

We've had a lot of things going on in Florida this past year. In December we formed our region. Last year we came out as representatives for one area, located in the Southeast part of the state (Dade & Brower County) and this year we've taken up the whole state of Florida as our region. Some of the things our Region has done is that we have taken a lot of meetings to outside areas, we have a long way to travel in Florida, so we've taken meetings to Orlando, Datona, St. Petersburg, back down to Miami and will probably be going up to Tallahassee and maybe to other outlying areas. Right now our region serves six Area Service Committees, we have 95 meetings, and approximately 850 to 1,000 members, which is about five times as many as we had this time last year. When we formed our region we also formed several Sub-Committees, and gave these committees, not only the need to be made into sub-committees, but the purpose for existing and gave them kind of a direction in what to go in. One of the things that came out of that is the fact of a need for a new committee which is called "Language and Special Services sub-committee". This is to carry the message of NA to persons having barriers due to language and other handicaps and we proposed turning a lot of our present literature into Spanish and French as we have quite a large Haitian community also down in Miami. This also takes in handicapped addicts (i.e. blind, physical, and mental) which we wouldn't be able to reach with existing literature. We have also made a program and tried to set up a system of maybe taping for some blind addicts and translating it into Braille. We hope to bring this sub-committee up and maybe form a sub-committee at the World Service Level because we believe there is more of a need than at our Regional level alone and probably could reach out more, especially in the foreign language department. We know we have a large Spanish community and at present some of our meetings are bi-lingual and some of the Spanish people talk Spanish and the English talk in English and somehow the message gets through, as the meeting is still existing. We've also had Public Information messages on TV and radio for the first time. We made tapes of commercials for radio and TV through our region and through areas. We had stickers put out for the hotline to place on telephones, and anywhere using addicts might gather and as of right now we have two groups who on a weekly basis get more than 100 at each meeting, one with as many as 175. Hospital and Institutions, one of our areas, in can donations brought in \$780. Last month we've been in touch with

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Roger Teague from Marietta, Georgia gave additional information. Has talked with people in Germany. N.A. in England. Fellowship in London has sponsored groups in Surrey. Active group in Sussex. Group in Scotland. Group in Dublin, Ireland - 2 active groups. Treatment center for addicts in Dublin. Talked with member in Australia. 3-4 meetings in Melbourne. Reported group in Spain, Guam (military center).

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FLORIDA - Bob - Rep from South Florida. Also Chairman of the Literature Comm. 4 Counties - Dade, Brower, Palm Beach, and Florida Keys. Dade - Been around 5 years. Metro Miami has a clubhouse. 6 meetings - 2 in institutions. (Distributed meeting lists to WSC members present). Brower - 11 meetings weekly. Half of those are in institutions. Cities included in this area are Ft. Lauderdale and Hollywood. Palm Beach - 5 years old. 3 meetings weekly. Became ASC 3 months ago. Are deciding if they want to join other Areas. Florida Keys - 1 meeting. Very small. Have been asking for support. So. Florida created ASC after Atlanta World Convention. Utilizing Service Manual as reference. Each County has an answering service. Dade and Brower and Palm Beach have ASC P.O. boxes. Very new - long term sobriety that came over from A.A. N.A.'s growing fast on account of drug addicts not being allowed in A.A. meetings. 23 meetings now. 15-63 people in attendance. 4 Committees formed: P.I., Literature, H&I are small committees. Wants info and experience from other Areas and Regions. Would like minutes. A Naranon meeting started on account of a lot of families calling hotline.

The History of  
Narcotics Anonymous  
in  
Florida

Florida RSC  
PO Box 2016  
St. Petersburg, FL 33731

Significant Events in  
the Florida Region

1969 1st Mtg. Key West  
1973 1st Mtg. W. Palm Bch.  
1975 1st Mtg. Miami  
1977 1st Mtg. Fort Lauderdale  
1979 1st ASC S. Florida ASC  
1980 1st RSR in Cal. at WSC  
1980 Won bid for WCNA-11  
1981 2nd ASC formed  
1981 WCNA-11  
1981 WLC-6  
1981 RSC formed  
1982 9 news ASC's formed  
1982 1st State Convention  
1982 1st State Literature Conf.  
1982 1st Area Convention

- 1969- The 1st mtg. in Florida Key West (165 south of Miami). There was very little known of this meeting other than correspondence with Cal. of its existence.
- 1973- The 1st meeting which was held on a continuing basis was located in W. Palm Beach. This meeting, called the "Mainline Group" remained very small and obscure for many years.
- 1975- The 1st meeting in Miami as a result of contact with WSO and a member from GA, who moved here.
- 1977- The 1st meeting in Ft. Lauderdale was started as a result of a conflict with elder AA's who did not favor the talk about drugs in their meetings.

Note: Althou

Note: Although Miami and W. Palm Beach were only forty miles apart neither was aware of the other's existence. Neither had knowledge or communication with the other until 1979, although both were communicating with the WSO regularly.

1977-79- N.A.'s growth was insignificant, if any during this period of time, The meetings remained small and obscure to their communities. Members used N.A. as a special purpose group to A.A. (Although, Miami had a "club room" which was called the "Back Room", 79th & Biscayne, the meetings remained small and peaked at four to a low of two.) The club closed in May of 1980 due to inner strife. West Palm Beach started a second meeting closed to addicts only, they remained so autonomous, they did not communicate with Miami or Fort Lauderdale. Fort Lauderdale had only their one meeting and remained small and regular attendance was a handful. This group also functioned as an offspring of "Y.P. in A.A." There was no possibility for recovery in N.A. All these meetings were in the southeastern part of Florida.

1979-  
(May) At this time six meetings were functioning in Florida.

1979  
(Sept) The first significant bit of development took place. The 9th World Convention was held in Atlanta, Ga. Twelve members from the Dade and Broward Areas attended. (This was about half of all those attending N.A. at the time). Many of the members came back to Florida with the spirit of service.

1979  
(Oct.) A 2nd Meeting started in Fort Lauderdale.

1979  
(Oct.) The first Sunday in October. A week following the 9th World. All those who attended and those who did not attend the 9th WCNA. At this time what we now know as an ASC was formed. This ASC consisted of three groups in the Dade and Broward Counties. The name "South Florida ASC" was chosen. Officers were elected.

1979  
(Dec.) The ASC grew to five groups. The first fundraiser was held to get an answering service for the purpose of helping the addict.

- 1980 (Jan.) The 1st Answering Service started for the Dade and Broward Areas.
- 1980 (Feb.) A 2nd fund-raiser was held for the ASC in Dade and Broward areas. It was a "Gong Show".
- 1980 (Mar.) An ASC meeting was held in West Palm Beach in order to get the "Mainline Group" to join our ASC. The Mainline Group voted against it and remained autonomous from the South Florida ASC.
- 1980 (Apr.) New meetings started in the South Dade Area and in Lake Worth (Palm Beach County), Ft. Lauderdale had four groups and three H and I meetings.
- 1980 (Apr.) The Florida ASC was represented at the WSC as a State Representative, a total of 19 meetings in the entire state were reported. Eight of these were H&I meetings.
- 1980 (May) The Florida ASC appointed a committee to possibly place a bid for the next World Convention.
- 1980 (June) A Literature Committee was started to help in writing material for a possible N.A. book.
- 1980 (July) Four members attended the First E.C.C. in Lewisburg, PA.
- 1980 (Aug.) The South Florida ASC helped start a meeting in the South Dade area in order gather together Fort Lauderdale./Miami/South Miami meetings.
- 1980 (Sept.) Four members from South Florida attended the 10th World Convention in order to attempt a bid for the next World Convention in Florida.
- Note: Although, the bid material for this convention looked good and was prepared, it was a "scam", the entire package was put together in order to sound good. Florida did get the bid.
- 1980 (Oct.) A committee was formed out of willing members who wanted to participate in the convention.
- 1980 (Dec.) Fund-raisers were held to get money for the Convention.

- 1981- At this time, 1981 was a year of mass confusion and significant growth, unpopular decisions, in conflict, a year of separation from A.A. and tradition battles, discussions and fights. The following information is simplified in order to give an accurate picture of history of Florida.
- 1981- The Third World Literature Conference was held in (Feb.) Memphis and two members attended from Florida.
- 1981- The "Grey Book" was shipped to Florida and in (Feb.) conflicts began attempts to push this book through for approval and a beginning of a separation from A.A. began.
- 1981- While our State Representative and the Alternate (May) attended the World Service Conference. The Dade and Broward areas split to form their own areas. A clubroom was opened in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. at 4141 Andrews Avenue.
- 1981- A member attended the 5th World Literature Conference (July) in Ohio and pitched for a bid of the 6th World Literature Conference in Florida.
- 1981- The 11th World Convention was held in Miami Beach at the Marco Polo Hotel. This was a four-day convention with an attendance of 517, a very successful convention, all speakers were selected on the basis of N.A. recovery. One trustee who had attended all the World Conventions to date commented that this was the 1st real N.A. convention he had attended.

The first effort or renewed spirit of service began in Florida to help the areas grow. The Dade area had 9 meetings at the time of this convention, the Broward (at this time named "Gold Coast") Area had 17 meetings. There were a dozen or so scattered meetings throughout the state in Daytona Beach, Naples, St. Pete, Jacksonville and West Palm Beach for a total of 38 meetings in Florida.

The 6th World Literature Conference was held in Miami at the Holy Cross Episcopal Church, from the 14th through the 19th. The final day was held in the club room in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The book was completed during this period of time.

1981- The first service workshop was planned and  
(Nov.) the first sub-committee was formed. The Gold Coast Area (Public Information Committee), a third hotline was started in Palm Beach. The Dade County area began to grow.

1981- Region formed in West Palm Beach  
(Dec.) All of these positions were started and filled.

Chairman	Literature
Co-Chairman	H&I
Secretary	Foreign Language
Treasurer	P.I.
RSR	Outreach
Alternate RSR	Convention
Policy	

Areas: Dade Area, Gold Coast Area, Daytona Area, St. Pete Area

1981- The 1st Regional meeting was held in West Palm  
(Dec.) Beach and officers were elected. At this time three areas were represented: Dade County area which had 17 meetings, the Gold Coast Area (Broward & Palm Beach county areas) which had twenty meetings; the Daytona Area which had two meetings. At least six other areas existed in Florida with a dozen meetings. Fifty-one meetings existed in Florida.

1982 The 2nd Regional meeting was held again in West  
(Jan.) Palm Beach and officers for sub-committees were elected: H&I, P.I., Literature, Policy and Activities. A decision was made to hold the next Florida Regional Convention.

1982 Growth in the Florida Region was phenomenal from  
(Feb. December til April we had grown from Forty meetings  
Mar. to ninety meetings throughout the state with meet-  
Apr.) ings in eight different areas: Dade County Gold Coast (which represented only Broward County during May); Palm Coast (new area formed from the Gold Coast Area); Space Coast (Melbourne Area); Orlando and vicinity, Bay Cities (Tampa, St. Pete, Clearwater), Daytona Beach, Tallahassee, Naples, Gainesville, Jacksonville, the Panhandle of Florida joined the Alabama region.

1982 Florida held its 1st Regional Convention in West  
(July) Palm Beach at the Hyatt Regency Hotel with an attendance of 502, the Florida Region began another growth period during this time.



- 1982- (Oct.) The 1st Florida Literature Conference in Daytona Beach to work on pamphlets: Sponsorship, Medication during Recovery.
- 1982- (Nov.) The 1st Area Convention was held at the Holiday Inn in W. Palm Beach with attendance of about 200.
- 1982- (Dec.) Dade County held an H&I Banquet in Miami with attendance well over 300. The WSC chairperson (H&I) was the main speaker.

RSC Meetings were held:

December at West Palm Beach  
 January at West Palm Beach  
 February at Daytona Beach  
 March at Clearwater  
 April at Miami  
 May at Orlando  
 June at Tallahassee  
 July at West Palm Beach  
 August at Key West  
 October at Ft. Lauderdale  
 December at Melbourne

N.A. Meetings

December- 51  
 January - 61  
 February- 72  
 March - 75  
 April - 85  
 May - 92  
 June - 92  
 July - 98  
 August -101  
 October -106  
 December-131

Areas (month joined RSC)

Dade - December  
 Gold Coast - December  
 Palm Coast - May  
 Space Coast - June  
 Orlando - February  
 Jacksonville - February  
 Tallahassee - April  
 Gainesville - August  
 Bay Cities - January  
 Naples/Fort Myers - July  
 Daytona Beach - December

Committees (month committee activated) and what committee did during the year.

Literature- (January)- held workshops during year, went from \$200 to \$2,000 literature reserve, held literature conference for the purpose of compiling and editing material for two pamphlets- Sponsorship, Medication during Recovery.

Policy- (January)- wrote guidelines for:  
RSC (28 pages), H&I (10 pages), Finance & Contributions (2 pages), Convention (15 pages), Area Service Committee Kits (10 pages), Group Kit (10 pages), compiled material for WSC input, proposed many organizational motions in force.

H&I-(January)- H&I meetings grew from 10 to 24 during the year. Dealt with many conflicts with traditions with H&I's, Dade held H&I banquet. The Health Rehabilitative Services Administration told all H or I's receiving funding must have N.A. (H&I) meetings in order to continue receiving funding.

Public Information (January)- compiled a package/pamphlet, "To the Professional", made four tapes for television, made tapes for radio, posters, compiled guidelines for hotlines, attended two conferences on drug abuse, help workshops throughout the year, spoke with dozens of professionals in the community.

Foreign Language & Special Services- (March)- translated the little white book into practical Spanish and French and translated it into braille has two Spanish meetings in Miami, another in West Palm Beach.

Outreach-(August)- gathered letters to AA intergroups, all H&I'S in Florida, and new committee, still not functional.

Convention-(February)- help 1st State Convention in East Palm Beach with attendance of 502 from 9 areas in Florida, and 9 states includes Massachusetts for the first time. Registration was kept to \$5.00 and free to H&I's.

FL 4.

Regional Reports continued.

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Bob B. and got a lot of feedback and gave input because we have strong interest in Hospital & Institution work. Last year we hosted WCNA-11. We had our doubts as to whether it would ever materialize but it did, with about 200 out of state addicts in attendance. There were 600 all together. Also had a letter from State HRS, Health Rehab Service, which are bringing NA meetings into their institutions, asking members of those organizations to attend open NA meetings and think about bringing NA into their structure. Also we have a group in St. Croix, been sent literature and I believe they are now registered with the World Service Office and we have been trying to help them as we are the nearest region. A little history of NA is 1972 we started our first meeting in West Palm Beach. In 1975 we grew to four meetings and in 1980 we had about 23. Last year when I came out here we had 35 and this year we have about 95. As I was looking over to see how long it took us to start our Region. It took us about nine years and we consider we're doing pretty good because that was about twice as fast as what California did it. There has also been some problems. Mostly with growth and sometimes we get people involved who get into letter writing campaigns and it was suggested to me before I came out here that I bring some letters of support from our area services supporting our Florida region. One of our members made some comments and sent some letters out to World Service Office and Board of Trustees and several other trusted servants about the Florida region being illegally formed and whatever that means. I brought some letters of support from all of our ASC to say that I am the representative and am their duly elected representative from the state of Florida.

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