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*"We, who were unable to function as human beings, now find that anything is possible of us. Dreams that we gave up long ago can now become realities. Addicts as a group have been a burden to society. In NA, our groups not only stand on their own, but demand the right to do so."*

*Basic Text, page 68*

# Contributing to our recovery

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IN THIS ISSUE

When we were in the depths of our active addiction, many of us gave little thought to how we could be responsible and self-supporting members of society. All we cared about was "getting and using and finding ways and means to get more."

The only thing we had any desire to support was our addiction, and, more often than not, we went to great lengths to support it. We took whatever we could from our loved ones and society as a whole, just as our disease took whatever it could from us.

Eventually, after years of this exhausting tug-of-war, we ran out of the desire to take and had nothing left to give.

Today, as we grow in our recovery, we are beginning to learn the importance of self-support, not only as individuals, but also as members of the NA Fellowship. We start to understand that self-support goes much deeper than just dropping some money into the basket at a meeting.

We learn that when we give back what was so freely given to us, we gain more than we ever hoped. Whatever our contributions are, be they service as a trusted servant, as a sponsor, as a speaker, or as a member of our home group, we are given the opportunity to express our gratitude through action.

Our contributions to the group, and to NA, help to carry the message that recovery from addiction is possible and that "no addict seeking recovery need ever die."

We hope you enjoy reading the stories in this issue. They are from members sharing their experience and strength as they find the hope our program offers through their own contributions.



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# NAWS NEEDS YOU!!!

Here's your opportunity to give back what was so freely given to you!!! Help build the World Pool by sending in your service resume. Trusted servants for World Service projects and elections will come from this pool.

Visit our website at **[www.na.org](http://www.na.org)** to access our interactive form.

You can also reach us by letter, phone, or email.



*The NA Way Magazine* welcomes letters from all readers. Letters to the editor can respond to any article that has appeared in *The NA Way*, or can simply be a viewpoint about an issue of concern in the NA Fellowship. Letters should be no more than 250 words, and we reserve the right to edit. All letters must include a signature, valid address, and phone number. First name and last initial will be used as the signature line unless the writer requests anonymity.

*The NA Way Magazine, published in English, French, German, Portuguese, and Spanish, belongs to the members of Narcotics Anonymous. Its mission, therefore, is to provide each member with recovery and service information, as well as recovery-related entertainment, which speaks to current issues and events relevant to each of our members worldwide. In keeping with this mission, the editorial staff is dedicated to providing a magazine which is open to articles and features written by members from around the world, as well as providing current service and convention information. Foremost, the journal is dedicated to the celebration of our message of recovery—"that an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live."*



# The money tradition?

To research this article I started out by looking in our Basic Text. However, after finishing the one short page devoted to this particular tradition, I was not satisfied that I received the whole picture. So, just as I have been encouraged to do in my personal recovery, as I write and apply the steps in my life, I dug deeper. I opened up *It Works: How and Why* to find out, for myself, the *why* of this tradition. I was astounded to find eleven pages on this tradition—the longest entry on any of the traditions.

Here is just some of what I have learned.

The Seventh Tradition states that “Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.” The first few pages relate the reasons why we should decline funding from anything outside our NA membership—even so much as to depend on one particular member to fund a group. This is to give us freedom to carry our own message as a group, not as an extension of one individual.

In the beginning, meetings do not always start out independently capable of paying their own way. Sometimes these meetings get help from established NA groups or their local area committee.

Some people refer to this tradition as the “money tradition,” as stated on page 175 of *It Works: How and Why*. Maybe that is why so few people have taken the time to actually read about it. It seems money is a touchy area for some of us. This might be because, before we got here, some of us had a hard time keeping any.

Some of us associate this tradition of self-support with the funds we contribute individually into the basket. However, I believe the spirit of this tradition goes much further than that. Please bear with me a moment as I try to summarize the other eleven pages.

*It Works* states that the group should provide whatever its own needs are to fulfill its primary purpose. Every group starts with this basic need or purpose: to “carry the message to the addict who still suffers.” Without this, the group has no reason to exist.

Once this need is established, there are other needs which *do* cost money, such as rent and literature, and if the group so chooses, maybe coffee to offer a more relaxed atmosphere. After these things are in place, do we have any more needs?

Well, I have heard lots of controversy over the next few lines I have to write. Some of us even quote other traditions to back up our defiance. So many times I have heard that “each group should be autonomous,” and while this is valid and true, we cannot forget the rest of that quote: “except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole.”

Yes, I am talking about supporting our own areas. Do you put a dollar in that basket when it is passed around? Does your dollar matter, and where does it go? It does not matter whether your group is new or whether it has been around for years. We hear it said at these meetings that the dollar goes to pay for rent, coffee, and literature, and the rest goes to the area, to the region, and on to the world, and then back around to us. So how does it come back to us?

Well, unlike the groups, our area is not self-supporting. It funds many committees that are vital for supporting the continuing influx of newcomers by helping the groups fulfill their primary purpose more effectively. Area service committees depend on group contributions for the money to fund these committees. We donate to the area, and in turn the area sends money on to the region and the region sends money on to the world.

The “trickle-down” theory we hear about so often goes all the way back to the first thing I mentioned in this article. The area supports new meetings when they first start up by giving them needed materials and literature to get started, which in turn helps to fulfill the primary purpose of carrying the message to the addicts in that area. Also, the activities we attend and committees that serve our community—like Public Information and H&I—are funded by the money given to the area.

This is also true with the region and world. The money the area donates to the region pays for new literature, conventions, public information, and more. This money also greatly affects and improves public opinion, gives awareness to suffering addicts, gives us a voice and a vote, and directly affects the increasing number of members we have today in our individual and autonomous groups.

Think back to when you first heard of Narcotics Anonymous. Was it while in jail or an institution, or as an individual? We all got here from different sources, but someone helped us along the way by carrying that message to us.

So, before we are quick to say that the area or region or whoever does not deserve our money, or that the area or region is dictating to us, or whatever reason we may have for being afraid to put a dollar in the basket every once in a while, we should ask ourselves, “Do I really want to do this alone?” If it were not for the efforts of all of the above, in essence, that is where we would be.

The group is an essential part of this “trickle-down” thing. It starts and ends with each of us. To survive and grow, do we not need each other? I like the saying “Need a penny, take a penny; got a penny, leave a penny.” It sounds like good advice to me.

Lastly, *It Works: How and Why* discusses applying spiritual principles to strengthen our appreciation of this tradition. Here are some of those principles mentioned—*anonymity*, by giving without asking for recognition; our *integrity*, to do what is right; *faith* in a Higher Power to provide for us, individually and as groups; our sense of *simplicity*; *acceptance* of our responsibility to carry the message to newcomers that was so graciously given to us; and *gratitude* for what we have today. Together, all of these principles spell freedom for the group.

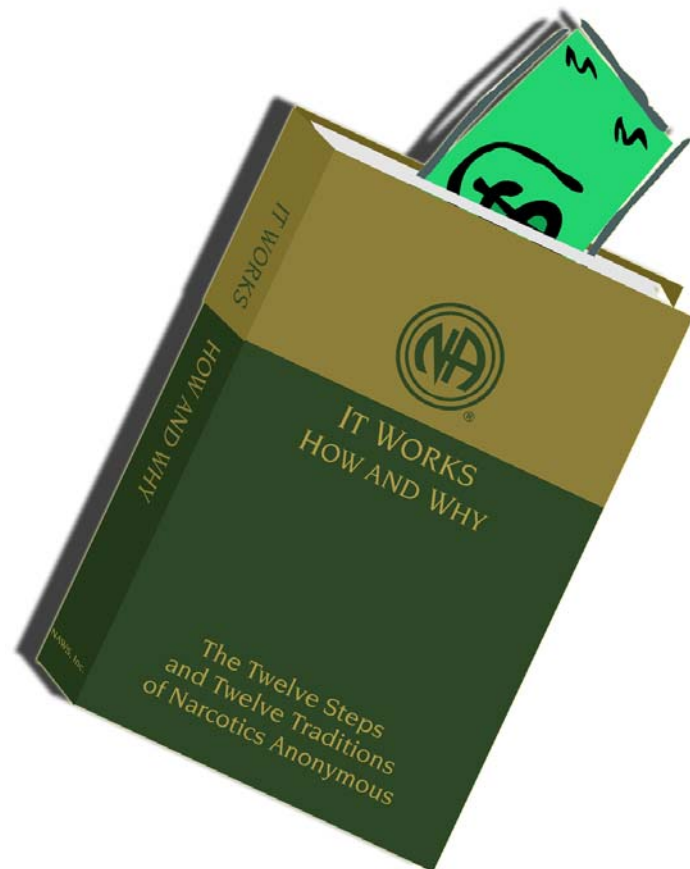
I learned so much from my research on this tradition. I hope you got something out of it as well. I feel that we often hear people share in a meeting about a certain tradition, and then, after a while, we believe whatever we hear. Before I came to NA, I did not believe anyone but me. Today, I have learned to listen to others, be open-minded, and take suggestions.

I still have a responsibility to read the literature given to me. It was created for a reason: to teach me. I cannot let others do all of the work for me. So I say, research what people say; do not take for granted that the Seventh Tradition is the “money tradition” until you read what the books have to say on the subject—or on any of the other traditions, either, for that matter. They all go hand in hand, and while reading them I have learned a lot more about spiritual principles, since each of the traditions is based on more than just one principle.

It has given me a lot of insight about why we read these at every meeting. I am a firm believer that you cannot grow spiritually unless you work the Twelve Steps. I have come to see how the same thing is true for groups regarding the traditions. The groups’ growth, survival, and spiritual atmosphere depend upon these traditions.

But, hey, don’t take my word for it. Pick up a Basic Text or a copy of *It Works: How and Why* today and find out for yourself!

Dana S, Tennessee





# Whatever it takes

Self-support comes in so many forms.

I sometimes miss my old home group, which meets on Monday nights at 7:00 pm. Whenever I meet people in NA in all the places I go, I proudly tell them that the name of my old home group was "Grateful Heads," and that it was the only Basic Text study in my hometown.

I remember when this meeting used to be in a church, and how it was struggling. When I went to other people and said it was dying, they told me, "Some meetings are supposed to die." I did not think that was such a good idea, especially since the meeting had been around for some time before me.

So I went to other people and said, "We have to bring it back! We have to make it work again," and I went to meetings announcing that my little home group needed support. I even went around to other meetings and asked people to come lead it. Then I asked them to get another member to come lead the meeting the next week.

Before we knew it, the meeting became a regular stop for many people who had some time in the program. They soon became the backbone of service in the meeting. These people had lots of time and did not have time to go to as many meetings as they once did.

I live in Colorado now, and I just found a meeting the other night outside Denver that is almost dead. I told another addict about the best home group in the world, the group I had once, which was almost dead at one time—just like this new meeting. Of course, since he was a product of the sixties, he loved the name "Grateful Heads," and he was excited about the idea of a Basic Text study.

What I learned from this many years later is that NA meetings are exactly what we put into them. It does not take very much effort, and we get out exactly what we put in.

A few months ago I was in my old hometown, and I could not wait to get to the "Grateful Heads" group. I eagerly rushed over, only to find a room full of people I did not know. I terribly missed my old home group and all the people who attended when I left in 1996.

My hope is that the next time you or anyone you know walks into a meeting and finds that there are not enough people even to read all the readings, you pick up that barely smoldering torch and run with it. Please do not just walk away in frustration and think, "I have wasted my valuable time and gas coming here." How quickly we forget all the times we searched the town for that next fix, and how we went to great lengths to get it.

Anyway, hello, hometown, the place where I got clean. I hope all is well. I will never forget any of you. You are my high-school graduating class, since I never had one. You are all my fellow alumni. You are my family, no matter how many differences we may have. I miss you all very much, and you will always be with me, wherever I go.

Now, carry the message, and whatever it takes, make sure it continues to be carried!

*Robbie G, Colorado*

## Finding support in any language

Not too long ago a member from Wisconsin was visiting Lima, Peru, on a business trip. For three weeks, this member was unable to attend an NA meeting due to his workload. However, his need to stay in touch with addicts in recovery soon became overwhelming for him.

Even though he could not speak Spanish well, he was able to communicate with a local NA member through the NA helpline in Lima and learned about a meeting close to where he was staying. He left his apartment to catch a taxi to go to that meeting.

Lima has a population of approximately eight million people, a high percentage of whom work as taxi drivers. In spite of this, he had to wait a few minutes until he caught a taxi. Many of the taxicabs were occupied, and some simply did not stop. At last one stopped. He then showed the driver a piece of paper with the address of the meeting's location.

The driver was not familiar with this address, since it did not specify much. He actually did not have the slightest idea where this address was located, but he decided to try to find it. The driver did not want to miss the opportunity of making a run, and the NA member did not want to miss the opportunity to attend a meeting. He simply had to trust the driver.

On the way there, the driver asked for some type of location reference for the address, but the member did not know anything. He did not know the city very well, except for the route he took from his apartment to work and back every day.

The driver noticed the member's foreign accent and asked where he was from, why he was in Lima, if he liked the food, and how he liked the Peruvian women. The member began to feel more comfortable. The driver was somewhat loud but funny.

After a few quick turns, the driver concluded that these directions would not take them anywhere, so he decided to contact some friends who could possibly help him find this address. They arrived at the place where the taxi driver's friends were. The driver asked some questions. The address was very strange, and the language written on the paper was very confusing.

The driver went upstairs to look for someone who could give him better directions. Instead of waiting in the taxi, the member decided to go with the driver. They went upstairs and found a room full of people.

Suddenly the member felt his heart skip a beat. He smiled in disbelief. On the back wall, he noticed a big board with the NA logo. He realized that he had finally arrived at an NA meeting. After the meeting ended, they all laughed a lot about how the taxi driver, who had brought him to the meeting, was also an NA member.

Without a doubt, a loving and kind Higher Power drove that member to the place he loved. That loving and kind Higher Power used the driver to accomplish this task—especially if we consider that this driver, who is also an NA member, had not attended a meeting in a while.

We can find the support we all need as long as we do the footwork.

Once again, I have the chance to see that when it comes to recovery, we all speak the same language!

*Fernando, Peru*

## Because of others

"An addict alone is in poor company." I remember this phrase from my first few meetings, but actually I have spent most of my recovery alone, physically isolated from other recovering addicts.

My name is George, and I am an addict. I thought there was no hope for me. While my journey of recovery has been different from many others, it has only been possible because of the help of other addicts.

I am an Anglophone Canadian working on a ship in Quebec. At times I can get to an English-speaking meeting in Montreal, but it is difficult with my schedule. I go to French-speaking meetings whenever I can, and even though I understand very little of what is said, it gives me incredible feelings of serenity, hope, and freedom. I cannot really explain it, but then again, I really do not have an explanation for my recovery.

I find the generosity of people in the program so overwhelming at times. One person has twice driven over 200 kilometers (approximately 125 miles) in order to take me to a meeting. Once, when I was working in a remote area of Ohio, a member offered to bring some people from Cleveland and have a meeting with me.

However, most of the time I cannot go to a meeting in any language. Sometimes, the feeling of anxiety can consume me. This new craving for the fellowship seems foreign to me, but I know I need the fellowship as I need oxygen or nourishment. Today I know it is the fellowship that has given me a chance at life.

I find my new life can often be strange. I feel as if I have just woken up from a coma, and I do not know where I am.

In those first few months of recovery, people would surround me and help to guide me through the confusion I had. I had a simple schedule: eight hours of work, four hours of sleep, and twelve hours spent with recovering addicts.

Today I have nine months clean, and I have not seen a recovering addict in two weeks. I am really craving a meet-

ing. Thanks to the help I received in the past, I am not alone. I have collected phone numbers from the many different places I have traveled.

Since the late nights are usually the loneliest times for me, I phoned some help lines in California. (There is a three-hour time change, so it is not so late there.) One member told me she would give my number to a few members, and now I have three regular contacts in California.

Through the World Service Office I learned about *Meeting by Mail*, and of course I read every copy of *The NA Way Magazine* I can get my hands on. Right now, I am writing my Fourth Step—with the help of people I have never even met!

Just for today, I am getting by a day at a time. The miracle is working in my life with the help of the people in Narcotics Anonymous. The phone calls and the reading bring me great comfort.

I am still craving a meeting, though, and I sure could use a hug. The good news is that I will be home in another month or so, and I know there will not be a shortage of hugs there. I can hardly wait!

Georges N, Canada

## Through NA

On 30 December I celebrated twelve years clean, and I am enjoying a rich life in recovery. I wanted to share with you some thoughts I had about the program of Narcotics Anonymous.

The NA program helps me to give space to God in my life.

NA is also about being vulnerable, and it teaches me that power is most effectively communicated not by looking powerful but by participating in powerlessness and in weakness. It is about sharing that powerlessness with others and helping to empower the recovering addict.

The NA program expands my capacity for joy and increases my capacity for pain. It teaches me the value of a hidden life of humility, of giving without cost, of standing on my own both in moments of triumph and in moments of bitter failure. It tells me I cannot actively dictate my own destiny, but that my destiny is given me by another.

Recovery teaches me that I cannot love others unless I love myself first. It teaches me the value of listening and receiving with quiet acceptance.

I am grateful to my sponsor for being my confidant—a companion who will stand with me to the end of my journey—giving me the space to walk, to listen, to suffer, to feel, to grow, and to surrender. My sponsor also teaches me the importance of relationships, showing me that life is walking together, and sharing one's person, showing me how to give and receive in a relationship.

When I am faced with what I perceive to be insurmountable problems, NA symbolizes hope. NA has given me companions in my journey of life.

Most people know that life evolves into death, but a few people—like us addicts—know that life can and does evolve *from* death—the death caused by our active addiction.

Thank you all for being there for me.

From a fellow traveler on the path of recovery,

Sunil B, India

## Picture this

NA communities are invited to send photographs of their meeting places. We especially welcome photos that include meeting formats, recovery literature, posters, dirty coffee cups, and anything else that makes the meeting place look "lived in." Sorry, we cannot use photos that identify NA members. Please tell us about your meeting, its name, the location and city, how long it has been in existence, and what your format consists of (speaker, participation, etc.).



This is the room where the group La Playa meets in Cartagena, Colombia. The name of the group means "the beach." Meetings are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The group celebrated its first anniversary on 30 January 2003.

# Primary Purpose

*"There are many ways of doing things in Narcotics Anonymous. And just as all of us have our own individual personalities, so will your group develop its own identity, its own way of doing things, and its own special knack for carrying the NA message. That's the way it should be. In NA we encourage unity, not uniformity."*

The Group Booklet, pg. 1

This is a column for you, about you, and by you. We invite you to share any challenges your group may have faced, how your group reached a solution, or its "special knack" that keeps you coming back!

## The Seventh Tradition

This year, my sponsor and I have been studying the traditions. It is no coincidence that while we were working on the Seventh Tradition, two other members and I started a new meeting in our hometown. I saw, firsthand, the active spirit of this tradition from other members in our local NA community.

When we started this meeting, we had nothing. However, the word spread, and on the night of the first meeting we received literature along with a coffeepot from another meeting. Believe it or not, there were 34 people in attendance. The support we received was overwhelming. By the end of the month we had enough money to pay rent, purchase literature, donate money to the area that supports us, and set aside a prudent reserve.

Without the spirit of the Seventh Tradition, we would be struggling.

What I learned about the spirit of the Seventh Tradition—as I studied with my sponsor, and as I witnessed it in action—is that this tradition is not about money, but rather about the willingness to carry the message to other addicts. Supporting our new meeting, showing up on a weekly basis, and having financial responsibility reinforces for me that this program works. Our home group members have pitched in to help with setup, chairing the meeting, purchasing literature, and helping to clean up after the meeting.

We currently have twelve to fifteen members attending the meeting weekly, and we have six home group members. Last month, our area had a theme-basket auction for our holiday activity. We did a movie basket. Our home group members donated various items such as movies, candy, soda, snack food, and, of course, the basket. Our basket brought in 31 dollars for the area. I felt a sense of pride seeing this new group become part of our NA community and give back to the area that serves us.

Having the group fulfill its primary purpose is a collective effort from all the members, not just one individual. Seeing other members reach out and help us become self-supporting made me feel very grateful to this area and to Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. It also increased my faith in my Higher Power.

I believe that, through self-support, the group has more freedom to carry the message of recovery to other addicts.

*Diane P, Washington*

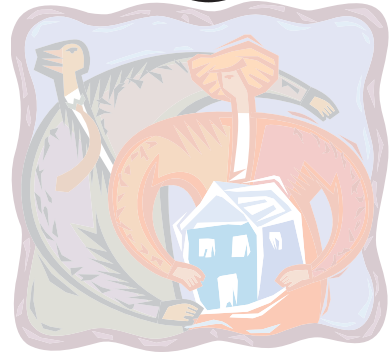
## A basketful

Several years ago, with a recent relapse and a horrible attitude on board, I threw a crumpled lotto ticket into the Seventh Tradition basket. These people were not about to get the last of my \$7.55 in hard cash, but they could take the trash from the bottom of my purse.

Needless to say, my Higher Power has some sense of humor! I watched in complete surprise as the chairperson scratched the card and handed the ten-dollar winning ticket to the treasurer.

I sure hope that some day this will all come back around!

*Amy K, Off the Wall Recovery Group, Colorado*







# Service through self-support

During the weekend of 31 October through 2 November 2003, a group of addicts from North America will meet in Arizona to attend the Western Service Learning Days XVII. These addicts, referred to by some as “service junkies,” will demonstrate a form of the Seventh Tradition that takes place so often we tend to take it for granted. They will take time out of their lives and leave the comforts of their home groups, areas, and families to support the NA service structure. These trusted servants’ primary purpose will be to learn, share, and pass along information as each discovers new ways of dealing with the daily struggles faced within the committees they serve.

Some of these addicts will pay their own way to attend, and others who attend will be directed and funded by their areas, their regions, or both. Regardless of how they come to this workshop, they will be striving to learn how to become more effective as trusted servants to the fellowship they serve.

Each will be dispatched to gather information to be shared with their respective committees when they return. Some will try to find out how committees in other regions perform their jobs. Others, perhaps, will try to find a renewed motivation to continue to serve in an area in which they have been doing service for a long time.

Still other trusted servants may want to get involved in a different field of service, or maybe they are new to the service structure and want to take this opportunity to learn from the experience of those who will be there. Whatever the reason these trusted servants attend, everyone will hopefully leave this workshop with a wealth of information and experiences to take back to their local NA communities.

The funding of trusted servants from the western regions and surrounding areas has been growing as the WSLD has matured over the last 16 years. Many members who have attended these events share about the enjoyable times spent with new friends who have, over the years, become long-term contacts not only for service work but for sharing rich experiences in recovery as well.

Everyone with whom I spoke about the WSLD thought that getting together with trusted servants from other regions was very important because these members have become or will become indispensable contacts in the future.

One of the ways NA is self-supporting is through members teaching other members about service. Another way is by the collective funding of our areas and regions for the cost of such teaching and learning opportunities. It is wonderful how an event like the WSLD can bring us together in this endeavor to be self-supporting in all areas of our lives—both in recovery and in service.

If you or someone you know would like more information regarding WSLD XVII in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, please visit our website at [www.wslld.org](http://www.wslld.org).

Thank you for letting me be of service.

*Rich B, Arizona*



## H&I Slim

For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of meeting him, H&I Slim is "the ultimate H&I kinda guy." He hangs out in hospitals and jails all over the world. You might say he's always in the know and always on the go. Got a question about H&I? Need some help? Write H&I Slim in care of the WSO.

### Dear H&I Slim,

I need some help with what I perceive to be a problem with H&I in an area within our region.

There are two institutions—one for men and one for women—that hold their own NA meetings. Inmates run the meetings, and they are not connected with H&I in any way.

In order to enter the institution you need to have a background check completed. The H&I chairperson from this area is going inside one of the institutions alone and under the name of Narcotics Anonymous. The member states that since the meeting is an independent institutional NA meeting, the policies found in the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*, i.e., "never go in alone and men with men, women with women," are not applicable.

The Department of Corrections, for which the member works, has asked the member to no longer act in the capacity of a volunteer at the facility where they are employed.

I have been around long enough to know there is no magic wand. However, is there anything we should do when members choose to follow the handbook only when it suits their needs?

Thanks.

*A concerned member, Idaho*

### Dear Friend from Idaho,

Your concerns seem to be those that are being voiced more often now that there are so many independent institutional NA groups/meetings. As you may know, there is a document, the *Institutional Group Guide*, that was created to serve as a group booklet for independent institutional NA groups/meetings.

There is a lot of background information that goes along with the creation of the *Group Guide*, but I do not have the time or space to share all of the details. Nonetheless, I do believe that during the development stages of the *Group Guide*, the issue of opposite-sex members attending independent meetings in a correctional setting was not taken into consideration.

Therefore, the person you spoke of is correct when they state that these groups are not a part of H&I, and hence they are not bound by H&I policies. However, whether it is an H&I meeting or an independent meeting, it is in a correctional setting, and I think the following would still apply, even more so if you are going into an opposite-sex facility alone.

Some facilities house only men or only women. Other facilities house both men and women, but keep them separate. In these facilities, where meetings consist of only men or only women, we feel strongly that only same-sex Narcotics Anonymous members should participate.

Remember our primary purpose is to carry a clear and consistent message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. Our purpose is not to make our meetings more

popular with the addicts we are trying to help. *Problems that arise in this area have the potential to seriously damage the credibility of Narcotics Anonymous.* Experience has taught us that we can avoid these problems if we follow this simple guideline.

The other part of your concerns has left me somewhat confused. Is the other meeting you spoke of an H&I meeting, and the member attending a member of the H&I subcommittee, or is it another independent NA meeting? Of course, if it is an H&I meeting and the member is a member of the subcommittee, H&I policies should be followed consistently. If the meeting is similar to the other one, once again, H&I policies are not applicable.

Although there are no rules or guidelines that govern outside members attending independent institutional NA groups, I do believe the principles involved with H&I service are applicable, i.e., clearances, adhering to facility rules, not passing or taking contraband from inmates, and, I would think, the men-with-men, women-with-women principle as well.

In addition, attendance at those meetings is simply by an NA member's choice, not the choice of Narcotics Anonymous. Nonetheless, if something happens, the facility may look at the individual NA member, but they will think of NA as a whole.

I know this is not a hard and fast answer, but if we allow the principles involved to guide us, things will happen the way they are supposed to happen.

*In loving service,  
H&I Slim*



COME CELEBRATE THE  
**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NA!**  
**World Unity Day**  
 Saturday, 5 July 2003  
 LIVE FROM SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

*We have come an incredibly long way since our inception...but "just for today," we are still not at the "end of our road." Our hope is that World Unity Day will not only help bring us all together in this historic celebration of our recovery, but also will remind us that only together can we ensure that our message is available to any addict seeking a new way of life. This event is a demonstration of our unity and the common bond we share globally as members in recovery in Narcotics Anonymous.*

This year's Unity Day will take place during the **30th World Convention** in San Diego, California, USA. While the exact start time for Unity Day has not been determined, for planning purposes please expect the call to begin in the early evening hours, Pacific Daylight Time. Once the exact start time has been established, we will notify the fellowship. Check our website at [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) for more information as it becomes available.

**Please Provide the Following Contact Information**

Individual members, NA groups, area/regional functions, and institutions can join in the celebration of World Unity Day on a two-hour, "listen only" telephone hookup to hear the Unity Day main speaker. Simply complete the telephone link registration form below and fax or mail it to the World Service Office with your payment. The cost is \$50.00 for calls within the United States/Canada. For calls outside the US/Canada, there will be an additional charge depending upon the telephone rate of the country.

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Group (Region/Area/Institution) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Outside US/Canada?** Number where we can reach you on day of call: \_\_\_\_\_

**Form of Payment (Check One):**     AMEX     VISA     M/C     Discover     Diners Club  
 Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Check/Money Order** OR  **Free Regional Link** NA World Services is offering one free regional hookup to each region located outside the US and Canada. To use the free regional hookup, you must have the approval of your region. Please include the name and phone number of your regional chairperson below. We will contact the chairperson of your region upon receipt of your registration for verification.

Regional Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Upon completing this application, please mail the application with your check or money order to **NAWS, c/o Unity Day, PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409** or fax it to **818.700.0700** with your credit card information. Registrations will not be processed without payment or regional approval for the free link. After 1 June 2003, you will receive a confirmation via email or mail, which will include the call-in number and password you need on the day of the call. The confirmation will outline the exact time and agenda for the call, explain how to phone in on the day of the call, and inform you about what to do if you experience problems during the call.

*Questions? Call the World Service Office at (818) 773-9999 and dial extension 204.*

**All registrations MUST BE RECEIVED no later than 1 June 2003.**

# WCNA-30 VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SHEET

Thank you for your willingness to serve. Please volunteer to work at the world convention by completing this form. Beginning April 2003 members of the Support Committee will contact you to discuss your availability and confirm your assignment. This historic event will not be possible without your help!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Print First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Full Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Country \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Numbers (*Please include area/country code.*)  
Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Work \_\_\_\_\_ Pager \_\_\_\_\_

## AREAS OF INTEREST AND EXPERIENCE

**Willing to Serve Where Most Needed**

*Or I would prefer to work in the following area(s), please check all that apply:*

- Program                       Convention Information                       Merchandise  
 Entertainment / Events                       Registration  
 Ability to Translate English Fluently Into What Language: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note that for certain job assignments convention registration might be required and certain clean time requirements may apply. Please provide us with the following information:*

**Clean Date**                      Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**Computer Experience**  Yes  No

**Cash Register Experience**  Yes  No

## AVAILABILITY

Most volunteers will be assigned to a **minimum** of a two-hour slot. We encourage you to volunteer for as many slots as you like. Please check all slots you are probably available.

**Willing to Serve When Most Needed**

Date	Day	8-10:00 AM	10:00-Noon	Noon-2 PM	2-4:00 PM	4-6:00 PM	6-8:00 PM	8-10:00 PM	10:00-Midnight	Midnight-2:00 AM
2 July	Wednesday	_____							_____	_____
3 July	Thursday									
4 July	Friday									
5 July	Saturday									
6 July	Sunday					_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**This form can be completed online at [www.na.org](http://www.na.org).** Or mail the completed form to **WCNA-30 Support Committee**, 4735 Clairemont Square #366, San Diego, CA 92117 or fax to **818.700.0700**.

For more information about the 30th World Convention of NA  
Go to [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) or call 818.773.9999, extension 200.

“1953 to 2003...One Addict Helping Another”



# What is the message?

I was reading an article on compassion recently on a Narcotics Anonymous-oriented website and found myself struggling through a bog of syrupy platitudes designed only, I believe, to create a false sense of security in the writer himself. His complacent (and lengthy) spiel concerning his “slow growth” to the now-enlightened state of emotional sensitivity he has attained in his years of being clean frankly made me want to regurgitate my supper.

I hesitate as I write these words for a couple of reasons: one, because they sound so, well, crass; but also because I, too, like the writer, have grown up with the indoctrination of that killing compassion defined by many as “feeling with.”

In an NA meeting a few weeks ago, I sat and watched a member returning from a relapse “confess” to feelings of shame and worthlessness and, more to the point, hopelessness. Many people shared during the meeting and a few reiterated our message of recovery from addiction: get a sponsor, work the steps, attend meetings regularly, and work toward honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness.

The member seemed to hear some of this; the sobs were quieter at times, and the eyes flickered occasionally as someone’s words sank in. Other members, though, shared only of similar experiences in relapse, relating feelings and expressing “compassion” for the wounded one. In other words, many members limited their responses to “feeling with” the member.

After we had closed, many went to offer hugs and phone numbers, and countless times I heard variations on the theme of “good Lord, how you have suffered.” This may not seem like a striking example of abuse to many, but to me, who had seen this same story replayed on at least three earlier occasions in as many years by the same member, with very little variation, it seemed a glaring example of “fallout compassion.”

How many times will an addict have the opportunity to hear the message that if we don’t stop using drugs, we will die? Once? Three times?

Is it “compassion” to hide that truth from a using addict who is steeped in denial, the most tragic symptom of our disease?

Here’s a list of my “truths” (read “denial”) when I first started coming to Narcotics Anonymous:

- ❖ My lousy childhood was responsible for my drug use.
- ❖ If I could get hold of a good therapist, then I would not want to use drugs to escape anymore.
- ❖ If I had enough money, I wouldn’t have the life problems I had and thus would no longer need to use.

Having had very little sympathy given for my puzzling and self-destructive behavior over the years, getting a little bit of proffered sympathy was like eating a piece of blueberry cheesecake. Heaven!

When something feels good, I tend to do it again. Repeatedly. A lot.

My meanderings have taken me to this thought: Real compassion for an addict means caring enough for their survival to support and help them on their path of recovery. How can I offer this kind of compassion? With a ride to a meeting. By chairing a meeting. By making sure my message in a meeting reiterates the solution rather than relating only to the problem. By telling newcomers that they don't have to die, but that if they continue to use they most probably will. By sharing about how "just visiting" a dealer is a really bad idea, just as bad as refusing to work the steps or call a sponsor before using.

And, if I have any experience in these things (and I do!), I can also share about the effects of these decisions.

Compassion doesn't simply mean "to feel with." It means to care enough to be honest—so that we don't have to die.

*Debra B, Missouri*

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**NA World Services would like to thank all of those members who participated in the Basic Text Evaluation survey. The World Board is using the results of that survey to help inform their recommendations to the conference regarding our Basic Text. Their report will be published in upcoming issues of *NAWS News*, which is available online at [www.na.org](http://www.na.org), and their recommendations will be presented in the 2004 Conference Agenda Report.**

## Whose responsibility?

I want to write about a sensitive subject, and I need to do it anonymously because of repercussions. I would like to know what other addicts really think about this subject when they are being true to themselves, without fear of what others might think.

The subject is children—children in meetings and children at NA events.

Please do not get me wrong. I would rather have the screaming baby of a newcomer in a meeting than have that baby crying at a dealer's place. Better a toddler running around at a meeting than trailing after its parent who is trying to score.

But why, when the parent has been clean quite a while—in some cases over three years—do they insist on taking their children to meetings?

I have seen men in tears, sharing their deepest feelings, only to have the meeting break out in laughter at the antics of a child.

I have seen women leave meetings because their children were taken from them during active addiction, and they could not face two hours in a room with kids running around.

I have seen children running in and out of meetings, playing in the street outside with no supervision.

And then there are the parents who leave their children in a meeting while they go out to chat.

I have seen parents turning up at venues that have signs stating "No children due to insurance," dragging their kids in, saying, "How dare they ban children? So what if we lose the venue?" Yet, there are eight open meetings a week in the area.

Personally, I have had things about myself repeated outside a meeting by an addict's teenage child who attended a closed meeting. Other people have had their anonymity broken by children saying, "I saw your mom at an NA meeting last week."

Why would anyone want to take a teenager to a meeting?

I have heard, "My son seems to be displaying addict tendencies, that is why I take him."

Apart from the fact that addicts and teenagers share many of the same traits, I believe Tradition Three is at risk of being violated here: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using." It is obvious the child has no desire.

Another reply I hear is: "My children are also in recovery."

Well, my children are not. My children are recovering from *my* addiction. I am the one in recovery.

I think the children of addicts have been through enough and have seen and heard enough of addiction and suffering. They do not need to attend meetings to know their parents are working a program. They can see it in their daily lives.

When I see a parent who is not a newcomer bringing their children to a meeting, I see a person still living as selfishly as when they were using. I took my children with me when I went to a dealer. I would have my kids sit down with a toy or something and tell them to be quiet. I wanted drugs, and if that meant dragging my kids with me to see and hear things they had no business seeing or hearing, then so be it.

Taking responsibility is part of recovery—and that should also include being responsible for our children.

Surely a closed meeting is closed to *everyone* who is not an addict, including children. If I took my mother to a closed meeting, that would soon be pointed out, but no one would dare point out that a child should not be in a closed meeting.

"Should this meeting be child-friendly?" "Yes" is the vote, with raised hands for all to see. Yet I hear many members say, "I would not dare vote no." What do we call it when we are confronted by angry parents? Bullying? Intimidation?

And then there are the NA dances. Members come through the doors; parents go one way, and their children go another way—children of all ages, bored and with nothing to do, so they create their own entertainment, which often includes breaking windows, smashing furniture, flooding toilets, setting fire to things, running around outside in the dark, damaging cars, and stealing prizes meant for the raffle. Granted, these are extreme cases, but I have seen them happen.





# CALENDAR

We encourage you to publicize your event by having it published on our website and in *The NA Way Magazine*. You can inform the WSO about your event by fax, phone, or regular post, or through our website. We encourage using the website because you can check to see if we already have a listing on your convention and, if not, you can enter your own convention information. It is then reviewed, formatted, and added to the online convention calendar on our website in approximately four days. Just go to [www.na.org](http://www.na.org), click on "NA Events," and follow the instructions.

Convention announcements entered through the website and those received by other means are also given to *The NA Way*. *The NA Way* is published four times a year in January, April, July, and October. Each issue goes into production long before its distribution date, so we need a minimum of three months' notice to ensure your event will be published in the magazine—that's three months before our publication date. For instance, if you want your event published in the October issue, we need to know by 1 July.

## Canada

**British Columbia:** 15-17 Aug; British Columbia Regional Convention XXIV; Hilton Vancouver Metrotown, Vancouver; hotel rsvns: 800.HILTONS; event info: 604.879.1677; speaker tape info: 604.946.7071; event registration: 604.940.2033; write: BCRCNA XXIV, Ladner Postal Outlet, Box 18603, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; [www.bcrscna.bc.ca](http://www.bcrscna.bc.ca)

**Nova Scotia:** 25-27 Jul; Spiritual in Nature; Keddy's Hotel, Halifax; event info: 902.430.7300, 902.443.2948; speaker tape submission deadline: 1 April 2003; write: Central Nova Area Halifax, Box 65 Central, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L4

**Ontario:** 2-4 May; Ontario Regional Convention XVI; Ramada Plaza Hotel, Hamilton; hotel rsvns: 905.528.3451; write: Ontario Region, Hamilton Area, Ste 140, 256 Locke St South, Hamilton, Ontario Canada L8P 4B6; [www.orcna.org](http://www.orcna.org)

## Colombia

**Antioquia:** 10-13 Oct; XII Convención Regional de NA De Colombia; CSA Sur de Antioquia, Medellín; hotel rsvns: +57.4.2511665; event info: +57.1.2252095; +57.03.310.2311666, +57.4.2312016; speaker tape submission deadline: 31 August 2003; write: Colombia/Bogotá, OSR Colombia.Calle 48 # 48-14 Of 806 Edificio Nuevo Mundo-Medellín; [www.na-colombia.org](http://www.na-colombia.org)

## Greece

**Halkidiki:** 10-12 Oct; ECCNA 20; Let Your Spirit Fly; Kassandra Halkidiki (Palini Beach Hotel), Halkidiki; hotel rsvns: +0030.237.4022100; event info: +30 210 9849366, +30 944 521894; write: Greece Area, Box 75064, Po St Code 17610, Kalithea, Athens, Greece; [www.eccna2003.com/](http://www.eccna2003.com/)

## Peru

**Lambayeque:** 1-3 May; IX Convención Regional de NA Perú; Chiclayo; event info: 511.970.6609; write: Regional Services Committee of Peru, RSC Peru, Group Nueva Vida of Chiclayo; [www.na.org/links-main.htm#Peru](http://www.na.org/links-main.htm#Peru)

## Portugal

**Setúbal:** 10-11 May; XIII Conferência e Convenção Portuguesa de Narcóticos Anónimos; Tróia, Setúbal; [www.na-pt.org/xiiiccpna](http://www.na-pt.org/xiiiccpna)

## República Dominicana

**Distrito Nacional:** 11-13 Apr; Convención de NA II; Santo Domingo; Aprendiendo a Vivir; Intercontinental Hotel, Santo Domingo; write: Santo Domingo Area, Ave.27 de Febrero esq. Ave. Abraham Lincoln, Parroquia Santísima Trinidad, Santo Domingo, República Dominicana

## Sweden

**Skane:** 25-27 Apr; Ouer Symbol; Ungdomens hus, Malmo; event info: +46.709568980

## United States

**Arizona:** 23-25 May; Arizona Regional Convention XVII; Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort, Scottsdale; hotel rsvns: 800.222.8733; event info: 480.921.2318, 480.785.7081, 480.614.8425; write: Arizona Region, Box 1351, Phoenix, AZ

**California:** 17-20 Apr; Northern California Convention XXV; A Silver Celebration; Hilton Hotel, San Jose; event info: 650.642.1117; speaker tape info: 925.671.7684; write: Northern California Region, Box 248, Mountain View, CA 94042-0248; [www.norcalna.org/](http://www.norcalna.org/)

**2)** 6-8 Jun; Napa Solano Men's Spiritual Retreat 2003; East Park Reservoir, Stonyford; event info: 707.694.7590, 707.208.6174; write: Monday Night Men's Group, Box 4667, Vallejo, CA 94590

**3)** 27-29 Jun; CIRCNA VI; I Can't, We Can; Palm Springs Riviera Resort & Racquet Club, Palm Springs; hotel rsvns: 800.444.8311; event info: 760.251.2706, 909.820.2181; event registration: 760.323.1211; write: California Inland Region, CIRNACC, Box 2456, Cathedral City, CA 92235; [www.cirna.org/convention](http://www.cirna.org/convention)

**4)** 3-6 Jul; WCNA-30; 50th Anniversary of NA; San Diego Convention Center, San Diego; write: NA World Services, 19737 Nordhoff Pl, Chatsworth, CA 91311; [www.na.org](http://www.na.org)

**Colorado:** 25-27 Jul; Western States Unity Convention 2003; Sheraton Denver Tech Center, Denver; hotel rsvns: 303.799.6200; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 April 2003; write: Denver Area, Box 8808, Denver, CO 80201; [www.wsuc.org](http://www.wsuc.org)

**Connecticut:** 17 May; 20th Annual Pigs in Space Pig Roast; Quassy Amusement Park, Middletown; event info: 203.624.3237; write: [nickm1800@aol.com](mailto:nickm1800@aol.com); [www.pigsinspace.org](http://www.pigsinspace.org)

**Delaware:** 4-5 Jul; Greater Philadelphia Region; 50th NA Birthday Bash; Wyndham Hotel-Wilmington, Wilmington; hotel rsvns: 800.WYNDHAM; event info: 215.483.5154, 215.483.5154, 215.849.2239; write: Greater Philadelphia Region; 6212 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19128; [www.naworks.org](http://www.naworks.org)

**Florida:** 17-20 Apr; FRCNA XXII; Into the Light; Orlando Airport Marriott Hotel/Resort, Orlando; hotel rsvns: 800.765.6752, 407.851.9000; event info: 863.413.9892, 561.649.3540; write: Florida Region, c/o FRCNA, 6152 S Congress Ave, Lantana, FL 33462; [www.floridarso.org](http://www.floridarso.org)

**2)** 1-4 May; 27th Annual Fun in the Sun Weekend; The Boardwalk Beach Resort, Panama City Beach; hotel rsvns: 800.224.4853; event registration: 404.343.3461; event info: 404.452.1731; write: North Atlanta Area, PC Weekend, Box 95270, Atlanta, GA 30347

**Hawaii:** 4-6 Apr; 19th Annual Oahu Gathering; Camp Mokuleia, Waialua; hotel rsvns: 808.637.6241; event registration: 808.294.0493; event info: 808.685.5409, 808.291.3438; write: Oahu Gathering Committee; 92-877 Wainohia St, Kapolei, HI 96707; [www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm#OAHU](http://www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm#OAHU)

**2)** 9-11 May; Kauai Gathering in Paradise; YMCA Boys Scout Camp, Haena/Kauai; event registration: 808.634.5795; speaker tape info: 808.823.0276; speaker tape submission deadline: 1 April 2003; write: Kauai Area, Kauai Gathering 2003, Box 1206, Kalaheo, HI 96741; [www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm#KAUAI](http://www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm#KAUAI)



**3)** 30 May-1 Jun; Big Island Campout; The Journey Is the Destination; Spencer Beach Park, Kailua-Kona; event info: 808.966.4740, 808.966.6874; write: W Hawaii Area, Box 5415, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745; [www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm](http://www.na-hawaii.org/HRSC/convention.htm)

**Illinois:** 4-6 Apr; RRCNA XII; Clock Tower Resort, Rockford; hotel rsvns: 815.398.6000; event info: 815.964.5959; write: Rock River Area, Box 8544, Rockford, IL 61126

**2)** 6-8 Jun; SMRCNA XVIII 2003; Convention; Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon; hotel rsvns: 618.244.7100; event info: 618.833.7627, 618.478.5749; write: Show Me Region, SMRCNA, Box 105566, Jefferson City, MO 65110-1467

**Kentucky:** 18-20 Apr; Kentuckiana Regional Convention; Executive Inn Rivermont, Owensboro; hotel rsvns: 800.626.1936; event info: 270.683.0681, 270.278.5405, 270.229.917; write: Kentuckiana Region, 2626 W Parrish Ave #211, Owensboro, KY 42301-2664; email: [KRCNA17@yahoo.com](mailto:KRCNA17@yahoo.com)

**Maryland:** 11-13 Apr; Chesapeake and Potomac Regional Convention XVII; Ocean City Convention Center, Ocean City; event info: 301.839.4425, 301.839.4425, 301.839.4425; write: District of Columbia Area, CPRCNA Host Committee, Box PMB 480, 1429 G St NW, Washington, DC 20005-2009; [www.cprcna.org/17](http://www.cprcna.org/17)

**2)** 27-29 Jun; Baltimore Area Convention V; The Ties That Bind Us Together; Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore; hotel rsvns: 410.576.1000; event info: 410.243.7540, 410.483.3324, 410.488.7341; write: Baltimore Area, BACNA Host Committee, Box 13473, Baltimore, MD 21203

**Massachusetts:** 8-10 Aug; Growing in Recovery; A Decade of Growth; Marriott Hotel, Springfield; hotel rsvns: 800.228.9290; event info: 413.598.8637, 413.747.5654; event registration: 413.796.4797; write: Western Massachusetts Area, Box 5914, Springfield, MA 01104

**Michigan:** 17-20 Apr; DACNA XI; Living the Dream; Detroit Marriott Hotel, Detroit; hotel rsvns: 800.352.0831; event registration: 313.526.8253; event info: 734.955.1306, 313.873.1544; write: Detroit Area, Box 32603, Detroit, MI 48232-0603

**Minnesota:** 11-13 Apr; Minnesota Regional Annual Convention X; A Decade of Miracles; Kahler Grand Hotel, Rochester; hotel rsvns: 800.533.1655; event info: 507.281.2446; write: Open Door Area of Minnesota Region, Box 6794, Rochester, MN 55903

**2)** 18-20 Jul; PIG 2003; Country Camping, Isanti; hotel rsvns: 763.444.9626; speaker tape submission deadline: 10 Jun 2003; write: SSFA Pig Committee, Box 2583, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076; [www.naminnesota.org](http://www.naminnesota.org)

**Missouri:** 25-27 Jul; 24th Annual High on Life Picnic; Bucksaw Point, Truman Lake, Clinton; hotel rsvns: 660.477.3900; event info: 417.781.9420, 918.540.0836; write: Ozark Area, Box 2923, Joplin, MO 64804

**Nevada:** 17-20 Apr; The Joy Is in the Journey; Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas; hotel rsvns: 800.634.6753; event info: 702.227.6322, 702.523.5800; [www.snasc.org](http://www.snasc.org)

**New Jersey:** 23-25 May; New Jersey Regional Convention XVIII; East Brunswick Hilton, East Brunswick; hotel rsvns: 732.828.2000; event info: 732.422.0250, 856.401.0360; write: New Jersey Region, Box 134, Fords, NJ 08863

**North Carolina:** 25-27 Apr; Bound for Freedom XVIII; Adams Mark Hotel, Charlotte; hotel rsvns: 800.444.2326; event info: 704.597.9413, 704.399.0685, 704.536.0053; write: Greater Charlotte Area, Box 33306, Charlotte, NC 28202

**Ohio:** 5-6 Apr; Speaker Jam III; Mt Zion United Methodist Church, Cincinnati; speaker tape info: 513.961.0610; event info: 513.390.1401; write: Saturday Noon Group, 3024 Walter and Altoona, Cincinnati, OH 45206

**2)** 23-25 May; OCNA XXI; Quaker Square Crowne Plaza, Akron; speaker tape info: 330.644.3888; event info: 330.524.0431; event registration: 330.434.9085; [www.ocnaxxi.com](http://www.ocnaxxi.com)

**3)** 13-15 Jun; DASCNA VI; Man to Man; Holiday Inn, Dayton; hotel rsvns: 937.294.1471; event info: 937.219.8543, 937.830.4577; write: DASCNA, Man to Man VI, Box 61081, Dayton, OH 45406; [www.naohio.org](http://www.naohio.org)

**Oklahoma:** 10-12 Oct; Shawnee Fall Convention 2003; Ramada Inn, Shawnee; hotel rsvns: 405.275.4404; event info: 405.964.5218; speaker tape info: 405.447.7814; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 August 2003; write: Shawnee Original Group; 1120½ N Kickapoo, Shawnee, OK 74801

**Oregon:** 19-20 Apr; 11th Annual Unity Day; Red Lion Hotel, Medford; event info: 541.826.3573; write: Southern Oregon Area, PMB 364, 625 E Jackson St, Suite B, Medford, OR 97504

**2)** 30 Apr-1 May; WNIRCNA XVIII; Columbia River Doubletree Hotel, Portland; write: Washington-Northern Idaho Region, Box 766, Longview, WA 98632

**Pennsylvania:** 18-20 Apr; Greater Philadelphia Region Convention XVIII; Recovery: God's Message for Change; Radisson Valley Forge Hotel, King of Prussia; hotel rsvns: 888.267.1500; event registration: 215.769.1875; event info: 215.227.5936; [www.naworks.org](http://www.naworks.org)

**Tennessee:** 15-17 Aug; Unity V; One Disease, One Promise; Vanderbilt Marriott Hotel, Nashville; hotel rsvns: 800.285.0190; event info: 615.341.0483, 615.329.0853, 615.506.0205; speaker tape submission deadline: 15 April 2003

**Texas:** 17-20 Apr; LSRCNA XVIII; Celebrate the Magic; Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, Carrollton; hotel rsvns: 800.245.3105; event info: 800.747.8972, 972.245.8972; write: Lone Star Region, 1510 Randolph, Ste 205, Carrollton, TX 75006; [www.lisma.com](http://www.lisma.com)

**2)** 23-25 May; TSCNA I; The Journey Continues: Diversity Is Our Strength; Holiday Inn, San Angelo; hotel rsvns: 800.465.4329; [www.texasstateconvention.com](http://www.texasstateconvention.com)

**3)** 25-27 Jul; Recovery by the Sea XIX; Padre Island, Corpus Christi; hotel rsvns: 361.814.4777; write: Coastal Bend Area, CBANA, 3458 Topeka, Corpus Christi, TX 78411; [www.cbana.org](http://www.cbana.org)

**Utah:** 25-27 Jul; Campvention XX; East Gate Campground, Zion National Park; event info: 801.644.2423; write: Utah Region, Box 994, Springville, UT 84663; [www.utahna.org/CAMPVENTION.htm](http://www.utahna.org/CAMPVENTION.htm)

**Virginia:** 23-26 May; Marion Group of NA Annual Campout; Lutheran Retreat Center, Hungry Mother State Park, Marion; event info: 276.944.4765; write: Marion Group, 139 W Main St, Marion, VA 24354

**West Virginia:** 25-27 Apr; Going to NA Lengths; Cedar Lakes, Ripley; hotel rsvns: 304.372.7860; event info: 304.768.1626, 304.325.9803; write: Mountaineer Region, Box 2381, Morgantown, WV 26502-2381; [www.mrscna.org/convention.html](http://www.mrscna.org/convention.html)

**Wisconsin:** 30 Apr-1 May; Inner City Area Convention I; Seeing Ourselves in Others; Best Western Midway Hotel/Airport, Milwaukee; hotel rsvns: 877.461.8547; event registration: 414.225.3790; event info: 414.967.8979; speaker tape info: 414.933.7963; write: Inner City Area of Milwaukee, Box 12452, Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Wyoming:** 23-25 May; URMRCNA IV; One Requirement, One Purpose; Holiday Inn, Rock Springs; hotel rsvns: 307.382.9200; event info: 307.875.5867; event registration: 307.638.1144; speaker tape info: 307.789.6049; write: URMRCNA IV, Box 445, Evanston, WY 82931; [www.wyomingna.org](http://www.wyomingna.org)

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