

# Wyo-Braska Area Service Committee

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**Date: March 8, 2009 Time: 1:26 pm Location: Scottsbluff, NE**

Ray B. opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer  
Les F. read the 12 Traditions of N.A.  
Rory G. read the 12 Concepts of N.A.  
Richard M. read the 12 Values of the WBASC

## **Group Response to Concept Study from last meeting:**

Last month the Vice-chair wanted to try something 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 asked 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.

Richard M. from the Clean and Serene group shared that he chaired a "Beyond the Steps" meeting on Friday evenings where they studied the "Twelve Traditions" and the "Twelve Concepts for NA Services." The idea was to provide a forum for group trusted servants to learn about the traditions and concepts. It was thought that instead of taking up time during group business meetings, the concept questions could be discussed at the "Beyond the Steps" meeting. However, there has been little participation and those at the last meeting thought that the group ought to leave it as is with questions being discussed at the regular business meeting since there are usually more in attendance. It was also thought that perhaps the Area could put on a special workshop on the concepts and somehow make it attractive enough to draw a good group of trusted servants and maybe others.

As for the Clean and Serene group itself, the GSRA, Dan G., stated that those at the last business meeting were neither for nor against continuing the discussions. One Cheyenne group thought it was kind of okay, but there has been limited participation. The Laramie group doesn't have a GSR nor GSRA and are not doing the concept questions at this time.

## **Reading/Study/Discussion of Concept 7 using chapter questions.**

Due to the small turn out and the relative familiarity of this concept by those present we decided by consensus to forgo the concept study this month and resume at the next ASC meeting.

**Roll Call:** Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary (acting), PR Chair, Webservant

**GSR, Alternates and guests:** Ray B. (GSR –Vision of Hope), Dan G. (GSRA – Clean & Serene), Rory G. (Treasurer – Live from Laramie), Ray B. (Rep for – Free Bird), Richard M. (Rep for – Staying Clean in Sidney) Juan P., Crystal G. & Rick M.

**Absent:** Treasurer (vacant), RCM, RCM2, Literature Chair, Activities Chair, UD Chair, On Life's Terms, Clean and Free & Saturday Nite Live.

**NA Recovery Birthdays:** Rory G. – 3 yrs. & Rick M. – 9 yrs. Congratulations !!!!!!!

**Recognition of new groups:** None. Juan P. did report that the start-up group in Torrington, WY has had to suspend any meetings due to lack of participation.

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

Corrected as follows: Les F. opened not Ray B.  
Les F. moved to accept as amended. Rory G. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion – carries unanimously.

**Treasurer's Beginning Balance:** No acting treasure nor report available

**Serenity Break:** Skipped

**Officers Reports:**

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

Hello fellow ASC members – it is good to be back. Looks like Les F. did a great job in my absence. At this time I would like to remind the GSRs of how important it is to attend the workshop in April that will be hosted in Powell, WY. If at all possible I would encourage you to go up the night before so that you are well rested & can take in the information presented by our Regional Delegate – I'm sure it will be a great presentation. Also I attended the Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> event & thought it turned out well. I am getting excited about our upcoming convention that will be in two months & would like to remind the groups that the convention committee will need your help to make this a success – after all this is a WE program. Also, please remember to stay focused on our purpose here as a spiritual body, to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. The Chair's account balance stands at \$ 100.00.

In loving service  
Ray B.

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

Hello Everyone,

Glad to see you all again, I am looking forward to hearing the response to last month's question on what the groups want. We are here to serve them and it only works if the communication are going both ways.

The convention committee is thankful for the Area's participation and help with the fund raising efforts and are asking the other areas in the region if they are able to have something in their areas between now and May 15<sup>th</sup>.

The region is having an assembly in Powell, WY on April 4<sup>th</sup> and I would like to see a representative from as many groups as possible in our area so let's discuss during sharing the possibility of car pooling and groups that can afford to giving their GSRs travel expenses or what other possibilities the area may be able to do. There will be a function the night before and if you haven't already seen a flyer on it I'm sure we have them here today. This is one of the things the Region does for us and I believe it is up to us to attend and enjoy the experience, strength and hope of others in the Region so we can give a positive well informed report to Region about what we need or would like them to do for us. This isn't just for GSRs – it is a way to enrich any addict's recovery so let's be a part of and share all we can. I don't know for sure, but if this is something that the Region is doing in place of a service committee meeting that I feel that the Region's travel fund should be able to reimburse several committee members in our area and this may be a way we could afford to travel together, get a room or two, enjoy the function and really participate in the assembly.

In Love and service,  
Les F.

**Treasurer:** Vacant. No report available.

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

Hey all,

Not much to report this month. The contact and meeting lists remain the same as last month. The contact list was updated with the new info for Sidney, but that has since changed so the list was left as it was. Info is taken from the sign-in sheet and group report forms so if any if this is unreadable the lists will be inaccurate. Everyone please check your information to make sure it is correct and up to date.

As a reminder, because the contact list has personal information on it, it is intended for internal use only. It will not be posted on the web site or anywhere else. Its purpose is for ease of communication among members of the area.

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. Budget remains at \$94.46.

ILS  
Richard

**RCM:** Absent – no report.

**RCM 2:** Absent – no report.

**Group Reports:**

**On Life's Terms:** Absent with no report.

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

**Clean & Free:** Absent with no report.

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

**Vision of Hope:** Given by Ray B.

Concerns: None  
Needs: None  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$20.00 Other: None

**Saturday Nite Live:** Absent with no report.

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

**Clean & Serene:** Given by Dan G.

Concerns: Recently there was a fight at the Jail AA meeting and as a result a guard, who is an NA member, will be posted at the next few NA meetings.  
Needs: None  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$15.00 Other: None

**Live from Laramie:** Given by Rory G.

Concerns: We hope every GSR will bring home flyers for the LFL campout.  
Needs: Literature  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$62.72 Other: \$50.17 to URMRS

**Free Bird:** Given by Ray b.

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

**Staying Clean in Sidney:** Given by Richard M.

Concerns: Lack of participation.  
Needs: Support  
Votes and /or motions: None  
7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: Other:

**Sub-Committee reports:**

**Activities:** Given by Ray B. and filed as follows:

There is nothing new to report. There is a suggestion that this July we should put on a big picnic or party as it will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NA in Cheyenne, [WY]. After the convention this committee will look at that possibility and any other suggestions.

JFT-  
Gail W  
WBASC Activities Chair

**UD:** Absent with no report.

**PR:** Given and filed as follows:  
Rory's PR Report 3-8-09

Once I catch up with the literature chair I would like to order basic texts for the Albany county public library (I've already talked to them and they would accept the donation); the Laramie county public library and the LCCC library; the public library in Sydney and the WNCC satellite campus in Sidney; the Gering public library, Scottsbluff public library and the WNCC library. Richard has volunteered his help in delivering materials to Scottsbluff/Gering.

[Richard M. reports] Okay, I talked to the directors of the Scottsbluff, Gering and Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC) libraries about donating a book to them. Gering and the college will review it, but neither thinks there will be a problem. Scottsbluff definitely will accept one and put it on their shelf.

All said that they may want us (or me) to sign a donor form that basically gives them the right to do with the book what they feel is best. Essentially -- if there are few people checking it out they can pull it from circulation. Gering reviews it every two years or so and the college ten years. I'm not sure about Scottsbluff.

All said that if they see a lot of use then they would be open to two or more copies -- it just depends on the usage.

And I sent off an e-mail to Tara in Sidney and asked her to check the Sidney library and the WNCC satellite campus library down there. I asked her to get back to me when she can. She is a very busy person but since she is taking classes she has easy access to the college library at least.

So, there ya are. I will take the books to the three places in Scottsbluff/Gering when ever you are ready.

jft

Richard

I did pick up the White Booklets and some other stapled pamphlets (behind the walls) from the Albany county jail.

The Phonline is updated. The PR budget is \$913.25

Thank you much,  
Rory

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

**PI component:** See above.

**Phonline:** See above.

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

Hey All,

**General** – The quarterly review of the printable meeting list will be verified and updated as needed after today's meeting. Information is taken from the group report forms so if these are inaccurate the web site will not be right. Please check them to make sure they are correct. The latest minutes are also available on the "Archives" page.

**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.**

**Technical** – We recorded a total of 3803 hits (up from 3250) on the web site for the last month. This represents 553 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:** Absent with no report.

**Break:** 2:20 – 2:30 pm

**Sharing Session:**

- 1) URMRCNA-X minutes – The webservant was asked to make sure any URMRCNA-X minutes posted on the web site were approved before posting.
- 2) Concept study – Not reviewing a concept today was an exception. After a little discussion the consensus was to continue the monthly concept study as we have been and ask for additional input from groups.
- 3) Concept study workshop – Even though both RCMs are absent, it was mentioned that this might be an activity that the Region could put on before the regular regional meeting during the rotation to our area, probably in Cheyenne. Sometimes these mini workshops will run from around 10 am to noon.
- 4) "In Times of Illness" for review and input – There are a few pieces of literature available for review and input from the World Board in particular an extensive revision and update to the booklet "In Times of Illness." This and two new publications (replacing older pamphlets) on self support are up for review and input and can be downloaded from [www.na.org/conference](http://www.na.org/conference) Dead line for comments via NAWs web site or mail is May 30 for those interested.
- 5) URMRS C – Again, even though our RCMs were not present, some thoughts were offered in regards to part of the RCM report and sharing session from last month. A member had submitted five items for discussion at the last regional meeting and they were passed on to this body for our thoughts on them. Essentially it seems that the central issue involves the creation and function of ad hoc committees to address separate, specific issues.

Regional guidelines have no provision for ad hoc committees like our area has. Specifically, Article 11 states "Adhoc Committees are formed to carry out a specific and limited purpose/task for the WBASC. Adhoc Committees are appointed by the WBASC Chairperson

and are subject to approval by the GSRs. The Chairperson, upon completion of their intended purpose, dissolves Adhoc Committees.”

Further our guidelines state in Article 6 “Administrative Committee members being assigned a chairship or membership on an Adhoc committee is done at the discretion of the WBASC Chair. However, this appointment can be overturned by a 2/3-majority vote of the GSRs.”

An ad hoc committee appointed by the Chair consisting of an RCM from each area and a chair could meet via the internet, conference call or in person to address a single issue such as editing guidelines or performing a service inventory. This way while there is a single point of accountability there is also input from several members to sort of act as spiritual checks and balances. With RCMs as members of the ad hoc committee, if an issue needed to be taken back to the areas, or even groups, then they would be in a position to do so.

What would a service inventory look like? A member shared that during the early years of the Clean & Serene group, minutes reflect that they did a monthly “group inventory” for a while by asking each other questions like if they were doing what they were supposed to be doing and if not what could they do to change, could it be improved? It seems like our area also did this for a while four or five years ago.

At least part of a review could be to look at the service body’s stated purpose and tradition five and determine if their actions are consistent with the stated purpose. While tradition five specifically addresses the group’s primary purpose, other related service bodies have this same purpose in mind only from the position of helping areas or groups achieve their goals by providing that which the individual areas or groups cannot.

As for the sharing session topic, it may be that the Region could help with some funding for participants to the regional workshop. Even though, in theory, groups donate funds directly to the Region, sometimes with small groups the amount donated would not be enough to reimburse a GSR for expenses to the event should the donation be held for expenses instead of passed on to the Region. In other instances, groups donate to the Area only with the understanding that the Area would pass along extra funds to the Region.

- 6) Skipping the April ASC meeting – Discussed any pending important issues and whether or not we can take the next month off so that the Cheyenne folks can focus on plans for the convention and have the opportunity to attend the regional workshop in Powell. Consensus is that we skip April and resume May 10<sup>th</sup> in Laramie.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

**Motions ~** None  
**Elections ~**

Secretary – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled  
Treasurer – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled

**Disbursements:**

Ck # ???? – Reimburse Craig H. LFL Campout res.	\$ 99.00
Ck # ???? – URMRS – cash in and check out	\$ 50.17
Bank service charge	\$ 6.00

Will postpone NAWS donation until treasury straightened out next month.

**Closing Treasury balance:** \$3,036.50 (Assuming the closing balance from last month is accurate and no other expenses have been incurred.)

Area 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition of **\$20.00** to C&S

Adjourned at 3:20 pm

Next mtg: May 10, 2009 – 1pm @ 1215 Gibbon St., Laramie, WY