

FCANA JUNE 2008 MINUTES

FIRST COAST ASC ATTENDANCE & VOTING ELIGIBILITY - JUNE, 2008				
Position	Trusted Servant	June	May	April
ASC CHAIR	JANELL S.	PP	PA	PPA
ASC VICE CHAIR (pro-tem)	JERRY U.	PA	PP	--P
RCM	"E"	PA	PP	PPP
ALTERNATE RCM	OPEN			
FRC BOARD REP.	OPEN			
ACTIVITIES CHAIR	OPEN			
CONV.COM.CHAIR FCACNA VII	JACQUE B.	PP	PA	PPA
Ad Hoc Convention Comm.	Disbanded			PP
HELPLINE CHAIR	JOHN B.	PP	PA	PPA
H&I CHAIR	TISH	PP	PP	PPP
LIT. REVIEW CHAIR	OPEN			
LIT. DISTRIBUTOR CHAIR	SHERRY B.	PP	PP	PPP
P.R. CHAIR	ERIC C.	PP	PA	AAP
POLICY CHAIR	DAVE V.	PP	PP	PPP
SECRETARY	TOM B.	PP	PP	PPP
ALT. SECRETARY	AMY K.	PP	PP	PAP
TREASURER	MIKE B.	PP	PP	AAA
ALT. TREASURER	OPEN			
A SHOT OF HOPE	No Vote July	AA	AA	AAA
ALIVE-N-KICKIN		AA	PP	PPP
AMELIA ISLAND		PP	PP	PPP
ANOTHER DAY CLEAN		PP	PP	PP-
AVONDALE		PA	PP	PP-
BACK TO BASICS (NEW)	No Vote July	AA	AA	AAA
BEGINNING OF THE END	No Vote July	AA	AA	AAA
BYOM	No Vote July	AA	AA	AAA
CARRY THE MESSAGE (NEW)		PP	AP	PPA
CLEAN AND SERENE	No Vote July	AA	AP	AAA
DEEPNA		PP	PP	PAA
ESSENCE OF GOD'S WILL	No Vote July	AA	AA	PPA
FRANTIC SERENITY		PA	AA	PPA
FREEDOM OF CHOICE		PP	PP	PPP
GRATITUDE		AA	AA	AAA
IT WORKS: WE DO RECOVER	No Vote July	AA	AA	AA
IT'S ABOUT CHANGE (NEW)		PP	PA	PPA
JUST FOR TODAY		PP	PP	PPP
JUST SAY NO		AA	AA	AAA
LIVING WITH HOPE		AA	PP	PPP
LOST AND FOUND	No Vote July	PA	AA	AAA
MIDDLEBURG (New)		AA	AA	AAA

MORE WILL BE REVEALED		PP	AA	PPP
NEW BEGINNINGS	No Vote July	PP	AA	AAA
NEW HOPE		PA	AA	AA
NEW LIFE		PP	AA	APP
NO MORE EXCUSES		PP	PP	PPP
REBUILDING OUR BROKEN WORLD		PP	PP	PPP
RECOVERY		PP	PP	PPP
RECOVERY AT WORK		PP	PP	AAA
RIVERSIDE NOON GROUP		PP	PP	PPP
SICKER THAN MOST		PP	PP	PPP
SOLO POR HOY (NEW)	No Vote July	AA	AA	PPP
SPIRITUAL AWAKENING		PP	PP	PPA
THE ULTIMATE WEAPON		AA	PA	PPA
TIMUQUANA GROUP		AA	PP	AAA
TURNING POINT		PP	PP	PPP
WAY OUT		PP	PP	PPP
YOUTH AND RECOVERY		AP	PP	PPP
Eligible at opening roll call = 20	Quorum = 11	Majority= 14		
Highlighted not eligible to vote at June ASC. Reinstated = after 2 consecutive months				
There were 2 roll calls. Quorum was maintained till the end of the ASC this month.				

Meeting Opens

The First Coast Area Service Committee (ASC) met Sunday, June 8th, 2008, at The Savoy Club at 6354 Arlington Road, Jacksonville, FL 32211. ***(Next month the ASC will meet at the same location.)*** The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by the Chair and opened with a moment of silence followed by the Service Prayer. The 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts were read. The floor was opened to anyone wanting to address the First Coast Area.

The motion was made on the floor to vote Jerry U. into the position of Pro-Tem Vice-Chair once the floor was opened. GSR's voted YEA to this motion with a vote of 19-0-0.

Recovery Group addressed the floor and apologized to Done with the Past for the way they were treated at last area.

The new area announced its formation (Bob F. represented as liaison) and read the following letter:

Letter of Formal Introduction and Intent

To The First Coast Area;

The purpose of this letter is to formally announce the formation of a new Area Service Committee located in northeast Florida. We have not voted on a name at this time.

We are forming, because with all the new growth that the First Coast Area has experienced, we believe that the addict who still suffers can be better served with the formation of this new ASC. The larger an ASC becomes, the more difficult it is to communicate effectively, the harder it becomes to remain directly responsible to those we serve, and the more important the (perceived) need for organization, efficiency, specialization, and control. We believe that both Areas and all the home groups can benefit from the "birth" of this new Area.

The Guide to Local Service has a tremendous amount of information on "Dividing Area Service Committees (beginning on page 70). Two the items that stand out include;

- 1 "we must emphasize: Your Groups aren't getting a divorce! It's the service apparatus we are dividing, not the fellowship... we encourage you to also take steps to maintain the unity of the NA fellowship in your community."

- 1 “we encourage the entire area to a participate in the division problems, resolve whatever disagreements may arise, and then take an active part in implementing the program developed by your area – in other words, cooperate and surrender!”

On page 74 in the Guide to Local Service, it speaks about “Shared Services”. The new Area is interested in participating with the First Coast Area in two primary areas of shared services at this time. We believe that it will best serve both areas and all addicts alike, that we have a shared meeting schedule and shared helpline.

Because of the vagueness of geographical boundaries, it would be difficult at best to keep these services separate. For example, two home groups in St. Augustine have decided to join the new Area. The third has not. So even in a smaller geographical area like St. Augustine, there could be a lot of confusion for new addicts, visitors from outside our area and even some of us that have been here for a while.

The new Area is willing to contribute for these services. We would like first to ascertain that the First Coast Area is willing to share these services, and then we could arrange a discussion on what would be appropriate for each service.

We are looking forward to the continued growth of Narcotics Anonymous, for both the First Coast Area and the newly formed Area. We hope our mutual interactions will be practical, spiritual, and be intent on carrying the message of NA to all of northeast Florida. And in the words of Jimmy K., our founder, “We can all do together what we can’t do alone but we must remember that the program is based in goodwill & co-operation; when we do not find these we do not see the fellowship in its essence. Yours in fellowship & love, Jimmy Kinnon.”

Thank you for this opportunity to serve.
In grateful service,

Bob F.

Secretary's Report

Hi Family!

There were 2 mistakes made in the May minutes, one typesetting, the other an error in reporting:

Motion # 080508, Maker: Another Day Clean

Second: Carrying the Message

Date: 5/4/08

Motion: To hold monies from FCACNA 8. \$2659.76

Intent: To allow ASC to determine use of funds.

In editing the minutes, we cut off the **Status** information, which was **PASSED**.

Maker: Recovery

Second: Recovery at Work

Motion # 080502

Date: 5/4/08

Motion: Add to convention policy that there be no individual recognition or thank-yous to convention committee at the convention.

Intent: Maintain spirit of selfless service.

Status: Incorrectly listed as Out of Order when the correct action was: Chair directed the Convention Committee to review this motion at their next subcommittee meeting and bring back a recommendation to the ASC.

We have a meeting request form to get your help to look for a new place for the ASC to meet.

Does anyone have a suggestion? Please contact the organization and then pass their information off to the Treasurer so we can confirm the details of what it will take to meet there.

The past month, the minutes got out on time.

The minutes and the forms that we use are also located on our website in the Area Service section:

<http://www.firstcoastna.org/area.htm>.

We are circulating the GSR/ALT GSR mailing list and contact info. Please make sure that it is correct. We are also circulating a calendar blank. Please make note of any upcoming events. Info can also be sent to us at secretary@firstcoastna.org or the webmaster at webservant@firstcoastna.org.

Here's the list of our expenses and reimbursement request, there were some added expenses this month because we stocked up on envelopes and mailing labels:

ASC SECRETARY EXPENSES	May-08
STAMPS	\$41.54
STAMPS SECOND MAILING	none
COPIES	\$53.55
Additional Copies	\$37.43
ENVELOPES	
LABELS	
PRINT OUT (TIME @ KINKOS)	
MISC. SUPPLIES (ENVELOPES & LABELS)	74.58
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 207.10
Cash Advanced for May	\$ (120.00)
Budget for April (\$120)	
TOTAL REQUESTED	\$ 87.10

Thank you for allowing us to be of service,

Tom B.

Secretary, FCANA

Amy K.

Alternate Secretary, FCANA

June 2008 Treasurers Report

Hey Family,

My name is Mike and I am an addict. I just wanted to let you know a few details about this months Treasurers Report.

First, it was brought to my attention that I had been reporting an incorrect amount for the prudent reserve. I had been reporting it as \$1950.00 when it was supposed to be \$2100.00. This was an oversight on my part and I apologize.

Second, through my participation with the Policy subcommittee I have found another housekeeping issue with the prudent reserve. After checking the dates on motion numbers it was discovered that the Activities Subcommittee budget is \$500.00 instead of \$300.00, therefore the prudent reserve now reflects these two corrections.

Third, at the time the minutes were being printed, I had still not received the bill from Toms Printing. I will continue checking the mail box on a daily basis and mail the check as soon as I get the bill. I will report the outcome and any change in the account balance at the next scheduled ASC meeting.

If there are any questions concerning this report or any matter concerning the treasury, please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

In loving service,
Mike B.

June 2008 Treasurer's Report

Starting Balance			\$1,441.73
MONTHLY INCOMING FUNDS			
GROUP NAME	LITERATURE	7th TRADITION	TOTAL
Alive & Kickin		\$196.32	\$196.32
Amelia Island		\$248.00	\$248.00
A New Beginning	\$47.40		\$47.40
A New Life			\$0.00
Another Day Clean		\$60.00	\$60.00
A Shot of Hope			\$0.00
Avondale	\$24.61	\$75.39	\$100.00
Back To Basics			
Beginning of the End			
Carrying the Message		\$33.00	\$33.00
Clean & Serene			\$0.00
Deepna	\$190.75	\$127.50	\$318.25
Done With The Past			
Essence of Gods Will for us			\$0.00
Frantic Serenity		\$62.00	\$62.00
Freedom of Choice	\$116.01	\$11.99	\$128.00
Gratitude			\$0.00
It's About Change	\$42.48	\$22.52	\$65.00
It Works, We Do Recover			
Just For Today		\$10.00	\$10.00
Just Say No			\$0.00
Living With Hope			\$0.00

Lost & Found			
Message of Recovery			
Middleburg Group			\$0.00
More will be Revealed	\$97.99	\$0.01	\$98.00
New Hope		\$230.00	\$230.00
No More Excuses	\$59.32	\$12.68	\$72.00
On the Pathway to Recovery			\$0.00
Rebuilding Our Broken World			\$0.00
Recovery		\$276.21	\$276.21
Recovery at Work	\$17.67	\$115.33	\$133.00
Riverside Noon Group	\$54.70	\$45.40	\$100.10
Sicker Than Most	\$109.06	\$11.06	\$120.12
Spiritual Awakening		\$100.00	\$100.00
Timuquana Group			
Turning Point		\$163.00	\$163.00
Ultimate Weapon			\$0.00
We Do Recover			
Way Out			\$0.00
Youth & Recovery	\$56.39	\$28.66	\$85.05
TOTAL	\$816.38	\$1,829.07	\$2,645.45
Other Incoming Funds			
Reimbursement from H&I			\$1.15
Reimbursment from ASC Chair			\$15.00
donation from FCACNA 7			\$165.00
Misc. Literature Order			\$11.00
Reimbursement from RCM			\$20.00
Total Incoming Funds			\$2,857.60
Total Available Funds			\$4,299.33
Monthly Outgoing Funds			
Recurring Monthly Expenses			
Toms Instant Printing ck#1956			
AT&T ck#1953			(\$87.02)
AT&T ck#1954			(\$5.17)
Absent Answer ck#1955			(\$300.00)
FRSO Literature ck#1957			(\$1,213.19)
Subcommittees			
Helpline			(\$10.00)
Literature Distributor			
Secretary (advance)			(\$120.00)
Public Information	lit. \$54.57	rent \$20.00	(\$20.00)
Activities			
Treasurer (stamps)			(\$10.00)
H&I (Rent and Supplies)			(\$60.00)
Policy(reimbursement for Feb.)			
Regional Expenses			
Reimbursement for gas			(\$102.00)
Other Expenses			
Reimbursement to Alt. Sec.			(\$87.10)

rent for June ASC location			(\$100.00)
Total Outgoing Funds			(\$2,114.48)
Incoming Funds Less Outgoing Funds			
RECAP:			
Prudent Reserve			\$2,300.00
Donation To Region			
Month Ending Balance			
Seed money for FCACNA 9			\$5,020.00
profits from FCACNA 8			\$2,659.76
Total available funds			\$2,184.85
Unresolved Bills Past Due			
Total Unresolved			
H&I Literature Order			\$375.28
Check #1949 VOID			

RCM Report:

First I would like thank this area for letting me be part of my progress and focus on my recovery and to understand the manning of unity within the fellowship. I leaned to be paid in and to focus on the primary purpose, which is to carry the message to still suffering addict. I need to express my concern of the lack of knowledge and the fear of change is wait hold us back. So I thank you for opportunity of this fellowship and the people that I met. Thank you and your trusted servants "E"

The meeting started with a Moment of Silence followed by the serenity Prayer and the reading of the twelve concepts, twelve traditions and the purpose of the RSC. Discussion on the P R booth and balance of funds due RSC.

Small claims case filed for 2,000 in Bartow, Polk County, FL

Per trial conference Friday 13th. RSC Chair and Secretary to attend.

Could result in mediation. Trusted Chair to mediate. Check for 2,000 cleared.

AD-Hoc on Restructure Policy .Assignments given to individual admin member to revise certain sections of the policy and send to BJ (policy Chair) for final compiling before being sent to Areas before their June Area meeting.

Helpline; there has been more interest in virtual PBX systems that allow live answering of incoming helpline call. One area has implemented one such system successfully.

PR ; upcoming events; Fadaa in Orlando, August 20-22.2008.

National Conference of women, addiction and recovery. September 15-17, 2008.

Motion #39 Rule out of order.

Motion #29b The RSO to print 100 copies at a cost of \$7.50 plus shipping.

Motion #52 to suspend policy, pg #43 #9(duties of policy chairperson) until the outcome of the new restructure motion is know (41p) .Outcome 16/0/0 will remains on table for July region.

Motion # 41p passed 12/4/o.

Motion #44 passed 14/0/2.
Motion #45 passed 15/0/1.
Motion #46 passed 15/0/1.
Motion #47 passed 15/0/1.
Motion#48 passed 15/0/1.
Motion #49 passed 14/0/2.
Motion #52 passed 16/0/0.
Motion #50 Tabled to areas.
Motion #54 passed 15/0/1 .
Motion #55p Tabled to Areas.
Motion #56 passed 16/0/0.
Motion # 57p Outcome to Ad-Hoc RESTRUCTURE.
Motion #58 Rule out of order/Tabled to policy.
Motion #59p Tabled to policy.

In loving service, RCM "E"

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ACTIVITIES

Open

POLICY

MEETING PLACE: 9:45 a.m. at The Savoy Club, 6354 E. Arlington Road, Jacksonville, FL.

COMMENTS: Motions reviewed, error was discovered.

Motion 080502: minutes reported incorrectly...was not tabled... "directed FCACNA to review in subcommittee and return a recommendation to the ASC."

Motion 080503: Recommendation: no violation of traditions or concepts, or negative financial impact on the ASC. 10-0-0.

Motion 080505: Recommendation: no violation of traditions or concepts, or negative financial impact on the ASC. Clarification to the home groups – this motion is an alternate to the convention being held every year. 7-2-0

CHAIR: David V. **Vice Chair** Chris A. **Secretary** Tom B.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE FCACNA 8

MEETING PLACE: Hope House, First Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m.

COMMENTS: Based on FCACNA guidelines, quorum of 51% of voting participants and 50% of administrative committee, quorum was not met. Chair was present with only 3 subcommittee chairs present. Money for t-shirts sold in Daytona was turned in, in the amount of \$165.00 and 52 shirts have been placed in storage. 3 letters of willingness turned-in as well.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Next meeting will be July – 1st Tuesday at Hope House @ 6:30 p.m. If anyone has willingness to become member. The requirement is 2 consecutive meetings. Still accepting letters of willingness for sub-committee chairs only.

ITEMIZED MONTHLY EXPENSES:

CHAIR: Jacque B. **Vice Chair:** Mike S. **Secretary:** Warren L.

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS

MEETING PLACE: Hope House, Thursday, June 5th at 6:00 p.m.

COMMENTS: Subcommittee met with 21 in attendance. Nominations and elections upcoming. We need support. Especially in Clay County facility. Policy was reviewed for housekeeping purposes; and is ready to resubmit with minor typo-errors corrected.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: We had a Duval Co. "badging" appreciation dinner in Clay Co. 10 trusted servants were recognized with 2 plaques and certificates of appreciation. Learning Day was on June 7th with 16 people in attendance. Several basic texts delivered to Clay Co.

ITEMIZED MONTHLY EXPENSES: **CHAIR:** Tish R. **Vice Chair:** Teri G. **Secretary:** Dena J.

HELPLINE

MEETING PLACE: Calvin Presbyterian Church, 4050 Barnes Road, 1st Monday of every month @ 7pm.

COMMENTS: All shifts covered. Work continues on setting up automated system with current answering service. Brynn O. will attend PR meeting for continuation of subcommittees merger discussion. Brian M. is submitting letter of willingness for Helpline chair.

MOTIONS FOR ASC: Helpline subcommittee nominates current Vice Chair of Helpline Brian M. to become Helpline Chair.

CHAIR: John B. **Vice Chair:** Brian M. **Secretary:** Mary Jo V.

LITERATURE DISTRIBUTOR

MEETING PLACE: 5616 Atlantic Blvd. @ Hope House 3rd Sat. of every month @ 12:45pm.

COMMENTS: I had to make some changes to the info. listed on the meeting schedule, due to lack of space available. I need guidance from ASC as to whether or not we want to increase size of paper meeting schedules are printed on.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Literature was stamped and orders were filled and it is back here for pick-up.

CHAIR: Sherry B. **Alt. Chair:**

LITERATURE (REVIEW) CHAIR

Open

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEETING PLACE: Faith United Methodist Church, 1821 S. San Pablo Rd. 8 people in attendance. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, 2008

COMMENTS: PR and Helpline are still researching other areas with their success in a merging subcommittee.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: George P. to find out cost to attend weeklong College Health Fair in July for Florida School of Addiction Studies. Regular vendor's cost \$400.00/booth.

ITEMIZED MONTHLY EXPENSES: \$50.00 for P.R. handbooks and \$20.00 for rent at the meeting location.

MOTIONS FOR ASC: To transfer the responsibility of maintaining and distributing the meeting schedule from Literature Distributor to the Public Relations subcommittee.

CHAIR: Eric C. **Secretary:** Chelsie P.

THE FOLLOWING WAS DISTRIBUTED AT AREA:

To: Conference Participants

From: World Board

Date: 25 January 2008

Re: Service Pamphlets

Greetings to conference participants.

We are sending you this material about service pamphlets in preparation for discussion at the upcoming conference. While these items are being sent along with the Conference Approval Track material in order to save mailing costs, they should not be considered CAT material. These pieces are *not* up for approval at the conference; they are included here to help conference participants think concretely about the issues related to the development, content, and approval of service pamphlets. We look forward to hearing your thoughts at WSC 2008.

The Origin of "Service Pamphlets"

As most of you know, the distinct category of service pamphlets came into being after the last World Service Conference. Among the many things discussed at the conference was the lack of flexibility in our literature development process, that it can take as long to develop a short pamphlet on a service related topic as it does to produce a lengthy piece on a recovery topic (years). In an effort to create a more nimble process, the conference passed a motion “to allow the World Board to develop and approve service-related information pamphlets and tools for distribution to the fellowship.” This new process gives world services a more timely way to disseminate material generated from fellowship discussions and to meet the needs of groups and committees looking for information and resources to help them with their more immediate challenges. Ideally, the development of these pamphlets is collaborative and ongoing. Fellowship need and discussion can lead to the creation or revision of a piece at any time. The 2008 CAR reports on our early efforts to produce service pamphlets and some of the questions that were raised as a result.

The Difficulty Defining “Service” Material

Perhaps the biggest question that has come up for us has to do with the category itself: What makes a “service pamphlet” a “service pamphlet”? We found it difficult at times to draw a clear line between recovery literature or topics and service literature or topics. We grappled with this distinction and found ourselves “stuck” repeatedly. We weren’t sure how we’d categorize some pieces (recovery material? service material? some other name?) or what would be the most fitting approach for their development and approval. Many items seem relatively easy to categorize, but for each item that seems clear, there are other items that seem to fall into a grey area. Some things are clearly “service” materials. *Group Trusted Servants: Roles and Responsibilities* and *Group Business Meetings*, for instance, two of the service pamphlets we released in 2007, were both intended to be used by groups to help their meetings and business meetings run more smoothly. Other items, however, can be more ambiguous, or harder to define. Another of those first five service pamphlets, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, was also intended to help groups function more effectively, particularly when facing challenges such as an influx of court-ordered attendees. The use of this pamphlet is, in this way, service-related, but the audience or intended reader is not the group as a whole. The pamphlet is really geared toward a newcomer or potential member of NA.

However, we found in our discussions that consideration of intended use and/or audience—for whom the pamphlet is written—is not always helpful when trying to distinguish between “service” and “recovery” material. Things relating to the traditions on a group level, for instance, could be thought of as service material, since they are addressed to the group and intended to help meetings or committees, but historically texts dealing with traditions have been treated as “recovery” literature and are developed through that process. In this case, it seems that there is a useful distinction to be made between writing that outlines basic principles and philosophy, such as the chapters in *It Works: How and Why*, and writing that details how to put those principles into practice, such as *PI and the NA Member*. We generally found that looking at service material from this perspective—philosophy versus practice—was more helpful than focusing on intended use and audience.

Moving Forward Together

We have had extensive discussions about this subject at almost every board meeting. We are trying to provide you with as much information as possible about where these discussions have brought us so that we can continue this discussion with you at the conference. We hope this memo helps to frame the issues for you and that our discussions at WSC 2008 are as productive as possible. We are sending this material to you ninety days before the conference in draft form, and have not attempted to publish these particular pieces as service pamphlets so that we can have this conversation about the future of these items and the larger issues. We believe it is our common goal to provide the fellowship with helpful and usable tools in their efforts to carry the message.

Contents of the Mailing

All three of the pamphlets following this cover letter illustrate the hazy boundary between service and recovery literature. Two of the three are new pieces we are working on. *Benefits of Service* is another piece addressing a service-related issue, but written for the individual member. *Leadership and Principles in NA* was initially drafted for the individual member, but has been revised with a service committee audience in mind. We are enclosing both drafts here so that you can see the evolution of the ideas as this piece changed from one targeted to a member to one targeted to a group or committee.

Changes to An Introduction to NA Meetings

The third pamphlet enclosed is *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, mentioned above. This was one of the first five service pamphlets we released, but we stopped distributing it after hearing concern from members over the description of “clean” in the pamphlet. We are including it here for the purposes of discussion, with the definition of

“clean” omitted, and additional language added. The additional language tells members on medication or drug replacement that they are welcome in NA and that our philosophy of complete abstinence can best be conveyed to them by reading NA literature and by talking to NA members.

The controversy that arose as a result of distributing *An Introduction to NA Meetings* illustrated the fact that we don't have a written definition of “clean” agreed upon by the fellowship as a whole. It was never the point of this pamphlet to resolve the issue of what it means to be “clean” or to define that term for the membership; to do so would be an example of text that establishes NA principle or philosophy, which is the sort of text that we don't believe should fall under WB Approved material. We believe that the piece as revised simply conveys already understood NA practice.

The list of terms in An Introduction to NA Meetings

As an aside, another question that has arisen about this piece has to do with its use of a glossary altogether. It seems some members are under the impression that including definitions of terms in the piece is contrary to the will of the conference because the 2006 conference voted down a motion to create a project plan, timeline, and budget for the creation of a recovery glossary. We do not see the brief list of terms explaining NA language to potential members in the enclosed service pamphlet as the same sort of endeavor as a project to create a recovery glossary. The list of terms in *An Introduction to NA Meetings* is comparable to the lists at the end of *A Guide to Local Services in NA* or the *CAR*; it's meant to explain some of our terminology to those new to NA or NA service.

The Benefits of the Board-Approved Process

Our experience with *An Introduction to NA Meetings* demonstrated one of the best things about this new development track—its responsiveness. Because these service pamphlets are board-approved, they can be pulled or revised promptly as a result of fellowship input. The impetus for creating the service pamphlet track was to get material to the fellowship in a timely way, widely distributed, and to be able to adapt it as needed. These things all seem to be working well. WCNA-32 gave us an opportunity to distribute the service pamphlets in an unprecedented way; bulletins are not distributed nearly so widely. Nonetheless, it may be that the service pamphlet process could be improved. Perhaps we should have some sort of limited review or do a mailing to conference participants before general distribution to the fellowship. We would like to talk to participants at the conference about these questions of process as well.

Other Revisions Ahead

Another service pamphlet we would like to revise is *NA Groups and Medication*. We plan to have those revisions ready for your review and comment at WSC 2008. We plan to add material to this pamphlet from our existing bulletin on Methadone. Our goal is to end up with one piece that helps groups discuss and deal with this issue, rather than two pieces with overlapping and possibly even contradictory content.

Revisions to the Approval Process Policy

In the meantime, the Conference Approval Track material itself outlines new language we are proposing to describe the literature approval process. The motion that passed at the 2006 WSC prompted us to rewrite the policy, and we realized it made sense to do more than just tweak the policy but to devise a policy that works better and is easier to understand. We could have “piecemealed” a revision to policy and simply added a description of the new approval track created by the motion at WSC 2006, but it didn’t make sense to us to do that because even without a new development track to codify as policy, the distinctions outlined in the existing policy aren’t always clear. It made more sense to us to look at the policy as a whole and propose a revision that encompassed all of the literature and service material development tracks.

Honestly, we struggled in our discussions to try to come up with accurate and descriptive names for NA’s different types of literature, but again, we found ourselves getting “stuck” at times. What makes an “informational” pamphlet “informational”? Is *Am I an Addict* or *Self-Acceptance* the same category or type of literature as *H&I Service and the NA Member*, for example? Both are treated as “recovery literature” in terms of the approval process, but one could easily argue that the latter is “service or informational material.” There seemed to be no way to describe the different categories of texts other than using names to indicate the way they are approved: Fellowship approved, conference approved, and board approved. (The specific details of development and approval for each particular project would still be spelled out in the project plans.) Nonetheless, we have put together the policy that makes the most sense to us at this time, and we are open to the possibility that discussions at this conference may further refine and clarify that policy.

In Closing

Above and beyond the nuts and bolts of the policy, however, we look forward to discussing the broad issues that have been raised through the development of these service pamphlets. It is worth noting that the materials developed thus far have used the input from the Issue Discussion Topics as source material. The ability to revise or adapt these service pamphlets is much easier under this new process, and hopefully allows us to be more responsive to fellowship needs and concerns.

We believe that the following pieces would fall under board approval status because they do not seek to establish any new ideas or philosophy. Again, we are only distributing them to conference participants at this time to allow delegates time to reflect on the pieces before our discussions at WSC 2008. We will forward the revisions to *NA Groups and Medication* prior to the conference.

Please bring your thoughts to WSC 2008.

Service and the NA Member—the Benefits of Giving Back

The explanation of the NA symbol in the opening pages of our Basic Text points out that the foundation of our program is goodwill, and that goodwill is “best exemplified in service.” As a fellowship of addicts who had become all but incapable of demonstrating care or concern for others, the notion of demonstrating goodwill for others, and even ourselves, can be a terrifyingly foreign concept. As we begin to open up and trust other addicts enough to begin to let the Twelve Steps work in our lives, our attitude gradually shifts to make goodwill possible for us, once again. Often the first place we demonstrate that goodwill is in service to each other in Narcotics Anonymous.

Love in Action

We are sometimes tempted to draw lines between recovery and service, as if they are separate from each other. Service might seem like a chore to be dreaded, or a hobby best suited to certain types of NA members. When we experience relief from the fear, anger, and resentment that come with self-obsession, we are typically overjoyed at the chance to share that with others. After all, we keep what we have by giving it away. Service in NA is how we put our love and gratitude into action. Service isn’t a hobby for dull members or a chore we must suffer through. NA service is how we put our Twelfth Step to work with the Twelve Traditions. The Twelve Steps of NA give us the benefits of freedom from active addiction and an awakening of the spirit. Putting our gratitude into action by serving NA also offers many benefits, a few of which are listed here.

“A Part of”

When we had the awakening that Narcotics Anonymous offers another way to live, many of us wanted to feel connected to the rest of the NA Fellowship. As new members, the wreckage of our active addiction still weighed heavily on us. We needed ways to build our sense of self-worth. When other members asked

us to show up early to the meeting to make coffee or set up chairs, we felt a sense of purpose. We no longer felt like guests—we were becoming part of the group. Maybe we didn't have money yet to put in the basket, but we could stack chairs, wipe off tables, or clean coffee cups when the meeting ended. We began to feel like we were pulling our own weight and practicing self-support.

Keeping What We Have

No matter how hard we work our program of recovery, there are days when each of us feels lousy. Maybe our bills are overwhelming or we get in an argument with a partner or friend, or maybe we don't feel well physically. We may have moments when we question whether recovery is making a difference. In our worse moments, we might begin to feel as if we're no better than when we got here. If self-obsession begins to take hold, service can help us open the door to a world beyond our own wants and needs. Simple actions such as taking a call from the local helpline or sharing on a panel in a treatment center quickly remind us of how much our lives really have improved. Even when part of us seems to yearn for self destruction, helping someone else can help us feel worthwhile and find a sense of purpose. We aren't the only ones who benefit from our service. Those simple actions we make can have profound impact on still-suffering addicts. Most of us recall the turning point in our lives when we finally began to believe that we, too, could stay clean and find a new way to live. We have a chance in Narcotics Anonymous to help other addicts have that same experience. Very little can compare to the joy of seeing hope pass over a newcomer's face as he or she dares for the first time to imagine that life without drugs is possible. Every NA member can relate to that experience on some level. Many members need no other reason to serve than to help other addicts experience the hope that NA offers.

In All Our Affairs

In addition to the strengthening our recovery and experiencing the joy of helping others, service helps us gain valuable skills and experience to use in our everyday lives. One of the many challenges we face in service is the task of learning how to work well with others. Addiction and self-centeredness have endowed us with a wide variety of antisocial behaviors and bizarre survival techniques. Practicing the principles of the steps and traditions as we serve with others helps us rely less on our character defects. The changes we face aren't always comfortable or painless, but when we stay clean, we emerge as better leaders and stronger people. The skills and approaches we learn in service help us in other areas of our lives. We practice these principles in our homes and our workplaces, with our friends and loved ones, and our lives improve as a result.

Those of us who grew up in unstable environments may find conflict extremely threatening or uncomfortable. Part of the recovery process is learning that we don't have to shrink from disagreement. We learn that we can agree to disagree, or disagree without being disagreeable. Even if we don't get along perfectly, serving together over time shows us that we're all on the same side. Our service meetings may get uncomfortable, heated, or adversarial, but we all want what's best for NA. The intense feelings about our disagreements pass, the principles of the program prevail, and we learn that we have other options besides fight or flight. There is something special about our deeply personal desire to help other addicts. Our ideas about how to do it might vary, but our primary purpose helps us find an unparalleled sense of unity with each other, regardless of our personal feelings toward each other. We use our principles to navigate conflict calmly. Disagreement and confrontation no longer need to be wrapped up in fear and anger, but even if they are, we can still get up at the end of the meeting, gather in a circle, and close in a spirit of unity.

Service adds a new layer of meaning to our relationships with others. The successes and setbacks we share help us develop deep bonds with members who might not otherwise be our friends. Empathy with one another grows as we share in the joys and pains of life on life's terms. When our service commitments end, our relationships with other trusted servants have often changed profoundly. Friendships become deeper, and we may even begin to find respect for members we don't like. This ability to connect with others and to peacefully coexist has great affects on all of our relationships, in and out of NA.

A Power Greater Than Ourselves

Service can also be a very important part of our relationship with a Higher Power. Some members find their first working understanding of a Higher Power through service. The power we find working together is greater than anything we could accomplish alone. Our literature suggests that we can use the group as a power greater than ourselves. When we experience group business or service committee meetings, we

see group conscience at work. Sometimes we think that our individual idea is best for the group, but the group or committee doesn't choose it, no matter how hard we argue. The results of the group conscience often turn out better than we could have imagined. Of course, that's not always the case. Sometimes we follow the group conscience and end up facing further difficulties. But when we maintain unity as a group, keep our primary purpose first, and focus on solutions instead of blame and fault, we tap into a loving force powerful enough to accomplish amazing tasks and overcome tremendous adversity. The group can be a simple, practical example of a loving power greater than ourselves.

Involvement with service committees is a great way to practice conscious contact with a power greater than ourselves, especially for those of us who do not pray. We add to the group conscience by sharing our ideas openly. When we actively listen to the conscience of the group, we soon find the knowledge of ways to serve and carry the NA message. In addition, actions speak louder than words, and taking steps to carry out the will of the group conscience is a great way to express our love and gratitude for Narcotics Anonymous. We may not see the results we expect or desire, but our efforts are never in vain. Even if we feel as though we haven't carried a message to anyone else, we have stayed clean for another day and strengthened our own recovery.

Our Common Welfare

One of the long-range benefits of our service is the contribution we make to NA as a whole. Recovery has given us, and the members around us, many amazing gifts. If we pause to imagine the future of NA, we easily see that the benefits of recovery have a snowball effect. In service, we work to be ready for addicts seeking relief from active addiction. But our service reaches beyond the addicts getting clean today. Our work helps the addicts who will find NA months, years, and even decades from now. The newcomers we sponsor today will carry the message to countless other addicts in years to come. The trusted servants we mentor today will guide others in service later. All that we do in service extends the reach of the Narcotics Anonymous message so that no addict need die, today or in years to come, without the opportunity to choose recovery.

A Way of Life

Our Twelfth Step calls us to carry our message to other addicts and to live our principles in every area of our lives. We carry our message directly by working with addicts one-on-one or in our groups, and we do it indirectly in service to NA. Our support for services that keep NA alive and growing ensures that addicts have a place to hear our message. As we live by our principles and share freely of ourselves, we become that message of hope.

Leadership and Principles in Narcotics Anonymous Service (To the Member)

The program of Narcotics Anonymous helps us cultivate our best qualities. As we stay clean and work the Twelve Steps, we gain freedom from the self-obsession at the core of addiction. We begin to care about still-suffering addicts, other NA members, and other human beings. Where once we were only self-serving, we develop a spirit of service to others. We demonstrate this by getting involved in our groups and service bodies. We put the needs of still-suffering addicts and NA as a whole before our own desires.

When we give our best to NA in service, we grow as a result, and our growth improves what we have to offer in service. Service gives all of us a chance to give back to NA, but our skills and talents vary dramatically from one member to the next. Our service efforts tend to be much more successful when we make the best use of our available resources. This begins with choosing strong leaders who can help others reach their full potential in service. In order to choose effective leaders, we need to understand effective leadership.

The Value of Leadership in NA

There are countless ways to serve in NA. Many groups have positions such as greeter, coffee maker, or clean-up person, all of which require little more than willingness. These are the types of tasks that can be done by anyone. The impact of these positions on our primary purpose varies. If no one makes coffee or tea, for example, it could arguably still be a decent meeting. But if no one cleans up after the meeting ends, we might run the risk of ruining our relationship with the meeting facility, which could affect our ability to be available to newcomers looking for help. Some cases are more subtle. For example, if we don't have a greeter, it might not seem to make a big difference. But to someone who comes to a meeting for the first time, a friendly one-on-one welcome to NA might make all the difference. Every one of us can step up and demonstrate a type of leadership by doing the simple tasks that keep NA alive and growing, whether it's our position or not.

Many service positions, however, require more than just willingness. Effective treasurers need good basic math skills, and secretaries must be able to take decent notes. These and many other positions require increasing levels of accountability and responsibility. We have positions of leadership in NA service that have a strong effect on our ability to make our message of hope more widely available. Leadership skills are helpful in most of our service positions, but in some positions, leadership is the primary function. These might include positions such as chairperson, facilitator, delegate, and many others. These trusted servants work to ensure that we make the most of our service efforts.

We value effective leaders in NA for what they help us accomplish. Skilled leaders are organized members with strong communication skills. Their leadership helps facilitate smooth service meetings. They encourage others to participate and share ideas, and they possess a strong working understanding of our steps, traditions, and concepts. It can be easy for us to get locked into rigid interpretations of our principles, but effective leaders must be willing to approach situations with an open mind. Our principles don't change, but there are as many right ways to apply them as there are wrong. We need leaders in NA who are flexible enough to consider new ideas and approaches, but firm when it comes to putting our principles first.

Sponsorship and Leadership

One model for leadership in Narcotics Anonymous has already been proving itself for years. Sponsorship has produced amazing results all through the history of NA. The power of one addict helping another, after all, is unparalleled. In our personal recovery, we look to experienced members for help in applying the NA program in our lives. Our sponsor offers us experience, strength, and hope to guide and support us in our recovery process. We are then also able to share with other addicts, including those we sponsor. We offer our knowledge and insights with the hope that it will help others.

The same idea applies in service. Strong leadership in NA service isn't just about sitting at the front of the room and making sure that people take turns talking. Effective leaders are the trusted servants who inspire other members, challenge them, and help them find useful and meaningful ways to participate in service. All of us encourage and support each other in service just as we do in any other area of recovery. Our strongest leaders tend to be the members who are particularly skilled at identifying talent and bringing out the best in the people they serve with. They are usually insightful and have a knack for calling our attention back to the principles when we get off track. Some talents come naturally, but we acquire many more as we stay clean and continue to serve. Just as we learn a great deal from our sponsors, and then learn a great deal more when we sponsor others, mentorship is an opportunity for us to teach and learn at the same time. We work closely with other trusted servants to share ideas about the tasks we do in service. We lean on other trusted servants, past and present, for guidance and support. No matter what our position or level of service, and no matter how much experience we have, we must remain humble and ask questions. Open communication helps us avoid painful misunderstandings. Our humility reminds us that service is not about us; it's about carrying the message. When we serve selflessly and help others do the same, we foster an atmosphere of unity and cooperation in service, reminding us that we all have equal membership in NA, regardless of service position.

Stumbling Blocks to the Idea of Leadership

Our understanding of leadership in service is bound to grow and change over time. The line between strong leadership and government sometimes seem to blur. Those of us who came to NA with little regard for authority figures may be especially uncomfortable with the idea of leadership. Many of us experience urges to try to control situations with a heavy hand. The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts can help us avoid the pitfalls of ego, power, and control. To maintain a proper attitude, serving rather than attempting to govern, we must put our principles of humility and anonymity first.

Most of us have experienced moments in NA service when a popular solution wasn't in line with our principles, or when a spiritual solution was very unpopular. The ultimate authority that guides our decisions is expressed through group conscience, so we need to remember that group opinion isn't the same as group conscience. Our Ninth Concept reminds us that we have a responsibility to consider all points of view. To be effective leaders, we must demonstrate the open-mindedness to hear out the "lone voice" or the willingness to be that voice, if necessary. For our group conscience to be effective, we must keep in mind our Seventh Concept, that all

voices are important. No matter what our position, we must speak our conscience. We do not coerce or manipulate the group; we simply offer our perspective and let the group decide. We accept the conscience of the group, even if we do not agree with it. Leadership by example sometimes involves working hard to carry out the conscience of the group even when we opposed it.

Humility

Many of us quickly reject forceful personalities, control, and domination. We might see little room for humility in high profile service positions and suspect the worst of members who act as leaders. Selfless service, however, sometimes means putting ourselves into positions in which our skills will be of best use to NA, even if that means subjecting ourselves to the criticisms of fellow members. We must remain constantly aware of our primary purpose and common welfare to set a strong example. We need to trust each other in service, even if we don't always agree. Simply having a leadership position does not equal leadership. Strong leadership involves a great deal of humility. Humility means having a realistic view of ourselves, including our strengths as well as our weaknesses. We all have skills or abilities that can be especially useful in particular service positions. To practice humility, we must explore our strengths and weaknesses to discover how we can best serve NA. We should not downplay our talents to avoid certain positions, nor should we exaggerate them to gain the acceptance or influence that we think comes with some positions.

Anonymity

Sometimes we struggle to balance the Fourth Concept principle of considering leadership qualities with the principles of anonymity and equal membership in the Twelfth Tradition. Sometimes we confuse skills with personality. If we have strong organizational skills, we might be good in a secretary position. If we are good with facilitation, we might make a good chairperson. The real problem we face is that sometimes our personalities get in the way of our skills and talents. This is why humility is so important.

We may not feel humble when we explain our qualifications for a service position, even though we are simply being honest, not boastful or arrogant. By the same token, some of us feel uncomfortable judging candidates for a position, especially when an election feels more like a popularity contest. Our principle of anonymity means that we are all equal as NA members, so it can be awkward to choose one member over another.

To put principles before personalities, we match talent to task and leave our feelings out of it. That might mean making ourselves available for a position, even when we fear rejection. Or it could mean electing someone we don't like because we know they can do the job well. We practice anonymity by focusing solely on the job at hand and the qualifications of each candidate, and choosing the person who fits best to do the job.

Principles and Leadership in NA Service (For Service Committees or Groups)

Why Leadership?

Narcotics Anonymous has helped countless numbers of addicts throughout the world stop using, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live. As a result, NA has grown into a worldwide organization with many thousands of groups carrying our message of recovery. The primary purpose of our groups, our Fifth Tradition tells us, is to carry the NA message. We do service work to support our groups in those efforts and to extend the reach of our message. As our First Concept points out, our service structure is the means by which groups come together to coordinate and maintain those services. The more effective our service system is in supporting the groups, the better those groups will be able to carry our message to addicts who need it.

The Fourth Concept reminds us that we need to have effective leaders in our service system in order to best support our groups. Because we have seen so much success in our growth as a fellowship, it can appear to some members that there isn't much work that needs to be done. If there is a meeting (or meetings) every night, and the coffee is made, then it can seem that there isn't much more to do in support of our Twelfth Step and Fifth Tradition other than to share with newcomers. While it might be true that our fellowship can survive for some time relying solely on the power of identification that happens in our meetings, members who have been involved with service would quickly point out that there is a great deal of other work that we need to do to help addicts who need recovery find it in Narcotics Anonymous.

How Do We Attract and Encourage Leaders?

The work that can be accomplished through our service system is highly dependent on the members who step up and get involved. Some members might be drawn by what can appear to be a mix of politics, personalities, and the prestige of holding positions of seeming influence. Other members may be inspired to serve NA but turned off by their impressions of our service system. Sometimes negative comments about area or regional service can be enough to keep members away and instead, they may focus all their energy into serving their groups and working directly with newer members. Still, a rather impressive number of members, who are inspired by their own growth through the steps, get involved in NA service to ensure that others find the opportunity to recover in NA. These members come to NA service with a wide variety of skills and backgrounds. Some seem to be natural leaders, like many of those early members who helped NA become what it is today, and some who are skilled in other ways.

While there are countless leadership styles available in the world, the particular type of leadership that is most valuable to us in our NA service efforts is based on the spiritual principles found in our steps, traditions, and concepts. Our applications of these principles in our groups and service bodies can go a long way to help cultivate effective leadership, not just in those who seem to be natural leaders, but in all of our members who are willing to step forward and serve. All too often, members who would otherwise be willing to get involved in service are scared away by overwhelmingly extensive guidelines, policies, and procedures, or tiresome debates that take place during business meetings. Some service communities have found that simple solutions, such as holding tradition- and concept-study meetings prior to business meetings, or conducting service learning days, have helped to raise knowledge and awareness among trusted servants of our guiding principles. While not all service commitments involve leadership roles, all of our members who are familiar with our principles can demonstrate a measure of leadership by standing up for those principles and educating other trusted servants about their importance. With trusted servants who are well-versed in our guiding principles, we might find that we no longer have such a need for extensive guidelines and debate to do our work.

What Leadership Qualities Are Necessary for NA Service?

Our steps, traditions, and concepts can provide all of our trusted servants with certain leadership qualities. In addition the willingness to get involved, to make a commitment and to work for the benefit of NA are essential for good leaders. Some of our service positions, however, require additional leadership skills that are not possessed by all NA members, just as a treasurer position may be best filled by a member with math skills. Some members seem to have natural talents for leadership, and other members may have more hidden potential, talents that need an opportunity to be developed through working within a group and learning how best to apply NA principles. Effective leaders accomplish a number of important

goals in our service efforts, such as encouraging others to get involved and provide support, helping our service bodies to stay focused on the tasks at hand, and matching talent to task by helping members find service positions that make the best use of their available skills. Often some of our more experienced members find mentoring others to be a way of continuing to offer their skills for service to the fellowship while also assisting a newer member to develop their own leadership style.

There are many other ways that good leadership can help to ensure smooth, effective services. Just as important as the roles our leaders play in their service positions are the principles they practice in fulfilling those roles. Our groups or service bodies might accomplish a great deal if a few exceptional leaders were placed in charge to dictate their ideas to the other trusted servants. Thankfully, our Second Tradition prevents this from happening. No matter how skilled or talented any of our leaders might be, they do not govern. We rely on the power of group conscience to guide our decisions, and leaders who practice our principles encourage that process. The effectiveness of our service system hinges on effective, principle-based leadership.

Members who diligently work the Twelve Steps are bound to continually discover ways to replace character defects with spiritual solutions. In order for our service community to best embody the principles of our traditions and concepts, it is essential that we choose leaders who demonstrate those spiritual solutions in their daily lives and in their service to NA. A few principles that are especially important in our leaders, as indicated by our traditions and concepts, are accountability (Concepts Five and Eleven), integrity (Concepts Six, Eight, and Nine), humility (Second Tradition, Concepts Seven, Nine, and Twelve), and anonymity (Twelfth Tradition, Concepts Seven and Twelve). Members who apply these principles rigorously in their service to Narcotics Anonymous accomplish more than simply doing their jobs. These leaders act as stewards of their positions and of their service bodies, leaving both in better shape when they have completed their terms of service.

Selecting and Supporting Trusted Servants

The task of selecting leaders in our service bodies can be difficult at times. It can seem rather unkind to subject a member to intense scrutiny simply because that member has demonstrated a willingness to serve. In keeping with our Twelfth Tradition, our Fourth Concept calls us to consider leadership qualities carefully even if it might feel uncomfortable to do so. We need to keep in mind that we are not judging the value of members as recovering addicts or as people; we are evaluating their potential to be effective in a given trusted servant position. When we choose trusted servants, we share in the responsibility for the job those trusted servants perform. As a service body, we must honestly assess whether or not willing members possess the skills and abilities necessary to carry out the duties involved in the service position or whether the needed skills can be learned “on the job.” We ask ourselves whether the members have the demonstrated ability to apply the spiritual principles of our steps, traditions, and concepts in their service efforts. When we demonstrate the courage necessary to select capable leaders and to help those leaders be successful in their roles, the results will show in the continued growth of NA.

An Introduction to Narcotics Anonymous Meetings

If you're planning to go to a Narcotics Anonymous meeting for the first time, it might be nice to know what to expect. The information here is meant to give you an understanding of what happens in our meetings. The words we use and the way we act might be unfamiliar to you at first, but hopefully this information can help you get the most out of your first NA meeting. If you show up early, leave late, and ask lots of questions before and after the meeting, you'll probably get the most out of every meeting you attend.

People have all sorts of reasons for attending NA meetings, but the reason for each meeting is to give NA members a place to share recovery with other addicts. If you are not an addict, look for an open meeting, which welcomes non-addicts. If you're an addict or think you might have a drug problem, we suggest a meeting every day for at least ninety days to get to know NA members and our program. Members in many places hug frequently. In other places, members shake hands instead. Feel free to decline hugs.

NA literature is also a great source of information about our program. Our Basic Text (*Narcotics Anonymous*) or our recovery pamphlets are a good place to start. Most meetings offer pamphlets for free, while books are generally sold at the group's cost. Most of our literature is also available to read or buy at www.na.org.

The following is some general information that applies to most NA meetings:

☞☞ We are not concerned with types or amounts of drugs; we focus on the ways addiction and recovery affect our lives.

☞☞ NA meetings are not classes or group therapy sessions. We do not teach lessons or provide counseling. We simply share our personal experiences and ideas about addiction and recovery with one another.

☞☞ Meetings are often held in churches, treatment centers, or other facilities because these places tend to be affordable, available, or convenient. NA is not a part of or connected to any other group, organization, or institution.

☞☞ To respect the anonymity of all of our members, we ask that people who attend our meetings not talk about who our members are or what they share in meetings.

☞☞ NA has no membership fees or dues. Our members make voluntary contributions at meetings to support the group and other efforts to carry our message. Nonmembers are asked not to contribute so NA can remain fully self-supporting.

Some helpful NA terms:

addict—person with the disease of addiction

Basic Text—the book that contains our core ideas, entitled *Narcotics Anonymous*

closed meeting—meeting for addicts or people who might have a drug problem

group—members who hold one or more regularly scheduled NA meetings

Higher Power—any loving force that helps a member stay clean and seek recovery

newcomers—new NA members

open meeting—meeting that welcomes interested nonmembers to attend

relapse—when a lapse in recovery results in a brief or extended return to drug use

sharing—offering personal ideas and experience with addiction and recovery

sponsor—experienced member who gives guidance and support to other members

trusted servants—members who have service positions in NA

☞☞ Some of us find NA when we are taking prescription medication, still detoxing from drugs or on drug replacement therapy. Regardless of what you may be taking when you first come to NA, you are welcome. We encourage you to read NA literature (*Basic Text, In Time of Illness, NA Groups and Medication, etc*), which will explain NA's approach to addiction based on complete abstinence, and to talk to NA members about what worked for them.

Here are a few things that you might expect to see or experience in our meetings:

- ☞☞ Meetings are usually either discussion or speaker meetings. Discussion meetings allow members to take turns sharing. Speaker meetings allow one or more members to share for an extended period of time.
- ☞☞ Visitors and newcomers are usually asked to introduce themselves by their first name. Newcomers are usually welcomed with a handshake or hug and a welcome keytag.
- ☞☞ In most places, it is customary for members to gather in a circle to end the meeting with a short prayer or NA reading.
- ☞☞ Groups often mark or sign attendance sheets or court cards as a courtesy to people who request it, but some groups and members choose not to do so. If needed, it is best to ask how the group handles this before the meeting begins.
- ☞☞ Most groups provide schedules or directories of other local NA meetings.

About sharing:

- ☞☞ NA relies on the “therapeutic value of one addict helping another.” Nonmembers are generally asked not to share in meetings.
- ☞☞ Members are usually asked to share only once per meeting, mindful of the meeting’s time limitations. Many meetings ask members to limit sharing to five minutes or less.
- ☞☞ Members are also encouraged to share their own experiences instead of responding to other members. Individuals can have conversations before or after meetings.
- ☞☞ Members are asked to avoid sharing explicit details and descriptions of drugs and using in meetings, and to focus instead on how addiction and recovery affect us.
- ☞☞ Newcomers are generally encouraged to focus on listening, but they are welcome to share during the participation portion of the meeting if they feel the need to.
- ☞☞ Newcomers are also encouraged to listen closely for experienced members they relate to. These members might make good sponsors or offer other guidance and support.

We strive to make everyone feel welcome in NA. Here are some ways we do that:

- ☞☞ Some meetings have a short break for members to talk, get refreshments, use the restroom, or smoke. At meetings with no break, we wait until after the meeting.
- ☞☞ We don’t allow drugs or drug paraphernalia in any NA meetings.
- ☞☞ We strongly discourage any harassment, threats, or disturbing behavior before, during, and after our meetings. This includes unwelcome sexual, romantic, financial, and religious solicitation. Our meetings are for sharing NA recovery. If you feel harassed or threatened, talk to the group secretary or another trusted servant.
- ☞☞ We ask latecomers to find a seat quietly and avoid distracting people.
- ☞☞ We discourage side conversations. Even at a very low whisper, they distract others.
- ☞☞ Phone calls and text messages also distract others. We ask members to turn off or silence their cell phones and other electronic devices during meetings.

☞☞ In many places, hugs are a common NA greeting. If you're not comfortable hugging, don't hesitate to say so. Most members will be understanding about this.

Basic Public Information Guide

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The purpose of Public Information work in Narcotics Anonymous is to inform the public that NA exists and offers recovery from the disease of addiction. A Public Information Committee helps to ensure that information about our fellowship is accurate and is available to the public.

The World Service Conference Public Information Committee has compiled the following guidelines to support emerging NA communities needing some basic guidance in fulfilling our primary purpose in the public arena.

Public Information, or PI, is an area of service work in our fellowship which has matured greatly in recent years. However, our PI service manual, A Guide to Public Information needs to be translated into other languages to reflect our fellowship's experiences and worldwide membership. Until the translations can be completed, we wish to help our worldwide fellowship by offering some basic and simple guidelines for doing this type of NA service.

Our primary purpose as a fellowship is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. PI is a vital part of "carrying the message." Doing this type of service calls upon us to communicate and participate in areas of the community in which, as using addicts, we were once unwelcome. Courage and humility are necessary ingredients in our recovery when approaching the public about our fellowship. We hope that you find this part of NA service as rewarding and challenging as we have.

Public Information and the NA Member

Every member of NA has a role in helping us carry the message to the still-suffering addict. Much of the goodwill that exists between NA and the community is based on the relationships that we maintain as NA members. We can improve these relationships for our fellowship by taking care to treat others with courtesy and respect. This is especially important when we represent the fellowship to professionals and members of other organizations who may spread their good or bad impressions of us to others. We need to project a positive image of NA so that these individuals feel comfortable directing addicts seeking recovery to our meetings.

When we participate in a public information event, we accept responsibility for our behavior. If we are rude, use profanity, or show a lack of respect for a facility or for other organizations, we bring into question the effectiveness of our recovery program.

We can also be seen as members of Narcotics Anonymous when we wear an NA T-shirt in public, stand around outside a group meeting, or attend an NA convention or service conference. As a fellowship, we have no control over the behavior of individual NA members.

As members, however, keeping our spiritual principles in mind, we can share our concerns about our public image with other members. We can communicate to them that a bad image of Narcotics Anonymous could easily keep the message of recovery from reaching the addict who still suffers.

Starting A Public Information Committee

A public information subcommittee is an important part of most area service committees. If there is an ASC available to you, attend a scheduled meeting with other NA members interested in doing PI work and express your willingness to serve or start a PI Committee. From this point on, public information efforts should be done with the support and guidance of your ASC.

If there is no Area Service Committee available to you, schedule a meeting of local group members interested in public information to form a PI committee. You may want to begin by establishing the committee's purpose, functions, and responsibilities, and then deciding how the committee should serve the local members of the fellowship. A PI committee initially should handle such things as: creating, updating, and distributing meeting schedules, responding to requests for information, establishing a stable mailing address, helping a Hospitals and Institutions Committee when asked, and managing other PI projects within that area or region.

A Contingency Plan

As Narcotics Anonymous grows, representatives of the print and electronic media will show increasing interest in our fellowship. When the media becomes interested in NA, their reporters often approach us without an understanding of the principle of anonymity. Maintaining personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films must be our highest priority when contacts are made with the public and the media. We have found that having a "contingency plan" is of great value for a PI committee.

Creating a contingency plan is one of the first priorities for a new PI committee. This plan is a strategy for organizing our response to public and media requests for information. Very simply, it should state what to do when certain types of requests are received from the public. Use of the plan can help ensure that our most experienced PI members are involved, so that the local fellowship can keep to its primary purpose and we can stay consistent with our traditions. The plan should include a list of members involved in public information who are familiar with NA media responses.

The contingency plan should also include guidelines for handling requests which will affect other groups, areas, and regions. If a request does affect other service groups in NA, coordination and cooperation are needed in order to facilitate an effective response.

The WSC PI Committee has a contingency plan for media events which may be significant to Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. If your committee has received a request to participate in such an event, it is imperative that you contact the closest WSC PI Committee member, trustee, or the World Service Office PI Coordinator to plan the response.

The Work Itself

It is clear that we cannot be everything for everybody. We are a recovery organization whose members meet regularly to help each other stay clean. It is all right for us to decline a request which is outside our fellowship's primary purpose. It is also reasonable for us to decline a request that is within our purpose if we do not have the time, money, and members to honor the request. The important thing to remember is that we respond! Failure to respond, even if we are declining a request, demonstrates a lack of integrity on behalf of our fellowship.

To carry a clear NA message to the public, we as members need to have a clear knowledge of our traditions. It takes practice to learn the traditions and understand how to apply them. We have reserved a portion of this guide for a discussion on the traditions, and how they

impact PI work.

Our objective in doing public information work should be simply to spread the word that the fellowship is available, that it works, and that it's free. Here are some frequently used methods to accomplish this:

A. Meeting List(s) -- If there is more than one meeting in your community, creating and maintaining a listing of meeting information should be your highest priority. This list should contain information such as the day, time, and location (a street address is preferred), and if the meeting is open to the public. It may also contain information such as the type of meeting (step study, speaker, or discussion, for example), smoking or non-smoking, and any other special information. Meeting lists should be updated on a regular basis. It's our responsibility to make sure that newcomers to our program are given accurate information on how to find us when they reach out for help.

B. Posters -- These are notices used to inform the public about how and where to contact us. It is critical that when we post these notices, we first obtain permission to do so. Some possible posting locations are: detoxification facilities, hospitals, police stations, schools and universities, churches or missionary outreach offices, government service offices, drug treatment centers, or other places where addicts seeking recovery or people who help addicts might congregate.

We need to stress that "attraction rather than promotion" is an important concept when doing public information work such as this. Good judgment should be used when creating and posting these notices. We need to refrain from provocative, promotional statements or artwork which may convey a negative image or appear to be promotional. Even how and where we post them should be evaluated before we follow through on the project. A simple message that we are available and how to contact us is the desired result.

Contents of printed media, such as bulletins, posters, and newspaper ads, usually consist of an attention-grabbing statement or question, followed by information on how to contact the local meeting, group, or phonenumber. As an example, a bulletin, poster, or newspaper ad might be as follows:

Drug Problem? Narcotics Anonymous can help! [Your Contact Information]

Samples can be obtained from the World Service Office to help you create your own bulletin, poster, or ad.

C. Introductory Mailings -- We can introduce the program to professionals in health organizations and social services, and to others who deal with addicts, by mailing them information about our fellowship. A mailing should consist of a letter to explain who you are, where you can be contacted, and some basic information about Narcotics Anonymous in your community, including the fact that we are a part of a worldwide fellowship. Normally we include a local meeting list and, if possible, some NA pamphlets. If appropriate, the cover letter might also mention that speakers are available to meet with them and/or their staff, if your local fellowship is able to fulfill this type of request.

The Guide to Local Service was also stated (pg. 59) "Meeting lists are often used in conjunction with an area's public relations program."

G. Learning Days and Workshops -- These are an internal service offered to the members of our fellowship. Usually a few dedicated members will set aside time to share their experience with other interested members and NA groups on how to do some of the basic work of PI committees. One of our responsibilities is to inform the fellowship at large about our function in service and how to get in touch with us if anyone is contacted by the public.

and the media. More information on this topic is contained in the Guide to Public Information.

The Twelve Traditions and Public Information

Public information work is done by service committees or groups created by, and directly responsible to, those they serve: NA members. We do the best we can with what we have while upholding our Twelve Traditions. Our experience has taught us that we need an understanding of the Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous as they apply to public information. It has proven beneficial to spend time studying and discussing the traditions. The knowledge gained helps us to be more confident in our presentation of NA. This confidence is apparent to our audience and assists in developing a positive image of our fellowship. The following traditions play an important role in PI work and have direct applications to PI service.

Our Sixth Tradition states: An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose. "This tradition is the basis for our policy of non-affiliation and is extremely important to the continuation and growth of Narcotics Anonymous." (Narcotics Anonymous Basic Text, Page 66, 5th Edition, English) While it is important to reach as many people as possible with our message of recovery, it is imperative that we not risk our independence by becoming reliant on any outside source. If NA becomes strongly identified with any "related facility or outside enterprise" (club houses, drug treatment centers, or other Twelve Step fellowships, for example), our primary purpose and independence will become confused with the priorities of others.

Cooperation with those who come in contact with addicts is important when carrying the message of NA. Without this cooperation, many addicts would never have found our fellowship. We want to work with other organizations, but we do not want to be merged with them in the mind of the public. To give the impression that we are one and the same would threaten our independence. Our aim is simply to make it known that NA is available. It may require additional effort to make clear the distinction between NA and other organizations. However, we will be rewarded as more addicts find us through other sources and our fellowship continues to grow.

Our Tenth Tradition states: Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy. "Our recovery speaks for itself. Our Tenth Tradition specifically helps protect our reputation." (Narcotics Anonymous Basic Text, Page 71, 5th Edition, English) We have no recommendations for any outside organizations, nor do we participate in their politics. To do so would invite controversy which would jeopardize our fellowship's standing in the community. If we voice an opinion on any public issue, we may block the path for a new member to join our fellowship. It is critical that we remember this aspect of keeping our fellowship open to any addict who has the desire to stop using.

PR/WEBSITE SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: 6/8/08

SUBCOMMITTEE NAME/ATTENDANCE: PR/Website

MEETING PLACE: On-line

DAY/TIME: Anytime

COMMENTS, PROBLEMS, QUESTIONS:

Please continue to send us flyers or emails for the events in this Area, so we can continue to post it on the website. Some events have not been posted because we did not get the flyers from attending ASC or the info was not sent to us via email. Please help us help you by emailing flyers or your event info directly to us at Webservant@FirstCoastNA.org. Our apologies to all we missed.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, GOALS, ACTIVITIES:

Not much activity lately with the Google Group. We believe this could be better used.

We have a Google Group of our own!! Anyone wishing to participate can sign on at <http://groups.google.com/group/firstcoastna>.

Now, when we have service discussions or events to be posted or items to be downloaded, we can use this as a tool to share information, ask questions or anything else that relates to the First Coast Area of NA. I will moderate this Google Group, and anyone who misuses this will be banned. So please don't put personal stuff up there, but if its anything recovery based, particularly relating to service, bring it on !!

The World Board has decided that the best way to get out Service Pamphlets quickly and not have the fellowship in an uproar is to give them to the Regional Delegates for 90 days. During that time, the RDs will have to get them to the Areas, who will get them to the Home Groups, who need to make any suggested revisions and then get them back to the RD's who can submit them to NAWs. A motion was made to extend the time period to six months, but it was defeated on the WSC floor.

Attached are four new Service pamphlets to be reviewed and returned to the RD. Almost 30 days has already passed.

All else is well.

Chairperson and Vice-Chair: Bob F.

Secretary:

Submitted by: Bob F.

FRC Board Representative
OPEN

GROUP	ATT / NEW	COMMENTS	DON / LIT	GSR
A Shot of Hope 1 st Christian Church /11924 San Jose blvd.				No GSR/ Alt Wayne T. Sharon T
Alive-N-Kickin Calvary United Methodist 112 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, In back				Donald S.
Amelia Island 302 S. 14 th St First Assembly of God	232/ 6	Thank you to all who celebrated our anniversary with us. Hopefully a good time was had by all and our primary purpose fulfilled!! Extra proceeds from the Luau have been donated to Area.	\$248/0	Jeff S. Charlie C.
Another Day Clean 12791 Old St. Augustine Rd. Mandarin Mandarin Church of Christ,	94/5	All is well!	\$60/0	Sharon T
Avondale 4172 Shirley Ave. Tuesdays & Thursdays	269/ 13	Bee problem solved. All is well.	\$75.39 / \$24.61	Ken B. / Tim A.
Back To Basics 555 Stockton St. Gateway M/T 8pm				Kevin/ Patrick H.
Carrying the Message 12791 Old St. Augustine Rd. Mandarin Church of Christ T 7:30	50/2	All is well.	\$33/ 0	Susanna T./ Peg M.
Clean & Serene Catholic Daughters, 124 King Street, St Augustine Sun,M,Tue,TH @ 7pm.				
Deepna Kennedy Ctr, 1 st and Ionia St T/H 7:30 W 12N.	882/ 21	All is well.	\$122.5 0/ \$190.7 5	Ralph F./ Arthur S.

Desire for Change 1240 McDuff Ave (Christ Church of Peace)				
Essence of God's Will Fridays 7:30p-9p Asbury UMC, Corner of College & Blanding				
Frantic Serenity 1100 Stockton St F- Su / 5616 Atlantic Blvd Sa	5/ 0	Frantic would like to thank all who came out to support for our 20 th anniversary. Frantic is really in need of home group members, we are struggling right now and we need help.	\$63.70 / 0	Tona G.
Freedom of Choice Grace Baptist Church 1608 E 21 st Street; M, THURS, F @ Kennedy Center 1 st & Iona. 21 st Jones on Thurs.	638/ 21	All is well. Don't forget June 14 th : 613 W. Ashley at the corner of Ashley and Broad. Anniversary starts at 2:00 p.m. Food, fun, and fellowship. Thank You!	\$12.00 / \$116.00 0	Mario S.
Gratitude M./ Tues @ 1821 S. San Pablo Rd TH @ St. Andrew Lutheran			0/0	Rudy B.
It Works: We Do Recover Corner of 7 th and Main St. /Palatka, Emmanuel United Methodist Church.				
Just "4" Today 3645 Spring Park Rd Behind Jaba Club	47/ 10	All is well.	\$10.00 / 0	Andrew/ Rob R.
Just Say No 1 st Congregation Church of Interlocken				Tina S. Kenny S.
Living with Hope Shepard of the Woods 6595 Columbia Park Ct.				
Lost and Found Wed-6/F-9:30pm/Sat- 6pm @ Serenity Club 18 South Old Dixie Hwy, St. Augustine		Treasurer's report not submitted for attendance or newcomers. Newly re-organized – improving coordination/cooperation within group. New meeting chairs assigned. Decision tabled until group conscience scheduled 6/11/08 after 6 p.m. whether to stay in this area or to join new area. New meeting in town. Life after Group - Mondays/Thursdays noon @ Ancient City Baptist Church. June 15 th celebration for Done with the Past group 1 year anniversary. 12pm-5pm @ St. Augustine Beach Pier – Speaker at 2:00 p.m. Bring covered dish - \$5 a person donation – no addict will be turned away.		Krissy R./ Debby C.
More Will Be Revealed 1301N. Myrtle Ave. Baptist Church		All is well.	0/ \$98.00	Michael S.
New Beginnings 511 W. 11 th St Inside Help Center	100/ 10	All is well.	0/ \$47.40	Henry B.
New Hope Central Baptist Church 524 W. 3 rd St. M,W,Sat 8pm		All is well.	\$230/ 0	Ronald C./ Bill J.
New Life Sunday	10/	All is well.	0/	Robert M./

7pm 1 st Timothy Bapt. Church 12103 Biscayne Blvd.	3		0	Gerald W.
No More Excuses Calvin Pres. Church 4050 Barnes Rd.	153/ 6	All is well.	\$12.47 / \$59.53	Phyllis C.
On The Pathway to Recovery 611 East Adams Street Salzbacher Wed. 10a-11a				
Rebuilding Our Broken World 5616 Atlantic Blvd. Tues & Thurs 8-9:30 p.m.	240/ 19	We are in need of trusted servants. Elections for positions are coming up; all positions are in need of someone to fill. Our group conscience business meetings fall on the Tuesday before Area meets @ 6:30 p.m. inside the Hope House	0/ 0	Dena J.
Recovery 5616 Atlantic Blvd.		All is well. We have scheduled a clean-up day @ the Hope House on June 28 th . Anyone that wants to participate will be welcomed with open arms.	\$276.2 1 /0	Bobby/Deb/ Dave
Recovery @ Work 211 E. McClenny Ave. Tue & Sat. 8-9 p.m.	91/ 8	All is well.	\$115.4 0 /\$17.6 0	Chester/ Dorie B.
Riverside Noon Group Good Shepherd Church Forbes at Stockton Tuesday 12:00 p.m.	152/ 3	All is well.	\$45.41 / \$54.69	Herman B.
Sicker Than Most Calvin Presbyterian- Barnes & Kennerly Sunday 7:00 p.m. Thursday 8:00 p.m.	276/ 3		\$11.06 / \$109.0 6	George P.
Solo Por Hoy (Just for Today) Spanish Speaking Meeting 1815 Corporate Sq. Blvd. @ Bradley Rd. Wed. 7:30 pm				
Spiritual Awakening 112 6 th Ave. N Jax Beach 9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings	80/4	ALL IS WELL	\$100/ 0	Charlie J.
Timuquana 5906 Lynn St. First Lutheran Church M,W,F 8pm-9pm				
Ultimate Weapon Mandarin Methodist San Jose Blvd.				

Turning Point Shepherd of the Woods Luth. Church 7860 Southside Blvd. Sun 6pm, M-8, Tue – 9:30pm, Sat. 10pm	700/ 25	All is well.	\$163/ 0	Brent D./ Mike E.
Way Out Group Middleburg Presbyterian M-/ St Mary's Episcopal-end of Gum St GCS on river-TH 8pm	78/ 0	No problem	0/ 0	Dennis S.
Youth & Recovery 5616 Atlantic Blvd. Hope House Sat. 8-9 pm Friday. 12-1am	85/ Seve ral	Our 10 year anniversary will be held on Sat. Aug 16 th . More will be revealed in July.	\$28.66 / \$56.39	Dennis C./ Chelsie P.
Its About Change Sundays 3-4:30pm 5616 Atlantic Blvd. Hope House	100/ 2	All is well. Anniversary is July 20 th .	\$15/ \$50	Clinton A./
Middleburg Group 3925 Main St. Middleburg United Methodist Church				
The Beginning of the End. Putnam Medical Center, Palatka, front lobby of hospital				
BYOM Trout River Club 9745 Lem Turner Rd.				

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

CURRENT POSITIONS OPEN:

Alt. RCM - Open
 FRC Board Representative – Open
 Activities Chair - Open
 Literature Review Chair – Open
 Alt. Treasurer – Open
 Alt. Lit. Distributor – Open

No Letters of Willingness have been submitted or are eligible for the following positions:

RCM
 Alt. RCM
 FRC Board Rep.
 Alternate Secretary
 Convention Chair
 Convention Vice-Chair
 Convention Secretary
 Convention Treasurer

~Letters of willingness for Upcoming Elections~

~Chair~

I, Jerry U have willingness to be Chair. I have served this area from Jan 2000-policy chair-policy vice chair, convention chair, convention vice chair. Former member previous 8 conventions. Served 4 previous conventions. 2nd area service in the greater Providence area. My clean date is 12-12-90 and I have a sponsor who has a sponsor.

Yours in service,

Jerry U.

~Vice-Chair~

I , Dave V. am an addict. My clean date is 1/3/05. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor who has a sponsor. I am a member of the Turning Point group. I have served as Alt. GSR and GSR. I have served on the policy sub-committee for 2 ½ years in which time I served as Vice-Chair and currently serving as the chair.

In loving service,

Dave V.

~Treasurer~

My name is Mike B. and I am an addict. I have the willingness to serve as ASC Treasurer for the coming year. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor who has a sponsor. I have been clean since 10-22-05.

In loving service,

Mike B.

~Alternate Treasurer~

I am Herman B. I would like to express my willingness to be Alt. Treasurer. My clean date is 03-13-03. I have 3 years experience as my homegroup (Riverside Noon Group) treasurer. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor and has been GSR for 3 years. I keep good records of all my personal funds.

In loving service,

Herman B.

~Policy Chair~

My name is Tom B. and I am an addict. My clean date is 12-8-95. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor. I have been active on the Policy sub-committee since I moved to Jacksonville. Before that I was active in Policy in the Espranza area in NA (San Antonio). I have also been ASC Vice-Chair and Chair and served as GSR of my home group in San Antonio.

In loving service,

Tom B.

~Secretary~

I am Amy K. and I am an addict. I am submitting my letter of willingness for the position of Secretary for the First Coast Area. For the past few months, I have been assisting the secretary and I am currently the Alternate Secretary. I have formerly been a trusted servant in my home group as the position of secretary and have served on the Helpline for the past year. My clean date is October 1, 2006. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor.

In loving service,

Amy K.

~Activities Chair~

I, Clinton have the willingness to be Activities Chair, I have a sponsor that has a sponsor. I have been Activities Chair before, I am now GSR of my home group, I have served on the Convention Committee and have a working knowledge of the 12 steps. My clean date 11-3-03

**In loving service,
Clinton A.**

~Activities Chair~

Hello family my name is Ishamel and I am a Grateful addict. I'm Grateful to God for the gift of life, I'm Grateful to NA for the gift of recovery and to you people for your gift of unconditional love. I am humbly submitting my letter of willingness for the position of Area Activities chairperson. I have a NA sponsor and I use the twelve steps and twelve traditions of NA to further my recovery. I have served in every position of service at the group level except treasurer. I have served as PI (PR) chair, I have served on the hotline and activities committee and was a part of a planning committee that helped form a new area. Most recent, I served as Vice-chair of programming for FCACNA 8. My service commitments have stretched over three cities and 5 different areas. I am willing to give my time, experience and commitment to this position. My clean date is 3-28-93.

Thank you

A Grateful addict

~Hospitals and Institutions Chair~

I am an addict called Tish. I am writing this to express my willingness to serve as H&I chair. I have been in service since early recovery and have currently held this position since Sept. '07. My clean date is 12-25-87. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor and have a working knowledge of the steps, traditions, and concepts. I look forward to continued service to the addict who still suffers.

**In loving service,
Tish R.**

~Helpline Chair~

To: First Coast Area of N.A.

From: Brian M.

Subject: Willingness to serve as Helpline Chair

My name is Brian M and I am a grateful recovering addict. My clean date is March 12, 2005.

For the past year I have served as Vice-Chair on the Helpline and have been an active member for the past 3 years. I am familiar with our area's policy for the helpline and will conduct myself and the committee in accordance to its procedures to the best of my ability.

I have a sponsor who has a sponsor, who has a sponsor. I have been a voting member of my home group for the past 6 years and have attended our area's business meetings on various occasions over the past 5 years.

Please accept my letter of willingness to serve as our area's chair for the Helpline Sub committee.

Regards,

Brian M.

~Literature Distributor~

To ASC:

I'm Sherry, am I'm an addict. My clean date is 1/19/05. I have the willingness to serve as Literature Distributor for the coming year. I have a sponsor who has a sponsor and having the working knowledge of the 12 steps.

In loving service,

Sherry B.

~Literature Review Chair~

I am an addict and my name is Brent. I have the willingness to serve this area as Literature Review Chair. My clean date is February 11, 2006. I have a Narcotics Anonymous sponsor who has a Narcotics Anonymous sponsor. I have a working knowledge of the 12 steps and am working through the traditions. I have served as Alt. GSR and GSR and continue to serve my home group. I have a passion for life that I got from this program. I want to continue to give back.

With gratitude,

Brent D.

~Public Relations Chair~

To Whom It May Concern,

I, George Patton, have been nominated by the PR subcommittee for PR Chair for the upcoming service term of 2008-2009. I am willing to serve.

I am 14 years clean and have served as PI chair for two years in the CCANA of the Carolina Region. During those terms, the PI subcommittee in CCANA oversaw the updating and printing of the meeting schedule, implementation of an automated helpline service, and public service announcements in print and video media and with billboards.

I have also served as the Literature Review Chair for two years in the CCANA.

So, I have the willingness, the clean time, and the experience to help guide the newly formed PR subcommittee in fulfilling its mission to broaden and increase awareness of NA throughout the First Coast Area. My clean date is 11-4-93.

I do not have a home group at present, but will find one within the First Coast Area.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

George P.

904-568-2528 cell

OLD MOTIONS (FORMAT: YEAR/MONTH/#)

Maker: Recovery

Second: Recovery at Work

Motion # 080502

Date: 5/4/08

Motion: Add to convention policy that there be no individual recognition or thank-you's to Convention Committee at the Convention.

Intent: Maintain spirit of selfless service.

Status: **CORRECTION: THIS MOTION WAS DIRECTED TO FCACNA 8 TO REVIEW IN SUBCOMMITTEE** *(Secretary's note: committee did not have quorum to do business at their last meeting...)*

Maker: Recovery

Second: Alive and Kicking

Motion # 080503

Date: 5/4/08

Motion: Change the annual FCACNA to convention to be held on every even numbered year (ex: 2010, 2012, 2014, etc.).

Intent: Free up Regional calendar, promote unity, support Uncoast during years we don't have FCACNA and give time to raise funds.

Status: Return to groups for vote.

Policy Recommendation: Recommendation: no violation of traditions or concepts, or negative financial impact on the ASC.

Maker: CPC FCACNA

Second: Timuquana

Motion # 080505

Date: 5/4/08

Motion: To hold the annual FCACNA every Easter weekend.

Intent: To have a consistent convention date to allow the First Coast Area and Convention Sub-Committee a set date to better plan for the annual convention. 9th Tradition and 3rd and 5th concepts.

Status: Returned to Groups for Vote.

Policy Recommendation: No violation of traditions or concepts, or negative financial impact on the ASC.

Clarification to the groups: Motions 080503 and 080505 are opposing motions. Vote either YES for one of them or NO for both or abstain.

NEW MOTIONS (FORMAT: YEAR/MONTH/#)

Maker: Recovery

Second: No More Excuses

Motion # 080601

Date: 6/8/08

Motion: To remove from policy the directive that allows for new groups to be given a starter kit. Pg. #6, line #14.

Intent: Concept 11. According to the Loner IP groups can receive a starter kit by writing world service.

Status: Tabled to Policy

Maker: Recovery

Second: No More Excuses

Motion # 080602

Date: 6/8/08

Motion: To add proceeds from FCACNA 8 to general fund and send excess onto Region.

Intent: Concepts 1 and 11. To restore prudent reserve and keep ASC fully self-supporting.

Status: Sent to groups to vote.

Maker: Recovery **Second:** No More Excuses
Motion # 080603 **Date:** 6/8/08

Motion: To resubmit the budget proposed by the Executive Committee. Motion #080304. Friendly amendment to submit a line item version of the budget for vote by the groups.

Intent: To keep ASC fully self-supporting

Status: Tabled to Policy

Maker: Secretary **Second:** Amelia Island Group
Motion # 080604 **Date:** 6/8/08

Motion: To reimburse Secretary \$87.10 (over budget of \$120.00) for expenses for the minutes from May.

Intent: To allow the ASC to be fully self-supporting

Status: Passed 17-0-0

Maker: H&I **Second:** No More Excuses
Motion # 080605 **Date:** 6/8/08

Motion: To accept 2008 H&I policy with basic housekeeping changes.

Intent: Clarity and continuity.

Status: Tabled to Policy

Maker: PR Subcommittee **Second:** Recovery
Motion # 060806 **Date:** 6/8/08

Motion: To transfer the responsibility of maintaining and distributing the meeting schedule from Literature Distributor to the Public Relations Subcommittee.

Intent: Typically within an area, the meeting list compilation, upkeep, and distribution has been a PI, now PR responsibility. Prior to the change to PR, www.na.org carried a section called PI Basics. Under the heading of "The Work Itself", as per the handouts we have provided, you can see that meeting lists were actually the number one responsibility of PI, now PR. The new PR Handbook has many references to distribution of "Meeting Directories". Additionally, The Guide to Local Services, on page 59 states "Meeting lists are often used in conjunction with an area's public relations program". So, now that we have a strong PR subcommittee of 10 regular members, 2 of whom are the H&I liaison and the Helpline liaison, PR is ready to assume one of its primary responsibilities.

Effect: This motion would remove Item number 5, under Literature Distributor---"5. Maintain and change meeting schedules. Order 4000 meeting schedules (060105)"---and then place it on page 23, under PR Chairperson's Qualifications and Responsibilities.

Status: Tabled to Policy

Maker: Vice-Chair Pro-Tem **Second:** Recovery
Motion # 080607 **Date:** 6/8/08

Motion: To meet at Savoy Club for July ASC. Friendly amendment: To meet consecutively until another place is secure and the fee is \$100.00 for The Savoy Club.

Intent: Concept 1.

Status: Passed 18-0-0

**Home Groups should have a group conscience on
Motions outlined with a box.**

**CALENDAR AND TRUSTED SERVANTS CONTACT LIST
IN A SEPARATE FILE**

