



## WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE FELLOWSHIP REPORT

September, 1985

To:           The Fellowship  
From:       George H., Chairperson WSC

The first quarterly meeting in Kansas City was a great success. Overall, the Committees accomplished a good deal of work which will be detailed further in this report, by the individual committees. We wish to thank the Fellowship in Kansas City, Missouri, the entire Show-Me Region and surrounding regions for their hospitality and support during our stay.

During the month of July, I had occasion to visit the N.A. communities in Montreal, Canada, and London, England. These visits provided the opportunity for personal contact and positive reinforcement of our commitment to the growing international N.A. Fellowship. Reciprocal responsibilities were the main items of discussion with trusted servants, along with the concerns of how to better carry the message to the addict who still suffers. Some of the issues which confront our members outside the U.S. are very basic in nature: Language and translation, the attitude of the society regarding the disease of addiction, non-existent treatment facilities for addicts who need hospitalization, and currency exchange and shipping problems. The WSO and WSC International Committee are working hard to bring about solutions to these problems through their cooperative efforts. Even with the problems which sometimes restrict their efforts, meetings are growing and the message is being carried in those communities, through the dedication of their members. Our love and prayers go with them.

The Select Committee will meet very soon to continue the work assigned to it by the World Service Conference. All input concerning this committee and the work in progress, A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous, should have reached the WSO by the time you read this. This input will serve to guide the committee in obtaining the best possible source of experience, to aid trusted servants in continuing and maintaining a responsible service structure to fit our needs, now, and in the future.

The second meeting of the Conference will be held in Philadelphia, PA., October 18, 19 and 20, 1985. An announcement detailing the location, times, agenda, and lodging arrangements will reach you through a separate mailing. All coordination of arrangements for the hotel will be made once again through the WSO.

The annual meeting of the WSC has also been tentatively scheduled during the week of April 28 - May 3, 1986. With the choice of these dates for the WSC '86, the following schedule has been developed for items for Conference consideration: December 28, 1985—all items for consideration by WSC '86 should be received by the Administrative Committee at the WSO.

January 27, 1986—all items for consideration at WSC '86, will be distributed to the Fellowship for review. Keep these dates in mind as we approach our work at hand, so we may all be apprised of the parameters we have to work within.

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship  
From: Leah G., Vice Chairperson WSC

The last few months have been very productive, to say the least. There has been a lot of work completed by various committees in great measure due to our quarterly meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, in July.

Although the Kansas City meeting was our first experience with this approach to Conference work, I feel that it was very positive. There was good communication between committee chairpersons as well as good coordination within the committees. We're learning how to share the work among ourselves to have a thorough job done before putting it out to the Fellowship. We've learned that each committee, when working and communicating with each other, creates a much more efficient way to serve the Fellowship. This is helping the committees to move along better than ever without the unnecessary overlaps in effort that we have experienced in prior years.

The experience we've gained from this first meeting in Oansas City has pointed to some minor changes that will be reflected in the structure of our next meeting in Philadelphia. That meeting will be October 18, 19 and 20, 1985. All participants of WSC will receive packets with further information regarding the hotel and agenda. All in all, we feel that our first quarterly meeting went well and we are looking forward to meeting again in Philadelphia.

During the month of August I attended both the Board of Trustees meeting and the WSO Board of Directors meeting. One issue that needs addressing is the inadequacy of our cash flow. Our Seventh Tradition states we must be fully self-supporting through our own contributions. There seems to be a problem with the money filtering though our service structure. Our committees have been directed to do an enormous amount of work and that takes support from the Fellowship. If we do not receive the financial support, then how can our committees get their work done? We become too dependent on fund raisers—once again the instant gratification rather than the steady flow of cash from our groups on through the service structure. More care and attention should be made by the individual members through the Seventh Tradition to assure that our Fellowship is financially solvent and continues to grow. This can only be accomplished when we conscientiously adhere to our Twelve Traditions. It is imperative that every trusted servant understand what the WSC does for the Fellowship and why it needs to be supported financially by the Fellowship. Trusted servants must also be responsible to pass this information on to the groups they serve.

Being of service to the Fellowship has been a good teacher to me personally and the more I serve the more I learn. Recently, there has been a situation that has been brought to our attention about resolving conflict within our Fellowship. This problem may be one that the Fellowship will always face. Resolving conflicts on a board or committee can be a very tedious effort and sometimes futile if one or more members are functioning primarily on the basis of ego gratification. On boards or committees we seem always to find one person with this motivation and they often tend to be the most dominant or outspoken members. That's fine until someone else with an equally demanding ego comes along and wants to move in a different direction. When that circumstance arrives, people look for allies and want the others to take sides. The people on the sidelines become the innocent victims of the dissension and begin to ask "Is this N.A.? Is that how we are supposed to act? No thanks! I don't want to be in service!" Some people react on rumors and become disruptive while others take things out of context and think they know what they're talking about.

There is a solution to all of this negativity and it's the same solution that has always been. The answer is in the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous. We can find that if we have a foundation in these steps and we each practice these principles in all our affairs, then and only then can we begin to apply the other principles contained in the Twelve Traditions. For too long there has been in a lot of places a message of recovery through service. If we convey a message of recovery through the steps, then we can carry a message more efficiently through service. If we begin with personal service and learn to interact with our members on a personal level, we can begin to better understand the level

put aside our personal differences and work for the common good. If we're acting on pride and ego and our need to be right the only thing left is dissension and controversy—that equals disease.

Our Basic Text says "true spiritual principles are never in conflict" (p. 59). This tells me that if there is conflict, controversy and dissension, there is no spirituality. Each one of us has a responsibility to examine our motives, our behavior and our conscience. I have found that it's necessary to put aside my personal needs and wants and look at what's better for the Fellowship as a whole. All I can do is state my ideas, goals, feelings and then leave the results up to that Higher Power that is in our group conscience of whatever group that's there at the time. The truth will always ring clear if I get out of the way and let things be. My hope is that every addict be granted this gift of Narcotics Anonymous. We know that it can happen only as a result of our continued and unified efforts. Our obligation as trusted servants is to help make this a reality through individual and group efforts.

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship  
From: Jack B.  
Chairperson, WSB  
Subject: Activities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has been particularly busy during the months since the World Service Conference. Immediately after the Conference the Board held a meeting at which assignments were made to each member for routine duties and for special projects. Each Trustee was assigned to one or more Committees of the Conference and most were assigned to separate committees of the Board.

The Board Committees have worked in special areas of concern to the Fellowship. Those committees are: Revision of the White book, Use of the N.A. Logo, Nar-Anon, travel and lodging, Tee Shirts. Each committee has held one or more meetings and progress is being made in each area.

The Board held a brief meeting at the Conference Workshop in Kansas City at which time progress reports were made and new problems discussed. The Board held a regularly scheduled two day meeting at the WSO in August. At the regular meeting additional progress reports were made and in-depth discussions were held concerning specific issues each of the Board Committees are working on. A lot of time was devoted to the review of letters written to the Board concerning issues which were or might have been violations of Traditions.

Considerable use has been made of the personal time of individual Board members to attend conventions, workshops, meetings and activities at the request of regions, areas and the World Service Conference. In most of these instances the Trustee was used as a resource for the resolution of major problems facing a segment of the Fellowship. These efforts, along with the regular meeting and the Conference workshop, have required considerable travel by the Trustees. Without exception, the Trustees believe these efforts have been valuable to the Fellowship and certainly worth the expense involved.

Two important events during this period were the attendance by a member of the Board, at the invitation of Alcoholics Anonymous, at their 50th year Convention in Montreal. The Trustee was invited to participate in a panel discussion concerning addicts in their Fellowship. The other important event has been the visit by a member of the Board to the N.A. communities in England and Ireland. One Board member who was being sent to London as part of his employment was prevailed on by the Trustees to spend additional time there to be an in-person resource to the segments of the Fellowship there.

Future plans for the Trustees include continued response to Fellowship communications, specific problems, participation in Conference committees and attendance at regional and area

events when necessary. Reports from Board Committees will be made to the Fellowship when work on these projects is completed.

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship

From: Mary B., Chairperson WSC International Committee

Exciting response has been flowing in from our letters to the Fellowship outside of the continental United States. Iceland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Canada and England have all sent information on the development of N.A. in other countries. Additionally we have added new committee members from these countries. In order to more clearly report the development of N.A. in these and other countries, the International Committee developed a questionnaire which will be sent out to all of the contacts we have on our mailing list.

Many of you may be aware that the Second European Conference was held in London, England in July of this year the same weekend as the WSC meeting in Kansas City. Being that I have not learned to be in two places at one time, George H. and myself spent a week with the London fellowship just prior to the ESC II. There was no time for play and I can't say I've seen much of London but I am pleased to report on a STRONG fellowship with GREAT RECOVERY. We attended meetings of all but one of the service committees of the London Region and were right at home in recovery meetings. I felt the fear of being alone in a strange country only until I went to my first meeting. A detailed report on our experience will appear in an upcoming issue of the Newsline.

In the Kansas City meetings we had a lot of discussion on the importance of good communications with outlying N.A. communities. We developed a procedure for the WSO to use when letters are received. The International Committee will be responding to all communication received from outside the continental United States.

We are still in need of people who read and write languages other than English. Please, if you have the skills and want to be of service, send your name and address to the International Committee c/o World Service Office. The review of translated materials is an important task in order to protect the spirit and integrity of the N.A. message of recovery.

A plan to develop an International section in the Newsline is in the works. We are not certain how this will be accomplished but we need experience, strength, and hope to share. The following letter is to be shared with all members of the Fellowship in the interest of carrying the message the N.A. way.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Friends,

The purpose of the International Committee is to serve the International Fellowship by actively seeking and encouraging the growth and unity of N.A. outside the continental U.S.

We are asking your help in this effort so we can utilize the wealth of resources in the Fellowship. As in any kind of Twelfth Step work it is helpful to have a unified message to carry. By channeling our efforts through an International Committee, we hope to do just that. In order to assist the Fellowship, we need to know the problems and needs to best be of service.

Some of the needs that have been clearly identified are: overcoming language barriers, cost and availability of literature, the usual difficulties of starting meetings in isolated areas, and being a loner in recovery.

We are very interested in getting the N.A. communities in the U.S. and abroad involved together. Therefore, we are asking for input from the Fellowship outside the continental U.S. to write to us c/o the World Service office about your needs and specific problems.

We are asking the support of the U.S. regions, areas, and individual members in our endeavors. We are looking for bilingual members to assist us in translating correspondence.

This will include personal letters, newsletters, N.A. literature, and especially service related manuals.

Can I be of service if I don't speak a foreign language? Yes! As you are aware, most meetings outside the U.S. are going through the same growing pains as N.A. has gone through and continues to go through in America. We are soliciting letters about starting meetings in isolated areas and your group's experience with growth.

We hope you will focus on the solutions your group came up with so we can share this information with the rest of the Fellowship. We also need stories about staying clean in isolated areas where there is no N.A. How did your members start the first N.A. meeting in your area? Your group's ability to grow and prosper may save a life in Europe, Asia, Africa, South America or any place in the world that an addict is recovering or still suffering.

Narcotics Anonymous is growing by leaps and bounds. New meetings are springing up all over the world in places like Liverpool, England, Darmstadt, W. Germany, Barcelona, Spain, and Nassau in the Bahamas. We need information from these and other N.A. groups outside the continental U.S.

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO SEND US YOUR INPUT. SEND IT TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE C/O WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, P.O. BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91406.

DO IT NOW-RECOVERY CAN'T WAIT

In loving service,

Mary B., Chairperson  
WSC International Committee

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship

From: Kim J., Chairperson WSC P.L

This is with a deep sense of gratitude that I make this report to the Fellowship on the progress of our work in Public Information. Above all, I am grateful to this loving God who so gently and compassionately guides us (when we are open to that guidance). The trust and love is growing within our Fellowship as each of us practices the principles of our program. I am privileged to experience that growth as I come in contact with trusted servants from all over this country and from around the world. There are problems and differences, but I have observed over and over again the resolution of those problems and differences through cooperation, open-mindedness and tolerance. That's progress! And for that I am grateful.

WSC P.L Workshop, Kansas City, July 19-21, 1985—The workshop in Kansas City July 19-21 was very productive. Eight voting members plus the Chairperson were present.

PSA (Public Service Announcement) Kits—Material has been drafted and sent to the Board of Trustees for review. These materials to be sent out with the video PSA's include a cautionary statement and questions to help with assessing our degree of "readiness" in using the PSA's; a brief history of N.A.; anonymity statement; cover letter to public service directors; scripts and storyboards. The WSC P.L Committee is committed to providing whatever is needed to assist area and regions in the use of the PSA's. We are confident that our Fellowship will take the time to evaluate the situation (are we ready?) before launching a campaign that will need the support and cooperation of all our committees (area, regional, P.L, phone line, H&I). The Board of Trustees will review the materials in August. Ordering of the PSA's and materials will be handled by the World Service Office.

WCNA-15 Public Information—WCNA-15 has requested assistance from WSC P.L for handling Public Information at the World Convention in Washington, D.C. The committee agreed that we would not contact the media prior to the convention, but that we would respond to any media requests at the convention. WCNA-15 did provide a press room at the

hotel where press people came to get information. A press release/information sheet was available.

WCNA-15 invited WSC P.I. to do a presentation to the convention on Public Information. WCNA-15 asked that WSC P.I. coordinate and handle a presentation to members of the helping professions in the Washington, D.C. community. The convention P.I. committee was responsible for inviting the individuals. The presentation went very well.

Impact Study for PSA's—Although we're progressing slowly on this, we're not at a standstill. A draft of information to be gathered by phone line committees who will assist in the study was approved. As time permits, work will continue on this project during August.

Phone Line Guide—Excellent progress has been made in reorganizing the guidelines for phone services. Bob Hollander, Vice-Chairperson of WSC P.I., will continue to work with that Task Force to finalize this much needed handbook. As our P.I. efforts increase the public's awareness of N.A., it becomes increasingly vital that phone calls to our phone lines be handled in a manner that assures help for the suffering addict. A well organized phone line committee is what makes that possible. The phone line handbook, made up of input from already functioning phone lines within our Fellowship, will greatly assist in improving this area of service.

Cooperating with the Helping Professions—Members of this task force have reviewed input from the Fellowship and drafted introductory letters to doctors, educators, counselors, etc. We still have a long way to go before we have in hand materials to use in working in cooperation with professionals outside our Fellowship, but we're on the right track!

Education and Communication on P.I. within the Fellowship—An agenda for convention presentations on P.I. was reviewed and more work will be done on this during the coming months. These presentations to regional conventions and P.I. workdays will be designed to help acquaint our Fellowship with public information service work. More communication between P.I. committees and further clarification of "attraction rather than promotion" is needed. In our efforts to avoid Tradition violations, we sometimes forget that we do have a public relations policy that allows us to carry the message of recovery.

The WSC P.I. Committee will continue to attend regional conventions when invited to make presentations on P.I. These invitations will be accepted whenever possible (which means, whenever we can afford to make the trip).

P.I. Handbook—Although we didn't specifically work on sections of the P.I. Handbook in Kansas City, much of the materials mentioned in this report will eventually become part of the handbook. Input has been received from committee members and from the Fellowship and is being sent to the task force working on the handbook.

H&I and P.I. Committees Working Together—There are "grey" areas between these two committees that were discussed at the Kansas City Workshop. Representatives from the Board of Trustees, the WSC Administrative Committee, WSC H&I and WSC P.I. met to discuss cooperation in these areas. A memo to the Fellowship was prepared and has been mailed to all H&I and P.I. subcommittees and RSR's.

New WSC P.I. Voting Members—In accordance with guidelines established by this committee at the WSC in May, we have drawn five additional members from a pool of nominations submitted by RSR's. The geographical representation of this draw and the draw made in June is excellent. We look forward to the participation of these new members. They bring with them extensive experience in public information service work at the area and regional levels. There are now twenty-five voting members of the WSC P.I. Committee.

The Workings of the WSC P.I. Committees—The task force approach to tackling the massive amount of work in front of us is having limited success. Many of the WSC P.I. voting members are finding it difficult to complete assignments. Responsibilities as RSR's and RSR-Alternates in their home regions take tremendous commitment and a lot of time. We feel it is imperative that committee membership not be based on financial ability to attend workshops but that work be done through the mail. We cannot expect to meet our obligations to the Fellowship during a few short weekends throughout the year. We will continue to try new approaches to the work in order to maximize participation by committee members in all parts of the country.

P.I. materials available from the World Service Office—If you haven't taken a look at the new WSO order form and you are involved in P.I. work, you're missing out. We have radio and video public service announcements available (although the video PSA's may not be sent out until backup material is all together). The 1978 Public Information Handbook has been reprinted and we are also making available in that handbook the draft materials for your review and input. Although the distinction is made between the 1978 handbook and the draft sections, it's not as clear as it might be so remember those final sections will be revised, and we need input in order to do that. Order a copy today and be the first person on your block (or area) to send in your suggestions and to share your experience, strength and hope with your WSC P.I. Committee!

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship  
From: Vern P., Chairperson WSC Policy Committee

Greetings! This report contains material, comments and opinions developed by the committee when it met in Kansas City on July 19, 20 and 21, 1985. While reading this report you will notice number five (5) in action taken, "To produce input on A Guide to Service in N.A. for the select committee." For this reason we have included commentary only on specific items, referring much of our work directly to the select committee as input, when appropriate. The committee met from 8:00 Saturday morning until 11:00 Saturday evening. The committee reconvened at 8:00 Sunday morning and met until 11:00 a.m. We are more than pleased with the results of the efforts contributed by committee members and participants. Although only four items were on the agenda, every item on our action list for the entire year was either completed or some action taken to begin development for input during the rest of the year. The following is a treatise of that work. Comments, suggestions and dialogue from the committee are contained in parenthesis (). We feel this type of commentary is necessary for the reader to understand why and how the committee came to specific points of action or inaction in some cases. The items are listed in the order in which the committee approached them, not in the order in which they appear on the action list.

1. ACTION ITEM #2: To draft guidelines for Policy Committee. Action taken: The following draft was created by the committee for consideration:

#### Policy Committee Guidelines

##### L PURPOSE

To provide the service arms of Narcotics Anonymous with practical procedure designed to help further the primary purpose of N.A. as a whole within the general policies of N.A., as expressed by the Twelve Traditions. It provides guidance for the understanding and application of group conscience and the relationship of the trusted servant to group conscience.

##### II FUNCTION

To receive input regarding procedures used and viewed as inefficient or counter productive. Input is collected, clarified, defined and analyzed in order to give recommendations as to the effectiveness of the procedure. The Policy Committee is responsible for the development of proposed changes or modification to the service structure of Narcotics Anonymous.

##### III COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND QUORUM

A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are elected by the WSC. One member of the Board of Trustees is appointed by the Board. There shall be twelve additional voting participants. The first year, six members selected by the WSC shall serve for two years.

An additional six members will be appointed by the chairperson, selected from a pool of recommendations. No two members shall be from the same region, with the exception of the Chair and the Trustee. The pool shall be established by the Chair sending out a request for nominations in January to all registered regions. Nominees shall fulfill the same requirements as those suggested for the position of Regional Service Representatives. The following year the six appointed members shall be replaced by six members drawn by lot from the pool. Each year thereafter the members who served a two-year period shall be replaced by six members drawn by lot from the pool. The Policy Committee shall confirm that each nominee in the pool meets the requirements. A quorum shall be at least five voting members. Roberts Rules of Order (revised) most recent edition shall be used when it is not inconsistent with the rules of the World Service Conference or of this committee. (It should be noted that the purpose and function in the committee guidelines are taken from the Temporary Working Guide as adopted at the close of WSC 84-85)

2. ACTION ITEM #7: To draft guidelines for the development of new regions.  
Action taken: Input was developed and it has been referred to the Select Committee.

(There was much discussion by the Committee on this item. Because of the different needs of the Fellowship in the two different types of regions, the Committee felt we could not decide how many areas a region should have, what type of a committee system, etc. We did feel that some service structure should be in place and functioning. We did not feel that a new region should be disallowed from voting at their first Conference, provided they meet certain criteria. We feel that in meeting the criteria, the proposed region shows evidence of its sincerity to be of service to the Fellowship and its ability to meet the needs of its local N.A. community, and that their purpose is not just to get a vote at the Conference. We feel that political and personality squabbles have no business on the floor of the WSC. Criteria would aid in resolving those issues before a proposed new region approaches the WSC for recognition.)

3. ACTION ITEM #3: To draft guidelines for the approval of service oriented materials not intended for use by the public at large, but rather for use within the service boards and committees of N.A. at group, area, regional and world levels. Action taken: The Committee developed some positive guidelines which were then referred to the Select Committee.

(The committee felt strongly that materials intended for use by service committees should be approved as quickly as possible, considering the phenomenal growth of the Fellowship. Narcotics Anonymous needs these materials for guidance and direction within the Fellowship. The process we have outlined for approval of service oriented material should take a relatively short time compared to the process for recovery oriented material.)

4. ACTION ITEM #4: To gather input and draft Chapter Three of A Guide to Service in N.A. Action taken: The following outline was created for this task and the completed committee draft will be forwarded to the Select Committee.

### Chapter III Group Conscience and the Trusted Servant

#### I. Group Conscience

- A. See Tradition 4, last paragraph
- B. GC material from survey last year
- C. Temporary Working Guide

#### II. Trusted Servant

- A. Temporary Working Guide

#### III. Interface I and II

#### IV. Action Plan

- A. Referred to Bo S., Trustee to write draft
- B. Committee review for input
- C. Edit

- D. Review
- E. Review and finalize
- F. Refer to Select Committee

(The Committee felt that in the development of this chapter it would be necessary to address group conscience and trusted servant as separate issues first, then interface the two. Items listed with letters were suggested to be used as input in the first rough draft. Roman Numeral IV suggests the process to be used in writing the chapter. The draft is being referred to the Select Committee.)

5. ACTION ITEM #6: To produce input for the Select Committee on A Guide to Service in N.A. Action taken: There was little discussion on the fact that much of the work being done by this Committee will be used as input for the Select Committee. The appropriate material will be turned over to the Select Committee when it is completed.

6. ACTION ITEM #5: To review existing procedure of the WSC. Action Taken: In the initial stage of the review, the committee became aware that vernacular used in the WSC Procedures section of the Temporary Working Guide is outdated. It refers to regional "delegates" rather than "service representatives." It is evident the procedure was written when the Fellowship was young in recovery, but eager to serve. The procedure states that it is inappropriate for a Trustee member who also chairs a committee to vote in both capacities. Trustee member Bo S. reported to the committee that in the early days of the WSC it was sometimes necessary for Trustees to wear more than one hat because of the lack of clean time in the Fellowship. Happily for everyone that is not the case today, but it should be stated in a manner that is congruent with the procedure we are using; no voting participant may hold more than one voting position. In the ensuing review, the inadequacies of the procedure became even more obvious. In the course of discussion, the committee saw two ways in which the Fellowship may resolve the problem; 1) make line by line deletions, changes and insertions, requiring much time and many, many motions on the floor of the WSC or, 2) rewrite the procedures section in its entirety. The Committee is of the opinion that #2 is the most desirable, and will present the following motion at WSC 85-86:

Motion: That the procedures of the World Service Conference be rewritten.

The question was also presented of the WSC changing the voting procedure at the last Conference during the middle of a vote. The committee felt that this should not occur and urges the WSC to guard against this practice. It is the opinion of the Policy Committee chairperson that the rewriting of the procedure would alleviate this problem in the future.

7. ACTION ITEM #8: To review current WSC voting procedure in which, when a 2/3 majority is needed, abstentions count as "no" votes. Action Taken: The following summary of committee consensus has been referred to the Select Committee. It became very clear during the discussion on this issue of the true meaning of Tradition Two, and how that tradition is applied to this problem. The tradition states in part, "... a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience." God, in our opinion, expresses Himself most clearly when an overwhelming majority is in agreement. In this case, 2/3 must be in agreement, to express a clear group conscience. We can only guess why a voting participant would abstain from voting in the conscience of the Conference. The point we wish to bring out is this: If any less than 2/3 are in agreement, God is speaking as clearly and strongly as possible, we are simply not listening. Therefore out of a need to listen for an answer from God, we MUST listen to abstentions as part of the whole answer, and truly seek God's will for the Fellowship and the addict who still suffers. The opinion of the Committee is this: An abstention is not a no vote; neither is it a yes vote; it is an abstention. When a vote requires 2/3 to be in agreement, and there isn't 2/3 in agreement, it means just that, regardless of yeas, nays and abstentions. As our traditions state, "...spiritual principles are NEVER in conflict." On a personal note, I went to the Conference with the notion that the voting procedure should be changed, instead, I changed my attitude as more was revealed to me of the spiritual principles that guide this program.

8. ACTION ITEMS #1: To draft a set of rules of order to be used at the World Service Conference. Action taken: (Referred to Greg P., RSR, Georgia Region, for initial development so that input may be received at the next committee meeting).

This has been a summation of material, comments and opinions developed by the Policy Committee at Kansas City. Material referred to the Select Committee will be available for input upon completion of the work by that committee. All other items are open to input to the Policy Committee.

As the Policy Committee Chairperson I would like to thank the committee members and participants for their time, energy and commitment. It was a labor of love.

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship

From: Lee M., Chairperson WSC Finance Committee

The WSC Finance Committee met in late July in Kansas City at the first quarterly Conference workshop. We found such joint meetings most helpful in developing business of the Finance Committee. When questions came up regarding areas concerning other committees, we were able to speak with their members directly on the spot, rather than sending correspondence back and forth and waiting perhaps months to resolve conflicts. We got a better feel for N.A. world services working together to better serve a growing Fellowship than we could have gotten under any other circumstances. Our thanks to the WSC Administrative Committee, the World Service Office and the N.A. Fellowship in the Mid-Coast Region for organizing this first workshop. We look forward eagerly to our next meeting in Philadelphia and hope that it will provide even closer contact with other conference committees and with the Fellowship in that part of the United States.

During the first quarter of the 1985-86 Conference year I spent a great deal of time looking at the role of the WSC Finance Committee in the development of N.A.'s monetary picture. Provisional guidelines for the committee were developed and submitted to committee members for review prior to the Kansas City meeting. Following general discussions it was decided that those provisional guidelines would be put on the shelf for the time being and submitted instead to the Select Committee for consideration. At this stage in N.A.'s growth, the Fellowship appears to be doing a more or less adequate job of coordinating conference committee budgets and expenses. We hope to see more concerted effort in the future, especially considering that if our budget increases again by 200% we will be looking at about half-million dollars budgeted for 1986-87. For the time being, however, we have no additional proposals regarding either Finance Committee direction or the budget making process.

The Finance Committee discussed some input received on the newly published Treasurer's Handbook. We decided, however, to not recommend any changes in the handbook at WSC 1985. A file will be created at the World Service Office for input received this year to be taken up by the 1986-87 Finance Committee. We hope to give the handbook at least a year's trial run before making changes in it. We encourage regions, areas and groups to give it that trial run and to send their comments to the WSC Finance Committee as they occur.

I spent time during the first quarter discussing guidelines for H&I finances with the Chairperson of the WSC H&I Committee. When it came down to the workshop itself, however, the Finance Committee did not feel it appropriate for us to make changes in the H&I Handbook. Those changes were left to the H&I Committee itself. We wish H&I the best of luck in the development of their area of service to Narcotics Anonymous.

The Finance Committee has decided on two primary projects at this point for the current Conference year. The first is the development of an informational pamphlet on funds for the Fellowship. It is tentatively titled "Hey! What's the Basket For?" It will address ways in which groups can contribute directly to the development of N.A.'s world services and describe those services. A written draft will be ready by the end of September, at which point I will be working with the office staff and with a graphic artist on the development of

3. Working the Fourth Step in N.A. (Revised)
4. Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees (Revised)

Some changes were made to the preliminary drafts based on input from the Literature Review Committee members, input from others present at the workshop, and written input from members of the Fellowship not present. These drafts will now go to the remaining members of the World Literature Committee for further evaluation. They will be discussed and refined further at the next workshop. After the entire World Literature Committee (including the LRC and registered members) is satisfied with the drafts, they will be sent out to regional and area literature committees for review and input. This process will continue for approximately nine months. At the end of the review and input stage, the drafts will again go to the World Literature Committee for evaluation and editing based on the input received. The result of this entire process will be final approval drafts of these four pamphlets which will be sent out to the entire Fellowship for a one-year approval period. At the World Service Conference following the one-year approval period, the Fellowship will vote through their RSR's on whether or not these final drafts will become N.A. Conference-approved literature.

#### Update on Review-Form Literature:

The World Literature Committee also needs input from area and regional literature committees on those draft materials which are out to the Fellowship for review and input. We want to remind everyone that the nine-month review period is almost over. The following pieces of new literature were distributed to the Fellowship at the beginning of this year for review and input:

1. It Works: How and Why (Step/Tradition Book)
2. The Loner: Staying Clean in Isolation - I.P. 21
3. Welcome to Narcotics Anonymous - I.P. 22

It is important that you send us your input on the review drafts as soon as possible. All input must be submitted to the World Literature Committee no later than October 11th for consideration. Any input received after that date cannot be considered. Work on these projects is progressing well. All input in the form of comments and suggestions on how these draft materials may be improved will be discussed by the Committee and considered in the preparation of approval-form drafts. The approval drafts will be distributed to the Fellowship in early 1986 for a one-year approval period. If you are reviewing It Works you should now be looking at the last four steps and the traditions. As soon as you review a chapter in It Works, send us your input on that chapter right away. Do not wait until you have reviewed the entire book to send in your input. All input on It Works should be sent to the World Literature Committee in care of the WSO by October 11, 1985.

Please remember that the review draft of It Works is not Conference-approved literature. For this reason, it should not be read at N.A. meetings. It should be reviewed individually by N.A. members or at special meetings held specifically for the purpose of reviewing unapproved literature. It is possible that unapproved literature which is out for review or approval may contain tradition violations or material that is erroneous or offensive to some members of the Fellowship. Although the World Literature Committee tries to anticipate such problems before a piece of literature is released for the review stage, we are human and cannot always see potential problems that might arise over material contained in new literature. It is only through the somewhat lengthy process of review and approval outlined in the Procedural Guidelines for World Literature that we can attempt to detect and improve on material that is inadequate. For the good of N.A. as a whole, it is imperative that we use only N.A. Conference-approved literature at our meetings. This should not present a problem since we are fortunate at this time to have so much other N.A. Conference-approved literature which contains some excellent material on recovery.

To keep you up-to-date on the progress of our step/tradition book It Works: How and Why, recent work has concentrated on the first half of the book (the Twelve Steps portion). By mutual agreement, the contractual arrangement with the professional writer has been

3. Working the Fourth Step in N.A. (Revised)
4. Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees (Revised)

Some changes were made to the preliminary drafts based on input from the Literature Review Committee members, input from others present at the workshop, and written input from members of the Fellowship not present. These drafts will now go to the remaining members of the World Literature Committee for further evaluation. They will be discussed and refined further at the next workshop. After the entire World Literature Committee (including the LRC and registered members) is satisfied with the drafts, they will be sent out to regional and area literature committees for review and input. This process will continue for approximately nine months. At the end of the review and input stage, the drafts will again go to the World Literature Committee for evaluation and editing based on the input received. The result of this entire process will be final approval drafts of these four pamphlets which will be sent out to the entire Fellowship for a one-year approval period. At the World Service Conference following the one-year approval period, the Fellowship will vote through their RSR's on whether or not these final drafts will become N.A. Conference-approved literature.

Update on Review-Form Literature:

The World Literature Committee also needs input from area and regional literature committees on those draft materials which are out to the Fellowship for review and input. We want to remind everyone that the nine-month review period is almost over. The following pieces of new literature were distributed to the Fellowship at the beginning of this year for review and input:

1. It Works: How and Why (Step/Tradition Book)
2. The Loner: Staying Clean in Isolation - I.P. 21
3. Welcome to Narcotics Anonymous - I.P. 22

It is important that you send us your input on the review drafts as soon as possible. All input must be submitted to the World Literature Committee no later than October 11th for consideration. Any input received after that date cannot be considered. Work on these projects is progressing well. All input in the form of comments and suggestions on how these draft materials may be improved will be discussed by the Committee and considered in the preparation of approval-form drafts. The approval drafts will be distributed to the Fellowship in early 1986 for a one-year approval period. If you are reviewing It Works you should now be looking at the last four steps and the traditions. As soon as you review a chapter in It Works, send us your input on that chapter right away. Do not wait until you have reviewed the entire book to send in your input. All input on It Works should be sent to the World Literature Committee in care of the WSO by October 11, 1985.

Please remember that the review draft of It Works is not Conference-approved literature. For this reason, it should not be read at N.A. meetings. It should be reviewed individually by N.A. members or at special meetings held specifically for the purpose of reviewing unapproved literature. It is possible that unapproved literature which is out for review or approval may contain tradition violations or material that is erroneous or offensive to some members of the Fellowship. Although the World Literature Committee tries to anticipate such problems before a piece of literature is released for the review stage, we are human and cannot always see potential problems that might arise over material contained in new literature. It is only through the somewhat lengthy process of review and approval outlined in the Procedural Guidelines for World Literature that we can attempt to detect and improve on material that is inadequate. For the good of N.A. as a whole, it is imperative that we use only N.A. Conference-approved literature at our meetings. This should not present a problem since we are fortunate at this time to have so much other N.A. Conference-approved literature which contains some excellent material on recovery.

To keep you up-to-date on the progress of our step/tradition book It Works: How and Why, recent work has concentrated on the first half of the book (the Twelve Steps portion). By mutual agreement, the contractual arrangement with the professional writer has been

3. Working the Fourth Step in N.A. (Revised)
4. Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees (Revised)

Some changes were made to the preliminary drafts based on input from the Literature Review Committee members, input from others present at the workshop, and written input from members of the Fellowship not present. These drafts will now go to the remaining members of the World Literature Committee for further evaluation. They will be discussed and refined further at the next workshop. After the entire World Literature Committee (including the LRC and registered members) is satisfied with the drafts, they will be sent out to regional and area literature committees for review and input. This process will continue for approximately nine months. At the end of the review and input stage, the drafts will again go to the World Literature Committee for evaluation and editing based on the input received. The result of this entire process will be final approval drafts of these four pamphlets which will be sent out to the entire Fellowship for a one-year approval period. At the World Service Conference following the one-year approval period, the Fellowship will vote through their RSR's on whether or not these final drafts will become N.A. Conference-approved literature.

#### Update on Review-Form Literature:

The World Literature Committee also needs input from area and regional literature committees on those draft materials which are out to the Fellowship for review and input. We want to remind everyone that the nine-month review period is almost over. The following pieces of new literature were distributed to the Fellowship at the beginning of this year for review and input:

1. It Works: How and Why (Step/Tradition Book)
2. The Loner: Staying Clean in Isolation - I.P. 21
3. Welcome to Narcotics Anonymous - I.P. 22

It is important that you send us your input on the review drafts as soon as possible. All input must be submitted to the World Literature Committee no later than October 11th for consideration. Any input received after that date cannot be considered. Work on these projects is progressing well. All input in the form of comments and suggestions on how these draft materials may be improved will be discussed by the Committee and considered in the preparation of approval-form drafts. The approval drafts will be distributed to the Fellowship in early 1986 for a one-year approval period. If you are reviewing It Works you should now be looking at the last four steps and the traditions. As soon as you review a chapter in It Works, send us your input on that chapter right away. Do not wait until you have reviewed the entire book to send in your input. All input on It Works should be sent to the World Literature Committee in care of the WSO by October 11, 1985.

Please remember that the review draft of It Works is not Conference-approved literature. For this reason, it should not be read at N.A. meetings. It should be reviewed individually by N.A. members or at special meetings held specifically for the purpose of reviewing unapproved literature. It is possible that unapproved literature which is out for review or approval may contain tradition violations or material that is erroneous or offensive to some members of the Fellowship. Although the World Literature Committee tries to anticipate such problems before a piece of literature is released for the review stage, we are human and cannot always see potential problems that might arise over material contained in new literature. It is only through the somewhat lengthy process of review and approval outlined in the Procedural Guidelines for World Literature that we can attempt to detect and improve on material that is inadequate. For the good of N.A. as a whole, it is imperative that we use only N.A. Conference-approved literature at our meetings. This should not present a problem since we are fortunate at this time to have so much other N.A. Conference-approved literature which contains some excellent material on recovery.

To keep you up-to-date on the progress of our step/tradition book It Works: How and Why, recent work has concentrated on the first half of the book (the Twelve Steps portion). By mutual agreement, the contractual arrangement with the professional writer has been

written material or simply ideas and concepts you would like to see included in the publication.

It is important to remember several things when submitting original written material for possible inclusion in N.A. literature. Always send your material to the World Literature Committee in care of the WSO accompanied by a signed copyright release form. The World Literature Committee must have your signed copyright release form in order to use your material. If you do not have copyright release forms, we will supply them to you on request. The World Literature Committee will then forward your material to the regional literature committee who is working on the first draft of that particular project. Every piece of written input that is submitted will be considered. However, you should remember that not all material submitted can be used in a particular publication. Also, if material you have written is used, it may be changed. We must be willing to accept these things and not let them discourage us from writing and submitting material and ideas. This is the only way that we can produce new N.A. literature which speaks to the widest range of addicts possible and is truly consistent with the spirit and philosophy of N.A.

The World Literature Committee, like the entire Fellowship, is experiencing a time of change. We are implementing new Procedural Guidelines and trying out new ways of producing better literature. It seems that change is always difficult—especially for addicts. However, in retrospect, I realize that the literature development process has been one of almost continual changes. As our experience has revealed areas where improvements could be made, our processes have been modified in order to benefit from those experiences. I believe that by working through these changes and learning how to best apply the new Procedural Guidelines, the World Literature Committee will be better able to serve the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

I am happy for the opportunity that the Kansas City Workshop provided. Members had a chance to ask questions and express their opinions on matters pertaining to literature. Almost all of the N.A. members present shared that the experience was a very positive one for them and that they had learned a great deal. Of course there will always be ways in which we can improve and I hope that future workshops will be even more successful. Let us strive to look gratefully at the positive and dedicated work which is being accomplished to carry the message of recovery. As long as we continue to express our opinions in a constructive manner and work together in a spirit of loving fellowship, we will be able to produce literature which best carries the message of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous.

\* \* \* \* \*

To: The Fellowship  
From: Stuart T., Vice Chairperson  
WSC Convention Committee

Report of the Convention Committee Workshop in Kansas City—July, 1985

The committee members, Board of Trustee members and WSO Board of Directors present were all actively involved in the meeting. The concerns raised by the WSC about implementation of the new World Convention guidelines were addressed, as were legal and corporate issues.

**Key Issues Addressed:**

1. Implementation of the guidelines

The committee looked for the best way to make the change to the new procedure for site selection. Because of complications in the time table for that transition, it is necessary to hear bids this year for the 1987 convention. Preparation for this decision was made beforehand in a joint meeting of the WCNA-15 committee in (Washington D.C.) and the WSC Convention Committee. After considerable discussion of the options forwarded at that time, the committee agreed unanimously to adopt the following plan:

To: The Fellowship  
From: Bob B., Chairperson  
WSC H&I Committee

This report is being sent out to inform you of what was accomplished at our recent quarterly Conference held in Kansas City, July 19-21, 1985 and the proposed work ahead for fiscal WSC 85-86.

There have been several concerns in our agenda which needed addressing, some of which were dealt with in Kansas City.

The first item we addressed was the need for amendments to the financial section of the approved H&I Guidelines which would assure more accurate accountability of H&I funds. This was accomplished in the form of several motions which will be introduced at the next World Service Conference. We will be including these motions in our year-end report for review prior to the Conference.

We then reviewed the work on WSC Committee Guidelines being developed by the Ad-hoc Committee appointed at the last World Service Conference. The work done so far does not address all the areas of concern, therefore we felt it prudent to encourage the Ad-hoc Committee to complete a finished, reviewable product by the October meeting in Philadelphia.

We completed and passed the following editorial guidelines for the WSC-H&I Newsletter Reaching Out and guidelines for the WSC H&I Literature distribution fund at the World Service Office:

#### PROPOSED EDITORIAL GUIDELINES FOR H&I NEWSLETTER

1. All letters submitted become property of Narcotics Anonymous.
2. All corrections of said letters will be limited to those of a grammatical nature, i.e., spelling errors, punctuation, etc.
3. Letters may be printed in part or in whole but at no time will a letter be quoted out of the context of what the author was attempting to say.
4. Letters will be selected for use solely at the discretion of the editorial staff.
5. All editorial responses will be screened by the Trustee assigned to the H&I Committee to ensure responses are within the framework of the Twelve Traditions.

#### PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR WSC H&I SPECIAL FUND LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION (passed unanimously)

1. The WSO Coordinator of H&I services may utilize his/her personal discretion on all literature distribution matters which do not exceed \$50.00.
2. Any literature request received in excess of \$50.00 up to \$200.00, will require concurrence and approval by the WSC H&I Committee Chairperson or Vice-Chair if the Chairperson is unavailable. This concurrence may be achieved via the phone for expediency, but it should be followed with a letter of concurrence on the matter shortly thereafter.
3. All requests for literature in any amounts above \$200.00 will require a letter of approval from the Chairperson of the area or region requesting assistance and approval by the WSC H&I Committee voting members established at the World Service Conference.  
The requesting committee or institution will also be required to submit a literature dispersal plan that must be approved by:
  - a. The area or regional service committee established in the area or region from which the request originates.
  - b. The WSC H&I Committee voting members as established at the World Service Conference.

## A FELLOWSHIP SURVEY FOR H&I

The purpose of this survey is to identify what is being done in the field of H&I and thereby assist in the development of goals and objectives that will make H&I activities more effective in carrying the message of recovery.

All area H&I committees are asked to complete this survey and return it to: WSC (H&I Survey), P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409. Please fill out a separate survey for each H&I commitment your committee is responsible for. Your assistance in this effort and returning the completed Questionnaire will be appreciated.

For committees involved in H&I: If your committee (area or region) has an established set of guidelines or other written material on H&I activities, please send a copy with your completed survey.

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/COMMITTEE COMPLETING SURVEY: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INSTITUTION/HOSPITAL WHERE MEETING IS HELD: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE MEETING IS HELD: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

FORMAT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

H&I CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*