



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6

By: Lester O.



Core Group Minutes

May 3, 2016

FreeconferencecallHD.com

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

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

Lester 321 – Bo S 404 – Mitch 410

Recording – 44479748-671801272.mp3

"Our best dreams become memories in recovery."

From eMails:

"Fear makes us weak. Information makes us stronger."

Important items from last five years.

1. USSC - Vito asked for plan of action. A gathering of members showed up at Wichita for Fellowship Assembly One. An Informational Book was constructed to put writings to help attending members understand to situation we face. The main result was a good set of minutes and the general idea of a "disconnect" between the general membership and world services. Nobody seems to realize that there was no announced 'us and them' until the Basic Text was written with those who supported or participated in the writing on one side and those who did not on the other. In general 'us' is still alive and well in NA and 'them' keep working to control and attack what they see as the opposition. The original plan of action still exists in the IB and minutes of Wichita.
2. FA 1 – Wichita – 260 members showed up. They were the cream of the crop – the most informed members in the world at the time. Many were shocked to learn how much more was beyond their experience or informational base. They went home and constructed splinter groups that fit their level of understanding. The whole Fellowship benefitted because informal leaked out to more and more members.
3. Wichita Informational Booklet around 40 pages to inform attendance.
4. Wichita FA 1 – Minutes – took 90 days to get minutes out. We still do not know reason for delay. Secretary posted they came out in three weeks.
5. Disconnect - gap between world services and Membership.
6. Kansas City – Service Center planned but fell through.
7. Jacksonville, Florida – Global NA planned but fell through.



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8. Grey Book with Stories – well received by membership and first 100 copies distributed.
9. Just for Tonight – 400 quotations earmarked, many with essays. Calendar year developed and quotes assigned. Planning face to face to develop essays, daily prayer and thought for each day.

Nadine Doubleu

So I watched a guy come in here and post statements he knew were not going to be welcomed and you know what bothered me the most about that guy's post? My own desire to tell him to STFU and to use my admin privileges to delete his stuff. I left the Ron H page a few days ago, righteously indignant and disgusted with his censorship and WSC slant. To me it's the FOX News of the WSC. So I felt like a big hypocrite and I refrained but I knew inside what I really wanted to do. Then I watched us post insulting memes, call names etc. I'm not saying this guy didn't do his share of B.S. because he did. He asked for it. But why did we have to give it to him? We went to the Ron Hofius/WB WSC2016 "blog" page and we were shut down, kicked out and silenced and we came back here and rightly yelled "UNFAIR! He obviously only will allow ONE view there!!!" And then what do we do, and what did I want to do, when a completely different viewpoint comes in here, albeit totally contrived? Lose our ever loving minds and let loose with every insult and label we can. How can we create something better if we don't learn how to be better? We will continue to recreate the problems we seek to solve. I know I will. I apologize if this sounds like I'm browbeating anyone, I'm not. I just really want us to talk about what we can individually do to steer the ship away from the rocks and keep it safely away from them long term. We're not in this mess by accident and this group has some of the most aware and brave people I know in it. Like in our steps, what are the NATURES of the problems we have in NA right now? The origins, and how do they lead back to our own personal responsibility in how we each react to each other, interact with each other, listen to each other or how we don't? Can we talk about that? Personally I'm getting tired of diving into the pool of red hot anger and watching nasty insults and name calling. I'm sick of my own desire to cuss people out and let loose on them. I need to connect with something good, solution based, spirit centered, transcendent. Or just call me an asshole and tell me to get off my soapbox.

Christopher David Wharton

Gray Book Reflections Post By: Recovery First Group NA

"Another stumbling block we should safeguard against is comparing ourselves to others who seem to have gone farther down the road of addiction." Grey book pg. 128 lines 19-21

How many times have we said during our active addiction, that at least I'm not that bad, or I would never do that! This is a danger that we also carry into this recovery process. Looking at what other addicts are doing or not doing for their recovery can be just as dangerous. When we are given suggestions by our sponsors, and the program, and want to continue to stay clean, safeguard against relapse, and keep on the path of recovery, we follow the direction given to us to the best of our ability.

To look at others who may have other suggestions, and think that maybe we don't really have to do all these meetings, or maybe we don't need to write steps, can lead us down a slippery slope. Although the program is all encompassing, and can work for all different individual addicts from all walks of life, we must remember that in any case the 100 percent success rate we hear about here is for those of us that follow this path to the best of our ability. This doesn't mean we find others



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in the program who are doing less work than us, and then follow their path. This is a sure sign that we are taking our will and our life back, and we all know where that leads us. Being grateful that we are here, clean, and recovering should be a sure way to keep us on the right path, and help safeguard against this pitfall of comparing our recovery or addiction to another's.

In the Moment: We will focus on our own recovery, we will keep the focus on ourselves, and not on what others are doing in or out of the program

Guy Brown

17 yrs. Ago, April 29, 1999, Greg Pierce died from Liver Cancer as a result of Hep C w/ XXIX yrs. Clean .
Greg showed up at his first NA meeting in South Hollywood, CA in Oct '70 wearing a three piece suit ,hoping no one would detect he had a 3 gram a day Heroin habit.

This is a prayer that Greg came up with some years ago. I thought it might still be appropriate for all of us. I believe that Greg's work here was done and that his passed on the mission to others in the program. Knowing Greg, I also have a feeling that he's probably asking God about starting an anonymous 12-step program for the Angels. Greg was always ready to listen to anyone who called or came over, He might not always agree with them, but he always listened. As the Day-at-a-Time book says for today, "I will face the future with faith in God for today"

Written by Greg on December 4, 1987

"Dear God, protect me and provide for me.
Guide me and illuminate the path of my pilgrimage.
Grant me courage, commitment, and strength.
Teach me to care and give without reservation.
Make me aware of gratitude and principle.
Help me recognize your presence around me.
And let my life be a reflection of your love. "
Amen

Greg's story's in the Little White Book and our Basic Text, "I Was Different". He told me he was one of the first people to identify as simply an addict and Only attend N.A...

Greg had a lot of organizational skills and became fast friends with his sponsor Jimmy K. together they shaped a course for this fellowship. Greg started writing the NA Tree, which was our very first service structure as early as 1975. He had a vision of linking all the NA groups in the world in a structure like a Willow Tree whose branches all hang to the same level of service. He got to sit in at the very first ASC in So Cal in '72 and attended our 1st WSC in California in '76 and watch His dream become a reality when the Tree was approved.

One day when he was self-obsessed, he sat and wrote IP# 12 the Triangle of Self Obsession, How many of us have taken



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great solace and peace from this pamphlet.

On a road trip from Oregon to Pennsylvania to speak at the 3rd East Coast Convention, Greg stopped in Tennessee to see the World Lit Treasurer Joseph Proctor. Greg had been writing along the way, Joseph asked if he could borrow it and Greg said sure. Joseph arrived at the Convention with a box of 2 hundred copies marked, A Guide To Step 4 in Narcotics Anonymous, Review Draft. This became our 1st 4th step guide in NA.

Greg's other works include, IP # 9 Living The Program. His work on the Basic Text was invaluable, in that we might still be working on it if it hadn't been for Greg's dedication. Greg's presence gave the book its full legitimacy. He also sponsored several of the key players so his spiritual guidance was behind the project in ways we will never ever see.

Greg wrote those Essays in Chapter 6, When the Literature Committee was assembled at WLC 3 finishing up the review draft, they only needed the Tradition Portion to complete it. Greg was at home in Oregon and they were in Memphis, Tennessee. They chose Teresa W. who typed 150 words per minute, Bo held a phone to her ear as she typed out the entire tradition portion from Greg's notes as he shared it to her. The phone call took 9 hours. When it was over, the Lit Committee voted to turn that portion over to the Board of Trustees, to review and approve. The section came back with barely a single change... it was the least edited portion of the Basic Text Narcotics Anonymous. The way it came out of Greg's mind is basically the way you read it today. Grey Book Review form, 1st printing Feb 27, 1981

We spoke the day before he left to go to the hospital. At that time he told me that this may be the last time we speak. I was shocked and went into immediate denial that this could be true. I refused to believe it. Did not want to accept it. I did not know that this would be the last time I would be able to tell him that I loved him. Today I am one of the many fortunate ones that had him play such a major role in my new way of life. For many years he was there as not only a sponsor but also a friend. Always imparting the "Right thing at the Right time!" I had many chances to get to know Greg on a more personal note than many others rarely had the chance to see outside of N.A. Us going White Water Rafting in West Virginia, was the stuff legends were made of. Going to visit a member in an Ashram and seeing a unique lifestyle of people. Visit his sister in California. Going to a W.S.C. with him. It works, how and why literature conferences in Chicago. Staying at his house with his wonderful wife Louis and the kids. Helping him move around his HUGE rock collection. Walking the grounds of his place in Tennessee where he had aspirations of starting a spiritual retreat. Staying with me at my place in Michigan and going to an "All you can eat" buffet where they served crab legs. (The place really took a financial loss that day!) And my list goes on and on. I miss him very much. I believe today, that when people touch our souls and move our spirits, a part of them lives on in us forever. I welcome this and would never want it any other way. R.I.P. Greg P. Gone but never forgotten.

Dale A.

A new kind of pusher man in a multi-billion dollar industry that includes medicated addiction treatment. Pres. Obama signed a 1.1 billion dollar to give away to states that will do medicated addiction treatment. Unbelievable that after 33 years of a Basic Text that these intelligent people will give drugs to addicts under a treatment plan to get them off drugs. Sounds like Americans should have mandatory drug testing on congressmen and women and senators before they vote each time. Might as well give a new car and free medical marijuana to prevent drunk drivers.

<https://quintiles.taleo.net/careersection/10080/jobdetail.ftl?job=1612008&src=JB-12920> --- "No "Inner Circle"



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[Nadine Doubleu - Sunday, October 18, 2015](#)

Elitism is seductive. It appeals to that part of ourselves that likes feeling special and singled out for special favor. It gives the ego a voice as it whispers in your ear “See? We knew all along you aren’t like everyone else. You’re a little better, a little smarter, a little more deserving.” It draws one in with wispy tendrils of attractive inclusion into the inner circle and by that very act is firmly rooted in exclusion of all others.

Can elitism and a 12 step fellowship exist side by side? Yes. Should it? No.

Elitism within a 12 step fellowship is ANYTHING that separates our community of recovering peoples into classes, sects or cliques by drawing very real lines between a group of “us” and “them”. It is every group, home group, sponsorship “family”, discussion board, service committee, service meeting, and/or workgroup that excludes any part of the fellowship from its “inner circle”. There should be no “inner circle” within our fellowship.

Whenever you tell one group of people, whether you are a group secretary, a chair person, a home group leader, a world board member, a service office worker or a coffee maker for the meeting, that a certain group of people are more special than others you are cultivating the elitist mindset. What about certain trusted servants? Are some trusted servants more special than others? Are some more worthy of special treatment and favors than others? Should some conversations about topics that can/will/should affect all areas of our fellowship be had behind closed doors, sealed with the special protection of our own World Board? Does fostering a sense of specialness among one service body by treating those trusted servants as though they should not to be expected to “allow” the average member to know what they discuss help solve the communication problems within our fellowship or does it only help to further distance the fellowship from the global fellowship, our delegates and the current topics? Do our delegates serve their regions or do they serve the World Board? Is our World Board in place to serve the fellowship or just Regional Delegates? Do secret boards, promoted, sanctioned and protected by the world board and argued for by telling RD’s they need a “safe” place to discuss things away from the fellowship foster and uphold our inclusive spiritual principles or does it instead breed elitism?

Elitism is dangerous. People from every level often use it to garner power, feed their ego, in act their agendas and to bring large groups into subjugation. It does not announce itself, it sneaks in on the back of camaraderie, good-will and common endeavors. It takes vigilance, honesty and humility, practiced rigorously to spot it and avoid it. It takes integrity and the power of Something Bigger to not fall under the “You’re Special Spell” because we are all susceptible to being lulled into some form of elitism or another.

NA is about inclusion, not exclusion. Home groups are to carry the message of NA not a message about how great they are, and how much more special their group is than any other. Trusted servants are supposed to take the “trusted” part of that title seriously and take measures to keep their egos in check as much as possible so that they never fall for the lie that they are somehow more special than another because of their present service title and therefore deserve special allowances outside of what our principles call for, principles like transparency and integrity and humility. (I actually know a few trusted servants at WSC level who have this kind of integrity and they are my personal heroes and sadly, few and



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far between). No member, no matter how much time, how little time, from coffee maker to world board member, is more anything than another.

In my opinion, elitism is fast becoming epidemic and will undo us if we do not do a reality check soon. Social media creates a place for people to create a version of their lives to show the world, a version that says “my life is so freakin’ wonderful and I’m such an awesome person, doing awesome things!!” That’s not necessarily bad, but let’s remember, the real superstars are those coffee makers, door openers, chair setter uppers, trash taker outers, secretaries, panel leaders, meeting supporters, newcomer greeters, sponsors and members who did all of those things when the only people who knew of their hard work were in their local area, if that. They had no one to announce it to so that hundreds would know what awesome service people they are. They opened the doors, made the coffee, drove miles to keep a meeting open, picked up the newcomer, served the area and region and set up the chairs with no accolades and that is why we are still here. They are the superstars.

We need to remember what this is about. People, trying to save their lives and to continue the miracle of their saved lives. Elitism distracts us from that sobering truth. It makes us think this is a social club, a political arena and/or a homecoming dance. But there is no membership dues, there are no presidents or directors and no one is going to be crowned homecoming king or queen. Whenever we are sucked into an elite circle at whatever level, there is someone being left to the side. Someone excluded and around here, that could be life or death because this is Narcotics Anonymous, and for many of us the last house on the block and the end of the road. Elitism has no place here. The only thing that should be excluded is Elitism.

-Nadine W.

See Addendums A & B.

Discussion:

8:30 Open:

Lester – Just got back from celebration of a member’s five year anniversary.

Mitch – How you doing?

Bo – Following some of the WSC activity. Seems NAWS is getting more desperate. Seems like the WB is realizing they have inherited a pile of trouble from predecessors who spent their service careers dismantling the working group conscience system that existed in the former, original WSC that produced the Basic Text and expanded the NA Fellowship worldwide.

Mitch – Questions asked directly to WSO – “Is it true that you are going to ask Office Depot to not print Baby Blues?”

Lester – Has a recording of open forum where NAWS officials speak legalese in response to this question.

Mitch – Started a new job – need cap to prevent sunburn!



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Bo and Lester – chimed in on leg and foot problems! Lester needs compression stocking to attend conventions where he is on his feet much of the time.

Biff K from Florida Fellowship attended WSC first time in 27 years. Will be interesting to see if he can see the terrific difference in the composition and course of discussion under old and new business.

Mitch – Met member Stuart S in 1987 and he was uppity towards me when I was friendly.

Bo – He was being inducted into the WSO “agentic state.” He was becoming an agent of a corporation rather than a spiritual fellowship.

9:40 – Lester closed with “3rd Step Prayer...”

Next meetings on May 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st, 2016

Other good closing prayers....

“They say a picture is worth a thousand words. But what if it reflects not reality but an agenda? In this age of airbrushed magazine covers, computer-generated images, reality tv, and phony viral video, have words lost meaning? Or have they become more important than ever?”

“Dear God,

Please protect and provide for me. Guide and illuminate the path of my pilgrimage. Grant me courage, commitment and strength. Teach me to care and give without reservation. Remind me of gratitude and principle. Please allow me to recognize your presence in me and around me and allow my life to be a reflection of your love.” From Greg Pierce

“Nothing blinds a person like fanaticism
which is just an outward expression of obsession.”

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

Recording – none.

POWERFUL

**MORE
POWERFUL**





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"Our best dreams become memories in recovery."

From eMails:

"Fear makes us weak. Information makes us stronger."

Finally: The thing wrong with an agentic state that views us as expendable is when there is a conflict of interest, they will 'expend' us. We are not expendable. We wrote out book. We people the Fellowship and bring to life the NA Program. Without us there is no NA. When we have needs that are not being met, we make arrangements to meet our needs. Money created the 'us and them' situation. Recovery and carrying our message is the important thing.

Paul D

Working the Steps will broaden our horizons and practicing the principles will reduce our commitments to some manageable level. Our new friends and awakened spirits will help us. Our common effort is recovery. Being clean we will eventually have to learn to cope with success. Success scares us because in the past it preceded failure. We could not afford to feel good because we remembered the pain of disappointment. It was better, we concluded, to keep moving on and holding back. Actually this made a great deal of sense when we were using. Now, it makes no sense at all. In time we may become a trusted servant. We can participate in Twelfth Step work, and try to share the message of recovery, with the addict who still suffers. It has been our experience that personal problems will be resolved when we are willing to accept responsibility for them. It is good form to allow others in the group to help us with them from time to time. Service will get us out of ourselves, and our concern for others will be reflected in our own ability to accept concern from others. When we find ourselves opening up and facing difficulties that used to have us on the run. We will experience periodic surges of good feeling that can give us the strength to begin seeking God's will for us. Well before we surrender, we have ceased to feel as if we are participating in the human race. Our tenuous grasp on reality is invaded by fears and self-hatred, which leads to paranoia, and away from the rest of humanity as a whole. Chapter: What Can I Do...pg.82/82The N.A. Grey Book?



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Travis S

Sharing this from another Members wall...It is an honor to see the growth concerning how to deal with our adversaries. Thanks for sharing this Loving and Caring post...Any other thoughts on this?

- Spiritual Wars Are not won in the conventional manner.
- Now is not the time to fight.
- Now is the time to educate.
- We don't need to defend our beliefs and actions.
- We only need to state our beliefs and stand firm.
- We don't need to attack our Fellow addicts and NA members.
- We only need to Love them, even as they attack us. W
- We may never convince the loudest detractors, even with such actions.
- But we will surely convince those addicts who watch the ways in which we conduct ourselves; those who observe the actions of all involved and decide which direction a spiritual Fellowship ought to take is more attractive to them.

Anonymous member.

Dave M

Using Addictive Drugs to treat Drug Addicts, a brief summary of an Article titled "Hazelden Introduces Anti-addiction Medications into Recovery for the First Time"

Beginning this year 2013 Hanley Hazelden, the largest Alcohol & Drug treatment organization in the United States will depart from their "Minnesota Model" 12 step Complete Abstinence recovery approach that they pioneered from a farmhouse in 1949 with some of the founding members of Alcoholics Anonymous by incorporating 'Drug Replacement Therapy' into their Recovery Approach. Buprenorphine commonly known as "Suboxone" will be used on site at the treatment center instead of the various techniques once embraced by all that have adhered to the medical model / abstinence from all mind and mood altering chemicals. Suboxone or "Subutex" is classified as a partial opioid agonist and is now available to be prescribed by a physician that offers office based treatment to those suffering from an addiction problem with opiates. With the passage of the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA) new protocol was established here in the United States with regards to the FDA's previous restrictions that mandated Opioid Treatment Programs be Federally Approved. Prior to this the use of Methadone & Levo-Alpha-Acetyl-Methadol (LAAM) in Methadone Clinics was controlled by the federal government and these medications were dispensed on site and not prescribed. Johnson (2000) "Hence" the methadone line" SAMHSA. (2010) Another departure from the strict "complete abstinence" recovery approach prior to this move being made by Hazelden was some new controversial literature published by Narcotics Anonymous World Services "NA Groups & Medication" NA.ORG(2007).In this " NA World Board Approved" (not fellowship approved) literature language is used to express an opinion about the "use of prescribed medication" NA.ORG(2007) Unbeknownst to most is the fact that Hanley Hazelden purchases more Narcotics Anonymous Literature annually than any single vendor in the world. Prior to the publication of these new "Service Pamphlets" unapproved demographic pamphlets titled "Information about NA" were physically distributed by Representatives / Public Relations



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service workers for NA and made electronically available to their # 1 customer to secure their commitment for the purchase of more than \$500,000 worth of soon to be outdated 5th edition Narcotics Anonymous Basic Text Books. NA.ORG(2006)

The controversy about the specific language in these “World Board Approved” pamphlets is actually like a double headed sword, but it plays right into the hand of the Clinical Director of Hazelden and his decision to begin offering a medicated assisted recovery program. The specific language I’m referring to basically states that as long as something is prescribed by a medically informed doctor then the use of a substance is not viewed as a compromise to one’s recovery.

Dr. Marvin Sepalla, Hazelden’s chief medical officer who is also a recovering addict himself knows how medications like Suboxone work and believes that the direction they are taking their clients is the right one. Dr. Sepalla who is now clean himself 37 years believes the use of these chemicals will help more people transition into recovery because of the way these new drugs react on the receptors in the human brain. The harsh reality for those that keep track of it is that not everybody that completes a 28 day inpatient treatment program stays clean. As a matter of fact some of the motivation for the shift to this new treatment modality was motivated by the mortality rate of clients that completed Hazelden Drug & Alcohol Treatment Program successfully and soon after their discharge overdosed and died.

The use of drug replacement therapy is not something new to addicts recovering from an addiction to opiates, the question is will this new generation of medications become just as addicting as other drug replacement medications that have been used in the past like Methadone. I guess time will tell and I am sure that everybody will be paying very close attention to the success rate of this bold move being made by one of the largest recovery organizations in the world.

ALL ELSE IS NOT N.A

Long ago, there was a saying that helped members of Narcotics Anonymous deal with the various elements that try to intrude on our way of life. When the business concerns of N.A., or the committees that we form to serve us began to get caught up in themselves, we would say, "All else is not N.A."

This handy phrase helped us ...keep things straight. It didn't mean we weren't grateful to those who served us. It didn't mean we have an attitude towards anyone or anything not N.A. It did mean we don't like bosses. It meant N.A. members set up and were responsible for the meetings of Narcotics Anonymous in the various places where our meetings are held. It strengthened us and made us aware of our spiritual responsibilities. It kept us from feeling betrayed so badly when some of our servants get out of hand. Our trusted servants were responsible to serve us, not to control our actions or manipulate the information we were allowed to receive through service publications.

The phrase "All else is not N.A." helped us focus on the spiritual facts of the program instead of the arrangements and activities of those who act on our behalf sometimes. It is easy for us to get things like this turned around. When our Basic Text was written, this line was included under the Traditions. It was later the subject of some discussion as a result of a few members in world services who didn't agree with the line and were in a position to exclude it from the material.

That was OK for then but now ten long hard years have passed and many members still see N.A. as a spiritual, not religious program of recovery from addiction. Not just from drug addiction or addiction to narcotics as our name



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would imply. We have grown. Many, if not all members, have realized for some time that once the chemicals are taken out of the picture, our addiction stands intact and ready to deal with us if we do not find a way to deal with successfully.

Our need for spiritual integrity will always be great. Emptiness seems to result whenever we try to place something other than our spiritual yearnings and experiences in the center of our programs.

N.A. is not a business. We have some needs and functions that may involve collecting and disbursing sums of money to get literature printed or to put on a convention. This is a scaled up model of what we experience in our groups. Never should our coffee chair feel more important than our members who come to care and share the N.A. way of life with one another.

Trusted servants serve our group and fellowship needs at many levels. They are enjoined to avoid the error of thinking themselves governors, rulers or directors. This would be untrue and create problems. Our trusted servants have to keep faith with the members they serve. Other goals must never come ahead of carrying our message to those who come to N.A. seeking recovery. There can be no more important persons than these for us.

Those of us who are clean and reached a level of gratitude serve only to balance the scales with those who helped us. We help others in our turn and do for others what was done for us. Further, many of us believe that helping others is the key to our ongoing recovery and part of the reason we were able to escape the clutches of active addiction.

It is easy to slip back into spiritual laziness and let others deal with the things we cannot. "Cannot" may be "will not?" "Will not" can lead to big trouble if we expect spiritual growth. One of the greatest verities for us is that abstinence alone is not enough to keep us clean. Spiritual growth, a sense of emotional health, the ability to tolerate increases in our honesty and the alleviation of our obsessions and compulsions is fundamental to recovery. The hole in the gut must be filled.

Confusing spirituality with morality would put us in the category of churches and other institutions that seek to promote goodwill, health and well-being among people in a variety of ways. There is nothing wrong with these efforts. It is just that we are not a business and we are not a church. Worldly concerns are not the source of our disease.

For our spiritual fellowship to survive, we need to look long and hard at our goals and our resources. If we promise to share freely that which we were freely given, we can hope to live up to it. If we promise to provide recovery and various levels of assistance to addicts seeking recovery, we have crossed a line and risk spiritual bankruptcy. You can't bankrupt God. Spirituality is shared human experience of what goes beyond the world and fills the needs we have for a sense of comfort and well-being. Once we learn to apply spiritual principles in a practical way, our lives improve dramatically.

It is true that not everyone can do this with equal results. What is right for one may be wrong for another. We can't predict outcomes. We can say that for those of us who have given this program our best, we have been surprised and amazed. Our actions and commitment to recovery reflect our gratitude. (author unknown)

from Dale A. – Bangkok, Thailand



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NAWS (over time) turned the WSC into a "consensus" based voting body of about 100 "like-minded" voters, or ones that could be turned from what their region sent them to do. And few with an impossible dream of actually rep-representing their Regions. Consider, this is the exact opposite of "Group Conscience." The Fellowship decided and wrote about Group Conscience, and the Fellowship can now stand-up and do that in current times. Define and establish all members represented through Group Conscience. Please learn on your own the difference and share with everyone in your home groups. There is no board, director, or groups of 100 that can tell your group what your group conscience is, especially not by consensus. Home Groups please learn, the original traditions, which "comes slowly over a period of time" for each and every member regardless of how powerful any member (or service body) are perceived to be. We have members with 40 + years clean that rather try to change the traditions than learn and follow them. It's all available to learn about. Doesn't it all begin with the newcomer being the most important person in your home groups? And the home groups can begin working together (globally) to do that. It can be done, trust in that and not in anyone telling you it can't be done. The lie is dead, addicts do recover. And we are capable of taking charge of our own fellowship through the strength of each other in our home groups, and our home groups bonding together. Stand up for your recovery, for your creative freedoms to write NA recovery literature, to have PI, H&I and service bodies that love and listen to your groups. And that represent you, not corporate interest. The future of NA and Group Conscience is in your hands. Please begin to take actions that give you spiritual knowledge, and not a guilty conscience.

-I give full rights and creative freedom for this essay input to be changed, edited and/or published by core group.

Dale A.

Tracy B

Take or borrowed from Jim E... The sad truth. **NAWS contracts services from a man, Jim DeLizia (non-member organizational governance consultant). DeLizia's Service System Proposal (SSP) is designed to do eliminate group/area/regional autonomy on and at every level in the structure.**

It proposes to (as the WB report)

- eliminate, "self-determination" (autonomy)
- faction NA groups out of ASCs and into little service units
- define service meeting frequency (by nature of its design)
- pre-define service meeting decision making methods - define boundaries of service by service bodies
- the fellowship can choose to use the SSP or not....which sets the stage for apples and oranges in NA service the result is an isolated, splintered, chaotic, and disenfranchised fellowship with no voice in or access to the fellowship decision-making process....and very easy to govern. Under these condition, Its final goal is to reduce the number of WSC participants representing NA Groups by having a Zonal Delegate/World Board World Service Conference.

A WSC where a few or four people would, for example, be the zonal delegate representing the diversity of an entire zone...e.g. two members from Australia and two members from Hawaii would represent the diversity of culture, fellowship, and service needs of the Asia Pacific Zone, including India, Vietnam, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

These two or four people would be two or four of the most uber self-absorbed, egotistical members in NA and likely set a new bar for the "Ugly American" called the, "Ugly Fellow."



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6

By: Lester O.



Discussion:

8:30 Open

Dale

April 30 at 11:14pm

I submit that all RD's and all participants of WSC2016 are now "agents of the (NAWS) corporation" and as such can not represent NA to Regions, or anyone.

Therefore, all hearts in love use their own tongues;
Let every eye negotiate for itself
And trust no agent. - William Shakespeare

John – Doing good, Doctor says “don’t change a thing.” Planting white oak trees around my home on my acreage.

Bo – Be sure to allow for growth, the limbs spread to the distance of underlying root system. This means they need fifty

or more feet between. Of course, it takes a while to get that big!

John – One hall where there is an NA meeting has a store with a LP record player, Also an Encyclopedia wet with green leather and gold lettering. Meeting in Kansas on Sunday was spoiled by rush of court slip people who haven’t reached bottom yet. Looking for another one and helplines are not plentiful.

Bo – Put Chris K in prayers, diabetes... Get the hell out of KC!

John – Dog wormed, now in house most of the time. Learning vet stuff, good companionship.

Bo – Have you followed WSC at all?

John – No, Trying to get hold of RICO lawyer to investigate NAWS. This is early stages, having to read a lot.

Bo – For your recovery you should write out the cost of relapse in financial terms and list cost of attendance at five good conventions a year. You may have to talk to some people. I know of some good ones. Life is cost efficient! If you had more recovering people around you would be hearing about:

- Great things coming from a good sponsor.
- Reconditioning your recovery without relapse.
- Self-hypnosis to induce personality change with help from your Higher Power.
- Neurolinguistics programing.
- Phone calls – long and detailed.
- Trips to new conventions.
- Specifically asking HP for help.
- Contact people who have recovery experience that is attractive to you.
- Life on life’s terms.
- Diet.
- Thought gardens.



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6
By: Lester O.



- Work the next Step now, don't wait.

John and I talked about these things before closing at 10:10.

John closed us with Serenity Prayer. "God grant me the serenity...."

Next meetings on May 17th, 24th, and 31st, 2016

Other good closing prayers....

"They say a picture is worth a thousand words. But what if it reflects not reality but an agenda? In this age of airbrushed magazine covers, computer-generated images, reality tv, and phony viral video, have words lost meaning? Or have they become more important than ever?"

"Dear God,

Please protect and provide for me. Guide and illuminate the path of my pilgrimage. Grant me courage, commitment and strength. Teach me to care and give without reservation. Remind me of gratitude and principle. Please allow me to recognize your presence in me and around me and allow my life to be a reflection of your love."

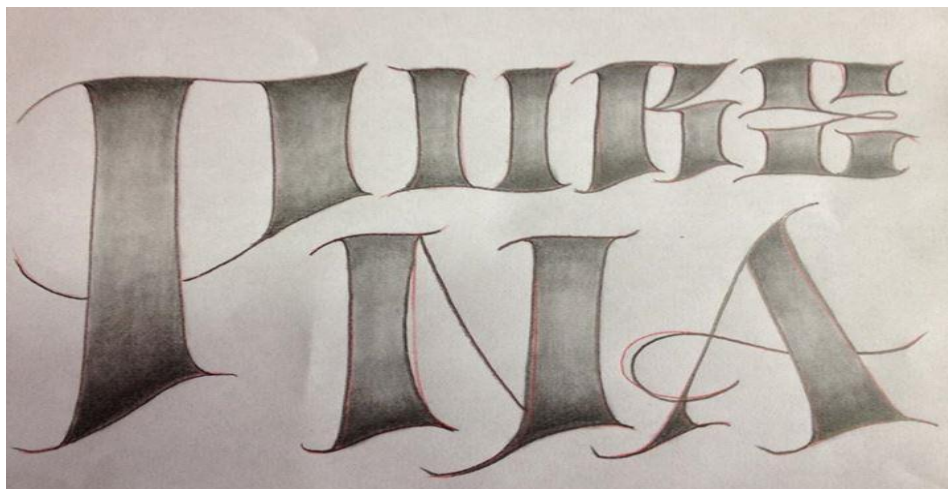
From Greg Pierce

"Nothing blinds a person like fanaticism which is just an outward expression of obsession."

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

Recording

All Else is Not NA





Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6

By: Lester O.



May 17, 2016

FreeconferencecallHD.com

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

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

John F 707--Lester 321 – Bo S 404 –Mitch 410

Recording – 44479748-671860342.mp3

"Our best dreams become memories in recovery."

From eMails:

"Fear makes us weak. Information makes us stronger."

John F, Kansas City, MO

We had a guy show up holding a baby blue. Secretary had him ejected from the meeting. They beat the guy up out I the parking lot. He staggered off.

Nice, huh?

Finally: The thing wrong with an agentic state that views us as expendable is when there is a conflict of interest, they will 'expend' us. We are not expendable. We wrote our book. We people the Fellowship and bring to life the NA Program. Without us there is no NA. When we have needs that are not being met, we make arrangements to meet our needs. Money created the 'us and them' situation. Recovery and carrying our message is the important thing.

Progress

At the end of WWII, our nation came home and full of testosterone, set about enforcing their will on our territory. Emblematic of what all happened for me is the canal dug to make the output from the great Lake Okeechobee in Florida a straight line to replace the serpentine slow river that dropped all its sediment into a marshy wetland on its way to the Everglades. Boy, I'll bet it looked great on paper and cost a pretty nickel. You know what? The Glades began to die. Millions of dead little fish floated up instead of spreading their cleansing food value to the whole area of the swamp. Problem was all that sediment that used to be 'processed' by the serpentine river system was dumping right into the Everglades main body of water! The fish couldn't breathe – mud particle coated their gills. I am sure scientists and 'Glades lovers were aware of this for many years before they could get the quick minded core of engineers to agree to clear the



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6

By: Lester O.



canal and dig out the course of the old serpentine river system. Thank God the saw the light before the ecosystem perished. I think some quick minded financial engineers did this to our service structure. Sometimes quick minded means short sighted.

Watching Steve Jobs: the Lost Interview I noted Steve got his first taste of corporate at HP where every day the company sent a spread of coffee and dough nuts (before increased health consciousness!) to all the employees because they knew ultimately the happiness of the crew was key to success of the company. Not every teenagers picks up on things like this. Steve was twelve years old when he discovered this. Who knows, making people happy and intensely identifying with his end user may have been the key to it all. – Bo S.

Bryan H

I know somebody is gonna say this 8 year celebration is ridiculous, but this may give you a little bit of an idea (or the more brain-washed you are by our country and our current fellowship, you won't get the idea) as to how grateful and happy these folks are to get clean, stay clean, and see their friends get that way. And before you complain about the fact that there are "only men there," please understand that they live under sharia law, which prohibits men and women from speaking intimately around each other unless they/you are married. We have customs over here, too, which makes things difficult for us to share recovery with one another. For example, we have over 3 million addicts in cages across the country who can't be with us in our meetings. Anyway, I just wanted you all to see how much energy and enthusiasm these folks have about recovery. They celebrate after their meetings, usually at someone's house. They also celebrate when a member completes their 12th step with a feast. This is Iran, where 99% of their meetings are closed and they have never even HEARD of signing verification documents. Maybe one day we'll cry our eyes out with each other in our meetings and party like this. Enjoy, or don't!

<https://www.facebook.com/b.helphinstine/posts/349070375159584>

John F -

The main problem with Drug Court is that it destroys the healing ability of Narcotics Anonymous as the traditions predict.

People forced into our sanctuary prevent to healing process from continuing for those addicts desperately trying to quit using. NA becomes a new type of organization trying D to convince people forced to attend that they really should quit using those nasty old drugs and be good citizens.

Given enough time, Drug Court always destroys its host NA meetings by violations many of our sacred traditions. Napa was a pilot program for Drug Court and within six months of its arrival both the Alano Club and the NA Club House folded.

In addition, it saves no one. In the past 8 years in Kansas City, not one person has picked up a four year chip. Hence the Hugh gap between 3 and 11 years here.



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Besides killing people trying to get clean and people forced to come and destroying meetings, it also stops street addicts from wandering in. Word on the street is that NA no longer works. An accurate observation.

Drug court violates the separation of church and state. It foists dangerous violent criminals upon our fellowship who should be locked away to prevent harm to the general populous.

It allows drug dealers to stay on the street, hooking children on hard drugs. It encourages continued crime.

It also terribly confuses people on the disease of addiction and the process of recovery. It teaches it's criminals that NA is clueless by forcing them to go twice a week instead of our suggested 90 in 90.

This discrediting of NA later shows up in members who have attended for 30 years and still have little clean time. It's like teaching men to become bad golfers. They must be corrected of their bad habits and then retrained how to swing correctly.

Because old timers fled the chaos, the mentoring process in NA has vanished. People don't even know what it was like.

The highly effective sponsorship families are gone. Now new people rail upon old timers belittling them at every opportunity.

The fleeing old timers have allowed NAWS to take over the fellowship, loot our treasury, and put newcomers on Drug Replacement Therapy, making recovery virtually impossible.

In addition a whole new class of criminals has been created. By waiting outside bars and pulling over 90 pound 18 year old girls who had one drink and went over a minor alcohol limit and putting these children in the system, their self-perception is now that they are drug addicts.

They go on to harder street drugs often sold to them after NA meetings by other Court Slippers. It's a very effective way of spreading the country's drug epidemic.

Finally it takes away prison terms where addicts traditionally hit their bottom and got clean. It has managed to postpone the bottom for many years allowing dealing to continue hooking thousands more.

Agents

California defines an agent as "one who *represents* another, called the principal, in dealings with third persons." Cal. Civ. Code § 2295, *see also* Restatement (Third) of Agency §1.01 ("Agency is the fiduciary relationship that arises when one person (a 'principal') manifests assent to another person (an 'agent') that the agent shall act on the principal's behalf and subject to the principal's control, and the agent manifests assent or otherwise consents so to act."). Thus, the key to the agency relationship is the ability to act on another's behalf. As William Shakespeare has Claudio say in *Much Ado About Nothing*:



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6

By: Lester O.



Therefore, all hearts in love use their own tongues;
Let every eye negotiate for itself
And trust no agent;
Less poetically, don't send someone else to do your wooing.

<http://calcorporatelaw.com/2011/09/worlds-in-collision-agency-law-and-a-directors-fiduciary-duties/>

Discussion:

8:30 Open: (April 30 at 11:14pm)

Dale A

I submit that all RD's and all participants of WSC2016 are now "agents of the (NAWS) corporation" and as such cannot represent NA to Regions, or anyone.

Therefore, all hearts in love use their own tongues;
Let every eye negotiate for itself
And trust no agent. - William Shakespeare

Bo – Set up Nasalden with Travis to get out our books more efficiently. Feedback welcome! Idea is to offer hard back, soft cover and free downloads of our titles. Includes other books written 'by' or 'for' recovering addicts.

John – Likes it.

Bo – H&I should offer welcome group for court slippers with updates. These are inside issues! I called Ken D about the unwonted changes in the 4th Edition begin carried forward in the 5th and 6th without the Fellowship realizing it. I do not think anyone in the NA world knows this but a few. I called Ken because it still seems so incredible to me. Matter of Principle will be available on Nasalden.

In case anyone is having trouble putting the joke together, Nasalden is something Rick Hunter and I made up thirty-five years ago just to jog people's thinking. We thought it was hilarious. Rick died a few years back and along with Johnny S were the last visitors in hospice for Rick. He would be proud! Travis and I think we need a little humor in NA and also, Nasalden (nasal, like the nose and den like the safe place to rest up) will have instant recognition and recall along with the 'help' association. All pieces by groups and members will be cost ten and other books at retail prices simply to include their availability. Some collector's items are deliberately over-priced to poke fun at those who think we do service in writing for free! We do service in writing to stay clean and help others.

Mitch – (9:00) Still doing his 'golfing' job. The work is a strain but he gets free access to greens Saturday and Sunday. Friend with Lyme's Disease died at sixty. Aspirated. Stopped meetings sixteen years ago. He was angry and belligerent but I stayed in touch.



Core Issues

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By: Lester O.



John – Member here was beaten up in parking lot outside NA meeting for having Baby Blues. Staggered off. Is this what the WB wants?

Lester – Lady came to candlelight HG meeting. Asked if lights could be cut on because she is deaf and can't see sign language. Business meetings said lady had no grounds to stand on. Altered atmosphere of recovery. Lady known to be a control freak, new to area. Letter to region and both old and new area committees already written were on hand if needed. She could sit in back under subdued lighting.

Bo – John, did you see photo of the guard Chihuahua dog at my home group? It has a little vest and everything!

John – No, but saw nice pic from Tybee Island last weekend! My German Shepard weighs 110# right now. Read that a dog and a human synchronize heart beats – may help slow down heart beats in humans!

Bo – You sound better...

John – Everything happens for a reason.

Lester – Agree. Already changing the Fellowship's view on WS and SS. Reactionary to what NAWS has been doing last few years.

John – Still go to meetings and introduce myself. It is what it is.

Bo – Hove you looked at "Just for Tonight" material?

Lester – Some seem too lengthy.

John – Ninety year old man died recently in hospital with pills. Claimed he had thirty years. Saw him once.

Lester – That would mean he got clean at sixty! See more of that in recovery today. Never used to happen until Dr.'s begin prescribing OxyContin. Used with people who used as much as I did before recovery. They just quit using, like time to grow up.

John – Read the Rush Limbaugh on OxyContin.

Lester – Used to get f**ked up. Can't see how someone would drink half a glass of beer and walk away!

Bo – Edgar Allen Poe quoted in movie, "I drink for effect."

John – Check out the movie on Earnest Hemingway.

Bo – Success can kill you!



Core Issues

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By: Lester O.



Lester – Dad’s cousin committed suicide. Would drink two to three quarts of wood alcohol a day. Dr. told him he had no stomach and had five to six days to live. Went home and blew his brains out. Know an old lady who loved her lemon flavored extract for cheap drunk.

John – Sponsored a chef who drank two quarts a day. I passed out for two or three days on moonshine one time. Crawled to the doorway...

Lester – Had an older black friend in wheelchair who kept gallons of moonshine.

Bo – I recall my last week on marijuana. Each day I planned what need to be done next day and never got anything done all week!

Lester – Smoked enough Angel Dust for twenty years with three friends – we smoked it all up. Sprinkled a joint when I got home, went back to school, drinking in AM to PM doing speed. Felt an earthquake through the room. Realized I had been walking around in a fog for three months without snapping out of it. Smoked lotsa pot.

Bo – Remember drinking ten dollars’ worth of Chrystal meth dissolved in a whiskey bottle.

I feel like to issues with WS have been apprised and we are moving on to things we can do to help. Feel new day dawning.

10:00 - Lester closed for us – Third Step Prayer

Next meetings on May 24th, and 31st, 2016

Other good closing prayers...

“They say a picture is worth a thousand words. But what if it reflects not reality but an agenda? In this age of airbrushed magazine covers, computer-generated images, reality tv, and phony viral video, have words lost meaning? Or have they become more important than ever?”

“Dear God,

Please protect and provide for me. Guide and illuminate the path of my pilgrimage. Grant me courage, commitment and strength. Teach me to care and give without reservation. Remind me of gratitude and principle. Please allow me to recognize your presence in me and around me and allow my life to be a reflection of your love.” From Greg Pierce

“Nothing blinds a person like fanaticism
which is just an outward expression of obsession.”

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



Core Issues

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By: Lester O.



Core Group Minutes

May 24, 2016

FreeconferencecallHD.com

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

Tuesday Night CONFERENCE CALL

Attendance with area codes:

Lester 321 – Bo S 404 – Mitch 410

Recording – 44479748-671880356.mp3

"Our best dreams become memories in recovery."

From eMails:

"Fear makes us weak. Information makes us stronger."

Discussion:

8:30 Open:

Mitch – Hi there!

John – posted me; couldn't make it...

Bo – Had great weekend.

Mitch – Spoke at Carbo House meeting – Dawn. My house on Wilmington Island. 10K prop tax in Chatam County.

Bo – Just for Tonight – need a face to face. Spoke with George R tonight about possibly having one near Kermit's lily pad.

Mitch – Attends annual event with George sometimes. How's Nazelton?

Bo – 200 downloads in first three days. Sold two Grey Books with Stories.



Core Issues

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By: Lester O.



Mitch –Put the url on NA History, got some blowback from Randy in California – said it was misleading to call it NA Lit. Where is John? John? Had burgers and beans for dinner. Another friend, 65, died – doesn't know how exactly. He was very sick, looked peaceful. Had Lyme's Disease, on blood thinners.

Bo – Think the open Fellowship is catching on. WS represent themselves, do as they like, no group conscience.

Mitch –Fast average – If lifetime is 84, then 10% is 8.4 years, core group has been meeting weekly for five years. Long time!

Bo – currently working on two new books: The Land of Clean about what clean addicts experience on a daily basis and in time. Also, Death Road about the facts of modern addiction and how wide the cracks are in the system. Not a Fellowship or group conscience project but a needed book. Expect support from friends to write whole chapters. Nearly four hundred pages in Autobiography. New website: Matter of Principle, My Years with NA, Grey Book with Stories, NA Way of Life on <https://nasalden.myshopify.com> All will be available in three versions: hard back, soft cover and free download. The MOP will be ready in a month in hard cover and will display as they become available. The 12 Step service books are sold at cost, others are retail.

Mitch – How is Vito? I went through a period of dating which left me devastated when they didn't work out.

Mitch closed us out at 10:30 – “God grant me Peace in my recovery, Clarity in my mind, Love in my heart, and Generosity in my soul.”

Next meeting on May 31st, 2016

Other good closing prayers....

“They say a picture is worth a thousand words. But what if it reflects not reality but an agenda? In this age of airbrushed magazine covers, computer-generated images, reality tv, and phony viral video, have words lost meaning? Or have they become more important than ever?

“Dear God,

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*“Nothing blinds a person like fanaticism
which is just an outward expression of obsession.”*

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



Core Issues

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By: Lester O.



Drug Court graduates 30 in Lafayette County



Guess that they are cured now or maybe they just completed their sentence:



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6
By: Lester O.



Core Group Minutes

May 31, 2016

FreeconferencecallHD.com

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 S 404 – Mitch 410 – Lester 321

Recording – none

"Our best dreams become memories in recovery."

From eMails:

"Fear makes us weak. Information makes us stronger."

John F, Kansas City, MO

We had a guy show up holding a baby blue. Secretary had him ejected from the meeting. They beat the guy up out in the parking lot. He staggered off.

Nice, huh?

Finally: The thing wrong with an agentic state that views us as expendable is when there is a conflict of interest, they will 'expend' us. We are not expendable. We wrote our book. We people the Fellowship and bring to life the NA Program. Without us there is no NA. When we have needs that are not being met, we make arrangements to meet our needs. Money created the 'us and them' situation. Recovery and carrying our message is the important thing. Important items from last five years.

1. USSC - Vito asked for plan of action. A gathering of members showed up at Wichita for Fellowship Assembly One. An Informational Book was constructed to put writings to help attending members understand to situation we face. The main result was a good set of minutes and the general idea of a "disconnect" between the general membership and world services. Nobody seems to realize that there was no announced 'us and them' until the Basic Text was written with those who supported or participated in the writing on one side and those who did not on the other. In general 'us' is still alive and well in NA and 'them' keep working to control and attack what



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they see as the opposition. The original plan of action still exists in the IB and minutes of Wichita.

2. FA 1 – Wichita – 260 members showed up. They were the cream of the crop – the most informed members in the world at the time. Many were shocked to learn how much more was beyond their experience or informational base. They went home and constructed splinter groups that fit their level of understanding. The whole Fellowship benefitted because informal leaked out to more and more members.
3. Wichita Informational Booklet around 40 pages to inform attendance. Free download on core group NA.
4. Wichita FA 1 – Minutes – took 90 days to get minutes out. We still do not know reason for delay. Secretary posted they came out in three weeks. Free download on core group NA.
5. Disconnect - gap between world services and Membership.
6. Kansas City – Service Center planned but fell through. Planned central office in business incubator building with low cost and plenty of room to expand. Didn't do enough planning.
7. Jacksonville, Florida – Global NA planned but fell through.
8. Grey Book with Stories – well received by membership and first 100 copies distributed. Still attracting members interesting in having their own hard back copy. Cost of soft covers reduced to \$10.
9. Just for Tonight – 400 quotations earmarked, many with essays. Calendar year developed and quotes assigned. Planning face to face to develop essays, daily prayer and thought for each day. First ninety days sent out to core group May 5th. Thanks Kermit and all who helped.

NOTE: Select and enlarge to read and review.

DRUG RELATED DEATH STATISTICS

http://www.drugwarfacts.org/cms/Causes_of_Death#sthash.1UGUdr7u.dpbs

Bill F

From our RCM Report this month - What do YOU think??

"FIPT:

During the presentation on the FIPT, it was very calm and very quiet in the WSC room, Anthony went into detail of the current problems with the illicit texts, we heard stories of how these texts are creating problems in Spanish now essentially the region is in debt to NAWS over this as they ordered literature and no one is buying it. The overall question at the end is what we do now. Another Dilemma is occurring with the posting of the PDF versions as free downloads on ASC/Meeting websites, the current practice is to have NAWS request via email to remove the PDF. Often times the site person will remove it and repost either on that site or a similar site, this is causing a lot of work from NAWS staff chasing these down. Often times meetings or groups are being started and linked to NAWS just so they can either begin an illicit text meeting or post the free literature on their site.



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By: Lester O.



This type of thing termed “Grey Form” is popping up all over, the form is actually grey when send in to NAWs to request being added to the Meeting list on NA.org. The bigger question now is does NAWs actually remove a group from the meeting guide due to the literature issue. Later during the day we participated in a workshop to determine if we could come to a conclusion, but did not. The end result was that the WB would write a statement from the WSC 2016 regarding the FIPT.”

Agents

California defines an agent as “one who *represents* another, called the principal, in dealings with third persons.” Cal. Civ. Code § 2295, *see also* Restatement (Third) of Agency §1.01 (“Agency is the fiduciary relationship that arises when one person (a ‘principal’) manifests assent to another person (an ‘agent’) that the agent shall act on the principal’s behalf and subject to the principal’s control, and the agent manifests assent or otherwise consents so to act.”). Thus, the key to the agency relationship is the ability to act on another’s behalf. As William Shakespeare has Claudio say in *Much Ado About Nothing*:

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and trust no agent;

Less poetically, don’t send someone else to do your wooing.

<http://calcorporatelaw.com/2011/09/worlds-in-collision-agency-law-and-a-directors-fiduciary-duties/>

Discussion:

It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer.

Albert Einstein

8:30 Open:

แดน ชาร์ลส์

Our Home Group has been deleted off the world & regional websites...

Janice Kreidel

Since NAWs, Inc. has decided to try to coerce and bully Internet Service Providers (ISP) into removing NA literature instead of going into the Federal courts again this would be of interest to a great many people. A proper response will undoubtedly force them into the same courts they are trying to stay out of. :-)

Alternatively you could put up your website in a country that ignores DMCA takedown notices.

http://blogs.findlaw.com/law_and_life/2013/07/legal-how-to-responding-to-a-dmca-takedown-notice.html



Core Issues

JUNE, 2016 Vol. 4 Issue 6

By: Lester O.



[Legal How-To: Responding to a DMCA Takedown Notice](http://blogs.findlaw.com)

blogs.findlaw.com

If you feel clueless about how to respond to a DMCA takedown notice, don't worry, you're not alone. ...

Bo – Nasalden is going well, plenty of free downloads from all over the planet! Sold two GBS from website and got order for 15 GBS. Talking about servicing GBGs (Grey Book Groups) to manager Travis: formats, free starter kits, key tags, booklets extracted from GB, audio and video materials, GB meeting lists.

Paul D – “We have to stop passively participating and accepting things the way they are, and start approaching the future with the idea that we will not allow this to continue.”

Bo S. – This is the way NA began...

Bo – If it is not Steps and Traditions, it is not valid NA. Anyone who doesn't know this is not thinking clearly. We respect and follow the Steps and Traditions. We are NA, all else is not NA.

Bo - Talked with John about how to instigate RICO investigation. This will be the first genuine consequences to all the tomfoolery over the last twenty years. How can you have a representative body without the voting participants being able to formulate motions?

Report on Nasalden: over two hundred free downloads first three days after opening nasalden.myshopify.com several book orders. Got order today for fifteen GBS. Page policy: hardback, soft cover, free download of all items currently listed. Seeking autobiographies, biographies, already have a few in mind. No cost to members submitting material.

For the moment, I am dating...

Have six thousand inventory on hand, rearranging office to hold thirty thousand dollars of relevant literature. One goal is to make long clean time known to members and to the outside world. They need to know about our members who don't relapse, cause trouble, get in jail and exhibit the attributes of active addiction. That might help!

Mitch – Going to South Florida Regional Convention of NA. Sept 2nd to 5th.

Lester – Need last week's minutes in Word .docx.

Bo – Interviewed by Georgia RSC Committee to put together history of NA in Georgia. Boyd is preparing to interview me on video. Ron Hosius expressed interest in interviewing me for their history project. We'll see. I called Travis to represent me.

Lester, Mitch and I had brief talk about Miracles Happen book.

Bo – Spanish translation of GB. Richie is in Kenya with his wife, will contact for more information on how to best proceed. Since he was successful with Swahili translation of BT, he's the man who knows!

Bo – on being known by a lot of people, upside and downside.

Mitch – Can't be objective with myself – that's why I need other people in my life.



Core Issues

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By: Lester O.



Bo – Recovery provides other people from the beginning.

Mitch – Long as I don't push them away!!!

Bo – Will send Lester minutes from last week. Lester will send me something he found of interest on FB. Mitch is sending a long article he came across.

Closed at 9:50 - Bo led gratitude prayer: "Thank you God for your love and kindness in guiding our explorations and feelings." Amen

Mitch – Likes his job – cleaning rich people's balls on golf course!

Next meeting on June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016

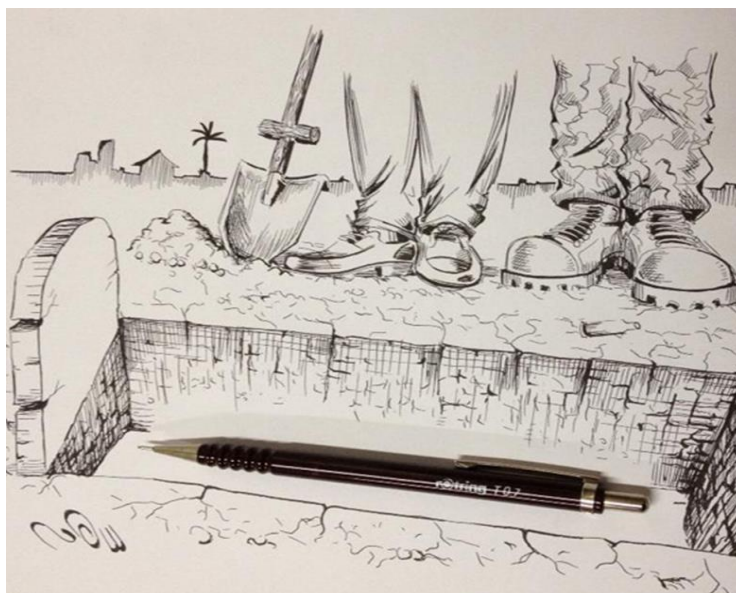
Other good closing prayers....

"They say a picture is worth a thousand words. But what if it reflects not reality but an agenda? In this age of airbrushed magazine covers, computer-generated images, reality TV, and phony viral video, have words lost meaning? Or have they become more important than ever?"

"Dear God,

Please protect and provide for me. Guide and illuminate the path of my pilgrimage. Grant me courage, commitment and strength. Teach me to care and give without reservation. Remind me of gratitude and principle. Please allow me to recognize your presence in me and around me and allow my life to be a reflection of your love." From Greg Pierce

"Nothing blinds a person like fanaticism



Funeral of the Free Word_The free pen is still an endangered species.



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Fan Page – “coreIssues” on Face Book

Recorded weekly meetings of the core group. 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

Addendum: for core group members:

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

Please select material below and set to 14 point size to read and review following articles. You can reset to 7 point when done or paste to another document. Let us know what you think and like/dislike.

Without including this in our minutes, the situation is almost impossible to believe, much less explain. This is why we need big change now! – Bo S.

Addendum A: NA Money Information...

Copy and Paste <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wN9dxQjT0s&feature=youtu.be>

Addendum B

Global Translation Project SWAHILI

My wife to be also took me to the Saturday morning meeting at one of the treatment centers. There was sometimes up to twenty people in attendance at these meetings. The format at this meeting was reading a page or two from the 6th Edition Basic Text as a focus for the meeting. When people shared, it was in Swahili and sometimes in English. There was no practice of the 7th Tradition, and probably all who attended had no introduction or knowledge of any of the other Traditions.

Jane and I moved to Ongata Rongai, a small town about an hour's drive from Nairobi, after we were married at the beginning of November, 2013. There was no NA in this part of Kenya. My wife was the Worship Team Leader at a local church in Ongata Rongai. There were many people attending her church who had had drug problems in the past, and who had stopped using because of their religious beliefs. They and the local Bishop seemed interested in the Program I



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was introducing to them as drug addiction was now epidemic in this part of the world.

We started meeting as a group in the church. I had brought a few copies of the Line numbered English Basic Text with me, so we used this book in the meetings to do the readings. The next move was to print the Who, What, Why and How readings in English. These folks could read English; however, it was obvious that these readings translated into Swahili would create a much deeper understanding of our literature. *I worked in Vancouver Pre-trial prison for 15 years during my early recovery. Daily, I would read the 5th Line numbered NA Basic Text with inmates, most of them from Mexico. They read the sentences beautifully in English, however, when I asked them what they thought was important, or what “spoke” to them from the reading, they would have little to say.*

I attended a world convention of Narcotics Anonymous in Colombia SA. Here, I introduced Spanish speaking members from around the world to the line numbered approach to helping each other read and study the Basic Text. Some members gave me their phone numbers and email addresses and asked me how they could help. I contacted each member and asked each of them to type out a Chapter, Step or a Tradition from their Spanish Basic Text in a Word document format and send it to me. My job would be to format it concordant to the line numbered English 5th edition. The end result of our community effort was an English-Spanish version of the Basic Text up to the end of Chapter 10. That meant that each sentence had a number followed by an English Sentence. Just below the English sentence was the Spanish translated equivalent.

We also formatted a complete Spanish Line numbered Basic Text that was also concordant to the English and English Spanish material that we had developed.

When I began using the Spanish-English material in the prison system, the guys that I was reading with would read their lines in Spanish while I would read my lines in English. Even though I don’t speak or understand much Spanish, I would know exactly what they were reading because I also was reading from a line numbered book. The really interesting thing about all this work we had done, was in the sharing. When people read the literature in their mother tongue, they seemed to understand it more completely. Where I had experienced little participation in the sharing after the reading using the English only text, I now experience full involvement with the literature and how it spoke to each individual deeply in their own mother tongue. Needless to say, I was impressed!!

We started meetings in two other places outside Ongata Rongai at the request of the Bishop. One was in Ruthigetti, a small town, about an hour drive away by car, or two hours away if we went by bus and by bus, it would take six buses in all just to get there. The other meeting was started in Namaluk, a small town in the opposite direction, again, an hour away by car, but in this case only an hour and a half to get there and only two buses away. These distances were advantageous at the beginning as it gave us a chance to discuss what the Narcotics Anonymous Program was about and what it was not about. Remember that for most of the people attending, they had no idea about any 12 step program.

By the time we started these meetings, we had the meeting readings translated into Swahili, and the beginning of each meeting was Swahili. There was a core group of us that attended these meetings in a car provided by the Bishop. At first, because the Bishop would come, in his car, and certainly it would give people at the meetings the belief that these meetings had something to do with the church. So many of them would rant about their religious beliefs for what



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seemed like forever. It turned out to be the motivation we needed to start more translating. We would translate a Chapter, a Step or a Tradition, put it in line numbered format and read it at the meeting. This helped to keep us more recovery material focused, but it also gave the group an opportunity to correct and improve the translation. After the meetings, I would go home and update any improvements or changes that had been discussed by the members at the meeting.

Because we met at these different locations four time a week, we were able to translate the first ten chapters and print a Swahili-English line numbered Basic Text and a Swahili Basic Text up to and including Chapter 10.

When we started attending these meetings, we spent many hours driving back and forth to the meetings. I was asked many questions about Narcotics Anonymous that I was really not equipped to answer. NAWS, in all its efforts to raise money, does not offer us with a reliable history book that I'm sure many would purchase if given the opportunity.

I did read Bob Stone's book However, there is always good old speculation and hearsay, and, having attended every World Convention since 1991 until now, only missing last year in Brazil, I have spoken to many addicts and heard many stories with which I have allowed myself to pieced together my own limited understanding of NA history.

In Kenya we started all of the translating of the Basic Text from the 6th edition NA English book. At some point the addicts in Kenya asked me why we were on the 6th edition of the Basic Text and the AA people were only on the 4th edition. I didn't know the answer, however, I stated that I suspected that it may have something to do with making more money. I made it quite clear to these folks that I use the 6th edition when I am in public as I want to be accepted and I would like to be included by other NA members.

However, I always use my 2nd edition with my close friends in Narcotics Anonymous. I use the 2nd edition as I believe that this is what we got when we prayed the prayer from our Introduction. I like the few typos that appear in my 2nd edition and I'm sorry that in some things I am still not that open minded, but I don't want any humans making my God given Program better. I think that the time in the history of Narcotics Anonymous, all the members responsible for the development of the Basic Text, your prayers, the loving God ...and all other factors for the development of the 2nd edition are the reasons that the Kenyan members decided to do what they did.

I shared my love of this Program with these guys as we drove down the road to our meetings. It wasn't long before they decided to scrap the translation of the 6th edition, go back to the beginning, and edit the work they had done so that it now reflected a translation of the 2nd edition. I believe that I tried to give them an equal choice of whether to translate the 2nd, the 3rd revised or the 6th edition. I believe they choose the 2nd mainly because they wanted the original stories. Whatever reason they choose, I believe that because the group choose it, it was a good choice.

Have to go to my 1:30 meeting now. Will try to send some pics of our meetings when I return.

Love in the Fellowship,
Richie K

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