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VOLUME 2 WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC. (818) 780-3951
NUMBER 6 P.O. BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91409

REGISTRATION OF NEW GROUPS

When registering your new group and meeting, or even when making a change on an existing group and meeting, please make sure that we receive all the information necessary for entering it in the *World Directory*. So many times we receive a group registration form and items such as city, state, zip code, type of meeting, time, etc. are left out. Unfortunately this leads to the meeting being entered with the wrong information or not at all in the *World Directory*. It is also very important that the address of a contact person (other than the address where the meeting is being held) be sent along with the group registration so that literature such as the *Newsline*, order forms, registration forms etc. can be sent to this person and shared at the meeting.

WORLD DIRECTORY

The World Service Office has been striving to provide the Fellowship with a current, accurate *World Directory* of N.A. meetings for several years now. For a long time, the task seemed almost impossible. As you all know, situations change at a local level quite frequently, and our Fellowship is growing at a phenomenal rate. The enormous task of keeping a running catalogue of these changes was begun on typewriters some time ago, and proved just too unwieldy to be handled that way.

Before long, the World Service Office began to get computers, so this task became somewhat more manageable. As we learned to use these machines, we finally got a version of the *World Directory* into print, developed a system of updating it regularly, and began selling it to the Fellowship. Sounds simple enough, right? We wish!

It is no secret that the *World Directory* has continued to be somewhat inaccurate and incomplete. While many members have said that this tool has been very useful to them, most have also said that the information has not been very up-to-date. The system of updates didn't work out as well as we had hoped. In the meantime, we began to learn more and more about our computer system, and we acquired software that could better

handle this project. Over the last several months, we have transferred the *World Directory* into a different program and devised a new system for keeping it up-to-date.

Finally this project is manageable. One staff person has been assigned the responsibility for handling the changes as we receive them. We update this directory now almost daily, and we have a much improved ability to keep up with this developing Fellowship. It will never be realistic to expect that every entry will be accurate, but we know that we can now have the best *World Directory* we have ever had. All we need now is your help.

We will be going to print with a new *World Directory* soon, so the quicker your response the better. It would be most helpful if one person in each area or region were assigned to respond to this, to avoid duplication. Please send us the following:

1. Your regional meeting list. Be sure all meetings are included. Attach a separate sheet if necessary so it is complete.
2. An area meeting list if there is no regional list.
3. If none of the above exists, send us the most current information regarding the meeting(s) where you live.
4. Send us regular updates of all of the above. If a meeting has folded, we need that information too, so that we can remove it from the directory.

We will no longer be using the old system of updates. We will instead just publish the *World Directory* about every six months, with the publication date printed clearly on the cover. You will then have the option of replacing your copy as often as you wish—perhaps only every year or two. We feel that this new system will be efficient enough to avoid many of the problems we have experienced in the past, and will be the most useful to the Fellowship.

ATTENTION SERVICE OFFICES AND AREA SERVICE COMMITTEES

We are requesting all area service committees and service offices to please send us the most current information regarding:

1. Most stable mailing address (a post office box is preferred).
2. Addresses for ASR, ASR alternate, secretary, chairperson, or officers of the Board of Directors.
3. Any changes in above information.
4. Minutes of ASC or Board of Directors meetings.

With the rapid growth of the Fellowship, the above requested information can only serve to strengthen the vital communication chain. Sometimes, the area service committee or service office is omitted in our communication process. We are seeking to remedy this situation. Please send the requested information to WSO with Attention: Group Services.

THE FORMATION OF REGIONAL AND AREA SERVICE OFFICES

The past twelve months have witnessed feverish activity pertaining to the opening of N.A. offices by regions and some area committees. Last year there were only five offices in operation (New York, San Diego, Florida, London and Sydney Australia) and each of these operated on a limited basis. There were several other places where a physical location was rented but mostly for the storage of literature rather than operation of an office as a daily activity. There are now offices in Detroit, Milwaukee, Chicago and Montreal. In several other cities, committees are busy working to bring about the opening of offices, or have offices operating part-time: Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, Dallas, Boston and in Oakland.

In almost one of these local office projects, there has been hesitancy, at least mild controversy, and in a few situations even serious conflict during the discussions about opening an office. When there was only the WSO as an N.A. office, many of our members became accustomed to that as the norm, and some felt other offices were not necessary. The arguments against opening an office are many. These arguments are sincerely offered by concerned members who love N.A. These concerns must be examined and carefully responded to in order to arrive at a positive group conscience which can be supported by the affected Fellowship.

While there are both short and long term advantages to having an office, the arguments

against starting one should not be ignored. When a committee is established to investigate the opening of an office, the committee should contact the WSO for assistance. The WSO has provided information and some assistance to each of these offices at various stages in their evolution, except the office in Milwaukee.

An office, however, should not be sought simply because another region, city or area is working on one. It is reasonable to expect that the next ten years will see the opening of dozens. But they should come about *only* when the Fellowship they will serve is strong enough and large enough to provide the administrative and financial support required. We must not be diverted from our primary purpose. An office serving the Fellowship in a region or area can provide benefits to the Fellowship, and reach addicts who may not otherwise have gotten help. But if the opening and operation of the office *diverts* our energies or resources from our primary purpose, then we are heading down the wrong path. The WSO will help with any request for assistance, but we encourage every effort to be deliberate and well considered.

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

In a somewhat related matter, our office has recently completed the draft of a report that has been talked about for two years—A draft report pertaining to legal and financial matters—and a limited supply will be produced. In order to minimize confusion and cost, these reports will be made available to regional service committees and area service committees.

The report provides general information on terms we use and misuse as we develop an understanding of what N.A. is and how we, as a non-profit or tax exempt organization, should handle our finances. It provides insight to understanding the formation of offices, including when it may be desirable to create a special service board for major activities involving money and legal liability. The portion of the report which may provide practical guidance to the average group or area will be printed in the next *Newsline*.

The report is still in draft form, and is expected to be changed as additional information is made available to the office by our attorney and our accountant. It is important to understand why it has taken so long to produce this report, and why it is being made available in draft form.

When the issues which prompted the need for the report were first discussed throughout 1983, it seemed that a short simple report could be made after a few resources were utilized. However, as a better understanding evolved of the legal issues and how they applied to a spiritual Fellowship, there was less certainty about what exactly could be said. If such technical advice was being prepared for a commercial franchise (like a fast food place) there was plenty of legal and technical

advice around in existing publications. However, providing information on banking to such a loose knit association of people as we are at the group level—in many cases with little financial or legal sophistication—proved to be a very complex problem.

Attempting to fit such information to the needs of a spiritual Fellowship was much harder than we first realized. This is especially true because of the complexity of the Fellowship's activities and the unique need to apply traditions to otherwise simple business matters. Final discussion between the accountant, attorney and WSO has resulted in the decision to make the existing material available as a draft and clearly state that, as more clarity is achieved from continuing investigation and learning, changes will be made. Areas or regions desiring copies should write to the WSO requesting the "Information Summary of Financial and Legal Matters."

LITERATURE RACKS

The WSO has continued to investigate the possibility of making literature racks available to the Fellowship. So far we have communicated with different manufacturers to obtain bids for racks made of plastic, cardboard and wire. This has not been a high priority project, so progress has been slow. It is expected, however, that this search will be concluded by next spring.

LONER GROUP

Many of you are already aware of the recent changes made in the handling of correspondence within the Loner Group. When the group first formed, it was necessary to have letters forwarded through the WSO. This is fortunately no longer the case. First names and addresses of loner members are now published in the "New Loner" section of the *Meeting By Mail*.

Response to this change has been positive. In fact, a major reason for the change was that members were frustrated because of the time lapse involved in having to forward their letters through the office. In some cases, where members were writing to someone in another country, the letter might be delayed as much as a full month.

Another benefit of this restructuring is that any member can choose to write to loner addicts. In the past, it was necessary to assign a "sponsor" to each loner, which meant that the loner member was hearing from only one other recovering addict. Now, loner addicts can correspond with as many members as choose to write, and they can also write to each other by using the names and addresses printed.

The WSO prints only first names and addresses of those loner addicts who authorize such printing. Letters have been mailed to all loners who were corresponding with sponsors under the original

system, requesting their permission to furnish their name and address. Most of those loners have already responded affirmatively, and the remainder will hopefully do the same soon.

If you are not already receiving the *Meeting By Mail* and would like to be involved in this Twelve Step work, simply drop us a note with your name and address. Please specify whether you are a loner and wish to have your name and address in the next issue, or whether you simply want to be on the mailing list and share experience with loners.

If you do write to loners, remember they need your address in order to respond. Only loners' first names and addresses are included in the *Meeting By Mail*, and the publication is only intended for use by members of Narcotics Anonymous.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The WSO is pleased to announce the availability of two new items related to the WSC P.I. Committee's public service announcements. One of these is a 1/2 inch VHS cartridge, at a cost of \$10.00, which shows each of the four PSAs one time. It is intended for use by service committees and subcommittees for workshops, learning days, etc. Of course, we also realize that many individual members like the idea of owning one of these for themselves, and to show to friends. Therefore, the cassettes may be purchased by any individual or committee. Language has been included on these cartridges which reads across the bottom of the tape and states that they are "not for broadcast use."

The other new item is color storyboards for the PSA kits, at a cost of \$4.00 each. Each storyboard shows four actual frames of each PSA, including script. The kit has been available at no cost to those committees preparing for a PSA campaign, and will continue to be mailed without the storyboards if requested. However, if your committee is serious about airing PSA's, the storyboards can be a valuable tool in getting a favorable response when approaching TV stations.

If a PSA is ordered, a kit is included with the purchase price, and contains the appropriate storyboard of the PSA. If a kit is ordered without the purchase of a PSA, one of each storyboard is included.

A question asked by many committees is whether or not committees can duplicate the tapes or have stations duplicate them, thereby reducing the cost which would result if the committee was to purchase a tape for every station they contacted. The Fellowship has always been encouraged to purchase conference approved material through the WSO and that is still encouraged. At the same time, we realize that purchasing, for example, five of each PSA for different stations, might create a

financial hardship for some committees. One suggestion that some areas and regions have found useful is to use the PSAs one at a time on one station at a time. This not only cuts costs but also reduces the chance of overload on phonenumber and Twelve Step volunteers who will be handling any increase in calls resulting from a PSA campaign.

Another suggestion is to purchase one of each PSA and have four stations running different spots during the same time. There are pros and cons to each of these ideas, and the circumstances and needs differ in every region. In consulting the group conscience of your committee, give serious consideration to this matter as part of the preparatory work involved in using public service announcements.

NEW ORDER FORMS

In the last issue of the *Newsline*, there was a reference made to new order forms. There was a suggestion that the four page form be used to figure your order and be kept for reference, but that final computation and ordering should be accomplished with the shorter, two page form. We realize that the two page form does not contain all available inventory items. Information regarding orders for non-English literature or certain public information material should be obtained by calling or writing the WSO order department prior to ordering. This change was made for two main reasons.

The primary reason was to begin efforts towards using the form in conjunction with a catalogue. A catalogue is currently being worked on and may be in use by mid 1986. Every available item would be shown in the catalogue and the order form would be used simply for mailing, with payment, to the WSO. By using this method, the second reason for using a shortened order form would also be realized.

Many committees use the two page order form for mailings and distribution to persons, groups, and organizations outside the Fellowship who would not ordinarily be interested in many of the items available. This type of distribution is usually done by P.I. or H&I subcommittees for mailings to non-N.A.'s at seminars, health fairs, booths, community meetings, etc. The four page order form is simply two awkward to use for most non-N.A. orders.

The idea of a catalogue with pictures is very exciting and we look forward to having one soon. In the meantime, the order form will more than likely be changed again, and any comments from the Fellowship about improving its usefulness are appreciated.

THE N.A. WAY MAGAZINE SPECIAL HOLIDAY OFFER

The *N.A. Way* magazine is offering a Holiday Special again this year. The special is different than last year's, though, so you will want to look closely at the order form enclosed in this *Newsline*. For every new subscription or renewal we receive at the regular price of \$12.00, we will honor an unlimited number of additional orders received in the same envelope at \$10.00. This is designed to make it easy for our regular subscribers to give gift subscriptions, and for those regular subscribers to encourage others to subscribe.

WORLD CONVENTION CORPORATION

In November's Fellowship report, which will have been mailed by the time you read this, several pages were devoted to information about the World Convention Committee and the World Convention Corporation. This information was provided by the WSC Convention Committee Chairperson, the WSC Chairperson and the WSO Office Manager. Also included were minutes of the first meeting of the World Convention Corporation (WCCNA), held in Philadelphia on October 19-20, 1985.

Because of the extensive information provided in the Fellowship Report, this summary will not include many of the details which can be found there. Copies of the Fellowship Report should be requested from your regional service committee, or may be ordered through the WSO. There is a \$3.00 charge for additional copies.

In brief, it was agreed by the Convention Committee, the WSC Administrative Committee and the WSO that the World Convention be managed by and through a corporation. The corporation that was formed for the Chicago World Convention will be taken over for this purpose and will be a subsidiary of the WSO. By taking these steps, protection will be provided for the Fellowship and the WSC Convention Committee in matters of liability for loss, damage or lawsuits.

This is an interim arrangement and will, of course, be subject to approval at WSC-'86. Recommendations for and changes to current convention guidelines will be submitted by the WSC Convention Committee for approval at that time also.

A staff member at the WSO, Danette B., has been assigned as liaison for the WCCNA and is available to answer any questions you may have.

LIVE IN LONDON WCNA-16

As reported in the last *Newsline*, the next World Convention will be held in London. Flyers and registration forms are being prepared, and will

hopefully be available by early December. Options for air travel are also being investigated, and information on that will be forthcoming.

The London committee has been working tirelessly to provide another wonderful convention experience for the Fellowship; we hope that many, many of our members will be able to celebrate recovery in England in 1986.

It is important to begin applications for passports as soon as possible. Information was requested from the State Department regarding passports for people with felony convictions. Their frustrating response is that initial application must be attempted as usual and that any additional requirements can only be fulfilled after the application has gone through regular channels and been denied. Please contact the office of the State Department in your locale for further information about obtaining passports.

WCNA-17

Six cities other than London made bids for the 1986 World Convention. Those cities will be considered for the 1987 World Convention, and have been mailed packages containing fact sheets to be completed and returned for review. Recommendations will be made after reviewing the fact sheets and bid information, and the site of the 1987 World Convention will be determined at WSC '86.

NEWS FROM THE WORLD LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Error in Last Notice

We are sorry that an error appeared in the Notice from the Literature Committee in the October *Newsline* (Vol. 2, No. 5). It stated that the nine-month review period was almost over. At the time this notice was written, that information was true. However, by the time the *Newsline* went to print, the deadline had come and gone. Therefore, we want everyone to know that the review period for 1985 is over. We are no longer accepting input on any review-form literature except the second half of *It Works: How and Why* (the Twelve Traditions portion). All of the input that was received from the Fellowship was discussed and considered at our October meeting in Philadelphia in the preparation of approval-form drafts. We have completed work on the following approval drafts which we expect to have ready for distribution at WSC '86:

It Works: How and Why Part I (Twelve Steps)
The Loner: Staying Clean in Isolation
Welcome to Narcotics Anonymous

We also want to clarify the status of the pamphlet *In Times of Illness*. The October *Newsline*

stated that this pamphlet had been sent out for review in 1985. This was also erroneous, and for that we apologize. This new pamphlet, which is a rewrite of an old pamphlet entitled *The Use of Medication in Recovery*, is still being developed by the World Literature Committee. A preliminary draft has been prepared, and further evaluation and refinement is being done now by the World Literature Committee before this new draft can be sent out for review and input. The Literature Committee would like to include several personal experiences from members who have coped with illness or injury during their recovery. We are in need of stories describing experiences with injury and mental disorders. We would like any N.A. members who have faced these circumstances in their recovery to share their experience, strength and hope with us in the written form. Please try to include information about the following questions:

1. What type of spiritual process did you go through to find acceptance of your condition in conjunction with the principles of the N.A. Program?
2. How do you maintain your recovery on an ongoing basis while coping with your physical limitation and the threat/possibility of required medication?
3. Do you have any suggestions for other addicts who may be faced with a similar situation?

Please send your input to the World Literature Committee in care of the World Service Office. We thank you for your interest and support.

H&I NEWS

The WSC H&I Committee is currently in the midst of several work projects which need input and support from the Fellowship. The Colorado Regional H&I Committee has been working on compiling a booklet which will be directed toward the addict who is in treatment. It will outline, step by step, the transition from being in treatment to active involvement within the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. It will be based upon the input sent in to that Committee by recovering addicts who have successfully made the transition. We realize that this task cannot be accomplished without your experience, strength and hope as recovering members of our Fellowship. What you have experienced can help others cross this crucial bridge into N.A. as a whole.

The second project that needs your vital input and support is the one being undertaken by the Mid-Coast Regional H&I Committee. This project

will be directed toward addicts who are currently involved with, or have been exposed to, Narcotics Anonymous in a correctional setting. Again, we will need your input to assist in this task. If you've had the experience of coming out of a correctional institution and entering the mainstream of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, write about your experience and send it in as input for this project. There is an overwhelming need for literature which addresses the transitional period, because of the high rate of relapse during this time in an addicts recovery. Many addicts don't make it to regular N.A. meetings once they are released from treatment centers, hospitals, jails, prisons, etc. Much of this is due to a lack of information and support from those of us who are recovering addicts. Hopefully, these booklets can be a source of education and inspiration for the addict in transition, as well as for those addicts recovering who are willing to extend themselves in support and assistance to the addict coming out of jails and institutions.

The third project underway is the one being compiled by the Alabama/N.W. Florida Regional H&I Committee. This project concerns gathering material from throughout the Fellowship that is submitted by recovering addicts who received the message of recovery in N.A. while in a psychiatric facility or methadone outpatient clinic. Your experiences can be of vital assistance to those addicts seeking recovery who are currently in a similar situation. We also need input concerning your experiences while carrying the message into this type of facility. What were the problems you encountered? How did you solve them? Has your committee been effective in this type of facility? We must always remember that we have to strictly carry the N.A. message of recovery. There are many outside issues prevalent in both types facilities, but we have to maintain a posture of having no personal opinions on these, as they do constitute "outside issues." How can we be more effective without approaching outside areas of concern? These and other questions can be answered by your input. Helpful guidelines can evolve which can assist the many active H&I people in better carrying the message.

You can forward any input on either project to:

H&I Coordinator
World Service Office
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

The H&I Coordinator will then forward the material to the appropriate committees so that they can complete first drafts on these projects.

The WSO has had the responsibility of publishing a bimonthly newsletter for the WSC H&I Committee entitled, *Reaching Out*. This is being accomplished by the Hospital and Institutions Project Coordinator in an ongoing

effort to reach as many addicts as possible who have little or no contact with the Fellowship. So far, five (5) editions have been printed, the last of which was mailed in mid-November. Approximately 3,000 copies are now being mailed bimonthly to about 800 or 900 inmates/residents in institutions. Multiple copies are also sent to over 100 area or regional H&I committees that are distributing them to the facilities they carry the message into. Copies are also mailed directly to over 500 institutional N.A. meetings or groups. The ever increasing volume of literature requests received here at the WSO over the past year clearly demonstrates that there are many very active H&I committees carrying the message.

The calls and letters received at the WSO, which are direct requests for meeting starter kits, is overwhelming. As our Fellowship grows these types of requests increase proportionally. Many addicts who had never heard of Narcotics Anonymous are now beginning their recovery by attending institutional N.A. meetings on a regular basis. Many more facility administrators (treatment and correctional) are aware of the Fellowship's existence; best of all, these professionals are now aware that recovery from the disease of addiction is available in Narcotics Anonymous.

We believe that we are only witnessing the tip of the iceberg. As the Fellowship continues to grow, more addicts in treatment and correctional facilities will be reaching the doors of Narcotics Anonymous through effective Fellowship H&I efforts. Our gratitude speaks....

FROM THE TRUSTEES

Some Thoughts on Our Relationship to A.A.

The question of just how Narcotics Anonymous relates to all other Fellowships and organizations is one which generates a good deal of controversy within our Fellowship. In spite of the fact that we have a stated policy of "cooperation, not affiliation" with outside organizations, much confusion remains. The most sensitive issue of this nature involves our relationship to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. A constant stream of letters is received by the World Service Board of Trustees asking a variety of questions about this relationship. The time has come for another *Newsline* article to shed some light on this important subject.

Narcotics Anonymous is modeled after, though not identical to, Alcoholics Anonymous. Nearly every N.A. community in existence has leaned to some degree on A.A. in the N.A. group's formative stages. Our relationship with that Fellowship over the years has been very real and dynamic. Our Fellowship itself sprang from the turmoil within A.A. over what to do with the addicts knocking on

their door. So we will look at those roots for some perspective on our current relationship to A.A.

Bill W., one of the A.A. co-founders, often said that one of A.A.'s greatest strengths is its single-minded focus on one thing and one thing only. By limiting its primary purpose to carrying the message to alcoholics, avoiding all other activities, A.A. is able to do that one thing supremely well. The atmosphere of identification is preserved by that purity of focus, and alcoholics get help.

From very early on, A.A. was confronted by a perplexing problem: "What do we do with drug addicts? We want to keep our focus on alcohol so the alcoholic hears the message, but these addicts come in here talking about drugs, inadvertently weakening our atmosphere of identification." The steps were written, the Big Book was written—what were they supposed to do, re-write it all? Allow the atmosphere of identification to get blurry so that no one got a clear sense of belonging? Kick these dying people back out into the street? The problem must have been a tremendous one for them.

When they finally studied the problem carefully and took a stand in their literature, the solution they outlined possessed their characteristic common sense and wisdom. They said that while they cannot accept addicts who are not alcoholics as members, they freely offer their steps and traditions for adaptation by any groups who wish to use them. They pledged their support in a spirit of "cooperation, not affiliation." This far-sighted solution to a difficult problem paved the way for the development of the Narcotics Anonymous Fellowship.

But still the problem that they wished to avoid would have to be addressed by any group who tried to adapt those principles to drug addicts. How do you achieve the atmosphere of identification so necessary for surrender and recovery if you let all different kinds of addicts in? Can someone with a heroin problem relate to someone with an alcohol or marijuana or Valium problem? How will you ever achieve the unity that the First Tradition says is necessary for recovery? Our Fellowship inherited a tough dilemma.

For some perspective on how we have handled that dilemma, one more look at A.A. history will be helpful. Another thing Bill W. used to frequently write and speak about was what he called the "tenstrike" of A.A.—the wording of the Third and Eleventh Steps. The whole area of spirituality vs. religion was every bit as perplexing for them in those days as this unity issue has been for us. Bill liked to recount that the simple addition of the words "as we understood Him" after the word "God" laid to rest that controversy in one chop. An issue that had the potential to divide and destroy A.A. was converted into the cornerstone of the program by the simple turn of a phrase.

As the founders of Narcotics Anonymous adapted our steps, they came up with a "tenstrike"

of perhaps equal importance. Rather than converting the First Step in the most natural, logical way ("We admitted that we were powerless over drugs...") they made a radical change in that step. They wrote, "We admitted that we were powerless over our addiction..." Drugs are a varied group of substances, the use of any of which is but a symptom of our disease. When addicts gather and focus on drugs, they are usually focusing on their differences, because each of us used a different drug or combination of drugs. The one thing that we all share is the disease of addiction. It was a masterful stroke. With that single turn of a phrase the foundation of the Narcotics Anonymous Fellowship was laid.

Our First Step gives us one thing to focus on, so we can do that one thing supremely well. We carry the message to the addict who still suffers. As a bonus, this wording of Step One also takes the focus of our powerlessness off the symptom and places it on the disease itself. The phrase "powerless over a drug" does not go far enough for most of us in ongoing recovery—the desire to use has been removed—but "powerless over our addiction" is as relevant to the oldtimer as it is to the newcomer. Our addiction begins to resurface and cause problems in our thoughts and feelings whenever we become complacent in our program of recovery. This process has nothing to do with "drug of choice." We guard against the recurrence of our drug use by reapplying our spiritual principles before our disease takes us that far. So our First Step applies regardless of drug of choice, and regardless of length of clean time. With this "tenstrike" as its foundation, N.A. has begun to flourish as a major worldwide movement, clearly appropriate to contemporary addiction problems. And we've only just begun.

As any given N.A. community matures in its understanding of its own principles (particularly Step One), an interesting fact emerges. The A.A. perspective, with its alcohol oriented language, and the N.A. approach, with its clear need to shift the focus off the specific drug, don't mix very well. When we try to mix them, we find that we have the same problem as A.A. had with us all along! When our members identify as "addicts and alcoholics," or talk about "sobriety" and living "clean and sober," the clarity of the N.A. message is blurred. The implication in this language is that there are two diseases, that one drug is separate from the pack, so that a separate set of terms is needed when discussing it. At first glance this seems minor, but our experience clearly shows that the full impact of the N.A. message is crippled by this subtle semantic confusion.

It has become clear that our common identification, our unity, and our full surrender as addicts depend on a clear understanding of our most basic fundamentals: We are powerless over a disease that gets progressively worse when we use any drug. It does not matter what drug was at the center for us when we got here. Any drug we use

will release our disease all over again. We recover from this disease by applying our Twelve Steps. Our steps are uniquely worded to carry this message clearly, so the rest of our language of recovery must be consistent with those steps. Ironically, we cannot mix these fundamental principles with those of our parent Fellowship without crippling our own message.

Does this mean that A.A.'s approach is inferior to ours, and based on denial or half measures? Of course not! A casual, cursory glance at their success in delivering recovery to alcoholics over the years makes it abundantly clear: theirs is a top notch program. Their literature, their service structure, the quality of their members' recovery, their sheer numbers, the respect they enjoy from society, these things speak for themselves. Our members ought not embarrass us by adopting a "we're better than them" posture. That can only be counterproductive.

The simple fact is that both Fellowships have a Sixth Tradition for a reason—to-keep from being diverted from our primary purpose. Because of the inherent need of a Twelve Step Fellowship to focus on "one thing and one thing only so that it can do that one thing supremely well," each Twelve Step Fellowship must stand alone, unaffiliated with everything else. It is in our nature to be separate, to feel separate, and use a separate set of recovery terms, because we each have a separate, unique primary purpose. The focus of A.A. is on the alcoholic, and we ought to respect their perfect right to adhere to their own traditions and protect that focus. If we cannot use language consistent with that, we ought not go to their meetings and undermine that atmosphere. In the same way, N.A. members ought to respect our own primary purpose and identify ourselves at N.A. meetings simply as

addicts, and share in a way that keeps our fundamentals clear.

As a Fellowship, we must continue to strive to move forward by not stubbornly clinging to one radical extreme or the other. Our members who have been unintentionally blurring the N.A. message by using drug-specific language such as "sobriety," "alcoholic," "clean and sober," "dope fiend," etc. could help by identifying simply and clearly as addicts, and using the words, "clean, clean time and recovery" which imply no particular substance. And we all could help by referring to only our own literature at meetings, thereby avoiding any implied endorsement or affiliation. Our principles stand on their own. For the sake of our development as a Fellowship and the personal recovery of our members, "our approach to the problem of addiction" must shine through clearly in what we say and do at meetings.

Our members who have used these sound arguments to rationalize an anti-A.A. stand, thereby alienating many badly needed stable members, would do well to reevaluate, and consider the effects of that kind of behavior. Narcotics Anonymous is a spiritual Fellowship. Love, tolerance, patience and cooperation are essential if we are to live up to that.

Let's pull together our energies now and unify behind these powerful principles. Let's put those energies into our personal spiritual development through our own Twelve Steps. Let's carry our own message clearly. There's a lot of work to be done, and we need each other if we are to do it effectively. Let's get on with it in a spirit of N.A. unity.

**N.A. WAY MAGAZINE
SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

**SPECIAL OFFER
EXPIRES JANUARY 10, 1986**

Get one subscription—new or renewal—at the regular price, and receive \$2.00 off all other subscriptions received with that order.

Please enter one new subscription to the *N.A. Way*.
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Enclosed is my total payment of _____, for _____ orders.
Send to: The *N.A. Way*; P.O. Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409

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Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

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Your name on the enclosed card? Yes _____ No _____

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE ORDER FORM
 16155 WYANDOTTE STREET
 VAN NUYS, CA 91406

(Please Print)

GROUP/ORGANIZATION _____ CONTACT NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY _____
 STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE () _____

Ship the following order to the address above. Enclosed is full purchase price. Any item out of stock will be placed on back order and purchaser notified.

BASIC TEXT, POSTERS AND WHITE BOOKLETS

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE
_____	N.A. Basic Text (\$8.00).....	_____
_____	World Directory (\$5.00 per set).....	_____
	(Volume I - Eastern U.S.) (\$2.00 if sold separately)....	_____
	(Volume II - Western U.S.) (\$2.00 if sold separately)...	_____
	(Volume III - Non U.S.) (\$1.00 if sold separately).....	_____
_____	N.A. Cards (pkg. approximately 500) (\$5.00 per pkg.).....	_____
	N.A. Posters	
_____	The Steps (23" X 34") (\$2.00).....	_____
_____	Traditions (23" X 34") (\$2.00).....	_____
_____	Serenity Prayer (11" X 17") (\$.65).....	_____
_____	My Gratitude Speaks Prayer (11" X 17") (\$.65).....	_____
_____	Complete Poster Set (\$4.50 per set) (Includes Steps, Traditions and Prayers).....	_____
_____	I.P. #18 Starter Kit (\$.40).....	_____
_____	N.A. White Book (1 to 99 copies \$.50; for orders of 100 or more \$.40).....	_____

SUBTOTAL OF BASIC TEXT, POSTERS AND WHITE BOOKLETS _____

INFORMATION PAMPHLET (1-99; \$.15 each, any combination of
100 or more \$.13 each)

- _____ #1 Who, What, How and Why.....
- _____ #2 The Group.....
- _____ #5 Another Look.....
- _____ #6 Recovery and Relapse.....
- _____ #7 Am I an Addict?.....
- _____ #8 Just For Today.....
- _____ #9 Living The Program.....
- _____ #11 Sponsorship.....
- _____ #12 Triangle of Self-obsession.....
- _____ #13 Youth and Recovery.....
- _____ #14 One Addict's Experience.....
- _____ #16 For the Newcomer.....

SUBTOTAL OF I.P. ORDER _____

Public Service Announcements and other special items can be obtained upon request. Contact the World Service Office for further information.

CONTROL # _____

HANDBOOKS, GUIDES AND FORMS

- Temporary Working Guide To Our Service Structure (\$1.50).....
- Literature Committee Handbook (\$1.50).....
- Hospitals and Institutions Guidelines (\$2.00).....
- Public Information Kit (\$4.00).....
- Treasurer Handbook (\$1.50).....
- Convention Guidelines (\$2.00).....
- Group Treasurers Record (pads of 12) (\$.35 per pad).....
- ASC/RSC Check Register (pads of 13) (\$.35 per pad).....
- Group/Area Contribution Form (pads of 13) (\$.35 per pad)....

SUBTOTAL OF HANDBOOKS, GUIDES AND FORMS ORDER_____

MEDALLIONS for year anniversary commemoration (\$1.85).....
(Please indicate year being requested and amount)

- 1 year for 5 years or more indicate
- 2 years (____&____) (____&____) (____&____)
- 3 years Yr. Amt. Yr. Amt. Yr. Amt.
- 4 years
- 5 years

SUBTOTAL OF MEDALLION ORDER_____

N.A. KEY TAGS with Logo, each item \$.25

- White (Welcome) ----- Blue (6 months)
- Orange (30 days) ----- Yellow (9 months)
- Green (60 days) ----- Moonglow (1 year)
- Red (90 days)

SUBTOTAL OF KEY TAG ORDER_____

N.A. CHIPS with Logo, each item \$.18

- White (Welcome) ----- Blue (6 months)
- Orange (30 days) ----- Yellow (9 months)
- Green (60 days) ----- Off White (1 year)
- Red (90 days)

SUBTOTAL OF CHIPS ORDER_____

SPEAKER TAPES (\$5.00 each tape) (Only four (4) tapes are available as the date of this order form. Other tapes are being reviewed for approval and will be added in subsequent months.)

- #1000 Leah G.
- #1005 Dean G.
- #1010 Sydney R.
- #1015 Jimmy K.

SUBTOTAL OF SPEAKER TAPES_____

SUBTOTAL OF BASIC TEXT, POSTERS AND WHITE BOOKLETS _____

SUBTOTAL OF I.P. ORDER _____

SUBTOTAL OF HANDBOOKS, GUIDES AND FORMS _____

SUBTOTAL OF MEDALLION ORDER _____

SUBTOTAL OF KEY TAG ORDER _____

SUBTOTAL OF CHIP ORDER _____

SUBTOTAL OF SPEAKER TAPES _____

SUBTOTAL OF PURCHASE_____

CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS MUST ADD SALES TAX (6.5%)_____

ADD 10% FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING_____

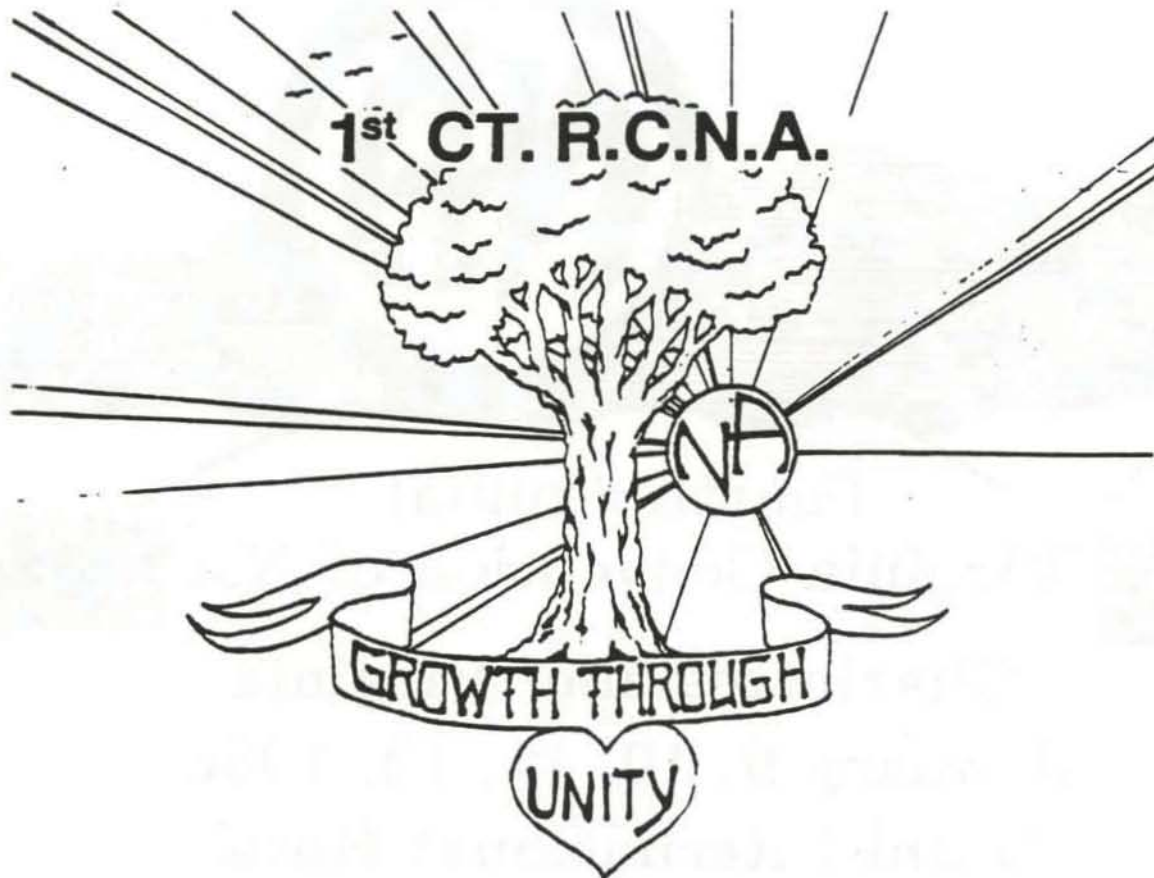
SUBTOTAL_____

N.A. WAY SUBSCRIPTION: Please enter the above name and address for one subscription of the N.A. WAY MAGAZINE: \$12.00 per subscription per year. (Attach additional paper for subscription addresses if necessary).

SUBTOTAL OF N.A. WAY SUBSCRIPTION ORDER_____

All purchases from outside the U.S. must be made by cashiers check or money order drawn in U.S. currency.

ORDER TOTAL_____



JANUARY 3,4,5 1986

UNITY MEETINGS
 STEPS TRADITIONS SHARING



SWIMMING DANCES
 HEALTH CLUB
 HOSPITALITY ROOM

MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY TO:
MARRIOTT HOTEL
 15 FARM SPRINGS RD.
 FARMINGTON, CT 06032
 1-800-228-9290

\$50.00 PER NIGHT 1-4 PEOPLE
 CHECK IN TIME 3:00 P.M.

NARANON
 PAT (203) 828-3242 JANE (203) 457-1652
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
 MIRACLES (203) 347-7856

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
 _____ REGISTRATION @ \$ 15.00
 (INCLUDES DANCES)
 _____ BANQUET @ \$25.00
 _____ TOTAL PACKAGE @ \$80.00
 (INCLUDES 4 MEALS)
 _____ PRE-REGISTRATION @ \$75.00
 (BEFORE NOV 1, 1985)
 NA NAR-ANON

REGISTRATION FORM
MAIL TO:
 1 st. CT. R.C.N.A., P.O. BOX 902, OLD LYME, CT 06371
NAME _____
 PLEASE PRINT LAST FIRST
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____



Fourth Annual
Virginia Convention of NA
Charlottesville, Virginia
January 9, 10, 11, 12, 1986
Omni International Hotel

Lodging: call Omni at 804-971-5500
doubles \$40, quads \$50

Other events and fees: registration (\$15), Friday buffet (\$12) and
coffeehouse (\$1), Saturday banquet (\$25) and dance (\$10), Sunday
brunch (\$15). Total package: \$72 in advance, \$80 at the door.

Expect Miracles!

Send completed registration form and check to:

AVCNA
Post Office Box 3903
Charlottesville, VA 22903
Phone: 804-979-8298

This is an open event. Bring newcomers, friends, neighbors, auto mechanics, doctors, spiritual advisors, lawyers, sponsors, accountants, carpenters, nurses, plumbers. And don't forget to bring your musical instruments and talents.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Events:	_____ (\$12)	Friday buffet	_____ (\$30)	Coffeehouse, banquet, and dance
	_____ (\$10)	Friday coffeehouse	_____ (\$15)	Sunday brunch
	_____ (\$25)	Saturday banquet	_____ (\$15)	Registration
	_____ (\$10)	Saturday dance	_____ (\$72)	Total package

Total enclosed: \$ _____

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA



"WE DO RECOVER"
6TH ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION OF NA IN THE
CAROLINA'S

GREENVILLE, S.C. JAN. 24, 25 + 26 1986

DISCUSSION MEETINGS
PODIUM PARTISIPATION
WORKSHOPS
SPEAKERS OF VARIOUS AREAS

SURVIVAL MEETINGS
TALENT SHOW FRI.
DANCE ON SAT. NIGHT

\$5.00 PRE REGISTRATION
\$10.00 AT DOOR

Mail to: RAMADA HOTEL CONVENTION CENTER
1001 South Church St., Greenville, SC 29601 (803) 232-7666

Please reserve the following accommodations: Date October 7, 1985
Single (one person) \$ 35.00 per night
Double (two persons) \$ 35.00 per night

DEPOSIT REQUIRED: 1 Night's Rental In Advance. Enclosed \$ _____
Arrival Date January 24, 25, 1986 Time _____ AM
PM
Departure Date January 26, 1986
Attending Narcotics Anonymous
Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____ ZIP _____

*** Early reservations suggested ***

CONVENTION PRE REGISTRATION
MAIL TO:
ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
P.O. Box 5497
GREENVILLE, S.C. 29607

FURTHER INFO

ANTHONY F. 803-855-4136
DEE H. 803-246-2969
NEAL B. 803-269-7420
BUDDY + NAN 803-271-1114
JACKIE B. 803-591-1384

PRE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1-10-86

G.R.C.N.A. V

Georgia



Directions:

Windy Hill Rd. & I-75 north
1 mile North of I-285

Make payable & send to:

G.R.C.N.A. V
P.O. Box 71714
Marietta, Ga. 30007-1714

For more information contact: Motorcycle Ed 436-0311

Handi-Pan or Debbie 429-0239 or Bob E. 589-0697

If you need a place to stay call: Lisa S. 428-7095 or Roses Mc. 426-6205

(AREA CODE 404)

— Clip & Keep —

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Hotel reservations & pre-payment arrangements are to be made direct:

Northwest Area Marriott
I-75 & Windy Hill Rd.
Marietta, Ga. 30062
1-800-228-9290

A limited number of rooms have been set aside for the Convention at

\$44 per room / per night!

FLAT RATE

Pre-Registration Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone Number(s) _____

Registration _____ \$15 per person = \$ _____

Saturday Night Buffet _____ \$20 per person = \$ _____
(limited number of buffet seats)

Sunday Brunch _____ \$9 per person = \$ _____

Pre-Registration Package:

(a) Registration, Sat. Buffet, & Sun. Brunch _____ \$40 per person = \$ _____

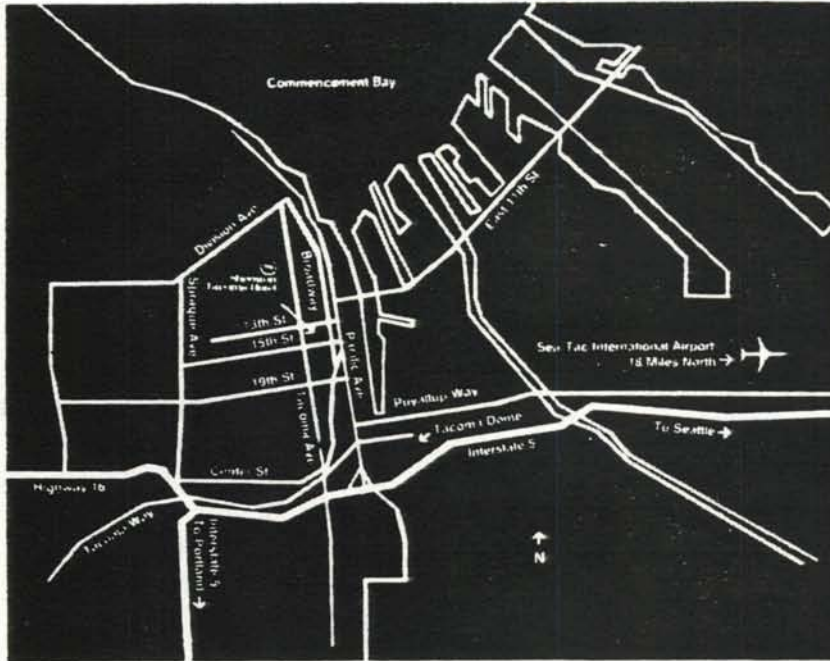
(b) Registration & Sat. Buffet _____ \$30 per person = \$ _____

For pre-registration prices, form must be post-marked by February 1, 1986

Detach and Mail

W.N.I.R.C.-I

Feb. 28 - March 2, 1986
Tacoma, Washington



HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Hotel reservations and pre-payment arrangements are to be made direct:

Sheraton Tacoma Hotel

1320 Broadway Plaza

Tacoma, WA 98402

US 1-800-325-3535

Canada 1-800-268-9330

A limited number of rooms have been set aside for the convention at:

\$58.00 Single and Double per night

\$68.00 Triple and Quads per night

Deadline for Convention rates is February 7, 1986.

Pre-Registration Form Detach and Mail

Name(s) _____

Specify Number of Nar-Anon Participants _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone Number(s) _____

Full registration package - \$35.00 per person - \$ _____

includes: Friday and Saturday dances,

Saturday Banquet, and Sunday breakfast.

Specify number of vegetarian meals (banquet) _____

Friday buffet dinner - \$9.00 per person - \$ _____

Nar-Anon luncheon - \$9.00 per person - \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make checks payable to and send to:
Reaching For Recovery
W.N.I.R.N.A.
P.O. Box 5998
Kent, WA 98064

Thank You for Your
Pre-Registration!!

"We Came To Believe..."



The 8th Northern California Convention of NA will take place in Monterey on March 7, 8 & 9, 1986. The Monterey Sheraton Hotel will serve as convention headquarters, while most activities will take place at the Monterey Conference Center (adjacent to the Sheraton).

Hotel accommodations for the convention are being arranged through the Monterey Peninsula Visitors and Convention Bureau.

Come join us for **workshops, meetings, dances, a talent show, marathon meetings, a banquet, breakfast and fellowship.** Let's share and celebrate together—**experience, strength, hope!**

NAME (please print) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

NAME(S) OF PERSON(S) SHARING ROOM _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ TIME _____

DEPARTURE DATE _____ TIME _____

1: _____ 2: _____

HOTEL/MOTEL PREFERENCE

3: _____ 4: _____

Single (1 bed/1 person) Double (1 bed/2 people)

Twin (2 beds/2 people) Other: _____

Make check or money order payable to:
Monterey Peninsula Visitors and Convention Bureau.
 Send housing form and deposit to:
8th NCCNA
Monterey Peninsula VCB
P.O. Box 1770
Monterey, CA 93942-1770

Reservations will be assigned with maximum consideration given to your expressed preferences. PROMPT RETURN OF THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH A \$100 DEPOSIT CHECK PER ROOM will assist in securing your preferred lodging. The deadline for reservation requests is FEBRUARY 7. RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY PHONE.

Prices are flat rate (single or double) unless otherwise indicated.

- Monterey Sheraton**
(Convention Headquarters)
\$80.
- Doubletree Inn at Fisherman's Wharf**
\$105 Double, \$90. Single
- Way Station Inn**
\$86.
- Cannery Row Inn**
\$75.
- Hilton Inn**
\$72.

- Ramada Inn**
\$64.
- Monterey Travelodge**
\$64. Double, \$54. Single
- Hyatt Regency**
\$62.
- Cypress Tree Inn**
\$62.
- Casa Munras**
\$60.
- Monterey Motor Lodge**
\$58.
- Mariposa Inn**
\$58. Double \$48. Single
- Cypress Gardens**
\$55.

- Arbor Inn**
\$54.
- Comfort Inn**
\$52.
- Monterey Holiday Inn**
\$49
- El Castell**
\$48. Double/Double, \$38 Queens
- Stagecoach**
\$45. Double, \$42. Single
- Monterey Fairgrounds Travelodge**
\$44. Double, \$38. Single,
\$5. Additional Person

**1ST ANNUAL
NEW ENGLAND
REGIONAL
CONVENTION '86**



**BOSTON, MASS.
"CARRY THE MESSAGE"**

**MARCH '86
28th 29th 30th
MARATHON MEETING
Banquet, Dinner & Dance
Spiritual Breakfast
(24hr. HOSPITALITY LOUNGE)**

For Further Information:
Registration Committee

**BRIAN P.
(617) 452-7875**

SUITE 110
79 MIDDLESEX STREET
LOWELL, MA 01852

Type of meeting attending:
NA _____ NARANON _____

TOTAL PACKAGE 55.00
Package Includes

- REGISTRATION
- BANQUET (Saturday)
- SPIRITUAL BREAKFAST (Sunday)
- DANCES

Package After March 5, 1986 - 60.00

SEND RESERVATIONS TO:
THE WESTIN HOTEL, COPLEY PLACE
10 HUNTINGTON AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02116
ATTN. RESERVATIONS
SHUTTLES TO AND FROM
LOGAN AIRPORT AVAILABLE

ROOMS MUST BE GUARANTEED BY ONE
NIGHT'S DEPOSIT OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD
(800-228-3000)

1st N.E.R.C. of NA

NAME (print) _____ PHONE () _____
 ADDRESS _____ APT. NO. _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
 NO. OF PEOPLE _____

SEND REGISTRATION TO: 1st N.E.R.C. of NA
SUITE 110 * 79 MIDDLESEX STREET * LOWELL, MA 01852

1st N.E.R.C. of NA

NAME (print) _____ PHONE () _____
 ADDRESS _____ APT. NO. _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

For arrival on _____ (DAY) _____ (DATE)

Depart on _____ (DAY) _____ (DATE)

Type of room requested: SINGLE _____ DOUBLE _____ TRIPLE / QUAD. _____

Name(s) of person(s) sharing accommodations: _____

CHECK / MONEY ORDER _____ DINERS CLUB _____ AMERICAN EXPRESS _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

SINGLE - \$60.00 per night DOUBLE - \$70.00 per night

ADDITIONAL OCCUPANTS \$15.00 per room



1st ANNUAL

Northern New York
Regional
Narcotics Anonymous
CONVENTION

**WELLS COLLEGE
CAMPUS
AURORA, NY
JUNE 27, 28, 29**

ON BEAUTIFUL CAYUGA LAKE

{
Marathon Meetings Barbecue
Workshops Banquet
Speakers Dance
NOV 23 1985

COFFEE COFFEE TEA COFFEE COFFEE COFFEE TEA COFFEE TEA TEA COFFEE

Swim in Cayuga Lake

Hike and Enjoy Nature

Play Tennis, Golf, Bowling

Northern New York
Regional Service Committee

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL Ilga (607) 273-8884
OR Mel (315) 548-3610

TRANSPORTATION
FROM AIRPORTS
AVAILABLE

