REPRIEVE | YES | |
| FREEDOM GROUP | YES | |
| MIDDLE OF NOWHERE | YES | |
| UNITY GROUP | YES | |
| WHO ARE YOU | YES | |
| GETTING STARTED | YES | |

TRUSTED SERVANTS

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------|
| Chair | | Vacant |
| Vice-Chair | Dale S. | Present |
| Secretary | | Vacant |
| Secretary Vice-Chair | Frank W. | Present |
| Treasurer | Jerome G. | Present |
| Treasurer Vice-Chair | | Vacant |
| RCM | Amanda M. | Present |
| RCM Vice-Chair | | Vacant |
| Help Line Chair | | Vacant |
| Help Line Vice-Chair | Keith H. | Present |
| H & I Chair | | Vacant |
| H & I Vice-Chair | Anthony G. | Present |
| Literature Chair | Al P. | Present |
| Literature Vice-Chair | | Vacant |
| Newsletter Chair | | Vacant |
| Newsletter Vice-Chair | Randy E. | Present |
| P & P Chair | | Vacant |
| P & P Vice-Chair | Dale S. | Present |
| PI Chair | | Vacant |
| PI Vice-Chair | Amanda M. | Present |

Meeting opened 2:35 with serenity prayer.

Roll call was taken, 7 out of 7 groups present.

GSR REPORTS

CROSSVILLE NA GROUP:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri At 6:30 P.M. Saturday At 8:00 PM
Fourth Dimension Club, 2229 West Ave. Crossville, TN.
Average Attendance 8
Current Month's Contribution To ASC: \$ 100.00 GSR: Anthony G.
Secretary: Frank W.
Treasurer: Mark H.
Literature: Frank W.
New Officers: None
Financial Obligations are Being Met.
Traditions Are Being Followed.
COMMENTS: *May be downsizing meeting schedule, Speak & Eat
January 11, celebrating 6 NA birthdays*

DAILY REPRIEVE:

Saturday @ 6:00 PM EST
620 Green St. Wartburg, TN.
Average Attendance 4-6
Current Month's Contribution To ASC: \$ 22.00
GSR: Lester A.
Treasurer: None
Literature: None
New Officers: None
Financial Obligations are Being Met. Traditions Are Being Followed.
COMMENTS: We have a steady attendance of 4-6 and could use a little support.

FREEDOM GROUP:

Monday @ 7 PM Closed Discussion.
Presbyterian Church 1700 Pennsylvania Ave. Allardt, TN.
Corner of Rt. 296 @ Hwy 52
Average Attendance 6-10
Current Month's Contribution To ASC: \$ 108.25
GSR: Kimberly G..
Treasurer: None
Literature: None
New Officers: None
Financial Obligations are Being Met.
Traditions Are Being Followed.

MIDDLE OF NOWHERE:

Tuesday @ 7:00 PM The First Christian Church 208 South Cross St. Albany, KY.
This Is A Non-Smoking - Closed Discussion Meeting
Average Attendance 10-12
Current Month's Contributions To ASC: \$ 71.00

GSR: Keith H.
Treasurer: Dale S.
Literature: Sales are good
New Officers: None
Traditions Are Being Followed
Financial Obligations Are Being Met.

UNITY GROUP:

Thursday's Tradition Study @ 7:00 PM
4th Dimension Club, 222 West Ave. Crossville, TN.
Current Month's Contribution To ASC: \$ 19.00
Average Attendance 9
GSR: Randy E.
Treasurer: None
Literature: None
New Officers: None
Traditions Are Being Followed.
Financial Obligations are Being Met

WHO ARE YOU:

Who Are You Group Meets Friday 1:30 PM @Bledsoe Co. Prison
Current Contribution To ASC: \$00.00
(Special circumstance regarding financial obligations, because members of this group are inmates)
Average Attendance 20-30
GSR: Dale S.
Literature: Charlie S.
New Officers: None
Traditions Are Being Followed.
COMMENTS: *Any member wishing to support this meeting - see me to get information needed to get a State Volunteer Badge*

GETTING STARTED:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday @ 8:00 AM
4th Dimension Club, 222 West Ave. Crossville, TN.
Current Month's Contribution To ASC: \$ 50.00
Average Attendance 6-8
GSR: Al P.
Treasurer: Mark H.
Literature: None
New Officers: Tiffany X. - Secretary
Traditions Are Being Followed.
Financial Obligations are Being Met

7 OUT 7 GROUPS REPORTING

No new groups requesting to join the area

OPEN FORUM

2-10-08 there will be a multi area CAR WORKSHOP time & location to be determined

AREA TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Given by Jerome G. (*See enclosed report*)
Report accepted

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Meeting opened in the usual manner with all groups present and reporting.
ENCLOSED REPORTS-Treasurer's, RCM'S, and Regional Delegate ... all other business was as usual.

Given by Frank W.
Report accepted

RCM REPORT:

Given by Amanda M. (*see enclosed report*)
Report accepted

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

HOSPITAL & INSTITUTIONS

We held the monthly meeting prior to the area meeting. There were 7 in attendance with others coming afterwards. \$11.00 was collected for Area. We followed our regular subcommittee meeting agenda. Last months minutes were read and approved. Our H&I representatives gave their respective reports from the Cumberland Co. Justice Center and Fentress Co. jail, Southeast TN. Regional Correctional Facility. Amanda M. for the Women's Cumberland Co. Justice center. Frank W. for the Cumberland Co. Justice center men's center. Dale S. for the Fentress Co. jail and AI P. for the new meeting at the Southeast TN. Regional correction facility. In old business, the question is still outstanding on the means of bringing in literature into the Cumberland Co. Justice center. In new business Dale S. reminded all able bodied males to apply for Volunteer status with the State of Tennessee for access to the present and future prison meetings. The next subcommittee meeting will be January 20, 2008 1:30 CST.

Given by Anthony G.
Report accepted

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Public information subcommittee met on December 14, 2007

There were 6 members present: Amanda M. Keith H. Randy E. Dale S. Carl P. Mathew, and one visitor Glenda E.

Randy E. read the 12 Traditions, Keith H. read the 12 Concepts,
Dale S read the Service Prayer

Amanda M. reported on attending the ENANA H&I Learning Day in Calhoun, GA on December, 8th. The UCANA PI Subcommittee had been invited to facilitate a workshop on the topic of Public Information. We were very well received and were asked if we would be willing to attend a future PI Learning Day as this was an H&I Learning Day.

Randy E. reported on the transition of the website. Transition was successful and he is working on updating some of the content. He will have statistics available at the next subcommittee meeting. It was discussed to keep hard copy records of all contact and company info that this subcommittee deals with, for example, domain name, host provider, etc... Randy will also be adding contact info for Area trusted servants.

Thank you letters have been composed and will be sent to WDEB Radio and Fentress Courier. The PI Subcommittee will be starting a letter writing project to all Judicial personnel within the Upper Cumberland Area. Members will be gathering contact names and addresses for this project that will be brought to the next PI Subcommittee Meeting. Clinton Co.- Keith H. Fentress Co.- Randy E. Bledsoe Co.- Dale S. Cumberland Co.- Amanda M.

The next subcommittee meeting will be January 18th, 2008
Thank you for allowing me to serve, Amanda M.

Given By Amanda M.
Report Accepted

PHONE-LINE

Subcommittee met here last Friday night at the Crossville facility with several in attendance.
Nothing has changed to our service - things going good.
The subcommittee is anticipating a slight increase in phone service

Expenses

Frontier (Have not received)

Doctors Exchange \$ 77.00

Next meeting 7:45 pm January 18,2007 @ Crossville NA facility

Given by Keith H.
Report accepted.

LITERATURE

Sales to groups \$ 42.00
Subcommittee Order \$ 00.00
Individual \$ 00.00
Total Sales \$ 42.00

Purchases \$ 00.00
Payment on Acct. \$ 00.00
Balance \$00.00

Given by AI P.
Report accepted

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is going well, but as always is in need of submissions. We had expenses of \$18.27 for the month of December.

Given by Randy E.
Report accepted

POLICY & PROCEDURE

No activity at this time

[BREAK FOR 15 MINUTES]

Meeting reopened with moment of silence.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion Made: To purchase 10 Conference Agenda Reports at the cost of \$111.00

Made By: Amanda M.

Seconded By: Anthony G.

Intent of Motion: Effective Communications

MOTION PASSED 7-0-0

Motion Made: To change UCANA cleantime guidelines for Area Chair and RCM
From 3 years to 2 years

Made By: Dale S.

Seconded By: Randy E.

Intent of Motion: To better serve the Area

Area Policy vote requiring Area home group Participation

END OF MEETING AGENDA

Seventh tradition observed.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Next area meeting will be at Crossville NA facility on January, 2007

ENCLOSED / Treasurer's, RCM, & Regional Delegate reports

RMC Report

Hello family,

This will be my final report as the Upper Cumberland Area RCM, Thank you for allowing me to serve the past 2 1/2 years. It has been an honor and a privilege. The VRSC met on November 25th 2007.

Secretary's Report:

"Remind this body that the Regional Inventory has not been discussed, planned, or scheduled. I did look in the archives at the Inventory Subcommittee Final Report but I was unable to find the rotation we had discussed. We had discussed that Central Tennessee Area would like to host this next Inventory"

Treasurer's Report:

The VRSC Treasurer announced to the RCMs that the motion to increase the Prudent Reserve might have been difficult to understand. The \$12,000 mentioned in the Motion was not for Prudent Reserve; it is actually our Operating Cost. The motion made it appear that \$12,000 would just be sitting in a bank account. This is not the case. The \$12,000 covers six months of operating costs at the Regional Service Committee. Balance 11/25/07 is \$14,721.

AREA REPORTS**Central Tennessee Area**

The RCM resigned her position. The Vice-chair of CTANA was representing the Area, through the CTANA Guidelines and with the conscience of the Area.

Chattanooga Area: ABSENT**Greater Nashville Area:**

PR and Just For Today Meeting looking to start a Spanish-speaking Meeting. New meeting Brentwood Basics meets Monday nights at 7:30 pm needs members with clean time & experience to help out. Need more Helpline volunteers- Kiss Kampout starting up. Outreach Committee successful in weeding out meetings that no longer exist. Informed PR of this to take off meeting lists. H&I submitted revised Guidelines for review. Sent to RSC in OCT. \$ 1335,49.

Greater Smoky Mountain Area:

An area inventory was conducted using questions from the Area Planning Tool. There were approximately 12 members present with four home groups represented. Several areas of service were identified that need improvement. The inventory is only the beginning of the process which when carried out will result in a more effective service body. The GSMANA has scheduled a follow-up for solution finding February 9th 2007. The area phone line received 137 calls in October. 10 Basic Texts will be mailed to libraries with a letter requesting the book be placed in the libraries inventory. A flier for their public bulletin boards was also sent. ROR 14 Subcommittee held its second meeting and has begun to schedule fundraising events. There are still several positions available on this subcommittee. The literature chair discussed another 12 Step Program's sales tax issues, a straw poll was conducted and it was decided to seek an accountant to advise us on this issue. The VRSC Outreach Sub-Committee will conduct an outreach-learning day January 26, 2008.

* * *NOTE: An ad-hoc Committee was created after much discussion to look into the tax laws for 501C3 entities in the State of TN. more will be revealed. * * *

Middle Tennessee Area:

"H&I revised its guidelines to be approved by the Groups. they also reinstated accountability of a renegade H&I meeting at Meharry Hospital. PR is recruiting Spanish-speaking members to support a new Spanish Speaking Meeting at Trinity of Nazarene Church off Vulture Blvd. in Nashville, TN. Unity's Vice-chair, reports having talked with Hotel Management RE: the vandalism that occurred at the Unity Convention

would cost \$584.72. After talks our bill was reduced to \$3,669.88 there is about \$1,800.00 in merchandise to be returned to the Area. The Committee is still sorting out ideas to resolve its debt and occurrences from the convention. I am pleased to report most importantly that N A has been invited back to the Music City Sheraton. Yeah! Personally I need to say that our Fellowship has made mistakes many times before and this will not be the last one. Many members old and new worked hard to make that Convention happen. And it did happen people stayed clean as a result of their efforts"

Midwest Tennessee Area:

"The Regional Outreach Committee provided us with a informative and enjoyable Public Information Learning Day. Although the turnout was not huge somewhere around 15 members of the Area were able to sit in on at least some portion of the presentation and carry the information back to their Homegroups. Dale, William, and Todd provided an excellent presentation and we are grateful for their time and effort. MWTASC has authorized to request financial aid from the Volunteer Region to be used to establish a Literature Reserve. This reserve will support our primary purpose by allowing our groups to order and receive literature in a timely manner. In addition. the MWTASC has asked me to request a Learning Day on how to carry one message in a compassionate manner. We appear to be running addicts out of our meetings and into A.A. We wish to learn to explain the clarity of NA in a manner consistent with the program of Narcotics Anonymous (how to teach the NA way in a loving manner) ... have our web site up and running at www.namwtn.org In the past .2 months. we have added Newbern's Never Alone Group in Dyer County and Parson's We Do Recover Group in Decatur County to our meeting list. Finally, Clean AIR and Never Alone of Jackson have asked me to request help from the Volunteer Region in preparing their respective group inventories.

Mountain Area:

"Our phone line services and website is up and running. We are continuing to distribute our NA Posters and Meeting Schedules throughout our Area. Concerning H&I we are continuing to carry the message into 7 facilities. We also are continuing to distribute NA Literature into 4 facilities, that at this time we are unable to hold H&I Meetings inside. The Mountain Area is planning a Christmas Dinner on December 22, 2007 at 1st Presbyterian in Johnson City."

Southern Middle Area:

"All Subcommittees are up and running. We are struggling to have members get involved in the Committees ... New Year's Eve dance, Monday December 31.2007 at 7:00 P.M. at the Lawrenceburg Armory. The cost will be \$ 15 .00 a couple and \$8.00 for single. Price includes all you can eat and party favors.

Twin Lakes Area: ABSENT.

Upper Cumberland Area:

"Everything is going well in the Upper Cumberland Area of NA. The H&I Subcommittee continues to carry the message into 4 facilities. The UCANA PI Subcommittee held its Learning Day on Oct. 20th. We would like to thank Sherree F., David, William E., Phil G., Keith H., Randy E., and everyone who helped make it a success. There were 6 different areas represented with quite a large contingent of members from the GSMANA PI Subcommittee. There was a lot of information shared and a lot of enthusiasm generated for Public Information. The 2007 UCANA meeting schedules have been printed. The UCANA will be having nominations for the administrative body in December."

West Tennessee Area:

"Our Outreach Committee has been nonexistent for a few months and at the October meeting our vice chair scheduled an Outreach Subcommittee Meeting and people showed up! They handed out a survey at the last area for groups to fill out to find out about the groups in the area and where help is needed. They're

currently supporting and visiting 2 groups that have been requesting help. NA in May is also coming along. More info can be found online at nainmay.org. This is the 20th anniversary of NA in May ... We're still discussing CBDM and on December 14 we'll have an Ad Hoc Mockup. For the past year or so we've had a policy that anything over prudent reserve each month is sent to region. This past month a motion was made that goes back to groups to divide that money between VRSC and NAWS. There has been a request brought to me by a longtime member of our area. Personally I am encouraging participation in the CAR workshop and would like to request that it be scheduled so that relevant items in the CAT can also be included in the workshop so that our area can be fully informed and that our RD and RDA will know the conscience of the area on items that come up for discussion like the BT, SP's and even seating of regions."

Regional Delegate Report: Included in its entirety.

H&I Report:

"First and foremost I would like to thank all of the people who attended the new H&I meeting yesterday. There were 30 addicts in attendance with 5 H& 1 chairs. This committee of people agreed on starting up a Regional H&I, and an ad-hoc committee was formed with 11 members stating their willingness to research guidelines for service positions will be made in Feb. It was also recommended everyone study the H&I handbook on Regional Service."

PI Report:

6 areas present. Chattanooga- Revising meeting Schedules, Updating Website, Working on Phoneline. Have a Phoneline coordinator (message check at 6:00p.m.) Having a Flyer Day by January. Greater Smoky Mountain-Phoneline up and running. received 137 calls. 2008 Budget expected to double because of more activity in the Committee. Southern Middle Tennessee Area- Phoneline up and running. Contacted T.V. Stations for PSA. The I-800 # is being circulated around our Area. Midwest Tennessee Area- Subcommittee has been running strong for 3 months. Phoneline is up and running with a 24 hour answering service. We have a new Webmaster. We would like to request a Phoneline/Website Learning Day. We purchased a rubber stamp to stamp our Phoneline number on our Literature. The Phoneline number is located in the White Pages in our Area. Central Tennessee Area Phoneline Learning Day. P.I. Booth at Bonaroo.

Outreach Report:

"Here's the report for the Projects that your Outreach Committee has participated in since we last met...journeyed to our newest Area (the Midwest Area) and facilitated a PI Learning Day. It consisted mostly of utilizing the resources available to them, at this point, in their ability to provide services for their Groups. namely their Phoneline. We covered at great length how to use Flyers, Business Cards, Radio PSAs, Cable TV Service, Phonebooks and newspapers to get their Helpline number to as many areas of contact as they can ... November 3rd, your Committee journeyed to the Greater Smoky Mountain Area and helped Facilitate their Annual Area Inventory. One of the duties, according to our Guidelines, is for this Committee to develop and facilitate a State Map of Tennessee which shows our members where N A is in our Region. In order to accomplish this task your Committee downloaded all the current Meeting Schedules on our Regional Website and took a thorough census of all the Groups and Meetings in the Volunteer Region January 26, 2008, to facilitate an Outreach Learning Day for the Greater Smoky Mountain Area. The time and location will be available on the Regional Website and the Greater Smoky Mountain Website. Also, we have Greater Nashville and Middle Tennessee Outreach working together to coordinate an Outreach Learning Day sometime in March, more will be revealed. The Midwest Area has requested our services to facilitate a Group Booklet Learning Day sometime in the near future. As soon as the date is confirmed it will be placed on the Regional and the Midwest Area's Events Calendar on the Websites. The 19th of January. This Committee wishes to allocate funds totaling \$666.21 to purchase the Literature to facilitate these Outreach Service Endeavors. This is my last report. My term as Outreach Chair has expired. I have the utmost confidence in our Vice-chair. It has been an honor to serve you these past 2 1/2 years. It is my sincere desire to see our Region continue to grow and provide the services that are so vital to our survival. It also is my sincere hope that our Groups and Areas put our Common Welfare ahead of

everything we do and give us the most precious gift we can ever have and that is Narcotics Anonymous Unity. In Loving Service, Dale S." *** I have 6 copies of the revised Map, it is also accessible on the Upper Cumberland and Regional web sites. * * *

VRCXXV:

" We had a total of 542 Total registrations of that we had 150 Newcomer Packs. We are projecting to gin~back \$13,300.00 to the Region. I have turned over to Chattanooga 11 radios, 22 banners, box of auction items, and 2 cash registers. We will be giving a more detailed report at the February Region."

VRCGRCREPORT:

"I am asking for help in supplying information if known, what we need to do to update the Corporation Bylaws. The World Convention information was to update the bylaws at least every two years. I talked with a past VRSC Treasurer and VRSC Chair about this issue and they shared that if we updated them too often it would send up a red flag to the IRS and they would start questioning us as to what we were trying to do. We feel this should be done and will send a motion if needed to implement this as correct information will be needed to get new guidelines working properly. More will be revealed and we hope to provide a preliminary set of Guidelines to be sent to Homegroups by the next Regional Meeting."

VRCGRC REPORT ON 2007 NA World Services Workshop

"I thank the Region for sending me to the workshop in California. The day I left home for the trip I received an e-mail that was the Convention Workshop Agenda and not until then did I realize and it became apparent that I was not going to be there for ½ of the Convention Workshop. I was traveling across the country for ½ of the information I had planned to go for. I started not to go at that point but thought maybe they would have the information on tape like the last time I went. That would be too simple for our world servants to do. The agenda explained that the Convention Workshop was a two-day event and I found out that on Friday, everyone registered at 9:00 am and then divided up into two separate conference rooms, one for Literature, one for Convention Workshop. The event was two days for Literature and two days for the Convention Workshop. I arrived about 4 in the evening Friday pm., and went to the conference room and realized I was in the Literature Workshop. I do have some information on literature by the way. Anthony E. WSO Director and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the World Board facilitated this Workshop. One constant that I noticed was how many times the facilitators would say, and I quote, "the fellowship has given them permission to do almost anything they wanted to do with the literature", They said they never meant to give a definition for what clean meant but that was the way it was taken, Also, the intent of the Service Pamphlets were never to be used in meetings, only by Service Committees such as H&I or PI, to be given to professionals. That's why the size is bigger than IP's so they would not fit in a literature rack at a homegroup. World Services are going to be producing medallions in two different types. The explanation was that China is buying up all the precious metals and that was driving prices up so for they would not be able to keep the current medallions we have now. They plan to sell them until they run out and Won't produce anymore. the two selections are the old ones with roman numerals (bronze and nickel) or Arabic (bronze and nickel): and there is a website where you can voice your choice. It's <http://www.na.org/catalogmedchoice.htm> and don't you feel special to be included in choosing our medallions but aren't asked to give anything on our literature. They also said 2008 literature prices are going to go up for some items. They also are pricing the Basic Text and plan for it to be out in the fall of 2008. Added to the Sixth Edition are a new Introduction, Index, and stories are increased from 38 to 50. The book will be ½" taller and ½" wider so your book covers won't work for the new text." Since I missed a whole day on the convention information, I felt totally lost since everything on Saturday was depending on all the information that was presented on Friday. Some items that I did get were: The World suggestion was to have our by-laws if incorporated updated at least every two years. I have a copy of ours and it still has RCM's listed as ASR's. I have a Non Profit Resource List that I will give to Holly. They had the committee of the Northern California Convention to share some of their tax issues and how they operate, their budget is projected over \$30,000.00. and I don't think we're that big yet. They did produce copies of their guidelines that maybe we can use some of it for ours, I do need some feedback on this issue because these

by-laws will affect the new guidelines. The facilitator of the convention workshop told me they would send me a group of slides set up as PowerPoint and our past VRSC Chair said he would help me to get them into another form so I could present all the information that was given but I hadn't received any information as yet through today. I will share that when I get it."

AREA CONCERNS:

WEST TENNESSEE:

Brought forth concerns around the 6th Edition Basic Text. Issues about the 6th Edition were:

- 1) The extra 10 stories placed in the Final Draft were not sent out for approval.
- 2) The increase this will have on the price.
- 3) The increase in size.

The other concern was centered on the Service Pamphlets. West Tennessee feels that these pamphlets need to go through a review process or at least seek an approval in the Conference Agenda Report

GREATER NASHVILLE AREA:

Do members of the RSC ride together whenever possible and share expenses. Are we reimbursing one member or both? There was a discussion raised about the Public Relations Guide as well. Some of our Trusted Servants are finding that the PR Guide is not effective. The guide leaves out a lot of pertinent information that The Guide To Public Information contained. There was much discussion on the floor as to how the World Board can pull the PI Guide from distribution, being that it was and is still Fellowship approved Literature. There is a motion in the CAR to replace the PI Guide with PR Handbook however no one has voted to do so, after much deliberation a member asked another member to read a report that was sent to the World Board seeking a response on this matter. The report is attached to these minutes. "To the World Board: I am writing to you with a heavy heart about our present situation as a fellowship. This letter is not an easy thing to do, for I too love NA and want to see what is best for us as a whole. I have spent the last few months reflecting on how we got to this point and I will take responsibility for not upholding my duties and responsibilities as an NA member. I spent all my time concerned with fundraisers, dances, and activities and worried very little about the Area, Region, or the World. While I was having a good time on NA basket money that should have been used for P.I. or Outreach, being that H&I is the only other thing that addicts are willing to participate in here besides the parties, the deterioration of our fellowship began. We began to worry more about how to have fun in recovery and less about spiritual growth and furthering our primary purpose through our Traditions and Concepts. I say all of this because it is relevant to the purpose and intent of this letter. I have noticed over the past few years that we have not given much direction or paid much attention to the decisions being made at the World level. A lot of the time we did not get the information from our Regional Delegate or the information we received was not correct. We were told that the Public Relations Handbook would not take the place of the A Guide to Public Information. When we were no longer able to order the PI manual we began to wonder what was going on. When seeking to find out how the World Board was given the authority necessary to pursue such a project we discovered that a straw poll vote on the conference floor allowed for this mistake. A Guide to Public Information was and still is Fellowship approved literature. How can the P.I. manual just be replaced or omitted without Fellowship approval ! Why were the Homegroups not allowed to participate in the P.R. project being that it did change our name, nature, and purpose? We here in the Volunteer Region began to wonder what was going on when Bulletin 31 was released. Our literature tells us that we should be able to come to a meeting freely and openly and leave just as freely. That we do not care that the Drug Courts, Treatment Centers, and Halfway Houses need our endorsements to further their primary purpose or to secure their Government Grant money. We cannot afford to violate anonymity by reporting on the comings and goings or any addict in our Fellowship to an outside enterprise or organization. The desire we speak of in NA is not a commodity we can bottle and put on a shelf. We cannot promote recovery by endorsing a

"get out of jail free card". Why did we feel we had to sign these affidavits for the courts? Bulletin 31 and the PR project have only served to promote disunity and polarization amongst our Fellowship. It was not left up to the World Board to decide for us what to do. We did not need your opinion on what to do. In 1984 the World Board of Trustees issued a special report to the World Service Conference. This report was on Trustee Correspondence with the Fellowship. This report states "To report on another member's attendance or participation in our Fellowship to any agency or institution is the affiliate with that agency or institution". It goes on in the report to remind us of the Eleventh and Twelfth Traditions that protect the anonymity of our members. If the World Board does not have a copy of this report I will gladly make it available to you. If it was a Tradition violation in 1984 what happened in the new millennium to make it conducive to our spiritual aim. Bulletin 31 and the PR project did change our name, nature, and purpose when the works violated our Traditions. The World Board did not consult the Fellowship as a whole before it decided to change or alter our spiritual integrity. We have begun to wonder even more what is going on at the World Board when a World Board member is not responding to our e-mails, phone calls, and letters. I mean no offense to Elaine, she is great in sending out the e-mail letting us know that the World Board did receive our inquiries and requests for accurate reports and some sense of accountability. There has not been one single response to the inquiries we addicts have made that even comes close to informing us as to why these decision to alter our literature were made. If Bulletin 31 and the PR guide continue to be issued as NA literature much of our literature will need to be revised and changed. I said what I said at the beginning of this letter because I too have been to blame in all this. I too did not pay attention to the harm I caused to NA as a whole. This is a program of self-examination and self-disclosure and I must look at my part in all that I do. If we are wrong there is no shame in admitting it and making the proper amends. This letter was not written to crucify or attack anyone's integrity. I worry about the state of our Fellowship when we cannot ask each other frank and candid questions and receive a straight and honest answer. Our Traditions and Concepts protect our unity and common welfare; if we do not adhere to them addicts seeking recovery will not find it. We must stand together and do right by our guiding documents. Concerned Addict, Todd M. Volunteer Region"

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion 1 Change the Hotel Reimbursement. Passed.

Motion 2 Change the mileage reimbursement \$0.40 per mile. Passed Motion 3 Raise the Prudent Reserve to \$12,000. The motion failed with 4 Areas voting No, 3 Areas voting Yes, and 1 Area abstaining.

Motion 4 Change the Per Diem rate. Passed

Nomination for Pete F. as VRC XXVI Chair. Passed

Nominations and Elections:

The nomination for William E. as VRSC Outreach Chair

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion 1: To include in the VRSC Guidelines to include mileage reimbursement for the Area Subcommittee Chairs.

Motion 2: To totally remove in the VRSC Guidelines under Committee Chairpersons, Page 16, Fundraising Responsibilities: #4 Seed money for fundraisers can be offered to groups within the host city, not to exceed \$200.00 per event. The intent of this motion is that it is a violation of Tradition #5: "Each group has but one primary purpose, to carry the message to the addict who still suffers".

Motion 3: To totally remove from the VRSC Guidelines under Subcommittee Chairpersons, Page 16, #1 "and home groups", #2 "and the home groups. The intent of this motion is that it is a violation of Tradition #5: "Each group has but one primary purpose, to carry the message to the addict who still suffers".

Motion 4 That the VRSC Meeting not be held during the VRC Convention. The intent is so everyone involved in Regional Service can enjoy the Convention for the purpose it is held for (Celebration of Recovery). The Subcommittees meet all day Saturday and the VRSC meets Sunday morning. Many addicts miss Workshops and the closing speaker on Sunday morning.

Motion 5: MWTASC requests \$500.00 to be used to create a literature reserve/pool from which MWT Literature Subcommittee can work. The intent of this Motion is as follows: This reserve will allow the support of our primary purpose by creating the ability to provide literature to our member groups in a timely manner. This motion was voted on at the VRSC with 8 Areas voting Yes and 1 Area Abstaining. Motion passes.

Motion 6: \$423.21 for Literature so SMTANA could create a Literature stockpile. This motion was voted on at the VRSC with 9 Areas voting Yes. Motion passes.

Motion 7: To bring back A Guide to Public Information for distribution to the Fellowship. To intent is as follows: It is Fellowship-approved Literature. It is the World Board's responsibility to serve us. To bring back a more effective Service Manual for our Public Information endeavors. This motion did not need to be voted on by the RCM's to send back being that it did not change VRSC Policy. If approved by the Groups it will go to the World Service Conference in April 2008.

Motion 8: To send to WSC, that the 6th Edition should go through the review and input process again because of the additional 10 stories that were not included in the initial review. The intent was to follow proper procedure for Literature Review, so the Fellowship can provide input on all that is going to be published. This motion did not need to be voted on by the RCM's to send back being that it did not change VRSC Policy. If approved by the Groups it will go to the World Service Conference in April 2008.

NEXT MEETING:

The next VRSC Meeting will be Sunday, February 3, 2008 at the A&D Council in Nashville, TN beginning at 9:30a.m. The subcommittees will meet Saturday, February 2, 2008 beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Amanda M.

REGIONAL DELEGATE REPORT November 25, 2007

Hello Family,

Conference Agenda Report

The Conference Agenda Report came out November 21. The theme for the World Service Conference, and the Conference Agenda Report, is "Our Freedom, Our Responsibility". In order to include as many members as possible in this process, the entire CAR will be posted online at <http://www.na.org/conference> and can be downloaded at no charge. Hard copies of the report can be purchased for \$11.00 each online or through regular mail or fax. There will also be an online form for members, trusted servants, or committees to use to answer the discussion questions in the CAR at <http://www.na.org/conference/index.htm>. As we all know, addiction is an inclusive disease; it does not discriminate. So we need to be inclusive with discussions-to hear as many members' and trusted servants' perspectives as possible. We all are responsible for services in NA and for effectively carrying our message of recovery.

This CAR includes several questions that will assist in better serving you, the Fellowship. The results of these discussions can be submitted online and this information will be collected to frame discussions at WSC 2008. This information is badly needed to help provide resources that will assist in the delivery of services and to frame the projects for the next conference cycle.

Another question asked in the CAR is what should be the next targeted literature project. What population would most benefit from a piece of targeted literature? And what would be the focus?

Additionally, the Sponsorship book has been included as an item for discussion. When the project plans for this book as well as the book itself were presented for approval at the conference, they were overwhelmingly approved by the Fellowship. However, based on low sales of this book, it appears that our members have not embraced this piece of recovery literature that illustrates our shared experiences with sponsorship, a key component in a member's recovery toolbox. To benefit future literature projects, it would be helpful to understand why this book may not be what the fellowship wants to know about sponsorship. Are the lack of sales indicative of the content of the book, expectations of our members not being met lack of exposure within our fellowship or what? In order to create literature that speaks to our members and captures our shared experience as a fellowship, we need to evaluate where this piece may fall short. Please take the time to discuss the questions pertaining to the Sponsorship book that will be outlined in the CAR, You can bring your comments to this and any of the topics discussed in the CAR to a CAR workshop or online at <http://www.rsa.org/conference/Index.litm>.

Of course, the CAR would not be complete without the approval drafts of the Sixth Edition Basic Text, the Youth IP, and the IP for parents or guardians. These approval drafts illustrate our fellowship's diversity, the global nature of recovery, and the inclusiveness of NA.

Service Pamphlets

Following the July WSC meeting, the following five service pamphlets were completed:

- *An Introduction to NA Meetings*
- *Disruptive and Violent Behavior*
- *Group Trusted Servants: Roles and Responsibilities*
- *Group Business Meetings*
- *NA Groups and Medication*

Copies of all five pieces were sent to conference participants, and also distributed to interested members at WCNA-32. The overall response to these pieces was very positive. A description of the word "clean" in *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, however, drew a fair amount of concerned input from members throughout our fellowship. Those concerns prompted distribution of the piece to be halted pending further discussion. The line in question pertained to a definition of abstinence which apparently failed to adequately capture the intended expression, but this situation provides us with an example of one of the advantages of this new process: the ability of the board to respond immediately to fellowship concerns, rather than having progress completely halted and having to await a conference motion. A key issue with service pamphlets seems to have focused on who approves these pieces. Almost all material that is presented in the Conference Agenda Report or Conference Approval Track is approved. What can change or affect a piece is not the approval process; but the review and input process. One of the ideas discussed was sending these pieces out for delegate review. This would allow delegates to have an opportunity to impact a piece before it is published and also to determine if it would be helpful for a committee or members in their region to review and input. Without losing the timeliness and responsiveness that this process was created to achieve.

Medallion Survey

In response to requests concerning the medallion design, the World Board is conducting a web survey to gather fellowship preference. The medallion design choices are between Arabic or Roman numerals and bronze or silver-nickel finishes. You can vote on your preference at <http://www.naws.org/surveys/index.php?sid=3> before march 2008.

NA Website:

Website is being updated frequently and entirely new sections are being added. Don't forget to go to the site and fill out the members survey, it is available in five languages and world would like our help so that the demographics will more accurately reflect our worldwide fellowship, it will be online until 31 December 2007 at <http://www.naws.org/surveys/index.php?sid=1>.

CAR:

The discussions outlined in the CAR will be linked from <http://www.na.org/conference/index.htm>. Every member is encouraged to respond.

There is still merchandise, CD's, MP3s, and DVDs available from WCNA32 for purchase online.

World Services Calendar and Deadlines:

21 November 2007: 2008 Conference Agenda Report available

26 December 2007: Translated 2008 Conference Agenda Reports available

25 January 2008: 2008 Conference Approval Track material available

25-27 January 2008: Worldwide Workshop---Sydney, Australia

27 April- 3 May 2008: 2008 World Service Conference

It is imperative that we discuss as a Region how we can best do the CAR workshops. It is up to us as a fellowship to work together to see that as many members of our fellowship as possible get the opportunity to attend a workshop. I would like to ask the RCM's for help in getting the workshops done in your respective areas. If time permits I will help facilitate these. The first workshop for the CAR will be next weekend in Alfred, Maine. In the past the delegate team has gone to this workshop. Since it is held so soon after the CAR is out it gives us 3 or 4 extra weeks to get our workshops done.

My contact info is available on the Regional contact list. If some of you are ready to schedule today we will go ahead and tentatively set the date for your area. If funds allow we can order the reports today. I am not sure how long the shipment takes. As I mentioned earlier, I will be going to the MRLE (multi-regional learning event) in Alfred, Maine. Normally I would pay up front and get reimbursed, but this trip is one week from today and the holidays are near so I need to request funds today.

Belinda H.

