

Anchorage Area NA
Newsletter

2012 March

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep Anchorage Area Narcotics Anonymous members informed of the events and happenings of our fellowship.

Every attempt is made to adhere to NAWS guidelines for newsletters.

The content contained herein expresses the views and knowledge of it's contributors, not N.A. as a whole.

Newsletter Committee
Members

Amber Chair/Editor
Melissa Secretary

Doug P. Distribution

Never Alone Newsletter
Committee meets Sundays at
noon, upstairs at the Alano
Club, 3103 Spenard Rd.

Have you got some NA
information, news, a recovery
related story, or an event you
wish to include in next
month's newsletter? E-mail:
anchoragenanewsletter@
yahoo.com



REGIONAL NEWS

NAWS Service System Project *Workshop*

For years NAWS, over the course of Fellowship Discussion Topics and the Biannual Conferences, heard complaints about our *Service Structure*: “ineffective communication, insufficient resources, frustrated trusted servants, and a poor atmosphere of recovery in our service meetings”. Accordingly, the Service System Project was introduced in 2008.

The goal of the service system project is “to better align our practices with our principles”. In 2010, NA’s Vision Statement was amended to include the following line:

EVERY MEMBER, INSPIRED BY THE GIFT OF RECOVERY, EXPERIENCES SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND FULFILLMENT THROUGH SERVICE;

It is two years later, and the third draft of the Service System Project is out, which happens to be appendix A of this year’s CAR. NAWS is made up of addicts like us and needs feedback on the germinal ideas of this draft. Finding direction on the Service Project ideas is one of the *goals* of this years CAR.

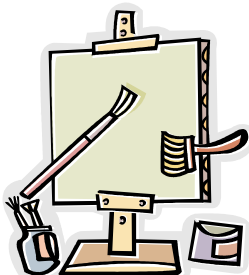
Thus, the CAR Service System Project *action* items are *Resolutions and Straw Polls* rather than binding motions. They are meant to affirm or not the principles of the Service System Project or we go back to the drawing board.

The Service System Project addresses difficult problems – the apathy and frustration in our service system - and in turn it is complicated. Because it is so complicated, our Region will host Service System workshops in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Kenai during March prior to the Regional GSR Assembly.

System Project workshops will be held in the following Areas on the dates shown.

- In Anchorage on March 3
- In Fairbanks on March 17
- In Kenai on March 10

Juneau has had ongoing informational meetings at its regularly scheduled Area meeting for the last two months.



Service System Workshop

Saturday, March 3, 2012 1:00 pm

Freedom Frog 325 E. 3rd Ave., #200 (3rd and Cordova)

Everyone is invited. GSR's strongly encouraged to attend.
This is preparation for GSR assembly.

For more info, contact Doug at 244-6030.

Regional GSR Assembly (Anchorage March 31)

Alaska Region is hosting the 2nd GSR Assembly on March 31 in Anchorage. The agenda is the NA World Service *Conference Agenda Report*. Regarding the *Service System Project*, there are seven Resolutions and nine Straw Polls. Before developing an actual plan for transition to a new service system, the “Resolutions” and “Straw Polls” are intended to determine if we have agreement on the basic principles. (Good idea!)

The workshops are intended to help our fellowship understand the *Service System Project*. We will vote on the resolutions and straw polls at the GSR Assembly. The CAR also includes a motion to approve the book [Living Clean: The Journey Continues](#). A bound approval draft copy from World costs \$8.90. A PDF copy can be downloaded at <http://www.na.org/?ID=wsc2012>. [Living Clean](#) is the culmination of a 4-year project. A copy of [Living Clean](#) is appendix B of the CAR.

The CAR also includes several motions which, under certain circumstances would authorize, the World Board (i) to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature, (ii) to bundle, excerpt, and repackage Fellowship-approved literature without changing the text, and (iii) to allow the Board to create and approve enhanced electronic or digital versions of texts including supplemental materials.

The CAR last but not least includes a motion to reduce the frequency of World Conventions from every other year to every three years.

The Regional Delegate team will be going over this material in depth on March 31 at the GSR Assembly. A copy of the Conference Agenda Report can be downloaded from WWW.NA.Org at the *World Service Conference* tab.

ANCHORAGE AREA NEWS

Area Service Committee Action Items

Lifesavers Group brought a motion that “AASC Cancel the ACS Help Line Phone Service and Utilize the Toll Free, Statewide Help Line Phone Service Provided by SwitchBoard Alaska and Funded by ARSC”. The motion was actually tabled so is not an *action item*.

Several points were made during the meeting.

- The Area has been so fiscally strapped lately that we could not afford a routine Learning Days of late. One of our Area’s major recurring expenses is the help line, which exceeds \$200 per month, which is more than our H&I and PI committees combined. Going with the ARSC help line would boost our Area fiscal solvency.
- Last year, the Juneau and Golden Heart Areas opted into the Regional phone line service when the cost of their local phone service became unaffordable.
- Perhaps the cost of the Help Line service through ARSC will exceed the cost of the Area phone line service. Of course it would not exceed the cost to Anchorage Area, because we would be transferring cost to Region, but perhaps the cost would be more. Is that prudent?
- Our local phone line cost was supposed to drop by about \$80 per month when Area decided to drop out of the Yellow Pages last June. That reduction in cost has not materialized.
- We will lose our Anchorage Area 277-LIVE number if we opt out of our ACS program.

The motion to table came out of a desire to gather more information.

What information might we gather? It would be good to know how many minutes per month the Anchorage phone service averages because the Regional (Switch Board) service is based on minutes of use. Then we could determine what the phone service for Anchorage would cost our Region. However, when we contacted ACS last summer, ACS could not tell us what our average minutes of use was because the ACS service is not based on minutes. In any case, it appears that the Juneau and Golden Heart phone line demand has not increased our Regional phone line cost. The average monthly cost of the Switch Board service (Regional Help Line service) is about \$55 per month.

Nomination for David P. as Regional Secretary will be voted on at our next Area meeting. David P. has the clean time and service requirements and a desire to serve. David P. has been appointed Secretary pro-temp in the interim.

Nomination for Alan Mc. as Regional Vice Chair will be voted on at the next Area meeting. Alan Mc. meets the clean time and service time requirements and has the desire to serve “unless another qualified person steps up to fill the spot”.

If Area approves the nominations, they will be introduced at the next Regional committee meeting, and sent back to the other Areas for approval.

1. **Nominations for Area Standing Committee Chair positions are due at Anchorage Area March 3.** These include *Public Information, Activities, Hospitals and Institutions, Regional Committee Member and Alternate RCM.*
2. Regional Guideline Changes are also due at the Anchorage Area meeting March 3.

Thanks

Newsletter wants to acknowledge the service and contribution of the Standing Subcommittee Chairs that are rotating out. Thanks to:

- Rob as Activity Chair
- Jack as Public Relations Chair
- Terry H as Hospitals and Institution Chair

We expect RCM (Elsworth), Alternate RCM (Carol), and Newsletter (Amber) to run again for another term and we thank you for your service.



Comedy Show and Adult Game Show
For ARCNA XXVIII Convention
Friday, March 10, 2012
 St. Patrick's Church - 2211 Muldoon Road
 Doors open at 6pm, \$15 at the door
 Adults Only
 Childcare available if needed - \$5 per family
 For more info call Catelyn at 744-0774 or Melissa at 744-5286



Speaker Meeting & Potluck.

907 RECOVERY, - *formerly known as* -Nothing
 in the Windows

February 26th & March 25th from 4 to 5pm



We Do Recover

When at the end of the road we find that we can no longer function as a human being, either with or without drugs, we all face the same dilemma. What is there left to do? There seems to be this alternative: either go on as best we can to the bitter ends—jails, institutions or death—or find a new way to live. In years gone by, very few addicts ever had this last choice. Those who are addicted today are more fortunate. For the first time in man's entire history, a simple way has been proving itself in the lives of many addicts. It is available to us all. This is a simple spiritual—not religious—program, known as Narcotics Anonymous.

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Save the Date!!!

GSR Assembly—

March 31.

No venue selected at this time.



Theme & logo contest

**Deadline for all submissions to be
turned in by April 1, 2012**

**Please give your theme & logos to any
Arts & Graphics Committee Member
Full Convention package for the best
theme & logo**

Arts & Graphics Committee

Dave L. 907-903-7343

Arlene L. 907-244-6919

Viva 907-240-3872

Rob T. 907-830-7628