

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WORLD SERVICES

OUR FREEDOM – OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The World Board held its first meeting of the cycle. A new executive committee was elected and our new board member became part of the "team."

PAGE

2

Plans are under way to capture the experience of NA's earliest members on video. If you have any ideas or names please email them to worldboard@na.org.

2

The four service pamphlets sent out for review in January will soon be published as three new pamphlets as a result of the input received. They will be released this year as *Leadership*, *The Benefits of Service*, and *An Introduction to NA Meetings*.

2

Tools for the three Issue Discussion Topics for this cycle—*Leadership; Communication; and Our Freedom, Our Responsibility*—are available online and included in this mailing.

3

Four new project workgroups have been created for the Self-Support pamphlets, revisions to *In Times of Illness*, the Service System, and *Living Clean*. On-going workgroups include *Reaching Out*, *The NA Way*, Translations Evaluations, and the Business Plan Workgroup. An update of the groups' composition and highlights are included.

4

There has been plenty of public relations activity and fellowship trips between May and September.

5

The new Sixth Edition Basic Text and new Roman numeral medallions in bronze will be available 1 October. A commemorative edition of the Sixth Edition to celebrate the book's twenty-fifth anniversary and tri-plate medallions will be released in November.

7

WCNA 33—20–23 August 2009 in Barcelona! The last world convention in Europe was in 1995 and the next will be in 2027. Come and join us for this unique opportunity to celebrate both our recovery and our diversity.

7

Translations Basics has been revised and has a new look; it can be accessed at www.na.org/pdf/TBasics_complete_2008.pdf.

7

The Human Resource Panel held their first meeting of the cycle. They are looking at ways to improve the process for regions, zones, and WB to submit names to them for potential nominees to elected positions in world services. They also need people to update their World Pool information if they have not done so in the last three years.

8



A NEW CONFERENCE CYCLE BEGINS!

We had our first board meeting of this conference cycle 14–16 August following an orientation the previous day for our new board member, Junior B. We had an overview of who does what

at the WSO, since so much has changed over the last year. Personnel from each department or team introduced themselves and shared information about their functions and focus; we concluded the orientation with refreshments, which allowed us time to get to know the newer staff and to reacquaint ourselves with longer-term staff. We also reviewed and updated our board values and ground rules to reaffirm our responsibilities as a board and our commitment to the NA World Services Vision and World Service Conference Mission. As you will read throughout this *NAWS News*, we have an ambitious cycle ahead.

While the conference sessions were fresh in our minds, we spent time reviewing and discussing WSC evaluations. Although we did not hear from the majority of participants, there were some things that were very clear. We need to revamp the WB Open Forum structure and purpose and find more ways for participants to share local experience with each other. We plan to try to engage participants early in the next conference planning discussions so we can hear from you about what needs to be discussed to help the conference better serve the fellowship.

Input received from the service pamphlet review process was a focus for us during this meeting. We appreciate the seventeen regions that participated in this process. Five non-US regions provided feedback, and input came from various sources, such as regional workshops, interested members, and regional delegates and alternates. We want to thank everyone who participated in this process. The input helped us reshape the pamphlets.

We truly realized our ambitious plans when we reviewed and confirmed the project charges, which represent a tremendous workload with two projects set to span two cycles and two scheduled for the current cycle, and also a world convention, along with ongoing essential services. Whew! We focused on making sure our project charges were clear and accurately reflected our expectations for the workgroups. The *In Times of Illness* workgroup met the weekend before the board meeting and the Self-Support workgroup met 28–30 August. Following on the heels of those workgroups, the *Living Clean* and the Service System workgroups will be meeting the second weekend of September. Contained within this *NAWS News* is an update of the *In Times of Illness* workgroup's progress.

Following our review of project plans and essential services, we discussed how to move forward with capturing the

experience of long-term members. This did not need a project plan as it is considered a routine service based on a motion that was adopted in 1993. We are developing the avenues to collect this experience by video interviews. It is not possible that we could know everyone who was significant in NA's early days in each community. We need your ideas if you know of specific members' experiences you believe should be captured. We do not want to lose the experience of our early members, so we hope to hear back from you and those in your NA communities about this project. We will begin our interviews in the US, where our earliest members are, but hope to expand our focus as we gain experience.

As we approached the last day of our meeting, we reviewed and approved revisions to *Translations Basics*, and our discussion is reflected in this *NAWS News*. Additionally, we determined that the online conference discussion boards may benefit from being moderated; we will test a system in which each of us will share in providing this service. In finishing our meeting, we completed our corporate responsibilities and elected our executive committee for 2008–2010. Serving as World Board chairperson is Jim B, with Ron M serving as vice chairperson, Ron B as secretary, and Ron H as treasurer. And yes, the comments about having three Rons have already begun! We look forward to an exciting conference cycle and to hearing from members as the projects progress. We will keep you updated with all of our activity; as always, please contact us anytime at worldboard@na.org.

SERVICE PAMPHLETS



Following up on discussions from the conference, we collected input until 31 July on the drafts we sent to conference participants in January. Four drafts were mailed, including a piece on the benefits of service, two pieces on leadership (one directed at individuals, another geared toward service bodies), and the previously released *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, with minor revisions. We received a variety of input from a total of seventeen regions around the world, including five regions outside the US. The input came from various sources, such as area and regional workshops, interested members, and regional delegates and alternates. There were a great many thoughtful and insightful comments. Our thanks to all who participated. Overall, response to *An Introduction to NA Meetings* was very positive. We believe that with a few minor edits this piece will be ready for distribution in the near future. There was also a great deal of highly favorable response to *Service and the NA Member*. We discussed possible revisions to that piece, one of which is to include a section on leadership. One of the primary

reasons for creating two leadership pieces was to provide conference participants with examples of pieces written for different audiences. The input we received made it clear that there is useful information in both pieces. By including relevant information for individual members in the *Service and the NA Member* piece, we can work to capture the rest of the information in a single piece on leadership. We are hard at work on those revisions and hope to have the three new SPs available to the fellowship before the end of this year.

We also followed up on previous discussions about the possibility of revising *NA Groups and Medication* to incorporate relevant information from Bulletin #29, so as to have one piece addressing drug replacement medication. However, with the *In Times of Illness* project under way, we decided that these two resources and the session profiles we have available for local medication discussions are sufficient for now. If you have discussions locally, we hope you will continue to pass along your solutions and best practices so that we can share them with others.

ISSUE DISCUSSION TOPICS



In the last issue of NAWS News, we outlined our new Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics for this cycle: Building Communications; Our Freedom, Our Responsibility; and Leadership.

We have been talking about leadership as an IDT since 2004.

We discussed what makes a good leader, how to identify and encourage them, our understanding of what a leader does, and what their responsibilities are. As a result of these discussions, we created the draft service pamphlets, which were distributed to delegates for input, as well as two new sessions on leadership to help frame local discussions. We hope that the two leadership sessions for this cycle will help to solidify our thinking and discussions on this topic, and move us forward with training and mentoring for our leaders. Both sessions provide an opportunity to examine and apply the principles of our program to the position of leader in Narcotics Anonymous. The first session focuses on key traditions and concepts, applying them, and which personal qualities relate to them. The second session focuses on the connections that leaders make and nurture within our service structure, and the two specific roles of facilitator and conduit of information that they fill within the structure.

Background essays and discussion questions on Our Freedom, Our Responsibility and Building Communications were included in the July issue of *The NA Way*. We have now added material on the Leadership IDT and included this IDT handout with this issue of NAWS News. They are also available, along with detailed session profiles and handouts for each topic, online at www.na.org/IDT/IDT.htm. This page

also links to the IDT bulletin boards and information on previous topics.

As happened in the last conference cycle, we hope to see these discussions evolve over this conference cycle. In order to further our efforts, we need your ideas and input after holding these discussions. Please let us know how we can help in your aims to forward these discussions.

Since the conference we have conducted IDT sessions in Pensacola and Miami, Florida; Helsinki, Finland; and Salt Lake City, Utah. We expect this list to grow significantly over the next two months as we participate in zonal forums and workshops.

IN TIMES OF ILLNESS



One of the project plans adopted at the 2008 WSC called for revisions to the booklet *In Times of Illness*. This one-cycle project includes an overall assessment and revision of the booklet, and also the addition of material to address long-term illness, current issues with medication, and mental health issues in recovery.

The project workgroup met 7–9 August in Chatsworth, California, USA. Workgroup members include Mary and Tonia from the World Board, and Kim M (Washington/Northern Idaho), Mark W (Alabama/Northwest Florida), Irene C (Ireland), Jim B (Ontario), Steve S (Central California), Nayda L (Connecticut), Sherry V (Central Atlantic), and Jay A (Southern California). Initially, the workgroup reviewed the project charge and discussed workgroup values and accountability to the board. Following the overview of the timeline for this project, the workgroup reviewed input from NAWS medication workshops, and then focused on revisions and updates to the pamphlet. Workgroup members offered their experienced input on long-term illness, chronic pain, medication, and mental health issues. These changes will be reflected in several new sections within the booklet.

At the workgroup's second meeting 16–18 October, they will review a first draft of the revised booklet. Their timeline anticipates the board releasing the draft in early February 2009 for a ninety-day fellowship review-and-input period.

BUSINESS PLAN WORKGROUP

The Business Plan (BP) Workgroup met in July with the same members from the previous conference cycle. Susan C from Oregon remains the point person for this workgroup which is made up of Khalil J from Georgia, Bob McD from Tennessee, João V from Brazil, Brendon T from Pennsylvania, and Daniel S from Germany. All current members from the WB Executive Committee also serve on this group.

Susan, Khalil, and Bob also serve as the audit committee for NA World Services. This committee serves a new function

now required under US nonprofit regulations. Having this committee allows for a group separate from the World Board and NAWS management to interact directly with the auditor.

The BP Workgroup reviewed current NAWS marketing plans and identified some additional benchmarks for this area. They also concluded a review of NAWS product pricing, including shipping and handling. NAWS incurred a significant loss in shipping in the last fiscal year. Our standard shipping and handling charges have not been adjusted in many years and this will be something this group will be evaluating. Other items that will also be reviewed are branch office pricing conversions and pricing for translated "partial" Basic Texts. The group continued a discussion about the feasibility of NAWS buying a building as opposed to the continued leasing of headquarters space as we do today. This discussion will continue at the next meeting with the hope that recommendations will be forwarded to the board in early 2009. This idea has been under ongoing discussion and is not something that would be pursued without notice and lengthy discussion.

An additional challenge for this group this cycle will be evaluating the ever-growing demand at NAWS for services against the reality of static resource availability. The demand for services last year far exceeded what could be provided by the routine influx of financial resources. In an effort to get a better sense of real demand and resource capacity, NAWS continued to honor requests for fellowship support and public relations even when there were insufficient financial resources coming in to offset those expenses. The group will have to conduct an analysis and then make specific recommendations to the board about resource capacity and demand thresholds. Additionally, they will have to work with NAWS management to construct a plan to rebuild operating resources.

OTHER WORKGROUPS AND PROJECTS NEWS

In addition to the plans for each workgroup and project, we were able to approve the workgroup members for the remaining projects for this cycle. We appreciate those of you who forwarded names and ideas. It was an ambitious task assembling this many groups, and not everyone who was contacted was able to make the commitment. In addition to the *In Times of Illness* workgroup mentioned earlier, we created the following workgroups:

Service System Workgroup

In addition to Craig, Muk, and Mark from the World Board, this four-year project will include the following ten members:

Bob G from Florida

Earl W from Pennsylvania

Jean-Pierre B from Quebec

JJ from Minnesota

Jose M from Brazil

Matt S from California

Sisko H from Sweden

Tana A from New York

Tim S from Australia

Travis F from Illinois

This workgroup will focus on the creation of a vision statement for all NA service efforts as well as framing options for local service delivery. Our challenge will be to engage you all in meaningful discussions as this work progresses.

Living Clean Workgroup

In addition to Franney and Tom from the World Board, this four-year project will include the following eight members:

Bo C from Washington

Emil R from Peru

Konstantine M from Greece

Mary Ellen P from California

Mindy A from Missouri

Patricia PT from North Carolina

Victoria B from Florida

Wayne M from New Jersey

We were able to provide this workgroup with a beginning outline for this book project. They will be revising the outline and developing the initial material in the upcoming months. We will keep you advised of the review-and-input schedule for this project.

Self-Support Workgroup

This project will be concluded in this cycle, with new drafts to replace both *Self-Support: Principle and Practice* and "*Hey! What's the Basket For?*" We are hopeful that this work will have a similar review and input period to that of *In Times of Illness*, which we hope will begin in February 2009. The six members of this workgroup are:

Khalil J from Georgia serves as the point person. Khalil also serves in the Business Plan Workgroup.

Ahmed M from Egypt

Jeff B from California

Mario T from Australia

Moina B from Arizona

Sue L from California

NA Way Workgroup

Paul from the World Board will take over the lead for this workgroup and the existing members, Marc G from Illinois and Stephanie V from France, have two more years to serve. They will be joined by three new members of the group: Tim S from Kansas, Alan D from California, and Susan H from Australia.

This group meets in person only once per cycle and does the majority of its work by email. Our thanks to the members rolling off: Redmer from New Zealand, Gail D from New York, and Keith N from Tennessee.

Reaching Out Workgroup

This workgroup has typically done all of its work by email. We are expanding the group's focus a bit and trying to engage local H&I committees in a more meaningful way. To accomplish this, the group will meet face-to-face this cycle. Bobby S from Florida will continue to serve in this group and be joined by three new members: Kim A from Connecticut, Mark B from Nebraska, and Nancy A from Washington. Chuck C from Colorado will roll off after the first meeting, and Bob W from Hawaii is also completing his term. Our thanks to them for their service to the fellowship.

Translations Evaluation Group

The Translations Evaluation group continues on from the previous conference cycle with Piet from the WB, Dora D from Brazil, Françoise H from Israel, and Monica A from Norway. This group evaluates the first efforts in translations for a language, which include the glossary of terms and IP #1. The group evaluates for conceptual fidelity and works closely with the staff, who in turn works with the local translation committee for that language. The TEG has been busy with two new languages, Urdu (Pakistan, India) and Slovene (Slovenia in southeast Europe), with more expected soon in Kannada (India), Armenian (US groups and Armenia), Croatian (Croatia in southeast Europe), and Maltese (Malta, island in Mediterranean), as well as with revisions to the glossaries in Bengali (India) and Latvian (Latvia in northeast Europe).

PUBLIC RELATIONS



Through participation at several professional conferences, we continued to provide information about Narcotics Anonymous to physicians, public health and drug court professionals, and educators.

During NAWS' presentation at the National Association of Drug Court

Professionals Conference held in May in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, we supplied information about NA including specifics about our language and culture. There was a lively exchange with the professionals in attendance. In June we traveled to San Juan, Puerto Rico, where we presented information at the College of Problems of Drug Dependency. This conference seemed to be beneficial for NA; many professionals visited our display booth seeking information and offering their experiences. *Miracles Happen* drew their attention and provided a historical perspective of NA that helped these professionals understand NA's formative years. In July we attended the conference of the American Probation

and Parole Association in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. For all conferences, NAWS had the support of local trusted servants who had the opportunity to offer information about their NA communities and local meetings to participants. Often, professionals are seeking to attend a local meeting or are seeking meeting locations for their clients.

Additionally, NAWS had the opportunity and privilege to attend the United Nations Drug Control Policy meeting with the theme "Beyond 2008" in Vienna, Austria, in July. NAWS was invited to this meeting, which focused on the direction and recommendations for the next ten years based on activities and discussions from regional meetings held throughout the world. Our participation at these events always points out how much we still have to do to make professionals truly understand that recovery from addiction is both available and possible.

We have also participated in fellowship PR workshops and worked cooperatively with regions for conferences happening in their geographic areas. A few of the regions that participated in cooperative efforts with NAWS were Northern California, Lone Star, Southern Idaho, Australia, Iowa, Mid-America, and ABCD.

ZONAL FORUM WORKSHOPS

Southeast Zonal Forum

It was our pleasure to attend the Southeast Zonal Forum meeting 7–8 June in Pensacola, Florida. We were grateful for this opportunity to road-test the two new Leadership sessions with a group of members from some of the oldest and most experienced NA communities. The value of the partnership between NAWS and zonal forums was highlighted by the discussion we had about the new RD review-and-input process for service pamphlets. We came to consensus on what form the process would take, shared ideas on how to gather input, and broke into small groups to review each of the draft pamphlets.

Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum

We conducted our first complete set of workshops on this cycle's Issue Discussion Topics for the Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum. The workshops were held in Salt Lake City, Utah, on 26 July with a total attendance of twenty-five to thirty members. Most of the attendees were regional delegates or alternates, but there were also some members from the local nearby NA communities.

We began the morning with a brief NAWS update, which was essentially a post-conference wrap-up report. The rest of the morning was spent in two IDT workshops, one on Building Communication and the other on Our Freedom, Our Responsibility. These generated a great deal of positive energy and enthusiasm, especially among those present who were newer to service. We came back after lunch and spent the rest of the afternoon with the two sessions on

Leadership. These sessions covered the topics of how our spiritual principles apply to leadership in NA and the roles our leaders play within our service system. These workshops seemed to resonate with the experienced trusted servants in attendance, and we were grateful for the opportunity to work with this group of NA members.

Western States Zonal Forum

In July NAWS gladly attended the WSZF, which took place in Seattle, Washington. It was our pleasure to facilitate that forum's interest in working through an adapted version of the Area Planning Tool. Typically, the first time through the planning process can be a challenge for any committee, and this time was no exception. But with the commitment of the members of the forum, some real progress was made and we are hopeful that they will be able to move forward in a way that will better serve the forum and the communities represented there. Again, the forum has our thanks for the opportunity to be a part of their process.

European Delegates Meeting

We welcomed the opportunity to attend the European Delegates Meeting (EDM) 24–27 July in Helsinki, Finland. Participants at this EDM included delegates from Croatia, Egypt, Finland, France, French-speaking Switzerland, German-speaking Region, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, UK, and Western Russia.

We held a workshop on translations at the EDM and two workshops during the European Conference and Convention of NA (ECCNA), which took place at the same time. At the first ECCNA workshop we walked members through the session on Leadership. Our hope is that people will take the session back to their local communities, and many of the participants were eager to do so. In the second workshop small groups responded to sample letters on medication-related issues, and despite a crowded (full!) room that was more than a little warm, everyone was enthusiastic and contributed experiences and challenges with medication in recovery.

CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

Colombia 25th Anniversary Convention



We were invited to attend and participate in this event where approximately 500 members registered and close to 700 attended. We

facilitated workshops on Building Strong Home Groups, the Area Planning Tool, and the PR Handbook. The attendance

and the level of enthusiasm were great for all workshops; there were 100 to 130 members in each workshop. We met with the members of the Colombian Region to discuss literature and public relations issues.

After the last speaker on Saturday night, all the attendees walked to a public square in downtown Cali to celebrate NA's twenty-fifth birthday in Colombia. It was pretty amazing to see 700 members walking on the streets of downtown Cali in total harmony and demonstrating impeccable behavior in the public eye. The police closed streets and directed traffic as we marched to the plaza. There was a giant Styrofoam birthday cake on the side of the stage, and several local salsa dance groups performed. The evening concluded with the singing of "Happy Birthday," and the RSC served "real" cake for all the attendees. We expressed our appreciation for their hard work and accomplishments in these twenty-five years, and the Colombian RSC presented a gratitude plaque to NAWS in a very emotional ceremony.

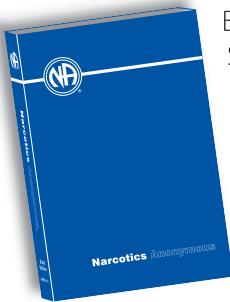
Local Conventions

We attended and participated in a host of local events in a variety of ways between the conference and our August meeting. Some of these events used current NAWS travelers, others events were facilitated by a mix of NAWS travelers teaming with delegates, World Pool, or zonal travelers, and one event was funded by NAWS but attended by only zonal resources.

These events included the El Salvador Regional Convention; the Chinook Area Convention in Calgary, Alberta, Canada; the Pacific Cascade Regional Convention in Bend Oregon; the California Mid State Regional Convention in Visalia, California; as well as an event in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. As varied as these locations may seem they all seemed to have much in common. Local members were looking for ideas and experience on topics like Building Strong Home Groups, Public Information and Public Relations, the practical application of our traditions, and how to have more effective service efforts.

We do not have any magic answers or quick fixes to any of these issues, but there is a tremendous amount of experience, strength, and hope that we can share with each other about these topics and many more. We have tried to partner with members outside of NAWS for many of these events because there is no way that NAWS can do it all. We do not have the human or financial resources to meet every request. We are pleased that these interactive types of workshops have become increasingly attractive to our members as reflected in the number of requests we receive. We will continue to focus on creating the resource tools for these types of workshops and topics so that more and more local members can fulfill this need. It will take all of us working together to make this a reality.

BASIC TEXT AND MEDALLIONS



By the time you receive this, the Sixth Edition Basic Text which was unanimously adopted at WSC 2008 will be available. We are incredibly grateful for the countless members who made this new international reflection of our fellowship possible. We hope that you will each read this new collection if you have not already done so.

A special commemorative edition will also be made available in mid-November for the same price as the original "special" edition twenty-five years ago. To commemorate this new edition of the text, as well as the twenty-fifth anniversary of the original text, this edition will be priced at \$25. It is a beautiful book with a special hologram sheet in the front of the book, a two-tone leather cover with an embossed logo, and many other glorious touches to make this book a special commemoration of how far we have come.



The new bronze Roman numeral medallions are also available 1 October. We have also added a new tri-plate version which will be available late November and will be priced at \$20 each or \$16 for "In-quantity" discount of 25 or more.

WCNA-33 20-23 August 2009 Barcelona, Spain



We are excited about the opportunity to hold a world convention in Europe for the first time since 1995. We want to thank the European delegates for canceling the European Convention (ECCNA) in 2009 to allow the focus for the fellowship

to be on WCNA-33. This is a unique opportunity for us in so many ways and one that will not happen again for close to twenty years. Please come and join!

The local support committee met with members from all over the country. The point person is Iñigo C, the former RD, and he is joined by Javier P, John R, Manolo R, Nicolas J, Pablos V, Rafael H, Soraya P, and Toby G. We plan to start our PR efforts for the convention early and tie it into a more general NA PR effort with the local committee. We are going to see what we can all do to more successfully carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

We are diligently working at trying to open registration for this event in October rather than in December as in the past. And we need your help. NA members are typically not very good at pre-registering, for a variety of reasons. Given

our recent history at WCNA-32 and the expense of the facilities in Barcelona, it is not prudent, or possible, for us to plan for people who "might" attend. That means spending unnecessary fellowship funds in case someone shows up. Instead, we are going to plan the best celebration of recovery possible for those who have indicated that they do plan to attend by pre-registering. We have been forced to move to this approach and really need your help to encourage members to pre-register.

Registration prices have been increased to move us closer to covering the actual costs per participant at a world convention. There are activities happening every day, in addition to meetings, which are included in registration. We plan to wait until after the first of the year to offer tickets to events like the comedy show and concert when we know who the entertainment will be. As in the past, seats will be assigned based on when you register.

We are also offering a range of hotels throughout the city on our website. Barcelona is a beautiful, charming city that is a popular tourist destination, so the city really has a huge variety of hotels and other accommodations that cater to tourists. It is inexpensive and very easy to get around the city by taxi, metro, and bus. We will also have a link on our website to some of the less expensive accommodations that will not deal with groups such as ours but are easily accessed through the Internet.

We want this to be an event that can bring together the remarkable diversity in our fellowship. Please help us by letting people know about it and encouraging them to pre-register.

TRANSLATIONS BASICS



Translations Basics has been updated to better reflect our current practices and the policy changes approved at the 2008 World Service Conference. Primarily, the changes affect translation of personal stories in the Basic Text and Little White Book. Because it can be very difficult for local NA communities to develop and publish their own collection of

personal stories, the translations policy changes indicate that "only the stories approved by the fellowship in the Sixth Edition, either in their entirety or a selection of them, should appear in translated versions of the Basic Text. If a local NA community with a history of successful translation efforts wishes to develop local stories, they may do so for the Little White Book." These changes will not affect existing translations of the Basic Text, and we will continue to publish translated versions of the Fifth Edition until a local community has had a chance to translate the new Sixth Edition content. These changes are included in the 2008–2010 version of *A Guide to World Services in NA* (www.na.org/pdf/2008_GWSNA_Jun08.pdf).

FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCE PANEL

Greetings from your Human Resource Panel. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the HRP. As you know, the HRP consists of four panel members, three of whom were elected at the 2008 WSC. Serving on the panel this conference cycle are returning member Greg S (panel leader) and newly elected members Valerie D, Paul F, and Margaret H-M.

Our first HRP meeting for this cycle was held 21–23 August. We started the first day of the meeting as we had in the last cycle, with a team-building workshop. This was a great opportunity to come together for the first time as a new group. We spent the day discussing our communication styles, goal setting, and our focus for the cycle. As we moved through the meeting, we were reminded that even though the next WSC is in 2010, we have much to do now to prepare and act on ideas for improvement.

With that said, we are reminded that we are fast approaching some important deadlines. Spring 2009 will be here before you know it and so will the start of the HRP nominations process, including the RBZ (region, board, and zone) submission process. You may remember that this process provides the opportunity for regional service committees, the World Board, and zonal forums to forward potential candidates to the HRP for consideration for world services trusted servant nomination. We will be sending detailed information about this, along with the applicable forms, to all service bodies able to participate.

As we've reported before, most recently at WSC 2008, the HRP continues to consider ways to improve the RBZ process. As a part of that, we have identified some goals for this cycle. Our first goal is to do our best to act as a conduit for sharing locally developed resources, those processes you are now using to identify potential candidates. We want to encourage you to share your policies, guidelines, or other resources used in your process. Please forward them to hrp@na.org and we will be sure that they are placed on the local resources FTP site for others to download.

Another way to strengthen the RBZ process is to consider the reasons a candidate is being forwarded to the HRP. We believe that including a rationale for the potential candidate would add value to our selection process. We are currently working on developing a few questions that would help in the creation of this rationale. Additionally, as a part of this discussion, we are considering the idea of using former conference participants as a sounding board for our rationale questions. We are in the early stages of this discussion for this cycle, but we will keep you updated on the progress of these discussions.

On another note, keep in mind that we will be contacting all members who have not submitted or updated their World Pool Information Form in the last three years. They will be asked to update their WPIF or be removed from consideration in the upcoming WSC 2010 nominations process. The deadline for these WPIF updates will be 31 August 2009.

Currently, there are 1,036 members in the World Pool. The WPIF is available on our website at www.na.org, or by calling or writing to NA World Services.

We look forward to continuing our efforts to provide conference participants with highly qualified candidates for NAWS trusted servant positions. As always, your input and comments are appreciated, and we encourage you to contact us with your questions and feedback at hrp@na.org. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to reporting more as the cycle progresses.

NAWS STAFF UPDATE

It is our pleasure to welcome four new NA World Services employees:

Victoria Aparacio worked as a temporary data entry employee for NAWS beginning in early 2008; she was hired as a full-time customer service representative as of 30 June.

Fellowship Services has two new team assistants who began employment 4 August. Cindy Votaw previously worked for the WSO from 1983 through 1990 and Jamie Bates previously worked in a treatment center.

John Lee started on 7 July as staff accountant. John relocated from Erie, Pennsylvania, where he worked for the State of Pennsylvania.



CALENDAR FOR 2008–2010

Travel requests (considered by quarter)

15 November for January–March

15 February for April–June

15 May for July–September

15 August for October–December

WCNA-33

20–23 August 2009

Barcelona, Spain