



## **N.A.W.O.L. NEWS VOL. 5 ED. 1**

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**Lester O** – [Lester1444@msn.com](mailto:Lester1444@msn.com) -- Phone # (321) 215-5828 *contact me if they would like to be on our mailing list.)*

### **N.A.W.O.L. NEWS:**

If you have not been to the N.A.W.O.L. website <http://www.nawol.org/> as of late you might notice a few changes at the top of the page. Mainly the printing of the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Numbered Hardback version of The NA Way of Life.

**RED COVER NUMBERED EDITION – EDITED AND READS VERY WELL. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO MADE THIS DREAM COME TRUE.**

**PENNSYLVANIA, MICHIGAN, FLORIDA, GEORGA, CAROLINAS, ALABAMA. VIRGINIA, TENNESSE, ONTARIO, QUEBEC, E. ANGLIA, S. AFRICA, CAIRO, MUMBAI, CONNECTICUTT, MARYLAND AND MANY OTHER PLACES~**  
And this is just the beginning! Hey, we're serious about love, staying clean, helping others and growing spiritually, Get with the program, damn it.

And this is followed with a Language Translator in 52 Languages.

## Origins (BO S.)

This work began when my sponsee Dale A. suggested I write some original writing on the spiritual principles of NA. In particular, the writing was to address how these principles would in application prevent or limit some of our early service disorders. This resulted in the original material on the principles. The list was taken from the Twelfth Step in the Book, *Narcotics Anonymous*. Expansion included looking up synonyms and antonyms for clarity. Later, in 1990 or early 1991, the expansion of the original material into other areas of interest began. Staying clean, going to meetings and discovering the many things brought to us by the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, writing them down became a habit to me. I sought and found many items written by friends in the program and much if not all of the material has been work-shopped many times in many places. At some point, I realized that the material is consistent with the dialogues shared with friends in recovery on the telephone, in meetings and in person. That is the true source of this material. If ever there should come a time when the truth needs to be known or spoken, write it down. All the material has been on the World Wide Web at [www.nawol.org](http://www.nawol.org), the acronym for NA Way of Life. This has let countless thousands of members download the material for free either by chapter or the entire work. This current 2002 Form is the most current and the first that is nearly typo free. The typos came from the inclusion of material from various sources and the incredible task of 'smoothing' it all into one form. Deepest, heartfelt thanks to all the many good members who have worked with me so hard over the 12 years it has taken to produce the current work. Nobody makes it alone.

In Loving Service,

Bo S.

## **\*NA Society Journal\***

The NA Society has existed since addicts first started to meet on a regular basis and live the 12 Steps within the spirit of the 12 Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous. Our members have always provided the personal services that characterize our Society. We find our 'trusted servants' from within this Society. Our trusted servants function in order to ensure that our needs as a Fellowship are met. While a primary precept of the NA Society is inclusion for all, individuals always retain the freedom to remove themselves. No one is forced to do anything. We carry the NA message of hope and recovery to all who seek it.

Unlike the nawolnews group, the NA Society Journal will be a web site in lieu of a news group. Here is the link. The N.A. Society Journal is a current N.A.W.O.L. Project. This is a site for Journaling your thoughts concerning the N.A. Society. This site will provide space for Journals on N.A.W.O.L. Projects, both past and present as well as the History of N.A. and hopefully expand to cover the entire NA. Society.

Anyone can view this site.

<http://sites.google.com/site/nasocietyjournalproject/>

Over the course of the next week or two I plan to overhaul the website add some new files and hopefully make the website more user friendly. Please send me an Email at [Lester1444@hotmail.com](mailto:Lester1444@hotmail.com)

## **NA REFORMATION**

What we need in NA is a reformation movement to restore some of the things that were so attractive to our early growth and expansion while retaining some of the efficiency and protocol developed by world services during the dark period. Lessons can be learnt from this so that others do not repeat the mistakes of the past twenty years. There need be no repercussions as everyone was pretty confused and blame is hard to access among people disadvantaged by their leadership. In other words, it is a no-fault situation brought about by rapid growth of our NA Fellowship and expansion of money, property concerns and the prestige that comes with service at the world level. Where is the top of the mountain? The Group! Time to get back to the Basics! – Ed.

- 1) Everyone has a say in NA. Democratic principles give you a voice in your program.
- 2) Trusted servants at every level are trained to understand and appreciate the beauty of overcoming personal boundaries through learning selflessness. Big egos need not apply!
- 3) Study materials are prepared and distributed under the direction of NA members active in the NA society. People can't be blamed for not knowing that which cannot be read and studied. We have to write the study materials if our side is to be in evidence.
- 4) Books and role models populate our service structure and recovery meetings.

## **Some Recent Newsworthy Items:**

1. NAarchives: A big thanks goes out to Boyd P. and Chris B. who are the <http://magshare.magnaws.com/narchive/>

The archives site has been up and running now for about 3 years and Boyd and Chris are continuing to add files and update the site which now has in the neighborhood of 1700 files in over 350 folders totaling over 4.65 GB of NA history.

## 2. Editorial Comments:

On a more personal note, N.A.W.O.L. and the NA Society have come a long way since its conception circa 1989 or 1990. Between December and May of 2007 as many as 60 workshops and or conferences were held throughout US, Canada and England. My involvement with N.A.W.O.L. accelerated in 2007 with my starting a W.O.L.F. Group (Way of Life Foundation Group), attending the Conference in Tallahassee and Starting this Newsletter. However I began following N.A.W.O.L. in the fall of 1998 when I got my first computer.

In this time I have witnessed N.A.W.O.L. take its rightful place in the NA Society as well as the beginnings of an NA Reformation. The Online Dictionary gives these three definitions for Reform.

1. An improvement or change for the better, esp as a result of correction of legal or political abuses or malpractices
2. A principle, campaign, or measure aimed at achieving such change
3. Improvement of morals or behavior, ESP by giving up some vice

Whenever, I look at Corporate NA I fail to see this growth taking place but when I look at the Heart of NA, our Homegroups and our meetings I can see the reformation taking place in individuals as they grow in NA and in Practice these Principles in their lives.

We now have our book but this does not spell the end of N.A.W.O.L. There are still other projects to work on, NA Twenty Plus (a collection of individual stories from our Members), The Spirit of NA (a collection of individual writings on how we practice Spirituality, and of course we have a reformation to take part in.

As mentioned previously, I plan to be busy over the next couple of weeks updating the website NA Society Journal Project <http://sites.google.com/site/nasocietyjournalproject/>

It is my hope to make it user friendly and a place where our members can have access to Archives related to NA, post their stories, Ask questions or make comments.

Recently, I have had some local members contact me e about starting another W.O.L.F. since the previous one died several years ago. This is something that I will probably do in the near future. Now that we have a book I anticipate that it will be more of a study group instead of a writing group. This reminds me that I would like to compile a meeting list of Way of Life Foundation Groups or study groups we currently have. So if anyone attends such a group regularly or knows of any recently started it would be gratefully appreciated if you would send me the location, time and day it meets and contact person. Anyone may reach me at [lester1444@hotmail.com](mailto:lester1444@hotmail.com)

New interest in starting WOLF groups since the re-opening of the small WOLF group in Smyrna, GA last year. We get calls and posts thinking us for the work done and stressing the usefulness of a new book with the original NA flavor! The first hardback First Editions will go out in a week. Over forty-five members have ordered the First Editions and it is quietly thrilling to be a small part of such an enormous miracle! – Bo S.

Lester O

Email [lester1444@hotmail.com](mailto:lester1444@hotmail.com)