

# Wyo-Braska Area Service Committee

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**Date: February 8, 2009 Time: 1:07 pm Location: Cheyenne, WY**

Ray B. opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer  
Willy O. read the 12 Traditions of N.A.  
Gail W. read the 12 Concepts of N.A.  
Richard M. read the 12 Values of the WBASC

## **Group Response to Concept \_5\_ & Question \_1\_ from last meeting:**

*For each responsibility assigned to the service structure,  
a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.*

In defining a single point of decision for each service assignment, we eliminate confusion about who has authority to do what. We also clarify accountability for our services: whoever is given the authority for a particular task will be held accountable for the fulfillment of that task.

1. Does your group assign particular tasks to particular people? Does this help ensure that important jobs actually get done?

Most members volunteer, as opposed to being assigned, and by virtue of the nature of volunteering tasks are responsibly completed.

## **Reading/Study/Discussion of Concept \_6\_ using chapter questions.**

This month the Vice-chair wanted to try something a little different with the concept study. In recent months there has been little feedback on questions sent to the groups. So, rather than send a question back to the groups for input he would like for the GSRs to ask their groups if they feel the concept studies are beneficial and if there is something the groups would like the area service committee to do in addition to or instead of the usual study. So GSRs – please present this to your groups and see what they say.

*Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.*

Group conscience is the means by which we bring the spiritual awakening of the Twelve Steps to bear in making service-related decisions. It is fundamental to our fellowship's decision-making process. It is not, however, merely a euphemism for "voting" and is not itself the NA decision-making process.

## **Study and discussion questions**

1. What do we mean when we say that NA is a spiritual society? Does a spiritual society approach the decision-making process differently than other organizations?

We have a disease of the spirit therefore a need for a spiritual solution. With spirituality there is no room for conflict. Because of this we do make decisions differently than other organizations. In theory, at least, we try to make our decisions based on the spiritual principle of conscience rather than popularity or personalities.

2. Is "group conscience" just NA's way of saying "voting"? (As in, "Let's take a group conscience on that.") In what way is group conscience distinct from our decision-making process? In what way is group conscience a fundamental *part* of that process?

No – group conscience is not necessarily the same as a group vote. A vote is based on spiritual guidance.

3. Read NA's Second Tradition. Does the Sixth Concept conflict with the Second Tradition, or help clarify it?

It helps clarify it especially if our leaders are servants to a Higher Power or listen to their consciences.

4. Read NA's Twelfth Tradition. How does the practice of the Sixth Concept help us focus on "principles, not personalities" when we make service decisions?

It depends upon the person and where (s)he may be in recovery spiritually, but if one is in a good place spiritually then letting the conscience be the guiding force behind decisions leaves little room for personalities to enter. The Sixth Concept acts as a checks and balance for the Twelfth Tradition and vice versa.

5. Besides decision making, in what other areas of our fellowship's life can we see group conscience at work?

It may be present in all areas. When we unite in a meeting or any other function. When we do the right thing for the right reason.

**Roll Call:** Vice Chair, Secretary (acting), RCM, RCM2, PR Chair, Literature Chair, Activities Chair, UD Chair, Webservant

**GSR, Alternates and guests:** Willy O. (GSR – Clean and Free), Mistie W. (GSR – Saturday Nite Live), Scott M. (GSR – Clean & Serene), Rory G. (Treasurer – Live from Laramie), Jason K. (GSR – Free Bird), Adam M., Rick M., Trevor P., & Samantha W.

**Absent:** Chair, Treasurer (vacant), On Life's Terms, Vision of Hope & Staying Clean in Sidney.

**NA Recovery Birthdays:** Gail W. – 12 yrs., Richard M. – 5 yrs, & Mac B. 3 yrs. Congratulations all !!!!!!!

**Recognition of new groups:** None

**Approval of last month's minutes:**

Disbursements corrected as follows:

Ck # 1347 – Nov. NAWS Literature order	\$167.75
Ck # 1348 – Void	
Ck # 1349 – Void	
Ck # 1350 – Void	
Ck # 1351 – Void	
Ck # 1352 – Meeting announcement for <i>Branding Iron</i>	\$ 4.20
Ck # 1353 – Quest	\$ 39.68
Ck # 1354 – 1 <sup>st</sup> United Methodist for meeting rent	\$ 20.00
Ck # 1355 – Jan. NAWS Literature order	\$517.75 (extra 6 <sup>th</sup> ed. <i>Basic Texts</i> )
Ck # 1356 – Freedom Voice	\$ 25.48
Ck # 1357 – URMRS cash in check out	\$ 27.67
Service Charge	\$ 6.00

Closing treasurers balance = \$3,104.80

Rory G. moved and Willy O.. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to accept the minutes as amended – carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Beginning Balance:** \$3,104.80

**Serenity Break:** 1:59 – 2:09 pm

**Officers Reports:**

**Chair:** Given by Vice Chair and filed as follows:

Hello fellow A.S.C. members & guests

I will leave you in the capable hands of Les & I will see you all next week at least some of you if not I will see you next month take care & remember we all need each other so be good to one another Chairs balance stands at \$ 100.00.

In loving service  
Ray B.

**Vice-Chair:** Given and filed as follows:

Hello Everyone,

I was in Casper yesterday for the Regional Service Committee and my report isn't going to be all about that, that's the RCMs report, but there was a lot that happened that really makes me think about NA as a whole and my service commitments and how I conduct myself. Plus when I make a long road trip and am by myself, and God only, good things seem to take over my spirit. So I hope we get some constructive things done today for all the groups in our area.

We are the hosting Area for this year's convention and the hotel we signed contracts with to host the event has been in the local paper a lot. With legal because of financial difficulties. And the Region's comfortable with our handling of the situation. So as chair of the event I just wanted to thank you all for your support. And ask everyone to attend if they can the Valentine's fundraiser here next Saturday. At this time we are not looking for a different place to have the convention but will have a contingency plan, should we need it. I encourage everyone to ignore the media and register if you can because there is going to be one very nice convention here on May 15, 16 and 17<sup>th</sup>.

In service for the love of it.  
Les F.

**Treasurer:** Vacant. Willie O. is in the process of reconciling our records with bank statements, and keeping up.

**Secretary:** Report given & filed as follows:

Hey all,

Not much to report this month. The contact and meeting lists have been updated with info taken off of the sign-in sheet as well as the group report forms and corrections given to me at the last meeting. If any of this info is illegible then the list won't be right so please print clearly.

Also, everyone please check your information to make sure it is accurate and up to date. As a reminder, because the contact list has personal information on it, it will not be posted on the web site or anywhere else. Its purpose is for ease of communication among members of the area. It is intended for internal use only.

Copies of the guidelines, values, contact lists, meeting lists, order of annual elections and all other forms have been printed out and available here today.

Again, thank you for typing up your reports. I'm sure the next secretary will appreciate it too. It does really make it handy to scan the reports and insert into the minutes.

I am submitting receipts for copy paper and printer ink, for reimbursement, totaling \$30.54. Budget remaining is \$94.46.

ILS  
Richard

**RCM:** Given and filed as follows:

Hello Family,

I attended the URMRS meeting in Casper, Wyoming yesterday, Feb. 7, 2009. As usual I had a wonderful time during this meeting.

April's Region meeting will be the Regional Assembly. The assembly will be held in Powell, Wyoming on April 4, 2009 and there will be a function in Powell the night before the assembly. Karla will be making and distributing a flyer for this function soon.

Convention rotation was discussed and finally called out of order as it was not brought to the area by the group and then from an area to the region. The discussion was should the convention only rotate between Wyo-Braska and Central Wyoming areas. I would ask that this body vote on this matter so I have an answer for our area if this

comes up again at the regional level. Please keep in mind that the convention is a lot of work when voting on this matter.

Scott from Casper has been elected as the new URMRSCTreasurer and Jim from Evanston has been elected as the URMRSCTreasurer. All positions at the regional level are now filled.

The financial difficulties at Hitching Post Inn were discussed. The direction given by the regional body was that if Will and Les believe that the HP will survive they believe we should move forward with the convention as planned.

Upcoming events for the region are, of course, the two Valentine's Day functions here in our Area. Western Wyoming is also holding a Valentine's Day function.

The "Hope not Dope group in Rawlins, Wyoming is looking for speakers for the last Sunday of every month. The group's phone number is 307-324-5431.

The meetings in the Cheyenne area have recently become quite large. What I know coming from an area in the past with large meetings is that is very important to refrain from side tale. If you are talking to the person next to you and the person on the other side of you needs to hear the message, guess what? He/she can't hear the message even if you are whispering. I have witnessed this in every meeting I attend. Please talk to your home group about this issue. Maybe this is my opinion and doesn't belong in this report, but oh well.

The region is going to appoint an ad hoc committee to do a regional inventory.

In Loving Service  
Willy O.

#### **RCM 2:**

Mac B. added to Willy's report. There were five items presented to the region for consideration and this area may also want to discuss them. They are:

- 1) Handling grievances in a proper manner.
- 2) Waiving and changing guidelines
- 3) Prompt information for review
- 4) Service rotation
- 5) A service inventory for the URMRSCTreasurer

#### **Group Reports:**

**On Life's Terms:** Absent, but with a report which was forgotten by the one to present it.

Concerns:

Needs:

Votes and /or motions:

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:     Other:

#### **Clean & Free:**

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: 0                     Other: None

**Vision of Hope:** Absent with no report.

Concerns:

Needs:

Votes and /or motions:

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:                     Other:

#### **Saturday Nite Live:**

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$30.00                     Other: None

**Clean & Serene:**

Concerns: None  
Needs: None  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$15.00      Other: None

**Live from Laramie:**

Concerns: None  
Needs: None  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: 0              Other: 0

**Free Bird:**

Concerns: None  
Needs: Two *Basic Texts*  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$10.00      Other: None

**Staying Clean in Sidney:** Absent – Acting secretary had received an email from the GSRA a week after the last area meeting indicating that the Sidney group was ready to get back involved but nothing else has been heard from them.

Concerns:  
Needs:  
Votes and /or motions:  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:              Other:

**Sub-Committee reports:**

**Activities:** Submitted and filed as follows:

The Valentine’s Day party will be held at LCCC in the cafeteria on Feb 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-10 with potluck, bingo and fellowship. This committee respectfully asks that area committee members come and share why they love NA in an open microphone format. As most of the convention committee members also serve at the area level, this committee believes that by inviting committee members to share their love of NA would be fitting giving the party is a convention fundraiser, and may also help the addict struggling with service work to see the rewards. It may also attract volunteers to much needed service positions in regards to the area and convention.

This committee also respectfully requests 20.00 to purchase needed supplies for the totes mentioned previously last month.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

JFT-  
Gail W  
WBASC Activities Chair

**UD:** Mac B. reported that the Pole Creek campground has been reserved for August 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009. He asked about referrals for some potential, motivational speakers and if we comp our quest speakers. Usually the only comp is the weekend registration and since Unity Days was begun to promote unity within our area, typically the speakers come from within the area or at least near by.

**PR:** Given and filed as follows:  
Howdy,

Not much to report this month. Jason delivered the pamphlets and meeting schedules to Carey Junior High in Cheyenne. I have been in email contact with Corporal Wilken in the Albany County Jail about picking up the white booklets that are not allowed in the facility because of the staples.

Thank you much,  
Rory

**H&I component:** See above.

**PI component:** See above.

**Phoneline:** See above.

**Web site:** Given and filed as follows:

Hey All,

**General** – The online meeting list and the printable Winter 2008 meeting list are both updated. Please check them to make sure they are accurate. Information is taken from the group report forms so if these are inaccurate the web site will be inaccurate. The latest minutes and guidelines are also available. I also posted fliers for the Valentine's Day events and updated the URMRCNA-X page with recently received minutes.

**Remember, GSRs can download motion, disbursement and report forms from the "Archives" page.**

**NOTE: In order to open these PDF files the free Adobe Reader 5.0 or greater is needed.**

I received an e-mail asking about the Unity Days campout already. I responded and let them know about the convention and will follow-up with an email when more info is available on Unity Days.

**Technical** – We recorded a total of 3250 hits on the web site for the last month. This represents 510 hits for the month. Still getting a significant amount of hits.

**Financial:** All fees paid for through September 2009

*And finally, ". . .wherever we go, we always represent NA to some degree. If we are seen acting poorly while we prominently display an NA logo, . . . we carry a distinctly unattractive message . . ."*  
"It Works: How and Why", Tradition 11, pg. 206.

In Loving Service,  
Richard M.

**Literature:** Mistie W. reported sales of \$77.95 and will be placing an order for only a few medallions, key tags and pamphlets for \$18.35. She is returning \$59.60 in 6<sup>th</sup> ed. *Basic Text* sales.

Lookin' good! Thank you Mistie.

**Break:** 2:44 – 2:55 pm

**Sharing Session:**

- 1) Relationship with the URMRS – Discussed what the Region does for us and how services could be improved. The Region puts on Regional Assemblies every April. On alternating years, a workshop of some form for and with GSRs and the next year a workshop on the Conference Agenda Report. They provide a liaison between our area service bodies and the World Service Conference. They also promote unity through a celebration of recovery at an annual convention that is hosted by areas around our region. And they will do whatever they can for us – we just need to ask. **What would we like from them??**

It was suggested that we could offer the Region the means and methods that have worked for us, i.e. minute preparation and distribution, treasury accounting and paper trails and the values we have adopted. All in the interest of improved communication. For instance, with the paper trail and minutes anyone reading our minutes can tell exactly what funds were brought in, from where and where everything goes. And then minutes are e-mailed (or snail mailed) to not only GSRs and the area service committee members, but to anyone requesting they be put on the address list. Further, the minutes are posted on the area web site within two or three weeks and sometimes sooner. This all improves communication.

- 2) Reimbursing hosting groups – Our host for the day asked if they could be reimbursed for some of the expenses incurred in provided a meeting place and refreshments. It was suggested that after we take a seventh tradition collection for the host group, receipts could be provided and, in the extended interest of self-support, the area could pay the remainder. See motions # 2 & 3.

**Old Business:**  
None

**New Business:**

- Motions ~**
- Motion #1 Area reimburse [literature committee chair] to purchase a bigger rolling suitcase for carrying the literature.  
Intent: Make it easier for Literature Chair to bring literature to area meeting.  
Passed unanimously
  
  - Motion #2 Saturday Nite Live be reimbursed \$9.08  
Intent: To cover difference of cost of food for Area meeting after 7<sup>th</sup> tradition.  
Ruled out of order since Article 12 of the Area guidelines already provides for reimbursement of costs associated with renting a meeting spot and providing refreshments.
  
  - Motion #3 Policy [guidelines] change – reimbursing hosting groups for food provided for area meetings  
Intent: To [de]fray costs of hosting groups.  
Ruled out of order since Article 12 of the Area guidelines already provides for reimbursement of costs associated with renting a meeting spot and providing refreshments.

- Elections ~**
- Secretary – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled
  
  - Treasurer – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled

**Disbursements:**

Ck # 1357 – Meeting announcement for <i>Branding Iron</i>	\$ 4.20
Ck # 1358 – Acting Secretary for paper and ink.	\$ 30.54
Ck # 1359 – Activities Chair – supplies for totes	\$ 20.00
Ck # 1360 – NAWS for literature order	\$ 18.35
Ck # 1361 – RCM travel to Regional meeting	\$120.00
Cash out for hosting group	\$ 9.08
Bank service charge	\$ 6.00

Will postpone NAWS donation until treasury straightened out next month.

**Closing Treasury balance:** \$3,033.78

Area 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition of **\$28.00** to SNL  
Adjourned at 3:43 pm  
Next mtg: March 8, 2009 – 1pm @ 14 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Scottsbluff, NE

NOTE: Monthly rotation includes Sidney, Nebraska as the site for the March meeting. However since contact has been minimal in recent months we will designate Scottsbluff as the site and the acting secretary will get in touch with the Sidney folks to see if they can and will host the March meeting. If so an e-mail will be sent out notifying Area participants of the change and location for the Sidney meeting.