

Northern New England News



Granite State Area of NA
PO Box 5171
Manchester, NH 03108
1-888-624-3578
<http://www.gsana.org>

Northern New England Regional Service Committee
PO Box 1274, Saco, ME 04072

Maine Area of NA
PO Box 5309
Portland, ME 04101
1-800-974-0062
<http://www.namaine.org>

Seacoast Area of NA
PO Box 512
Greenland, NH 03840
1-888-624-3578
<http://www.gsana.org>

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nnewsletter@yahoo.com

Issue 24

RSC News

The next RSC is scheduled for January 12, 2008 in the Maine Area at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland, Maine. Sub-committees will meet in the ACR, Level B-1 at 10 AM. The RSC begins at 12 Noon.

Directions: Mercy Hospital is located at 144 State Street on the corner of State and Spring Streets. Use the State Street Entrance; take the elevator down one level and go to the end of the hall to the ACR. Since this is a new location for some of us, please give yourself a few extra minutes to find the place.

- Dates of RSC meetings are: March 8, 2008 (Maine Area), May 10, 2008 (Seacoast Area) and July 12, 2008 (Maine Area)
- Open positions are: Chairperson, Vice Chair and Secretary. We have elected a Newsletter Chair!
- The Newsletter Committee will be meeting before the January RSC at 10 AM.
- The Multi Regional Learning Event is happening in Alfred, ME as this issue is being released. We are looking forward to NA World Services participation at this event, as well as Delegates from some of other regions. There is an exciting schedule on Saturday with a NA World Services update, a couple of different interactive workshops for the local fellowship as well as the Conference Agenda Report review.

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Attn: Subscribers: The Newsletter sub-committee now has a Chairperson! We look forward to your continued support.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of NA as a whole, the NNE RSC, or the Newsletter Subcommittee.

It's a good idea to look in the rear-view mirror once in awhile; just don't stare...

I know of one thing that can plague me the most in my recovery: my past. From when I had 2 months, or one year, or until I sat down with my sponsor and worked my 5th Step, or as I pray to the God of my understanding to remove a character defect, or make an amends, and even to this day, my past can negatively impact my life. I can think about the things I did in my day-to-day active addiction, mentally revisit a few particularly bad experiences, remember that last fix, pill and/or drink, any of which can end up in an emotional whirlwind of self-hatred, and loathing towards life in general.

The longer I stare in the rear-view mirror of my past, the more disgusted I become with the person I created, and how I can react to the world around me. And the longer I stare, the greater my chances are of returning to my old thought patterns and coping mechanisms, whether or not the thoughts of using even comes into my mind. And if I keep staring—which I discovered through many bitter tears—the greater my chance of relapse.

The thing is, I still need to have that occasional reminder of my past, usually through newcomers at meetings, so that I don't return to that person today. I still need to see that look of desperation in their eyes, see their shaking hands, and hear their quavering voice, if they even share at all. But I don't have to stare at the rear-view mirror of my life through them any longer; I can look forward through the windshield of my life as it is today.

I have Steps to walk, spiritual principles to apply, prayer and meditation, and a life I need to share with others in and outside of recovery each day. Through these things I can replace the life of my past with a new life today. And that newcomer who I need to see is also the person I need to talk with. I need to let them know the hope I have in my life today because I

surrendered to win. I need to let them know that I can trust again and have faith in the NA program. I need to let them see for themselves how the Steps work in my life. And most importantly, I need to let them know how a Higher Power works in my life, so long as I let Him.

Now, today I can let the God of my understanding work through me—in whatever way He wants, and through whomever He chooses - and let the results up to Him. I can remember the past, but I no longer have to live in that life. I can follow the suggestions of the NA program and Fellowship, and live today.

Am I willing to quit staring in the rear-view mirror and live my life today?

*Grateful Recovering Addict,
Central Pennsylvania*



Meeting Updates

NEW MEETING:

Manchester, NH—Tuesday, *Sisters Back to Basics Group*, New Horizons, 199 Manchester Street, 7:00 PM, format varies.

Bow, NH—Friday, *Never Alone Group*, Bow Methodist Church, 505 South St. 7:30 PM, rear entrance.

Nashua, NH—Tuesday, *All or Nothing Women's Group*, Unitarian Church, 58 Lowell Road. (Corner of Canal) 7:15 PM.

TIME/FORMAT CHANGE:

Farmington, ME—Thursday, *Step Awareness* now meets from 7 – 8:00 PM.

Bangor, ME—Sunday, *Grateful We're Not Dead* is now a Step/Tradition Meeting.

LOCATION CHANGE & NEW TIME

Conway, NH—Wednesday, *One Promise*, Conway Methodist Church, 121 Main St. 7 PM.

Manchester, NH—Thursday, *Straight Ahead Group*, YMCA, 30 Mechanic St. 7:30 - 9 PM.

Kittery, Maine—Monday, *Freedom Group*, Kittery Lions Club, 117 State Road, 7:30 PM.

CLOSED MEETINGS:

Saco, ME, *Steps to Freedom*

Norway, ME, *Clean and Crazy*, Sunday, Tuesday & Saturday

MRLE X

November 30th – December 1 & 2

As you know, the Multi Regional Learning Event (MRLE) is coming right up. It is being held at the Notre Dame Spiritual Center in Alfred Maine.

NA World Services is sending a World Board member and the Fellowship Services Team Leader from the WSO to facilitate the day on Saturday. The schedule has been mostly set, and in addition to the Conference Agenda Report review (CAR), there is also scheduled a NA World Services update, and interactive

sessions on Building Strong Homegroups and Leadership.

These interactive sessions are scheduled with the hope that the local fellowship will show up and participate. This is a very good opportunity to talk to the NAWS Travelers directly and ask a lot of questions, whether it be about the 6th Edition, Service IPs or the growth of NA in other parts of the world. Even if you have attended a Building Strong Homegroups workshop in the past, this one will be fantastic, with the mix of local NA members and also the Delegates from other regions as well. So even though the date is drawing near, please announce at your local meetings about these additional interactive sessions. There are also recovery speaker meetings scheduled for Friday and Saturday nights and also on Sunday morning. Hope to see you all in Alfred!

Directions:

From the South—Take the Maine Turnpike I-95 North to Exit 19 (Wells-Sanford), Turn Right on Route 109West

Travel approximately 13 miles to second traffic light. (Junction 202 and 4), Turn right on 202 East. Pass through Alfred Village Square and continue about one mile.

On right look for “Brothers of Christian Instruction” sign (Notre Dame Spiritual Center) Turn right and drive to the top of Shaker Hill Road.



From the North—Take the Maine Turnpike I-95 South to Exit 32 (Biddeford), Bear Right on Route 111West. Continue 10 miles on Route 111 to Alfred Village. Turn right on 202 East. Pass through Alfred Village Square and continue about one mile. On right look for “Brothers of Christian Instruction” sign. (Notre Dame Spiritual Center) Turn right and drive to the top of Shaker Hill Road.

✉ *Carry The Message!*

“We can only keep what we have by giving it away.” This is *your* space to share your experience, strength and hope. We have an open topic forum and a forum emphasizing service work. Poetry, Art, and articles regarding NA History (personal or archival snippets) are welcome. There are many ways to share experience, strength and hope.

Send contributions to

nnenewsletter@yahoo.com. Please limit your sharing to half a page, single-spaced. Thanks in advance for your participation.

→ February Issue Deadline: Jan. 15th ←

NA World Services News

- ✓ **Literature Prices Increasing** – Effective July 8, 2008.



Assuming the 6th Edition Basic Text is approved, the cost will be \$11.00. Keytags will be \$.45 each, medallions will be

\$2.75 each, booklets, wallet cards, posters, etc will also be increasing in price.

- ✓ **2008 Conference Agenda Report** is now available! Because of the large size of the CAR each copy is \$11.00 and be ordered online at

http://www.na.org/online_literature_sales_enfrance.htm or by mail or fax. The CAR is also available for free download at <http://www.na.org/conference/index.htm>

Please check out his page for updates as the WSC gets closer.

- ✓ **WSC 2008 Summary Sheet** – Here is a link to the discussion questions and the World Board and Regional Motions included in the CAR

http://www.na.org/conference/CAR_2008_Discussion_Questions_&_Motions_Sheet.pdf

- ✓ **Medallion Survey** - In response to the requests NAWS has received concerning the medallion design, they are conducting a web survey to gather fellowship preference. The medallion design choices are between Arabic or Roman numerals and bronze or silver-nickel finishes. The web survey page is here <http://naws.org/surveys/index.php?sid=3>
- ✓ **Membership Survey** is here <http://naws.org/surveys/index.php?sid=1> Completed Surveys will be accepted until December 31, 2007

World Services Calendar And Deadlines

26 December 2007 - Translated 2008 *Conference Agenda Reports* are available

25 January 2008 - 2008 Conference Approval Track material is available

25–27 January 2008 - Worldwide Workshop—Sydney, Australia

27 April – 3 May 2008 - 2008 World Service Conference

Upcoming NEZF Meetings

January 25, 26, 27 2008 Western NY Region

Garden Palace Hotel, 6615 Transit Road in Williamsville, New York, near Buffalo. Rooms are \$89 plus tax for a total of \$101.24. There is also an option for dinner included with the room for an additional cost.

June 20, 21, 22 2008 ABCD Region

(Most likely) Comfort Inn, Albany, NY

January 23, 24, 25 2009

Connecticut Region (Most likely)

In the next issue, there will be the highlights of the Zonal hosted by Western New York, including updates on the NEZF website, as well as the proposed Zone Wide Workshop.

What's Going on in Your Area

Granite State Area

Hello NNER:

Currently at the GSA we have many open positions: Area Vice-Chairperson, Activities Chairperson, Literature Chairperson, Outreach Chairperson, and three Board of Directors positions (voting members). Also, our active subcommittees can always use support. H&I have open commitments, the PI vice-chair position is open and PI is always looking for people to carry our helpline pagers. Our Convention and Camp-out subcommittees also have open positions. Those involved, however, have been hard working and dedicated to their recovery and practicing our primary purpose.

We have a few Ad-hocs going, one to update our guidelines, which is in its final stages. We also have one to host a New Years Eve event, as our Activities Subcommittee is not active at this time, and another Ad-hoc to investigate our regional affiliation.

The New Years Eve Event Ad-hoc is meeting on Saturday, November 17th at the GSA Convention Fundraiser, 'Thanks for being There' in Nashua (see website for details).

We are always discussing ways to improve fund flow and spend our 7th tradition as best that would carry out our primary purpose.

In Loving Service,

Granite State Area Chairperson

Maine Area

Hello Everyone,

I am a new chairperson for Maine Area Service Committee. I plan to conduct business efficiently and reserve my opinion on issues, as best I can. My hope is that we can see Narcotics Anonymous as whole in Maine and do our best to be inclusive of all our NA groups across the state. Those of us who live close to our ASC are more fortunate with less travel time and expense than the members traveling great

distances to be a part of the process. No matter what home group you represent, at Area we can help one another to learn about our service boards and committees, and in turn send a welcoming message to Maine NA members no matter how remote their location. Area Service Committee is a forum for problem solving, discussing issues, carrying a message behind the walls, reaching out to newcomers, informing the public and remaining accessible to anyone with a computer or a telephone. Our convention and recreation committees provide balance for healing and growth as well as having fun as a fellowship.

Group Service Representatives will have the responsibility of attending home group business meetings and bringing to Area group issues and opinion. They will have the opportunity to make policy, elect trusted servants, and make hard decisions about spending money responsibly and other important business discussions. GSR's in attendance are here to conduct business, so be prepared to act on the trust of your home group and vote accordingly. There will be occasions when a vote on an issue will need to go back to the groups for discussion and direction with the expectation a group conscience will be arrived at and brought back to next month's ASC for disposition. Please be prepared to conduct business. You have been designated the authority to do so when given the position as GSR.

We held elections in October 2007 and most of our positions are now filled. I am fortunate to work along side of many talented and experienced individuals sharing what they can with all the recovering addicts in the state of Maine. This is the start of our new business year. Let us make it the best we can. Our next service committee meetings will be Dec 8, Jan 26, and Feb23.

In Loving Service,

Maine Area Chairperson

Our Traditions

The guidelines that keep our Fellowship alive and free.



Words can be found across, up or down, or diagonally.



S M I R A C L E U I R I S P E O
 E E X A M P L E T S U P P O R T
 S S I U E I N R R R E S P E C T
 E S A T P M U O L O E S S V O O
 L A N O I S S E F O R P N O N E
 P G O N T L M L E U O O I L S R
 I E N O I T A C I N U M M O C A
 C V Y M G O U N S N S D P O I H
 N I M O S E O I O L E R N U E S
 I G I U O M B I A S U T M S N N
 R T T S M L T U I P R P I U C Y
 P E Y O E A T R P O E E R R E T
 Y N C S T I E P V X I T P V S I
 T C R U R S R E P U T A T I O N
 T I P I H S R E D A E L T V A U
 S E P I H S W O L L E F L A O T
 R S I N Y R E V O C E R P L E G

ANONYMITY
 AUTONOMOUS
 COMMON
 COMMUNICATION
 CONSCIENCE
 CONTROVERSY
 DESIRE
 EGO
 EXAMPLE
 FELLOWSHIP

GIVE
 LEADERSHIP
 LOVE
 MESSAGE
 MIRACLE
 NONPROFESSIONAL
 PERSONALITIES
 PRINCIPLES
 PURPOSE
 RECOVERY

REPUTATION
 RESPECT
 RESPONSIBLE
 SHARE
 SPIRITUAL
 SPIRITUAL
 SUPPORT
 SURVIVAL
 TRUST
 UNITY

Northern New England Region of NA—December 2007

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
				30 MRLE Multi Regional Learning Event Notre Dame Spiritual Center Alfred Maine.	1 MRLE Multi Regional Learning Event Notre Dame Spiritual Center, Alfred Maine.	2 MRLE Multi Regional Learning Event Notre Dame Spiritual Center Alfred Maine.
3	4	5	6	7	8 Maine ASC noon, 10:30am Literature purchases. The People Place, 6 Noble St., Brunswick, ME. Green Mountain Area Holiday Dinner & Sleigh Ride 5- 9 PM Troy, NH	9 Seacoast ASC noon - 4pm, Wentworth-Douglas Hospital, Salmon Falls Room, 789 Central Ave., Dover, NH. Granite State ASC 9am, Manchester VA Medical Center, 718 Smyth Road Manchester, NH.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Seacoast Area Holiday Narathon 6 PM to 12 Midnight Dover, NH	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Northern New England Region of NA—January 2008

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 NNERSC see page one for details	13 Seacoast ASC noon - 4pm, Wentworth-Douglas Hospital, Salmon Falls Room, 789 Central Ave., Dover, NH. Granite State ASC 1:45pm, Manchester VA Medical Center, 718 Smyth Road Manchester, NH.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Maine ASC noon, 10:30am Literature purchases. The People Place, 6 Noble St., Brunswick, ME.	27
28	29	30	31			

To submit an event for the Calendar, email the information along with
the name of your Area to nnewsletter@yahoo.com