

# **Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum of Narcotics Anonymous Colorado, Montana, Southern Idaho, Utah, & Upper Rocky Mountain Regions**

**December 8, 2007**

**Helena, MT**

Open with Serenity Prayer @ 10:05am

Colorado RD – Don T.

Colorado RDA – Brenda E.

Montana RD – Prudence G.

Montana RDA2 – Berta H.

Southern Idaho RD – J.B. M.

Southern Idaho RDA – Harper N.

Utah RD – Monte H.

Utah RDA – Brad K.

Upper Rocky Mountain RD – Steve H.

Upper Rocky Mountain RDA – Tommy O.

World Services Members – Steve L.

Attending members: Jenn M., Willow N., Kurt A., Ned J., Rick G., Terry H., Mike B., Delynda H., Caeden M., Gina P., Linda L., Rob H., Travis M.

## **Regional Reports:**

### **Colorado: No Report**

### **Montana :**

The MontaNA Region now has over 100 meetings a week with 30 registered groups throughout the state. We have reports of several new groups in isolated areas, but are not yet in touch with them.

The MRSC now meets three times a year (September, January and April) in a central location with two Unity Days rotated around the state—one spring and one fall. A special session of the MRSC may be called if necessary. If we get a bid for Western States Learning Days or the Conference for Indigenous People those events would take the place of a scheduled Unity Day. Discussion topic workshops, CAR workshops and WSC reports will be held at the RSC meetings and/or Unity Days.

A Fall Unity Day (Assembly) was held in Livingston, MT on October 15, 2006. We had a service-training workshop that included the Concepts, Traditions, and the service structure, CBDM, choosing trusted servants, communication, and training of trusted servants. We had a workshop in “Infrastructure” and “Public Image.”

At the January 2007 MRSC in Helena, we held a workshop on Building Strong Home Groups. May 5<sup>th</sup> was a Unity Day held in Billings. We facilitated a workshop on "Who is Missing from our Meetings and Why."

A Unity Day was held in Butte, MT (Area 8) in November. It was well attended, and the service training workshop was again the agenda. The Spring Unity Day will be held in Havre, MT in April 2008.

There are currently five strong areas in the state, with several making a comeback. We have decided to be the best areas we can be as an example instead of focusing on outreach to Areas. Outreach will still be done with the Unity Day concept.

PI (Public Relations) is active at the regional and area levels. The areas are using a model created by the Region to present informational panels to probation and parole, pre-release and treatment center staff.

Phoneline – We now have one point of accountability for all statewide meeting schedule information with the phoneline. We publish a statewide meeting schedule, and get our information from the phoneline committee. Three Areas are covering the statewide helpline with cell phones. We use RingCentral to manage the phoneline.

H&I – Areas are taking meetings into county facilities and local treatment centers. The Region is in communication with the State prisons and recently bought subscriptions of *Reaching Out* for both the Men's and Women's state prisons. The other correctional facilities will be addressed as funding allows. There are two new "meth" prisons in the state. The Region and Area 2 are in contact with the women's facility near Helena. Area 2 is talking to them about an H&I meeting. There have been some problems with individuals outside the service structure representing NA with the facility. The current philosophy of Regional H&I is to do what we can rather than doing nothing because we can't do everything.

Events Steering Committee – The Montana Gathering was held at the Symes Hotel and Hot Springs in Hot Springs, MT the last two years. We are drawing a lot of the Fellowship from Idaho and Washington as well as MontaNA. We hope to have a winter event in the future at Boulder Hot Springs, which is more central.

At the regional level we started some limited funding of trusted servant travel. Berta H. was able to go to the WWW in Nebraska in the spring, and we were able to attend the RMZF in Colorado in July. We will propose to the Region that RDA travel be funded in the budget instead of by separate fundraising efforts.

Biggest challenge – Providing service to the whole state and communication. Montana has been described as "a small town with very long streets." One solution includes publishing a list of upcoming NA activities in the MRSC minutes. We distribute minutes by mail and email to trusted servants around the state.

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service.

Prude G.  
RD MontaNA

## **Southern Idaho: No Report**

## **Utah: No Report**

## **Upper Rocky Mountain Region: No Report**

### **New Business:**

1. Consensus to assign facilitation at the WSC to the region who is responsible for the forum meeting the following July.
2. Don T. will ensure that the guidelines reflect the above changes
3. Consensus to provide a password protected area to the website so that conference participants will be able to send emails with attachments.
4. JB from the Southern Idaho Region was thanked for his service. Harper will be RD and there is currently no RDA.
5. Discussion about utilizing website discussion area to improve how we exchange solutions to problems that are unique to rural areas. Participation on the RMZF bulletin board will be open to all NA members.
6. Don will send Steve information regarding website to allow for a second person with administrative access. Does not imply web site management.
7. Prude and Monte will create a proposed guideline change that will reflect changes that were made to the web site.
8. Brenda E. will create RMZF report for WSC by February 1, 2008.

### **World Board Report/Workshop: Steve L. and Muk**

Opened meeting at 10:19 with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Muk has had travel issues. She is absolutely intent upon making it here but will not be here until 1:30 this afternoon. Thanks for your dedication Muk!

Steve began by asking our permission to facilitate this meeting and reviewed agenda.  
Reviewed Agenda

### **NAWS Update:**

Steve gave brief history of NAWS move towards being more strategic in operation. NAWS use to operate with the essential issue of the day.

This has not always faired well in the public. Operating in a more strategic (planned fashion); we have made great strides in the last couple of years to improve the perception of Narcotics Anonymous in the public sector.

The public wants demographics

Over 6000 responses have been received to the online survey. The deadline is Dec. 31 2007

Conference projects are straight forward, and we will be talking about them more when we talk about the CAR.

Steve talked briefly about the Basic Text project and its history. We will talk more about those during the CAR workshop.

PR Handbook has been worked on for approximately 10 years. We talked about needing something more sweeping, comprehensive and based on our principles. It is important that our literature include the principles.

Steve CLARIFIED that service pamphlets are available and ARE NOT recovery literature.

Targeted Literature has been a hot topic since 2002.

This years CAR includes two new proposed IPs

One for our youth and one for parents and guardians of our youth.

CBDM (Consensus Based Decision Making) process. Desire to have something in writing for WSC. A rough draft went out in August, and the final draft will be in the CAT (Conference Approval Track).

The last world workshop will be in January in Sydney Australia. A worldwide workshop is a workshop that combines service and recovery and we try to bring it to the local community not just to delegates and world servants but also to the home group member.

There are ongoing and consistent changes to the website ([www.na.org](http://www.na.org)). It is Steve's hope that a new website will be unveiled at the WSC. It was created in 1998 and was fabulous then. However, it is time to update and improve this to bring it more current.

The hope is that by (?Date) you will be able to login with a single user name and password. This will make the website more user friendly and is a large undertaking.

There is now a place where you can sign up where you can get the JFT in your email. There are already more than 7000 subscribers. As a result, there are a few issues with the IP server.

Address: Go to [www.na.org](http://www.na.org) and go to new additions to subscribe.  
[www.jftna.org/jft](http://www.jftna.org/jft)

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Second half of December-Translated Versions will be available  
January 25-CAT will be available  
February 15 deadline for regional reports**

**CAR Questions: See Attached Document**

- Area Planning Tool
- Local Service
- Who's missing
- Targeted Literature
- Sponsorship Book
- New Literature

**CAR WORKSHOP: Muk is here and facilitating this workshop ☺**

Introduction to how “we” do CAR workshops

Muk went to page 43 to talk about Motions 11 and 12

New Jersey's two regions have each submitted ¼ of the motions in the CAR.

**World Board Motions:**

**Motion 1 thru 6 were generalized and they were all about the BT and the revisions that would be part of the process of said revision**

The question was asked that if we make a mistake with 6<sup>th</sup> edition will we end up with a 10<sup>th</sup> edition. Response: Definitely not the intent, but it could happen. If it does, then we will deal with it.

Typesetting problems in the 4<sup>th</sup> edition brought us to a fifth edition quickly.

Concern regarding translations Response: Philosophical issue. Narcotics Anonymous decided consciously to not follow the path of our predecessors in Alcoholics Anonymous in how they develop their international fellowship.

Narcotics Anonymous decided consciously to learn from their mistakes and made a conscious decision to go to a meeting anywhere and even if you do not understand the language you can understand that you are at a Narcotics Anonymous meeting. At one point there was a decision to allow various language groups to insert their own personal stories into the little white book. Many decided not to and begged the fellowship to put out personal experiences to reflect the diversity and experience of Narcotics Anonymous.

**THIS IS NO LONGER AN AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP THAT IS BEING EXPORTED  
WORLD WIDE. THIS IS A WORLD WIDE FELLOWSHIP IN 127 COUNTRIES and  
THE UNITED STATES IS ONE OF THEM.**

Concern was raised regarding the index not being available at this time. Response: It takes time to do this right. As soon as it is available, it will be available online.

**Motion 1:** To replace the existing stories in the Fifth Edition Basic Text Narcotics Anonymous with those contained in Addendum B.

Why are we doing this?

We want to have a body of stories that reflects the diversity of the fellowship today.

It is ok to have to be repetitive. REPEAT REPEAT REPEAT!

Will this affect translation policy? No but there is a CAT proposal that will.

Request to describe the difference between a CAR (Conference Agenda Report) and a CAT (Conference Approval Track).

- **CAR:**
  - Recovery Track and Home Group Track
  - Comes out earlier because it is designed to be worked with at the Home Group Level
- **CAT:**
  - Service Material Track
  - Comes out in January

**Motion 2:** To approve the remaining revisions to the Fifth Edition Basic Text of Narcotics Anonymous as represented in Addendum B. This includes:

- The Preface to the sixth edition
- The titles “Our Program” and “Our Members Share,” which would replace the titles “Book One” and “Book Two” respectively.
- The introduction to Our Members Share
- The abstracts
- The reflections, and
- The titles and descriptions from the sections “Beginnings,” “Coming Home,” “Regardless of...,” and “Life on Life’s Terms.”

Depending on when sixth edition comes out the first printings will go quickly. After that it will slow down. To get an idea of this time frame, look at NAWS annual reports. A printing is from 100,000 to 130,000 copies.

The size of Basic Text will be different, number of books in a case will be different, page numbering will be changing and paper will be different. The content of the first ten chapters will be the same with the exception of motion 6’s copy edits.

**Motion 3: To allow the World Board to approve updates to the statistical information (the numbers of meetings, countries, and so on) in the Preface to the Sixth Edition Basic Text Narcotics Anonymous regularly with an “as of” date in the footnote.**

**Motion 4: To approve the removal of the specific source citations in Just for Today for versions of literature no longer in print and to include, at the beginning of the book, an explanation that quotes without a citation are from the previous versions of NA Literature. Also to approve the use of a footnote in the foreword to Just for Today to update the reference to the Fifth Edition of the Basic Text?**

Self explanatory

**Motion 5: To approve the inclusion of an updated and revised index in the Sixth Edition of the Basic Text, Narcotics Anonymous**

Not available yet

**Motion 6: To approve two specific copyedits to the Basic Text Narcotics Anonymous: First, to replace the name “N.A.” (with periods after the two capitals letters) with “NA” (with no periods). Second, to remove the footnote in Tradition Eleven that mentions A Guide to Public Information Newly Revised.**

**Motion 7: To replace the existing IP # 13, Youth and Recovery with the revised draft contained in Addendum C and change the title of this IP to By Young Addicts for Young Addicts.**

This will replace IP # 13 and become IP # 13

**Motion 8: To approve the draft For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA contained in Addendum E as IP #27**

Question: Isn't this an issue for Naranon? Response: Gives parents and guardians relevant information regarding who and what we are. Who better to describe who and what Narcotics Anonymous is than Narcotics Anonymous? There is hope that Naranon will do something but it is not up to us to decide for this fellowship.

As part of our Public Relations efforts, this piece of literature is crucial.

### **Regional Motions:**

**Motion 9: To add English Roman Roman\_Numeral Medallions in Bronze to NAWS inventory as a specialty item and direct the World Board to price them accordingly.**

Only talks about English

**Motion 10: To direct the World Board to add to NAWS inventory Roman numeral medallions in all current finishes and languages produced by NAWS. Whether these medallions are an addition to inventory or a replacement for the current Arabic numbered medallions is left to NAWS discretion.**

Talks about all languages

**Motion 11: To the direct the World Board to provide financial support to the Northern New Jersey Region in the amount of \$36,000.**

The problem is not the \$36,000. The problem is NAWS setting a precedent inferring central control.

Question: Did somebody explain to the maker of this motion the precedent this could set?

Response: Yes

**Motion 12: To require that all NA Service pamphlets intended for group and individual use be included in the Conference Agenda Report for approval.**

**CAT issues:**

Issues were summarized. See page 5 of CAR.

**General Q & A**

**Question:** How do we amend a motion such as 9 or 10 to address concerns regarding language on medallions?

**Response:** To amend a motion in needs to specifically address the content of the motion. As a result, the suggestion is to address under new business concerns regarding where and when did the wording change happen on the back of the medallions. Specifically the language on the back that says, "That no addict need ever die..." When and why did we drop the [... from the horrors of addiction.]"

ILS,

Dawn P.

Montana Region 2 RDA



# WSC 2008 Conference Agenda Report Discussion Questions

Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum

December 8, 2007

Hello Family:

A few items to help you organize the information below:

- a. All items were recorded,
- b. The number behind the comment indicates how many checks an item was given by its subgroup. If there is no number, no checks were received,
- c. One subgroup chose to state what was a first and second priority instead of straw poll. This is indicated.
- d. Steve. L has the sheets and may resend this document after editing it.

THANKS FOR LETTING ME SERVE!

## Building Strong Home Groups

1. If you have used the Building Strong Home Groups worksheet (See Addendum A), how has it helped, and how can it be improved?
  - a. Worksheet is good but hard to get members excited- 1
  - b. More helpful to discuss all three categories-
  - c. More clear instructions- 4
  - d. Isn't written for people who haven't done strategic planning activities before- 3
  - e. This worksheet added to group booklet
  - f. Add more of what the strengths of the home group are- 3
  - g. Simplify the procedure- 6
  - h. Move "other" to a larger priority.
2. If you have not, what would convince you to use the worksheet?
  - a. Having the worksheet- needed the information
  - b. Belief in process
  - c. The group wants to use it- true desire to use it, creating desire by example, comparing it to old process- Selected as a priority by subgroup
  - d. Present it to group, they can use it or not, give them a choice- Selected as a priority by subgroup
  - e. Strong home group already- not needed by some groups

## Our Service System

3. If you are using the Area Planning Tool, how has it helped, and how can it be improved?
  - i. Benefits
  - ii. Improved structure and participation- 2
  - iii. Learn about members who are not connected- improved education and discussion- 1

- iv. Sparked interest
  - v. Group and area communication
  - vi. Unity- 2
  - b. Improvements
    - i. Simplify language and process to make useable by new and/or inexperience members- 2
    - ii. Facilitator training and include examples of how process has worked for others- 2
    - iii. Time to complete process needs to be shortened- 4 checks
    - iv. Low Hanging Fruit- 5
      - 1. Measurable and attainable goals/projects
4. If you are not, is there a reason why? What would convince you to use the APT?
- a. Getting areas to think ahead instead of only the present- 2<sup>nd</sup> choice
  - b. To shorten the process (reformat it)- 1<sup>st</sup> choice
  - c. Need to see the need to grow and change
  - d. Get the old timers involved
  - e. Awareness of tool-0
  - f. Proof of direct benefit to the group and ones personal recovery-3
  - g. Concept 4- effective leadership- 1
  - h. Sharing & Leadership regarding tool- 1
  - i. Support from region in bringing tool to area- 7
  - j. Make it part of the area structure- 4 checks
5. What do you think is working well in your local service structure?
- a. Literature distribution- 3
  - b. Communication between groups- 1
  - c. Activities- 1
  - d. Meeting availability- 3
  - e. Structure and rotation of positions- 4
  - f. Earning respect of professionals- 5
  - g. Attractive meeting list- 1
  - h. Nothing
  - i. PI
  - j. Communications (RCMS to groups and ASC)
  - k. H&I
  - l. Strong home groups with experienced members- 9
  - m. Use of APT- 1
  - n. Literature distribution- 1<sup>st</sup> priority for sub group
  - o. Good attendance by GSRs- 2<sup>nd</sup> priority for subgroup
  - p. People willing to be of service
  - q. H&I and PI
6. What do you think is not working in your local service structure?

- a. GSRs not giving groups info- 1<sup>st</sup> priority of subgroup
- b. Unfilled service positions
- c. No willingness for change
- d. Not using NA materials
- e. Rotation is not working- 2<sup>nd</sup> priority
- f. No mentoring
- g. Everything
- h. Change- 1 check
- i. Lack of rotation- 2 checks
- j. Inconsistent decision making- personalities over principles
- k. Too little participation- not enough members for requested services-5 marks
- l. Communication
- m. Literature distribution
- n. Lack of new trusted servants-2checks
- o. Development of leadership-1 check
- p. Lack of practicing personal spiritual principles-3 checks
- q. Too many positions- can't fill- 2 checks
- r. Accountability- 1check
- s. Sponsorship/Leadership- 7 checks

#### Who Is Missing From Our Meetings and Why?

- 7. What challenges stand in the way of determining who is missing and attracting them to NA?
  - a. Did not do
- 8. Have you discussed this issue in your group, area, or region? Please share your experience with workshopping the topic- even better, your successes reaching those who are missing.
  - i. Did not quantify
    - a. Developing Clarity
    - b. Identifying need and implementing solution (i.e. unity days)
    - c. Allowing the process instead of controlling it
    - d. More visibility and accessibility
    - e. Outreach with PI
    - f. Atmosphere of acceptance
    - g. PI & H&I positions are more committed- showing up
    - h. Practice anonymity
    - i. Home group information is out there
    - j. Inviting professional staff members to meetings and then actually coming
    - k. PI panel doing presentation
    - l. Reach out to military
    - m. Getting information to facilities

- n. Rural community posters
9. The 2008 WSC will vote on an IP for young people and another for their parents and guardians. What do you think the next targeted literature project should focus on; what population should we target?
- a. Non dominant cultures- 2 marks
  - b. Updated relapse targeted literature- 3 checks
  - c. Socially quiet
  - d. Older members with clean time- 1 check
  - e. Reclusive house wives- 1 check
  - f. Department of corrections mandated members- 2 checks
  - g. Older addicts and their health care issues- 1 check
  - h. Parents (addicts w/ kids and parents of addicts)- 2 checks
  - i. Native Americans- 1 check
  - j. Clean time longevity members
  - k. Population general targeted literature- what it means to be an NA member- 3 checks
  - l. Drug court referrals- what they can expect- 1 check
  - m. Professionals- 1 check
  - n. Our relationship to AA and other 12 step fellowships- 4 checks
  - o. To addicts on psychotropic drugs
  - p. Older members- 7 checks
  - q. Older members with time- 1 check
  - r. Young mothers- 4 marks
  - s. Housewives- 1 check
  - t. Indigenous peoples- world wide- 2 checks
  - u. Atheists- 1 check
  - v. Professionals- 1 check
  - w. Alcoholics
  - x. Benefits of service- 1 check
  - y. Higher Power- 1 check
  - z. Mental Health disorders- 1 check

10. What is useful about the Sponsorship Book that members are finding useful or not useful? If you didn't find it helpful, why didn't you find it helpful?

- a. Useful
  - i. Address same sex sponsors and multiple sponsors
  - ii. Not directive and doesn't limit- 1 check
  - iii. Collection of ESH- 6 checks
  - iv. We aren't finding it useful
  - v. Others people experience- 6 checks
  - vi. Different points of view
  - vii. Reference guide- 1 check
  - viii. Personal interpretation
  - ix. Suggested not law or rules

- x. Bathroom reading-2 checks
- b. Not useful
  - i. Watered down- not definitive- 1 check
  - ii. Repetitive
  - iii. No clear direction- 2 checks
  - iv. Not indexed- 4 checks
  - v. Too lengthy to have a literature study- 1 check
  - vi. Doesn't flow well
  - vii. Too vague- 3 checks
  - viii. No index-1check
  - ix. Too scattered
  - x. Format doesn't lend itself to usefulness- 4 checks
  - xi. Not being able to relate to it
  - xii. No sense of purpose- 1 check
  - xiii. Needs disclaimer value
  - xiv. Contradicts personal sponsorship experience- 3 checks
  - xv. Book takes away from one on one experience of sponsorship- 4 checks
  - xvi. Personal interpretation- 1 check
  - xvii. So much other good literature- it's overkill

**A possible recommendation is to reformat as a daily mediation with an index**