



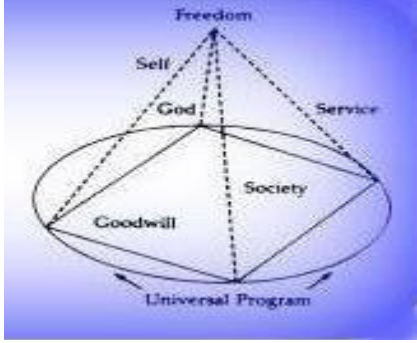
Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9
By: Lester O.



Goals And Purposes

We believe there needs to be discussion among the members of NA with regard the purpose and direction of our fellowship. There are 'service' groups springing up throughout North America; their goals are as many and varied as our members. Our purpose at 'core' is to provide a venue to facilitate open and respectful discussion among the members of the fellowship. We discuss ideas about how to make the NA fellowship more responsive to the still suffering addict. We hold weekly meetings, publish a weekly newsletter, and plan events for the purpose of uniting our fellowship. These are not core meetings, core newsletters, nor core gatherings; they are our gift to the NA fellowship.

<p>We Believe that the Greater the Base (Global NA Society)</p>		<p>The Broader the sides and the Higher the point of freedom.</p>
---	--	---

Email: lester7286@gmail.com
 Phone: 321-215-5898
 Yours in Loving Service,
 Lester O.
 Editor of Core Issues

(A non-profit Newsletter of the Core Group)

Summary of Core Group Discussions for the Month of August, 2014



Core Group Minutes

Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9
By: Lester O.



August 5, 2014

8:30 pm EST, 7:30 pm CST, 6:30 pm MST; 5:30 pm PST

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

Bo 404 - Lester 321 – Mitch 760

Bo on Minutes

Be sure to check out commentary and posts in the Addendum at end of these minutes..also, essays may appear before the minutes to get attention for items discussed. - Ed

- DON'T USE, GO TO MEETINGS AND WORK YOUR STEPS -
Weekly Articles Sent in by Core Group Members***
-

Chill out in Chilhowee is coming up on 15th of this month! We'll be there!

General discussion

Discussion List:

Discussion:

8:30

Mitch – writing on Drug Court – Looking for new Information. Corresponding with Mark S.

Bo – Had great success this weekend. Picked up thirty masters to convert into books for new Service Center in Jacksonville. All will be free downloads from Global SC. Second, will set up system to convert speaker tapes and CD's into text and compile into books. Please start setting aside your favorites. Third, Hank S. has found an office incubator system to locate in Jacksonville with locations around the United States for convenience of our members and to encourage local service centers everywhere. We have known for years this could be done. Now we are opening the door for you and you and you to service your local Fellowships with Simplified Service Structure.

Bo – Can use find command in word processors to locate input for DRT and DC material from our essays and



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



minutes. Important to note that we cannot do this work w/o help from HP. Work Steps 1, 2 and 3 for strength and guidance.

Mitch on call at 8:50 pm.

Lester on call at 9:20 pm.]

Mitch – Has friend looking for contact in Florida. Need phone numbers and contact info. Notes this core group member stays informed by reading minutes and essays. Needs contacts!

Lester - Radio Free has meeting list for GB groups and BB meetings.

Mitch – at MARLCNA Billy A. said, “Bend with the wind like a willow tree in a hurricane.”

Bo – That was the logo from the service workers at Memphis which appeared on the Memphis Grey Form. BTW, I need help with making books now. Need to get another person to serve on core group as secretary. I will stay with core group. Global SC’s will also have their own staff of volunteers. I expect we will have a service center in Kansas City, Missouri someday!

Chris W – located member with a bunch of masters we can use to make books.

Bo – Yeah, I visited and got thirty masters. Working these now. Sent copies to members working on these projects. Review forms will be sent to all core group members. Thanks Chris and the contributing member who asked to remain anonymous. Mitch and Mark need input on DRT and DC. Route through me. Congratulations to all who are helping right now. Early August, 2014 is going to be a period to remember in the History of NA.

Lester – In 1988 Greg Pierce was involved with The Select Committee working on the service structure of NA. There was a 180 degree turn the following year in 1989 when Greg was no longer in a position to help and this was an awful turning point for NA. Grateful Dave was sued in Federal Court. NA members were called as witnesses. WSO agreed to allocate \$100,000 of our dollars to pay legal fees. While transcripts of the proceedings are available, most members are unaware of the facts in the case. Will write up a report on this.

Bo – While the member who contributed the master copies is anonymous, I told him we have to respect the fact that members need to be able to look up Loyal NA members with long clean time and much to share!

Bo – **Chill out in Chillhowee is coming up on 15th of this month! We’ll be there!**

Mitch – Excited about Jacksonville! Kansas City didn’t grab him but Jacksonville wakes him up!

Bo – I pointed out that Jacksonville incorporated surrounding communities a while back making it one of the biggest cities in the US, certainly on the East Coast. Lots of shipping, naval yards, sports and one great river, the St. John! Now we have the NAWS service structure and the Global service structure just starting. Be a part of: study, discuss and contribute to decentralized service structure. It is the membership that is important.

Mitch – Closing Prayer: “Excited, glad we are together, Your Will, not mine be done.”

Close at 10:20 pm

Recording 44479748-141995879.mp3

Next meetings on 12th of August – check out articles in Addendum



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9
By: Lester O.



“That we can all come together for the good of the Fellowship.”

Core Group Minutes

August 12, 2014

8:30 pm EST, 7:30 pm CST, 6:30 pm MST; 5:30 pm PST

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

Bo 404 - Lester 321 – Mitch 760

Bo on Minutes

Be sure to check out commentary and posts in the Addendum at end of these minutes..also, essays may appear before the minutes to get attention for items discussed. - Ed

- **DON'T USE, GO TO MEETINGS AND WORK YOUR STEPS -
Weekly Articles Sent in by Core Group Members**

Chill out in Chillhowee is coming up on 15th of this month! We'll be there!

General discussion:

➤ From our man in Bangkok...

Well, that is the dilemma we face, and the pity we share, that the service structure (system) has evolved as it has so far. People are interested in selfless ser-vice as they claim, but the present structure (system) prevents service action for many.

We learn from observation that service is exclusive to some and excludes others. But we read in the Basic Text, and work the 12 steps, which inspires loving ser-vice. Just to find out if we are not loyal to a person (sponsor) in a (pointed side up) pyramid we are ostracized publicly, and potentially sued maliciously as in Grateful Dave's milestone (frivolous) case. I think the words 'hypocritical service' is what might come to mind. Not true altruism, or as we say "selfless ser-vice."

That is the hope, that a Fellowship will emerge that does not present such a dichotomy, and that will evolve



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



being true to our Basic Text as originally written. A Fellowship that will grow from truly spiritual seeds of literature that has not been continually adapted to fit a particular current list of characters ego de-sires. Characters who were trained by power driven predecessors, who in turn are now handing down service to their directed heirs (and paid friends). That ego based service system has become one that leaves humble selfless service addicts interest-end but rendered unable to serve.

Thanks for being a truth teller and spiritual service addict. May HP guide all to a true spiritual path in a loving service Fellowship.

➤ Another View

I know many people seem to keep quiet about the spiritual side of NA. Recalling a speaker from the 7th WCNA, Frank D from Venice Beach, "There is no spiritual side to the Program – the whole Program is spiritual." Spiritual for me has always been when the chips are down, the clothes are off and the truth be told, there is a core of divinity within each and every human being. When that spirit is audible and visible, the person is happy, grateful and content. When the spirit is thwarted, restrained or lost in a maze of fear, the person is in bad trouble. The 12 Step Program of NA sets a tone called surrender in the first Step. It follows that with encouragement to find and come to an understanding of a power greater than yourself and then encouraged a person to turn their life and will over to the care of that Higher Power. It does not seem to me that everyone is able to do this. Many seem to get stuck on a mental plane and try to work the program with their minds, not their hearts. Also, in my experience, they are not very nice to people who are happy, joyous and free. Jealousy is not a character asset. But what do I know? It works for me and that's plenty. I know the school of hard knocks is a powerful persuader and everybody is on the path whether they know it or not. Behold! Or "Be Whole." – Bo S.

➤ The Altruism of Narcotics Anonymous,

Juxtaposed to the Corporate mentality...the Altruistic notion as it relates to NA Service committees and Service Offices...should by its very nature shield itself from the dangers of Money, Property and Prestige that are inherent in any well meaning endeavor to help Narcotics Anonymous (the Groups) carry a message of Hope and Promise of freedom to those Addicts who still suffer, in their respective com-munities.

Since the dissolution of the Standing Committees at the World Service Level, the voice of the Groups (Narcotics Anonymous) has fallen on deaf ears. Ask yourself this Question. Why have so few motions that have been Conscienceed from Group to Area, then Area to Region passed at the World Service Conference? Then ask yourself, why is it that the World Board "Recommends" that these same Regions vote in a manner not consistent with the Will of the Groups? – Travis I.

Has anyone ever brought up the possibility of producing these works into free eBooks for Kindle /Nook etc? I have been anonymously perusing and reading on this site for a number of years now and think this to be an invaluable resource, along with the Baby Blue that doesn't seem to be known by many in the Fellowship at large. Especially those of us who seem to have come up in an Era of "Censorship" and mindless devotion to a particular entity. I have been blessed with a sponsorship family that has helped me to become free thinking



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



and autonomous and to pursue what I my soul perceives to be right.

So back to my original question. Would it be outside the realm of reason if the attempt was made to get these manuscripts into an eBook format. I have already taken it upon myself to see if I can do so with the Baby Blue.

Thanks, James D
Mid-Atlantic Region, York Area.

➤ Bill F

9:10am Jul 12

I thought this was interesting for discussion. I agree with some of the points made, not so sure on others.

From a member : "This is evidence that these people have absolutely no understanding of our Traditions. There is no such thing as a world-wide Group conscience. Something as simple (and seemingly harmless) as decapitalizing the word "Group" in our Traditions removes the clarity that "Group" refers to the actual groups, themselves (a.k.a. homegroups). Now it means any "group of addicts" and people think "Group conscience" (now "group conscience") can take place in a service structure, itself (reference the CONcepts). Neither the WSC nor NAWS (which have become synonymous at this point as NAWS completely controls the WSC) are my home group, so how the HELL can a conscience of my HOME GROUP take place at a WSC? To be honest, I don't think we had it right even when regions had a voice. The conscience that should be carried to world is that of the homegroups, not the collective votes of Groups condensed into area votes, then condensed into one region vote at WSC. For example: Region A has 10 areas Area A1 has 22 groups Those groups vote 22-0 in favor of a motion. Those 10 areas vote 10-0 in favor of the same motion (with a unanimity of, say 231 groups total). At WSC those 231 PRO votes representing home groups' conscience count as ONE regional vote. Region B has 5 areas Area B1 has 8 groups Those 8 groups vote 5-3 against a motion. Those 5 areas vote 3-2 against the same motion (with a simple majority of, say 29-20) At WSC those 29 CON votes and 20 PRO votes representing home groups' conscience count as ONE regional vote. Hence, what should appear as (counting only these two fictional regions): 260 home groups in favor of Motion X 20 home groups opposed to Motion X is actually recorded as: 1 Region for 1 Region opposed Of course all this was BEFORE the CONcepts, groups, areas, and regions being forbade from making motions (but rather proposals to the WB who are the only members who can make motions), CBDM and the WB/NAWS/WSC machine straw-polling anything before it hits the floor to make sure everyone agrees to come to the consensus NAWS seeks. (With plan B being an endless CBDM session until all RDs agree to a "spiritual compromise".) A Regional Service Representative should carry a tally of the consciences of each home group in the region, not a single regional vote. Before anyone worries that this would dilute the votes of a region with very split opinions, remember we are supposed to be collecting GROUP conscience, not area or region conscience. The Traditions provide for no such thing as area, region, or world conscience. Because "group" can be a generic term for any group of individuals in the English language, the word was INTENTIONALLY capitalized to clarify we are referring to the actual GROUPS that make up "NA, as such". This was not a grammatical error that needed correcting by the BOT when the headers were revised. The home group I belong to actually does "stay home". NAWS and the WSC are no more services for NA than AA World Services are. Through their violations of the Traditions and refusal to heed Group conscience they have become an outside issue. Nothing NAWS does (and NAWS does have a stranglehold on the "votes" and



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



agendas of the WSC) even remotely resembles being responsible to and directed by the home groups of NA, They are simply a literature machine, illegally using our name and duping a Fellowship into buying whatever they tell them is "NA literature". This is a perfect example of why related facilities and outside enterprises (such as a corporation set up to handle legalities FOR us) should not be allowed to use the NA name. It has created the illusion that the corporation formerly known as World Service Office, Incorporated is part of NA (Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Incorporated) and that they actually have authority to rule, censor, decide, and dictate. Sadly, many addicts buy the myth of "World-wide group conscience" as dictated through the WSC by the WB, NAWS, and countless other outside organizations and causes NAWS is in bed with." "Hey, I know you are busy. Sorry to bother you. Is this ok with you? Are you for or against? Well?"

Discussion List:

Discussion:

8:30

Mitch – writing on Drug Court – Looking for new Information. Corresponding with Mark S.

Bo - I think a lot of members are worn out and do not read our minutes. Maybe later on they will realize they had a chance to help and missed out.

8.12.14

44479748-142053294.mp3

Bo 404 – Mark 530 - Brian 540 – David 318

Bo – Introduce Mark to Brian. Mark is working on DRT IP.

Brian – Serenity Prayer written by Protestant Minister in 1937.

Mark – Talked about fine line between outside and inside issues. Lotsa discussion on FB about this.

Brian – Go ahead and violate the Traditions – if you want the meeting to die. Noted Mickey R spoke of our service models may vary but we all follow the same Steps and Traditions. Members can create many service boards and committees – NAWS, ASIS, core, global, USSC service entities...

Doesn't matter which one you use, all have the same 24 principles in the Steps and Traditions. One NA following NA principles.

Brian – National printing companies may have contracts to entitle member groups to enjoy the same discounts anywhere in America. Print your own.

Bo – Decentralizing service model with many service centers.

Mark – 29 years. It's not what happened thirty years ago. The violators are still doing it! Need for general membership to understand the principles. Anyone notice that the word "service" has been dropped from the titles of our service bodies? Accountability has been lost. Also, the two thirds majority voting disregards the one third in opposition which is a sizeable number. Is this constitute a valid vote?

Bo – Very good points. There is a continuation of this. When a majority of fifty-one or sixty-seven percent voted, we found that the key element was information that the opposition knew about and the supporters of the motion were not aware. Instead of being like little children, the one third group made it their business to inform the majority later so the error could be corrected.

Bryan – clean 12,037 days. Asked for Mark's phone number.



Mark – Opiate DRT History

Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



Opium - has been used by mankind since before 1500 BCE.

Laudanum - medically prescribed since 1570.

- 1st DRT - Morphine - treating dependence to opium or Laudanum starting in 1804.
- 2nd DRT - Heroin - treating dependence to Opium, Laudanum or Morphine starting in 1874.
- 3rd DRT - Methadone - thought to be less addictive than Heroin synthesized in 1937.
- 4th DRT - Suboxone - approved mainly for treatment of addiction to opioids in 2006.

The truth of the matter is that no matter which substance is used, if it is used for anything other than a very short period of time, for a specific medical need, a strong physical and psychological dependence occurs. This is because the so-called comfort or relief experienced is chemically induced. These feelings are not sustainable without continued use of the drug. This dependence is reinforced by the (very real) fear, pain and trauma of going through the withdrawal symptoms. All extended use of DRTs cause dependence.

Narcotics Anonymous is a program of complete abstinence from all drugs. Our term "clean" means simply that, total abstinence from all drugs and no drug dependence. Simply substituting one drug with another on our own, or switching to drugs that are legal because they are prescribed by a physician is not a solution, and it does not mean we're clean. A drug is a drug. Our bodies don't know the difference between a drug that is prescribed by a doctor and the ones we prescribed for ourselves.

Almost without exception the desire to be clean comes before the realization of getting and staying clean. While anyone is using a DRT they may well be on-the-road to getting clean, until they are off the drug they are simply not clean - yet. The problem with DRTs is not their use to minimize the trauma of short term detoxification, but rather with their continued use over extended periods of time, which creates yet another drug dependence.

Bo – Four folded IP's can be made from 8.5 x 14 inch legal sized paper. Of maybe divide the material to make two IP's!

Mark – Worked in Public Information with Kinko's, Copy Max, Alphagraphics, etc. Found he could reduce price for copies down from \$.25 to \$.085 and then later found that further discount available on monthly re-orders. He devoted himself to this service for three years. Not for a National contract, might be restrictive. All for total abstinence NA style.

Mitch – How about psychiatric drugs?



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



Mark – Not about to give medical opinions. Still, taking Suboxone for years or for pain is not clean. Also, the original packaging on Suboxone said should only be taken for ten days.

Bo – Try to get a box with that statement on it. Mark said he thought he knew a pharmacist who told him that.

Mitch – Working on Drug Court IP. Addresses the issue from the standpoint of NA members. Need for open and closed meetings. Needs non-threatening questions to ask persons involved with drug court. In touch with some liaisons for DC in Maryland. There is a need for closed meetings. Persons new to NA need to be able to share among recovering addicts. Open meetings may be attended by probation officers, police officers, Judges and other non-members who make it difficult for a person to share details of their situation. We have a line in our literature about ‘no surveillance at any time.’

Brian – need to have blanket Public Information effort to inform public about the facts of NA recovery.

Mark – Drug zero’s are people who bought and sold drugs and sent to NA. There is policy for drug related crimes. This puts dealers in our parking lots outside our meetings.

Bo – do they put them on Suboxone also?

Mark – Not everyone in Drug Court needs or is ready to go to NA. Some need to go to jail. NA may be an option for those who are ready to stop using.

Bo – Sending teenagers arrested for drinking beer do not need to be sent to NA. When exactly did we give judges the right to control who is in our meetings?

Bo – Great meeting tonight!

David – Concerned NAWS is harassing History Conference at Dallas/Ft. Worth.

Mitch – Some stuff on FB about Stamford, CT September 12th Billy Allen asked not to share in a workshop previously planned. Then asked not to come.

Bo – Mark, Billy is an East Coast fire brand for NA. Steve One shot quoted some things about the Stamford committee having to do with Billy.

So the word from Steve F. is that he and Billy A. have been notified that the workshops they were scheduled to do at the History conference in Stamford CT have been cancelled.

This is after people went into their own pockets to make arrangements to be there. I had heard that the conference was about half and half, meaning a split between fellowship and corporation concerns. I guess those that favor the corporation have swayed things their way. Perhaps payback for handing out Baby Blues at the World Convention in Philly last year? Who knows...

If you were planning on attending that conference you might want to reconsider. Unless of course you like the corporate revisions of our history that leave out anything that they may have done out of line with our principles.

You couldn't pay me to attend...

Mitch – Steve puts out inflammatory remarks which upsets some people.

Mitch – read quote from Hank S on FB announcing Jacksonville Service Center coming up.

Bo – What we are doing may well be the most serious thing we’ve done in our lives.



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



Brian – there is an error in the artwork on www.glabalna.org site. White inside of the “A.”

Brian – Need nationwide media campaign – his home group started on with an area inventory.

Mark – I am three hours east from Petaluma. Where 49 and 26 come together.

Bo – Headed out for weekend campout at Chill out at Chilhowee east of Cleveland, TN in the mountains.

An autopsy will be conducted tomorrow, the Marin News reported. The paper noted that Williams, a recovering alcoholic, had recently checked into a rehab facility. "He has been battling severe depression of late," his publicist, Mara Buxbaum, said in a statement to The Wrap. "This is a tragic and sudden loss. The family respectfully asks for their privacy as they grieve during this very difficult time." - See more at: <http://dialnews.com/news/15749?gclid=CIS5wqWEkcACFQINaQodUgEAsg#sthash.IJxqEzJf.dpuf>

Brian led closing prayer - Standing in circle keeps us all standing upright “God I have made a mess of my life. I cannot solve my problems. Please help me.”

Close at 10:00 pm

Recording 44479748-141995879.mp3

Next meetings on 19th of August – check out articles in Addendum

“That we can all come together for the good of the Fellowship.”

Core Group Minutes

August 19, 2014

8:30 pm EST, 7:30 pm CST, 6:30 pm MST; 5:30 pm PST

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

Bo 404 - Lester 321 – Brian YE – David B – Mitch 760

Bo on Minutes

44479748-142109872.mp3 on desktop

Be sure to check out commentary and posts in the Addendum at end of these minutes..also, essays may appear before the minutes to get attention for items discussed. - Ed



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9
By: Lester O.



- **DON'T USE, GO TO MEETINGS AND WORK YOUR STEPS -
Weekly Articles Sent in by Core Group Members**

General discussion

Discussion List:

Discussion:

- 8:30
- Progress report, read to attending members:
- GAS, Inc. - project
 - Lawyer created 501-c3
 - Non-profit app in progress
 - Advocating daily meditation book
 - Global NA FB group
 - Business office – need \$
- Structure – People seem to like the ‘Global Service Structure’ (GSS) simplified into a self-consistent system with sub-committees at area, region, national and global levels. Member, group, area and region remain the same except for replacing some designations with the word ‘representative.’
- Virtual Office will be set up on web.
- Core group:
- Websites still in repair – nacoregroup.org and NA views
 - Fan page still in place
 - Intrusion – planning events
- Issues to write about:
- Drug Replacement Therapy
 - Drug Court
 - Democratic Principles
 - Complete, creative freedom
 - Global NA – the dream
 - Discipline and Restraint
 - NA Unity – Many service models, one Fellowship
- Lester – David agreed to do website for Daily Meditation Guide, Kermit will do stand alone page.
- Brian – We can make a billboard on FB.



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



Lester – has a FB group, invitation only.

Brian – Many service models, one Fellowship.

To use conference calls with more people, can have Main group to welcome and discuss generalities, up to four sub-groups. After signing into call, #1 opens first sub-call, ## takes you back to main. Can easily switch back and forth. #2 gets second and so forth.

Lester – Will contact Hank about \$ for not for profit app.

Chris wants and IP on Global, Inc.

Mitch – came on call but poor reception.

Lester – need to separate core group from global.

Bo – Chubb's moving to Clyde, NC near Travis.

Lester – Chubb's doing podcast on Traditions, up to Third Tradition now.

Bo – Chillhowie went fine. Had great talks with Chris, Vito, David B and Jim Brady. Vito said others planning to take over Global from us, be careful. Jim B outlined how the members chosen to audit books for Carolina RSO were not skilled in math, accounting or inventory. Ed C falsely accused of fraud. No amends made to date. I believe this information. Our service bodies need to exercise due caution. NAWS seems intent on running off bright members who we never hear from again. We will be very fortunate if we do not also make this mistake. Amends are more than nice, they are important!

Bo – Announced plans for Global Anonymous to crowd at Chillhowie. Hank was to do this but became ill Friday and checked in Mayo Clinic for three days.

Bo – The need for a separate group to discuss core issues and make reports to Fellowship will never go away. The day when structural bodies could be counted on to do this is past.

David B – on call – spoke earlier with him. Much of the problems with our FB centered around a few known offenders who seem to get a sick thrill from creating controversy. Coming home from meeting, poor reception. Off call 9:40.

Lester – liked David's response.

Bo – Good project going and getting support.

Lester – Try to fill in more stuff on Global on our newsletter.

Bo – core group can advocate and start correction projects. Have to be extremely careful to makes things better.

Mitch – read Hank's response on FB Monday.

Bo – How's Mark?

Mitch – Don't know. How did Chillhowie go? Has friend coming off chemo for glaucoma . Dr's orders, some tumors shrunk, others enlarged. Will continue to get help...Mitch's brother died from hep C and cancer.

Lester – Lotta people boycotting Stamford due to cancellation of Billy A and Steve F workshop being cancelled. Billy asked not to attend.

Bo – Atrocious to exclude any member. Billy is exuberant but he certainly is loyal and has his points! It is unhealthy to try to silence critics in a spiritual fellowship.



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



Mitch – thinking about not going, even if they won't refund his pre-paid registration.

Bo – I will be attending sponsorship gathering in Michigan middle of September. Hear the History Conference has been co-opted. Lester will be attending Fruitland, the other related sponsorship gathering in Florida.

Mitch – What's the trick to attend Michigan?

Bo – Don't know. Vito and I changed sponsors. Mine is in Bob B tree, don't know Vito's. Rules may have been tempered in recent years due to Bob's health issues.

Bo and Mitch – Lester may be hanging with those swamp women and picking up their accents, ya think?

Bo – USSC group sending \$ to NAWS. Hmm.

Bo – Beginning library for GAS, Inc. Formatting new material at present. Will order hard and soft cover books.

Mitch – Led closing Prayer – “Many of us have said, ...”

Close at 10:15 pm

Recording 44479748-141995879.mp3

Next meetings on 26th of August – check out articles in Addendum

“That we can all come together for the good of the Fellowship.”

Core Group Minutes

August 26, 2014

8:30 pm EST, 7:30 pm CST, 6:30 pm MST, 5:30 pm PST

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

Bo 404 - Lester 321 – Brian YE – Mitch 760

Bo on Minutes

no recording

Be sure to check out commentary and posts in the Addendum at end of these minutes..also, essays may appear before the minutes to get attention for items discussed. – Ed

- DON'T USE, GO TO MEETINGS AND WORK YOUR STEPS -

Weekly Articles Sent in by Core Group Members



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



yes, just let's write another book. write a daily book. correct the traditions error to which edition got it correct. Maybe the structure will develop around the work and the Original NA message. All the other stuff that we sleepily allowed to happen does not matter that much.

I thought Greg P. was write when a few years before he died, "Maybe NA is becoming a ho-hum fellowship". As has been said in many different ways in this conversation, let's not be distracted by what was done, who did it, when it was done and the erosion of the message and the erosion of the Groups and members participation in Service. Let us all get to work on some literature for the betterment of our fellowship, today.

with CARENA in loving Service, Tim

Pinku C

9:49pm Aug 24

Let's Get These 7 Recovery Myths Out of the Way...

Excuses and misconceptions. For addicts especially, they are wolves in sheep's clothing; comfortable but toxic. When those falsehoods are used to avoid recovery, it can become a deadly downward spiral. Whether you're living in active addiction or trying to encourage a loved one to seek recovery, the first step is to get informed. Let's dispel these seven recovery myths so that more people are willing and inspired to reach out for help:

1. Addicts have to hit rock bottom before entering recovery.

What exactly is rock bottom? Is it when you lose your house, almost die from an overdose, or estrange all of your loved ones? How much are you willing to sacrifice to addiction before enough is enough? Many recovering addicts do rebuild their lives from rock bottom, but it's not required or suggested to wait until then. Addiction is not a choice, but seeking help as soon as possible is.

2. Recovery is boring.

Have you heard of adventure therapy? It includes rock-climbing, zip-lining, and white-water rafting with your therapist and other recovering addicts. Those are healthy thrills you can enjoy instead of the destructive, fleeting rush of a fix. You'll make genuine friendships and rediscover forgotten hobbies. How much money and time do you sacrifice to your addiction? Imagine the potential those precious resources if applied to improving your life. You can travel, take cooking classes, enter horse-riding competitions, return to school or unleash your inner entrepreneur. Variety is the spice of life.

3. There is only one way to recover from addiction, and that way is not appealing to me at all.

Addiction does not make you any less of a unique individual. So your recovery experience will be unique, just like you are. The course you take will be your choice. It could include therapy to address the comorbidity of substance abuse and your mental health. You could be fueled by faith, or inspired to create artwork to nurture and express yourself. If you love animals, you could try pet or equine therapy. That's the beauty of freedom in recovery; you take the reins of your life back from addiction.

4. I'm absolutely hopeless, and there's no way I'll ever recover, so why should I try?

I'm going to be blunt here; it's not over until you're dead. While you're still breathing, there's hope for recovery. You are not beyond help. I've witnessed addicts from all circumstances rise up and break free. Although it will take baby steps at first, you can defeat this affliction as long as you give it your all.

5. In order to recover, I'll have to become all about God.

Do all addicts believe in God? God and spirituality are a part of some programs, and some recovering addicts do gather strength from their faith. As for you, I urge you to look around; happy, successful people come from all walks of life, religious or not. Recovery is the same, so I urge you explore recovery techniques that are in tune



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



with your beliefs and values.

6. Recovery will wipe all of my issues away!

The roots of addiction are deep and complex. The environmental, genetic, and developmental factors that influenced your addiction won't simply vanish when you pursue recovery. Healing and self-discovery take time and effort, but I can assure you with my whole heart that it will be worth it.

7. Recovery is all about sacrificing what I enjoy.

The pleasure of addiction is a toxic lie; the chemicals convince your brain that it's needed for survival. Once you break free from that cycle and embark on your own recovery journey, I promise that you'll discover new ways to feel wonderful and satisfied. Some will be big, such as acquiring a job you love and rekindling trust with your family. Some will be small, such as your special pet companion, delicious chocolate cake, and the warm ocean water. You'll find that there is so much to see and do once you break your focus away from addiction.

I hope that I've shed some light on the nature of recovery. With new awareness, I urge you to take charge. You have the power to begin, shape and follow through with this journey.

GLOBAL 1

The first Global NA Assembly
Jacksonville FL,
November 21-23, 2014

Wyndham Jacksonville River walk
1515 Prudential Dr Jacksonville, FL, 32207
United States of America

Hotel Phone 866 539 8430

Early Registration \$30.00
Door Registration \$40.00

Room Rates \$69.00
Discounted room registration will be open until Nov 8
after this date the rooms will be \$99.00

Sunday morning breakfast will be \$12.00

MORE WILL BE REVEALED

General discussion

Discussion List:

Discussion:



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



8:30

Progress report, read to attending members:

GAS, Inc. – Global Anonymous Services, Inc. project

Lawyer created 501-c3

Non-profit app in progress

Advocating daily meditation book

Global NA FB group

Business office – need \$

Structure – People seem to like the ‘Global Service Structure’ (GSS) simplified into a self-consistent system with sub-committees at area, region, national and global levels. Member, group, area and region remain the same except for replacing some designations with the word ‘representative’ and ‘service.’

Virtual Office will be set up on web with free downloads, starter kits and anything you deem necessary or helpful.

Core group:

Websites still in repair – nacoregroup.org and NA views

Fan page still in place

Event in Jacksonville, last weekend in November.

Issues to write about:

Drug Replacement Therapy

Drug Court

Democratic Principles

Complete, creative freedom

Global NA – the dream

Discipline and Restraint

NA Unity – Many service models, one Fellowship

God, Service and Representative has been left out and will be restored. Even our service structure can recover. It starts with an inventory – fearless and through.

Bo – Preparing manuscript of the Grey Form with Stories. Having to type. Hank says 100 numbered First Editions. Typing the stories – even I am amazed at how applicable and moving they are. This is a timeless foot print of addicts seeking recovery. Not perfect, but very beautiful and spirited. Some have died of natural and other causes. Many are alive, clean and happy today!

Also, found voice transcribers are cheap and plentiful. Know any good stories to transcribe and compile in a recovery book?

Mitch – at restaurant.

Brian – came and went...

Lester – Mickey R came up with a Virtual Office that seems to include what we have been talking about.



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9
By: Lester O.



Bo – National and Global need input to compile and review prior to open conference.

John – Admits the video tapes of the NA meetings at the Health Building will never be looked at by anyone, still the impropriety is incredibly wrong. The members and service bodies seem unaware or not to care.

Lester – NAWS has come up with new name for NA Groups – Associations.

Bo – How proper and business like. I have heard of paid sponsors. What's next?

Lester – Newsletter looking good, 17 pages. Will turn 63 on September 14th!

Bo – Our first job is training members in Steps and Traditions – for those who care.
Called Kermit several times, will keep trying to support.

Hank is planning a gathering in Jacksonville 21st, 22nd and 23rd weekend before Thanksgiving.

Lester – Led closing Prayer – “Many of us have said, ...”

Close at 10:00 pm

Recording not made.

Next meetings on 2th, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th of September.

check out articles in Addendum

“That we can all come together for the good of the Fellowship.”

Addendum: for core group members:

May includes some emails or phone conversations
from core group members during past week.

Addendum A

To the Fellowship

Global has become an instrument of communication and peace of mind for the fellowship. Global has grown



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



so fast that major changes are taking place. We have had to change pace due to the fact of overwhelming demand for our services.

Our legal entity has been established and our website (globalna.org) is under way. We had an inaugural meeting of Global Anonymous Services in Kansas City Missouri scheduled for August 8th. Due to a shift in support in that region, we found that a change in location would do the fellowship a greater good. We discovered that an overwhelming response in the south eastern united states made more sense at this time. Our primary purpose must come first. The importance of our strong foundation is important to the solidity of Global services to have a sustainable impact on the fellowship and the desired changes for NA that are inevitably coming. The unstoppable force of change of a better service structure is here. We have discussed as a group to hold the first Global learning day in October in Jacksonville Fl. An exact date is being negotiated with the facility in preparation to hold a large group of people. We have found that our overwhelming response of attendance will be a great inaugural learning day for Global Services. Our first service center will be located in Jacksonville fl. The location is being negotiated for furthering the assistance of the facility. The service center will be called JSC. Jacksonville Service Center. For further information please contact me by phone.

Hank Smith

***President, Global Anonymous Services Inc,
904-236-2259***

hanksmith904@gmail.com

Addendum B

We're getting there. The wheels are turning. Phase Two of the core group is going well. The big test will come when we start communications with Global Inc separate from core group. I am involved with several other projects, so it won't be hard for me. Kinda like compartmentalization. A member asked about how Global will work. We all have to be creative and responsive to bring into existence the nuts and bolts of a communication system to serve different needs.

For instance, we will have a gathering at the new office in Jacksonville, Florida. You may have some local gatherings and report your findings, ideas from members that can add to what we do. Second, we will have one track for literature efforts. Those interested in the business operation need a different set of rails to ride on. We can talk on skype or simply do email, whatever works for us. We don't need to overdo it and create systems that fail to attract interest or



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



participation. We can make many announcements on the www.global.org website. We also foresee a need for a conference to guide us and direct what we do globally or nationally. These will have to be put together at a future date.

Our first priority is a book on the Grey Form with Stories and two IP's: one for Drug Replacement Therapy and another for Drug Court. Both of the can be conceived of as outside issues, and in one sense they are. They also have impact on our meetings and membership. These are inside issues and we need written materials to help members benefit from the experience of others. This we can do and are currently working on.

Hey, if you don't want to help, stay home and watch TV. Many of you drink cool aide and follow the instructions you your corporate management. Lotsa luck. We waited fifty years for a book, then members got active.

In Loving and Grateful Service,

Bo
S.





Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9

By: Lester O.



Addendum 3

GLOBAL 1

**The first Global NA Assembly
Jacksonville Fl,
November 21-23, 2014**

**Wyndham Jacksonville River walk
1515 Prudential Dr Jacksonville, FL, 32207
United States of America**

Hotel Phone 866 539 8430

Early Registration \$30.00

Door Registration \$40.00

Room Rates \$69.00

**Discounted room registration will be open until Nov 8
after this date the rooms will be \$99.00**

Sunday morning breakfast will be \$12.00

MORE WILL BE REVEALED



Core Issues

Sept. 2014 Vol.2 Issue 9
By: Lester O.



Fan Page – “coreIssues”

websites – www.nacoregroup.org and naviews.org sorry got hacked both hacked in April or May. Must be doing something right...

Projects:

NA Views – Go to NA Views – USSC and take a look at what is possible through this amazing venue. We will do more in future but the shares here are worth viewing because they give good examples of what members can share from the heart.
– Considering new location... How about 100,000 members showing up to have a good time, the NA way! Hey, let’s call it Cleanstock! Why not in Lexington, Kentucky, at and near the original site of 12 Steps for addicts seeking recovery!

Did You Know:

1. World services considers themselves exempt from the NA 12 Traditions?
2. Homeland Security states that NA receives no direct support from them.
3. NA ought never be organized.
4. What are the three elements of self-determination?
5. Do you think spiritual growth is important?
6. How do you describe spiritual growth?
7. What’s the difference between individual opinion and efficiency?
8. Do you believe the spiritual dominates the mental and physical realms?
9. What about body drugs in recovery?
10. Did you know that many members attend big conventions with funds paid by a treatment center?
11. Did you know the 12 Steps and Traditions are spiritual principles whereas the 12 Concepts are corporate principles?
12. What have we learned since 1990?

nacoregroup.org hacked – Made link to youtube.com to make it easier to get to our video clips.

NOTE: this is a private list, do not give out to people not on core group as a courtesy. Please let us know if you want your contact info on list. - Ed

We have downloads from all the calls to date. Listing is a chore. Some may not be on our hard drives but no one has asked about them and we go where you directs us with emails or phone calls.

You can still dial in for recording of last Tuesday night call by using access code. The downloaded calls I can send you if you need them. - Bo