

WCNA 38 Frequently Asked Questions 8 August 2024 Edition

(This will be updated whenever information changes)

- ◆ **WHEN DOES THE CONVENTION START?** Registration opens Tuesday 27 August and pre-convention activities begin the following day, Wednesday 28 August. The convention officially begins Thursday morning, 29 August, and ends at about 2:00 pm on Sunday 1 September 2024. The Unity Day meeting on Sunday is something we hope you can experience. Pre-convention activities include Wednesday evening speaker meetings and sightseeing tours to purchase Wednesday afternoon. Limited tickets may still be available to a Washington Nationals baseball game Wednesday evening. Marathon meetings will be held throughout the convention weekend.
- ◆ **WHERE IS THE CONVENTION TAKING PLACE?** At the Walter E. Washington Convention Center – 01 Allen Y Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001, 202-249-3000.
- ◆ **WHAT IS THE MAIN HOTEL?** There will be many hotels for people to choose from, and we are adding hotels as they become available. Updated information can be seen at wcna.na.org
- ◆ **TOTAL EXPECTED ATTENDANCE:** 24,000 +
- ◆ **TIME ZONE:** Washington DC will be on US Eastern Daylight Savings time.
- ◆ **FLYERS**—Printable pdf flyers with convention registration information are available online at wcna.na.org.
- ◆ **WCNA 38 UPDATES:** All primary registrants will get all updates. Others can sign up for any email list at www.na.org/subscribe to receive NAWS Update emails, which include WCNA updates. Additionally, updates will be posted on the website. wcna.na.org.

HOURS OF OPERATOIN

Merchandise

Convention Center – Level 1, Salon ABC
Thursday (pre-registrants only) 10:00 am–6:00 pm
Friday (open to all) 10:00 am–6:00 pm
Saturday (open to all) 10:00 am–5:30 pm

NAWS Onsite—historical displays and selected literature sales

Convention Center – Level 1 Salon GHI
Thursday–Saturday 10:00 am–6:00 pm

Convention Information Booth

Convention Center Grand Lobby, to the left as you walk in from Mount Vernon Street
Thursday–Saturday 9:00 am–6:30 pm & 9:00 pm–11:00 pm

Registration

Convention Center Hall D, via the north entrance on L Street
Tuesday 2:00 pm–8:00 pm
Wednesday 10:00 am–8:00 pm
Thursday 9:30 am–6:00 pm & 9:00 pm–11:00 pm
Friday 9:30 am–6:00 pm & 9:00 pm–11:00 pm
Saturday 9:30 am–6:00 pm & 9:00 pm –11:00 pm

Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St NW—NO CASH at this location
Tuesday 2:00 pm–8:00 pm
Wednesday 10:00 am–8:00 pm
Thursday 9:30 am–6:00 pm
Friday 9:30 am–6:00 pm

Pre-Registration Merchandise

Convention Center Hall D
Same hours as registration

Newcomer Registration

Convention Center Hall D, via the north entrance on L Street
Wednesday 11:00 am–1:00 pm, 4:00 pm–6:00 pm
Thursday & Friday 11:00 am–12:30 pm, 3:30 pm–5:00 pm,
9:00 pm–10:30 pm
Saturday 11:00 am–12:30 pm, 3:30 pm–5:00 pm

Jewelry Room

Convention Center, 204AB level 2
Thursday–Saturday, 9:30 am–6:00 pm & 9:00 pm–11:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

Alternative Merchandise

Sunday 8:00 am–10:00 am

WCNA 38 Speaker CDs and MP3s

Convention Center Room 204C level 2
Thursday–Saturday, 9:30 am–6:00 pm & 9:00 pm–11:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

VOLUNTEERING TO BE OF SERVICE

- ◆ If you would like to be of service at WCNA 38 there are many opportunities available! Check volunteer.na.org. You must be registered to serve, but you do not need to be registered yet to sign up: you can sign up to volunteer if you have not yet registered and plan to do so onsite or if you are registered as someone else's guest. Make sure you have time to pick up your badge before you arrive for your volunteer shift. If you've signed up for the first shift of the day in registration, please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early to pick up your registration. There will be many opportunities to be of service once you're onsite, as well. Check with the Convention Information desk anytime during the convention.

PROGRAM DETAILS

The full program for WCNA 38 is still under construction! Watch wcna.na.org and your inbox for announcements.

- ◆ **PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES** begin Wednesday evening and include speaker meetings in the evening. A limited number of tickets to a major league ballgame on Wednesday

may still be available. Sightseeing tours are available at <https://usaguidedtours.com/dc/wcna/#> and we can vouch – they’re really good! Even if you’ve been to DC before, there’s still more to learn and see. The access to sites and the tour guides are excellent.

- ◆ **MARATHON MEETINGS** are closed meetings, open only to addicts or those who think they may be addicts. BUT they are open to any addict, whether or not they are registered for the convention. Marathons will be held in the Independence Ballroom ABC at the Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Ave, NW beginning 10 pm Wednesday, and in the Farragut Room at the Grand Hyatt, 1000 H St NW, beginning 9 am Thursday. and ending 10 am Sunday. You can volunteer to chair a marathon meeting at the Program Desk next to the Convention Information Booth in the Grand Lobby of the Convention Center.
- ◆ **LOCAL MEETINGS:** Washington, DC has a thriving local NA community as well, and we encourage you to check out nearby meetings: <https://www.cprna.org/na-meetings/>.
- ◆ **WORKSHOPS** in the Walter E. Washington Convention Center will begin at 10 am each morning.
- ◆ **MAIN SPEAKER MEETING:** There will be a main speaker meeting each evening Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Main meetings will be livestreamed. Information on livestreamed meetings and translations will be available at wcna.na.org/stream
- ◆ **BANQUET:** WCNA 38 will not have a banquet.
- ◆ **EVENTS:** Information on ticketed events including the jazz brunch, blues lunch, comedy show, and baseball game is posted at wcna.na.org/entertainment. Coffee houses and dances each night (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) are free with your registration.
- ◆ **TRANSLATIONS:** All main meetings have interpretation available in Portuguese, Spanish and ASL. Translations equipment will be available for other language groups upon request. If you need translation services, please let us know as soon as possible: wcna@na.org.
- ◆ **UNITY DAY CELEBRATION** will take place on Sunday 1 September at 11:30 am EDT, during the closing meeting of WCNA 38. Flyers are posted here: wcna.na.org/stream . All of the main meetings at WCNA will be audio-streamed from the links on this page wcna.na.org/stream . Links to join the Unity Day meeting via video connection are also available to correctional facilities and institutions worldwide. For more information contact bob@na.org. If you are planning a local Unity Day event, please let us know by emailing keri@na.org and wb@na.org.

If you have Unity Day event flyers to share, send them our way: socialmedia@na.org

MERCHANDISE:

- ◆ **MERCHANDISE STORE:** There will be a complete line of WCNA 38 merchandise, including mugs and t-shirts, available at the convention. Early access to the merchandise

store begins Thursday ONLY for those who have pre-registered. On Friday, the merchandise store will open for everyone.

Located in Convention Center – Salon ABC

Hours

- **Thursday (pre-registrants only) 10:00 am–6:00 pm**
- **Friday (open to all) 10:00 am–6:00 pm**
- **Saturday (open to all) 10:00 am–5:30 pm**

- ◆ **Alternative Merchandise:** In addition to the amazing WCNA merchandise, NA memorabilia from all over the world is available in Alternative Merchandise Sunday 1 September 8-10 am. Beautiful, unusual, and neat items support NA service efforts in local communities.

ONLY NA service bodies can sell Alternative Merchandise. If your service body (group, area, region, zone, convention committee, etc.) is interested in a table at the alternative merchandise store, please email shirley@na.org as soon as you can for information.

- ◆ **PRE-REGISTRATION MERCHANDISE:** Pre-registration merchandise orders closed at the end of April. Pre-registration merchandise will ONLY be available for pick up at WCNA 38 in Hall D at the convention center. If you are unable to attend, arrangements must be made for someone to pick up your registration and merchandise onsite. We will not mail pre-registration merchandise. **NO refunds, cancellations or exchanges can be made on pre-registration merchandise.**
- ◆ **Pre-Registration Merchandise Pickup:** Make sure the ticket for your pre-registration merchandise is in your registration envelope when you pick that up. The pre-registration merchandise area will be near Registration in the Convention Center Hall D. Look for the signs!

NAWS ONSITE

Where Can I Purchase Literature? At NAWS Onsite you can pick up select literature and specialty products. We do not ship our entire inventory to WCNA, but we try to have newer items that our members may have not seen.

Among the items for sale will be:

- **The NA Survival Kit**, which includes text of the Steps from the Basic Text, *It Works: How and Why*, and the *Step Working Guides* in a slip-cased set of five books. Don't miss the exclusive WCNA edition with a unique slipcase for *The Power of Love*!
- **The Little White Book Special Edition:** Commemorating the 60th anniversary of the original publication, this special edition contains the entire English Little White Book plus stories translated into English from 13 other languages—85 stories in all.

- **New boxed editions** of A Spiritual Principle a Day and the special edition White Book.
- Newly published versions of the Spanish *SPAD* and the Japanese *Sponsorship* book.

Fellowship Displays: NAWS Onsite also includes unique artwork and displays filled with historical items and memorabilia from NA communities all over the world.

Location and Hours: Convention Center – Level 1 Salon GHI

Thursday–Saturday: 10:00 am–6:00 pm

HOTEL INFORMATION

- ◆ **HOW TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS** Do not call hotels directly Use [the links on the webpage](#) to receive convention discount pricing and WCNA room availability.
- ◆ If you have made hotel reservations through our site and need help with them or have registered and need help making a hotel reservation, contact Conference Direct M–F, 9am–8pm Eastern Time. +1/844.460.9824 US | +1/704.419.8426 international wcna@conferencedirect.com
- ◆ Because there is so much to see and do in DC, our hotels have agreed to accept our convention rates for three days before and after the event.
- ◆ **Hotels will have record of your reservation after 9 August**
 - We subcontract with an organization to manage all the reservations for all the hotels in our room block. The reservations are in their database, and the hotels may not have that information until the last minute.
 - Please do not call your hotel “to be sure” (or to confirm your reservation) until after 9 August 2024. Please understand that processing your reservations from the Housing Bureau into the Hotel system will take time. Rest assured that if you received a confirmation number from the Housing Bureau, the hotel will honor your booking.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- ◆ **About your WCNA registration:** Pre-registration for WCNA 38 was \$175 US. Registration onsite will be \$185. We know it’s more than other conventions. WCNA costs a lot to produce—and more this year than ever before. We expect this to be the largest convention we’ve ever held, and the facilities required to hold us—the security required for a large event in a capital city— translations, ADA accommodations, equipment and labor—the technology to make the meetings visible and available in the convention center and around the world—the costs will exceed revenue from registration. We count on merchandise sales to make up the remainder, and meeting our hotel room blocks helps defray some facilities expenses. The WCNA workgroup and more than 2,500 volunteers make this event possible. Each of us demonstrates the Power of Love in our actions and goodwill as we bring an event this big and complex into reality.

- ◆ **WCNA 38 IS A REGISTRATION-REQUIRED EVENT.** That means everyone must be wearing a badge to enter any part of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center with the exception of the L Street north entrance to Hall D to pick up your registration. Your WCNA registration badge also admits you to the coffee house events and dances. All other events require an additional ticket to attend.
- ◆ **ONSITE REGISTRATION AND REGISTRATION PICKUP** will be held at the convention center in Hall D and at the nearby Grand Hyatt Hotel. You'll be able to access registration at the Convention Center on Tuesday and Wednesday using the North entrance on L Street. Look for signs outside! This is the entrance you will need to use to pick up your registration. The Mount Vernon entrance to WEWCC will not open until 8:30 am Thursday morning, and you will need a badge to use that door.

The hours at the convention center are

Tuesday, 27 Aug, 2-8p
 Wednesday, 28 Aug, 10a-8p
 Thursday, 29 Aug, 9:30a-6p & 9-11p
 Friday, 30 Aug, 9:30a-6p & 9-11p
 Saturday, 31 Aug, 9:30a-6p & 9-11p

At the Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St NW—NO CASH at this location

Tuesday, 27 Aug, 2-8p
 Wednesday, 28 Aug, 10a-8p
 Thursday, 29 Aug, 9:30a-6p
 Friday, 30 Aug, 9:30a-6p

- ◆ **ARE THERE REGISTRATIONS AVAILABLE FOR NEWCOMERS?** We have been in contact with numerous local treatment centers and recovery houses and have committed well over 1,000 newcomer badges to ensure that local addicts in treatment can attend. In addition, a limited number of newcomer badges will be available onsite for those in their first 30 days of recovery. Newcomer registration is currently scheduled for the following days and times in Hall D of the convention center. **Please recheck the schedule when you are on-site as these days and times may change:**

- **Wednesday** 11am–1pm, 4–6pm
- **Thursday & Friday** 11am–12:30pm, 3:30–5pm, 9–10:30pm
- **Saturday** 11am–12:30pm, 3:30–5pm

Newcomer registrations depend largely on contributions from other members. If you're able to contribute to newcomer registrations, you can do so when you register or pick up your registration.

- ◆ **WHY IS REGISTRATION REQUIRED?** For many years, WCNA has been registration-required because of the expense and planning necessary to create an event this large. But the security requirements in Washington, DC add another dimension. The Convention Center requires that everyone be badged to have access to their facility. Children 13 and under may receive a badge at no cost from registration; Nar-Anon

member badges will be recognized by security; but without a badge from NA or Nar-Anon, no one, for any reason, will be admitted to the building.

REGISTRATION TIME DETERMINES SEATING The Walter Washington Convention Center can hold us, but the main meeting room is long and narrow. There will be screens, so everyone can see from everywhere in the room. In an effort to make the crowded main events safe and manageable, entry into the main meeting hall will be determined by the letter on the back of your badge (A, B, or C) which is determined by when you register. The earlier you registered, the earlier your entry into the hall will be.

Similarly, for the ticketed Special Events: the earlier you register, the better your seats will be.

- ◆ **WHAT DOES REGISTRATION PAY FOR?** Registration pays for expenses, including the convention center, audio/visual services, security, labor, and event coordination services. While the cost to register for a World Convention may seem high, registration fees alone don't even cover the total costs. The difference is made up through revenue from merchandise sales and ticketed events.

We are often asked why registration for WCNA costs more than most area and regional conventions. One of the key differences is that WCNA requires the use of a major convention center and several hotels, while most area and regional events are held in a single hotel or hall. The costs at these facilities for set-up, service, and equipment; and the size and scope of our audiovisual, translations, and accessibility services are unlike even the largest local events.

- ◆ **SHOULD A GUEST REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION?** Access to the convention center requires a badge. There will be no special accommodations for non-member guests. We will offer complimentary kids' badges for the children of registered members who are 13 and under. All others must register to enter the convention center and everyone (including children) must have a ticket in order to attend paid events. Events included in the price of registration, including workshops, dances, and coffeehouses are only open to convention registrants.
- ◆ **Nar-Anon** is in the convention center at the same time as we are and has a separate registration at the Courtyard Marriott. The Nar-Anon registration provides access to the building and to meetings, but our registration badge is required for access to any WCNA 38 events or activities. If a Nar-Anon member has a ticket, they can attend an event with an NA member.
- ◆ **REGISTRATION METHODS:** Online registration was through Friday 9 August. Beginning Tuesday before the convention, there will be two on-site locations for registration and registration pick up: at the Grand Hyatt (**credit card only, no cash**) and in Hall D of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, where cash and credit cards are accepted. We cannot accept checks, money orders, or travelers checks.
- ◆ **REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION:** Online confirmations are sent immediately
- ◆ **COST**
 - **Pre-Registration** \$175.00 until **31 July 2024**.
 - **General Registration** \$185.00 (starting 1 August)

- Event tickets, if they are not sold out, will be available onsite.
- ◆ **REFUNDS, EXCHANGES, CANCELLATIONS**
 - **NO refunds, cancellations or exchanges can be made on pre-registration merchandise after 30 April 2024.**
 - **NO refunds or cancellations can be made on registrations or events after 1 June 2024.**

◆ **ONSITE REGISTRATION PICKUP**

A QR code or confirmation number is required to pick up your registration package. The QR code will be in your confirmation email. Check-in kiosks will be available at Onsite Registration to begin the check-in process. Both electronic and printed confirmation QR codes will be accepted.

Registration Packages will NOT be split up. It is very important to remember that we do NOT split registration packages. One person must pick up the entire registration package, including all guest registrations, merchandise, and special event tickets. The person who purchases the registration is the only one who will get an email confirmation. If you are purchasing registrations for other people, they will not receive any communication about the registration package. Be aware: If you forward your confirmation email to anyone, this will give them access to change or add to your pre-registration, and to pick up your entire registration package and pre-registration merchandise.

EVENTS

- ◆ **ENTERTAINMENT** information is posted on our website wcna.na.org/entertainment. Coffeehouses, dances, and the Saturday night go-go concert are included in the price of registration. Ticketed events such as the Wednesday night baseball game, blues brunch, jazz brunch, and comedy show will be available for purchase on-site while they last.
- ◆ Members must have a registration badge to attend any ticketed event (except the baseball game).
- ◆ **EVENT SEATING** All special event tickets you purchase online will have pre-assigned seating based on the date of your registration (not the date you purchase the tickets). If you want to sit with friends, you will need to either purchase a table for the meal events or have one member of your party purchase all of the event tickets together. Otherwise, you will be seated with friends you haven't met yet!
- ◆ Times and Locations:

Coffeehouses – free with registration

Thursday
Curtis Salgado
Convention Center Exhibit Hall E 10 pm (doors open 9:30)

Friday
Back to Black

Convention Center 146 ABC 10 pm (doors open 9:30)

Saturday

Classic Rock Experience

Convention Center Ballroom ABC 10 pm (doors open 9:30)

Concert– free with registration

Saturday

GoGo Concert – Proper Utensils

Convention Center Exhibit Hall E 10 pm (doors open 9:30)

DJ Dances– free with registration

Thursday and Friday

DJs Raptor, Pumpin’ Archie and Sylent

Convention Center Ballroom ABC 10 pm (doors open 9:30)

Baseball Game– \$50

Wednesday 6:45

Nationals Park 1500 South Capitol St SE, Washington, DC 20003

Comedy Show – Earthquake--\$55

Friday

Convention Center Exhibit Hall E 10 pm (doors open 9:30)

EVENT TICKET REQUIRED/ASSIGNED SEATING

Blues Brunch – Samantha Fish--\$90

Thursday

Convention Center Exhibit Hall E

Doors open: 10 am, Food served at 10:15 am - 11:15 am only/no exceptions. Music begins at 11:30 am

EVENT TICKET REQUIRED/ASSIGNED SEATING

Jazz Brunch – Kim and Kayla Waters--\$90

Friday

Convention Center Exhibit Hall E

Doors open: 10 am, Food served at 10:15 am - 11:15 am only/no exceptions. Music begins at 11:30 am

EVENT TICKET REQUIRED/ASSIGNED SEATING

TRAVEL INFORMATION

- ◆ For information on traveling to and within DC see the links at wcna.na.org

ACCESSIBILITY AND FIRST AID

- ◆ Limited ADA shuttle service will be available between the Convention Center and some hotels.
- ◆ **Mobility Equipment Rental**
If you have reserved a mobility device from Scootaround Personal Transportation Solutions and have questions, please contact them at 1-888-441-7575.
- ◆ **Walter E. Washington Convention Center First Aid Services**
Onsite Medical Services will be available at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center to provide immediate medical services throughout WCNA 38.

KIDS

- ◆ **CHILDCARE:** NAWS does not provide childcare services.
- ◆ **REGISTRATION:** We will offer complimentary kids' badges for the children aged 13 and under of registered members.
- ◆ Anyone over the age of 13 must have a registration badge to gain access to the convention center, and anyone, regardless of age, who occupies a seat in a special event, must have a ticket to enter.
- ◆ Each parent **needs** to determine for themselves whether they consider the events to be child-friendly.