

MIDWEST ZONAL FORUM

February 5-7 2010

Chicago, IL

Friday – NAWS Update 8pm -9:30. **Saturday** –CAR Session 1- 9-10:30am. CAR Session 2 – 10:30 – 12:15am. CAR Session 3 – 1:45-3:15pm. CAR Session 4- 3:30 – 5:00. MZF business 7-9pm - **Sunday** the Zonal forum began at 10:00a.m. with a moment of silence, the reading of The Servants Worker's Prayer, introductions, 7th Tradition, and reading of the 12th Concept. **Roll Call:** Sunday- All Regions were represented by an RD, RDA, or both. All trusted servants were present. About 30 participants in all.

II. MZF-TRUSTED SERVANTS REPORTS:

A. Co-FACILITATOR: Greetings: Welcome to Chicago. There's not much to report this month. Kathy and Remy worked with the CSO Board of Director's to arrange for the CAR workshop. Thanks to them for planning a marvelous event. After the MZF meeting and workshop at WSNAC, I wrote a report of the findings and sent it to the zone and to NAWS. This is my last meeting as co-Facilitator. I want to thank the MZF for giving me the opportunity to serve. In Loving Service, Louis H.

B. Co-FACILITATOR : Hello Family, I don't have much to report. I'll be going to the WSC and will serve the MZF in any way necessary while there. Grateful to serve, Derreck K.C.

C. SECRETARY: Minutes went out. Mailing list has been updated. No expenses to turn in. Hug, hug.

D. TREASURER: Treasurers Report: I want to apologize for the delay in donations from October getting deposited. I waited to receive Ohio's donation in the mail and when I mailed the deposit it was to the address on the bank statement instead of the corrected address Diane had given me in October. The envelope was returned to the return address and Diane mailed it to the correct address and reminded me of the new address. The deposit was finally put into our account on 1/ 11/10. I also mailed the 7 hard copies of the minutes from July and October for the secretary. I am requesting reimbursement for Travel: \$43, copies: \$25.27, postage: \$15.04, and parking: \$22. In loving service, Blynn M

Questions/Comments: Donations need to be mailed to Blynn's home address. – See attached mailing list for address.

E. WEB CONTACT: Hello Everyone, I hope that everyone is doing well. There hasn't been a lot to report since the last meeting primarily because many of us are working on preparing for CAR workshops.

The website has stabilized and should be ready to use in whatever way the MZF deems appropriate. The forums, mailing list, downloads, and other areas all work well. If you need access to download Minutes and Reports, send a message to me or use the link on the site to ask to be approved.

The website has been receiving a decent amount of traffic, and the forums, while not being as active as we hoped, do provide a quick way for you to link information for all MZF members to see. They're also good for creating ad hoc discussions on a number of things.

The mail alias for the secretary, secretary@mzfna.org forwards to our existing secretary's email address. We also created co-facilitators@mzfna.org so it's easy to get in touch with whoever happens to be the co-facilitators.

We added the CAR Workshop Agenda to the download section. We also had someone from the ShowMe RSO submit their CAR Workshop information as a download, and we went ahead and approved that submission.

Site Analytics

From Oct 14th to Feb 5th, the site received 1,373 unique visits. The majority of the site traffic comes from na.org (43%), with a smaller percentage finding us through Google and other search engines. On average we have 12 unique visitors a day. This is a significant drop from our previous numbers, but it's to be expected since the site was new and everyone was checking out the new features. Mailing List: To subscribe to the list send an email to mzfmembers-subscribe@mzfna.org. Alternatively a person can unsubscribe by sending an email to mzfmembers-unsubscribe@mzfna.org. You can only send messages to the list from the email address you signed up with.

We still plan on having a dialog using an online forum for discussing the web committee's issue about putting things on the website such as minutes etc. If you would like for me to create a new forum, please send me a message through the site or an email. Anyone can make threads in the existing forums on the site. So we hope you continue to utilize the site and if you notice any areas to improve, just shoot me an email. In Service, Joe Y.

III. REGIONAL REPORTS:

A. CHICAGOLAND: Greetings from Chicago land Region:Regional:

- Since the last Zonal Forum, our Region's main focus has been on our convention CRC XXII.
- Policy: we have a member who has been in the same service position for the last 6-8 years, the term for any regional committee chair is 2 years, but may serve a consecutive 2 year term. How do we get him to step down?
- We have selected a member to keep a record of when a member is elected into a position and when their term is up, but this record is just being put into place.
- We have elections this next month for positions: PR/H&I and Events Chair.

Convention:

- We had our regional Convention in January 2010, which was a success. The final numbers are not in as of yet, but we kept costs low and tried to keep the focus on the celebration of recovery.
- We tried to put a guideline together for speakers to sign, but that idea was thrown out, and instead the committee members informed the speakers to be aware of their language and their content, so as not to offend visitors.
- The region received a few e-mails in regards to the Saturday night, Main Speaker, who some members found offensive, we are always looking for ways to improve but have no control over someone's words.

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•The Region voted, and passed the recommendations of the Adhoc Committee, regarding the BOD to be responsible for next year's Convention. The BOD will direct the Region as to more information for those members interested in participating with the different Committees.

Car Workshop 2010:

•We have arrived! Welcome to the 2010 Car Workshop. Thanks for everyone's input and help on preparing an agenda that would be feasible.

•This Workshop has cost the Chicagoland Region more than expected. Expenses below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel Meeting room	\$2,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Microphone/podium	\$ 150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> AV Equipment	\$ 395.00
Total	\$3,045.00

•We realize that the MZF usually gives \$400.00 to the host Region to help incur costs; we were hoping that they could possible looks at their financial reports and give a little more. Also at the end of the Workshop maybe some of the members can ask their regions if they can purchase the leftover CAR reports so that our Region would not have them left in our inventory.

Chicago is a great place to visit during the winter and spring, please come out and attend some of the great events, located on our website – www.chicagona.org. Kathy B – Chicagoland RD, Remy M – Chicagoland RDA

B. GREATER ILLINOIS: Hello Everyone, The Greater Illinois Region hosted our 13th annual convention in November. The attendance was great. We ran the Rural Recovery Workshop with the help of Kathy from Chicago. We had about 30 attendees to that workshop, and all of them stayed put for the whole presentation. We took the information collected in that workshop and put it up on our website at: www.centralillinoisna.org.

We are gearing up for an upcoming CAR Workshop to be held March 20th in Champaign. We plan on having a four hour review session. How do we plan on getting GSRs to attend? We're calling them all individually, requesting they attend a month in advance, then following up a week before the workshop. We hope to at least see 75% of the GSRs in attendance, if not more. If you would like to attend, the Greater Illinois CAR workshop, here's the address:

St. John the Divine Annex, 1011 South Wright Street, Champaign, IL

I'm including the Region's new mailing address in case anyone missed it previously.

Greater Illinois Region, Springfield, IL 62705

Summary: Our Region meets quarterly, and will be meeting again on the morning of our CAR Workshop. After the workshop, we will be collecting votes online, via email, and over the phone from all the groups. The next GIRCNA convention will be held in Peoria, IL. We have elected a Convention Chair and Treasurer and they have bids in to prospective hotels. More will be revealed. In Service, Jason F. Regional Delegate

D. INDIANA: Indiana RD report 2/7/10. Hello from Indiana,

Our region will be having our CAR workshop next weekend 2-13-10. Only one area has requested help with their workshops Limestone area in March. Indiana was well represented at the multiregional workshop. ISNAC is March 12th – 14th in Merryville Indiana. The region will be doing a workshop on the next three chapter of the living clean literature at the crossroads area dance April 10, 2010. This will be my last report for my region as the Indiana regional delegate. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve. In Loving Service, Wendy H. RD

E. METRO DETROIT: Hi Family. Metro Detroit is doing very poorly. Although we had a well attended convention (Approx. 1200 addicts) we lost about \$5400. This was due to a poorly accountable committee and many many addicts not contributing. This region unanimously cancelled the convention for the foreseeable future and refused to confirm the new convention committee. We are experiencing a total lack of willingness from our areas to serve at the region putting our continued existence in danger. I will know more by WSC or earlier. Our service office is also experiencing a large sales decline, so we had to cut our hours. Now op T, W, Th 10am – 6pm, and Saturday 10am-4pm. Our online system is still available 24-7 but our delivery may take an extra day or so. Web address: store.Michigan-na.org. Hope to see some of you at DACNA at the Detroit Downtown Marriott on Easter weekend, if not in LA at the WSC10. Also our RDA (Dave C) is here and would like to talk to you about being part of helping create new PSA's. We have 3 CAR workshops set in March. In loving service, Gene D and Davwe C.

F. MICHIGAN: Hello family, Not a lot to report this month but I'll do what I can. I received two Emails from the WSO. One was concerning a correctional facility in Manistee looking to start an NA meeting. I contacted the H&I chair from Northwestern Area and he was going to contact the deputy warden to find out if they wanted help starting an in-house meeting or did they want a panel meeting. I have not heard back from him so I am not sure how that went.

The other was concerning a health fair at Oakland community college where people are checked out like books and asked questions about their experiences in whatever area they are representing. They wanted to have a recovering addict as an option. I forwarded this to the web master for the Metro-Detroit Region along with the E-mail from the contact person at the school. I do not know if this info ever got to the PR contact from Metro-Detroit, maybe Dave C. can do some follow up on this?

I received flyers and speaker sign up forms for a convention in Palm Springs, I brought them here to be distributed among the Areas. Anyone planning to attend who wants to pay my way to join you I have the willingness.

I wish to thank the Southwest Area for asking my son and I to speak at their building strong home group workshop. It was truly a thrill to be on a NA panel with my oldest boy, prayers are answered. On a personal note Jake (my son) will be singing

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at Joe Lewis Arena this Friday evening at a Christian rock concert. He hooked up with a girl on line who sings in a huge church choir and somehow she ended up asking him to join her in a duet at the show. He will also be doing a number with one of the headliners as well. The miracles just keep on coming.

The next MZF will be the weekend of Mar. 14 in Indiana at their Regional convention. The room rates are \$99.00 per night plus 12% tax or \$224.00 for the weekend. It is a 584 mile round trip from TC @ .30 per or \$175 for gas. I would be willing to pay for my own food if this body can't afford it. Les should really attend this one as well since it is relatively close. That is why I booked a double room so the only added expense would be his travel and possibly per diem. We will be hosting at least two workshops at the convention, one with no competing workshops happening (are you listening MRCNA) and another with only one other thing going on.

I will be traveling to Canton Ohio the weekend of Mar. 28th. It was originally scheduled for Jan. but got pushed back, I don't know why. They were very appreciative of the \$150.00 this body donated to their cause, its currently sitting in my wallet but they will appreciate it when I hand it to them.

I have a budget request for my travel here today as well it is \$134.00 for mileage, 448 miles @ .30 per.

I just realized that the weekend of the MZF is the weekend my wife and I were thinking of going to Florida for vacation, oh well sucks to be me. A sponsee once said that service that doesn't inconvenience you isn't really service. I see his point now. LOL ILS Dave T.

Regional Inventory

RCM's may decide to send this to home groups in their Areas or simply answer the questions themselves using the 1 - 5 scale such as:

1. Not at all 2. Needs Improvement 3. Adequate 4. Outstanding 5. Excellent

When the numbers are totaled for each question, the Region can see what most needs improvement, and what is working well.

How well does the Region serve the Areas?

How well does the region communicate with areas?

How well does the region respond to the needs of areas?

How well is the region managing the funds entrusted to it?

How well does the region mentor its trusted servants?

How well does the region encourage areas to ask for help?

How well does the region assist areas with public relations issues?

How well does the region foster communications with areas?

How well do RCM's improve that communication?

How well does region assist areas in outreach?

The following questions are to be answered in a paragraph or two.

What function does region provide other than putting on a convention?

Should the convention be held on a holiday weekend?

How can the region improve the way information is passed on to areas?

Should the regional meetings be held quarterly rather than bi-monthly?

Should the regional body host more workshops/learning days?

What suggestions/solutions do you have?

For the Home Group Member

What is the regional body's primary function?

How well are you informed of regional activity?

How well does information flow from areas to home groups?

How well does the regional body serve the areas?

G. MINNESOTA: Minnesota Report to the MZF February 2010

The Minnesota Region is composed of 12 member Areas our newest being the Voyageurs Area which is the far north central part of MN. We have 332 of meetings in the Region. At the last Region we voted to donate \$2500 to NAWs.

The Region worked in tandem with at least 5 Area PR sub-committees during 2009

- There were at least 21 events or presentation that Narcotics Anonymous was represented
- All these events are captured on a spreadsheet calendar on Google docs to build upon in 2010
- Twenty of 21 of those events had an estimated attendance of 12, 330 people (337,330 if you include Pride)
- NA either directly or indirectly communicated with over 2, 485 people
- NA had over 103 volunteers serve our fellowship at these events and presentations
- We have a database of over 600 NA members to reach out to for volunteering
- We have a database of over 220 people (mostly professionals) who receive our meeting list on a monthly basis
- The Region spent at least \$3,448.47 on public relations work during 2009
- Public Relations is set up with a small, yet meaningful stock of PR literature which allows the Region to be nimble, flexible, and responsive to public relations opportunities
- The Google map of NA meetings has had over 89,000 hits since its inception 1.5 years ago

We moved forward in several new projects such as:

Project Plan for the 2010 Minnesota GSR Assembly

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CAR Review Gilbert, MN January 9th

CAR Review Mankato, MN February 27th

CAR Review St. Cloud, MN March 13th

MN GSR Assembly Chisago Lake, MN March 27th

Project Idea: Living Clean

Service Mentorship Project Plan

Other projects and plans

- 2010 PR Plans-PR Planning Conference Call
- Year End Audit-In the Works
- Financial Audit (Reciel)
- Public Relations Events (Monte)
- Public Library Basic Text Donations (Jenny)
- Emergency Room Literature Project (Justin)
- Website Redesign Input (Monte)
- Website Redesign (Jeff)
- CD-ROM Business Cards (Jeff)
- WSC 2010
- MNNAC XVIII St. Paul 2011
- MNNAC 17 (JJ) April 16-18 2010

Thanks for letting us serve. JJ & Caleb Minnesota Region

H. OHIO: Greetings from the Ohio Region. Our last RSC was on Jan 9&10. Twelve out of fifteen areas attended. We have a new area that was the result of a split. One of our areas is breaking up due to conflicting personalities not being able to keep the area functioning. We have areas that are struggling with getting committed trusted servant. We will continue doing workshops in those areas. We are preparing for our 3rd spring Traditions Retreat May 7, 8 & 9. Due to our chairperson for the event never having come to the RSC some policy changes on trusted servants attendance at RSC are being made. We also have our state convention OCNA XXVIII in Lima, OH May 28, 29, 30. We are looking forward to CAR/CAT workshops throughout the region. We have a \$100 donation. ILS Dale W RD/Dave L RDA.

I. WISCONSIN: Greetings Family, We'd like to thank the Chicagoland Region for hosting us. We'd also like to thank the representative from NAWS WB for helping us to gather more information for our members.

Last cycle we asked for discussion on the funding of Trusted Servants in your Regions. We took that information to our Region. After much discussion, we have decided to raise our Conference Participation fund, available to Trusted Servants and unfunded RCM's to \$75 per cycle.

Wisconsin Region is currently conducting CAR workshops. The Areas are engaged. Most of the Areas have scheduled CAR workshops. Making the material relevant and meaningful to members seems to be working.

NAWS first partnered with Wisconsin Region in 2007 to participate in the NRIADA Conference. At that time, NA was virtually unknown to many of the participants. We have returned each year, at Regional expense, to a more inviting and welcoming presence. At this year's conference in June, we will be on the conference program with a 1 ½ hour special topic workshop titled "NA: A Resource in Your Community". This represents enormous growth in NA's image and recognition as a viable resource and program of recovery.

Upcoming conventions:

1. GMUCNA Feb. 12-14 – Milwaukee, WI
2. RRCNA March 5-7 – Rockford, IL
3. ICANA May 7-9 – Milwaukee, WI

We, as Delegates, are a little concerned that the majority of the communication we have seen since the last forum has been an agenda scheduling/rescheduling conflict. We feel that using the user account on the MZF website to generate an endless string of emails/spam is a waste of time and resources. Our 8th Concept tells us that our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communication. Individuals using self-will to negate the MZF group conscience is not in keeping with our spiritual principles or our 6th Concept. No reasons for the scheduling changes were ever given. Previous conferences have wasted hours discussing the hours we waste making decisions, only to have our decisions arbitrarily dismissed on-line. We'd like to believe that we can learn from this and in the future to rely on a loving and caring HP to guide our decisions. In the spirit of unity and cooperation, we firmly believe that this body can come up with solutions to keep this from happening again. We look forward to seeing all of you in California. Thank you for allowing us to serve. Chris K. RD, Bill O. RDA --

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE / ADHOC REPORTS:

A. SERVICE PROFILES No report. There is a discussion board on the MZF website. Please enter your comments there. Blynn briefly described what the service profile adhoc is all about. Resume is approved. Guidelines needs tweeking.

B. HISTORY- There has been very little movement on this project. Please spread the word that our discussion board is available on the MZF website. Wants to send out email blasts once he gets a list together.

C. POLICY CHANGES – No further input so will be emailing the final version before the conference.

V. PRIORITIZE LIST OF TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

WSC Report: Bob put together a report and a PowerPoint to present at the WSC. Who is going to present this at the WSC? Since we started doing this report we have been presenting the history of the MZF. It is getting a little long so we need to

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decide what we want to add or delete. Bob showed the PowerPoint to the group. It was a consensus that Joe Bob and JJ will tweek it and send it out and then put it a PowerPoint and PDF on the MZF website. John will present at the WSC and Derrick will operate the slides. Cut presentation from 19 to 13 slides. Requested pictures of MZF stuff and he will add them in.

VI. BASIC SERVICES:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 2009 approved as amended.

B. ELECTIONS. – Bob was nominated and voted in as co-facilitator #1. Louis's term ended. Joe reelected for Web contact. Registered Agent – John was nominated and reelected as registered agent.

C. FINANCIAL DECISIONS: After income and expenses were taken into account, a \$500 donation to Chicagoland was approved to help defray the costs (\$3,045) of the workshop.

D. NEXT MEETINGS: September 10, 11, and 12, in Detroit, MI. Flyers will be out soon after the WSC. The meeting will be Saturday after the workshop and then all day Sunday.

E. OLD BUSINESS: Policy Guidelines. Suggested a discussion thread be put on the MZF discussion board.

F. HISTORY AND TIMELINE – Blynn has most of it done and will have it finished by the conference.

VII. TOPICS / DISCUSSION:1. Public Service Announcements for Narcotics Anonymous

At the 2008 Conference the Michigan Region presented a motion requesting that NAWS update our PSA, in a recent NA Newsline NAWS has suggested with technology and cost that local Area's and Regions might be better able to produce them. With that understanding we contacted a Video Production Group that I have worked with on video editing both for fellowship and personnel projects. The projected cost of producing PSA was of a reasonable cost and proposed the idea to Michigan Region and Metro-Detroit Regions with a possible cost being \$2000.00 per Region \$4000.00 total cost. (see below).

We created a joint Committee of the Michigan Region and Metro-Detroit Region to brainstorm story ideas / scenarios.

We agreed that we did not want to use a member of any 12-step fellowship so we could avoid possible issues. Also that PSA would be available to any Area / Region at cost of the tape as the PSA belonged to the fellowship.

Our original goal was to have 4 new PSA ready by February Midwest Zonal Forum alas this was an unrealistic goal as it was to be a short 4 months from an Idea to finish product. Well I have learned much more about the process and production of making Public Service Announcements and can fully understand why NAWS did not rush into the project.

With the Scenarios that we created we started to research locations that could be used we contacted a local Hospital and Institutions Committee that have an excellent working relationship with a County Jail. After speaking with several officers we were told that we could come and use the Jail but they would prefer that we use a Video Production Company that has prior experience with their Jail.

Upon discussion with KND Video Company the cost of the project increased by several thousand dollars that removed that warm fuzzy feeling. Although they were very professional in their approach to the project and sparked a vision of what the PSA could be. I did not feel that hands on feeling when I sat next to the editor on similar projects.

Being a newcomer in the industry of Film / Video Production, I contacted a member of the fellowship who has some experience and had suggested some ideas that were possible alternatives to the process of accomplishing our project.

EXPLAIN.

This brings us to today as the Michigan Region meets next week I hope to have a full understanding of these alternative ideas and be able to provide a report for their consideration. Today's discussion could help with understanding if this could be considered as a process.

Peace and Hugs Dave Cracchiolo 313-779-2921 dgcrcchiolo@hotmail.com

Tom Berris Video Productions

Shoot, Edit, Audio and Graphics

\$600.00 per PSA

Announcer / Narrator

\$50.00

Change Phone Numbers

\$10.00 each change

Customized to each Area

(example 13 Areas = \$130.00)

Beta Cam SP Tape

\$25.00 each Tape

DVD of PSA

\$10.00 first DVD

Copies of DVD

\$5.00 after first made

Location Rental Fee

To be Determined

Actor / Actresses Fee

To be Determined

We spoke of several possible scenarios for the PSA, and that there would be a fee for Actor / Actresses. As I mentioned that we don't want to use members of any fellowship. That we would seek students from some of the Creative Schools or Academy's with hopes of volunteers just wanting the experience. You mentioned the volunteers might request a copy of the PSA for their portfolio. Depending on where we shoot the video we could incur a rental fee for the location. Each PSA would have the <www.Michigan-NA.org and Area Phone-line number

Scenarios:

1) **Scene:** Camera on back of addict as they being "processed" into jail. Camera could continue to follow addict or just be the eye.

Announcer: You don't have to wait for a jail sentence to get help from Narcotics Anonymous. This doesn't have to be your bottom. It is possible to stop using drugs. Call Narcotics Anonymous... we can help you.

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***NOTE:** we may want to produce both a male and female version, of two different ethnic backgrounds and English/ Spanish / Arabic versions

- 2) **Scene:** location is kitchen area of a home. Mother sees NA pamphlets on top of backpack/school books sitting on the counter as the daughter/son is passing through.

Mother: Hey Joni, where did this Narcotics Anonymous stuff come from?

Daughter: Oh, that....Miss Owens asked some people to come and talk to our class about meetings that help people not use drugs. Some of them were even my age.

Scene change: This time the mom is sitting in the family room on the couch with prescription bottles on the table and is holding the "Am I an addict?" pamphlet has picked up the phone she sees the NA helpline number on Am I Addict IP

Mother: Hello, Is this NA? Yes, I think I need help.

Announcer: Call Narcotics Anonymous, we can help.

- 3) **Scene:** A couple of college students are standing outside of a school or park where there is a kind of bulletin/announcement kiosk with NA poster and tear off help line numbers.

Student #1: standing at the kiosk / bulletin board reads the NA poster and tears off the helpline number.

Student #2: yells from a bit of a distance dribbling a basketball "Hey come on...what's taking you so long. The game's gonna start!"

Student #1: "Just getting this number for my brother...he's wasted all the time."

Scene change: Student #1 is shown calling the NA number from his cell phone in his car. "Hi, can you tell me about NA?" I can't stop using.

- 4) **Screen** shows various *faces of people*...Female, Male, African-American, Hispanic, young, old, Professionals Student, etc.

Announcer: "Addiction doesn't discriminate...If you are sick and tired of being sick and tired, call Narcotics Anonymous. You may be an addict too. Call Narcotics Anonymous, we can help.

English/ Spanish / Arabic versions?

2. Conventions – Metro Detroit. Lost \$5,400 on convention though 1,200 were registered. The next convention was cancelled with no conventions planned in the future. Discrepancies with the financial report are being looked into. Comp rooms are being questioned as following guidelines by the region. A discussion took place regarding how to deal with speakers who do not speak in the manner of what was on the tape sent to the committee.
3. Rotation of Trusted Servants. Discussion took place.
4. Future meeting setup. – Not meet in the rounds to conduct business.

VIII. CLOSING BUISNESS

The region sends their RDs. Are we working towards sending an MZF delegate to the WSC? We will start discussion on this in Detroit.