

# ASIA PACIFIC FORUM NEWS

Afghanistan – Aotearoa New Zealand – Australia – Bahrain – Bangladesh – Bhutan  
Cambodia – China – Hawai'i – Hong Kong – India – Indonesia – Iran – Japan – Kuwait  
Malaysia – Maldives – Nepal – NERF – Oman – Pakistan North – Pakistan South  
Philippines – Saudi Arabia – Singapore – South Korea – Thailand – UAE – Viet Nam

A NETWORK OF NA COMMUNITIES

[www.apfna.org](http://www.apfna.org)

Issue # 46 - December 2017

## *A Note from the Editor*

Greetings and Welcome to our 46th Edition of the APF News. \* Yours in service, Phyllis S ~ Editor

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Tim S

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November ~ February

*If there is anything you wish to add,  
perhaps a clean date or story you would like  
to tell, contact us:*

[newsletter@apfna.org](mailto:newsletter@apfna.org)

## APF 2018 Bangkok



## Thailand Host Convention~

### 11th NATR CONVENTION BANGKOK 2018

2 - 4 March 2018, Rembrandt Hotel Bangkok, Thailand

**APF 2018 Delegates Meeting February**  
**26th – March 1st, 2018, Bangkok,**  
**Thailand**

## *Coming to the Conference?*

We have a page published on the [apfna.org](http://www.apfna.org) website. There you will find more helpful information. <http://www.apfna.org/2018apf/>

## Nothing ...

The first day of March 2007 was the day that I woke up with no drugs in my system, not a thought worthwhile in my mind except for the excruciating pain of the disaster I had left behind out there in the world, while I stayed attached to an IV at the bottom of my foot because there was no other place in my body my veins could accommodate a butterfly syringe.

I cracked my neck up to feel and see the area that surrounded the station across my room; the detox stage. Nothing but a dull white wall, small two-door wooden closet, a bathroom with lights that made a buzzing noise and a one piece bed that held the weight of my body, which I'm sure was lighter than the heavy blanket that covered me and held me down. No windows, no mirrors except for the one on the door that had a view of the nurse's' room.

I can't recall how long I stayed there, but on the day before the last, two men came into my room, they shook my hand, and sat down on the bed with me. It wasn't a very big bed, but somehow we all managed. They began explaining to me how they had a message of hope. They talked about a program that would change my life, the way I lived it, what I thought about it and how I treated myself in it. I remember laughing sarcastically, and said "I bet you 100 dollars that what you say is nothing but a dream in the stars, unattainable bullshit!" They smiled back at me, and with all the calm and pride that world had at that moment they said "if you are willing to truly give yourself and the program a chance, we will take that bet."

I began unpacking at the halfway house while my roommate was blabbing in my head about all the rules of the house, what we must and mustn't do. In all honesty I wasn't listening much to what he was saying. All I was thinking about at the time was how the hell am I supposed to sleep in the same room with this stranger who was so lonely that he was talking to me as if we had been friends for years.

When the 28th day clock rang, I was in a meditation group talking to my 17 brothers in the halfway house about my fears of going back home. My bag was packed, I was clean shaved and had put 5 extra kilos of meat on my bones. It was a gratifying and scary feeling all at once. I love those guys. Unfortunately, today, out of the 17, only two of us are still clean. That just goes to show that the odds are against us at all time, in case any of us who are reading this have forgotten.



Back to Kuwait, into a house where all the furniture was recognizable, family faces that were familiar, names I knew. Still, somehow a place where I felt like I didn't belong, a stranger with no bond to anyone. They all seemed to enjoy my being back home, however I didn't know what I felt like. I wondered where their enjoyment came from; how could the people I hurt and devastated the most smile in my presence when I didn't believe I deserved the breath I was taking.

I didn't know who or what I was, nor even what I was going to do. So I did the only thing I knew how to do, I went to meetings. I got myself a sponsor and did what any other recovering addict does with their sponsor ... talk so much that I could make birds ears bleed because my sponsor was probably the only person on earth that would stand two hours in front of a coffee shop listening to a ignorant piece of meat that thought he knew the world inside out. He suggested I started working the steps. I guess I began to talk less after I started because the more I worked the steps the more I realized how little I knew about the world and about myself. I began to recognize my family, my friends and the most beautiful recognition of all

was the reflection of myself when I stood in front of the mirror every day after praying to my higher power in the morning.



Service, I didn't know what it was, but someone asked me once after a meeting if I would like to do service. I asked what that meant, and my sponsor said; *"service is how you show your gratitude to your recovery, the service you do will show how grateful you are, and the more grateful you are, the more service you'll do"*. So I said yes to service and was voted in as my home groups GSR. That service opened up new doors for me. We formed the Kuwait Area Service Committee, which then lead to us having more groups form in Kuwait, which then lead us to serving in committees to serve the groups. This is when I went into the translations committee. I was

voted in as chair. I had no idea what to do and what it meant or even why, but I stuck to it, and did all that I needed to do. Day by day turned into two years, and before the two years were over, we had translated the first Basic text in Arabic that was agreed on by all Arabic speaking regions. I remember receiving one of the first translated books from NAWA and many board members had written a few nice things on the book. It was one of the happiest days of my life!

I then began serving on many more committees throughout my recovery: area service committee delegate, chair, H&I, Open days and APF. I first began my service at the APF as an alternate delegate of Kuwait, then as a delegate. After being a delegate and alt I ran for secretary of the APF. Two years after that I ran for Chair. I'm about to complete 4 years serving as APF chair and I am now 10 years 6 months in recovery.

When I go back and connect all the dots that lead me to where I am, I am amazed at how my life has taken a turn from a needle in the base of my foot, to writing this brief story of my recovery and service. It brings to mind the people I have met, the growth I have seen within myself and the many obstacles I have faced. I remember a time when I used to sit down on the floor next to my bed, in utter devastation, broken hearted at what I had become, unable to move, unable to use, I had squeezed out all the lies I could make. I had broken the hearts of many around me. I had forced them to watch a human being break himself with self-inflicting torture upon torture of the soul.

Today, whenever the going gets tough, I remember this. I remember that I am stronger today because of the pain I've been through. I love myself and those around me because I remember how it was to feel no love whatsoever. I remember that in recovery, and in service when someone gives me a hard time how miraculous our connections with each other are, because I remember the utter disconnect I felt, how it felt living in a world behind a glass door, watching everyone smile and live, yet unable to feel or touch it. I am grateful to all that I have today. I am grateful to all I serve with and will serve with. I am grateful to my sponsors, my sponsees, and my family. I am grateful to the God of my understanding. And, I am grateful to the ignorance within me, because every time I learn something new, it gives me hope, every time I see all that we can do, it gives me strength. I am proud to be part of NA, a program of hope, a program of miracles and program that breathes life into those who've had lost it before.

Before I end, I'd like to quote something that was written to me on my first translated book. It comes from our basic text: *"One act of service can make a profound difference and one addict's good work can ripple outwards in ways we can't foresee"*.

Today, without the connection I have, without all the ripple effects of all the good addicts have done, without the love and connection that we easily brush off and forget, Today, without all that, I Would be ... Nothing!

*Hammed T - Kuwait*

Hi, my name is Roko, I'm an addict. By God's grace I am clean for the last 7 years. I am from a very athletic family from Nagaland in the northeast of India, where most of us were record holders in different sports. Being the youngest in the family, I was the most promising as I represented my State in State level hockey tournaments in Delhi, the capital, which was a big thing for me.

Those days alcohol was also consumed in the family very casually and I got exposed at an early age of 12 or 13. Today when I look back, I was a potential addict right from the beginning.





In spite of doing quite well in co-curricular activities, I was not content and had a massive problem of low self-esteem as I could not meet family expectation on the studies front. My siblings were doing well in studies and I always felt left out. Alcohol immediately made me feel at ease.

Slowly social exposure increased with parties and boyfriends and along with them came joints and pills, which soon graduated to heroin. I soon found out my both brother-in-laws were hard core junkies; not only using but dealing as well. They became my idols. The rest is as you guys know a downhill roller coaster ride of zero miles to insanity.

I tried everything possible under the sun to stop using; several detox and rehabs but failed in every way. I got married and separated which did not work. Love and affection of family was up rooted. In a desperate attempt again, I landed in a rehab where I was fortunate to get the beautiful message of Narcotics Anonymous. I always felt that I was the black sheep of the family and in NA I found the rest of my herd. Immediately I felt at ease with hugs and kept coming back.

On the completion of my 6 years clean time I was honored on a World Woman's Day for my contribution to society on drug abuse.

I am now happily married to a recovering addict, and we both run a rehab center in Nepal, trying to pass the message of recovery one day at a time. Next month I am very excited to attend the Delhi Convention at Puska. Hope to see you guys there,

Bye.

*Roko O / Nepal*

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## Thank you from AZF

Hello Dear APF,

I am Natnael, a recovering addict from the horn of Africa. Let me tell you what I feel in short, when I travel out to a different part of the world. I feel like I have a real family there awaiting and taking care in good hands of NA from day 1 up to my date of return. Most of all was the March big fabulous APFNA Convention. I was very pleased that I was able to be an audience in the very colorful dancing of Asian Culture along with shoulder to shoulder dancing on the stage in the Country Countdown.



I am now 34 years old, out of which 5 years and half are clean just for today. Thanks to my higher power, today I judge nobody for the things that happened in my upbringing as a child or in my life, along with 14 years of actively using. I really love my Mother now which is the gift of restoration in a spiritual way through working the steps.

When did I start to hate Mama? Probably because of her exaggerated reactions to me at times of my common temper tantrum during early experience as a little baby. So this argument against the womb rose in more and more verbal abuses until adolescence. I don't mean this issue with my Mom was the one and only reason, but countless times I wanted to take my own life. I hated to live before my decade.

I then started using all sorts of drugs that the environment provided me and things seem like the next biggest war in our nuclear family. No one could understand my emotional pains deep down except passing more judgment on me for defaming the family in scrambling for my addiction supplies. I acted against family expectations, school regulations, hospital rules and lately the law proclamation. I hide myself from police was admitted in rehab.

My fourth and last time in the addiction treatment ward and because of God's will was on 26 February 2012, I got clean.

Until five years ago because the cumulative self-esteem I had was so low, I never dreamt of travelling abroad. By the grace of God, I have now travelled to 7 different countries while recently experiencing a second round to two of the big cities. This is not because I am foreign trader or as such academician. It is absolutely the gift of recovery as more will be revealed.

250 words are far from being enough to show all what HP has done for me what I could never do for myself. I have a nice job as a social entrepreneur, I have peace of mind, I love my life and my Mom.

The only thing I am supposed to make sure is that I don't use drugs today. Challenges are still there but all is for the better as long as I do the will of God in my life just for today. That will of God is "*Not to use drugs at any seemingly minimal dose*".

*Thank you AZF*

*Natnael/Ethiopia*

## Communications Workgroup



Greetings from the Communications Workgroup!

The long term Communications goal is *“To encourage, maintain and support communication among NA members, Communities and Regions within this part of the world.”*

We held a conference call in October and have scheduled another for November. Our numbers are small, currently we have just 3 active members. Consequently the speed with which we are able to pursue our assigned tasks is slower than ideal. We are confident though that we will have adequately addressed them all prior to our meeting in February.

Our specific Communications strategies are outlined in the 2017 Strategic Plan and are more fully reported by email to the APF list.

The 2017 APF meeting assigned the External Strategies section of the Strategic Plan to the Communications Workgroup. This has been discussed on both the Strategic Planning and Admin conference calls as not being something this workgroup can realistically tackle. The high priority strategies have a significant PR focus, and suggest or refer directly to APF electing someone to a PR position. This may become a discussion at the 2018 APF meeting for obtaining the future consensus and direction of APF communities.

*Yours in service,*

*The Communications Workgroup*

## Fellowship Development Workgroup

***“To encourage and support Fellowship Development efforts within the Asia Pacific Zone”***



### LONG TERM

According to our plans there were 5 FD trips proposed: Afghanistan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan & Bhutan. The trip to Afghanistan was completed using only ⅓ of our \$10,000 budget

**The FD trips under process are as follows:**

- Upcoming Bhutan FD Budget Fund: US\$ 2,300 (APF funded 2 resource travelers are Joydeep M. (from India) + Mohit A. (from Bangladesh).
- More than 50 participants from Thimphu, Paro, Gelephu and Samdrup Jongkhar are expected to attend a scheduled workshop from 25th – 26th November, 2017 in Thimphu. Carrie L. (from Hong Kong) is self-funding her FD expenses
- Upcoming Pakistan FD trip: Workshop is scheduled for the 3rd week of March, 2018 right after the APF-2018 annual meeting in Bangkok at the Pakistan upcoming Convention. The venue of Nathia Gali was suggested by both South & North Pakistan fellowship and will be arranged. The budget has not yet been finalized. APF is funding 1 resource traveler; Sumeet D. (from Nepal). Joseph T. (Indiana Joe from Oregon, USA) is willing to self-fund his air ticket expenses.

### PROBLEMS

- Lack of willing members not submitting Resume for FD Secretary open service position
- Hangouts meeting time conflicts with other service commitments as well as coordinating people from different time zones and workgroups (*many are members of multiple groups*)

### SHORT TERM

1. From Approved Strategic Plan-- strategies pursued July, August & September 2017



High Priority:

- i. Cooperate the Women's FD Workgroup
- ii. Create and implement an APF membership survey
- iii. One Fellowship Development trip for women

Secondary Priority:

- iv. When possible, women participate in FD trips

**REQUEST** Only 139 members have completed the APF NA 2018 Membership Survey - *Please help.*

More complete information can be found at our APFNA.org website: <http://www.apfna.org/fellowship-development/apf-membership-survey/>

We also request members to distribute the same survey via PDF to your communities, regions, areas and home groups to encourage each individual NA Members- if they are unable to access it online.

All APF communities are eligible to request FD funding. APF Communities requesting funding through FD Request Form to arrange for FD Trip are required to go through an assessment process, conducted by the FD Sub-committee, before a decision will be made on funding.

Also, please remember to send your suggestions, feedback, or input to both- the Women FD Workgroup email list: [apf-women@nzna.org](mailto:apf-women@nzna.org), as well as to the FD Workgroup email list: [apf-fd@nzna.org](mailto:apf-fd@nzna.org)

We thank each member of Fellowship Development Workgroup for their participation and to APF for allowing us the opportunity to serve with and for you all.

*Sincerely yours in loving services with gratitude,  
The Fellowship Development Sub-committee.*

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## Women's Fellowship Development Workgroup

**This is the quarterly report from the APF Women's FD Workgroup.**

We continue to meet using Skype once a month, with many of our initiatives ongoing. I think it would be fair to say that our passion for this service remains, as do the many, many visions we all have bought to this workgroup as individuals – in addition we have gained a healthy reality check on the time, input and energy that it is taking to see these visions through to fruition.

We have formed several smaller task orientated workgroups with a variety of lead people in order to work through these ideas in bite size pieces. Currently we are progressing with the sponsorship work, the guidelines and looking at how we can support the proposed Convention in Goa in 2018 with physical presence by as many members as possible, plus awareness raising merchandise.



There is also a consensus among the group that as many as possible will attend APF 2018 to support the work of the APF, and support FD efforts particularly those concerning Women. We are working on hosting a Women's lunch, and have been communicating with a member of the local fellowship who is on the Convention Committee.

We had been extremely excited by the proposed inclusion of a woman from Iran in the recent FD Trip to Afghanistan. Sadly, the local fellowship had a change of venue, the impact of this was that this was not the trip for a woman to go on. We look forward to working with the FD Workgroup and developing communities to provide a member who is able to be included in any upcoming FD trips.

*In service,*

*Sharon K - APF Women's FD Workgroup*

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## Merchandise Work Group

Dear APF Family,

Our Merchandise Workgroup is busy raising funds for our upcoming APF Delegates meeting and for our Primary Purpose! We have 10 members representing 9 APF communities and have held Merchandise WG Skype calls 4 times. This past quarter we have purchased remaining goods from APFCNA Nepal.



Three fundraising events took place: 1) At the NZ Gathering - (Deb F) 2) EDM/ECCNA Portugal – (Sharon, Charlie & Carrie) 3) Kuwait Convention (Anwar and Hamed) Special thanks to all the willing Regional Country representatives for taking on this responsibility!

We have identified additional opportunities around the world to sell Merchandise in Q3 & Q4 so far, being: NERF Convention Nov (Rocky), DACNA Dec (Hasib).

Our quarterly report with full details was sent out via email attachment 25 October 2017

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\*\*\*\*\* **Merchandise Report Update** \*\*\*\*\*

We had a successful fundraising time at HRCNA Hawai'i and raised \$1,580 for APF through the sale of APF Merchandise (from APF Meeting and APFCNA1) as well as lots of opportunities for introducing people to and increasing awareness of APF, our member countries, our purpose, mission and activities.

Additionally Kitty I (my Merchandise mentor and predecessor) from Australia brought merchandise from Gold Coast to donate for our Merchandise sales and it all sold out!

Huge thanks to the HRCNA committee for allowing us to be a part of and sell there and to all the willing servants who volunteered over the Saturday and Sunday to help sell:

Charlie Q (Hawai'i), Kitty I (Australia), Kendall G (Hawai'i), Jeffrey C (Hawai'i), Alan L (Hawai'i), Karyn W (LA/Hawaii). We CAN do together what I could never do alone!

Tali M and Christine (Hawai'i) also organised an APF raffle which APF donated prizes to as well as Australia and Hawai'i. This raffle raised \$393 USD from convention attendees as an HRCNA donation and has been deposited into the APF Bank of Hawaii account.

Kitty I had also done sales for APF at the Gold Coast Convention in Sept which she raised \$175 and has also been deposited into the Bank Of Hawaii APF account.

We welcome more participation in our Merchandise WG from willing trusted servants, please contact us at [merchandise@apfna.org](mailto:merchandise@apfna.org) to join at any time!

*Yours in Grateful Service,  
Carrie L -Merchandise Work Group*

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## Money Matters Work Group

### Group Basics

Total Work Group members: 16 (But very often, we hardly have more than 4/5 members during the meeting)

Total communities represented: 10

Total numbers of Work Group meeting until now: 5

Total numbers of Work Group meeting during the trimester: 3

### Key Updates from Meetings

- Coordination with APFCNA committee and making APFCNA-I financial report available.
- Sharing and discussing Treasurer's/Merchandise/FD updates
- Sharing and discussing updates on APF-2018 planning progress (Local fellowship coordination, hotel selection and contract signing)
- Review of APFCNA guideline (Work in progress)
- Consideration of prudent reserve.
- Updating participants request form.



### Progress update: Work Group Responsibilities and Priority Strategies

SN	Responsibilities	Priorities	Status Update/Progress
1	Financial	Enabling online donation  Creating online merchandise portal APF delegate fund arrangement for WSC  Allocate 5% of APF income as the prudent reserve	APF website upgradation is ongoing to incorporate online transactions PayPal options has been discussed as potential online merchandise portal Request for self-funding and APF contribution has been sent to APF communities and delegates. Prudent reserve of 5% has been allocated. USD 3000 for APF delegate to WSC Regular financial update to APF Admin and communities
2	Convention	Cost effective location for APFCNA APF host committee collaboration Updating financial reports to communities and request for support upon need	In collaboration of local committee members, different hotel options for APF-2018 has been evaluated before signing the contract. APF-2017 financial statements has been shared among APF communities APFCNA Financial report has been received and made available. Review of APFCNA guideline is in progress.

*Yours in Service,  
Sushil-APF Treasurer*

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## Motion 11 Workgroup



## CAR Motions

6 draft motions were submitted to NAWS at the end of July. Through the process of working with a member of the World Board to ensure they were “CAR ready”, our final consensus was to submit 5 motions for the CAR. We believe the motions and intents are as much in alignment with the input of APF delegates as was possible. The motions are jointly moved by Australia and Aotearoa NZ on behalf of APF, and will seek a seconder from the WSC floor.

We have shared the motions and their intents with the APF RDs by email. The CAR is scheduled for release on the 29th of November.

## Joint Zonal Conference Calls

We reached out to the European Delegates Meeting (EDM) trusted servants as we knew they had also been considering Motion 11. This led to us holding a historic first conference call in late July between members of this workgroup, the APF admin committee, and members of the EDM steering committee. This was an amazing opportunity to utilise technology to its fullest, develop relationships beyond our zone, and learn more about the practices of EDM who have so much experience strength and hope to share with us. We held a second meeting in October that included a representative of the Russian Speaking Zonal Forum and one of the co-Chairs of the AfriCan Zonal Forum.

We are exploring how future meetings might work - agendas, rotating chairing, sharing the recording of minutes, who participants might be, dealing with the technology itself, and possibly inviting members from the South America zones. Our various time zones mean the call is late at night for Hawai'i and Aotearoa participants, being progressively earlier through the day around to the UK for whom it is early morning. From here we are planning calls between the EDM and APF Zonal Delegates, and between FD workgroup members, during November, and another wider inter-zonal call in December.



## Supporting our Zonal Delegate

Our Zonal Delegate is preparing his US visa application process to allow his attendance at the World Service Conference in April 2018. Supporting letters from NAWS and APF have now been received. We will continue to support his attendance in any way we can.

*Yours in service,*

*Motion 11 Workgroup*

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## Strategic Planning Workgroup

The Strategic Planning (SP) Workgroup has 10 active members from all over our communities, of which 5 to 7 regularly attend the monthly meetings that continued in July, August and September.

There are 4 high priority and 5 lower priority strategies for this year, as well as the ongoing responsibilities from the Workgroup Guidelines. Some strategies were pursued immediately, while others can wait until further in the year:



- We are involved with other workgroups to assist them with their strategies. Our members are participating in various workgroups meeting.
- We created a Reporting Template for the Women's FD Workgroup, and shared with them as a suggested template for their quarterly reporting.
- We are developing a Google Docs survey form for collecting information about community's current trends and themes, including barriers for women, for creating an environmental scan. We will finalize this in November then circulate to all RDs, request its return in December 2017.
- We have an active role drafting APF's meeting agenda in collaboration with the Admin Committee. This ongoing discussion in our conference calls considers the regular agenda items along with additional ideas such as. workshops on Guiding Principals, Motion 11 & Translations.
- The Translation Workgroup sought some guidance from us, and we have suggested including a Translation session at the next APF meeting to obtain delegates views and ideas. We have also suggested having further Translations conference calls to explore ideas further, and the creation of a Google doc, where everyone can provide their ideas on how we can use our resources for Translations.

- We are conducting a quick review of the APF Convention Guidelines (approved at last APF meeting), several communities are seeking information to host APF meeting and Convention, we need to provide them the convention guideline as well.

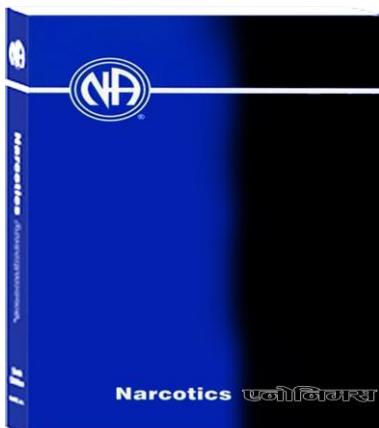
As per our 2017 Strategic Plan the responsibility for External Strategies fell on the Communication Workgroup. They have referred this back to the SP Workgroup as these strategies are not practically pursuable with their limited resources. We will continue discussion on this issue in our future SP Meetings.

*Yours in service,*

*The Strategic Planning Workgroup*

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## Translations Workgroup



### Group Basics

Total Work Group members: 10, however at all meetings we only had three attendees, sometimes less  
Total communities represented: 5  
Total numbers of Work Group meeting until now: 4

### Key Updates from Meetings

- Coordination has been established with NAWS translations on how the workgroup can function without causing redundancies of work.
- Ideas have been flowing on how to progress the workgroup after finding out that not many members have been able to join the meetings
- Coordination with strategic planning workgroup for ideas on how to move forward
- Contemplating the idea of creating tools for translations and integrating the service within the FD workgroup

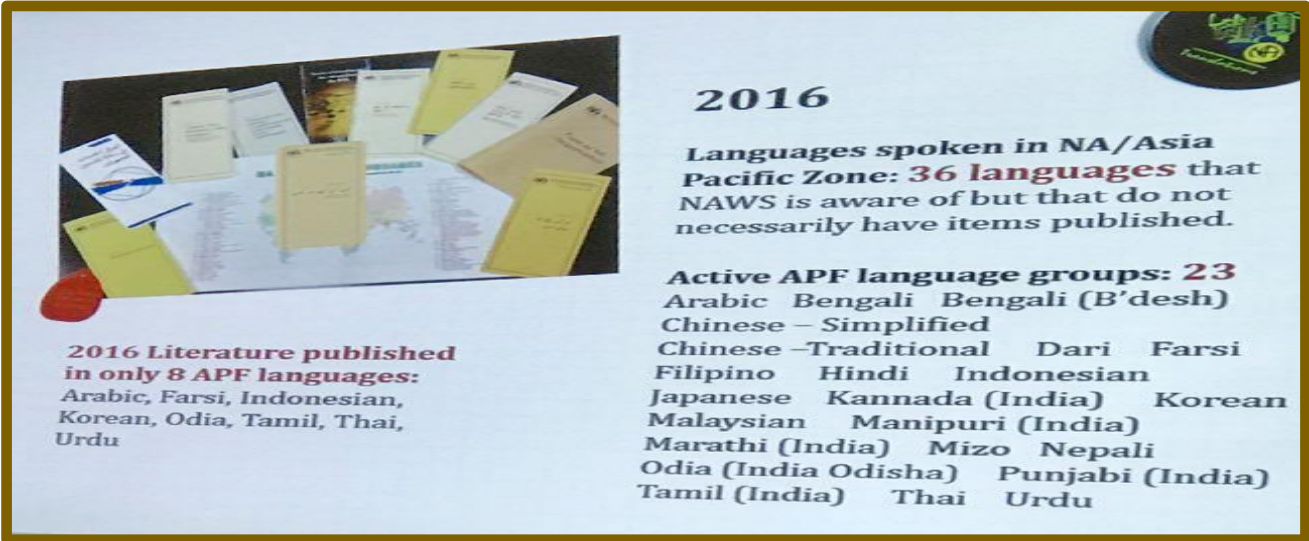
### Progress update: Work Group Responsibilities and Priority Strategies

- We will begin to set-up another meeting after creating a template for how the translation tools will work.
- We will continue to meet and invite workgroup members along with strategic planning workgroup to better enhance the tools or come up with other ways for the workgroup to function

*With gratitude*

*Hamed, Translations Coordinator*

## ??? Did You Know???



**2016 Literature published in only 8 APF languages:**  
Arabic, Farsi, Indonesian, Korean, Odia, Tamil, Thai, Urdu

**2016 Languages spoken in NA/Asia Pacific Zone: 36 languages that NAWS is aware of but that do not necessarily have items published.**

**Active APF language groups: 23**  
Arabic Bengali Bengali (B'desh)  
Chinese – Simplified  
Chinese – Traditional Dari Farsi  
Filipino Hindi Indonesian  
Japanese Kannada (India) Korean  
Malaysian Manipuri (India)  
Marathi (India) Mizo Nepali  
Odia (India Odisha) Punjabi (India)  
Tamil (India) Thai Urdu

Did you know there are over 50 languages spoken in the 30 APF Communities? For example, in India, there are 22 major languages, written in 13 different scripts, with over 720 dialects. Of the APF languages, NAWS has translated 16.

My first exposure to translations meetings was watching the WSO staff and World Board member meeting with communities at the “breaks” at the 2000 APF meeting. That was when I learned how hard our World Board and WSO staff work.

The process of translating is very arduous. Early attempts at translating were thwarted by professional translators’ inability to grasp the nature of Addicts and our unique way of Recovery in NA. It soon became apparent that for translations to work, there needed to be a local NA community leading the process.

I was fortunate to sit in on a translations committee meeting in Manila, 2006 while I was there attending a PR presentation and other Service events. The meeting was scheduled to go for 90 minutes. We were there for 3 and a half hours. Now I don’t speak Tagalog and figured I’d be there to offer support, however, the committee involved me by getting me to offer alternate English words/phrases to assist in the process. (Do you know how hard it is to translate “Politics makes strange bedfellows”?) The translations group got some great work done, and as with most Service experiences, we had a great time. Lots of laughing and fellowship. A few minor disagreements ... I know, in NA Service that’s hard to believe. □)

Our global fellowship will always be in need of translations. If you are reading this and are bilingual and would like to assist in the process, join the translations committee in your community or if you live away from your community, contact the APF Admin Committee who will hook you up with the appropriate Service body.

YIS,

*Tim S ~ Narcotics Anonymous*

## Clean Dates ~ November to February



### November

07 November 1992	Linda O	Hawai' i ~ RD
11 November 1987	Kimberly Y	USA

### December

02 December 2007	David R	China
12 December 1997	Benedict R	India
13 December 2015	Nikki	Hong Kong
16 December 2011	Carrie L	Hong Kong
17 December 1968	Tom Mc	Hawai' i
18 December 1975	Larry R	Hawai' i
26 December 2011	Sanjeev	India

### January

04 January 2004	Amitabh S	India
06 January 1998	Rajinder P	India
07 January 2004	Sumeet D	Nepal
13 January 1999	Mahmoud Ch	Iran
22 January 1993	Roger S	Aotearoa NZ

### February

08 February 2001	Rocky	NERF
13 February 2008	R.K. Gunikanta (Guni)	NERF (North East India)
17 February 2000	Sam B - "Serenity Sam"	USA

If you wish to share your MileStone in our newsletter, email: [newsletter@apfna.org](mailto:newsletter@apfna.org)





**~ Don't forget to Mark the Dates for our  
Conference & Convention 2018 ~**

**11th NATR CONVENTION BANGKOK 2018**  
2 - 4 March 2018, Rembrandt Hotel Bangkok, Thailand