



WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE FELLOWSHIP REPORT

January, 1987

To: The Fellowship
From: Leah Goodrich, Chairperson
World Service Conference

Earlier this month we had the January Joint Administrative Committee Meeting to complete the information to be presented in the Conference Agenda Report. At that meeting, we had several lengthy discussions pertaining to the procedure regarding regional motions and their inclusion in the Agenda Report. At the present time the procedure for motions being submitted from regions to be included in the Agenda Report is confusing. Procedural motions the WSC has adopted in the past pertained mostly to the course of action to be followed by world service committees or boards. This issue is more thoroughly discussed in the WSC Vice-Chairperson's report but I think the issue is so important I wanted to draw your attention to his report.

Another issue I would like to discuss regards the commitment that is necessary of our trusted servants. There is an absolute mountain of work being presented to the Conference participants this year. Each issue that is being presented for your consideration, has been the subject of careful study and attention. Every item represents many long hours of work by your trusted servants. The responsibility now rests on the RSR's, and other regional officers to facilitate a full discussion on these matters within your regions.

There is always a need for more and qualified world level trusted servants to accomplish the growing volume of work. As we approach our annual spring meeting some of you may be contemplating the possibility of becoming a servant of the WSC or one of its committees or boards. Those of you who are serious need to understand some of the personal sacrifice it requires. Service on most committees requires attendance at workshops, meetings and in conference phone calls. This requires that each member be able and willing to give up their personal time to participate fully. In just this year alone I can count on one hand the weekends that most world level trusted servants were free of conference responsibilities. The amount of work to be done is certainly not getting any smaller. It can be absolutely awesome to the uninitiated the amount of time it takes to complete a project and the time spent away from home, work and families. The rewards of personal growth from service are great and lasting.....but so is the sacrifice.

The Select Committee met again this month to continue its work. The committee has worked long and hard in meetings and done more work at home. With the help of a loving God, we'll have a document that will be adequate to serve the needs of our ever-growing Fellowship. There is more information about the Select Committee in the Agenda Report.

There will be additional reports mailed before the Conference starts in April that will provide further information to WSC participants. Included in these reports will be a tentative budget, proposed standing rules for the Conference, and a final Agenda.

During recent years a number of new Conference Participants have complained that they were inadequately prepared for the Conference. They felt they were unfamiliar with the procedures used in debate, amending motions, making nominations and other matters. In order to avoid that problem the WSC Administrative Committee will hold an orientation meeting on Sunday afternoon preceding the Conference. It will be an opportunity for those of you new to the WSC a chance to ask questions and discuss the procedures before you get thrown into the middle of the meeting.

Copies of the Conference Agenda Report are going to be mailed at the expense of the Conference to all Conference voting participants. Additional copies are sent to each RSR Alternate and RSC. Additional copies of the report can be purchased from the WSO for \$5.00. There is a short order form on the last page of this report for your use in ordering more copies.

To: The Fellowship
From: Chuck Lehman, Vice Chairperson,
WSC '86-'87

Since my last report much work has gone into the development of the Conference Agenda Report. I participated in several conference phone calls to various Conference committees and representatives of regional service committees in an effort to clarify motions and language proposed for the 1987 Conference Agenda Report.

An important matter to discuss as a result of these meetings is the process by which motions are included in the Conference Agenda Report. WSC committees, the WSO Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees develop and submit motions to be included in the Agenda Report. During the past three years motions from regional service committees have also been included. The decision to include those motions was largely an arbitrary one made by the WSC Administrative Committee and was done primarily as matter of courtesy to the RSC's making the motions. It provided the Fellowship as a whole with some advance notice of motions which might come to the floor of the Conference.

The motions that are made by Conference committees, the WSO Board and the BOT have routinely been discussed within their respective committees or boards for the better part of one year, and in some cases longer. They are generally formulated during working meetings held at the Quarterly workshops or regularly scheduled board meetings. The WSC, the WSO and the BOT regularly report about these subjects in the Fellowship Report and the *Newsline*. Furthermore, all world service boards and committees regularly seek and receive input from throughout the Fellowship, which is considered and used during the formation of motions to be included in the Agenda Report. In this way the Fellowship as a whole is generally well informed and prepared to discuss and arrive at an informed group conscience on motions which are presented in the Conference Agenda Report by world service committees and boards.

What about motions submitted by RSCs that are included in the Conference Agenda Report? While it is safe to assume that their motions have been widely discussed in their home region and perhaps even in neighboring regions, there is every likelihood that Fellowshipwide discussion would not occur until their motions appear in the Conference Agenda Report. It is safe to assume that RSCs do not seek nor receive substantial input from throughout our worldwide Fellowship when considering, discussing and developing their motions. When motions from RSCs are included in the Conference Agenda Report, the Fellowship

as a whole is forced to try and come to an informed group conscience without benefit of all the information. The Fellowship might assume, in some cases, the intent of the motion and try to ascertain its impact.

Motions generated by world service committees and boards for inclusion in the Conference Agenda have been developed with input from through the Fellowship and are discussed regularly in Fellowship Reports and *Newsline* articles.

Motions generated by RSCs for inclusion in the Conference Agenda Report frequently reflect territorial input and are forwarded with little information for Fellowshipwide consideration.

The *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* (TWGSS) gives some direction in this area on Page 37 IV. The language, although far from being comprehensive, indicates that all input to the conference including motions should be directed to a specific committee. Further, Page 44 TWGSS (date carried 4/26/84) indicates that only material approved by a WSC committee is sent out in "approval from." Both of these sections seem to indicate that motions generated in RSCs should be referred to Conference committees for action rather than included in the Conference Agenda Report. This notwithstanding, the WSC Admin. Committee did not feel that they could break with the recent practice of including motions from RSCs in this year's Conference Agenda Report. We do however, support the Conference committee system and feel that, in most cases, motions from RSCs should be referred to the appropriate Conference committee or board. The committee or board in question would study the motion and recommend to the Conference, under new committee business, a course of action. The motion would most likely become part of the committee or board's new business for the following year. The matter would be thoroughly discussed and worked on in committee and be reported to the Fellowship throughout the year in Fellowship reports and *Newsline* articles. The motion could, after action by the committee, be included in the Conference Agenda Report for action by a fully informed Fellowship.

The practice of having regions submit motions directly to the Conference should be followed only if the appropriate Conference committee or board refuses to consider the idea or motion suggested. If the committee or board refused to consider the idea, the region should then study the matter and propose a motion for the following WSC meeting. If presented in time the motion could be included in the Agenda Report. But even if the region missed the deadline for the Agenda Report the region always has the right to introduce the motion on the floor of the Conference. Motions which are brought to the floor always receive broad debate and Conference participants are able to consider both pros and cons prior to making a decision.

I believe our Fellowship suffers when we make decisions in haste, without the opportunity to consider all the ramifications involved. Our world service committee and boards have delegated responsibility to facilitate conference business. Our Fellowship Report, *Newsline* articles and special reports to the Fellowship are all vehicles used to keep our Fellowship informed. We must be willing to utilize these systems if we are to expect informed group conscience decisions from our Fellowship.

As the Vice-Chairperson of your WSC I felt it was important to initiate this discussion. However, I am reminded of the concept "I can't...but we can." Please provide me with your thoughts on this or any subject related to our Fellowship. With your help, I will become a better trusted servant.

To: The Fellowship
From: Bob Hunter, Treasurer
World Service Conference

WSC FINANCIAL REPORT

6-1-86 to 11-30-86

This quarter's report contains a summary of cash receipts and expenditures. A detail of donations is not included in this report, but rather will be presented in the interim report issued at the annual meeting in April.

Additional expenditures were incurred and several donations were received after 11-30-86, and the WSC currently has a cash balance of approximately \$8,3000 as of January 11, 1987. At least \$20,000 will be needed for WSC '86-'87, as well as an additional \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the business of the Conference during the next four to five months. It is obvious a great deal of funds will be needed in order for the conference to serve the fellowship over the remaining of the fiscal year. All donations are greatly appreciated.

At the January J.A.C. meeting we discussed several items pertaining to WSC finances. First of all we plan to adopt specific administrative policy for travel, lodging, and other expenses of the W.S.C.; hopefully this will happen at our next J.A. C. meeting just prior to the annual conference. We also discussed preparation of the '87-'88 WSC budget. Many committees have already submitted budgets, and these will be modified slightly to reflect average travel and lodging costs based on '86-'87 actual expenditures. A budget will not be able to be included in the agenda report but we hope to distribute a tentative budget at least 4 weeks prior to the conference. The reason the budget will be tentative is because we are not sure how motions passed at WSC '86-'87 will affect the budget and newly elected committee chairs may want to add or delete projects.

Comments or suggestions related to finances of the WSC may be sent to the W.S.O. in care of WSC Treasurer.

SMMRY OF CASH RECEIPTS:

Donations:	
RSC's	\$28,426.16
ASC's	1,410.00
Groups	1,402.87
Members	749.00
Conventions/Fund Raisers	15,008.80
Other Receipts:	
Transfer from previous Treasurer	18,435.37
Credit Balance from '85-'86 Lit Committee	106.63
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	\$65,538.83

SMMRY OF CASH EXPNDTRS:

Admin. Committee:	
Travel	4,939.40
Less Credit from Travel Agency	(864.00)
Lodging	1,176.86
Phone	1,944.26
Coffee & Mtg Rms at Quarterlys	3,943.18
Copying at Quarterlys and Miscellaneous	787.54
Bank Chgs & Supplies	83.04
Postage	299.72
Other:	
Literature for Ireland Fellowship (Note 1)	264.00
SUB-TOTAL	12,574.00
H&I Committee:	
Travel	2,098.00
Lodging	728.47
Phone	39.48
Postage for Reaching Out & Misc.	807.01
SUB TOTAL	3,672.96
Int'l Committee:	
Travel	1,505.50
Less Credit from Travel Agency	(146.00)

Lodging	517.18
Advance against '85-'86	
Receipts	100.00
Phone	39.73
SUB TOTAL	2,016.41

Literature Committee:	
Travel	1,763.00
Lodging	1,160.56
Postage	86.00
Phone	191.64
SUB TOTAL	3201.20

Policy Committee:	
Travel	2026.00
Lodging	600.88
SUB TOTAL	2,626.88

P.I. Committee:	
Travel	2,065.40
Less Credit from Travel	
Agency	(19.00)
Lodging	612.77
Non-N.A. Events:	
Registrations	593.00
Literature	984.52
Phone	95.60
Postage for P.I.	
Newsletter & Misc.	429.98
SUB TOTAL	4,762.27

Select Committee:(Note 2)	
Travel	2,708.00
Lodging	700.48
SUB TOTAL	3,408.48

Board of Trustees	
Travel	12,338.53
Lodging	3,054.04
SUB TOTAL	15,392.57

Other: Error	
on Deposit (Note 3)	12.00

TOTAL CASH	
EXPENDITURES	47,666.77

RECEIPTS LESS	
EXPENDITURES	17,872.06

BEGINNING CASH BALANCE	
Deposited 5-5-86	5,000.00

ENDING CASH BALANCE	
11-30-86	\$22,872.06

Notes to Financial Statements:

Note 1: Several motions were passed at the '84-'85 WSC pertaining to reimbursement of losses caused by the Int'l Committee. Approximately \$264 of those losses were incurred by the Irish Fellowship. It was determined that reimbursement be made in literature which was done so in September of 1986.

Note 2: In October the WSO Board of Directors made a decision to pay for the expenses of special Select Committee meetings in order to bring to completion a draft of "A Guide to Service." As of January 11, 1987 WSO has paid for \$2,991.18 of travel and lodging expenses of the Select Committee.

Note 3: WSO erroneously deposited a check in the WSC account from a member which was in fact a subscription to the "N.A. Way" magazine. I subsequently reimbursed WSO and the matter has been resolved.

Note 4: The WSO incorrectly printed some figures in the last Fellowship Report pertaining to information that was contained in my report. The figures below are the corrected figures. Please make these corrections to the last report.

Estimated Expenditures	\$60,000
Estimated Cash Balance 10-31-86	(\$28,250)
Less Prudent Reserve	\$10,000
Leaves Current Available Funds	\$18,250
Estimate of	
Additional Funds Needed	\$41,750

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE	
Phone (SPRINT Bills -	
Jan.-Jun.'86)(Note 5)	\$1,108.72

TEXAS, LONE STAR	
Regional SC (Note 8)	\$2,144.17
Unity Conference	\$369.74

For the information following note 7:

Cash Balance as of 8-31-86	\$19,705.23
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Approximate donations received since 8-31-86	\$8,110.00
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Approximate expenditures since 8-31-86	(\$18,000.00)
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Balance received from last year's Treasurer	\$18,435.37
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Approximate Cash Balance as of 10-31-86	\$28,250.60
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Note 8: (This note was inadvertently left off the report) \$2,044.17 of this amount was erroneously deposited in the WSC account. This was in fact a literature order and has subsequently been deposited in WSO's account. The proper balance will be reflected in next quarter's report.

To: The Fellowship
From: Mary Banner, Chairperson
 WSC International Committee

Perhaps you noticed the report from the International Committee being quite short in the November Fellowship Report. I owe amends to the Fellowship as a whole for neglecting to write a comprehensive report on the activities of our committee. I really regret my inaction and will attempt to update you with this report. This Fellowship has served me better than I have served it over the past few months, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for selecting a fine and loving group of people as the WSC administrative Committee. They have lovingly supported me through a rough time but would not let me slide in my responsibilities to you, my fellow addicts.

While we were in North Carolina, the International Committee heard reports from participants regarding N.A. functions held outside the United States. These included reports on the Montreal Convention, Australasian Convention and the International Workshop held at the World Convention in London. During these reports, the committee had to assess the value of seemingly doing little else but listening to reports, when actually these reports should be shared with the entire Fellowship. We took a long, hard look at this and subsequently recommended that all of these reports should be published in one of our Fellowshipwide publications.

The International Committee has continued to assist the World Service Office in the translation process of N.A. Conference-approved literature. This process has continued with each of the languages (Spanish, Italian, German, French, Japanese,

Portuguese) where the written N.A. message has been so desperately needed. In each of these cases, a developmental policy has been implemented and coordinated through the World Service Office and closely monitored by the Board of Trustees.

What is to be the function of the International Committee in the future? This was a topic we spent most of our committee time on in North Carolina. You could say that the International Committee did a little inventory work and took a look at its actions since its inception. We found it difficult to pinpoint exactly what we had been accomplishing, but it seems that we have ultimately experienced some of our goals and purposes. The actual results of our discussion were contained in the letter found in the November Fellowship Report. In that letter, we requested the Fellowship and the N.A. communities we serve to provide us with direction so that we can better be of service to Narcotics Anonymous.

The International Committee continues to respond to all correspondence from outside the United States which comes into the World Service Office. Recently we have been receiving quite a bit of correspondence from India requesting N.A. information about forming new groups and conducting P.I. activities. Professionals have also written from Belgium asking for N.A. information, and have made contact with members in France. Canada is very busy starting new meetings and they seem to be growing quite rapidly from coast to coast. Correspondence comes in regularly from N.A. groups in Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, and Peru. One recent letter we received from Medellin, Colombia announced the formation of a new ASC. The World Service Office continues to receive requests from N.A. members all over the world who are traveling to countries outside of their own, asking for N.A. contacts in the country they are traveling to.

Our plans over the next couple of months will be to communicate with all of the international contacts we have established over the past year, and to prepare reports on the growth which has occurred. Hopefully, we will see some new faces at our World Service Conference meeting in April. As a result of our encouragement to international N.A. communities and service committees to participate. We will discuss further reports updating the growth of N.A. in already established international communities and introduce new service committees which have evolved. Some of these N.A. service committees have already been sharing the minutes of their meetings with us and we have been distributing these among the IC members. We hope this, along with initiating consistent committee communication, will better enhance our sensitivities to the needs and struggles of the N.A. communities worldwide.

To: The Fellowship
From: Bruce Allen, Chairperson
WSC P.I. Committee

This is the final Fellowship report on Public Information prior to publication of the Conference Agenda Report. Work continues on many tasks. The primary concern has been finalizing items for the Conference Agenda Report. Other work continues on the Media section of the Guide to Public Information, and the mail-out project to professionals.

The mail-out material is at the WSO now and will probably be mailed in February. Through the efforts of committee members, 588 names and addresses were selected from the large volume of addresses made available to us. A "well done" to all involved in that task.

Work on the Media section of the Guide to P.I., which includes the "Ask an Addict" format, is proceeding very well. Work on that section will carry over well

into the next Conference year. This section provides additional guidance to P.I. subcommittees in their relations with the media. This year's contact with media has shown us that we have a sizable need for this material.

The following letter was sent to regional P.I. Chairpersons by the WSC PI Vice-Chairperson. It is consistent with the decision in Charlotte to involve regional P.I. committees in the generation of public information materials. The letter is intended to poll the P.I. Chairpersons as to willingness and ability of their committees to accept work assignments from the WSC PI Committee. The information gained will allow us to set tasks and goals for next year's committee work. Experience this year has shown us that the traditional WSC PI committee system used in recent years is not going to continue working well. Members are separated geographically and committee meetings at the mini-conferences are simply not sufficient to complete specific tasks when those tasks are assigned only to committee members.

Besides providing more timely materials to the Fellowship, utilizing resources of regional P.I. subcommittees would also serve to unify the regional PI Committees and WSC P.I. This unification hopefully, would reduce communication problems and continue to increase trust and understanding. Most importantly, of course, a broader base of Fellowship experience will be reflected in WSC P.I. materials.

To: Regional P.I. Chairpersons and/or Subcommittees
 From: Biff Kramer, WSC P.I. Vice Chairperson
 Reg: Regional P.I. Support of WSC P.I. Tasks

We at WSC P.I. have been implementing a Task Force system and have found that geography makes it very difficult for the Task Force to communicate. One of the suggestions we received from within the committee and from several regions was to utilize regional P.I. subcommittees to perform certain tasks. Some of these have already been done on a regional level and some of them are being worked on now. What I would like from you is the following:

1. Is your regional P.I. committee in a position to help WSC P.I. by performing or completing certain tasks?
2. What are the tasks your region feels comfortable in working on i.e. what are you doing now as far as creating actual P.I. materials?
3. What priorities or goals do you feel WSC P.I. needs to address and which of those can your P.I. committee work on?
4. Any other input?

Please communicate with me by writing to the WSO, attn: WSC P.I. regarding answers to the questions above. The way things are going in P.I. now we are all going to need to communicate and work together to handle the multitude of tasks before us. Thanking you in advance for your rapid reply and wishing you the happiest and healthiest of New Years. Thank you and God bless.

To: The Fellowship
 From: Suzanne Schifano, Chairperson
 World Literature Committee

This past year has been a very busy and productive year for the World Literature Committee. The active members of the committee consistently showed a dedication and responsibility to the written message of recovery that never ceases to inspire me. Each member in his/her own way contributed individually as well as collectively to the work that was accomplished this past year.

The Committee succeeded this year in completing approval forms of five different items (the fifth one is actually being completed at this time). The following items will be made available at the 1987 World Service Conference: *Working Step Four in Narcotics Anonymous*, *Newly Revised Am I an Addict?* *Staying Clean on the Outside*, *The Group Newly Revised* and *Hey! What's the Basket for?*

Another project which was completed during this past year was the professional editing of our Basic Text. This was mandated by the World Service Conference in 1984. The editor did an exceptional job of light editing which consisted of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammatical corrections. The Literature Review Committee was given the task of reviewing the edit to ensure that the content and meaning of the book had not been altered. The LRC has completed their review and is satisfied with the editing job. There were a few minor problems which were described in my November report to the Fellowship. The Literature Committee will therefore present a motion at the World Service Conference to make the necessary changes in order to bring the Basic Text in alignment with the newly revised white booklet. (For further information on this, refer to the November Fellowship Report or the 1987 Conference Agenda Report.)

During their in-depth review of the Basic Text, the Literature Review Committee also came across some conceptual problems in the book. At this time the Committee is not making any specific recommendation as to what to do about these problems, but we do want to make the Fellowship aware of some of them. We ask that you look over the following examples and think about what it is that you, the N.A. membership, want us to do. These examples are just a few of the many problems that were identified. It does not appear that these kinds of problems can be taken care of with simple amendments. There were several alternatives discussed, one of which was rewriting the book. However, the Literature Committee already has a Conference-approved list of priority work items. Undertaking such a major task as rewriting the Basic Text would necessitate some major restructuring of the Committee's priorities. Therefore at this time, we ask the Fellowship to send in their input as to what they want us to do.

EXAMPLES OF CONCEPTUAL PROBLEMS IN THE BASIC TEXT

TERMINOLOGY: "clean and sober, addictions, get your house in order, drugs and alcohol, etc."

TRADITION PROBLEMS: anonymity breaks in stories, brevity of Chapter Six, etc.

OTHER PROBLEMS: "Once an addict, always an addict is a lie." The explanation of the symbol is not simple. "...Our defects can drive us into a corner that we can't get out of clean."

As it turned out this year the Literature Committee has nothing to put out for review and input in 1987. It was not necessarily a planned outcome, but we believe that this is how it was meant to be. As it happened, the two new items that were completed this year are to go directly into the one-year approval stage because they are service-oriented materials. The other three items were sent out for review in 1986 and would therefore go into the approval stage in 1987. The absence of review-form literature items will free area and regional literature committees to focus on other tasks. We strongly urge these committees to carefully read the Basic Text and send input to the World Literature Committee regarding identified problems as well as possible solutions. We also wish to point out that although the Daily Meditation Guide has been removed from the World Literature Committee's proposed worklist for 1987, this does not mean that interest in this project has waned. We plan to complete the items on the 1987 list in the next year and add *Just for Today* back to the list at that time. The Fellowship needs to determine if they wish the Literature Committee to do a substantial rewrite of the Basic Text which, we must point out, would mean delaying work on the Daily Meditation Book.

The World Literature Committee was instructed at the 1986 Conference to select five personal stories for possible inclusion in a future edition of the White Book. The committee decided to solicit original material from members over the next year. The deadline will be September 30, 1987 and the personal experiences must be accompanied by a copyright release form. (We are calling them personal experiences rather than "stories," because we would like to encourage people to share their experience with recovery rather than their war story.) Copies of an outline as well as blank copyright release forms are available from the WSO Literature Coordinator.

Regarding the new step and tradition book, *It Works: How and Why*, the Committee is now diligently working on Part II (the Twelve Traditions). In the summer of 1986, after careful and extensive review and consideration, a professional writer was hired by the WSO to assist the World Literature Committee in completing this work. Members of the WSO Board of Directors, WSB and WSC Administrative Committee participated in the selection process arriving at a unanimous decision that the person hired was indeed the best choice. We continue to be very excited about this project and feel that we will end up with a very comprehensive book on the Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous.

A special report was recently mailed, the subject of which was Part I of *It Works*. That report outlined some options available to the Fellowship in the event the book is not approved as is at the upcoming World Service Conference. The Literature Committee has already received a surprising amount of input from members and groups all over the world sharing their positive and negative feelings about the book. We hope to receive more input between now and March first. Depending on the outcome of the World Service Conference the World Literature Committee may continue to request input in the summer months of 1987. With the lack of review-form literature we feel that local committees will still have plenty of work to do providing input on the projects mentioned above as well as projects remaining on the World Literature Committee's worklist.

The Literature Committee cannot write a piece of literature that is truly reflective of group conscience without significant input. The remaining projects that were set as priorities for the Literature Committee by the WSC are in various stages of development. Some of the items on this past year's work list have been removed from the 1987 proposed worklist because we have received little input and because we did not realistically think we could complete them all in a year's time. Nevertheless, input from N.A. members is crucial to the development of literature.

Speaking of input, one of the strongest impressions that has stayed with me

since my first world literature committee meeting was the way in which the input was reviewed with much reverence and respect. This attitude continues today. Each piece of input is read and discussed thereby ascertaining the collective group conscience. The input is what tells the Literature Committee what the N.A. membership wants reflected in its literature. Each piece of input has its own special value. This reviewing process has continued and strengthened over the years. We, as your Literature Committee, are dependent on written input. It is the core from which all our literature evolves. Even when we have used professional writers or editors to help us, it is directly from the input provided by our Fellowship that the writing is done.

To take inventory of our assets and liabilities over the past year, I need to mention some problems as well as all of our accomplishments. Some of the things I found very frustrating this past year were not always having enough time for our meetings, a lack of communication and a lack of participation from the regional nominees. During the quarterly meetings we always tried to allow time for local members to share their questions or concerns with the Committee. We feel this exchange is vital, however, we inevitably would find ourselves working at a frantic pace to complete our agenda for the week end, almost always wishing we could have spent more time in discussion or in the actual writing. This resulted in a general consensus that it will be necessary for the Committee to meet more frequently next year.

The lack of communication was also somewhat frustrating. It seems at times that the information contained in these Fellowship Reports is not read or somehow not understood. Even though I have tried to remain available to members of our literature committees and the general membership, there were occasions when members chose not to discuss their concerns with me or the other trusted servants of the committee, choosing instead to take some type of action which in some cases resulted in unnecessary confusion and even disunity.

The third point is that we desperately need the full participation of each member of the Committee. For several years now, RSR's have come to the World Service Conference prepared to nominate members from their regions to serve on the World Literature Committee. The only problem is that they frequently don't discuss it with the person they're nominating or with their region. This often results in members being elected to serve who either are unwilling or unable to keep the commitment. *Please* don't nominate members to serve on a world level committee without first checking with them. Service on any committee, especially world service committees, is a very big job requiring a great deal of work and a substantial amount of travel. We would like to encourage members to be responsible both in making and in accepting nominations. If you are unable to attend at least two (if not all) of the committee meetings, don't accept a nomination. It isn't necessary to be a member of the World Literature Committee in order to express your views or input on literature. N.A. members are always encouraged and welcomed to send in their input. By the same token, the Literature Committee needs committed, dedicated members, supported by their regions, who consistently attend the meetings in order to accomplish the work set down for us.

I'm looking forward to WSC '87. God bless you all.

To: The Fellowship
 From: Randy Jones, Chairperson
 WSC H&I Committee

This past year has been an extremely active time for H&I and the committee has been very productive. We have completed or made significant progress on all of the items on our 1986-87 agenda.

The majority of our time and effort has been spent on our first agenda item which was finding a viable alternative to existing H&I funding practices. It had become obvious that our funding practices were becoming unworkable for a variety of reasons outlined in previous Fellowship Reports. After much prayer and discussion, the committee acknowledged the need to return H&I funding to the service structure of Narcotics Anonymous and to retire the use of H&I cans. The Conference Agenda Report contains our motions designed to accomplish this and to update our guidelines to comply with the return to this method of funding.

We had several agenda items which would have resulted in amendments to the WSC H&I guidelines. As we began to work on those items, several things became clear. We decided to review all our guidelines. The task of reviewing and revising the guidelines is a projected project for the 1987-88 committee. Ad-hoc committees are already working on a section more specifically directed toward H&I work in treatment settings and a section on workshops and learning days. We will present an amendment to the guidelines which will clarify the restricted access aspect of H&I meetings.

We completed our work on the proposed booklet "For Those in Treatment" and submitted our final draft to the Literature Review Committee. We hope to have a similar booklet directed to addicts in correctional facilities ready to submit to Literature Review by the end of the 87-88 Conference year.

A directory of area and regional H&I committees is being put together, and we expect to have a draft of a directory of H&I meetings ready by the end of the year. We are continuing to urge the registration of all H&I meetings with the H&I Project Coordinator at the WSO

We worked with the WSC PI Committee to include H&I information in a mailing which went out to military, treatment, and correctional officials.

The distribution of the H&I Newsletter, *Reaching Out* has continued to grow. Subscriptions, however, have been slow coming in. We would like to again make the Fellowship aware that subscriptions are available.

In closing it should be noted that the committee will be presenting motions, pursuant to our year's activity, in the Conference Agenda Report. We continue to solicit your input on our ongoing projects.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service.

To: The Fellowship
 From: Ed Duquette, Chairperson
 WSC Policy Committee

Greetings from the WSC Policy Committee. I hope this past holiday season has brought you all as much gratitude for freedom from the disease of addiction as I have experienced. In reflection, past holiday seasons have been surrounded by feelings of sorrow and bewilderment in coping with the disarray of my natural family. The Fellowship has always filled the void with encouragement to progress with my spirituality as a tool to heal these emotional wounds.

Each year has proved to be less and less painful. I have found that acceptance, love and faith have replaced most of the sadness. This past season has brought me a closeness with my family that I have never before experienced. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of Narcotics Anonymous, the Fellowship; both present and past, for giving me the strength and principles to continue recovering from the disease of addiction. I am eternally grateful for this newfound awareness. Thank you all!

As the year rounds to a close, the Policy Committee finds itself preparing for the annual Conference. We have finalized our agenda items during a conference call on December 21, 1986. During this conference call we made some amendments to the work-to-date, and discussed a plan of action for the one remaining agenda item that is incomplete. As a result of this conference call, the committee has agreed to present four (4) items for consideration at the annual Conference. I will be presenting these items in detail to the Fellowship via the Conference Agenda Report.

1. Guidelines for the WSC Policy Committee
2. An approval process for literature, handbooks, guidelines, etc., intended for use by service committees.
3. An approval process for audio and visual tools intended for use by service committees.
4. An approval process for public information tools which have an immediate time restraint.

Another important part of preparing for the annual Conference is to prepare an agenda to recommend to next year's Policy Committee. There was one item of this year's agenda that was left incomplete: a set of rules of order for the WSC to be recommended for adoption by the WSC. This item should be a priority for next year's agenda.

Within the Policy Committee's new guidelines is embodied a new and extremely important concept of purpose: to compile information on requests for the addition of new regions. Probably what will be the most busy part of next year's agenda will be the development of a vehicle to accomplish this task.

Another item of importance to the Policy Committee should be to continue to assist the Select Committee in its efforts to complete *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*, as well as to become knowledgeable of this manual to be a resource to the Conference and the Fellowship of the concepts within.

The WSC Policy Committee has undergone some rather exiting changes this year. We have solidified and restructured into a stable and necessary part of the World Service Conference. The innovation that I have spoken of so often this year is evident in what the committee has accomplished this past year, and focused on for the future of the committee.

The diversity of this year's Policy Committee is what has made this committee dynamic, innovative and relentless. We have each presented, in committee, that which is our individual insights to compassionately resolve our common perplexities. I feel we have accomplished some tremendous works.

It has been a privilege to serve the Policy Committee thus far. I'm looking forward to representing this committee on the floor of the World Service Conference. Service to N.A. is truly service to ourselves.

To: The Fellowship
From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
 World Service Board of Trustees

At the 1986 World Service Conference the Board of Trustees (BOT) presented articles on five recurring issues that the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous has been struggling with. We had asked for your input so that your views could be included in the revised articles to be presented at the 1987 WSC for approval or disapproval.

We have discussed the wisdom of voting on these articles at the Conference and are unanimous in our belief that a vote need not be taken.

The Board of Trustees has been discussing these subjects for at least two years and we have attempted to blend our experience with the input from many members, groups and service committees. The process of refining our opinions with input received from the Fellowship has been both enlightening and spiritually fulfilling. Indeed, the opinions presented here reflect our present understanding of these issues, and in time may very well change. These prospects for change and growth can strengthen, rather than diminish, our courage to be firm in applying this knowledge now.

From the original five articles, two of them have reached completion and are included here. As the others progress and become finalized, they will be published in upcoming issues of the Fellowship Report. With all of these articles, we welcome continued input from the Fellowship.

The opinions presented here represent our efforts to provide guidance which is founded in our collective experience, spiritual principles, and sincere interest in the future of N.A. Each member of the BOT supports these positions, and the Board as a whole believes that this type of guidance is what the Fellowship has asked for.

Two areas of common concern were present in both the input and Board discussions. One of these was the concept of the BOT taking on a controlling or regulating function, and the other was preservation of the groups' autonomy as well as the group conscience process.

None of us see ourselves or our service board as performing any type of regulating, controlling or rule-making function. Our positions and opinions are not intended to be used as rules, nor as enforcement tools. They are offered for use by N.A. members, groups, and service committees to utilize in exploring and resolving issues which relate to any or all of the Twelve Traditions. We believe that the issues addressed in these articles are all interrelated with our common welfare, unity and our primary purpose.

We believe our role is to advise the Fellowship and present the opportunity for these issues to be discussed amongst our members, service boards and committees. The BOT, both individually and collectively, have unwavering faith in the group conscience process and in group autonomy. This faith and trust applies to every element of N.A.

The BOT has examined its motivation and purpose. Our intent is to help our Fellowship, and our sole objective in providing the following articles is to offer guidance to the worldwide Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

OPEN AND CLOSED N.A. MEETINGS:

The purpose of the World Service Board of Trustees in addressing open and closed N.A. meetings is to help N.A. members understand precisely what N.A. meetings can offer to both addicts and non-addicts, and how different types of N.A. meetings have different purposes. Awareness of this need for guidance has been sparked by letters and communication from the Fellowship at large. This communication has revealed the need of the Fellowship to know what Narcotics Anonymous is and how we carry our message.

The population at large is gaining an increased awareness of our Fellowship and an increased interest in our meetings. Input which the Board of Trustees has received highlights examples of confusion which can exist when interested non-addicts or people who are uncertain of their status, attend N.A. meetings. This confusion can be magnified when these individuals participate in our meetings.

Our message of recovery in meetings can be clouded or diluted if anyone other than an N.A. member participates. In our meetings, confusion can be created when people such as parents, spouses, therapists, members of other Fellowships, or other people who are not N.A. members share and speak at N.A. meetings.

We always encourage respect, tact, and diplomacy when confronted with circumstances where non-addicts attend regular N.A. meetings. Most of these occasions do not present continuing problems for our groups. However, with continued growth and increased awareness about N.A., all of us must look ahead. It is our belief that, by gaining clarity about open and closed N.A. meetings, our members can be guided well in how we all carry the message of recovery from drug addiction to addicts, as well as to all others who are interested.

For these reasons and in the interest of Narcotics Anonymous, the World Service Board of Trustees recommends the following guidelines and definitions:

1. A Narcotics Anonymous meeting, whether it is open or closed, is an addict sanctuary. It is the one place where a drug addict can go and hear about and participate in recovery from the disease of drug addiction. As much as we might sometimes like, we cannot be all things to all people.
2. An open meeting is an N.A. meeting which may be attended by anyone interested in recovery from addiction. However, verbal participation is limited to N.A. members only. An open meeting in Narcotics Anonymous serves several functions. It allows people from outside of the Fellowship (for instance: judges, probation officers, professionals, family members) to observe what Narcotics Anonymous is and how it functions. It provides a place for anyone to gain information regarding the disease of drug addiction and how to find recovery. This can be very helpful to those individuals who are striving to reach a decision regarding their personal status as an addict. An open meeting in Narcotics Anonymous is one method our groups use to achieve their primary purpose of carrying the message to the addict who still suffers.
3. A closed meeting in Narcotics Anonymous is only for those individuals who are there because of their own drug addiction problem. These meetings do not generally exclude people who are undecided about identifying as an addict; however, participation is still limited to drug addicts only. A closed Narcotics Anonymous meeting provides the freedom which is necessary for a more personal and intimate sharing by Narcotics Anonymous members.

4. Our service structure provides the only appropriate avenues for non-addict participation in Narcotics Anonymous. In addition to recognizing the need and value of non-addict trustees (*Temporary Working Guide to the Service Structure*) and non-addict special workers (Tradition Eight), the Fellowship has approved material (*A Guide to Public Information*) which provides for Public Information/Community Meetings. These meetings are the vehicle for service committee efforts which are aimed at communicating information about our Fellowship to the general public. These are not regular N.A. meetings and are the preferred approach to informing the general public about Narcotics Anonymous. This approach avoids confusion, presents no threat to anonymity, does not affect the N.A. message in regular meetings, and allows us to satisfy our recovery and service needs while at the same time meet the needs of non-addicts who are interested in N.A.

SPECIAL NEEDS -- COMMON NEEDS

THE PROBLEM

We have been asked to discuss "Special Interest Groups," meetings such as "men's meetings," "women's meetings," "gay meetings," young people's meetings and meetings that take into account the special needs of the deaf, the blind and others who are physically disabled. The question is whether such "special" meetings are in accord with Traditions One (*"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on N.A. unity"*), Three (*"The only requirement for N.A. membership is a desire to stop using"*), Five (*"Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry the message to the addict who still suffers"*), and Ten (*"N.A. has no opinion on outside issues; hence the N.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy"*).

Some members believe these meetings impede recovery by setting some addicts apart from others and violate our spiritual principles by a process of exclusion. There are others who believe that such meetings - if they do not refuse any addict who wishes to attend - not only enhance recovery, but promote N.A. unity by improving some addicts' ability to identify with other addicts in the same Program.

DISCUSSION

Even N.A., as a whole, maintains a certain degree of exclusivity in order to exist as an entity. We insist that our requirement for membership is a desire to stop using drugs. For our members, the disease of addiction manifests as drug abuse. Our purpose, however, is not to promote differences. Rather it is to provide parameters of identification that enable us to address problems that are specific to us.

We believe that the term "special interest," is itself, a problem. The word "special" reminds us of the rationalizations we used in active addiction. Calling ourselves "special" kept us separate, isolated, alienated, apart from the rest of humanity.

The overwhelming majority of the letters that we have received on this subject attest that isolation and alienation are not the result of these "special interest" meetings. These meetings bring together addicts with common needs. They are a coming-together in what many addicts consider a "comfortable" place to share certain problems.

Perhaps then, it's time to look at this another way. Instead of talking about

"special interest," let's talk about "common needs."

Meetings that serve the common needs of addicts are an appropriate and successful way to carry the message of N.A. recovery. If their primary purpose is to discuss addiction and recovery, and if they are still available to any addict seeking the N.A. message, then men's meetings, women's meetings, gay meetings, and young people's meetings are not in violation of our traditions. Whatever the focus of a particular meeting, the group can dispel any appearances of "specialness" by making it clear in their directories that all addicts are welcome. An example of this might be: Gay Meeting (all addicts welcome), or Men's Meeting (although women may attend), etc.

In keeping with all N.A. meetings, "common needs" meetings are never an appropriate setting for discussion of anything but addiction and recovery. For example, a women's meeting is not the place to talk about the Equal Rights Amendment or the pros and cons of child custody laws; nor is a men's meeting the place to discuss dating practices, football games or how to fix a Chevy. When common needs meetings address the needs of a group of addicts, without excluding any addict, they work. This is the strongest argument in their favor.

FELLOWSHIP INPUT

From the letters we have received, it is apparent that instead of causing N.A. disunity, meetings that address common needs are often the place where some addicts first begin to feel at home in N.A. as a whole.

One member writes, "I found myself feeling very uncomfortable in mixed meetings. This was a fear that I have worked very hard at overcoming. I started to attend an N.A. women's meeting. Since that time, my life has changed dramatically. The women who attend that meeting have helped me more than I could ever say."

One gay man wrote that, "Our experience has been the total contrary of isolationism." He says that before his area started a gay N.A. meeting, "Practically all gay people seeking recovery" felt they had to seek it in another Twelve Step Program. But, since the gay N.A. meeting has been underway, "I have come out of my closet of feeling isolated from my fellow addicts, and I have been able to share with addicts who happen to be heterosexual. But, first I had to come to terms with self-acceptance, with which the Tuesday Gay Discussion helped me immeasurably."

A straight man told us, "I have found all the love, acceptance and understanding that I needed when I first came to N.A. I do not believe that the same is true for other--gays, women, adolescents, etc." He supports meetings for those common needs.

Another member says, "We need to get newcomers into meetings where they feel comfortable until they themselves know this is safe place to be, no matter what meeting they are in."

Many addicts who sent their input wrote that these meetings helped them feel secure enough to share their fears and hopes with addicts with whom it was easy to identify and lay the foundation of recovery.

One woman put it this way, "I don't think that I could ever thank the women who have helped me to stay clean by telling me what I needed to hear and not what I wanted to hear."

One member reminded us of the program cliché, "The men with the men, the women with the women." What better way to insure this than by having men's and women's meetings? In our women's meetings, women can talk about what's bothering them without being afraid of being judged. Every week, at least thirty to forty women attend this meeting. This is no mistake. There has got to be a reason for it, and the reason is, IT WORKS!"

From another female member, "If it is true that no one better understands recovery than the recovering addict, and that there are certain challenges within our recovery that are particular to our own sex, then is it not also true that recovering addicts of our own sex coming together to share our experience, strength and hope is an excellent tool?"

It isn't only the women who report that they find a special atmosphere of honesty in their meetings. One man wrote, "My experience with men's meetings is an air of comfortability and ease that I enjoy. There are some issues I don't want to discuss in front of members of the opposite sex."

And this from a gay member, "Many of my gay sisters and brothers are too frightened to be open at straight meetings, so they lie. It makes no difference that you and I may know that dishonesty is unnecessary. They believe it, and as a result they are prevented from being honest." He adds, "That doing away with meetings that fulfill common needs of gay addicts in particular, would make it considerably more difficult to enter the Program and to stay in recovery."

The input makes a strong point that "common needs" meetings foster spiritual principles of honesty and openness among those addicts who attend them. As one member put it, "People go to these meetings not to be outlaws, but to get recovery."

But what about the rest of the Fellowship? Here are some examples of how these meetings can attend to the needs of the Fellowship as a whole. We were told about one meeting, "...which is attended by men only. Women can stay if they want, but it doesn't happen, mainly because there is a women's meeting five blocks down the street."

In another area: "We have had several occasions on which a man showed up at the women's meeting for one reason or another. At one time it was more fair and convenient to allow him to stay, and we did. At another time it turned out to be more reasonable for me to drive him to another meeting, and I did. We have been careful to refuse no one."

A woman from another area writes: "The group conscience was that should a male addict come to our meeting seeking recovery, we would not turn him away." She tells us that the men's and women's only meetings are held on the same night at the same location, right across the hall from one another, with yet a third co-ed meeting somewhere else. "I feel with this situation, no addict who seeks recovery will be turned away."

A gay member tells us, "We wanted a place to come where all addicts, no matter what their sexual preference (or confusion), could come and share their fears, hopes, strength, and program without rejection. In our meeting we practice anonymity in two ways. We honor each other as addicts seeking recovery, and then as gay men and women. Whomever attends our meeting need never worry about their privacy. Heterosexuals are welcome and invited to attend. We only ask that they come with an open mind and leave with a closed mouth."

To present another point of view, one member wrote to voice his concern for areas where there are not many meetings. He suggested that on nights with only a "common needs" meeting available, some addicts might be prevented from attending a meeting where they feel welcome.

From the letters we have received, we see that it is very rare for an addict to rely on "common needs" meetings alone and avoid regular N.A. meetings altogether. One letter in particular summed it up very well for us, "I would not want to go to ONLY women's meetings, because in that way I would cut myself off from at least half the Fellowship, and at least half the possible avenues for God to speak to me. But once a week, it has helped me to have a place where I can be honest, where I can be loved without sexual overtones, where I can grow into the person God intended me to be."

PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED ADDICT

What about the physically impaired addict? They have needs in common with each other too. A WSC Ad-Hoc Task Force defines them as "Additional Needs" addicts, who are "those individuals for whom receiving the message of recovery is limited, impaired, or inaccessible due to physical, audiological, or linguistic difficulties or handicaps." For these addicts it is not a matter of having meetings especially for them, instead, we believe it is necessary to make our meetings available to them. We need to have meetings with wheelchair access, with ASL signers for the deaf, and with other facilities and services so that our message of recovery may reach them as well.

SUMMARY

Our traditions encourage us to place spiritual principles above personalities. Narcotics Anonymous does not judge anyone, does not fear anyone, does not discriminate against anyone. Narcotics Anonymous tells us that the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. The Fellowship embraces us in a spirit of faith and love and acceptance. There is no place in N.A. for a meeting that tells any addict that he or she is not welcome.

We believe that any N.A. meeting addressing the common needs of a certain group of addicts - without excluding any addict in need - not only upholds the traditions but promotes our common welfare by improving the chances of recovery of those needing some extra attention. We believe that such meetings help fulfill our primary purpose by delivering the N.A. message of recovery in an environment of respect, value and acceptance.

As our Fellowship continues to mature, all N.A. meetings will eventually accept with equanimity men and women, homosexuals and heterosexuals, young and old. The necessity for "common needs" meetings will disappear as regular meetings become more closely identified with our primary purpose and more able to discuss non-judgementally any subject relating to recovery, no matter how delicate.

We believe that the principle of unity is achieved when N.A. members and groups agree to be guided by the spiritual principles that motivate our program of recovery. However, we also believe that groups can still autonomously decide what they wish to call themselves, and what topics relating to recovery they wish to discuss.

God is the ultimate authority in N.A. and as long as "common needs" meetings allow for and enhance the recovery of particular segments of our Fellowship, then we must not let our fears and prejudices get in God's way. Just as we believe that a loving God removes these character defects from us as individuals, so also do we believe that any N.A. meeting motivated by the character defects of the group will be removed. We believe that our common welfare is upheld by the spirit of unity, love, and acceptance. We believe that adherence to these spiritual principles is God's will for us and that our recovery depends on them.

TO: The Fellowship
FROM: WSO

In the last Fellowship Report we reported that a proposal for a comprehensive taping policy was being considered and would be proposed in the forthcoming Conference Agenda Report. After further consideration, the Board elected to not make a proposal to the Conference on this subject.

Also in the last report was a brief discussion on the *World Directory*. We have begun to receive comments and suggestions. We appreciate this input and seek additional comments that may be offered.

The second service office workshop, scheduled to be held on March 21 and 22 in Atlanta, Georgia, will be well attended. More than 45 people have already indicated that they plan to attend. We appreciate the early notification we have received, as it permits us to be more completely prepared. Others who have not indicated their plans, but who will be attending, are requested to call or drop a note in the mail to Steve Sigman here at the office.

In 1984 the WSC adopted a motion that sought to involve the WSO along with the WSC Literature Committee in the work to produce a "History of N.A." While little was done on this project by us or the WLC, we have begun to allocate time to this project. Our current plans are to begin a search for information. There exists, scattered around the Fellowship, a wealth of members who were part of the earlier times in N.A. We hope to arrange for taped interviewed to be conducted with these oldtimers in order to gather knowledge of their early participation. Additionally there is a large accumulation of papers, letters, reports and other written matter stored in members' homes, garages and offices. We hope to begin a systematic collection of this information. After we have collected this data, we will turn it over to the Literature Committee for them to develop into a draft document. Following the normal procedure of things it may be a few more years until a draft is really available.

This is the first of what will be a number of requests for members who have copies or originals of historical papers related to N.A. to make copies and send us the copy. If you would like to discuss this project or have information that we should have, please contact Bob Stone. More on this project will be discussed in future Fellowship Reports.

This month will mark an anniversary for the WSO. The corporation that manages the Office was officially formed in January 1977. Although the Office, such as it was at the time, had existed prior to that time, there was no corporation. The Office was managed on an informal basis with a group of directors and volunteers. But it became obvious that a formal legal structure was needed and the articles of incorporation were filed. The corporation began to function at that time and has remained in continuous operation since.

During the first several years, growth was fairly slow. Little income was generated from sales of literature--most of the literature then in use was being made by members from copies they got from someone else. Donations from within the Fellowship were sought, but little really came in. During the first year of operation only \$533.00 was received from all sources. It was from that humble beginning that we now serve a Fellowship with over 8,000 meetings in 43 different countries.

Last summer we initiated a request for area committees to keep us informed of changes in names or addresses of their committees. This was initiated for the purpose of being able to provide direct communication to them of the *Newsline* and Fellowship Report. There has been considerable success as a result of that request. Recent mailings of the *Newsline* and Fellowship Report included the addresses we had received. In order for this to continue, it will be important that someone at the area committee be assigned the responsibility to provide the WSO on a regular basis any names and addresses that change.

TO: The Fellowship
FROM: WCNA-17 Host Committee,
New Orleans, LA

It is an honor and privilege for us to be active participants in the Host Committee for WCNA-17. The Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana during the Labor Day holiday of September 3-6, 1987. One of the responsibilities of the Convention Information Sub-Committee, is to write updates for the *Newsline* to inform the Fellowship of how the convention is progressing. It is relatively easy to provide such information by merely copying from the reports of each sub-committee. However, we of the C.I. Sub-Committee, feel it is also important to write briefly on the importance of the spiritual principle so vital to our recovery, that of unity.

First, here is an update from our last Host Committee meeting held on December 14, 1987:

The Hotels and Hospitality Sub-Committee is working on parking rates at two separate garages for the most reasonable price. Also, because of the expected large attendance, the need for walkie-talkies is being looked into. These will be provided by the Sheraton at a daily rate. This committee has been hard at work, and due to their efforts, WCNA-17 and the Sheraton are able to maintain a most vital liaison.

The Entertainment Sub-Committee has accepted a contract for a midnight cruise to be held on Friday after a tentative "costume ball." For those of you in the Fellowship who aren't familiar with the New Orleans Mardi Gras, this will surely give you a taste of it! As far as other entertainment, the committee is working on getting some top-notch talent.

The Registration Sub-Committee is working on what information is needed to go on the flyer. They have received some early registrations from London and the Nashville convention. Prices have been discussed on I.D. badges, and a decision will be reached at their next meeting. The flyer is almost completed and will be included with the next *Newsline*.

The Arts and Graphics Sub-Committee presented three photos for the art work of the flyers and posters. One was finally voted on and accepted by the Host Committee to be our logo.

The Program Sub-Committee has put together a tentative schedule of meetings and workshops. The topics look very promising. They have also decided locations for these meetings on Thursday and Friday. There will also be a sign language interpreter for the hearing impaired. Lists are being compiled for chairpeople for the workshops and meetings.

The Merchandising Sub-Committee is compiling prices for T-shirts and mugs. They are working with Registration to get price information on the I.D. badges. Also, prices have been sent to Arts and Graphics for the posters.