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VOLUME 2 NUMBER 7

## THE N.A. WAY

We reported some time back that we were shooting for 3,000 subscriptions to the *N.A. Way* magazine by the end of December in order for the magazine to become solvent. We have come very close to that mark, and are glad to announce the staff is recommending that the magazine effort be continued. To all of you who have supported this important Fellowship project—thanks.

The magazine is still sorely under-exposed within the Fellowship. It needs regular mention at meetings, with the person who is making the announcement waiving a copy for all to see. Invite members to page through it after the meeting, and have plenty of subscription blanks for them to take. If this magazine is to continue to grow to become an ever more effective and useful tool within the Fellowship, it is important that everyone know about it and see it.

Most of you know that we have large display posters available through the WSO at no charge for just that reason. They are large, colorful posters with a recent copy of the magazine attached along side a tear-off pad of subscription blanks. We are giving these away for the asking, and they're being shipped in large numbers. We have no problem with an Area Service Committee writing to ask for one for each group in the area. That's what they're here for. Just write to us and we'll send them off.

Again, the magazine is stable and moving forward full steam. We invite anyone who has not yet subscribed to get on board. We are running short of articles, though, so please feel free to avail yourself of this opportunity to be of service. Most of our current contributors probably never thought of themselves as "authors" before they got published here. Don't let anything like that keep you from participating in your "meeting in print." We are not concerned that you know about the mechanics of writing—we'll concern ourselves with that part of it—we need your experience, strength and hope. And by the grace of God, there's an abundance of that in Narcotics Anonymous today!

If it is reasonable to assume that an average of at least four or five people read each copy of the magazine, then you have the opportunity to carry the message to twelve to fifteen thousand addicts at once by writing for your magazine. And this number is growing steadily. We must not underestimate the impact of this Fellowship forum;

let's continue to strive to use it to its full potential. We hope to hear from many more of you soon.

One last note about the magazine: As we were placing the December issue in the envelopes and sealing them, we began to see that there had been errors with the printing of some copies. When we noticed the problem we immediately began inspecting them more closely before stuffing and sealing the envelope. We caught seriously defective magazines—pages missing, ink bled through the page, etc. Unfortunately, we suspect that some of these found their way into sealed envelopes and were sent. Our printer has assured us that we will be reimbursed for any expense we incur in replacing these for you. Please send us any defective magazine you may have received, and we will gladly replace it.

## TRANSLATION OF N.A. LITERATURE

An effort has been underway for some time now to translate N.A. Conference-approved literature into foreign languages. At this time, the World Service Office has accomplished the translation of the White Booklet, *Group Starter Kit* and informational pamphlets into German, French, Italian and Spanish.

The process that has been used begins with the initial translations being done by a professional translator. The material is then sent to N.A. members in the appropriate country or language area for review. The members have responded with comments about the appropriateness of the translations, including information about colloquial or idiomatic expressions. When necessary, revisions have been made with the professional translator. The Office has then proceeded with typesetting and printing the translated materials for general sales and distribution.

Although this process has been effective, it has not been without some problems. Most of the problems have surrounded the translation of the literature into languages which are spoken in more than one country. For example, Spanish is spoken in Spain, Mexico, Cuba and the various countries in South America, French is spoken in both France and parts of Canada. To the best of our understanding, some discrepancies and disagreements about certain language structures are inevitable when a given language is spoken in more than one country.

