

The New/Old

NA Way

Conference Report



Special Edition

Volume 44 - September 2021



The New/Old NA WAY Magazine

Volume 44

September 2021

This magazine was written in open participation by
members of the Groups of The Anonymi Foundation and
members of the Groups who participate in the
Fellowship Service Conference and the
European Fellowship Service Conference

The New/Old NA Way

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My Gratitude Speaks
When I Care
And When I Share
With Others
The NA Way

Conference Report

F.S.C. 2021

Fellowship **S**ervice **C**onference
for Narcotics Anonymous



Chair Report

August 7, 2021

Greetings from Nebraska and the Netherlands to the participants of the FSC,

It was another great year with the FSC and growth by the Groups of A.S.I.S. It was great to be back in Hamburg PA. It felt like coming home. Atlantic City was great but it didn't have the same feel as Hamburg does. The great conversations on the rocking chairs, the food, and the meetings around the fire, as well as staying there together. This year much was focused on growth in Group reports. Lots of shared ESH of PI efforts to build Home Groups. The conference showed better communication between Groups but there is still lots of growth to come. One tool that we are including is from past FSC minutes which has a description of how things work at the FSC. Some changes were made to reflect changes that have happened such as including proposals with motions. A proposal is just a motion waiting to happen. It is what we get each year either returning back from the FSC as a motion that didn't pass, or a new motion. These are called proposals because they still have time for changes. It is the responsibility of the Groups to communicate with each Group if there are issues with proposals before January 1st so changes may be considered by the Group that brought the proposal. After January 1st, 2022 those proposals will be motions. The only other change was making sure it showed we go over all motions voting and then go over reasons for not accepting them if Groups choose to vote no or abstain. Once again, a reminder that of how important it is for Groups to communicate

with each during the time from the end of the conference in June until January so that any concerns or suggestions can be made during this time. It is such a privilege to be part of a service structure that is directly responsible to the Groups. Proposals only come from Groups so if there are things your Group feels needs changed, please bring your proposals to the conference. One suggestion that was made was for Groups to bring written reports or send written reports to the secretary if they want. This will help make sure things are clear from how each Group stands as well as help make sure nothing is changed from what Groups have conscientized before the conference. We are here to serve the Groups so if there is any way we can serve please let us know. Can't wait to see you in June of 2022.

In loving service,

Eric D 2020 Chair Servant
Fellowship Service Conference (for Narcotics Anonymous)

Eric D 1-402-640-2471 - ericenvisions@hotmail.com

Erik F (co chair) +31646711134 - erikfiselier@hotmail.com

A Brief Explanation

(Excerpt from 2015 Report)

The proposals & motions in this report are for the Home Groups of Narcotics Anonymous who create and use the Alternate Service Informational Structure and make it directly responsible to them via the Fellowship Service Conference.

These proposals & motions are for review and input. As Home Group members there are several ways to make use of these as you come to a Group Conscience with regard them.

- Ask questions among yourselves. If something needs clarification, contact a trusted servant of the Fellowship Service Conference or, better yet, get in touch with the Group who made the motion to get clarification of their intent. (FSC servants are encouraged to contact the Group making the motion when answering questions to ensure we are representing the true intent of the Group.)
- Submit suggestions if your Group believes it cannot, in good conscience, vote for a particular proposal or motion but believe that you could if there were minor changes made or some clarification of intent in writing. **ALL CHANGES TO PROPOSALS OR MOTIONS MUST BE MADE BY THE HOME GROUP THAT BROUGHT THEM.** However, often simply communicating can clear up intent or bring to light an unintended consequence that the Group which made the proposal or motion had not considered.

- Read the minutes to see the discussion that went on with regard to them. You may see concerns you had not realized or you may have your concerns alleviated. The minutes will usually have questions, clarifications, and opinions expressed by addicts with a wide range of views on any particular proposal or motion.
- Get involved and discuss these issues on internet websites that are frequented by FSC participants and members of Groups who utilize the Fellowship Service Conference and Alternate Service Informational Structure.

Now is the time to discuss these and get involved. If concerns are cleared up before the next conference that could be the difference between a motion passing this year or needing to be input and considered for another conference cycle. We are in no hurry and would rather get it right than repeat the mistakes of past service bodies that rushed things, but at the same time we do not want to hold motions up that could have passed had there been ample discussion and/or changes made prior to the conference. It basically comes down to this: The more involvement and discussion we have now, the more likely a motion is to pass.

NOTE: AT THIS POINT THESE PROPOSALS & MOTIONS CAN BE MODIFIED, BUT ANY MODIFICATIONS MUST GO THROUGH AND BE APPROVED BY THE HOME GROUP(S) THAT MADE THEM.

THE DEADLINE FOR CHANGES TO EXISTING PROPOSALS & MOTIONS IS JANUARY 1st, 2022! THAT IS WHEN THE PROPOSALS TURN TO FINALIZED MOTIONS FOR THE 2022 FSC.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE CONFERENCE

As we will be dealing with a returning motion this year, the motion numbers have been formatted differently. The format used is pretty straightforward. The first four digits are the year the motion was made. The next two numbers are the year the motion was voted on, or is to be voted on for the first time. The last number is the chronological order of the motion from the year it was made. This numbering system is arbitrary, not official. Any numbering system that makes sense can be used by future trusted servants. The need to differentiate between first year motions and returning motions is because returning motions will not be held up for a year for more consideration due to a single “NO” vote that is accompanied by a reason. (That has actually already happened with regard to returning motions.)

HOW THE VOTING PROCESS CURRENTLY WORKS:

The Fellowship Service Conference uses Group Tally. This means 1 Group = 1 Vote at every level of service. A Group Service Representative who is representing their Home Group carries one vote. A GSR representing multiple Groups carries multiple votes. The same is true of Area Service Representatives, Regional Service Representatives, or any other title the Group(s) choose to use for the person who carries their vote. Representatives who carry multiple votes do not have a “block voting” privilege; we do not use concepts or votes of confidence to renegotiate our Traditions. All Representatives are expected to cast each vote according to the conscience of the Group(s) they represent and voice any reasons given for votes of NO and ABSTAINING. Please be prepared to give the name of each Group you represent as well as contact information, should it ever become necessary to verify that the conscience of any Group has not been changed.

When it is time to vote, the chairperson will ask for all Representatives to raise their hands. The chair will then ask if anyone is carrying the conscience of more than one Group. Those who are, will state who they are representing. Once we know how many Groups are participating the chair will ask each individual Representative to cast their votes on a motion-by-motion basis. If any Representative is carrying the conscience of more than two Groups a roll call might be used rather than a show of hands (since a Representative only has two hands). Once all the votes have been cast, the chair will ask each Group that voted NO or ABSTAINING if they would like to supply a reason. Votes of ABSTAINING will not hold a motion up by providing a reason, but doing so does help in any further discussion that might be necessary down the road.

All motions currently require 80% YES votes to pass, regardless of how old the motion is. There is one significant difference for motions being voted on for the first time: Any NO voted accompanied by a reason that particular Group voted NO will hold the motion up for one conference cycle for further discussion, input and review by the Groups. NO votes that are not accompanied by a reason for the vote will not hold up a motion on their own. That said, if the combined ABSTAINING and NO votes without a stated reason are greater than 20% of the Groups who are voting the motion will go back to the Groups for another cycle.

Motions do not fail! They continue to be considered every year until they are passed (with or without revision by the motioning Group), or rescinded by the motioning Group.

There are four actions a Group can choose to take with regard to the voting:

YES – If your Group agrees with the motion, a YES vote is appropriate. Groups that vote YES might be asked to give the reason for voting YES as part of the discussion that goes back to the Groups and into the minutes; usually if the motion does not pass.

NO – If there is some reason your Group believes a motion should not pass as it is written, a NO vote is appropriate. Your Group will be asked to provide a reason for voting NO at the conference. If a reason is not provided, there is nothing for the other Groups who have cast votes to reconsider.

ABSTAINING – Groups use this if they do not wish to vote YES or NO but do want to be considered part of the voting quorum. Because your Group is participating in the voting by casting a vote of ABSTAINING this allows your Group to be considered as part of the quorum with regard to the motion reaching 80% YES votes in order to pass, but it will not hold up a first year motion by itself. This option allows a Group to essentially vote not to pass the motion and still be able to provide their reasoning without holding a first year motion up for a year because to vote as ABSTAINING has the same mathematical impact on the final percentages as a NO vote.

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING – This means your Group is not voting and therefore does not want to be considered part of the voting quorum. The Group does not wish to cast a vote. When a Group abstains they are casting their vote as ABSTAINING from voting YES or NO but they are still casting a vote and still have a voice. A Group that is PRESENT BUT

NOT VOTING is removing itself completely and opting to have no voice on that particular issue. Because of this, Groups who choose this option will not be asked for their reasoning. (This does not stop the Representative from participating in discussion as an NA member.) While this does not have the mathematical effect of casting a NO vote, Groups should be aware that PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING does affect the size of the quorum.

If this seems confusing and all else fails, all we need to remember is Group Conscience is not about votes, it is about a loving God's will for our Group. If we come to a Group Conscience in our Home Group meetings, as opposed to simply "taking votes", we will arrive at the answer that is God's will for us as autonomous Groups of Narcotics Anonymous and our Fellowship as a whole.



Motions & Proposals

RETURNING MOTIONS

2021-A

Most Perfect Vehicle Group

Revise the Meeting List - Adding whether a Group is a Closed meeting or Open Meeting, and Verifies attendance papers or not.

Intent: To strengthen the meeting list and make it more simple to understand whether or not a group is open to the public, if children are welcome, and if someone who needs a verification paper signed is able to get a signature.

Group Contact: Matt F. (856)803-8857

Yes: 4

No: 5

Abstain: 0

Present Not Voting: 2

Did not pass, only 44% approval

2021-B

Most Perfect Vehicle Group

Revise the meeting list- List states in alphabetical order followed by the days of the week and time

Intent: To make the meeting list more organized.

Group Contact: Matt F. (856)803-8857

Yes: 9

No: 1

Abstain: 0

Present Not Voting: 1

Did not pass, only 90% approval

1st year motions need 100% to pass

2021-C

Most Perfect Vehicle Group

To place Clean time requirements on positions to serve at the FSC.

Intent: To clarify that total abstinence is being free from all mind altering mood changing chemicals (including drugs to treat the symptoms of the disease of addiction: Antidepressants, Psychotropics, MAT, & DRT) and we need to be totally abstinent to serve. Placing requirements such as 1 year, 2 years etc to be sure that the trusted servant has the program experience necessary for the position.

Group Contact: Matt F. (856)803-8857

Yes: 3

No: 5

Abstain: 2

Present Not Voting: 1

Did not pass, only 30% approval

2021-E

The Rabbit Meeting

To have line numbers and page numbers on every piece of review and input literature.”

Intent: “To keep our review and input literature consistent, and to make it easier for input to be understood when submitted.” Group

Contact: Bill C. (610)809-9771

Yes: 4

No: 2

Abstain: 3

Present Not Voting: 2

Did not pass, only 44% approval

1st year motions need to be 100%

2021-F

The Rabbit Meeting

To have the name of the group added to the review and input literature.”

Intent: “ To make available the group name that has written a piece of literature. The group can be asked questions during the input and review process”

Group Contact: Bill C. (610)809-9771

Yes: 3

No: 4

Abstain: 2

Present not voting: 2

Did not pass, only 33.3% approval

1st year motions must have 100%

Motion 2019A

(This is a substitute motion replacing the original motion. At the Conference the Groups will have to decide whether it will be treated as a first year motion or not.

The original motion was replaced after input and suggested changes.)

Never Alone, Never Again Group of Texas Group

Motion for ASIS to maintain a stock pile of \$5000 worth of literature and phone number where Groups can order literature. For this to happen ASIS would have to rent storage space and assign a trusted servant to receive and fulfill the orders. The trusted servant assigned would need to be given access to our current printing company. This could evolve into a service center as we grow. Passing this motion in no way precludes the inventory of literature to growing beyond the \$5000 amount.

Intent: To function more as a formal service center

*This will be considered a second year motion when it comes back

Contact: Travis (828) 734 -1877

Yes: 2

No: 7

Abstain: 0

Present not voting: 2

Did not pass, only 22.2% approval

2nd year motions must have 80% to pass.

2020 B

A Different Look Group

The Groups of the FSC approve the IP "Total Abstinence".

Intent number 1: To define what being clean is in NA.

Intent number 2: To copyright protect this IP.

Motioning Group Contact: Alan F. – Phone (215) 499-0864

*The IP is included in this magazine at page 6

Yes: 6

No: 2

Abstain: 1

Present Not Voting: 2

Did not pass, only 66.7% approval

PROPOSALS 2022

Historical Perspective Group:

2022 A

To Elect a Co-Literature Coordinator to assist the Literature Coordinator

Intent: That it is too much for one person to coordinate the FLC and it also would put a person in position to learn the responsibility and it would allow rotating of service

2022 B

To Elect a secretary and co - secretary for the FLC.

Intent: Their responsibility would be to take minutes at the Literature conferences. They would get the information of the work done at the conferences submitted to the Literature coordinator to get that information out to the groups for further review and input by the NA Home Groups. It would make the Conferences run more smoothly

Contact is Ray D. +16104289923

Most Perfect Vehicle Group:

2022 C

To approve the IP “Why We Don’t Verify Attendance Documents”

Intent 1: To clarify why we don’t endorse or affiliate with government agencies or treatment centers and how verifying these documents can affect other groups or NA as a whole

Intent 2: To copyright protect this IP Footnote: We have approved this IP within our homegroup in 2019 and utilize it at our meetings.

This IP has been out for input and review since 2016 and has not had any input since 2018

Contact is Matt F. 856-803-8857

MOTIONS THAT PASSED

2021-D

No Matter What Group, Hengelo NL

Move domain name www.anonymifoundation.org + web page and domain name

www.nahelp.org to a new Hosting Company and build it with WordPress.

Intent:

- More functionalities in building the webpage
- Cheaper hosting
- Improving accountability
- More secure

Group Contact: Remon H. +31(0)642091629

Yes: 9

No: 0

Abstain:0

Present Not Voting: 2

Passed with 100%

2020A

A Different Look Group

The Groups of the FSC approve the IP “A view of NA Groups Conscience”

Motion number 2020 A, Intent number 1: To provide in information as a blueprint for understanding Group Conscience, establishing an atmosphere of recovery to protect the integrity of the NA message. Motion number 2020 A, Intent number 2: To copyright this IP. Motioning Group Contact: Alan F. – Phone (215) 499-0864

*The IP is included in this magazine at page 10

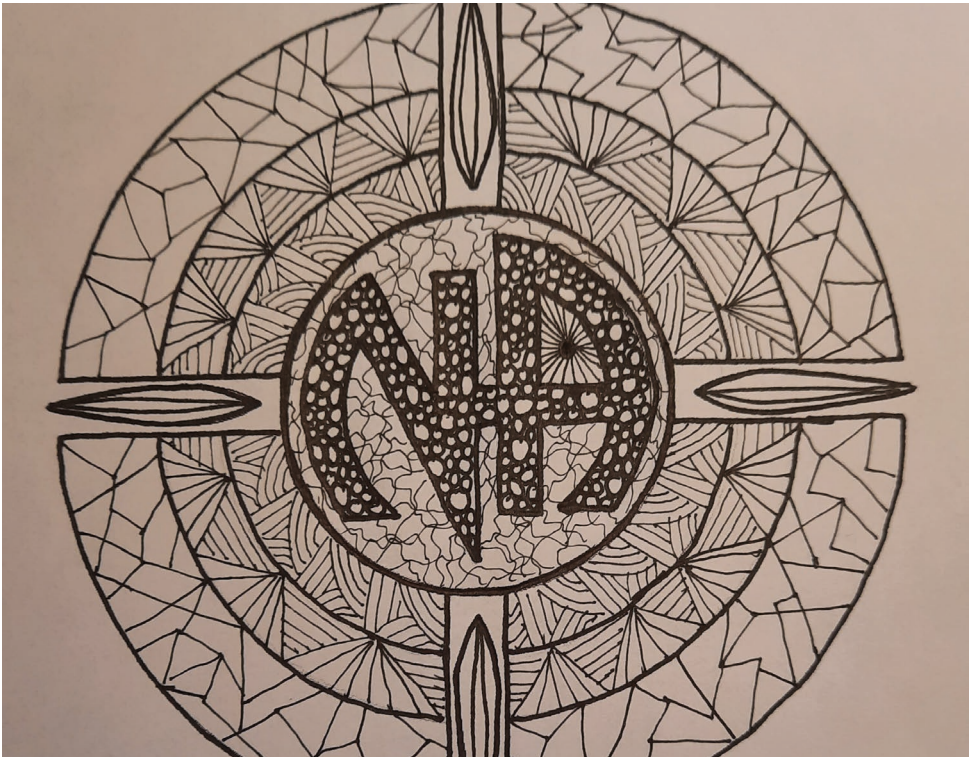
Yes: 8

No: 1

Abstain: 0

Present not voting: 2

Motion Passes with 88.9%



We Learn to Live by Giving it Away

What we found as we learned to live the NA way of life is that God never desired for us to be someone else. He designed us to be who we are. Certain personality traits, mental capacities, physical characteristics, emotional make up, fingerprints, vision capabilities, hair and eye color, as well a distinct sense of humor. There are times, As our addiction grew stronger and took over our lives we longed to be someone else we saw others strengths and distinguishing marks in their lives, We often wonder what it would be like to be wiser, taller, have a family, true friends not just using buddy's a nice house, a good career yet we found ourselves bound and broken by our addiction .as a newcomer we lose our fear when we discovers that NA. members give away the message of cleanliness in order to stay clean.

The only hope we found was when we came into recovery and found a fellowship that offered freedom from active addiction and a God of our understanding that would show us how to live with 12 steps that gave us spiritual principles. As we give of ourselves in service to others in the fellowship on NA , there are times when we look at another and say, why can't we do and give what they are doing and give what they are giving then we hear they get here one day at a time one lesson at a time work-

ing with their sponsor and living the program

We give of our talent of listening, a blessing of wisdom, an encouraging note, even a prayer of graciousness to the king of kings. We grow as a giver as we learn to be of service to others in the NA fellowship, not equal to anyone else's actual gift, but equal in heart of love and serving being who our God made us to be. Here is a great thought "Not equal giving, but equal sacrifice." God is trusted as we practice a giving heart, a giving mind, and giving with whatever resources He has blessed us with.

In This Moment: our hope is that we will give to others because we can only keep what we have by giving it away.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: North Carolina, USA

We are Travelers

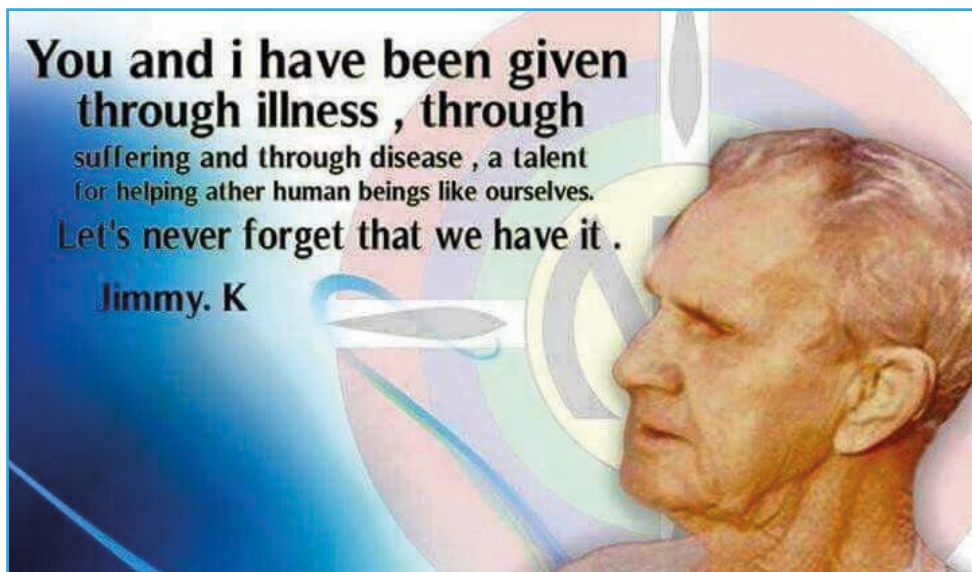
We are travelers in this journey of life and recovery. Living in the present moment it is important to remember that what I cannot do alone we can do together. This journey will have good days and difficult days, days that just seem overwhelming to us. We rely on our spiritual principles and sponsorship to show us the way. We know it is not the changing event in that life brings our way that is our problem. As change is not

the issue, as well as those outside circumstances in which we just have no control over, however, our reaction to these events is the direct source of the discomfort and pain in which we can find ourselves. No longer is it required of us to be in this pain as we have been shown a way out.

With acceptance and surrender as the cornerstone of our journey we have come to adopt the NA way of life as our journey, we are given an opportunity to live a life, unlike anything that we could have ever believed possible. With our principles we are in the process of building a foundation, we cannot build our dreams on a foundation of our own self-will for this I know that self-will and God's-will cannot exist in the same mind at the same time. We have a Physical, mental, and spiritual issue, there are no intellectual answers for addiction, so we

will need to seek spiritual solutions that will allow us to walk in the light of recovery. Our recovery has shown us that a foundation built upon sand and self-will, will not survive and will fall. We must build our journey on the truth that will set us free from the darkness of denial and all of that destruction of addiction that had enslaved us, for such a long period of time.

I have found my home here. No longer am I just a traveler here as NA is my way of life. I know that the journey that I am on is not a dress rehearsal and that I must lay down those old morals, values, and principles that have caused so much pain to my loved ones and myself over the years. I will need to pick up the principles of NA in which will set me free and experience the hope of that transformation in which I have read and heard about for the miracle of recov-



**You and i have been given
through illness , through
suffering and through disease , a talent
for helping ather human beings like ourselves.
Let's never forget that we have it .**

Jimmy. K

ery is real. I know that I have been blessed with many years of recovery and experience much success and many of setbacks, I have fallen short and experience success far beyond any expectations in which my mind could have believed to be possible. I know this program works, that is if we practice and live it in all of our affairs, during those times of success and those times of tragedy, and even when we have fallen short. We pick ourselves up, we dust ourselves off, and we begin moving forward once again for recovery is not about perfection it is about making progress on a day-to-day basis.

Just for today, I will continue to trust in that in which I cannot see but get to live with its effects upon my life, for today thanks to Narcotics Anonymous and the light of its awesome powers I am in the process of becoming that in which I am attended to be. With a miracle that comes from the applications of our principles, I get to live a life that is no longer a battleground, as acceptance and surrender as become my way in which I live today, I am convinced today that we can never quench our spiritual craving nor healing through material nor intellectual means. We must surrender and let the light guide our journey, for his plans truly are better than anything that we could come up with.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: Michigan, USA

“Right and Wrong” or “Black and White”

As an addict I can overcomplicate anything. I am really, good at making mountains out of molehills. When I overanalyze and overcomplicate situations it no longer seems like there is a simple solution.

I know the truths of this program, that it is a Simple program, but then pairing that with my obsessive and confused addict thinking can throw it into a mess.

The truths that I know are 1.) This is a program of complete abstinence from all mood- and mind-altering chemicals and substances 2.) The groups have non-negotiable traditions that keep our Fellowship alive and free 3.) Even though they are suggested only, we need to apply the steps and spiritual principles to be able to recover. These are “Black and White” facts, and they are kind of like the invisible outside or structure of the program, to me. But inside there are grey areas between all these truths. The way one addict may work a program could be different from the way another addict chooses to. The way a Sponsor works steps with their sponsees may be different than how another Sponsor chooses to. What book someone reads, what guide someone works out of, what meetings someone chooses to go to. All, of these things can vary. I may have an opinion on a book or a guide or a meeting, but it is it wrong that some-

one works a program a different way than I choose to? Traditions are for the groups but as for the way an individual chooses to work their program there are no traditions telling them how they can do that.

I may use literature written by addicts for addicts, another person may read different NA literature. Are they wrong for that? Another addict may go to open meetings with people who are not addicts and children, does that make them wrong? Can I get a message from them? Can I allow them to work their recovery without telling them they are wrong? These are things that go through my mind. The politics of this weighs on me at times. What is right and what is wrong? As long as they are clean and their homegroup follows the traditions and they apply the steps and spiritual principles in their lives to the best of their ability. Who am I to say they are wrong in the way they work their personal recovery?

Sometimes I can get so lost in the politics and the “Right and Wrong” or “Black and White” of it all that I can forget the grey areas and that it is not my place to interfere with another’s way of working their personal program. I forget that people are allowed to come into this program not clean because the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. I forget that I am not the end all be all, of total abstinence and that people need to come to that decision on their own. That this program does

not have to feel so rigid, that there is creative freedom in literature and step writing and in meetings. That it does not have to be my way. I am just another addict like everyone else in this program. I can share my experience strength and hope, but I do not have to shove my views down anyone’s throat.

I came into this program to get clean and learn a new way to live. Through being in this program I learn that I should help another addict try to recover because that is unparaleled. Regardless my main goal is to stay clean and learn how to live and work on myself constantly. Learn spiritual principles, learn how to love myself, and learn to live without the use of drugs. I do not have to point the wrongs of the fellowship in its entirety out to them, I do not have to tell addicts they are wrong for reading, or meeting or writing a certain way. All I need to do is spread the message of hope and the promise of freedom and that I am living life clean. It really is that simple, and I do not need to complicate it any further than that.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: South N.J., USA

Some News

Some news. We collected around 250 euros already. We bought ourselves a printer. It was delivered

few hours ago. Simple monochrome duplex laser printer. Everything works, was so nice to print first IP from it. Duplex printing is so comfortable lol never thought of it)))

Also, we paid for hosting of our page nahelp.ru for more than 1 year. It said it is prepaid until June 3, 2022. They gave us discount for paying for the whole year, that was nice. We have to buy SSL certificate for our page now as well.

We going to start our physical meetings on May 6, 2021 Thursday 18:30 msk time at town called Aprelevka, nearby of Moscow. And every Thursday since then. Grey Book Study format, 1 page at time, this is what we going to do.

I will provide all financial details in money report on Monday, like in previous week.

Thank you all for your help!

Written By: An anonymous addict. From: Moscow, Russia



ACCEPTING OTHER'S DIFFERENCES OF OPINION

One thing am finding out about myself is how I still struggle with accepting other's differences of opinions when it affects me. This comes up in many outside issues that we have been dealing with lately. How to deal with the current events going on in the world, how to let others have their views without imposing mine on them, etc. This realization is coming about because of a relationship I have where we see the world completely different. This has caused animosity and tension when we are not able to talk these issues out and instead react to one another. Our Traditions give us answers for NA meetings and Groups as they warn us how these things can separate us rather than bringing us closer together. How can this be carried over to our personal lives though. As I write this, I am seeing some of the reality. Right now, there are two individuals (myself and someone else) who might love each other but do not like one another. Our literature talks of seeing two addicts who normally would not work together working together to help a newcomer. This can be done in our personal lives also as we have a purpose of why we are thrust together in this situation. We too can set our differences aside in our personal life to help fulfill that purpose. We can learn to discuss

the issues that are separating us in a way that will not cause harm to our purpose. We can instead of yelling and cussing at each other set our egos aside and hear each other. We may need to remember we are not responsible for other's actions either just our own. Taking that responsibility relieves all the excuses that keep popping into my head. It removes all the rationalization and justifications for me acting out. Wouldn't the world be such a better place if all of us could focus on changing ourselves rather than others?

Written By: An anonymous addict. From: Nebraska, USA

Anonymity: We are Equals

When I was getting clean, I was in California at a treatment facility. Shortly after I stopped taking the drugs, they were giving me I went into a psychosis episode. I was angry over nothing and very hostile. I remember bits and pieces and most of it was anger towards the facility owner for not making the best choices and allowing the doctors to drug me up so much instead of helping me get clean. He would stick us in a house together with a bunch of addicts, a TV, a pool, and no one to really talk to that had any experience; and we had drugs. I wanted to hurt the man, and I really didn't know why,

because most of what was happening to me was because of me.

I began going back into visions of my old lifestyle and they eventually called up my case manager.

When he showed up, he took me outside, gave me a cigarette and talked with me. He asked me where I was from and I told him. He asked me what neighborhood I was from and I told him. He then stood up and told me that in the streets him and I were rivals. He told me his story on how he had gotten involved with the gang that he used to represent.

As I was looking up at this six-foot-tall black man I realized that he wasn't hostile at all. He was sharing the truth and honesty with me. He told me to stand up and he gave me a hug. It was the first time that I had ever received a hug like that especially from someone who I was told my teenage life that I could not associate with. He was not like me at all, or was he? As the day went on, I stayed by his side most of the day. When nighttime came his shift was actually starting, so I stayed up with him most of the night. I was no longer taking drugs to help my emotions or sleep and I was going through ups and downs and insomnia.

He started telling me how that stuff started in LA and how back in the day he was a big deal but today he's just another addict helping another addict.

It was like a history lesson and many things I had no idea about. After

it was all said and done, he asked me one question, where are they now?

I told him that many of my friends are in prison, many of them got killed, many of them died from drugs, and none of them are here with me now. I paused for a moment and thought to myself, he's making a lot of sense right now. I am not who I was, I am not where I could have been, and all those things aren't going to help me move forward in life.

"We are not interested in what or how much you used or who your connections were, what you have done in the past, how much or how little you have, but only in what you wanted to do about your problem and how we can help."

We are all equal when we come into Narcotics Anonymous, as if that past life is no longer existent now. We are all addicts, and we help other addicts. It does not matter if you're a biker or a hippie, black or white, big or small; we help each other recover from the disease of addiction through application of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: NJ, USA

We Want to Start to Grow

We want to start to grow into what we were created to be, living human beings. We want to give and get what

we need to grow.

We need to put our plants of recovery in a good place for them to grow and flourish.

We need nutritious soil, water, and sunlight.

Our soil is the Steps and Traditions, the foundation on which we harvest spiritual principles.

The place we plant our seeds are at our meetings, in the fields of the Fellowship.

The water is listening and to practice what we hear at the recovery meetings.

The seed is a spiritual seed with a root system of spiritual principles.

The Higher Power is the infinite sun who can express itself in so many different ways.

It might shine between us members, in stillness, in prayer, and within gut level honesty.

This anonymous infinite being is what amplifies our recovery, our love and happiness.

Our conscience is guiding our hearts. We need to take care of our plants, so we don't lose them to the disease, which is infested with bugs and rotten soil.

We need to do this on a daily basis. What fruits we harvest is out of our hands.

If we keep giving, and are less interested in getting, our plants will blossom into beautiful flowers of life.

Vi vill växa till det vi är skapta till att vara, människor fulla av liv. Vi vill ge och få det vi behöver för att växa.

Vi behöver plantera våra frön av tillfrisknande på en bra plats så att de kan växa och blomstra. Vi behöver näringsrik jord, vatten och solljus. De Tolv Stegen och de Tolv Traditionerna är vår jord, vårt fundament på vilken vi skördar andliga principer. Vi planterar våra frön på möten, på Gemenskapens fält. Att lyssna är vårt vatten, tillsammans att praktisera det vi hör på möten. Fröet är andlighet med ett rotsystem bestående av andliga principer. Den eviga solen är vår Högre Kraft, den visar i en mängd olika skepnader. I mötet mellan medlemmar, i stillhet, i bön och i sann ärlighet. Denna anonyma eviga varelse är det som förstärker vårt tillfrisknande, vår kärlek och vår glädje. Vårt samvete vägleder våra hjärtan. Vi behöver ta hand om våra plantor så att vi inte förlorar dem till sjukdomen. Beroendet är fullt av ohyra och ruten jord. Vi behöver vårda vårt tillfrisknande på en daglig basis. Vilka frukter vi kommer att skörda är inte upp till oss. Om vi fortsätter med att ge mer än vad vi tar, kommer våra plantor att slå ut till vackra blommor av liv.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: Sweden

An Addict's interruption of Dave

Grateful Dave's Fight
When the power politics started

up in Narcotics Anonymous, there were men and women who were not at all afraid or disoriented. The Viet Nam War was fresh in people's minds and experience. Activists or all sorts wound up in NA seeking recovery. To watch a few players, try to wrest power and control from the Fellowship was absurd. But when they changed the Basic Text, they went too far. One member who got clean in Charleston, West Virginia was David Moorhead. He had some rock and roll business in his background. Since most of the serious service workers had families and jobs to tend, Dave elected himself to take on the Office. Greg Pierce said it infuriated him that Dave lured them into the court battle so easily - after announcing that was his main plan and intent. He wanted to draw out what he saw as negative elements within the world service system who were anything but surrendered and loving. One member of World Services said it all with the line, "Dave deserves what he gets." as they prepared to launch the lawsuit.

Tapes exist of these sad periods. The violence and degradation shared on these tapes is terrible.

Dave created a persona for himself, wrote himself lines designed to infuriate the Office and traveled to major conventions and spent so many hours on the phone I found bloody scabs on his ear during a visit. He could be found spreading concern for the breach of trust and

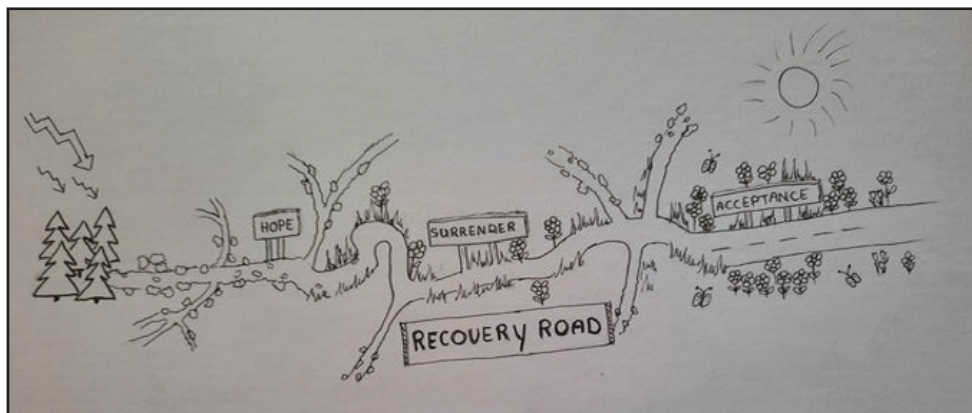
existing NA policy as exemplified in changes to Narcotics Anonymous, our Basic Text. He had taken the 3rd Edition Revised and inserted material deleted from Traditions Four and Nine in confused WSO action a few years before. In short, the lines referred to 'all else is not NA' and service boards and committees do not have the power to 'rule, censor, dictate or decide.' Grateful Dave produced and distributed about 17,000 copies of this book but there are more being produced even to this day.

The WSO was hard pressed to locate the RSC vote that warranted the deletion based on a vote after Conference a few years earlier. And yes, people did not put it beyond the WSO to falsify the voting tally to have their way. Trust in WSO had been shattered by their actions during this period. When WSO committed an incredible \$100,000 dollars to sue

Grateful Dave to stop his Baby Blue campaign, Dave finally got Fellowship attention.

Walking through a park in Allentown behind Billy A's home, I had a long talk with Dave. He had been diagnosed with AIDS and said that he wanted to be remembered this way: "Dave? Dave was a son-of-a-bitch - but he was right!" The results of his efforts are found in the Fellowship Intellectual Properties Trust. Many of the members who worked at WSO or took sides with the Office were amazed to find that the Fellowship really did write the book and did in fact own the book! There is a blindness that comes from being at or near the center: presumption and lack of perspective make it hard to see the real proportions of things.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: Unknown Part of the USA



In conscious contact

We have a chance to rewrite our history. To learn how to see life from a less personal perspective.

Not only to find comfort and purpose in both our past and the present, but to feel to joy of being Life.

We learn and are willing to see life from others perspective, we get less self-centered and start to see life through a more panoramic view, through a spiritual lens. We don't have to make judgments about what passes us by.

Where can Life take us today?

How can we not express Life as it runs through our every cell?

A pulsating energy full of light and love.

Life doesn't need to be managed; any attempt will end up in powerlessness.

Just as when we sleep, life continues without our control or involvement.

We can rest in that we don't know anything, so we are open and curious about learning new things on this journey that can end at any moment.

Should we try to manage and control life on a mental level?

Or should we let Life take care of itself on a spiritual level?

Life in conscious contact with itself.

An inhale and exhale of Surrender.

We were all turned over to Life when we were born, we can choose to turn over our imagined Self Power as we awaken.

We surrender to Life on Life's terms.

As the sun goes down, we're in a state of "Thank You", and as another day awakens that Thank You is still on our breath.

There is no separation, there never been. It's just something we made up to experience something we can never understand - Life.

Written By: An anonymous addict. From: Sweden

I walked into the doors at N.A.

My very first meeting was at the "Miracle group Venlo" in the Netherlands.

Here someone stood outside to welcome me, he gave me a hug and said welcome home.

I did not know what happened to me and was full of fears and uncertainties.

I sat down anxiously, grabbed me a cup of coffee and then came the reading cards, and the recognition already came with "who is an addict.

A phone list went around at the meeting where everyone wrote down their phone number and I was given this after the meeting, they said call us if you want to use, keep coming back we, love you.

They also gave me a Grey Book with some leaflets and flyers.

Once at home I did not know what happened to me there at the meeting.

Such sweet, warm people who told me they were there for me and shared their phone number with me. I was in a difficult phase of my recovery.

I was threatened by my employer, had made a mess of things at the dealers. I was living in total isolation from the outside world. I suffered from anxiety and panic attacks which remained throughout my recovery. But I don't have to use this anymore, at N.A. I found the solution for this; these are a few spiritual principles

that I apply to this momentum.

There were people sitting there with a few years of clean time and thought what they have that I want too. They have found a new way of living to deal with the disease.

I got the suggestion to find a sponsor as soon as possible to start working on the Steps.

This I did and after 2 weeks had a sponsor. It was the person who welcomed me at the first meeting.

I began to share my story with him, telling him where I was coming from and the mess, I had made of it.

Then he shared his story, and that brought me peace. I noticed that I was no longer alone.

In the meantime, I moved to a safehouse to work on my daily structure.

I soon found out that a safehouse would not keep me clean and that N.A. could offer me this. can offer me.

I started to take the suggestions given to me by my sponsor with great dedication.

In my daily life I come across a lot of points where I am powerless, these are things that I could not deal with before in active use. And what suffered for me after using it.

I write me step1 inventory every day and notice the deeper and more honest I am in my inventory the more is revealed, it still surprises me sometimes....

I have been calling me sponsor every day for 1 year. It has never happened that I did not call, I made

a commitment to call daily, and this I still do today.

Outside my sponsor I call daily with many people, or I am called. People who ask me for help or people who I ask for help. It is something beautiful that I have never experienced before in my life.

I start every morning with the whole reading of the Grey Book reflection. This often gives me direction on what I can apply this day. I also try to read a bit in the Grey Book or Basic Text every day.

I had a lot of trouble in the beginning how to see God in my recovery. I heard many people talk about this and I went to ask them how it worked for them.

They said just do it get on your knees do a prayer.

I just started doing it.

My own will never worked and that is what brought me to N.A. as well.

I ask God for help and direction, and lately feel God working through me.

8 months ago, I made a commitment to the 'Miracle Group Venlo'.

I started to help with Literature printing.

After 2 months I became chair, this service position has made me more confident, and many fears have been taken away from me. For the group, I do a lot with Literature, and public information.

Doing all this for the group gives me super satisfaction, it keeps me clean, and so I can help other addicts

with it. And that is worth it to me.

In my life I couldn't cope with drugs and couldn't cope without them. On the day of today the desire to use has been taken away. N.A. is the solution and here I have found a new way of life.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: The Netherlands

Know Your Priorities

What, exactly, are your priorities for this day, this year, this experience of life? What is of importance to you, and in what order?

Want to give yourself a massive advantage in all you do? Be clear, specific, and honest with yourself about your priorities.

A well-developed sense of your priorities will foster confidence, enthusiasm, and discipline. When you're clear about your priorities, you're able to make optimum use of your time, energy, and resources.

Priorities inform you without restricting you. They give valuable perspective to every choice you make.

Even when you have strong, clearly defined priorities, you are not always forced to follow them. You are, however, always able to give your consideration to them.

Know your priorities, and you can make decisions more quickly, with better quality. Know and pay atten-

tion to your priorities, and you will have an essential structure to live a life of great fulfillment.

Written: By an Anonymous Addict From: Texas, USA



European Fellowship Service Conference

16th - 19th September 2021



Location:

Groepsaccommodatie Bekerhof, Beekstraat 9
6013 RV Hunsel, the Netherlands

Price: € 125,- (All-Inclusive)

Register at www.nahelp.nl
or email to nahelp.nl@gmail.com

Contact: 0031631304649

FELLOWSHIP LITERATURE CONFERENCE

November 18th, 19th, 20th & 21st , 2021



Open Participatory Literature Writing Conference
Literature Written by Addicts for Addicts!

Camp Berry - 11716 County Rd 40 Findlay, OH 45840

-Cost: \$125 per Person

Price includes meals and lodging. There is no registration fee all money goes directly to pay for the facility and food. (Bring Sheets, Pillows, Blankets, Towels and Soap everything else provided)

For More Information: Contact Historical Perspective Group - Literature Coordinator - Bill A (484) 951-3305; or e-mail — matrixmatclub@yahoo.com

Check Out Our Web www.nahelp.org/

Send check to: A.S.I.S. For NA P.O. Box 4404 Allentown, Pa 18105

{Doors Open at 2:00pm on Thursday and Close 2pm on Sunday}

Name: _____ E - Mail: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone Number (____) _____ - _____

Group Name _____ Register by November 08, 2021

Amount \$125.00 Check NO. _____

-Sponsored by the Historical Perspective Group & The War is Over Group of Narcotics Anonymous.

For more information contact Matte B (419) 379-4659 or Tyler (419) 204-9915

The Groups of Northern Columbiana County Area of Narcotics Anonymous present...

Annual 12 Step Retreat

February, 18, 19&20, 2022

Das *Dutch Village Inn*

150 East State Route 14
Columbiana, Ohio 44408

What to expect: Speakers, Discussion, Coffee,

Real NA Old School Recovery!

Only \$5.00 for the weekend if you pre-register - \$10.00 at the door

NO addict EVER turned away!

Pre-register by e-mailing stepretreat@yahoo.com

Rooms \$94 per night for 2 adults (\$10.00 additional for each adult)

Reserve your room by January 1, 2022 and mention you are with the NA Retreat to get the discounted price - Call 330-482-5050

17th Annual Fellowship Service Conference for N.A.

When: June 24th thru June 26th, 2022

Where: Hamburg, PA

Place. Olivet Mountain Camp 1540 Mountain Ave.

Hamburg, Pa 19526

Cost: \$115.00 per person

Price includes all meals {and lodging if needed}

There is no registration fee all money goes directly to pay for the facility and food
Write checks payable to Historical Perspective Group

For More Information: Contact Historical Perspective Group

(610) 428-9923 Ask for Ray: or e-mail — matrixmatclub@yahoo.com

Check Out Our Web www.nahelp.org/ **Send check to: A.S.I.S. For NA**

P.O. Box 4404 Allentown, Pa 18105 Write checks payable to

Historical Perspective Group of NA (Bring sheets, pillows, Towels and soap
everything else provided)

Name: _____ E - Mail: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State:

_____ Zip: _____ Phone Number (____) ____ -

Group Name _____ **Register by June 10, 2022**

Amount \$115.00 Check NO. _____

(Adversity does not build character, it Reveals it.) More Will Be Revealed.....



3rd Annual North Eastern Coast

TRADITIONALIST

Gathering 2022

July 16, 2022

454 Fort Mott Rd, Pennsville NJ 08070 [Fort Mott State Pavilion #2]

10:00 am to 7:00pm

Potluck Lunch & Dinner

SERVICE DISCUSSION

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WRITING LITERATURE
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THE TWELVE TRADITIONS
OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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For More Information Call:
Matt F (856) 803-8857
Bill C (610) 809-9771

Hosted By: The Historical Perspective Group, The Most Perfect Vehicle Group, The Rabbit Meeting, & A Different Look Group of Narcotics Anonymous

Upcoming Events

6TH ANNUAL EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP SERVICE CONFERENCE FOR N.A.

Date: September 16th thru September 19th, 2021
Hunzel, The Netherlands

FELLOWSHIP LITERATURE CONFERENCE

Date: 18th thru 21st November 2021
Findlay Ohio

ANNUAL 12 STEP RETREAT

Date: February 18, 19 & 20, 2022
Columbiana Ohio

17TH ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP SERVICE CONFERENCE FOR N.A.

Date: June 24th thru June 26th, 2022
Hamburg, PA

3rd ANNUAL NORTH EASTERN COAST TRADITIONALIST GATHERING

Date: July 16, 2022
Pennsville, NJ

Weblinks

www.nahelp.org

Contact: nahelp.org@gmail.com
World

www.nahelp.nl

Contact: nahelp.nl@gmail.com
The Netherlands

www.freerecovery.org.uk

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INVOLVED!**

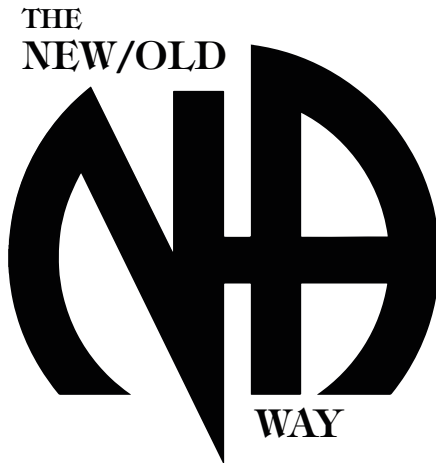
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YOUR INPUT!**

Please send your articles, event information, comics or other input to **nahelp.org@gmail.com**

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*Like it was when NA was new and young and
life or death intense:
You matter to us so we will tell you the truth as
we know it with nothing held back.*



“... so that no addict seeking recovery need ever die...”
We publish your input -- the opinions presented are not necessarily
those of the New/Old NA Way or Anonymi Foundation

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