



WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE FELLOWSHIP REPORT

August, 1989

To: The Fellowship

From: Bob Hunter, Chairperson
World Service Conference

I seem to have a ton of items to report on. However, I will try to be brief and save some of my comments for my next report.

Albuquerque: As I mentioned in the Conference Summary Report, the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service along with members of the World Service Board of Trustees, WSO Board of Directors, WSC Committee chairs and vice chairs, and WSO project coordinators met in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on July 14, 15 and 16. We discussed the work completed thus far on the Guide to Service. I was told that this was the first time these boards and committee members have come together at once, since N.A. world services began. The agenda for this meeting included an overview of the entire proposed service structure, with a more detailed discussion on the group, area and region sections of the Guide. The work was presented by the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service. The presentation of the national and world structure was conducted in a general manner because the material is incomplete and had not been thoroughly discussed by the ad hoc committee.

Much input was received from those attending and it may take some time to factor in. This puts me in an awkward situation, since I already moved the publication date for the draft of the Guide from July 1 to August 1. It became apparent by Saturday evening that the distribution of the draft would have to be delayed again. I am reluctant at this time to set a date until the ad hoc committee has had time to meet and discuss the publication schedule. The ad hoc committee meets this month and I hope I will have more information after that meeting.

It also became apparent by Saturday evening that the Twelve Principles of Service as released in April will very likely undergo further revisions before being released again by the ad hoc committee. It has come to my attention that some committees within N.A. are already attempting to adopt or use the Twelve Principles in their service efforts. I don't necessarily view this as a problem, since I feel that practical application is the best measuring stick. However, I urge those attempting to apply the Principles of Service to do so on an experimental basis and to be flexible in their applications. The drafts distributed in April are merely drafts and are not written in stone. I have also heard that some of our members have used the draft of the Twelve Principles of Service to personally attack world level servants and WSO staff. I urge all of our members with input and constructive criticism to forward such input to the ad hoc committee. However, I believe there is no place in our fellowship for accusations and personal attacks. I

hope that we can address the issues being raised by the ad hoc committee in a mature and loving manner.

The remainder of the session on Sunday morning was spent discussing the literature process and how we can improve our communication with the fellowship and with each other. The weekend ended on a positive note.

Literature (It Works): As of this writing, the WSC Literature Committee continues to discuss how to proceed with the steps portion of *It Works*. The committee has met two times since May and the chairperson has reported on the discussions and results of those meetings. I am not going to reiterate those discussions and decisions in this report. I'll simply add that I believe the Literature Committee is demonstrating good judgment and prudence in their approach to this project. I hope we continue to practice patience with our literature process. I believe what we are experiencing is "growing pains," and as most of us know, the only way to approach growing pains is to go through them and experience them. If we try to avoid the growing process at this time, we will probably experience the same dilemmas in the near future. I thank the WSC Literature Committee for their diligence and thoroughness in dealing with this situation.

European Service Conference: I arrived at the ESC in Barcelona, Spain on Thursday, July 20. My senses, however, didn't arrive until about 24 hours after my body did. I found myself drained and suffering from jet lag. I'm glad I had some time to rest before the conference began on Friday afternoon. The people in Spain are more "laid back" than we Americans, and this attitude made for a very relaxing conference for me.

Reports from the various countries attending (approximately 12) were given on Friday afternoon. Information from these reports (number of members, meetings, etc.) will appear in future *Newslines*. I gave a brief report covering such topics as the service structure, travel to the annual meeting of the WSC, and translations at the WSC. I viewed my participation at the conference mainly as a listener. I had several one-to-one talks with participants regarding cost equalization, forming areas and regions, and translations, as well as recovery discussions, which were very valuable to me. I have shared with non-U.S. members in the past. However, this time I felt something at a much deeper level. I now have an inner knowing that the basic principles of the N.A. program are indeed practiced worldwide. Many times I felt as though I was sharing with my friends at home.

After a bit of sightseeing Saturday morning, I spent the rest of Saturday in meetings and in more one-to-one discussions with other conference attendees. We had a dance Saturday night which was a lot of fun and very hot; Spain is quite hot and humid this time of year.

I believe we can best serve developing N.A. communities in non-U.S. countries by facilitating the translation process of literature; by sharing our experience, strength and hope; and by letting go and allowing them to grow and develop within their own cultures and societies. I left the ESC on Sunday morning with Bob Stone and headed for Helsinki, Finland.

Finland and Sweden: Finland currently has about three groups, situated in Helsinki, and Sweden has about 18 groups, mostly situated in the lower half of the country. We discussed literature translations, the service structure, P.I. and H&I work, as well as other topics with both the Swedes and the Finns. The details of some of these discussions will appear in future *Newslines* and reports from Bob Stone. I want to report on the feelings I experienced, as well as a few points which I believe are vitally important.

I went to N.A. meetings in both countries and local members of the fellowship translated for me. The group formats are a little different than what I

am used to and I couldn't understand all that was said (similar to my experience when I attend meetings in California). However, I felt as though I could have been sitting in my home group. I'm not sure what I was expecting but I know I got what I needed.

Both countries are in the process of translating literature and have run into several problems. Neither country (like many other countries) has a word in their language for the English word "addict." In both meetings I attended, the members used several words and phrases to identify themselves, from drug abuser to drug dependent to chemical dependent, and several others. As in the U.S., this seems to concern the members with clean time more than it does the newcomer. The real problem arises in literature translations, not in how they identify themselves in the meetings. In addition, the word "narcotics" in Narcotics Anonymous also creates some problems. Like in English, the word "narcotics" denotes a specific class of drugs, and many people coming into N.A. in the Scandinavian countries are not narcotic users. This seems to cause some confusion for newcomers, especially for the newcomers coming into N.A. from A.A., where the emphasis is on a specific substance. There may be no simple solution to these two dilemmas. Each country may have to rely on the written description of "addiction" and "Narcotics Anonymous" in their literature to overcome the misunderstanding and confusion.

Another issue we discussed, especially in Finland, is the use of the word "God" in the steps and traditions. Some members in the Finnish fellowship are atheist and would prefer to substitute the phrase "Higher Power" for the word "God" in the steps and traditions. The word "God" to these members represents a Christian deity which is generally described as all-knowing and powerful.

We indicated to them that regardless of how the worldwide fellowship (especially the American fellowship) may feel about this proposed change, there may be a legal aspect to this situation since we use the steps and traditions with permission from A.A. Again, at present, we are not sure how this dilemma will be resolved. Several questions may need to be answered. Will A.A. allow us to change the steps and traditions? Will our fellowship approve of such a change? How do we approve of such a change (i.e., direct group ballot)? Can a national fellowship translate N.A. literature using words and phrases which more clearly reflect their culture, instead of word-for-word translations? Does the entire fellowship have to approve of a phrase change, when that phrase is being changed to more appropriately reflect a national culture? I'm sure I could continue to raise more questions regarding this issue. However, the point I'm trying to make is that with the growth of N.A. worldwide, we are going to have to rethink and possibly change the way we do certain things. I believe we need to maintain continuity and consistency in our written message on a worldwide basis. I also believe we need to allow non-U.S. countries some flexibility in translating N.A. literature. If translated literature is not culturally acceptable, and therefore does not attract the newcomer and is not going to be used, why take the time and effort to produce it?

We had discussions with the members in Finland and Sweden about maintaining the spirit of the N.A. message in the literature which they are translating, rather than using a word-for-word translation. Many times a word-for-word translation does not make sense. This became apparent to me while participating in the N.A. meetings which I attended. In one meeting I had two different translators at various times. One translated what was said word for word. The other one would listen for a couple of minutes and then translate the meaning of what was said into English phrases. The second method made much more sense and was much easier to follow.

Overall I feel the entire trip was very successful. I experienced and learned a lot; not only head knowledge but heart knowledge as well. I feel much better equipped to serve the entire N.A. fellowship. As Conference chairperson, it was a very eventful experience for me to visit other countries and to interact with the N.A. members there. N.A. is growing rapidly, and I feel privileged to be able to experience and be part of this growth.

The WSC Administrative Committee is at present compiling a list of bilingual N.A. members for consultation in future projects. If you speak and/or write more than one language fluently, and are willing to participate in a project, please write to the WSC Administrative Committee in care of WSO.

Reminders: If your region plans to submit a motion to the *Conference Agenda Report*, the deadline for arrival at the WSO is December 23, 1989.

If you plan to attend the WSC Committee meetings in St. Louis on November 3, 4 and 5, please see the attachment at the end of this *Fellowship Report*.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Shari Bradshaw
WSC Treasurer

First of all, some changes need to be made to the Treasurer's report of June 1989. The amount of \$82,671.03 shown as "Subtotal" should have been shown as "Ending Cash Balance as of 5-31-89." The amount of \$60,000.00 shown as "Transfer to Interest Bearing Account 5-25-89" should have been shown as \$50,000.00.

I had misunderstood the type of account we were transferring to and believed the money would be somewhat inaccessible. Well, we do have access to the \$50,000.00 plus earned interest, so therefore it should have been included in the Ending Cash Balance of 5-31-89 amount.

I also misapplied \$8 to the Administrative Committee's 1988/89 Budget Year which should have been applied to the 1989/90 Budget Year.

Corrected 1988/89 Fiscal Year End Report (6-1-88/5-31-89)

Opening Cash Balance 6-1-88	\$ 46,378.93
Donations 6-1-88/5-31-89	221,684.41
	<u>\$268,063.34</u>
Expenses Paid 6-1-88 through 5-31-89	
For 1987/88 Budget Year	(24,637.07)
For 1988/89 Budget Year	(157,609.68)
For 1989/90 Budget Year	(3,145.56)
	<u>\$(185,392.31)</u>
Ending Cash Balance 5-31-89	\$ 82,671.03

Of the \$82,671.03, \$32,671.03 is in WSC's regular checking account and \$50,000.00 is in WSC's money maximizer account.

The June report mentioned expenses for 1988/89 that WSO had absorbed and the WSC Administrative Committee was looking at reimbursing. We have not made a decision yet.

1989/90 Fiscal Year (6-1-89/5-31-90)

Opening Cash Balance 6-1-89	\$ 82,671.03
Donations 6-1-89 to 7-21-89	31,183.35
	<u>\$113,854.38</u>
Expenses Paid 6-1-89 to 6-30-89	
For 1988/89 Budget Year	(6,895.94)
For 1989/90 Budget Year	(27,576.29)
	<u>\$(34,472.23)</u>
Ending Cash Balance 7-21-89	\$ 79,382.15

The above is through WSO's June log which actually reflects expenses submitted for reimbursement through May 1989. Of the above Ending Cash Balance, \$50,000.00 is still in the money maximizer account, the balance of \$29,382.15 is in our regular checking account.

Committee/BOT Expenses (1988/89 Budget Year)

	Budgeted	Paid through 6-30-89
Administrative	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 41,775.79
Discretionary	4,500.00	315.00
Ad Hoc on Additional Needs	9,500.00	7,735.33
Ad Hoc N. A. Service	16,000.00	14,746.02
Hospitals & Institutions	16,000.00	11,401.44
Literature	34,500.00	32,972.25
Policy	8,000.00	4,318.89
Public Information	<u>18,500.00</u>	<u>13,071.04</u>
Subtotal	\$146,000.00	\$126,335.76
Board of Trustees	<u>34,000.00</u>	<u>38,169.86</u>
Total	\$180,000.00	\$164,505.62

The 1989 World Service Conference (1988/89 Budget Year) has cost \$29,559.43 to date. We had estimated \$30,000.00, so we were pretty close.

Committee/BOT Expenses (1989/90 Budget Year)

	Budgeted	Paid Through 6-30-89
Administrative	\$ 61,300.00	\$ 2,689.38
Discretionary	3,300.00	.00
Ad Hoc on N.A. Service	18,600.00	5,065.35

Hospitals & Institutions	29,400.00	3,346.22
Literature	71,300.00	9,782.45
Policy	8,300.00	954.01
Public Information	<u>25,400.00</u>	<u>4,337.54</u>
Subtotal	\$217,600.00	\$ 26,174.95
Board of Trustees	<u>70,900.00</u>	<u>4,546.90</u>
Total	\$288,500.00	\$ 30,721.85

To date, WSC has spent \$2,325.75 with WSO contributing an additional \$900 for non-N.A. events, and \$2,577.99 has been spent participating in or providing RSC/ASC workshops.

As mentioned in the June report and at the Conference, the WSO has pledged about \$69,000 in support of our budget. As a reminder, the baseline budget will need an average donation of \$3,600 from all sources within each of the currently recognized 60 regions.

If the above committee/BOT budgeted amounts look different than those adopted at the 1989 Conference, they are. Since the Conference adopted the bottom line baseline amount of \$288,500 and not each committee or board's budget, and also adopted several motions that required that the budget be adjusted, all of the WSC Committees' and the BOT's travel line item budgets were refigured based on actual travel costs. When the budget is prepared, we have no way of knowing who will actually be on each committee and board. Therefore, after the 1989 WSC elections and a historical review of travel costs for those members, we were able to more accurately determine travel costs.

After adjusting each WSC Committee and the BOT budget, we will be able to provide \$7,500 for translation services at the next Conference, \$3,500 for the Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups, \$50,200 for the Steps portion of *It Works* and \$17,100 for the Traditions portion of *It Works*. The amount for the Steps portion may be adjusted depending on the direction the WSC Literature Committee takes, but their total budget should remain about the same.

The Albuquerque meeting held in July was extremely positive. There were about 46 people present, including some WSO staff, and we were able to accomplish a thorough review of the Principles of Service and the Guide to Service (Group, Area, and Region) in about 2 days (miraculous). Everyone came prepared with well thought-out comments and all perspectives were well represented. I was privileged to be a part of the process. I left feeling very good about the current atmosphere of cooperation and respect between the three branches of world service and also the future of world services.

However, because of the extent and nature of the input, the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service will have to have several more meetings. They had been originally budgeted for only two committee meetings (May and July). The WSC Administrative Committee has decided that, rather than ask the other WSC Committees and the Board of Trustees to reduce their budgets and therefore their goals, *for now* we will remain flexible with the Ad Hoc Committee's budget. We are fairly sure that the committee will go over budget, but the other WSC committees and the Board of Trustees may come in under budget. The Ad Hoc Committee's budget is \$18,600, and they may require another \$10,000-\$15,000 to revise their work before publication to the fellowship. We will, of course, closely monitor the WSC financial condition, watching for unexpectedly high expenses or low donations. Also, the WSO executive director, staff, and Board of Directors are working closely with the Conference (Conference goals are also WSO goals), and

have pledged their support. The WSC Administrative Committee feels that the Principles of Service and the Guide to Service are important projects and that the 1989 Conference was clear in its support of these priorities.

It is a privilege to serve again as your WSC Treasurer. If you have any comments, questions, etc., please let me know, or my fellow Administrative Committee members (Bob H., Reuben F., Ed D.).

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To: The Fellowship

From: Stephen Ringer, Chairperson
WSC P.I. Committee

This year has marked a change in our work as members of your WSC P.I. Committee. During the past few months our members have been involved in a number of multi-regional, regional and area workshops and learning day events. Our efforts to provide the fellowship with experience and guidance in public information matters have proved to be worthwhile. The list would be too long to report, for the worldwide fellowship of N.A. holds these events almost weekly. We have participated in the U.S. and abroad. Our members have also participated in non-N.A. events held by medical associations, hospitals, recovery centers, schools, health care associations, etc. We have found opportunities to interact with various people outside of the fellowship concerning Narcotics Anonymous and how we may help the addict seeking recovery.

This endeavor to seek more interaction with the public has demonstrated our need to take a more active role in informing the public on a national and international level. The image of Narcotics Anonymous as a stable fellowship and a viable means of recovery from the disease of addiction needs to be shared at all levels in our public information work. To this end, we have begun discussion with the Trustees' Internal/External Committee. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for us to discuss our long range goals to help improve the public image of our fellowship. We would do this by utilizing some of our experienced members in communication with various segments of the public and by improving our communication with the media. I'm sure there are a number of other methods, but these two come to mind immediately.

Some of you may have heard or seen N.A. on T.V., radio or in print lately. We hope you are as excited about this aspect of our work as we are. We have not experienced any dramatic increases of phoneline calls or new members; however, we expect that this exposure will increase awareness of N.A. We have not experienced any negative results from the public, although within the fellowship a small number of our members have spoken against our work or the process by which we complete it. So what else is new? You can please some of the people. . .

On the horizon to be discussed at our WSC workshop in St. Louis on November 5th and 6th:

- 1) A pamphlet directed at non-addicts
- 2) Phonelines
- 3) Newsletter to professionals
- 4) The pamphlet, "P.I. and the N.A. Member"
- 5) Graphics and displays for P.I. booths

We held the first phoneline workshop in Baltimore, June 16, 17 and 18. We had a good turnout from a number of areas on the East Coast. We are looking forward to our second workshop, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia in October. The third workshop will be held on the West Coast in February. These workshops provide a forum for us to discuss a number of related topics and also to provide guidance to our service structure as it continues to grow along with the fellowship. This gives us valuable information to discuss how we may best serve our fellowship as a whole. We fervently hope all areas who are able to send a representative will do so.

We also look forward to seeing any of you at our WSC workshop in St. Louis as well. Although these meetings (quarterly meetings as they have been called) have always been held for our membership to attend, rarely do any of you appear. . . maybe you just need to be invited.

Please let us know if you are planning a workshop or learning day and would like a WSC P.I. member to attend. We remain available to serve in any way we can.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Barbara Jorgensen, Chairperson
WSC H&I Committee

The newly approved Handbook for H&I is now available from the WSO. The cost is \$5.00, plus the usual shipping, and where applicable, sales tax.

Work is going forward on WSC H&I's projects. Our top priority is the booklet *Behind The Walls*, directed at incarcerated addicts. Review drafts have recently been sent out to area and regional H&I subcommittees. If your committee has not received a copy, please contact the WSO with your current address information. You will note that the review period is short, but we must get moving with this piece if we are to have any chance at presenting it to the WSC in 1990. We are not seeking line-by-line input, but rather comments on the concepts in the booklet. Please respond as soon as possible.

Another ad hoc committee has been working to iron out some problems in our committee voting procedure and to develop forms for reporting committee members' participation in regional events. We hope to finalize these projects at our November meeting.

The committee also has a long-term project of developing an audio tape of mock panel presentations. We are currently working on scripting the question and answer portion of the proposed panel session.

Some of you may be contacted by members soliciting information for *Reaching Out*. However, you do not have to wait to be contacted to contribute. If you have newsworthy activity in your area or region, let us know.

As a committee, we are working at learning to communicate more effectively by phone and letter, as we go through the transition to less frequent meetings. All our projects are going ahead, although there are still some discussions which need to take place in person. We look forward to the November meeting in St. Louis. Thank you all for your support and for allowing us to be of service.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Tim Banner, Chairperson
WSC Policy Committee

I am drafting this report while flying at 32,000 feet (powerless) returning from the European Service Conference/Convention in Barcelona, Spain, followed by a two-day visit with the Paris fellowship. The size of the conference increased by 50% from last year (from 100+ to 150+) and approximately 12 countries were represented. Each meeting was closed with addicts from each country saying the serenity prayer in their own language. I attended the conference as an addict seeking knowledge about our international fellowship rather than as a WSC committee chair, and I feel truly enriched by my experiences. The French and Spanish members are beginning regional formation and apparently will have a representative at the WSC next year or the year after. The major obstacles to regional formation seem to be money, and distance between areas in each country.

I wish to make amends to Sonny T. from Connecticut for leaving his name off the list of RSRs and alternates elected to the Policy Committee by the WSC.

I attended the meeting in Albuquerque of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service, which included members of the JAC, the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees on July 14, 15, 16. The meeting was held to discuss the Twelve Principles of Service and the Guide to Service. It appeared to be helpful to both the participants and the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service. To the boards and the Joint Administrative Committee, the meeting gave a sense of common purpose in providing input on the works in progress; to the ad hoc committee, a chance to receive fresh input on a project they had been working on for several years. I know-I benefited from the exchange and would be willing to participate in a similar meeting again if one becomes necessary.

I have received written reports from the two policy committee work groups assigned to WSC election procedures. Both efforts drew on the experiences of the 1989 WSC elections, using written ballots, and both have tried to work out the problems encountered there. Two of the possible solutions offered were to hold separate elections for the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors, and to create a nominations committee to handle the election procedures. A new work group will be assigned to review the work done by past groups and to present a useable procedure at the November mini-conference in St. Louis.

I also received a report from the work group assigned to study the seating of regions at the WSC. This was the only motion assigned to the Policy Committee by the 1989 WSC. The ideas developed by this group and the material developed over the last few years will be examined by a new group, and a report will be presented in St. Louis with an eye toward presentation of a motion/report/statement for inclusion in the 1990 *Conference Agenda Report*.

The question regarding rotation of trusted servants and continuity of service will be discussed in St. Louis so that input from the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service and other interested parties can be considered.

Please send written input on any of these subjects to me in care of the WSO and it will be forwarded to the work group assigned to that project.

The "rules" have changed this year and I am experiencing some fear with the change from three workshops to one. However, I am relying on members of the Joint Administrative Committee, the Policy Committee, and my sponsor to help me walk through the fear that seems to come with change. Your support and prayers are needed and would be appreciated.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Bryce Sullivan, Chairperson
WSC Literature Committee

INTRODUCTION: The WSC Literature Committee has been very active since the 1989 World Service Conference. The full WSC Literature Committee met in late June and again in early August. This report will be an overview of the events leading up to, the decisions reached, and some of the issues discussed at each of these meetings. The meetings have focused on our development of the steps portion of *It Works: How and Why*. The ad hoc committee process which we were using to develop a draft of the steps has been temporarily delayed for reasons explained later in this report. The committee discussed in detail problems we have encountered in the step development process as well as possible solutions. We have begun an inventory of the entire literature development process.

In our examination so far, one fact remains clear. The system we are using to develop literature is lacking some of the necessary fundamental building blocks. Our processes must be re-evaluated and restructured. Solutions must be found which will allow us to produce major works, as well as provide for the fellowship's other literature needs. Effective means must be discovered for developing quality materials worthy of bearing the Narcotics Anonymous name.

STEPS AD HOC PROCESS: Following WSC 1989, preparation began immediately for the first steps ad hoc committee meeting of this conference year. At this meeting we expected to continue the work from last year. Each of last year's ad hoc committee participants was contacted, including the N.A. member who worked with the committee in drafting the first three L.A. step drafts. When I spoke with these ad hoc members, several of them raised concerns regarding the ad hoc process. These concerns included the problems they saw in properly integrating committee input into the drafts. Some members also had misgivings about one member's voice being reflected in the drafts. The tone and style of the L.A. drafts were also an issue, but were more secondary to these other matters.

Since my attention had been drawn to these reservations, I then spoke with the volunteer writer about the possibility of bringing in additional writers to rewrite or modify drafts as they were completed. There was strong resistance to this. During a later discussion, the writer again expressed unwillingness to work with either a group writing process or additional writers. I felt this position was unacceptable, given the nature of our literature development process. Any individual writer involved in the development of Narcotics Anonymous literature must be willing to release the work unconditionally. Although we should be mindful of the feelings and needs of individuals who volunteer their talents and energy toward Narcotics Anonymous services, we must not forget the responsibility we have to N.A. as a whole. Because of the writer's staunch position, I felt there was no alternative but to thank the writer for contributions to date, and seek other ways to continue the development of *It Works: How and Why*.

STAFF TEAM APPROACH: The volunteer writer played a central role in last year's ad hoc process. Without the writer's services, our development of step drafts was halted. I consulted with others in the world service community to seek alternatives for continuing the development of the steps portion of *It Works*. We

needed an approach that would be more than a quick fix or temporary solution to our current dilemma.

The Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service has been using a staff team approach in developing *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*. This approach has worked well for them, and satisfied our requirements for quality writing. The committee's ability to retain ultimate creative and content control in this process also seemed beneficial. Additionally, their use of WSO staff members who are also recovering members of Narcotics Anonymous, in drafting recovery material, appeared to have many other positive aspects.

I felt that the staff team approach was a well-founded plan. I presented a recommendation to the literature committee that we begin work, on a trial basis, developing the step book using this plan. This recommendation was included in a comprehensive report covering the development of *It Works: How and Why* from 1982 to date. The report also covered historically pertinent information on other facets of our literature development process. This report was also sent to the Joint Administrative Committee, the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors for their evaluation and input.

The staff team approach which I recommended that the committee adopt for our work on the steps portion of *It Works* included the following components:

1. The WSC Literature Committee providing broad direction, review, consultation, and decision-making for the book's development.
2. A WSC Literature Committee ad hoc group providing additional guidance and specific direction for the book.
3. A World Service Office staff team providing primary writer(s), along with staff editing and review of the work.

The WSC Literature Committee would establish the initial direction of the work and engage in substantial review of the ad hoc committee and staff team's drafts before completion. The WSC Literature Committee's primary role would be that of providing broad direction, review, consultation, and decision-making for the book's development.

An ad hoc committee of the WSC Literature Committee would have the role of providing the basic principles and more specific direction for the book. The ad hoc committee would have in-depth discussions about our recovery principles, using source material for guidance. The source material would include the draft developed at the 1988 Chicago Literature Conference, the three L.A. step drafts, and the blue review-form draft and white approval-form draft. Through discussions guided by broad direction from the WSC Literature Committee, the ad hoc group would steer the staff team.

A WSO staff team would provide primary writer(s), as well as editing and review of the work. Members of the staff team would participate in the literature committee and ad hoc committee discussions on each of the step chapters. Following meetings of the ad hoc committee, the staff team would meet to provide the primary writer with direction, using an outline (provided by the ad hoc group) of the topics and principles to develop first drafts. The writer would work within the context of the team. The staff team would go over the drafts as they developed, further clarifying and filling out those drafts using their notes from the ad hoc committee and literature committee discussions. A skilled staff member would edit the material prior to the drafts being returned to the ad hoc committee.

The ad hoc committee and the literature committee would, of course, have the authority to accept, reject, or modify all or any part of the drafts. The final decision to accept draft material would be in the hands of the full WSC Literature Committee. Following the development of a review-form draft, the fellowship would have its customary opportunity to provide review and input on the work.

Using WSO staff with the necessary skills to assist in drafting material appears to be beneficial in a number of ways. Staff would be able to spend as much time as necessary in writing and rewriting the drafts. The staff would have the opportunity to meet on a regular basis, much more so than the ad hoc or literature committee, so the work could progress at a more consistent pace. I believe that the staff team approach could be an excellent way to give us the ability to address concerns about maintaining literature committee control over the work. When we employ special workers, we specifically place such individuals under a different kind of supervision and accountability than that which applies to volunteers. This gives us more direction over the work they perform for the committee. The burdens of a project which require time and effort beyond what can be expected of volunteers could also be satisfied by special workers. I see this as one of the principle reasons our Eighth Tradition exists. It gives us the opportunity to employ members and non-members alike to perform services which require skills or commitments beyond what can reasonably be expected of individual members. Using this kind of development plan would allow us to make appropriate use of WSO staff to assist in the development of Narcotics Anonymous literature. It would also more consistently involve the WSC Literature Committee in every aspect of the project.

JUNE 24-25 LITERATURE COMMITTEE MEETING: The committee met in late June to discuss the report and recommendation which I had presented to them. Each member of the committee, as well as members from last year's ad hoc committee, had the opportunity to evaluate in detail all aspects of the report, along with the staff team approach. The committee (by a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions) agreed in principle to the recommendation of the staff team approach to develop the steps portion of *It Works*. The committee provided input to modify the proposal during the remainder of the meeting.

The committee also decided to focus its attention this year almost exclusively on the step book. The steps portion of *It Works* is our number one priority. This will have the effect of making the development of *For those in Treatment*, *In Times of Illness*, and the *N.A. Group Starter Kit* multi-year projects.

The June meeting closed with the understanding that the trial plan would be modified with the committee's input. Following their consent to the modified trial plan, work was to begin. The report that I presented to the committee was also to be revised and distributed to the fellowship.

AUGUST 5-6 LITERATURE COMMITTEE MEETING: In the weeks between the June and August meeting, we examined the implementation of the staff team approach from an administrative angle. I decided to delay presenting the report to the fellowship. I wanted to allow the committee another opportunity to discuss the proposal again at our August meeting.

The agenda of the August meeting was very similar to that of the June meeting. The committee, together with additional ad hoc committee members from last year, discussed last year's step development process. They also reviewed the committee's decision to move forward with the trial plan of the staff team approach.

The committee decided at the August meeting *not* to move forward with the staff team approach. There were a number of reasons cited by individual committee members for changing this plan of action. One reason was perceived conflicts with our guidelines; another was strong disagreement surrounding last year's step development process, and the ad hoc committee's role in that process.

The conflict over guidelines pertains to the section on special workers in our procedural guidelines. The section is unclear and confusing. It clearly limits the use of professional writers in drafting material and implies limitations on the use of special workers. At our June meeting, the committee discussed these problems

and felt that utilizing a staff team approach was our most responsible action. The committee felt at that time the action was warranted. At its August meeting, the committee was more inclined to wait for WSC 1990 and ask for the support of the Conference before moving forward with the staff team approach.

The disagreement between members of last year's ad hoc committee has been disruptive to our committee's work. Disagreements have surfaced regarding many aspects of last year's ad hoc group, most particularly the role of the volunteer writer in the process.

The committee was paralyzed most of one day, debating the benefits of asking the volunteer writer back into the process. Even though the writer's resistance towards the inclusion of other writers for editing or rewriting material was known, a proposal to utilize last year's writer was presented and accepted, with the stipulation that no other writers be used. The committee attempted to formulate a proposal to offer to the writer. After hours of discussion and two attempts to reconsider the original motion, a motion to reconsider passed. After reconsideration of the original motion (to utilize the writer from last year), that motion failed by a vote of 5 in favor, 7 opposed, and 1 abstention.

I have reported these details to graphically express the division we now have within the committee. The committee was at a virtual deadlock. This stalemate was created partially by conflicting input from last year's ad hoc committee. Little was accomplished in tangible terms at the August meeting. That committee meeting did further work on an inventory of our literature development process, an inventory that is essential to our future work.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE GUIDELINES: In my Conference Summary Report in June, the following remarks were made: "Year after year we are faced with essentially the same questions about the most responsible and effective way to create literature for Narcotics Anonymous. The fellowship at large wants literature usually without even understanding . . . the process we go through to develop this literature. The fact cannot be disputed that we have a demand for new literature to meet the growing needs of our groups and members. However, these needs aren't met very well by the complex, laborious, and drawn-out literature development process that we use A conscientious inventory of our literature process cannot go unattended. We must accept the challenge and discuss the issues which are essential in our ability to create literature. As chairperson of the WSC Literature Committee, I consider fostering these discussions one of my primary duties."

Those discussions are indeed occurring. A conscientious inventory of our literature process has begun. Even though the committee is strongly divided, the members are to be commended for their efforts to openly study and debate the issues that face our fellowship in creating literature. There is a renewed openness in the committee that is refreshing and hopeful.

The literature committee guidelines, however, pose major concerns for this year's work. An ad hoc working group of the literature committee will meet this month to review and appraise the current guidelines. This group has been directed by the full committee to develop recommendations for the committee to examine. Hopefully, the committee will bring comprehensive recommendations to the fellowship and the WSC in 1990.

The basic problem we have in developing literature is not any particular process, or whether special workers are used, or even whether professional writers are engaged. The problem is that our fellowship has never made a thorough evaluation of the overall development of Narcotics Anonymous literature. Our approach has been random and non-systematic. We have responded in panic to crisis or controversy. That was part of the reaction behind the development of our guidelines and the limitations placed on the committee. The inability of the

fellowship, not this year's committee or even previous years' committees, to act responsibly in such important matters leaves us effectively paralyzed today. Power plays, propaganda, personalities, innuendo, misinformation, political intrigue, etc., have been the manner in which individuals attempt to deal with this problem. It goes without saying that these methods only disrupt the unity on which our personal recovery depends. I can only hope and pray that these types of practices will diminish in the coming months.

IMMEDIATE PLANS: The committee will meet again before the November workshop in St. Louis. I hope the committee will be able to resolve its differences and formulate an acceptable comprehensive solution in the development of the steps portion of *It Works*.

The committee will continue to move forward on the development of the steps portion of *It Works* with its ad hoc committee. The committee will study the content of each chapter, and issues of style, tone, and other broad parameters which need to be established for the entire book. We will cooperate with the Board of Trustees as they examine these same issues in their development of the traditions portion of *It Works*.

CONCLUSION: It is critical at this time to examine how the fellowship can create written recovery materials. Only a complete and honest appraisal of the assets and defects of our literature development process will be satisfactory. We must improve our ability to serve the fellowship by the production of literature for Narcotics Anonymous.

Along with our work on the steps portion of *It Works*, it is my hope that the committee will accept its responsibility to seek more effective and responsible ways to improve the creation of literature. Clearly, the problems we have had and are currently having warrant a re-examination of the entire literature development process. This re-examination should be comprehensive. The process that we now use to initiate the drafting of a particular recovery or service piece must be examined. The resources used by the WSC Literature Committee in draft development need evaluation. The effectiveness of a widespread fellowship review and input system, and improvements to this system, needs to be explored. Fellowship review of both review and approval material should also be examined. Our literature development system affects Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, not merely those of us who choose to be actively involved in this area of service. Whatever process we eventually use, it must meet the needs of addicts everywhere who desire and deserve quality written material for use in their groups and for their personal recovery.

The WSC Literature Committee seeks your input regarding the matters broached in this report. A more comprehensive report covering all these issues will be distributed before the St. Louis workshop for WSC committees. Please send us your written input. There will be an open forum at the St. Louis workshop where ideas and concerns can be exchanged. Thank you all for the continued support which you have given our committee and all of world services.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Dave Tynes, Chairperson
Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated N.A. Groups/Meetings

Greetings from the Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated N.A. Groups/Meetings. This ad hoc committee was formed at the last WSC to address the issue of groups or meetings isolated from the rest of N.A., primarily those in institutions. The committee's two-fold task was to report on the status of such meetings where they exist, and to investigate how the service structure can meet the needs of those groups/meetings.

The committee has requested input from the fellowship via a questionnaire sent to all RSCs and ASCs, and the response has been good. The committee has also received input from members of one such group. This input, along with any other input we receive, will be very helpful to the committee in completing its work.

The committee has also been in communication with the WSC H&I Committee and with the Policy & Structure/Training & Education Committee of the World Service Board of Trustees, requesting any input they may have and keeping them apprised of the committee's progress.

The ad hoc committee will have a conference call in September to discuss input and decide on the best course of action to complete our work at the WSC committee meeting in St. Louis in November. The committee will meet on Friday in St. Louis, and a portion of the meeting will be an open forum to allow verbal input to the committee.

We will continue to accept input until September 16, so if your committee has not returned the questionnaire yet, please do so.

It is our hope that we can find a solution to the dilemma these groups find themselves in, and help them feel more a part of N.A.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Reuben Farris, Chairperson
Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service

Work continues on the Guide to Service, which will include the ad hoc committee's proposal for the formation of a national service conference and a separate "world services" body. Unfortunately, we have been unable to meet our original publication date of July 1, 1989.

The Ad Hoc Committee held a meeting along with members of the Joint Administrative Committee, WSO Board, and the Board of Trustees the weekend of July 14 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to review our work on the Guide to Service, as well as to provide input on our previously released report on the Twelve Principles of Service. This collective meeting proved most valuable to our work. Their input and observations certainly broadened our perspective, and warranted some revisions in our previous work.

This joint meeting reviewed current drafts on "The N.A. Group," "The Area Service Committee," and "The Regional Service Committee," as well as the previously released draft of the Twelve Principles of Service. Our hope is to repeat

such a meeting to review our drafts on national and world services, and a service charter.

TWELVE PRINCIPLES OF SERVICE: This document was presented to Conference participants in April, 1989. This document should be considered a committee report, and any input is encouraged. To date, we have received only two pieces of written input.

Discussions in Albuquerque have warranted substantial changes in the essays on the Twelve Principles presented in the original committee drafts. Concern was voiced that perhaps the title "PRINCIPLES" was not the most appropriate, and it is quite likely the committee will be proposing a name change. Maybe we'll hold a contest--"Name Those Principles"--(just joking--almost). We'll keep you posted.

WORKSHOPS: Our plans to conduct regional workshops on the Guide to Service and the Twelve Principles remain tentative. The committee is reluctant to go "on the road" with our work before it is completed. It is possible we could conduct workshops on just the Principles. Decisions regarding regional workshops will hopefully be made during our August meeting.

While many on the committee feel pressure to complete this work, we believe that the quality of our work must take precedence over our eagerness to be done with it. We beg your continuing patience and support, and are grateful for your trust.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees held its most recent meeting in late June at the World Service Office in Van Nuys. All members of the Board were in attendance except for Mario Tesoriero, whose wife was due to deliver twins during that time period. He has since become the father to twin daughters. Congratulations, Mario!

During the June meeting of the Board of Trustees, considerable work was accomplished and plans were made for future action. Most of the work being done by the trustees is a result of the committee system now in place with the Board.

The **Internal/External Committee** (chaired by Kim J., with Greg P., Stretch G. and Mario T.) has been working closely with the WSO staff members assigned to both H&I and P.I. The first item on the agenda at the June meeting was the committed motion regarding implied religious endorsements in Conference-approved service materials, and maintaining uniformity and consistency in service committee formats with respect to opening and closing meetings. A letter was written to the maker of this motion asking for further clarification and the specific intent of this motion. The committee plans a survey to determine any religious endorsements in our service literature. Also on the agenda was the motion forming the Additional Needs advisory panel. Discussion focused on the need for members with an intimate knowledge of additional needs and good communication skills. The staff members assigned to the Internal/External committee are developing a list of prospective members who have the willingness and qualifications to be an advisory panel member. After the list is compiled, hopefully by the middle of September, it will be reviewed by the members of the Internal/External committee. Appointments to this panel will be made before or during the trustee meeting in October.

Other agenda items included:

1. Proposed fellowship survey
2. Long range planning of overall P.I. efforts
3. International fellowship development
4. The H&I project, *Behind the Walls*
5. Long range planning for the fellowship, including:
 - a. N.A.'s public image
 - b. how to increase awareness of N.A. in the public
 - c. embezzlement of funds in the fellowship
 - d. prejudice and spiritual principles
 - e. increasing communication in the service structure
6. How best to use non-addict trustees

Discussion on all these topics will continue at the next BOT meeting.

The **Policy and Structure/Training and Education Committee** (chaired by Becky M., with Tom M., Garth P. and Chuck L.) also had several items on its agenda. The committee discussed the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups. No consensus was reached on this issue, and it will again be an agenda item at the October meeting. Another topic on the agenda was rotation of trusted servants and continuity of service. The P&S/T&E committee supports including a discussion of this concept in the 12 Principles of Service. There was discussion concerning a possible workshop on the traditions for the members of the BOT, to fulfill several purposes: to help to create a common understanding among Board members, and to assist in creating an outline for a handbook to be used by Board members at tradition workshops. This outline could also be used in the drafting of *It Works: The Traditions*. A plan was proposed for this workshop, but no dates or times have been suggested. Due to the heavy workload of the Board of Trustees, it is doubtful that this meeting will take place during this Conference year. The issue of trustee funding was also discussed, and will appear again on the agenda for the October meeting. No action was suggested at this time, pending publication of the *Guide to Service*. The P&S/T&E committee does not believe it is in a position to effectively review the *Guide to Service* at this time, and encouraged all the trustees to voice their concerns and questions during the Albuquerque meeting. The continuing agenda items for this committee include:

1. Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups
2. Sample workshop formats
3. Reviewing drafts from the WSC Policy committee
4. Cost equalization and translation ad hoc committees
5. BOT traditions workshops
6. BOT funding
7. The *Guide to Service*.

The **Literature Review Committee** (chaired by Danette C., with Jack B. and Donna M.) held long discussions on the Traditions development proposal. A decision was made at this meeting to use an ad hoc committee process. This ad hoc committee will be comprised of members of the BOT Literature Review committee and several non-trustee addicts. A number of members have agreed to participate in this process, including to date: Steve Bice (N. California), Bob McKendrick (Mid-Atlantic), Mitch Soodak (Greater New York), John Farrell (Greater Philadelphia), Sally Evans (S. California), Biff Kramer (Florida), Craig Weisman (S. California), and Rosalie Rosa (New York). The first meeting of the traditions ad hoc group will be held in August in Van Nuys.

At this time, it seems important to respond to concerns that have been expressed about our work on the traditions. The Board has received several letters voicing confusion about how the trustees will develop the traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*. Some members and committees in their

correspondence have questioned the wisdom of placing the responsibility for this project in the hands of the trustees, and also questioned the process we would use (i.e., WSO staff team approach and observance of WSCLC guidelines).

The traditions were committed to the trustees by the 1989 World Service Conference by over two-thirds of the WSC participants. That motion read as follows:

The World Service Conference hereby assigns responsibility to the Board of Trustees to manage and propose for Fellowship adoption, a publication commonly known as the Traditions Portion of It Works: How and Why.

The Trustees shall receive all of the input currently on file or in the records of the World Literature Committee pertaining to Traditions.

The input being developed by regional or area service committees as a result of assignments from the Chairperson of the World Literature Committee will have their material or input given to the Board of Trustees. The deadline already in place of October 31, 1989 will remain in effect so as to not delay the project.

The Board of Trustees should, by October 1990, develop and propose a Review Form Draft of the Traditions material as a review form publication. Sub-paragraphs a, b and c of Paragraph 9, Appendix C of the Approved Guidelines for the World Literature Committee shall be applicable in this review process. The guidance these paragraphs provide shall be utilized. However, where reference is made to the World Literature Committee in those guidelines, the Board of Trustees shall be used as the responsible service committee.

Input received from the Fellowship concerning the review form draft will be considered and as appropriate, included by the Trustees in the development of an Approval Form of this publication. If the Trustees have completed this task by the opening of the Conference in 1992, they may propose the publication and be published as Approval Form literature in accordance with the provision of paragraph 10 (a, b, and c) of Appendix C--Guidelines of the World Literature Committee. The interpretation of the Guidelines will again reflect Board of Trustee responsibility rather than Literature Committee responsibility. At the World Service Conference in 1993 the Fellowship could then consider this publication for final Conference approval.

The Board of Trustee Literature Review Committee will exercise direct responsibility for the management of this project. They shall coordinate the working subcommittee of the Board using Trustees, past Trustees, non-Trustees (addicts), and other administrative and clerical assistance as may be appropriate. When the subcommittee is finished with draft material it will be reviewed by the full Board of Trustees for consideration.

All may be assured that we recognize the importance and significance of this project, and that you will be informed continuously during all stages of the development process.

We want to state once again that the *Traditions Input* book published in 1988 is not a review-form draft. This book is a compilation of several types of material, including essays from the 1985 blue review book, the unpublished 1986 drafts, and other input received over the years. All of this material was included so members would have an opportunity to review this information in the process of developing their input for the traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*. Several pieces of input we have received follow the traditional manner of literature development, i.e., line-by-line review of the drafts contained in the brown and beige *Traditions Input* book. However, the Trustee Literature Review committee is concerned that this type of input may not be as helpful as other types of input. We are therefore requesting that short essays be prepared concerning problems or

questions that have been dealt with by members of our fellowship, and how the traditions were consulted or utilized in the resolution of these problems. We need to know what experience our members have in the practical application of the traditions at the group, area, and regional level. We welcome essays of this type, either alone or in addition to input already in the development process. Descriptions of the ways in which the traditions have been utilized by our members, in a variety of circumstances, will be of immense assistance to this project. We urge all area and regional literature committees to consider these issues as they continue working on input for the traditions book. It may be difficult at first to shift your perspective of literature input from comments on content to comments on particular problems or applications of the traditions. The present method of reviewing the draft material in the input book may not be the most efficient use of time in your committee meetings. Instead, we will be looking at the concepts and principles in those drafts as a basis for our future draft development. All input is being compiled into a master list, so that we will be able to review and consider this information in our ad hoc committee meetings. The present deadline for submitting input is October 31, 1989. However, due to our request for further input of a different nature, we are considering extending the deadline. Please continue your committee work and submit material as it is completed.

We expect to go slowly with this project, and do not anticipate developing any drafts before the 1990 meeting of the WSC. At our first several meetings we will discuss a multitude of questions, such as: *Is It Works: How and Why* going to be one or two books? If it is going to be only one book, how will we merge the two separate projects into one book? What will be the style and tone of the book? What is the theme of the book? How long will the book be? and a myriad of other questions. We will also maintain open communication with the WSC Literature Committee for the purpose of sharing ideas and plans. Discussions have already occurred in both the full Board of Trustees and the WSB Literature Review committee about the development of review form drafts. No final decisions have yet been made as to how we will develop the review form drafts. Several options are being considered, including the WSO staff team approach. However, we do not plan to initiate this process at this time. If, after further discussion, a decision is made to consider this approach in writing the drafts, a proposal will be presented through the *Conference Agenda Report* for fellowship approval prior to implementation.

Involvement by the trustees in the growth of the fellowship outside of the United States continues to increase. There are plans for trustee participation in an upcoming trip to Brazil. In addition, as Chairman of the Board of Trustees I recently had the opportunity to visit with members of the fellowship in Italy and Israel, and to attend the European Service Conference in Barcelona, Spain. The members of the fellowship in these countries appreciated this support, as a large part of my time was spent answering questions and providing information to members of the fellowship in these young but growing areas of our world-wide fellowship.

In conclusion, the trustees want to thank the members of the fellowship for their support and encouragement. We also want to thank those members who have written with their questions and/or concerns, requesting a response from the trustees. Please keep those cards and letters coming!

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To: The Fellowship

From: Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
World Service Office Board of Directors

We are pleased to report that we've selected a member of the fellowship, Elizabeth Guest, as a clerical worker for the office in London. There was a good field of candidates who applied for the position and Elizabeth seems to meet our needs superbly. She began working in early August and spent three weeks at the World Service Office in Van Nuys for orientation and training. She has returned to London and should be in the office almost every day. The range of duties for which she will be responsible is fairly limited and will be monitored daily by the World Service Office Manager.

Plans to have an administrative supervisor on site in the London office were temporarily put on hold for economic reasons. The WSO has expended larger amounts of money to increase our inventory levels, and this has consumed the funds that would otherwise be available to employ an administrative person at this time.

A draft of the Spanish translation of the Basic Text has recently been published. Although only a limited number of copies were made, more can be printed if the need arises. Copies were sent to members and committees known to utilize Spanish language materials. These members and committees have been asked to review the material and submit written comments so that they can be discussed later this year at a workshop held to compile the final edit. If there are members or committees who have not received a copy and would like to participate, please contact Cindy Saisselin at the World Service Office.

The French Basic Text is moving right along. It is currently at the typesetters, final corrections have been submitted, and it will be returned to us shortly. The next two steps in the production process are page paste-up and preparation of the subject index. The subject index can be made only after the paste-up is completed. There is a twelve-week production time once the completed manuscript is delivered to the printer. We are still expecting completion of the book before the end of the year.

There are further issues involved in translation work, and an upcoming *Newsline* will provide more details. Two of these issues mentioned briefly in Bob Hunter's report require fellowship-wide attention. The first is the use of the word "God" in our Steps and Traditions. Discussions over the summer have revealed new N.A. communities which have a cultural bias that favors a way of addressing a Higher Power without using the word "God." These cultures not only have the difficulty of translating words and terms not common to their own language, but must handle the interpretation of our Higher Power. These new fellowship communities are in places where the word "God" has a much more specific Judeo-Christian meaning than may be found in some other Western cultures. Our communication with members developing translations for these new fellowship communities reveals that serious consideration needs to be given to whether or not the words "Higher Power" can be used instead of the word "God" in the Third, Fifth, Sixth and Eleventh Steps, as well as in the Second Tradition. As Bob Hunter explained in his report, this is not a matter which the office can resolve and which will be discussed throughout the fellowship for some time.

The other issue concerns the word "narcotics" and the commonly used word "addict" (and/or addiction). In some languages, there are no words that translate or equate to the meaning in English for these terms. The list of languages in which this occurs seems to be growing. These newer fellowship communities are wrestling with this problem, and all of N.A. will have to join in the discussions. In

1985 the Conference, based on a WSO recommendation, adopted a philosophy that the name Narcotics Anonymous would appear on all literature in English, along with our name printed in the native language. Wherever we have attempted to enforce this practice, it has been met with resistance and conflict. This has occurred so far only in languages where a similar word, even though with a different meaning, existed in that language. Examples of this are in Brazil where we have used "Narcoticos Anonimos," but in the Brazilian culture "narcoticos" means "sleepy" and does not describe a class of drugs. This was a major reason why conflict arose over early efforts to use the word "Toxicomanos" in Brazil, rather than "Narcoticos." It may be appropriate to reconsider this practice.

The Commemorative Edition of the Basic Text was received in late June. Back-ordered copies were mailed immediately. Over 2,000 copies have been sold to date. We recently sent 1,080 copies to the World Convention in Orlando. It is too early to know how many were actually purchased there. The original sales policy of selling Commemorative copies only to individuals and selling no more than two to an individual will continue until the end of October. Individuals interested in purchasing additional copies after that date may do so without restrictions. The objective of this original plan was to permit everyone who wanted a copy to buy one, and to avoid initial purchases of large numbers for stockpiling and resale at a later date.

As reported through earlier notes on the Commemorative Edition, all of the books were numbered. While this enhanced members' appreciation of their support of the translations resulting from the additional income, we were all able to practice spiritual anonymity by not knowing which book number we received until the book was opened. This was accomplished by having the books sealed in plastic at the factory and packed in random order in boxes before they were sent to us. We appreciate everyone's support for this spiritual principle. We have not yet learned who received low book numbers.

During the Conference the World Service Office reported that at least one company was being confronted about illegally producing the N.A. medallion and copies of the Basic Text on tape. We are pleased to report that through action by our attorney, the company in question has voluntarily ceased this activity. They have entered a voluntarily prepared court stipulation which, if violated, would cause them substantial financial penalty. In the meantime, we have identified three additional companies illegally using the N.A. logo. These companies have also, after prodding from our attorney, agreed to cease their illegal activities. If you are aware of individuals or companies illegally using the logo in their products, please forward their names and addresses to the WSO, to the attention of the Office Manager.

A recent meeting was held in Canada with representatives of the three world service arms and from each Canadian region. A wide range of topics was discussed. However, three subjects were of primary importance: literature distribution, a Canadian service structure to resolve and help with national issues in Canada, and a Canadian convention. No decisions were reached concerning changes to be made in printing or distribution of literature in Canada, as further study is required. Representatives from the Canadian regions did conclude that a proposal should be advanced to their membership regarding the creation of a Canadian Assembly, which would coordinate activities and unify their fellowship. This would facilitate cohesive efforts by H&I and P.I. The regions were asked to consider this and a Canadian convention and make a decision by the end of November. There will be a subsequent meeting on these subjects in early 1990. A working committee was selected to identify and propose specifics about how to administer a Canadian assembly and national convention. Reports from these committees are scheduled for completion in January, 1990.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
World Service Office Board of Directors

At the meeting recently held in Canada, described above, consideration was given to proposals for realignment of World Convention zone boundaries. After examining all the alternatives, there was consensus among the Canadians that changes in the zone boundaries would not be sought at this time. This fulfills a requirement accepted by the WSO/WCC to meet with the Canadian fellowship and examine this question. The World Convention Corporation will not, therefore, propose changes in the boundary lines in the next *Conference Agenda Report*.

A workshop on convention management and activities was held in Baltimore in June. Members from various regions and conventions from the Northeast part of the United States attended the workshop. Reports we have from various members who attended indicate the meeting was valuable and highly successful. Because of other pressing matters and scheduling conflicts, it will not be possible to conduct another workshop as previously planned in Atlanta, Georgia this September. A new date will be set and an announcement made when that is accomplished.

As this is being written our directors and some staff members are preparing to depart for the World Convention. This report, however, will not be received until after the Convention is over. We can only report that approximately 3,000 people have registered, and our hotel liaisons in Orlando report approximately 1,800 people have made reservations at the hotels. We expect this to be a large and successful convention.

Plans for the 1990 convention to be held in Portland are beginning to take shape. Members of the host committee and some subcommittees have recently been selected from the Oregon/Southern Idaho Region. They have begun their committee meetings and will be working on a theme and registration flyers.

Work on the 1991 convention will start in early October when a member of the Convention Corporation Board visits Sydney, Australia. This will coincide with the Sydney Area Convention, and some agreements concerning the hotel space will be reached at that time. To this date, only the chairperson of the host committee has been selected. As more activities take place, additional members and subcommittees will be added.

Bids were received from four cities for consideration to host the 1992 convention in Canada. The cities under consideration are Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Edmonton. An inspection of facilities and hotels in Montreal and Toronto has been completed. Inspection of facilities in Calgary and Edmonton will take place in September. It is anticipated that the World Convention Board will determine the location for the 1992 event at its meeting in November.

Changes are made in the planning of the World Convention each year. Some of these changes are minor, while others have a more significant impact. These gradual changes are possible because of the consistent management afforded by having a stable Board of Directors. The current system of membership on the Board permits the retention of experienced members who work at each convention. This accumulated experience allows for minor changes to be made without great controversy, and these changes improve each World Convention.

The accumulated experience of our Board members has been beneficial in establishing the program, and in drafting contracts based on early registrations or hotel reservations. During recent years several approaches have been used to improve and refine the development of the Convention program. Among these changes are a standing Program Committee, which includes in its membership representatives from the current host committee, the Board of Directors, and the three world conventions immediately previous. This balanced committee allows experienced members from each convention to participate in the planning of events and selection of speakers. We expect that this will result in improvements in program selection.

Another area where gradual change has taken place is in the larger number of people registering and purchasing of event tickets in advance. Associated with this has been the early reservation of hotel rooms. As our conventions become more complex each year, these advance registrations and reservation needs become more important. It will be necessary to improve even more our fellowship-wide utilization of advance registrations and reservations as we prepare for the Portland Convention next year. It may even be desirable to increase the registration fee for on-site registration as a further inducement to register by mail. As further discussions of this aspect of planning take place, additional reports will be prepared.

The Convention Corporation has been able to keep the registration fee at twenty dollars since 1984. This has been possible because of the increasing number of people who pay the registration fee and because of the other income-producing activities at the convention. There has been increasing pressure during recent years to raise the registration fee by \$5.00. This was discussed at the last Board meeting and a tentative decision was made to increase the registration fee to \$25.00 for the 1990 convention in Portland. This will be reconsidered at the next Board meeting and reported in the *Fellowship Report* at a later date.

To: Conference Participants

From: World Service Office

Re: WSC Workshop

The WSC workshop will be held in St. Louis, Missouri on November 3-5, 1989, at the Sheraton West Port Inn. The Inn is located at 191 West Port Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146. The telephone number is (314) 878-1500. Sleeping accommodations are \$64.59 single or double, including tax. The hotel is ten minutes from Lambert Airport, and does provide a courtesy shuttle. The shuttle runs every half hour from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., but they recommend that you inform them of your arrival from the telephone provided at the airport.