

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS.®



89/90

CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT

**MATERIALS FOR CONFERENCE APPROVAL
JANUARY 23, 1990**

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT 1990

INTRODUCTION

This *Conference Agenda Report* represents the work your WSC committees and service boards have prepared for your consideration at the World Service Conference scheduled in April, 1990.

This report is divided into four sections. The first section contains the agenda for the 1990 WSC. We generally follow the agenda as set forth in the *Conference Agenda Report*. However, it frequently becomes necessary to adjust our schedule as the conference progresses, depending on how much we accomplish during each of the sessions. Even though we prefer to adhere to the agenda, we have found it necessary to remain flexible.

The second section consists of reports from new regions. Early in the agenda, on Monday, new regions will be introduced and asked to present oral reports. A question and answer period will follow, and then the conference will vote on whether to seat each region as a voting participant of the WSC.

The third section includes reports from each of the WSC committees and boards, and their items for old business. During the 1990 WSC, we will try to delineate more clearly between those items of old business and items of new business. The items from WSC committees and boards contained in this *Conference Agenda Report* are considered items of old business. These items are printed in bold type throughout this report. In addition, amendments and substitute motions pertaining to these items of old business will be considered during old business. All other items of business will be considered new business. New business will generally be those items giving direction to our WSC boards and committees for the upcoming year. There are bound to be exceptions to the general descriptions of old and new business, and again we will remain flexible enough to take care of all business in an appropriate manner.

The fourth section contains addenda material. The JAC decided at its January meeting to include in an addendum the regional motions received after the WSC committee meetings in St. Louis. Regional motions are presented in the same form in which they were submitted.

Included as Addendum 5 are separate nomination forms developed and used by several WSC committees. They are included here for your information and use as may be appropriate.

We will provide an orientation session to conference participants on the Sunday before the conference officially begins. This session will give us an opportunity to get acquainted and to familiarize ourselves with how the WSC is conducted.

A copy of this report was distributed at conference expense to each participant of the World Service Conference and to each registered RSC. This fulfills the official responsibility of the WSC to notify the fellowship of items being considered at the 1990 conference. Additional copies, however, can be purchased from the WSO by any member, group, or service committee. An order form was included in the December *Fellowship Report*.

If there are any questions pertaining to this report, please call the WSO and one of our staff will assist you or arrange for assistance from a member of the appropriate committee.

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WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT WSC 1990

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- (1) Report of Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups
- (2) *Behind The Walls*
- (3) *The Group Booklet*
- (4) WSC Literature Committee Work List
- (5) Committee Nomination Forms
- (6) Input Received From Regions After November 5, 1989

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE 1990 TENTATIVE AGENDA

SUNDAY, APRIL 22nd

Pre-Conference Workshop

5:00 p.m.

This two-hour session is intended to provide information regarding an overview of the procedures used during the conference for debate, proposing motions, and action taken on reports or motions. We will also introduce officers of the conference, the committees and boards, and members of staff who will be assisting us during the conference. This is a voluntary and optional workshop intended to benefit conference participants.

MONDAY, APRIL 23rd

Session 1	OPENING REMARKS AND ROLL CALL ADOPTION OF WSC PROCEDURES REPORTS FROM RSRs OF NEW REGIONS (Nominations open--see Election Procedures)	9:00 a.m.
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Recess (Lunch)		12:30 p.m.
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Session 2	COMMITTEE MEETINGS: H&I, POLICY, PUBLIC INFORMATION, LITERATURE, AD HOC COMMITTEES	2:00 p.m.
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Recess for the day		6:00 p.m.
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N.A. Meeting (site to be announced)		8:30 p.m.
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TUESDAY, APRIL 24th

Session 3	GENERAL FORUM	9:00 a.m.
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Recess (Lunch)		1:00 p.m.
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Session 4	ROLL CALL REPORTS AND WORLD SERVICE ITEMS FOR OLD BUSINESS	2:30 p.m.
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(The reports presented in this session will be a review of accomplishments during the past year, a short question and answer period, followed by each committee's items of business for consideration by the conference.)

WSC CHAIRPERSON
WSC VICE CHAIRPERSON
WSC SECOND VICE CHAIRPERSON
WSC TREASURER (Approval of Report)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 ADMIN & JAC ITEMS FOR OLD BUSINESS
 WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 WORLD SERVICE OFFICE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 WSC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ISOLATED GROUPS
 WSC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON N.A. SERVICE
 WSC HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
 WSC LITERATURE COMMITTEE
 WSC POLICY COMMITTEE
 WSC PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE
 WORLD CONVENTION CORPORATION

Recess (Dinner)		6:00 p.m.
Session 4, cont.	ROLL CALL REPORTS AND WORLD SERVICE ITEMS FOR OLD BUSINESS	7:30 p.m.
Recess for the day	(Nominations closed)	10:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25th

Session 4, cont.	ROLL CALL REPORTS AND WORLD SERVICE ITEMS FOR OLD BUSINESS	9:00 a.m.
Recess (Lunch)	(Nominee list handed out)	Noon
Session 4, cont.	ROLL CALL REPORTS AND WORLD SERVICE ITEMS FOR OLD BUSINESS	1:30 p.m.
Recess (Dinner)		5:30 p.m.
Session 5	ROLL CALL INTRODUCTION OF NOMINEES (Q&A SESSION) WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WSC OFFICERS WSC COMMITTEE CHAIRS & VICE CHAIRS WSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORLD CONVENTION CORPORATION N.A. WAY	7:00 p.m.
Recess for the day		9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26th

Session 6	ROLL CALL ELECTIONS (WRITTEN BALLOT)	9:00 a.m.
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Session 7	ADOPTION OF WSC BUDGET	10:00 a.m.
Session 6 (cont.)	RUN-OFF ELECTIONS (if needed)	11:30 a.m.
Recess (Lunch)		12:30 p.m.
Session 8	COMMITTEE MEETINGS: LITERATURE, H&I, PUBLIC INFORMATION, POLICY, AD HOC COMMITTEES	2:00 p.m.

(These meetings of the new committees are for the purpose of establishing recommended plans for the coming year to be presented to the conference in Session 9.)

Recess for the day	6:00 p.m.
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FRIDAY, APRIL 27th

Session 9	REPORTS & WORLD SERVICE ITEMS FOR NEW BUSINESS	9:00 a.m.
Adjournment of the 1990 World Service Conference		3:00 p.m.

The sessions and times indicated throughout this tentative agenda are subject to adjustment depending on the pace of the conference.

REPORTS FROM NEW REGIONS

ROBERT L. FENERAN
REGIONAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
NORTH NEW JERSEY REGION
2 ANN ST, APT S307
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TO: WORLD SERVICE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 9999
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DECEMBER 15, 1989

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR REGIONAL SEATING AT THE WSC

THE NORTH NEW JERSEY REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE WAS FORMED ON OCTOBER 29, 1989 FOLLOWING A SERIES OF 6 AD HOC MEETINGS SPANNING A PERIOD OF MORE THAN SEVEN MONTHS. THE AREAS INVOLVED IN THE FORMATION ARE AND STILL KNOWN AS THE BERGEN, ESSEX, HUDSON, PASSAIC, MORRIS AND SUSSEX WARREN AREAS SERVICES, SERVING THE COUNTIES WITHIN THE STATE WHICH BEAR THEIR NAMES. IN ADDITION, AN AREA KNOWN AS THE ORIGINAL N.J. AREA HAS JOINED US. THESE AREAS WERE FORMALLY PART OF THE MOTHER REGION KNOWN AS THE NEW JERSEY REGION WHICH CONSISTED OF 15 AREAS PRIOR TO THIS REGIONAL SUBDIVISION.

IT IS OUR INTENTION TO ATTEND THE W.S.C. AND BE INTRODUCED BY THE MOTHER REGION (NJRSC) WHEN THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE CONVENES IN APRIL OF 1990. WE THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT THE WORLD SERVICE POLICY COMMITTEE INCLUDE OUR INTRODUCTION AND REQUEST FOR VOTING PARTICIPATION AS AN AGENDA ITEM AT THE CONFERENCE.

ATTACHED ARE DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS AND HISTORIES OF THE PREVIOUS REGIONAL AND AREA FORMATIONS WHICH PARTICIPATED IN AND LEAD UP TO THIS REGIONAL CHANGE ALONG WITH THE RATIONAL FOR THE SUBDIVISION.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE FORMATION OF THIS REGION WILL BE A VALUABLE ASSET TO THE MEMBERSHIP AREAS AND GROUPS WE SERVE AS WELL AS THE FELLOWSHIP AS A WHOLE. WE ARE COMMITTED TO WORK WITH THE MOTHER REGION NOT ONLY TO ASSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND UNITY BUT ALSO TO SHARE A VARIETY OF SERVICES WHICH ARE VITAL TO THE FELLOWSHIP. WE ARE DEDICATED TO CARRYING THE MESSAGE TO THE STILL SUFFERING ADDICT. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE REFER TO THE ENCLOSED INFORMATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND COOPERATION IN THIS ENDEAVOR

IN LOVING SERVICE,



ROBERT L. FENERAN
REGIONAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION

To: The Fellowship
From: WSC Administrative Committee

The WSC Administrative Committee received notice from Mike Wienstein, RSR of the South West Region in England, that he plans to attend the 1990 meeting of the World Service Conference. At that time he will ask that the region be seated as a voting participant of the conference. The region did not send a report for inclusion in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

To: The Fellowship

From: WSC Administrative Committee
Bob Hunter, WSC Chairperson

The WSC Administrative Committee has one item of business, pertaining to the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service.

Ad hoc committees are formed for a specific purpose or task. When that purpose is fulfilled or task completed, the ad hoc committee is dismissed. The Administrative Committee believes the distribution of the drafts this fiscal year by the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service is not the completion of the committee's task. We believe more work is deemed necessary, such as participating in workshops on *The Guide*, factoring in fellowship input, and developing a final draft. The Administrative Committee therefore recommends that the WSC adopt the following motion:

#1: That the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service continue work on *The Guide to Service* until it is completed, and a final draft is distributed.

Contained as Addendum 1 of this *Conference Agenda Report*, as an item for discussion at the WSC, is the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups/Meetings. The committee hopes that participants will discuss some of the questions and conclusions outlined in its report, during the time provided at the meeting of the conference. If participants express an interest in continuing the work of the committee and seeking more definitive answers to the questions and issues raised, the Administrative Committee plans to advance a motion continuing the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups/Meetings for another year.

To: The Fellowship

From: WSC Joint Administrative Committee
Bob Hunter, WSC Chairperson

The 1988/89 WSC directed the Joint Administrative Committee to address two items to be included in the 1989/90 *Conference Agenda Report*. Both of those items (RSR and alternate travel to the WSC, and translations at the WSC) are presented here for your consideration.

In addition, a motion from last year's *Conference Agenda Report*, regarding an expanded Joint Administrative Committee meeting to be held annually in January, was committed by the conference to the Joint Administrative Committee. We briefly discussed this committed motion at our May meeting and decided that an expanded meeting for the purpose of working on the *Conference Agenda Report* is not necessary. Therefore, the Joint Administrative Committee has taken no action on the committed motion.

The Joint Administrative Committee, at its January meeting, added a motion on committee guidelines and handbooks, as well as two substitute motions, one for "Behind The Walls" and one for the WSC Literature Committee's motion regarding special workers. The two substitute motions will be introduced into business during the reports of the H&I and Literature Committees respectively. The Joint Administrative Committee also approved the *Group Booklet* for inclusion in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

Report on RSR and Alternate Travel to the WSC

A motion was passed at the 1989 WSC, as follows:

"That this conference reiterates its desire for the Joint Administrative Committee to produce a workable plan on cost equalization for approval at WSC 1990, incorporating any necessary proposals concerning the practical application of the plan and participation at the WSC." (yes-35; no-28; abstaining-14)

This issue was originally assigned to the Joint Administrative Committee at the 1987 WSC. At that time a motion was adopted to develop and present a proposal outlining a cost equalization plan for participation at the annual WSC. A detailed report/study was prepared by the WSO on behalf of the Joint Administrative Committee, and distributed in the October 1987 *Fellowship Report*. The Joint Administrative Committee included a draft policy in the 1988 *Conference Agenda Report*, indicating that more input and work were needed in order to produce a practical and acceptable plan. The 1988 WSC adopted a motion approving of the cost equalization plan in principle, and urging the Joint Administrative Committee to continue the project for adoption at the 1989 WSC. An ad hoc committee of the Joint Administrative Committee was formed, and work continued on a cost equalization plan.

The motion passed at the 1988 WSC was specific in its reference to "approv(ing) in principle" the JAC's draft on cost equalization, therefore other alternatives for funding RSR travel were not addressed by the ad hoc committee. In the 1989 *Conference Agenda Report*, a report on a cost equalization plan was included by the Joint Administrative

Committee in a section entitled, "JAC Reports--No Action Required." In that report, the Joint Administrative Committee recommended that the cost equalization plan not be adopted at that time. The Joint Administrative Committee had concerns that not all regions would be able to financially participate in the funding of the plan; thus, the plan would fail. Furthermore, the Joint Administrative Committee believed that cost equalization was closely linked to the issue of seating regions at the WSC, and that the seating issue would have to be resolved prior to implementing a cost equalization plan. The conference then passed the above motion liberalizing the methods to be used in completing the project (i.e., "incorporating any necessary proposals").

The plan presented in this *Conference Agenda Report* was developed by the WSC chair based on discussions with various world level servants, including RSRs from non-U.S. regions. The plan is not a cost equalization plan; it is an addition to the annual WSC budget and would be funded the same as any other item in the budget, through fellowship donations to the WSC. Therefore, if this proposal is adopted based on our current fund flow, the regions are in effect making a commitment to be responsible to fund travel for the RSRs and RSR alternates to the annual WSC.

If adopted, the addition to the 1990-91 budget would be approximately \$43,000. This amount was determined by estimating the cost of travel for RSRs and RSR alternates to the 1990 WSC and adding 15% to account for increased travel expenses and new regions.

The Joint Administrative Committee has had extensive discussions on RSR travel to the annual WSC. The consensus of the JAC is that the travel plan presented here fulfills the requirements of the motion adopted at last year's conference. We further believe that this plan is the most fair and workable plan that we can develop at this time.

The JAC discussions regarding RSR travel to the WSC were practical as well as philosophical in nature. From a practical standpoint, the JAC had concerns that regions may not pass on to the WSC the funds that in the past they have spent for travel to the annual conference. An increase in the budget of \$43,000 is approximately \$700 per region, assuming 60 regions. This is in addition to the regions' expenses for meals and/or lodging, depending on regional policy. However, in reality, some regions would fund more than others, as is the case for other items in the WSC budget. The JAC also had concerns about the priority of RSR and alternate travel, should this plan be adopted. If adequate funding is not provided by the regions, does travel for RSRs and alternates have the same priority as other costs of the annual WSC? If so, that would put RSR travel to the WSC as a high priority item, and other services and projects may have to be cut if funds are not available.

A majority of the members of the JAC believe this issue goes beyond WSC and RSC finances, and encompasses our basic beliefs and principles with regard to our service structure. Philosophically, there is disagreement among the members of the JAC with regard to the principle(s) that may be inherent in this plan, or in any plan that would assist regions financially in order to participate at the WSC. One could determine that this RSR travel plan supports the principle that RSRs are world-level trusted servants; thus the WSC is responsible to fund RSRs and alternates the same as any other world-level servants, such as WSC committee chairs and vice chairs. Following this logic, lodging and meals would also need to be budgeted. Some JAC members see this as a first step toward total budgeting for all WSC participants.

Taking this principle a step further, is the same true for RSCs and ASCs? Are ASRs and GSRs regional and area trusted servants, respectively? Some members of the JAC believe that RSRs are more like regional advocates; thus the responsibility for funding

lies with each individual region paying for its own RSR and alternate. Some believe that one aspect of being a regional WSC participant is being financially self-supporting as a region, regardless of the distance from the annual WSC meeting.

The members of the JAC are not in agreement on the practical and philosophical concerns described in this report. We recommend that our concerns, as well as others, be thoroughly discussed before adopting the following travel plan. The JAC also believes that any other type of travel plan, such as one which subsidizes only those regions which request aid, will require similar discussions.

#2. "Be It Resolved:

The WSC budget include amounts for travel to the annual World Service Conference for one RSR and one RSR Alternate from each region which has been seated by the conference.

Definitions and Explanations:

WSC Budget: The spending plan adopted at the annual World Service Conference. The budget adopted at the WSC covers the upcoming fiscal year.

Amounts for Travel: Estimated travel costs are determined by the JAC or equivalent world level body. The amount is approved by the conference as part of the annual budget.

Travel: Generally, travel is considered the most economical airfare available. However, travel may also include auto, bus, train or boat, if it is deemed more convenient. The most economical and convenient mode of travel is the one generally used. Any conflicts with regards to mode or cost of travel will be resolved by the WSC body having such responsibility. (Currently the WSC Administrative Committee has the responsibility for approving and expending WSC funds.)

Regions: Those regions which are seated as conference participants will be included in the budget line item. A new region asking to be seated as a WSC participant will be responsible for the travel of their RSR and RSR Alternate to the World Service Conference at which it asks to be seated. Once a region is seated, its travel to the next conference and all subsequent conferences will be included in the WSC budget.

Regional Splits: When new regions are formed by the splitting of an existing region, the regions themselves must agree on which region is the "parent" (i.e., seated region) and which region(s) is the new region(s).

Defunct Regions: A region which ceases to be a region (i.e., no longer serving areas, no elected officers, no WSC participation, etc.) is no longer considered a conference participant at the annual WSC. Such a region, upon becoming active again, will be considered a new region and will fund its representatives to its first WSC. The failure to seat an RSR or RSR Alternate does not necessarily mean a region ceases to be a region. All activities of a region must be taken into account."

* * * * *

Translations at the Conference

The following motion was passed at the 1989 meeting of the WSC:

- "1) That the 1989/1990 WSC Administrative budget reflect a line item for the provision of translation services in the amount of \$15,000 to facilitate the participation of recognized non-English-speaking regions at WSC 1990. The Administrative Committee will be responsible for the disbursement of those funds.
- 2) To refer this issue to the Joint Administrative Committee for the development of a workable plan for presentation to the WSC in 1990. (The motion includes other language barriers, i.e., hearing impairment.)"

Languages:

There presently exist a number of non-English-speaking fellowship communities within the world community of Narcotics Anonymous. The majority of the more developed N.A. communities have had the ability to participate at our annual conference by either selecting an RSR who could speak, read, and write English, or by making funds available for a translator to accompany the RSR to the conference. These more developed N.A. communities have thus far been fortunate: there have been adequate resources to assure their participation.

The remainder of the non-English-speaking N.A. communities have not been able to participate at our annual conference. This stems from three main factors. First, many have not developed structurally to the point where they realize any great value in participating at the World Service Conference. Second, there aren't sufficient resources available for them to participate, should they choose to. And third, there does not exist adequate communication to these fellowship communities about the nature of the conference and its activities.

Ultimately, we will need to address all the different language barriers that affect participation at the conference, including physical barriers such as hearing impairment. At this time, though, in our development as a conference, there are five languages that require immediate attention: French, German, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish.

Events:

We have essentially two types of events for the purposes of translations: assemblies (annual conference, workshops, and committee/board forums, etc.) and meetings (committee/board meetings, panel meetings, conference calls, etc.).

The above motion does not specify what events and/or materials are to be translated. It states generally: "to facilitate the participation of" and "the development of a workable plan." Participation could mean many things. It could mean simply participation at the annual conference. It could also include provisions for an RSR to participate on a conference committee or board. We have always encouraged conference participants to become more involved in world services. There are as well materials that need to be translated for a person to be prepared to participate: the *Conference Agenda Report*, *Fellowship Reports*, conference summary reports, *Newslines*, committee and board reports/minutes, and any other related correspondence.

The least complicated situation that could occur would be a single RSR needing translation services while attending the annual meeting of the conference. We could employ professionals to provide this service. We could also arrange for all related publications/reports to be translated so that this RSR would be prepared for all conference

activities. The situation becomes more complicated as the number of RSRs requesting similar services increases. An extreme scenario might go like this:

A non-English-speaking RSR comes to the conference. During the course of normal events, this RSR is nominated to serve on the Board of Trustees. The elections are held and she is in fact elected. The conference will now need to make provision for the translation of all publications for this new trustee throughout the course of her term. In addition, translation services will need to be arranged for all meetings, workshops, conference calls, and any other regular or special meetings that she will need to attend.

The "development of a workable plan" would have to take into account the most extreme situation. If the "plan" has provisions for participation on conference committees or boards, and all related publications, then anything less than that would be covered.

Methods:

The translation of publications could be handled by the WSO. The WSO would either contract services for the translation of materials, or employ staff with qualifications to perform the needed services. One other option would be to send untranslated publications to non-English-speaking participants and allow them to make arrangements for their own translations. We would need to make financial provisions for this option.

With respect to assembly-type events, we have four options. First, we could arrange for small groups of participants with common language needs to share teams of translators. Second, we could utilize translation equipment and personnel for simultaneous translation. Third, we could provide funds for travel, lodging, and meals for members of the fellowship fluent in a second language to attend these events, and translate either in small groups or with the use of translation equipment. However, these members may be most effective when working one on one. Fourth, we could provide funds for travel, lodging, and meals for participants to acquire their own translators.

With respect to meeting-type events, we have the same four options, although the first two options would only be realistic if groups of three or more participants with common language needs were present. The third option would work best in a one-on-one situation, and the fourth option would work equally well for assembly or meeting-type events.

- 1) Translation for participants at the annual meeting of the conference (five languages) would cost anywhere from \$50,450 to \$90,000, using professional translators, depending on equipment used and whether translation is simultaneous.
- 2) Translation of *Fellowship Reports*, *Conference Agenda Report*, *Newsline*, committee/board reports/minutes into five languages would cost approximately \$220,000 for one year.
- 3) Translation for participants at one WSC workshop (five languages) would cost between \$25,225 and \$45,000, using professional translators, again depending on equipment.
- 4) The WSO would have to hire at least five full-time employees to translate all related publications into five languages.

Summary:

This report is based on the assumption that the translation of our annual meeting, its proceedings, and all other WSC communication, is an incumbent responsibility of the

conference. However, there are some complex realities associated with this assumption that need to be examined. The issue has to be measured within the context of the overall duties of the WSC. Do the associated benefits of simultaneous translation at the WSC warrant the expense? Do we have other choices that are less expensive and more beneficial?

Providing translation services for non-English-speaking participants at the WSC would be a complex and very expensive effort, if we chose professionals to do it. The annual meeting is a continuous event, with flexible hours (average about 9 hours per day of actual discussion), depending upon how fast things are moving. The only set time line is that it will start on Monday and conclude on Friday of the same week. This makes it very difficult to predict by contract which sessions are important to translate, as important information is liable to be presented at any time. Whether translations are done professionally or by volunteer members of the fellowship, it is exhausting work. The task would require either volunteers with a great deal of commitment and dedication, or funding for professionals. The cost and difficulty involved in this task would be mitigated by setting rigid schedules for the conference, and adhering strictly to those schedules.

The use of volunteers as translators would be substantially less expensive than using professionals. It would not be too difficult to convince members in non-English speaking countries to come to the conference at our expense to translate for their fellow members. However, most volunteers will not have the training or experience to translate both the stated meaning and the underlying tone of the presented information. A thorough command of the subtleties of two languages requires proper training and experience. If the conference is willing to go to the expense of providing translations, it should have some confidence that the information is portrayed accurately in the translation. And this would be difficult to assure.

It has often been our experience that members volunteer their services enthusiastically, and only afterwards do they realize they are involved in something beyond their capabilities. A translator plays a monumental role in communicating information, tone, and underlying subtleties of presentation. Expecting volunteers to fulfill such a vital role continuously, throughout the proceedings, just does not seem realistic.

The translation of written communication presents another set of difficulties, mostly involving time, but also expense. In order to translate our current communication tools, the conference would have to publish less often and set rigid deadlines. The average length of time needed to translate a standard two-page letter into French or Spanish is about five to seven working days. Translating the average thirty-page *Fellowship Report* would take about three weeks and cost about \$3,500-\$5,000 per language, or about \$18,000 per issue. Hiring additional WSO staff (four to five persons) would be cheaper, if we could find and afford these skilled members. Translation staff could also assist with other tasks, such as regular communication with the groups and members of non-English-speaking communities.

Another option would be to create a summary, or briefer version of the *Fellowship Report* to distribute in other languages. Of course, we run the risk of everybody wanting the briefer version in English.

Determining need is the most important feature of this discussion. Despite the discussion at the 1989 meeting of the conference, there have been only two requests for translation services in years past; none in the current year. We have never been asked about interpreters for the hearing-impaired. Most of our non-English-speaking N.A. communities have chosen members who speak English as their representatives, without

prior encouragement to do so. Some may argue that this was done because they knew in advance that the WSC was conducted in English, precluding members who don't speak English from consideration. That argument, however, is not altogether convincing. The fact is that those members who speak English are often the first to have received the N.A. message and, more often than not, are among the best informed members in those countries. This may not always be true, but it is certainly the case now and could be for some time.

The need to translate our written communication seems to be far more pressing than providing simultaneous translation services at the conference. The need for translated reports has been voiced continually over the years by a great many members. This would provide the best possible exposure to the greatest number of members, at the least expense. After all, translating at the conference itself provides direct information to only one or two members.

Considering the projected costs of translation (written and spoken), the only reasonable option at this time would be to undertake the translation of selected written materials, and suspend plans for translations at the conference.

It would be wonderful to be able to do all these things and not have to consider the costs. But the cost of providing even the most standard services is rising, and we cannot afford to be led strictly by our emotions on this issue.

* * * * *

Report on Committee Guidelines and Handbooks

Many World Service Conference participants have noted that we spend too much time debating minor changes in handbooks and guidelines, and too little time considering the broader issues facing N.A. world services. True, there are some guideline changes which *must* be submitted to the conference. But most proposed changes affect only the various world service boards and committees themselves. In order to make the annual WSC meeting more productive, while preserving the conference's authority in crucial matters, the WSC Joint Administrative Committee wishes to propose the following policy statements, to be added to the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* (1989 edition, page 25) as a section entitled "Guidelines of World Service Boards and Committees."

#3. *Statements of function and purpose.* The function and purpose of the World Service Board of Trustees, the World Service Office, and the committees of the World Service Conference are established by the conference itself. Those functions and purposes are described in the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* under separate headings for each of these service entities. The conference retains the authority to approve any proposed changes in the defined functions and purposes of these entities.

Policy. Over the years, the World Service Conference itself has established certain policies concerning the operation, function, and responsibility of the various world service boards and committees, such as the requirements for approval of literature,

and the 2/3 majority vote to elect trustees. These policies may be changed only by the conference itself.¹

Changes in guidelines and handbooks. If a world service board or committee wishes to alter its guidelines or one of its handbooks--barring changes in conference-established policy or statements of function and purpose--it must do three things. First, it must gain the approval of two-third of its own members. Second, the proposed change must be submitted to the Joint Administrative Committee for its concurrence. And third, it must notify all conference participants of the change within sixty days of its adoption. The World Service Conference reserves the right to reverse any such change made in the guidelines or handbooks of any world service board or committee. The conference may reverse such a change by a majority vote.

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Report on H&I Motion #7, "Behind The Walls"

The Joint Administrative Committee believes that "Behind The Walls" is recovery-based literature, essentially for use in institutional N.A. meetings. It is misleading to have the statement "Not to be used at N.A. meetings" on the cover of the booklet. This could cause confusion to our members in institutions. The JAC further believes that if the booklet is conference approved it will be virtually impossible to restrict the distribution to only N.A. service committees. The requirements of the approval process with regard to the use and distribution statement (see *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*, 1989 edition, motion at the bottom of page 50) are too restrictive for this booklet, and the JAC recommends adoption of the following substitute motion.

#4. "To approve the booklet, 'Behind The Walls,' waiving the restrictions on use and distribution."

Intent: This substitute motion would approve the booklet, "Behind The Walls," and eliminate the statement on the cover of the booklet, "Not to be used at N.A. meetings, for service committee use only."

* * * * *

Report on WSCLC Motion #11

The Joint Administrative Committee believes that Motion #11 by the WSC Literature Committee is too restrictive with regard to the use of non-members for drafting and editing. Non-members are from time to time used as consultants and technical advisors on matters such as publishing and formatting, and the proposed motion may be interpreted as prohibiting that practice. Therefore, the JAC recommends adoption of the following substitute motion:

¹ At the WSC meeting this April, the various world service boards and committees will present a list of those policies currently in force which would be affected by this motion. With the consent of the conference, those policies will be published in the body of future printings of the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* under the headings of the respective boards and committees. World service board and committee guidelines, on the other hand, will be published as addenda to the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*.

#5: "To delete Section 6, Paragraph G, of the WSC Literature Committee Guidelines and replace with the following:

'G. Special Workers: Special workers are often used to perform tasks which require time and effort beyond what can reasonably be expected of volunteers. There are a variety of tasks that special workers may accomplish for the committee. These duties range from clerical tasks to editing and drafting responsibilities. When using the services of special workers, the WSC Literature Committee maintains responsibility for all its projects.'

Intent: This substitute motion would expand the resources available to the WSCLC to include the use of non-members.

To: The Fellowship

From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees

The Trustees are continuing to use the committee system that was initiated during the '87-'88 conference year. As was the case last year, there have been some slight problems in utilizing this system, as there are still vacancies on the Board which were not filled at the past conference. We hope that this situation can be rectified during this year's WSC. There will be further discussion of this matter later in this report.

Discussions have been held during the Trustee meetings regarding the two motions committed to the Board by WSC '89. The motion which, if adopted, would require printing the N.A. logo on flyers will not be recommended for adoption by the Board. The Board felt that the proposed change in wording could be perceived as threatening to the local N.A. fellowship autonomy. The motion regarding the use of the word "prayer" in service committee agendas is felt to be only a small part of a much larger issue. Accordingly, this motion will not be recommended for conference action either. The members of the Board hope that there will be discussion of this matter during the open forum at WSC '90. This issue includes aspects such as the use of prayer in opening and/or closing our recovery meetings, as well as translation issues concerning the use of the word "God." This also will relate to the translation of the principles and concepts on which our fellowship is based. There are some concepts and principles which do not have corresponding words in some of the languages into which our literature will be translated in the future.

This brings up another issue that the Board would like to see discussed in some depth during the open forum at this year's WSC. Our growth as a worldwide fellowship is becoming more and more apparent. The guidance and direction which can be provided by the Trustees is of utmost importance in the development of the fellowship in countries outside the United States. Several members of the Board have been involved this year in international travel to lend their support, experience, and hope in these small, but growing, areas of the world. We would encourage all conference participants to discuss the growth of the fellowship worldwide to ascertain whether there is support to continue these efforts of the Trustees.

As stated earlier, the Board has more work to do than there are Trustees to accomplish this work. One member's term of office expires this year, which will leave the Board with five openings. Next year there will be two members whose terms expire. Accordingly, the Board is asking that three members be elected to the Board of Trustees for five-year terms, and two members elected for one-year terms at this year's conference. We also are requesting that there not be any non-addicts elected at this year's conference, as discussions are continuing within the Board regarding the best manner in which to utilize non-addicts in the existing Trustee committee system.

The primary focus of the Board's Literature Review Committee this year has been the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*. The Traditions Ad Hoc group has been meeting on an almost monthly basis. From the first meeting in August, this group recognized a possible problem with the deadline for draft development that was specified in the WSC '89 motion giving this project to the Trustees. As the need for extensive pre-writing planning became evident, the ad hoc group realized that the October 1990 date was

probably not realistic and that it would be several more months before a target date could be set. Discussion also highlighted the fact that once the annual meeting of WSC was over in April, there would be no mechanism for proposing alternate timeframes for approval. After more thought and discussion, the ad hoc group made a suggestion to the Board which called for some way of removing the complications imposed by a specific date for presenting review form drafts. The Board of Trustees agrees with the ad hoc group and sees removing the date as one step towards more efficient management of the project.

The discussion above led to extensive re-examination of the original motion from WSC '89. Original language called for following the World Service Conference Literature Committee guidelines (substituting BOT for WSCLC) for review-form literature. This section specifies different minimum time periods for books (12 months) and pamphlets (6 months). There is strong sentiment for sending the review material out one chapter at a time, and opinions differ about how this fits in the WSC Literature Committee guidelines. Also, according to WSCLC guidelines, review-form literature can only be distributed to area and regional literature committees. The ad hoc group feels strongly that when review form drafts of the traditions are ready, they should be made available to any interested N.A. member. For these reasons, the ad hoc group has also suggested that the Board propose something to WSC which would remove complicating restrictions and better serve the needs of this project. Again, the Board agrees with this suggestion.

The Board of Trustees has, as a primary concern, the prudent management of all resources in producing review-form material which serves the fellowship's needs. In considering the ad hoc group's discussions and suggestions, the Board has developed the motion included here. Rather than amending the original motion, we are asking WSC to adopt a new motion which replaces it. The new motion is simple, straightforward, and unambiguous. It is less limiting and opens the door for more fellowship involvement. We believe it preserves the original desire and trust expressed at WSC '89 when the Board of Trustees was asked to manage this project.

#6. "To continue the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why* under the management of the Board of Trustees without any of the requirements of the World Literature Committee guidelines. The adoption of this motion will supercede any previous motions regarding the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*."

Intent: To allow the Board of Trustees to complete this project using all of the resources available to manage the project, until such time as it is decided differently by the fellowship through the WSC.

The Board itself will be responsible to approve all decisions relating to the development and production of this project. The deadline of October 1990 for completion of a review-form draft, adopted at WSC '89, will not be applicable. Rather, a detailed content outline of the entire document may be developed and distributed prior to the release of draft review material. The Board will then submit review-form drafts of chapters to a wide cross section of the N.A. fellowship for periods of time sufficient to allow input, revisions and a second review, if necessary, prior to their completion of the entire document. Sending out the review-form draft of each tradition as it is completed would give the fellowship the opportunity to indicate their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with each draft. This process would allow for any needed change in direction prior to the development of a complete draft of all 12 Traditions. Additionally, this would be a more efficient use of the resources of the fellowship. An approval-form draft of the entire

document will be subsequently completed and submitted to the fellowship as a whole for not less than one year. The Board, or its appointed committee, will regularly communicate the progress of this project to all participants of the WSC, as well as regional literature committees.

To: The Fellowship

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

The World Service Office does not have motions to present for approval by the Conference at the 1990 meeting. There are, however, several matters that should be included in this report so RSRs can come prepared to discuss them.

For a number of years, the office has presented reports concerning the tax status of the fellowship at large. We have encouraged caution, patience, and further study before any action was possible. During the last year, the WSO has been obtaining competent tax and legal advice. We expect to be able to distribute this information at the World Service Conference.

It is not our intention that the conference be asked to take action in 1990. It is our intention, however, to have the information available for distribution at the conference. During the ensuing months, we hope the members, groups, area and regional committees will review this information so that guidance can be provided to world services about an appropriate course of action. The material is not complete as of the date of this report. The attorneys preparing this work have advised us they do not anticipate completion of the information until March, 1990.

In related matters, the office has been engaged in similar discussions with the fellowship and attorneys in five other countries where similar tax problems have been found. This information may also be available for distribution at the conference. As these matters affect N.A. as a whole, the fellowship should examine the alternatives carefully so as to provide direction to world services.

In the oral report given at the last World Service Conference by the WSO Board Chairperson, the matter of clean time requirements for membership on the Board was discussed. It was suggested that the WSO Board would be changing its by-laws to increase the length of clean time required for membership on the Board.

The World Service Office Board manages one of the important service arms of the fellowship. As such, the Board should be comprised of members with extensive clean time, service experience, and personal recovery. As the fellowship is maturing and there are more people with extensive clean time, it seemed prudent to bring the WSO Board clean time requirement in line with those for the Board of Trustees and the conference leadership.

The by-laws had required a minimum of five years clean time for membership. The Board has adopted a phased increase in the clean time requirements, that will eventually require eight years clean time for Board membership. The number of years required effective at this time is six years.

In reviewing the minutes of the 1989 conference, it was discovered that no motions from that conference were officially referred to the WSO for additional study. However, there were several items pertaining to WSO responsibility where additional research has taken place. These items include how to handle the matter of literature that becomes outdated, and making jewelry or other such merchandise available through the World Service Office. Separate reports on these items will be included in the next *Fellowship Report*.

There is a motion enclosed in Addendum #6 that was received from a region, suggesting consideration of additional WSO branch offices. Some research has already been done on this subject, but the motion suggests a wider scope of work to be accomplished in branch offices than has been the subject of completed research. If the conference desires to move in the direction the motion suggests, additional research can be accomplished.

To: The Fellowship

From: Dave Tynes, Chairperson
WSC Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups/Meetings

The WSC Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated N.A. Groups/Meetings was formed by the 1989 World Service Conference. The RSR from British Columbia made a motion (seconded by a trustee), "To create an ad hoc committee to investigate the issue of isolated N.A. groups [in institutions]."

This motion resulted from the report to the conference by the WSC H&I Committee chairperson. In her report, the following points were raised:

- * Meetings with no H&I committee involvement are not H&I meetings.
- * H&I is not involved with these meetings due to distance, clearance requirements, or other difficulties affecting access.
- * Often, the frequency of meetings provided by H&I committees is not adequate to serve the needs of addicts within these facilities, and they start a meeting on their own. This type of meeting is not an H&I meeting. What is it?
- * These still-suffering addicts and recovering members of Narcotics Anonymous are shut off from the fellowship. Must they also be shut out of the structure? The issue is broader than the scope of H&I. We ask you to develop a solution to meet these addicts' needs.

The ad hoc committee decided to utilize the above points as a starting place for our work. Through the survey, conducted shortly after the conference, we discovered that these meetings and groups were widespread and numerous. However, some questions came up almost immediately that the committee felt hard pressed to answer. These questions include: Are these meetings and groups N.A. meetings and groups? Should these meetings and groups have the opportunity to be a part of our service structure, and if so, how? What, if any, is the responsibility of outreach committees in providing services to these groups and meetings? Does the fellowship have any opinion about professionals starting N.A. meetings? The committee felt that these questions need broad fellowship-wide discussion, and it may be more appropriate to ask the conference to address these and other questions.

With input provided to us from members and service committees, and the information available from the WSO H&I and group services files, the committee decided to proceed with our report, recognizing that in reality, the issue of isolated N.A. groups and meetings extends far beyond the rather narrow scope of the WSC '89 motion. The committee was able to reach consensus on a number of points, including the status of these members; their needs, and some steps the fellowship can take to meet these needs; and the need for raising awareness throughout the fellowship regarding this issue. The committee's report is included in its entirety in Addendum 1.

We ask the fellowship to enter into broad-based discussion regarding the various aspects related to isolated groups and meetings in institutions. We further ask that the fellowship consider the questions raised in the "Final Observations" section of the committee's report in Addendum 1, and that conference participants come to the conference prepared to discuss those concerns, after the committee's report. We thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

To: The Fellowship

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

While it's been a busy year for the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service, we have no motions to place before the conference. We do, however, have some significant work to place on the agenda of the conference, entitled *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*.

While it's hard for a former policy committee chairperson to think in terms of placing something on the agenda without specific motions, we believe, given the nature and ultimate impact of our work, that the fellowship will be best served by extensive discussion and deliberation of our proposals. Only after careful examination and consideration (more than just this conference session) should any specific proposals for the approval of our work be entertained.

What follows is a brief review of our work and some ideas about how the conference might choose to deal with that work.

The Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service

This work has undergone significant revision since its presentation to the 1989 WSC, when it was entitled the "Twelve Principles of Service." Much of the revision was the result of input received at a meeting of the committee in July of 1989 with members of the Joint Administrative Committee, World Service Board of Trustees, and WSO Board of Directors, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Input from this meeting was considered by the committee in its final draft, entitled "Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service," which was mailed to the fellowship in September 1989.

It should be made clear that while the input from the trustees, WSO directors, and members of the JAC was considered valuable by the committee, any decisions regarding our final drafts were solely the responsibility of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service.

A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous, Part I

Committee drafts of the chapters on the group, the area, and the region were also discussed at the committee meeting in Albuquerque. Subsequent committee drafts of these chapters were mailed to the fellowship in December, under the title, *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous, Part I*, along with study and discussion notes to assist in your examination of the work.

A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous, Part II

Remaining chapters, dealing with local service centers, developing national N.A. communities, a national service conference and board, and world services are not yet in final form. Because the input sessions in Albuquerque proved so fruitful to our earlier chapters, we plan to hold a similar meeting to receive input on those final chapters, the weekend of January 26-28, again in Albuquerque.

Following this input session with the Board of Trustees, WSO Board of Directors, and Joint Administrative Committee, the ad hoc committee's plans are to finalize these drafts and mail them to the fellowship. The projected date for this finalization is mid to late March.

International Service Charter

Included in Part II will be the "International Service Charter," which will be a basic document describing the relationship of the various units of the service structure to each other and to the groups.

It is our hope that discussions of our work, *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*, at the 1990 World Service Conference will be in the nature of an open dialogue. We hope conference participants can share their views, concerns, feelings, etc., regarding the concepts involved with the work, without becoming involved in any line-by-line editing or any specific motions regarding approval of a specific review/approval process or timetable for the *Guide*.

The committee hopes, with the consent of the conference, to spend the 1990-91 conference year conducting a series of multi-regional workshops on *A Guide to Service* and the Twelve Concepts. Input from these workshops and from the fellowship at large would then be factored in and presented to the 1991 conference. At that time, the conference might wish to consider some sort of specific review/approval timetable or process.

Since our work has become more than a simple piece of literature, but rather a proposal for a restructuring of our services, our current literature review and approval process does not seem to fit it appropriately. We strongly urge the fellowship to proceed with caution and deliberation regarding our proposals.

Should the conference look favorably upon our work, it will be necessary to develop a transition plan to insure the continuity of service. Depending on discussions at WSC 1990, such a transition plan may become part of the committee's workload for the 1990-91 conference year.

Regardless of what this or subsequent conferences choose to do with our work, the committee wishes to thank the conference for the confidence it has shown. While the project has at times taken its toll on the committee, both individually and collectively, it has also given us a chance to examine our fellowship and our service structure in a way we might never have done otherwise. We thank you for the opportunity you have provided us.

To: The Fellowship

From: Barbara Jorgensen, Chairperson
WSC Hospitals & Institutions Committee

Our only motion this year concerns the booklet, *Behind The Walls*, which we ask the conference to approve. This work is directed toward addicts beginning and/or maintaining their recovery while incarcerated. The WSC H&I Committee, based on information received from all levels of service, believes there is a need for this booklet. Work on the booklet began in 1984, input has been widely solicited and received, and it has been out for review to all regional and area H&I subcommittees. It was also sent in draft form to members of the Joint Administrative Committee for their comments, as well as the final approval process outlined in the motion passed at last year's conference (see motion at bottom of page 50, *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*, 1989 edition).

Included in Addendum 5 is a form for use in nominating members to the WSC H&I Committee.

For information on additional activities of the WSC H&I Committee, please see the *Fellowship Report*.

The committee, as well as Pete and I, have appreciated the opportunity to be of service.

#7. To approve the booklet, "Behind The Walls" (Addendum 2).

Intent: There is a widely perceived need for materials aimed toward addicts beginning and/or maintaining their recovery while incarcerated. This booklet, aimed at addicts in a correctional setting, meets such a need.

To: The Fellowship

From: Bryce Sullivan, Chairperson
WSC Literature Committee

This report contains the items the World Service Conference Literature Committee (WSCLC) is presenting for action at the 1990 World Service Conference. These items are the culmination of the experience, hard work, and dedication of this year's committee. After many hours of debate and discussion, these are the proposals the committee is presenting for your consideration. The WSCLC is asking that the 1990 WSC adopt each of the following committee motions.

THE N.A. GROUP STARTER KIT

The WSCLC presented a revised *Group Starter Kit* to the 1989 WSC for adoption. The 1989 WSC did not approve the revised *Starter Kit* and instead committed it back to the committee for further work. The committee is presenting three motions in response to this motion committed from last year's conference.

The following three motions (#8, #9, and #10), taken as a whole, accomplish a transition from our current *N.A. Group Starter Kit* (I.P. #18) to a comprehensive and updated version. In motion #8, we are asking the WSC to approve the *Group Booklet* (see Addendum 3 in this *Conference Agenda Report*). This *Group Booklet* contains the type of information currently found in I.P. #18. Motion #9 asks the World Service Office to create a starter kit complete with literature, workbooks, forms and other information helpful to newly forming groups. In motion #10, we recommend the removal of I.P. #18 from the category of conference-approved literature, since it will be replaced by a more comprehensive starter kit proposal.

In preparation for a thorough and complete revision of the *Starter Kit*, all resources were examined for pertinent information. These resources included the current *Starter Kit*, the revision proposed at WSC 1989, the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*, and the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service's work on the Group chapter of *A Guide to Service*. This review pointed out that with slight exception, the draft chapter on the group from *A Guide to Service* has virtually the same topic index and material as the *N.A. Group Starter Kit*. Because of this similarity, we asked the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service for use of their material. The ad hoc committee released this material, and the literature committee comprehensively reviewed the work for its possible use in developing a new *Starter Kit*.

Following review, study, and discussion, the committee decided to use the substance of the group chapter as a basis for a new *N.A. Group Booklet*. The *Group Booklet* is an integral part of this *Starter Kit* proposal. This piece has been painstakingly modified to make it applicable our current N.A. service structure. The following three motions, #8, #9, and #10, should be considered together.

The Group Booklet: The chief reason for the WSCLC to ask the WSC to approve this work is because our current *Starter Kit* is outdated. The adoption of this piece will

provide improved, current, and cohesive conference-approved literature on group functions for use by new and existing groups.

The *Group Booklet* will still present the same type of information that is currently contained in the *N.A. Group Starter Kit* (I.P. #18), however the experience and guidance has been updated to reflect current practice. We have chosen not to call it a starter kit because it is not actually a starter kit by itself. Motion #9 provides for a complete and improved group starter kit and will include this *Group Booklet*.

#8. "To approve the *Group Booklet*."

Intent: The new *Group Booklet* (see Addendum 3 in this *Conference Agenda Report*) is intended to provide newly forming and established N.A. groups with guidance on some very basic questions: What is an N.A. group? What kinds of meetings can a group have? How does the work get done? When problems arise, how are they solved? This booklet is designed to be useful for groups as they seek to fulfill their primary purpose of carrying the message to the addict who still suffers.

The N.A. Group Starter Kit: Adopting the first motion in this report handles only half of the task of having the most complete information available for newly forming N.A. groups. The second half is to provide groups with more than the mere details of forming and operating a group. The following motion provides for this additional information.

#9. "To ask the World Service Office (WSO) to create a group starter kit as an inventory item available for sale."

Intent: This motion creates a starter kit which will incorporate a variety of recovery literature (the *Little White Booklet* and other informational pamphlets), as well as handbooks (the *Group Booklet*, *Treasurer's Workbook*), worksheets, and forms necessary for conducting the business of an N.A. group. This kit will also include other items currently sent out by the WSO when a starter kit is requested. These items include a complimentary copy of the *Newsline*, *The N.A. Way Magazine*, and a WSO catalog. Other items may be added as needed.

I.P. #18: Motions #8 and #9, if adopted, provide for two new items that would necessitate the removal of the current *N.A. Group Starter Kit* from the category of conference-approved literature.

#10. "That the *N.A. Group Starter Kit* (I.P. #18) be removed from the category of conference-approved literature."

Intent: To remove I.P. #18 from the category of conference-approved literature.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

The WSCLC is presenting four amendments to the committee's guidelines. The literature committee's guidelines have hampered and constrained our work this year. It is vital that the WSCLC, indeed all of world services, be given the ability to use resources to manage fellowship projects with a freer hand. These amendments would assure our ability to create quality literature for the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. A comprehensive

report on *It Works: How and Why*, dated October 13, 1989, details the reasons for presenting these modifications to section 6-G, as well as other pertinent information. You may find it helpful to review that report in considering these amendments. You may contact your area or regional literature committee or the WSO Literature Department for a copy. The literature committee guidelines can be found in Addendum 1 of the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*, or in the appendix of the *Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees*.

Special Workers (Section 6-G): Our Seventh Tradition embodies a principle which provides that no individual should give more than his or her fair share in terms of time and money. The amount of time a project such as the steps portion of *It Works* requires in terms of writing and rewriting is so demanding that it is impractical and irresponsible to expect this level of volunteerism from N.A. members. It crosses the boundary of "fair share contributions" implied in the Seventh Tradition. Writing cohesive, well-developed drafts is a very time-consuming task. Even volunteers with the necessary skills cannot be expected to devote time and energy to service projects which make demands on them which may interfere with their lives and recovery. The Eighth Tradition gives us the opportunity to hire employees to perform services which require skills and commitments beyond what can reasonably be expected of volunteer members. Writing is one of these skills.

Using skilled writers will result in literature of a significantly higher quality than our current resources produce. The traditional cut-and-paste, committee style of writing is generally choppy, abrupt, and lacking in cohesion and a well-defined structure. By using skilled writers, employed to work with the committee, our efforts will produce better literature more efficiently. Stability will be more inherent in our literature development process.

The difficulty the committee has met with in maintaining creative and content control over the work of volunteer writers would, to a great degree, be minimized by using paid staff. Special workers or contracted writers work under a different kind of supervision than volunteers. The committee has more direct control over making changes and modifying material developed by writers where supervision is established by employment.

Regardless of the resources or methods used, the WSCLC will have the responsibility for developing each piece of literature. Our experience indicates that this responsibility must rest with the full WSC Literature Committee. Using these additional resources will not separate the WSC Literature Committee or area and regional literature committees from the literature development process. Adoption of this motion will not affect the review and input of literature by areas and regions. Adoption of this motion will allow the WSCLC to use the resources it needs to produce quality literature for the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

#11. "To delete Section 6, paragraph G, of the WSC Literature Committee guidelines and replace with the following:

- G. `Special Workers:** Special workers are often used to perform tasks which require time and effort beyond what can reasonably be expected of volunteers. There are a variety of tasks that special workers may accomplish for the committee. These duties range from clerical tasks to editing and drafting responsibilities. Special workers used by the WSC Literature Committee for drafting and editing must be N.A. members. Editing and draft

recommendations as well as any suggestions are submitted to the WSC Literature Committee for their consideration. When using the services of special workers, the WSC Literature Committee maintains creative responsibility for all its projects."

Intent: This motion will give the committee the ability to use the assistance of special workers in all facets of literature development, from clerical tasks to assistance in editing, drafting and writing. This motion limits the use of special workers who assist the committee in editing and drafting to members of Narcotics Anonymous.

Review-Form Literature--Time (Section 9-A): The committee believes we can be more responsive to the literature needs of the fellowship, and manage our literature projects more effectively, if we are able to establish separate review periods for each piece of literature. Currently, book-length pieces must have a one-year review period while pamphlets require a six-month review period. Adoption of this motion will not eliminate the WSCLC's option of establishing six-month, one-year, or multiple review periods for any piece. It merely gives the committee the responsibility to design independent review time periods based on each project's needs.

The second sentence in the following motion assures that instructions for developing input will be distributed with each piece of review-form literature. This will alleviate a problem that has often occurred with review-form literature, that of not having specific directions for fellowship input. Some pieces of review literature need broad review on concepts, while others need specific review on content. The audience, purpose, and tone can be very different for various pieces of literature. These are some of the reasons that requests for fellowship input must be specific. Adoption of the following motion will retain the concept of review-form literature, while allowing for more flexible review periods.

#12. "To delete Section 9, paragraph A, of the WSC Literature Committee guidelines and replace with the following:

'A. Time: Each piece of review-form literature is sent out for a period of time to be determined by the WSCLC. Each piece will be accompanied by an input form with instruction for developing input."

Intent: The adoption of this motion will accomplish two things. First, it will give the WSC Literature Committee the responsibility to establish review periods for each piece of review-form literature based on the individual needs of the piece. Second, it will assure that a specific set of instructions for developing input will be provided with each piece.

Review-Form Literature--Sales (Section 9-B): The sale of review-form literature has in the past been restricted to area and regional literature committees to encourage participation in these committees. At this time there is a need to make this literature more readily available. The desire of the Trustee Traditions Ad Hoc Committee to distribute review material directly to members is one example of the need for less restrictive distribution of review material.

- #13. "To delete the first sentence from Section 9, paragraph B, of the WSC Literature Committee guidelines." (The first sentence reads, "Sold only to registered area and regional literature committees and to groups where no ASC presently exists.")**

Intent: The adoption of this motion will allow the sale and distribution of review-form literature to any interested N.A. member or service committee.

Approval-Form Literature (Section 10-A): Similar to the change being proposed for Section 9-A, the changes to Section 10-A will allow the WSCLC to be more responsive to the literature needs of the fellowship and to manage fellowship literature projects more effectively. This proposed change will make the WSCLC responsible for establishing an approval period for each piece, rather than following arbitrarily set standards. Adoption of this motion will give the committee the responsibility to establish an approval period based on the individual needs of each project.

- #14. "To delete Section 10, paragraph A, from the Literature Committee guidelines and replace with the following:**

'A. Time: Approval-form literature is prepared by the WSCLC and distributed for a period of time determined by the WSCLC of not less than 90 days.'

Intent: Adoption of this motion will give the WSC Literature Committee the responsibility to establish approval periods for each piece of approval-form literature based on the individual needs of each piece. This motion assures an approval period of not less than ninety days.

1990-91 A-Worklist

During the 1990-91 conference year the WSC Literature Committee will be continuing work on the same projects from the 1989-90 year. Developing a review draft of the Steps portion of *It Works* will remain our primary task. Developing approval drafts of *For Those in Treatment* and *In Times of Illness* will be our secondary objective. The committee will also be working on a C-list item, a daily meditation book. When the two A-list I.P.s reach approval draft status, the committee will have the ability to assign more resources to C-list projects. In addition to these pieces of literature, the committee also has other projects on the C and D lists. These lists, as well as a brief description of each item, may be found in Addendum 4 of this Conference Agenda Report.

The WSCLC is presenting the following motion to establish literature priorities for the coming year.

- #15. "To approve the following as the WSC Literature Committee's A-list for the 1990-91 conference year.**

1. **The Steps portion of *It Works: How and Why***
2. ***For Those in Treatment***
3. ***In Times of Illness***

Intent: This list consists of the maximum amount of material that the WSCLC can reasonably work on during the 1990-91 conference year.

COMMITTEE NOMINEE FORM

Attached in Addendum 5 is the WSCLC's nominee form for the 1990-91 conference year. We encourage you to give very serious consideration to any person you may nominate. The position of registered member (a two-year term) requires the sacrifice of considerable time and energy, as well as a financial commitment to attend conference workshops. Being a registered member requires much more than just meeting attendance. Constant study and review of literature projects as well as communication with the committee are very important tasks. Nominations are accepted only from regional service committees and must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the World Service Conference.

OTHER LITERATURE ITEMS

One of the most important events of the 1990 WSC will be regional representatives, committee members, committee chairs, conference officers, and board members openly discussing and seeking solutions to deal with the problems and needs of N.A. as a whole. Without question, there are many important matters within the realm of responsibility of the WSC Literature Committee that need broad discussion.

The WSCLC wants to encourage open discussion on the myriad issues and concerns that regional representatives and other conference participants may have. To foster this open discussion, a portion of the first meeting of the committee at the WSC will be set aside for the purpose of open interaction between the committee and representatives of the fellowship. This type of discussion could greatly benefit the committee and the fellowship at the conference. We want to hear your concerns and input regarding *any* matter. I have included a list of suggested ideas for use as possible topics during this portion of our meeting.

Possible input or discussion issues:

- * Any literature item in the *Conference Agenda Report*.
- * The use of special workers to assist in writing literature within the parameters and review of the WSCLC.
- * Alternatives to current review procedures. (For example, open review by any interested member, or structured review by a review panel consisting of regional representatives.)
- * Evaluation of the literature needs of the fellowship and our responsibility to meet those needs. Ways to prioritize and restructure our procedures to accomplish this.
- * Committee communication with conference participants, regional and area literature committees. The importance of communication in relationship to other committee responsibilities.
- * Translation of literature, and the approval of translated literature.
- * The responsibility of the WSCLC to prepare literature that may be easily translated.
- * Proposals from regional committees.

To: The Fellowship

From: Tim Banner, Chairperson
WSC Policy Committee

Responding to the desire expressed by the 1989 WSC conference participants to get away from "business as usual" in the development of the 1990 conference agenda, your WSC Policy Committee has only one agenda item for consideration.

Another item assigned to and completed by the committee--WSC election procedures--was turned over to the WSC Administrative Committee for review and use at the 1990 meeting of the WSC.

The report on rotation and continuity was published in the December 1989 *Fellowship Report* and will also be read as a part of the WSC Policy Committee chairperson's report to the 1990 WSC.

The only remaining Policy Committee agenda item (at this time) is the development of requirements for seating of new regions. Although we will not be presenting a set of guidelines for consideration in the 1990 *Conference Agenda Report*, we were able to come to substantial unanimity on a working document and we believe we will be able to complete our task during the coming year.

The following paragraph contains the proposal completed by the 1989/90 WSC Policy Committee and recommended for consideration by the fellowship and adoption at WSC 1990.

#16. "To amend the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* (1989 edition) by replacing the language contained in 1.C.(5) with "Committee Chairpersons."

Intent: The current language gives the appearance that both the outgoing and incoming chairs have a vote at the WSC. The proposed language states clearly that only the individual who serves as chair of a committee during a WSC session will be considered to be a voting participant. Newly elected chairs do not assume their duties until the close of the WSC.

To: The Fellowship

From: Stephen Ringer, Chairperson
 WSC Public Information Committee

There are no motions from the Public Information Committee to be discussed by conference participants. We will be prepared to discuss our ongoing projects, or any other items, during the afforded time period.

Included in Addendum 5 is a nomination form for new members, and for reaffirmation of pool members. All pool members must be reaffirmed by their respective regions for this coming year.

To: The Fellowship

From: Stuart Tooredman, Chairperson
 World Convention Corporation

During the recent Board of Directors meeting, the subject of possibly changing the date of the World Convention in Australia arose. The 21st World Convention is scheduled for Sydney, Australia on August 29 thru September 1, 1991. This time period is winter in Australia, and the traditional vacation period for Australians is some months away. There are no national holidays at that time, but there is a three-day holiday at the end of September. The Board did not vote to change the date of the 1991 convention, in part because it believed it did not have authority to do so.

During this discussion, the Board decided to submit the issue to the fellowship for direction, by adopting the motion below, if the fellowship desires to give authority for the date to be changed.

#17. "The World Convention Corporation is authorized to change the date of the World Convention.

Intent: With the World Convention being held outside the North American continent at least twice in every nine-year period, the possibility of having to change the date of the convention becomes greater. The World Convention Corporation does not believe that it currently has sufficient administrative authority to make this type of a decision.

Even if the date is changed, it seems prudent to keep the time frame within ninety days of the original date so as to minimize the impact to other service committees who currently plan around the existing world convention date.

ADDENDUM 1

Meetings are being held in institutions. How do they relate to N.A., and how does N.A. relate to them?

**A REPORT FROM THE WSC Ad Hoc COMMITTEE
ON ISOLATED N.A. GROUPS/MEETINGS.**

Narcotics Anonymous meetings are being held in some correctional facilities and treatment centers. Most N.A. members on the outside are familiar with the meetings conducted in such facilities by local H&I panels. But only recently have we begun to focus attention on another kind of N.A. meeting being held in some of these facilities--meetings being conducted without any support or direction from the local H&I subcommittee or any other element of the N.A. service structure. Some of these meetings are sponsored by facility staff members; others are conducted by N.A. groups/meetings composed solely of residents of the facilities.

Some people call these gatherings "H&I meetings." But N.A.'s *Hospitals & Institutions Handbook* says clearly that "an H&I meeting/presentation is always held under the auspices of an H&I subcommittee. Any meeting not linked into the service structure in this way is not an H&I meeting." Even though these meetings are held in institutions, they are not H&I meetings.

N.A. meetings are being held in treatment and correctional facilities, without any support or direction from the fellowship outside. If they are not "H&I meetings," then what are they? Are they N.A. meetings at all? Can it be said that the addicts who participate in these meetings are, by virtue of their participation, members of an "N.A. group"? Should efforts be made to connect these meetings up with the existing N.A. service structure? If so, in what way should they be connected, and through what efforts? And, perhaps aside from all these other questions, what are the needs of these addicts, and how can Narcotics Anonymous best address those needs?

Are these N.A. meetings or N.A. groups?

Particularly because of time constraints, the committee decided that, for the purpose of this report, it would call these entities what they have chosen to call themselves--*N.A. groups and meetings*. The committee's discussions focused, instead, on the fact that

there are N.A. members in institutions who are entitled to N.A. services. The question, then, was how those services could be provided.

The ad hoc committee survey

At its April 1989 annual meeting, the World Service Conference created an ad hoc committee to study the situation. To gain a clearer understanding of the situation, a survey was conducted. The survey asked for information on independent meetings being conducted only in treatment centers and correctional facilities; it did not seek information on other kinds of independently conducted meetings, such as those held in schools or under the auspices of employee assistance programs. In early May 1989, questionnaires were mailed to 371 area and regional service committees. By the mid-September 1989 deadline, 57 responses had been returned—a good return rate, the committee felt, especially in comparison with other recent surveys. The information supplied by the survey helped give the committee's discussions some foundation in fact.

Once the survey response deadline had passed, the committee held two meetings by telephone. During the September 15th meeting the committee discussed the project it had been assigned and determined how to carry it out. By the October 22nd phone call the committee, working from a rough draft of its preliminary report, had in-depth discussions regarding the issues mentioned in the introductory section. At the conference workshop held early in November 1989 in St. Louis, Missouri, the committee met again to conduct an open forum and finish its work.

How common are these groups/meetings?

Meetings in institutions appear to be both numerous and widespread. About 44% of the survey respondents reported knowledge of N.A. meetings being conducted independently in treatment or correctional facilities in their service territories. These twenty-five respondents reported on forty-six different independent meetings, nine being held in treatment facilities, the remaining thirty-seven being conducted in prisons.

In addition to the questionnaire, information was made available to the committee from the WSO H&I Department. On file were reports showing the creation of 187 independent meetings between January 1st and October 5th, 1989. Of these, 177 were meetings in prisons, and ten were in treatment facilities. In addition, twelve N.A.-oriented meetings started or run by professionals had been initiated in the same period, nine in correctional facilities, three in treatment.

The geographic spread of these meetings was significant in itself. The 199 new meetings on file in the H&I department represented forty-three U.S. states and the Virgin Islands, as well as Canada, Australia, India, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Why are these meetings not served by H&I panels?

Of those reporting knowledge of groups or meetings in institutions, 40% said they had insufficient manpower to send panels to these institutions. Another 32% said that access requirements and other restrictions were so rigid that they were unable to get in to meetings at the facilities. The distance factor was cited by 20% of the committees involved. One response said that it was the choice of the group itself to remain isolated from the N.A. community on the outside.

What do these groups/meetings want from the fellowship on the outside?

There seemed to be three common requests from groups and members in institutions, according to the WSO correspondence files and mail received by the committee. They asked for N.A. literature. They requested group starter kits to help them get their meetings off the ground. And they wanted information about how to contact nearby N.A. service committees, so that they could ask *them* for support.

They wanted help from outside N.A. members who would be willing to attend their meetings, to share their personal recovery experience, as well as their experience in how N.A. groups work. They wanted to correspond with other N.A. members, to help sustain their recovery between meetings. And they wanted sponsors.

What kinds of support are these groups/meetings being given already?

Representation, service correspondence. There were a number of examples given of how some of these groups and meetings in institutions participate in the local service structure. At a correctional facility in Canada, administrators allowed a member to serve as a group service representative, and gave him six-hour passes once a month to attend the local ASC meeting and speak for his group. In another area, a member on the outside was elected alternate GSR of the inside group, reporting on how the group was doing and keeping the group in touch with the local N.A. community. And in a third region, outside members regularly sent service committee minutes and other information on N.A. activities to groups in institutions.

Outreach subcommittees. In their survey responses, two regions reported on their outreach subcommittees' efforts to make contact with geographically isolated groups. Only one region reported that its outreach subcommittee also kept in regular touch with meetings in institutions.

One member of the committee did report that his region had established a form of outreach. One of the region's subcommittees coordinated twice-monthly visits by outside members to inside groups in every prison in the state.

Communication. Many of the area and regional committees that reported knowledge of groups or meetings in institutions also said they maintained communications of one sort or another with the staff of these institutions. Only 12%, however, said they kept in touch with the addicts themselves in these institutions. The majority expressed a

willingness to do so, but felt they needed more direction on how to go about establishing those contacts the right way.

Groups and meetings in institutions, and the service structure

The groups we've been discussing are composed of N.A. members seeking to take advantage of the therapeutic value of one addict helping another. The committee felt that these N.A. members have a valid claim to the same rights, privileges, and services any N.A. member is entitled to. Area and regional service committees, as well as the World Service Conference and the World Service Office, are responsible to provide them with whatever support possible. And these groups should have the opportunity to provide input on fellowship questions at the area, regional, and world levels. N.A. groups or meetings in institutions should determine for themselves whether or not they wish to be a part of the service structure--and in what fashion--according to their own needs and desires, within the restrictions of their circumstances.

How can groups and meetings in institutions take part in the service structure?

One suggestion raised was to register these groups with the World Service Office, thereby placing them on the mailing list for the *Newsline*, and making local service contact information available to the groups. Once such contact information is available, groups or meetings in institutions would be able to keep in touch with the nearest area and regional service committees. While most such groups would not be able to send GSRs to area committee meetings, their GSRs could serve as mail contacts for the groups. Group service representatives could supply the outside N.A. community with regular information on how their groups were doing, and on what kinds of support their groups needed from the N.A. community. GSRs could also, in turn, keep their groups up to date on what was happening in N.A. at the local, regional, and world levels, using correspondence, minutes, and newsletters mailed to them by members on the outside as their sources of information.

How can the service structure assist these groups and meetings?

It is the responsibility of the N.A. Fellowship as a whole--and of each individual N.A. community--to reach out to groups and meetings in institutions, and not just to wait for them to contact us. Areas and regions which have the money and the manpower should consider how they can most effectively reach out to these groups/meetings.

Some will want to establish special outreach subcommittees specifically to meet the needs of these groups. But it's not always necessary to set up a new subcommittee to do this job. Sometimes an already existing subcommittee, or more than one subcommittee, can attend to the needs of groups in institutions. Service committees in different locales can go about meeting the needs of these groups in different ways, according to each committee's ability. But the ad hoc committee feels that it's imperative that, to the extent a local committee is able, all possible efforts are made to meet the needs of these N.A. members, groups, and meetings in institutions.

This ad hoc committee encourages those reading this report to ask the chairperson of their area or regional service committee to reserve time at the next committee meeting for a discussion of meetings in institutions. In the beginning, the discussion may go only so far as to assign further discussion to a subcommittee, so that specific action can be planned. Or a special workshop or sharing session may be scheduled to allow for extended consideration of the needs of these groups/meetings in the area or region. Each area or region is free to address the subject in its own way; the important part is to start the discussion.

The two things groups/meetings in institutions need most, according to correspondence, are contact with other recovering addicts--in person and by mail--and N.A. literature. Once it's been established which local subcommittee or subcommittees is to take responsibility for reaching out to groups in institutions, those subcommittees can go about getting a clearer idea of access and correspondence limitations for the facilities involved. After discussion in the area and regional committees, and in the groups themselves, those subcommittees will have a sense of how much support is available from the N.A. community for outreach to groups in nearby institutions. The subcommittees can then begin to coordinate that outreach work.

Making N.A. literature available to these groups/meetings is critical. How much literature can and should be made available will depend primarily on two factors: the amount of money available in the area or regional treasury, and the amount of literature that can actually be used by the groups in nearby institutions. The condition of the treasury is easy to check. The amount of literature needed by "inside" groups, however, can only be determined by contacting the groups themselves, and by staying in touch to see whether the need increases or decreases.

Some problems may be encountered in seeking to supply groups or meetings in institutions with N.A. literature. The necessary funds may be lacking. An area committee finding itself in such a position might consider appealing to the regional committee for assistance; a regional committee, to the World Service Conference. The greater N.A. Fellowship may be able to meet needs that one of its smaller elements cannot handle on its own.

Some correctional facilities have security regulations barring delivery of printed materials from any source other than the publisher itself. There is a simple solution for area or regional committees which encounter such problems in seeking to supply N.A. literature to a group in such a facility. The committee can order the literature from the World Service Office, asking that it be sent directly to the group.

Summary

In discussing the needs of N.A. groups and meetings in institutions, the ad hoc committee came to agreement on a number of points. Those points, touched on earlier in this report, can be summarized as follows:

- * N.A. groups and meetings in institutions are widespread and numerous.

- * They are *not* H&I meetings.
- * Recovering addicts attending those meetings *are* N.A. members, entitled to the same rights, privileges, and services as any N.A. member.
- * N.A. groups or meetings in institutions should determine for themselves whether or not they wish to be a part of the service structure--and in what fashion--according to their own needs and desires, within the restrictions of their circumstances.
- * It is the responsibility of the N.A. Fellowship as a whole--and of each individual N.A. community--to reach out to groups and meetings in institutions, and not just to wait for them to contact us.
- * In order for an N.A. community to reach out to these groups, it's not necessary to create a whole new subcommittee. An existing subcommittee, or a combination of subcommittees, can attend to the needs of these groups.

The committee during its St. Louis meeting also discussed the issue of professionals being involved in the formation of groups and the starting of meetings in correctional facilities. The committee felt strongly about: recognizing the need for assistance by professionals in starting N.A. meetings in an institutional setting; the need for a change in the perception that such assistance is undesirable; and, the need to increase fellowship awareness and discussions regarding this issue.

Final observations

In completing its work, this ad hoc committee feels that it has only begun to comprehend the full extent of this subject. It has attempted to stay within the borders established by the World Service Conference motion which created the ad hoc committee, and has only examined issues relating directly to groups and meetings in treatment and correctional facilities. A number of other related issues were raised in the course of the committee's discussions, however. We are asking the conference itself to discuss these issues at its next annual meeting:

- * *Are the groups and meetings discussed in this report N.A. groups and meetings?*
- * *Generally speaking, what is the difference, if any, between the terms "N.A. group" and "N.A. meeting"?*
- * *In reaching out to groups in institutions, a substantial amount of interaction with facility administrators and professionals will be called for. How does the conference feel about the idea of professionals starting N.A. meetings?*
- * *In many locales, area or regional outreach subcommittees serve the needs of *geographically* isolated groups. Should outreach subcommittees focus on the needs of groups in institutions as well?*
- * *The issue of isolated N.A. groups and meetings extends far beyond the narrow scope of this report. It includes those groups which are isolated by national borders, and by cultural, economic, and social differences. How does the conference intend to see that the needs of such groups are met?*

Our fellowship's ultimate goal is to make it possible for any addict who wants to take advantage of the opportunities for recovery available in Narcotics Anonymous to be able to do so. If this goal is to be realized, the ad hoc committee feels that we as a fellowship will need to address this issue in much broader terms in the very near future.

ADDENDUM 2



**Narcotics
Anonymous.**

BEHIND THE WALLS



**NOT TO BE USED AT N.A. MEETINGS
FOR SERVICE COMMITTEE USE ONLY**

Editor's Note: The paragraphs in bold type are personal experiences of members of our fellowship. These excerpts from personal stories were edited in some cases for clarity, but not content or language. We would like to thank the N.A. members that wrote to us from prison, for without their words, this booklet would not have been possible.

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INTRODUCTION

This simple booklet, written by addicts recovering in Narcotics Anonymous, is designed specifically for individuals who are currently incarcerated and who may have a drug problem.

The following pages are reflective of the experience of recovery, both in and out of institutions, from the disease of addiction.

We urge you to give yourself a break and read *Behind The Walls* with an open mind. It may help you to stay clean and change your life. There is hope.

BEHIND THE WALLS

Those of us recovering in Narcotics Anonymous know that our life of using drugs was a maximum security prison in its own right. We share our thoughts, our feelings, and our experiences, because through recovery in N.A. we have found freedom behind the walls. Our experiences may differ, but if we look hard enough, we may find that our feelings are similar. We may begin to understand each other's experience with recovery.

My story differs not much from most. Growing up, I always harbored feelings of inadequacy. I used drugs as a confidence booster and it suppressed any bad feelings I had. Everything I said I'd never do I usually did. I lied, I cheated, and I stole. I was being arrested fairly regularly and I finally ended up doing time.

Our drug use can begin at any age. For us, the progression of using ends in jails, institutions, or death. When we took a closer look, we found what addiction had done in our lives.

I am 41 years old and have a long record of jails and institutions. I started at age 10 in reform school and graduated through the system, missing nothing. I started using drugs at age 15 on release from reform school, and dedicated my life to drugs and crime. My biggest claim to fame was that I could handle it, and it kept me using for 25 years.

Our drug use gave us the illusions of self-respect and the respect of others. We depended on the feelings of courage, self-acceptance, and self-worth that drugs gave us, only to find later that we felt as empty as we felt before using. Just as it has affected every aspect of our lives, we in N.A. know that the disease of addiction affects people from all walks of life. Admitting that using is causing us problems is the beginning of recovery.

As a direct result of active addiction, I found myself in prison with no way out. I say "found" because, despite numerous arrests and convictions, I felt immune from the law. It applied to others and not me. I was different, special, as I am an educated woman, white, and from an upper middle class family.

Between solitary confinement and the criminally insane ward in shackles and chains, I was in pain from an active addiction I did not want to live through. I came to believe that addiction does not discriminate. I am no different.

From the beginning, many of us were running. Some of us had experienced extreme physical or mental abuse. Some of us had existed through cruel or violent situations that never seemed to end. We couldn't cope with the feelings of despair and misery. We tried to escape the hopelessness that we felt in our lives. We ran to find relief and thought we had found it in drugs and the life that went with using.

When I first came to prison, I was at the point all addicts come to, that is, living for drugs. I had lost my children to welfare and I am in prison for the shooting death of my husband. Although I was in a state of shock, my first and only thought was how to get drugs in prison.

For some of us, life in prison was no different. Most of us suffered in one way or another from the disease of addiction throughout our lives. We used drugs to cope with life because we thought it was the only way we could survive. For those of us now recovering in N.A., our drug use had stopped being a solution and had become a major problem in itself. Drugs stopped working. We put drugs ahead of everything else. This was part of the insanity of our addiction.

INSANITY OF ADDICTION

Most of us could not see the insanity in our lives for a long time. As the disease of addiction progressed, the things we did for drugs became more and more insane. We hurt and destroyed anything we loved, and we had to use more to hide from our feelings.

You see, if I am strung out, I don't care about you or your things. I am going to take them and I am going to hurt you and I am not going to care if you suffer, because I need my drugs. I don't care if I get caught. I am insane and there is nothing anyone can say or do to stop me, because after all, what I am doing to myself is far worse than what you can do to me.

The levels of insanity were different for each of us, from the insanity that lost us our families and freedom, to the even deeper insanity of not caring whether we lived or died.

I have overdosed and been pronounced dead, only to wake up and call the man who saved my life names. I have hurt countless people in many ways. I

have endangered the lives of my family, I have hated and planned to kill cops for trying to protect me from society. I have been in various institutions and I am still in one.

I know how it feels to wake up sick and be controlled by the next urge to use. I saw how it feels to wish you were dead. I have been there. I have seen it, looking dead and wishing I was, hurting and sick and so powerless.

Once in prison, we found that drugs weren't as easy to obtain as on the outside. Some of us were able, or forced by circumstances, to stay away from drugs sometimes for long periods of time. The end result was always the same: when we started using again, sooner or later we were back in the vicious cycle of addiction all over again. We in N.A. know that it did not matter what drugs we used, or how much. What matters is what happened when we used.

We told ourselves drugs made life better, made the time pass faster, and gave us the extra edge to handle situations. However, we have learned that the disease of addiction goes deeper than drug use. Addiction is a physical, spiritual, and emotional disease that touches every area of our lives. When we weren't using drugs we were thinking about using drugs, where to get drugs, and what the price would be.

Each of us fell to our own depth of insanity, but whatever our lowest point, it was always painful. We found that no matter what feelings we had experienced, or what we had lived through, we had to take a closer look at ourselves. These were some of the common questions we found helpful when seeking answers:

1. Does the thought of running out of drugs leave me with the feeling of impending doom--fear?
2. How long has it been since drugs worked the way I wanted them to?
3. When I couldn't get drugs, did I ever get sick?
4. Has using or getting drugs ever been more important than my health, safety, or well being?
5. Have I ever disregarded my own or someone else's life because I had to get and use drugs?
6. Was I using drugs or needing to get drugs on the day I was arrested?
7. If I don't have a drug problem, why can't I stop using drugs or stop thinking about using drugs?
8. Have I ever questioned my own sanity?

As we answered yes to some of these questions, and many of us answered yes to still more questions, the evidence of our addiction was hard to deny and we began to change our attitude. We know where active addiction will lead us. Maybe we could find a new way of life through N.A.

RELIEF

Although we sought to find relief with drugs, it never worked. When the drugs wore off, the pain was still there and the problems were not solved. Addiction is a progressive disease. While addiction cannot be cured, through the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous recovery is possible and we can learn how to live drug free.

Sometimes while lying on my bunk in my cell, once again for what I now know as my addiction, I swore using just once would not take me back down again, but it did. I have been in treatment before and I have been in prison before. For excitement, I committed crimes I would never do if I was straight. I can no longer ignore the fact that I have a problem. There is life without drugs and I want it.

Once we admit we have a drug problem, we open the door to recovery. If meetings are available, we see and hear other addicts who are living clean and recovering in N.A. Freedom from active addiction is available to all addicts, through the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous.

Some days my head tells me that it's okay to use, especially if I am hurting emotionally. Feelings like shame, guilt, inadequacy, or fear were always enough to start the whole mad cycle all over again. But today, my heart and friends in the program tell me that all pain will pass, and to use again would be my destruction. The miracle is that if I don't use drugs, the problem I am facing gets easier. The sad thing in my life is that I never learned that, because I got high rather than face life on life's terms.

Today I have my own keys to my life, and one of the keys is the program and the fellowship of N.A. This is the main key in my life, because I am learning how to live, to feel, and to accept me for being me. Today, I have the freedom to make my own mistakes and profit from them. I am gaining a freedom that is better than what any drug could do for me.

We can't tell anyone whether or not he or she is an addict. This is a decision each of us has to reach on our own. We can tell you however, that we are addicts. We find recovery and relief through the program of Narcotics Anonymous.

IS NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS FOR YOU?

Narcotics Anonymous is a program of recovery for anyone who has the desire to stop using drugs. We find that the value of one addict helping another is without parallel. We meet regularly to help each other stay clean and to share our message of recovery. Our message is that any addict can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way of life. Our message is one of hope, and the promise of freedom from active addiction.

I was sure I would die using. I had tried to quit for a long time, but I couldn't make it. My only advice to fellow addicts is to try recovery. It is sure a lot more productive and successful than anything I have ever tried on my own.

When I was new in the program, I used to hear phrases from people who had been in N.A. for a while, like "jails, institutions and death." When I thought about the addicts I knew, they had all ended up either dead, in prison, or in institutions. This term has sure given me a chance to think back on how out of control my life has become and how powerless I was over my addiction.

We are not related to any other organizations, including other twelve step fellowships, programs, treatment or correctional facilities. We employ no professional counselors or therapists. Our membership is free, and we share what works for us in day-to-day living. The Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous are the foundation of our program of recovery from the disease of addiction.

This program gives me a blow-by-blow description of what I have to be willing to do, and it shows me proof that it works. I can have what I want. I can live a clean life today. Today, I have a choice and that choice can set me free of the bondage of drugs.

Addicts turn to Narcotics Anonymous in desperation, when all else has failed. Our individual ways do not work. We may not even have a clear desire to stop using, but we know something has to change. Hearing what other recovering addicts have to say often helps us think more clearly. We give ourselves and recovery a chance.

The spiritual principles of N.A. help us to deal with the compulsion to use and the obsession with using. Obsession is the overwhelming desire to use drugs in spite of possible consequences. Once our using starts, compulsion is using without the ability to stop. The self-centeredness of our active addiction has us place using as our first priority.

The process of working the Twelve Steps allows us to change. We become able to make the choice to stay clean. The obsession to use is usually removed. We gain the ability to consider other people, rather than thinking only of ourselves.

I am not stupid and I am not tough. I suffer like many from the disease of addiction. I don't want to be an addict and I don't want to be a convict. I want to live and love and share the things I earn and learn with people who

care. I want what this program has to offer me. I can't go back and live my life over and that hurts. As I sit here in my cell I know there are people out there following in my footsteps, and it brings tears to my eyes because I know the pain they are feeling.

Through practicing the principles of the N.A. program, we learn about ourselves. Some of us have difficulty accepting that we have the disease of addiction. We feel like we don't belong anywhere. One thought we hear over and over again in meetings is that addicts may have felt unique and different. At times, we may feel insecure and apart from everyone. We learn that no matter how we feel, we are not alone. We find strength and support in Narcotics Anonymous.

MEETINGS

There are a variety of reasons that bring us to Narcotics Anonymous. Whatever the reasons are, many of us hear the N.A. message of recovery in meetings. We share our experience, strength, and hope for a better way of life, drug free. Receiving support from recovering addicts, our attitudes begin to change.

I saw and heard those beautiful words from the Narcotics Anonymous basic text that night. I had feelings come over me in that meeting that I've never experienced before in my life. Someone had wrote a book about me without me even knowing it. Other people had the same problems as me, but I was too self-centered to see it. N.A. told me that night that I had a chance to be happy and live a drug-free life and actually enjoy myself. N.A. told me that there was a way to repair the damage I did to myself and others. It told me that I could learn to love myself by helping other people stay clean.

The support and strength gained through attendance at meetings may not always be available to us. Regardless of meeting availability, we practice the principles contained in the Twelve Steps of N.A. to the best of our ability. Many of us try recovery and immediately find relief from the disease of addiction. Others try and may relapse, but we have one thing in common, we keep coming back.

I joined the ranks of recovery in quite a bit of pain. I would like to say I wanted recovery at first, but I did not. It was just another scam I tried to run. I felt welcome at the N.A. meetings, and I also knew I belonged. I had always fit in with others, but I always felt apart from them. I could fit in like a chameleon, changing my colors with my surroundings. But at N.A. I found no need to do this. Another thing that attracted me to the meetings was that people invited me back. This did not occur very often in my active addiction. The people in N.A. loved me until I could love myself.

Our membership in Narcotics Anonymous is unconditional. For the first time, we are accepted simply because we are addicts, not in spite of the fact that we are addicts. We feel

love and acceptance in the meetings. We leave after attending a meeting feeling better. We gain hope and practical information from other members to help us live clean.

For 3 months in my incarceration I went to all the meetings. They had what I wanted, peace. I wanted to enjoy my life, not waste away in some jail cell. When I was released I figured I was cured, but all that changed before I ever knew it. I was caught up in the web of addiction once again, not caring about myself or others. In one month, I violated my probation and was back in jail. Upon sentencing, I received a 3 year bid. That was eight months ago.

RELAPSE

We may find many of our old ways returning. Our attitudes may be influenced by isolation, loneliness, resentment, and discontentment. We may tell ourselves we can handle it. All thoughts of powerlessness are forgotten. Some die trying to prove that they can handle using drugs.

After I ran away from the meeting, I got loaded. I didn't want to think about the consequences of my actions; I just didn't want to feel. I wanted to escape my surroundings, my misery, my loneliness, and it didn't work for me. I came down, to find myself still in my cell, feeling more alone and hating myself more.

Relapse is a return to using drugs after a period of abstinence. This is a serious issue for all addicts. Some die and others never make it back to recovery, continuing to use in pain and hopelessness. The longer using continues, the worse addiction becomes. When we choose to return to using, we do not start over or even continue from where we left off. Not only does the disease of addiction get worse we lose the ability to use in ignorance, because N.A. has shown us a better way to live.

The insanity started all over again. I was telling lies, stealing from anybody and everybody including my family, because they were the easiest ones to lie to. I had no respect for anyone, including myself. I had no feelings, thoughts or cares for anyone. I hated myself and others, unless I could use them for parties or drugs.

N.A. is a program of action. It is what we do that counts, not what we say or think or mean to do. With the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous, meeting attendance, contact with other recovering addicts, and not using, we can stay clean and begin to recover.

One inmate and I would sneak into each other's cells and talk after meetings, even after I used. We talked about what we would have to not do to come back to prison, because we both knew we would return to prison with using and committing crimes. We didn't know if N.A. was the answer, yet we both knew

our ways would get us back. My friend used and died the day of release. I was fortunate, as I am recovering in N.A. today.

Addicts who relapse are as welcome at N.A. meetings as any other newcomer. Addiction is a disease, not a moral problem. With a return to abstinence from drugs, the disease of addiction is arrested, and recovery is possible through working the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous.

RECOVERY

We need a guide to help us change our lives. We realize that nothing could change the fact that we were in prison, but we can begin to change ourselves by beginning to break down the walls inside of us.

The Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous are the guides we use to change ourselves. We believe that change requires us to be willing to work the steps, to be open to new ideas, and to be as honest as we are capable of being at the time. It is our experience that when we begin to work the Steps, we usually develop new attitudes. Without drugs in our lives, our thoughts become clearer and we realize that we are beginning to build a new way of life.

I have done anything and everything to get the drugs I needed. But today it's different for me. Today I am not using. In the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, I was able to find some purpose for existing without the use of drugs and, most importantly, a new way to exist without drugs--the Twelve Steps. I find in this program that if I try to the best of my ability to apply the Twelve Steps in my daily life, things will happen for the best, maybe not exactly when I want it, but in God's time. A lot of times I don't even know why they happen, they just do. I don't try to figure it out, I just know it works for me and I am grateful.

As we work the Steps, our reactions and feelings change. We begin to attract others into our lives. We start to allow people to get close to us, rather than drive them away. We learn to trust and to be trusted. We no longer have to hide who we are for fear of being rejected. The sense of emptiness all addicts know begins to leave us.

I had about 9 months clean and was asked to talk at a meeting and I was terrified. I knew that I had to take a stand for what I was doing and becoming or I might risk it if I didn't. God once again carried me on that night and I was very surprised at the reaction of my fellow inmates. I realized that things were happening like they were supposed to and in God's time, not mine.

My wife turned up pregnant by my neighbor and quit coming to visit me. I got a letter from the parole board telling me that I would be given no parole during my entire sentence due to my previous record.

All those things happened to me in a very short space of time and I was about to explode inside. I know now that it was the grace of God, my friends, my sponsor¹, and those N.A. meetings that carried me through those times. I wanted to use very much. But I kept remembering a line in the Basic Text that said, "No matter what, don't use and you will have the advantage over your disease."

Those terrible feelings of fear, hopelessness, anger and resentment slowly were being replaced within me by hope, faith in my Higher Power, understanding, and acceptance.

Many of us believe that we rely on a power greater than ourselves to help us live clean. When we realize we have found a power which can free us from using and from the obsession to use, we become more willing to trust this Higher Power. We may choose to call this power God, but it is our choice.

I have to believe in a Power greater than myself and trust that Power to restore me to sanity. I can't run my life, I am powerless, so I have to turn my will over to this Higher Power. I have to apply all Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous in my life and God has to help me. I can't do it on my own. I can walk the yard of this institution, but it takes more heart to ask God to help me take these Steps.

The Twelve Steps are a program for living. Our experience shows that the Steps will help us to work through any situation. Our ability to apply the Twelve Steps daily comes slowly. We find that as we are developing the strength necessary to live life on life's terms, the principles we use in our daily lives allow us to face times of fear or pain.

I did 5 years and stayed clean. Living in the general population was hard. I had a lot of faith that God would carry me. I read what N.A. literature I could get. I went to N.A. meetings when they were held. Letting other people know what I was feeling and letting them know how I was working the Steps was real difficult for me. I was in jail for a long time and there were meetings that were closed down for lack of support. I worked the steps the best way I could.

I admitted I was powerless over my addiction, that my life had become unmanageable. That was real evident to me, all I had to do was look around me and see the locked gates. At that point I came to believe that there was a power greater than myself that could restore me to sanity. I knew I didn't want to use. I knew there was a better life for me, and that was enough a lot of the days.

1. *For more discussion on this important topic, please refer to I.P. #11, Sponsorship.*

If I could share one message with newcomers, it would be that your life doesn't have to be the way it was before. We all have the disease of addiction, we all do things we are not proud of, but we have the chance to work through that.

Experiences in recovery are often new, strange, and frightening. Sometimes the pull of old friends and old ways is strong. It seems as if it would be easier to go back to using, but using is not the answer for addicts. We found a new way to live which is better than anything we have ever known. Even though we experience hardships, we are not willing to go back to the life we had before we got clean.

Looking at my possible death from a terminal disease was hard. There were times when nothing anyone said to me helped. In the end, I realized that I only have today anyway. Today I am healthy. Regardless of life's disillusionments, I prefer to believe in life. All human beings are given only one day or one moment at a time to live. I am no different from other people.

By getting to know myself and who I really am, I began to work on those areas of myself I didn't like, such as my jealousy, envy, pride, hatred, and revenge. It's not as though I was a bad person wanting to get good; I realized those emotions made me feel bad, and that I was wasting a great deal of energy I could not afford.

When such emotions came up inside me, I realized something was wrong. My Higher Power that I had begun to talk to in my early days of recovery was the one I turned to. When these emotions came up, I recognized what was happening and admitted it. Usually the feelings inside went away. Sometimes they didn't, but as time went on I learned about discipline and using my assets. I have come to believe that discipline, responsibility, and creativity are also a means to freedom for me.

As long as we don't use, we have a chance to live a new way of life, in or out of jail. The N.A. program does not promise us that living will become easy and everything will go our way. We learn there is a difference between needs and wants. Our Higher Power always meets our spiritual needs. Even though we are still behind the walls, we need to develop new friendships, relating to others who are clean, and also learning about recovery through the principles of N.A. Through working the Twelve Steps, we gain serenity in spite of any living situation.

One by one I brought back the people in my life I had loved so much. Later when it came that time in my recovery, I started making amends and felt more relief. I have happiness and peace like I never felt before. I have a purpose, I know God has a plan for me. I know as long as I have faith in a loving God, and I apply the Steps in my N.A. life, I am on the road to recovery. My dreams are different today, they are reality.

Feelings of joy, peace and contentment are gifts of recovery as we grow and change with working the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous. We are able to accept the disappointments and frustrations as a part of daily living. Even though recovery may not be easy for us, it is a worthwhile journey. Whatever we have done in the past, we don't have to do again. Most importantly, we never have to use again.

RELEASE

Those of us who have found recovery in prison know that upon release we are vulnerable. Faced with the feelings of insecurity and fear our release from prison often brings, the temptation to return to using may be overwhelming. This is a time when we need the support of the Fellowship.

The first time I went for parole, I turned release down. I felt I was not ready to face the outside and stay clean. Later the parole board decided they were going to give me a chance and I was petrified. Now that I didn't have those walls around me and people staring at me, I had built walls inside of me. I was faced with going out there and being on my own. Those were real scary feelings for me.

Our experience shows that whether we are in prison or on the outside, wherever we go, we are not cured from the disease of addiction. The actions taken to begin recovery while incarcerated are the same actions recovering addicts practice on the outside. Our first priority is staying clean.

I used after I went to a few meetings while still in jail, but I learned. The N.A. program began working for me while I was still locked up, and it has continued to work for me on the streets.

The first days after release are critical for our continuing recovery. We cannot afford to be around people who are using drugs. We need to go to meetings and surround ourselves with recovering addicts.

Because of addiction I had lost custody of my son, my family had abandoned me, and I felt completely alone. Two days out on work release, I used. I used for fifteen days, committed new crimes, and found myself in a park with a knife at my throat. I hadn't lived through all that, including prison, to die. For ninety days in work release I had never been offered so many drugs. There were times when I thought I was losing my mind. On blind faith, I followed the suggestions.

I got on my knees; I had done worse things for drugs, so I was willing to do this in order to live. Finally after 60 days I used the phone to call outside N.A. members. I was scared to death. I would be vulnerable. I would have to

speak to someone I didn't know. Before, I had only used the phone to find out who had money or where the drugs were.

In many meetings those first ninety days I screamed about wanting to get loaded. At one meeting, I literally held onto the table for dear life so I wouldn't run out and use. "Stay here, it gets better," kept running through my head. N.A. members kept telling me to come back. Inside me, I longed to be able to carry on a conversation, smile and laugh. It had been years, if ever. I shared how I felt and hung onto the members of this fellowship. I had to completely change. I had no idea how to change, and it scared me. Change is in our Twelve Steps, so at sixty days clean, I made a step meeting my home group.

The meetings are a source of hope, support, guidance, and fellowship. Any addict is welcome at an N.A. meeting. We sense the acceptance and concern in a meeting room. Regular attendance needs to begin as soon as possible. We need to let members get to know us and to let them know we need help. No one can help if they don't know that there is a problem.

That first week, I went to work and isolated in my apartment. I was talking on the phone with some people in the program back home. I shared with them how desperate and scared I felt. I couldn't understand all these feelings I was having, and I was clean. They told me I needed a meeting. I needed recovering people in my life. I needed to be in the rooms of Narcotics Anonymous again.

Many of us had no idea what to expect living without the use of drugs. As we share with recovering addicts, our problems and fears lessen. Our hope, freedom from the disease of addiction, grew as we worked the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous. We found a life worth living which far exceeded anything we had ever imagined for ourselves.

Sometimes I thought it would take a stick of dynamite to break down the walls I had built up inside. It has taken me some time, but I believe I have knocked down a whole lot of them. I started by not using drugs, going to meetings, and by getting a sponsor to help me take the Steps and apply them to my new life on the outside.

Some actions we have found helpful in making the transition from prison to the outside are:

1. Don't use, no matter what.
2. Go to an N.A. meeting on the first day out; attend meetings regularly.
3. Get and call a sponsor; talk to other recovering addicts.
4. Read N.A. literature.

5. Get phone numbers of other N.A. members.
6. Work the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous.
7. Again... don't use, no matter what.

When at the end of the road we find that we can no longer function as a human being, either with or without drugs, we all face the same dilemma. What is there left to do? There seems to be this alternative: either go on as best we can to the bitter ends--jails, institutions or death--or find a new way to live. In years gone by, very few addicts ever had this last choice. Those who are addicted today are more fortunate. For the first time in history, a simple way has been proving itself in the lives of many addicts. It is available to us all. This is a simple spiritual--not religious--program, known as Narcotics Anonymous.²

OTHER N.A. LITERATURE YOU MAY WISH TO READ:

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - Originally published in 1983, this publication is commonly referred to as the Basic Text for recovery from addiction. In its pages, many addicts share their experience, strength and hope about the disease of addiction and their recovery through the N.A. program. It encompasses and expands on the chapters from the N.A. White Booklet and includes an additional chapter, "More Will Be Revealed." The personal stories of many recovering addicts are also included in order to assist new members in finding identification and hope for a better life.

N.A. WHITE BOOKLET, NEWLY REVISED - The N.A. White Booklet was the first piece of literature written by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. It contains a concise description of the N.A. program, including all the information in pamphlets No. 1 and No. 6.

RECOVERY AND RELAPSE (I.P. #6) - An excerpt from the White Booklet, this pamphlet discusses the early warning signs of relapse, as well as actions that addicts can take to avoid relapse.

AM I AN ADDICT? (I.P. #7) - The questions are listed to assist individuals in making this personal decision. The questions range from focusing on obvious behavioral symptoms to more subtle personality changes that accompany the disease of addiction. Reading this pamphlet may help you to face addiction honestly and give you hope, because it offers the solution of the N.A. program.

2. Excerpt taken from the White Booklet, Narcotics Anonymous, Newly Revised.

JUST FOR TODAY (I.P. #8) - There are five positive thoughts presented in this pamphlet to help recovering addicts each day. Ideal for reading on a daily basis, these thoughts provide addicts with the perspective of clean living to face each new day. The remainder of the pamphlet develops the principle of living just for today, encouraging addicts to trust in a Higher Power and work the N.A. program on a daily basis.

SPONSORSHIP (I.P. #11) - Sponsorship is a vital tool for recovery. This introductory pamphlet helps provide an understanding of sponsorship, especially for new members. The pamphlet addresses some questions, including what is a sponsor? How do you get a sponsor? Also included is a closing section, "How to Be a Sponsor."

YOUTH AND RECOVERY (I.P. #13) - The message of this pamphlet is that recovery is possible for all addicts, regardless of their age or period of drug use. It emphasizes that all addicts eventually end up at the same point of total despair, but this is not necessary--we can begin recovery right away! Sections on hitting bottom, making a decision, peer pressure and family problems, living for today, and a message of hope.

FOR THE NEWCOMER (I.P. #16) - This informational pamphlet describes how Narcotics Anonymous deals with the disease of addiction that is shared by all N.A. members. It sets forth the Twelve Steps, the blueprints for recovery. Information about recognizing and experiencing feelings is included, as well as suggestions to utilize a sponsor and new friends in the N.A. fellowship. All of these tools help addicts to begin and maintain their recovery.

SELF ACCEPTANCE (I.P. #19) - The first half of this pamphlet, "The Problem," discusses aspects of an unmanageable life, including not accepting ourselves or others. The second half of the pamphlet, "The Twelve Steps Are The Solution," outlines the process that allows recovering addicts to apply the Twelve Steps in every area of their lives in order to gain acceptance of themselves and others.

WELCOME TO NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (I.P. #22) - This pamphlet was written to answer questions often asked by people attending their first N.A. meeting. Its message is simple: "We have found a way to live without using drugs and we are happy to share it with anyone for whom drugs are a problem."

STAYING CLEAN ON THE OUTSIDE (I.P. #23) - This pamphlet is directed towards those recovering addicts who are re-entering society from an institutional setting, treatment or correctional. It outlines the basics necessary to continue their recovery while in transition. It addresses such issues as how to get involved in recovery in N.A. while institutionalized, how to make the first contacts with N.A. members, how to find and choose a sponsor, and how to get involved in personal service. A highly valuable tool for those in a hospital or institutional setting interested in developing a personal program of daily action.

SOME SERIAL PUBLICATIONS YOU MAY WISH TO READ:

REACHING OUT - *Reaching Out* is a newsletter that is published by the World Service Conference Hospitals and Institutions Committee of N.A., to meet the needs of institutionalized addicts, as well as H&I committees throughout the fellowship. If you are interested in being placed on the mailing list for this publication, or would like to write to us about your experience in recovery through the Narcotics Anonymous program, the address is: *Reaching Out*, c/o World Service Office, P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA, 91409 U.S.A.

THE N.A. WAY MAGAZINE - *The N.A. Way Magazine* is the fellowship's monthly international journal. Its main section, "Meeting in Print," contains articles about personal recovery written by N.A. members from around the world. In a monthly feature article, a current N.A. event or topic is discussed in detail. "Viewpoint" is an ongoing presentation of various opinions on issues of interest to N.A. members, and the "Home Group" cartoon series keeps us laughing at ourselves. To order a subscription, write the World Service Office.

SERENITY PRAYER

*God...
Grant me the serenity to accept
the things I cannot change...
The courage to change
the things I can...
And the wisdom to know
the difference.*

THE TWELVE STEPS OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

1. *We admitted that we were powerless over our addiction, that our lives had become unmanageable.*
2. *We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.*
3. *We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.*
4. *We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.*
5. *We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.*
6. *We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.*
7. *We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.*
8. *We made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.*
9. *We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.*
10. *We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.*
11. *We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.*
12. *Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*

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ADDENDUM 3

The Group Booklet

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Introduction

There are many ways of doing things in Narcotics Anonymous. And just as all of us have our own individual personalities, so will your group develop its own identity, its own way of doing things, and its own special knack for carrying the N.A. message. That's the way it should be. In N.A. we encourage unity, not uniformity.

This booklet does not even attempt to say everything that could be said about operating an N.A. group. What you'll find here are some brief answers to a few very basic questions: What is an N.A. group? How does the work get done? What kinds of meetings can a group have? When problems arise, how are they solved? We hope this booklet proves useful as your group seeks to fulfill its primary purpose: to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

What is an N.A. group?

A Narcotics Anonymous group is any two or more recovering addicts who meet regularly at a specific time and place for the purpose of recovery from the disease of addiction. All Narcotics Anonymous groups are bound by the principles of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of N.A. N.A. meetings are conducted by addicts, for addicts. It is a personal and spiritual program, therefore personal experiences, N.A. principles and N.A. general information should be the topics of our meetings.

The primary purpose of an N.A. group is to carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. The group provides each member with the opportunity to share and to hear the experience of other addicts who are learning to live a better way without the use of drugs. The group, in essence, is a vehicle by which our message is carried. It provides a setting in which a newcomer can identify with recovering addicts and can find an atmosphere of recovery.

N.A. groups are the foundation of the N.A. service structure. Groups maintain contact with the rest of Narcotics Anonymous through representatives selected to participate on the groups' behalf in the N.A. service structure. Group mailings from the World Service Office, including the *Newsline* (the WSO newsletter), keep N.A. groups informed on issues affecting the fellowship worldwide. (If your group is not receiving the *Newsline*, ask your secretary to register the group's current mailing address with the Group Services Department at the World Service Office.)

What is a "home group"?

In some N.A. communities, it has become customary for members of the fellowship to make a personal commitment to support one particular group, their "home group." Though this custom is not universal, many believe its practice can benefit the individual member as well as the group. For the individual member, it can provide a stable recovery base, a place to call "home," a place to know and be known by other recovering addicts. For the group, it insures the support of a core of regular, committed members. A strong home group can also foster a spirit of camaraderie among its members that makes the group both more

attractive and more supportive of newcomers. The home group is one very specific way in which, by making a personal commitment to N.A. unity, group members can enhance their own recovery as well as insure that the same opportunity exists for others.

While the home group concept is the accepted norm in some N.A. communities, it's unheard of in others. There are many, many ways of talking and thinking about the bond established among addicts in their groups. Do what seems most suitable in your own N.A. community.

Who can be a member?

If an addict wants to be a member of Narcotics Anonymous, all that is needed is a desire to stop using drugs. Our Third Tradition insures that. Whether the individual member of Narcotics Anonymous chooses to be a member of a particular group as well is entirely up to the individual.

What are "open" and "closed" meetings?

"Closed" N.A. meetings are only for drug addicts or those who think they might have a drug problem. Closed meetings provide an atmosphere in which addicts can feel more certain that those attending will be able to identify with them. The leader often reads a statement at the beginning of a closed meeting, explaining why the meeting is closed and offering to direct non-addicts who may be attending to an open meeting.

"Open" N.A. meetings are just that: open to anyone who wants to attend. Some groups have open meetings once a month to allow non-addict friends and relatives of N.A. members to celebrate recovery anniversaries with them. It should be made clear during the meeting that N.A. groups do not accept monetary contributions from non-addicts.

Some groups use carefully planned open meetings, particularly open speaker meetings, as an opportunity to let members of the community at large see for themselves what Narcotics Anonymous is all about, and even to ask questions. At such public meetings, a statement regarding our tradition of anonymity is often read, asking visitors not to use full-face photographs, last names, or personal details when they describe the meeting to others. (A sample anonymity statement appears at the back of this booklet.) For more information on public meetings, see *A Guide to Public Information*, available through your group service representative or by writing the World Service Office.

Where can we hold N.A. meetings?

N.A. meetings can be held almost anywhere. Groups usually want to find an easily accessible public place where they can hold their meetings on a weekly basis. Facilities run by public agencies and religious and civic organizations often have rooms for rent at moderate rates that will meet a group's needs. Most meeting facilities will be very

cooperative and generous. Even though they may want to donate space, we still need to pay rent. Some facilities may prefer their rent to be paid in literature or other services.

Before securing a location, it may be well to consider whether or not it will be accessible to addicts with any physical limitations. Does the building have ramps, elevators with wide doors, and bathroom facilities able to accommodate someone in a wheelchair? Is adequate parking and unloading space available? There are other similar considerations your group may wish to make itself aware of.

It's generally recommended that group meetings not be held in members' homes. Most groups find it desirable to hold their meetings in public facilities for a variety of reasons: Stable meetings held in public places tend to enhance N.A.'s credibility in the community. Because of varying work and vacation schedules, it is often difficult to maintain consistent times for meetings held in individuals' homes. Holding a meeting in an individual's home may affect the willingness of some members to attend. A group asking members to host meetings in their homes is asking them to risk potential personal loss from theft and property damage. Although some groups may hold their first few meetings in a member's home, it's generally recommended that they relocate their meetings to public facilities as soon as possible.

Holding regular N.A. group meetings in some types of facilities, drug addiction treatment centers, clubhouses, or political party headquarters, for instance, can compromise the independent identity of the group. Before deciding to locate your meeting in such a facility, your group may wish to consider a few questions: Is the facility open to any addict wishing to attend the meeting? Does the facility administration place any restrictions on your use of the room that could challenge any of our traditions? Is it clear to all concerned that your N.A. group, not the facility, is sponsoring the meeting? Do you have a clear rental agreement with the facility management, and is the rent you're being charged moderate enough to allow your group to contribute funds to the rest of the N.A. service structure? Are so many of your community's N.A. meetings already located in this particular facility that, if it were to fold, your N.A. community as a whole would be crippled? These are some of the questions a group should carefully consider before deciding where to hold an N.A. meeting.

What kind of meeting format can we use?

Groups use a variety of formats to enhance the atmosphere of recovery in their meetings. Most meetings last an hour or an hour and a half. Some groups have a single format for their meetings. Other groups have a schedule of rotating formats: one week a step study, the next week a speaker meeting, and so forth. Still others divide their large meetings into sessions after the meeting has opened, each with its own format. Here are a few basic descriptions of some of the meeting formats that, with variations, seem to be among the most common. For reference, we've also included a sample meeting format at the end of this booklet.

Participation meetings. The leader opens the meeting up for members to share on any subject related to recovery.

Topic discussion meetings. The leader selects a particular recovery-related topic for discussion, or asks someone else to provide a topic.

Study meetings. There are a number of different types of study meetings. Some read a portion of an N.A. conference-approved book or pamphlet each week and discuss it, for example, a Basic Text study. Others have discussions focussing on the Twelve Steps or the Twelve Traditions.

Speaker meetings. Some meetings ask a single speaker to share his or her recovery story, or his or her experience in a particular aspect of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous. Others ask two or three speakers to talk for a shorter period. Still others use a combination format, with a speaker sharing first, and a topic discussion afterward.

Newcomer meetings. These meetings are often conducted by two or three of the group's more experienced members. These members share their experience with drug addiction and with recovery in the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. If time allows, the meeting is then opened for questions from the newer members.

Newcomer meetings are sometimes held a half hour before or after the group's regular meeting. Other groups conduct them as smaller sections of a large meeting. Still others hold a newcomer meeting one day of the week, their regular meeting another. Whatever the format, newcomer meetings provide a means for your group to give addicts new to N.A. an introduction to the basics of recovery.

Question and answer meetings. At Q&A meetings, people are asked to think of questions related to recovery and the fellowship, write those questions down, and place them in "the ask-it basket." The leader of the meeting pulls a slip of paper from the basket, reads the question, and asks for someone to answer it. After one or two members have spoken to one question, the leader selects another question from the basket, and so forth, until the meeting is over.

Developing your format

These are basic descriptions of just a few of the many different types of formats used in N.A. meetings; the variations on even these few format types can be endless. Feel free to innovate. Vary the format in whatever way seems to best suit the "personality" of your group and the needs of addicts in your community.

Often, a meeting will grow far larger than the group originally anticipated. A meeting format that worked well for a small meeting may not work as well for a larger one. When one of your group's meetings experiences that kind of growth, you may want to consider making some adjustments in your format, perhaps even replacing it altogether. Some groups experiencing such growth break their larger meetings down into smaller sections to allow more members the chance to participate. Some even use a different type of format in each section.

What kinds of literature should we use?

It's up to each group to determine for itself what N.A. literature is appropriate for use in its meetings.

Selections from conference-approved books and pamphlets are usually read at the beginning of an N.A. meeting, and some meetings use them as the core of their format. N.A. conference-approved literature represents the widest range of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous.

Most groups find that reading recovery oriented material in their meetings better supports the primary purpose of the meeting than reading handbooks or bulletins. And while groups may not wish to have service oriented publications read aloud during their recovery meetings, they usually make those publications available on their literature tables.

Groups often make other kinds of N.A. literature available at their meetings: the *Newsline* (WSO's service newsletter), various N.A. service bulletins and handbooks, *The N.A. Way Magazine* (the international fellowship journal), and local N.A. newsletters.

Literature produced by other twelve step fellowships, or by other organizations, is inappropriate either for display on group literature tables or for reading at group meetings. To do either implies an endorsement of an outside enterprise, directly contradicting N.A.'s Sixth Tradition.¹

What is a group business meeting?

The purpose of the group business meeting is fairly self-explanatory: to conduct the business of the group in such a way that the group remains effective in carrying the recovery message. Some of the questions a typical group business meeting addresses are:

- * Is the group effective in carrying the N.A. message?
- * Are newcomers being made welcome?
- * Do solutions for problems at recent meetings need to be sought?
- * Is the meeting format providing sufficient direction?
- * Is attendance steady, or growing?
- * Are there good relations between the group and the facility in which the meeting is held?
- * Are there good relations between the group and the community?
- * Are the group's funds being used wisely?
- * Is there enough money being donated at meetings to meet the group's needs and also provide for contributions to the rest of the service structure?
- * Are literature and refreshment supplies holding up?
- * Is there a service vacancy in the group?

¹ Sixth Tradition: "An N.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the N.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

- * Has the area, the region, or the World Service Conference asked the group for advice or support?

Group business meetings, sometimes called steering committee meetings, are usually held before or after a regular recovery meeting, so that the recovery meeting remains focused on its primary purpose. The group selects someone to lead the business meeting. Group officers give reports on their areas of responsibility, and subjects of importance to the group are raised for discussion. Some groups hold business meetings on a regular basis; others only call them when something specific comes up that needs the group's attention. All group members are welcome, even encouraged to attend, raise questions related to the group's work, and take part in discussion.

The group is the foundation of the N.A. service structure and is guided by the Twelve Traditions. A good understanding of the traditions will help a group business meeting steer a straight course. Interested members can read essays on the Twelve Traditions in the Basic Text.

How does the work get done?

Setting up chairs, preparing refreshments, buying literature, arranging for speakers, cleaning up after the meeting, paying the bills, most of the things an N.A. group does to host its meetings are pretty simple. But if one person had to do them all, those simple things would quickly become overwhelming. That's why a group elects officers (or, in the language of the Second Tradition, trusted servants): to help divide the work among the group's members.

Electing officers is one way the group practices N.A.'s tradition of self-support: "Every N.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting . . . " Sometimes it seems that groups run all by themselves, but the fact is that someone has to do the work needed to support the group. By dividing the work, the group insures that the group as a whole is self-supporting, and that the group's burdens don't settle unevenly on the shoulders of just one or two individuals.

Electing officers provides the group with an opportunity to strengthen its members' recovery. When members agree to serve as secretary or treasurer or tea- or coffee-makers, that acceptance of responsibility often helps advance their personal growth. It also gives them a chance to help enhance the group's ability to carry the recovery message.

You don't have to be a group officer to be of service to the group. Every week, there's work to be done: helping set up the meeting, greeting newcomers, cleaning up, bringing refreshments, and other things of that sort. Asking new members to help with these kinds of jobs can make them feel a part of the group more quickly.

How do we choose group officers?

There are a couple of things to consider when looking for a group officer. One is maturity in recovery. When those new in recovery are elected to a position, they may find

themselves deprived of time and energy they need for their early recovery. Group members with a year or two clean are probably already well-established in their personal recovery. They are also more likely than new members to be familiar with N.A.'s traditions as well as group procedures.

A second thing to consider is consistent participation in the group. Do they attend meetings regularly? Do they take an active part in the group's business meetings? Those who've demonstrated their commitment to the group by showing up every week will probably make better trusted servants than those who only attend sporadically.

When a vacancy occurs in a group office, the group holds a business meeting to consider how to fill it. Most groups use a simple nomination and election procedure in selecting new trusted servants.

What officers does a group need?

In different areas the work is divided differently, and the particular jobs are sometimes called by different names. What's important is not who does the job or what the job is called, but that the job gets done. What follows are general descriptions of some of the most common sorts of jobs N.A. groups have.

The **secretary** arranges the affairs of the group, often by recruiting other group members to help out. One of the first jobs for a new secretary is registering the group's current mailing address and meeting information with the area committee secretary and the World Service Office. Each time a new secretary or group representative takes office, or when there is a change in the group's mailing address or in the time or location of a group meeting, both the area committee and World Service Office should be informed. Other things a group secretary is responsible for may include:

- * Opening the meeting room well before the meeting is scheduled to begin, setting up chairs and tables (if necessary), and cleaning and locking the room after the meeting is over.
- * Arranging a table with N.A. books and pamphlets, local meeting lists, N.A. activity fliers, service bulletins, *The N.A. Way Magazine*, and N.A. newsletters.
- * Making tea or coffee.
- * Buying refreshments and other supplies.
- * Selecting meeting leaders and speakers.
- * Keeping a list of group members' recovery anniversaries, if the group wishes.
- * Conducting group business meetings.
- * And doing whatever else needs to be done.

Many groups break all these jobs down separately: someone to open and close the room, another person responsible for refreshments, a third to take care of the literature table, and so forth. Groups that host more than one meeting will often have a different person responsible for all these jobs at each of their meetings.

The **treasurer** is responsible for the group's money. Because of the particular pitfalls associated with service as a group treasurer, it's important that groups look carefully at those they elect as treasurers. If the group elects someone who is not capable of handling the responsibilities of the job, then the group is at least partly responsible if something goes wrong. It's recommended that groups elect members who are financially secure, are good at managing their personal finances, and have at least a year clean. Because of the need to keep consistent records, it's also strongly recommended that groups elect treasurers to serve for a full year.

What do group treasurers do? They count the money that members have contributed at each meeting, pay back the people who buy group refreshments and literature, and keep good, simple records. The group treasurer's job requires close attention to details. To help the treasurer in managing those details, a *Group Treasurer's Workbook* is available from your area committee or from the World Service Office.

Group service representatives, are elected directly by each N.A. group. By participating in area service, and by attending forums, seminars, and workshops at both the area and regional levels, the GSRs provide constant, active influence over the discussions being carried on within the service structure. If we are vigilant in choosing stable, qualified leaders at this level of service, the remainder of the structure will almost certainly be sound. From this strong foundation, a service structure can be built that will nourish, inform, and support the groups, as the groups nourish and support the structure.

Group service representatives link their groups with the rest of the N.A. service structure, particularly through the information conveyed in their reports to and from the area committee. At group business meetings, the GSR report provides a summary of area committee activities, often sparking discussions among group members that provide the GSR with a feel for how the area can better serve the group's needs. In group recovery meetings, GSRs make available fliers announcing area and regional activities.

At area committee meetings, GSR reports provide perspectives on group growth vital to the committee's work. If a group is having problems, GSRs can share those problems with the committee in their reports. And if the group hasn't found solutions to those problems, the area chairperson may open a slot on the committee's agenda so that the GSR can gather the experience others have had in similar situations. If any helpful solutions arise, the GSR can report those back to the group.

Groups also elect a second representative called an **alternate GSR**. Alternate GSRs attend all the area service committee meetings with the GSRs, so that they can see for themselves how the committee works. And if the GSR cannot attend an area committee meeting, the alternate GSR participates in the GSR's place.

Alternate GSRs, along with others, also serve on area subcommittees. Subcommittee experience will give alternate GSRs added perspective on how area services are actually delivered. That perspective will make them more effective area committee participants if their groups ask them later to serve as their GSR.

What responsibilities does an N.A. group have?

The first and most important responsibility of any N.A. group, its "primary purpose," according to the Fifth Tradition, is "to carry the message to the addict who still suffers." And the single most important thing a group can do to fulfill that primary purpose is to conduct meetings that provide an atmosphere in which N.A. recovery can be effectively shared between addicts. Groups conduct the details of their meetings in very different ways, but all of them seek the same end: to make recovery from drug addiction available to any addict in the community who seeks it.

How can our group support other N.A. services?

Ultimately, the N.A. groups bear both the responsibility and the authority for all the services of the N.A. Fellowship. Each group should send stable, active GSRs to participate in the work of the service structure on the groups' behalf. And each group should consider how best to provide the funds the N.A. service structure needs to do its work.

Most groups set a little bit of money aside to use in case an emergency arises. However, groups usually find that too much money set aside causes far more problems than too little money.

After group expenses are met, excess funds are usually passed on to the local area service or regional service committee. If no area or region is in existence, then funds can be donated directly to the World Service Conference.

How can our group better serve our community?

By its very existence, the group is already providing a substantial service to the community. It's providing the support addicts in the community need to reenter the mainstream of society. But how can a group become more effective in reaching out to addicts who've not yet found N.A.? There are two general ways in which a group can better serve its community: through activities coordinated by the group itself, and through the area service committee (ASC).

Some N.A. groups reach out to their communities themselves. This is particularly the case in small communities, and in areas where Narcotics Anonymous is very new. An N.A. group in a rural town obviously does not have as many people or as much money available as an area service committee in a large city, but opportunities exist nonetheless for carrying the recovery message effectively to others who may be seeking the solution we've found. If your group needs help in reaching out to the community, write to the WSO Group Services Department. Ask for the booklets, *A Guide to Public Information* and the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*.

Most N.A. groups are served by an area committee.² Area service committees coordinate efforts to carry the N.A. message on behalf of all the groups they serve. Community public information services, telephone contact lines, and panel presentations to addicts in treatment centers and jails are three ways in which most area committees carry the message, either directly to the addict who still suffers or to those who may refer an addict to an N.A. meeting. Your group service representative can tell you more about how you and your group can more effectively join in the work of your area service committee.

How can our group solve its problems?

N.A. groups encounter a wide variety of problems: meetings are disrupted; treatment centers bring in large numbers of clients when the group is ill-prepared to receive them; the format goes stale; the clarity of our message becomes an issue; the coffee tastes like industrial strength cleanser; the readings at the beginning of the meeting go on, and on, and on. These are just a few of the problems the average N.A. group must deal with from time to time. This booklet doesn't "lay down the law" on how to deal with these problems. It does point out some effective tools group members can use in solving their own problems.

The best source of solutions for the group's problems, in most cases, is the group itself. "Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps," our Twelfth Step says, "we tried . . . to practice these principles in all our affairs." Common sense, open minds, calm discussion, accurate information, mutual respect, and healthy personal recovery enable a group to deal effectively with almost anything that comes its way.

There are a number of printed resources the group may choose to use in gathering the information it needs to reach sound decisions. The Basic Text provides information about how N.A.'s Twelve Traditions can be applied. The *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* gives explanations of essential service activities in Narcotics Anonymous. Periodicals such as *The N.A. Way Magazine* and the *Newsline* often have articles addressing problems the group might face.

Another source of information the group might tap is the experience of other groups in its area or region. If the group has a problem and can't come up with its own solution, it might want to ask its group service representative to share that problem at the next area service committee meeting. Many ASCs set aside a portion of every meeting for exactly that purpose. And while the area committee can't tell a group what to do, it can provide a forum in which groups can share with one another what's worked for them. Workshops conducted by the regional service committee provide the same kind of opportunity on a larger scale. Ask your group service representative for details on how the area or regional committee can help with group problems.

² If you don't know how to contact the nearest area service committee, write to the WSO Group Services Department. They'll be happy to put you in touch.

Sample meeting format

This sample meeting format is just that: a sample. It's designed so that, if your group chooses, you can use it exactly as it is. However, you're encouraged to change it and rearrange it according to the needs of your group.

Leader:

Welcome members to the meeting and introduce yourself. Hello, my name is _____, and I'm an addict. Welcome to this meeting of the _____ Group of Narcotics Anonymous. I'd like to open this meeting with a moment of silence (15 to 20 seconds) for the addict who still suffers, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

We like to extend a special welcome to newcomers. Is there anyone attending their first N.A. meeting? Would you like to introduce yourselves? Is there anyone attending this meeting for the first time?

If this is a closed meeting: This is a "closed" Narcotics Anonymous meeting. "Closed" N.A. meetings are only for drug addicts or those who think they might have a drug problem. Closed meetings provide an atmosphere in which addicts can feel more certain that those attending will be able to identify with them. If there are any non-addicts visiting, we'd like to thank you for your interest in Narcotics Anonymous. Our local N.A. meeting list on the literature table will direct you to an N.A. meeting in our community that is open to non-addicts.

If this is an open meeting: This is an "open" Narcotics Anonymous meeting, which means that non-addict friends, relatives, and community members are welcome to attend. Other N.A. meetings may be closed to non-addicts. We'd like to welcome our visitors, and thank you for your interest in Narcotics Anonymous. We ask that you respect the primary purpose of this meeting, which is to provide a place where drug addicts can share their recovery with one another.

Leader:

You may want to read an anonymity statement at the beginning of an open meeting. A sample anonymity statement appears immediately following this sample meeting format.

For the protection of our group as well as the meeting facility, we ask that no drugs or drug paraphernalia be on your person at the meeting.

It costs nothing to belong to Narcotics Anonymous. You are a member when you say you are.

Leader:

Recognize those with various periods of clean time. Keytags, chips, or medallions may be given out.

Select people before the meeting to read one or more of the following short pieces. These readings can be found either in our Little White Booklet or the group reading cards.

- a) Who Is An Addict?
- b) What Is The N.A. Program?
- c) Why Are We Here?
- d) How It Works.
- e) The Twelve Traditions.

Leader:

Ask for topic or step for discussion, and call on people to share, or introduce the speaker.

Leader:

About ten minutes before the meeting is scheduled to close, announce: That's all the time we have. I'd like to thank you for attending.

Leader:

Begin passing the basket around, announcing: The basket being passed around is one way of practicing our Seventh Tradition, which says, "Every N.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." The money we collect pays for rent, literature, and refreshments. Through contributions from this group to various N.A. service committees, it also helps carry the N.A. message of recovery in our area and around the world.

If this is an "open" meeting: I'd like once again to thank our non-addict guests for the interest they've shown in Narcotics Anonymous. Because of N.A.'s tradition of self-support, this group asks that you not contribute any money when the basket passes your way.

Does the group service representative have any announcements? (The GSR will make announcements of upcoming group activities and N.A. events in the area.)

After the basket has come back around: Again, thanks for coming tonight. Would all those who care to, join in a circle to close? Various groups close in different ways: with prayers, brief recitations from N.A. literature, etc.

Keep coming back. It works!

Sample anonymity statement

N.A.'s Eleventh Tradition reads, "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films." We ask everyone attending to respect our members' anonymity by not using full-face photographs, last names, or personal details when describing this meeting to others.

Other publications of group interest (available from the World Service Office)

- a. *Narcotics Anonymous*, the Basic Text of recovery.
- b. *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*
- c. *A Guide to Public Information*
- d. *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*
- e. *Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees*
- f. *Group Treasurer's Workbook*
- g. "Hey! What's the Basket For?", a pamphlet on N.A.'s tradition of self-support.
- h. *The N.A. Way Magazine*, the international fellowship journal (published monthly).
- i. *Newsline*, the World Service Office newsletter.

ADDENDUM 4

WSC LITERATURE COMMITTEE WORK LIST

For Information Only

With the adoption of the WSC Literature Committee (WSCLC) guidelines at the 1988 World Service Conference, the WSC established a new literature development process which includes an A, B, C, and D work list. These are lists where literature proposals at different stages of development are placed. Placing proposals on these lists accomplishes two things. First, the fellowship is advised of the contents of our current work load (A-list), as well as what our future work load might be (the "B," "C" and "D" list). Secondly, it allows for prudent planning within the WSC Literature Committee as various literature projects are developed.

They are listed here for your information. These lists have been approved by the WSCLC based on the recommendation of the WSCLC's Evaluation Committee. This work list contains all of the material in our working files.

A-List (Items for Final Development)

The A-list consists of items in final stage of development. The A-list is recommended by the WSC Literature Committee but is reserved for approval by the World Service Conference. The WSC may add or subtract items from the list. However, this list has been developed by discussion and debate within the WSC Literature Committee and has been determined to be the maximum amount of material that the WSCLC can reasonably be expected to accomplish during the 1990-1991 Conference year. The following is the A-list the WSCLC is presenting for conference adoption:

1. The Steps portion of *It Works: How and Why*
2. *For Those in Treatment*
3. *In Times of Illness*

B-List (Items Awaiting Final Development)

The B-list contains items from which the fellowship makes choices to fill openings on the A-list. There are no pieces of literature currently on the B-list.

C-List (Ready for Regional Development)

The C-list consists of material that needs more fellowship writing and input to bring it to a first draft stage. C-list material is assigned to regional literature committees whose responsibility it then becomes to create the forum and atmosphere where members of their region can work on the assigned project. The following are items placed on the C-list by the WSC Literature Committee, with a brief description of each.

- 1) *Daily Meditation Book*
A book with entries for each day of the year, including quotes from N.A. literature, brief discussion of a topic, and a thought for the day.
- 2) *Living Clean*
A book-length piece (101 pages) which is intended as a newcomer's guide to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. The book addresses many of the questions which a newcomer has, hopefully eliminating some of the pitfalls of early recovery. The draft includes thirty-two sections such as: Are you an Addict? What are your chances? What is N.A.? Meetings; People, Places and Things; Sponsorship; Relationships and Recovery; and Anger and Resentment; just to name a few.
- 3) *Unity*
A six-page pamphlet. Its outline includes Common Disease, Personal Recovery, Commitment, 24 Principles, Group Unity, Unity--N.A. as a Whole, and Unity in Purpose.
- 4) *Step Writing Guide*
This file contains step study/writing guides which have been received in the process of developing a book on our Twelve Steps.

D-List (General Development)

The D-list contains all other unapproved items of literature which have been submitted as possibilities for Narcotics Anonymous literature. These are items which may be assigned to members, groups, and area literature committees. These pieces are in a very raw state and will require considerable work prior to final development.

- 1) *The History of Narcotics Anonymous*
This file consists of material which has been gathered over the years which will need a great deal more work and research before it can be compiled into a meaningful, comprehensive history of N.A. The 1984 WSC gave the World Service Office and the WSC Literature Committee the job of collecting, reviewing, verifying and correlating all pertinent information regarding the history of N.A.
- 2) *Restoring Relationships in Recovery*
This is a 19-page draft set up in three parts: an Introduction, Addiction and the Spiritual Disease, and Restoring our Relationships. This piece may either be developed separately, or used as source material for other literature such as *Living Clean*.

ADDENDUM 5

NOMINATION FORM FOR WSC P.I. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The person(s) named below have been clean and recovering for the last four years or more in Narcotics Anonymous. They have been active participants of area or regional P.I. committees for two or more years. We, as members of the _____ Region, believe they would be valuable participants to our WSC Public Information Committee. We agree if possible to assist in the financing of their travel to one or more meetings held outside of our region so that our world-wide fellowship might benefit from their accrued knowledge and experience.

We understand that once accepted as a member of the WSC P.I. Committee, this member cannot be recalled by this region, and that any removal of WSC P.I. membership is made by the collective membership of the WSC P.I. Committee. It is understood that the commitment to WSC P.I. is for a minimum of two years.

Name of Nominee

Address

Country

City State Zip

Home Number Work Number

RSC Chairperson (signature)_____

Regional P.I. Chair_____

Area P.I. Chair_____

I, _____, accept this nomination to the WSC P.I. committee and have the time, resources, willingness, and the qualifications necessary to participate as an active member of the WSC P.I. Committee.

Nominee: Please take a few moments to write down your experience in P.I. work or any Twelfth Step/service work in general. Please conclude with your reasons for wanting to join this committee and what you feel the WSC P.I. Committee's functions are or should be in the future.

WSC LITERATURE COMMITTEE NOMINEE FORM 1990

Nominations to the WSC Literature Committee must be submitted by regional service committees 30 days prior to the World Service Conference. Nominees must reside in the nominating region. Individuals nominated as registered members are not required to be RSRs or RSR Alternates, nor do they have to attend the WSC. Most important in considering members for nomination is literature committee experience, and a commitment to devote the time and resources necessary to do the work.

Please be sure your region's nominee is eligible. Nomination forms are verified prior to the WSC. Eligible nominees not elected as registered members by the WSC will, with their consent, become general members of the WSCLC for the duration of the 1990-91 conference year.

Requirements:

- 1) A minimum of five years clean time.
- 2) Three years literature service experience or three years world service experience with at least one of those years being in the WSC Literature Committee.
- 3) Knowledge and application of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.
- 4) Completion of previous service commitments.
- 5) A willingness to serve and commit personal time and resources. Ability to attend all meetings possible and fulfill all duties.

Nominee Name _____ Phone _____

Nominee Address _____

RSC Name _____ Clean Date _____

1. Current N.A. service position(s) _____

2. Previous N.A. service positions (list only those terms completed, give approximate dates)

a. Group level: _____

b. Area level: _____

c. Regional level: _____

d. World level: _____

3. Any additional literature committee or related experience (either N.A. or other) _____

Note: Additional experience or more information may be listed on the back of this form.

WSC H&I COMMITTEE NOMINEE INFORMATION SHEET 1990

Please Note: Nominees must be supported and submitted by regional service committees. Nominees do not have to be RSRs or RSR alternates. Most important is H&I experience and time to do the work. Not all nominees will be drawn to become voting members. The committee is limited to a total of 21 voting members. However, all nominees will be working participants and assigned specific tasks.

Qualifications: Please be sure your region's nominee is eligible. Only two nominees per region may be on the WSC H&I Committee Pool at the same time.

1. Minimum of four years continuous clean time.
2. No less than three years H&I experience, and/or expertise of a specific nature relating to N.A. H&I service.
3. An obvious practice and knowledge of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions as evidenced by clean time and completion of previous service commitments.
4. Attendance at WSC H&I meetings and consistent input and communication with committee officers.
5. Willingness and ability to possibly travel to attend regional workshops, learning days, etc.

WSC H&I members may be removed from office after (1) failure to notify the committee of absence prior to any scheduled meeting(s), (2) failure to carry out tasks and responsibilities delegated by the committee, or (3) relapse.

Nominee Name _____ Telephone _____

Nominee Address _____

Years of clean time _____ RSC Name _____

Current N.A. service position(s) _____

Previous N.A. service positions (list only those terms completed) _____

Any additional H&I service-related experience (either N.A. or professional) _____

Is nominee able to attend WSC H&I workshops (approximately three per year)? _____

Does region provide transportation and/or lodging expense for WSC committee members? _____

Is regional H&I subcommittee able and willing to support specifically assigned tasks of WSC H&I? _____

THE N.A. Way

M A G A Z I N E

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409-9999
(818) 780-3951

REVIEW PANEL NOMINATIONS

Nominations will be accepted for *The N.A. Way* review panel at the annual meeting of the World Service Conference this April. Nominations will be accepted from any conference participant. Nominees need not be present at the WSC meeting to qualify.

The review panel is responsible for the first stage of *The N.A. Way Magazine's* editorial process. Twice a month, review panel members take part in conference calls, each lasting about an hour, to go over twenty to thirty pages of stories submitted to the magazine.

Nominees should have at least five years clean, good English composition skills, and the ability to make a firm commitment to actively review the stories and take part in the conference calls.

All nominees' names will be placed in a pool. The magazine's editorial board--composed of the trustee-appointed associate editor, the WSC-elected associate editor, and the managing editor--selects individuals from the pool to serve two-year terms on the review panel. Four of the five current review panel members are finishing up their two year terms: Andy Andersen, Bill Harrell, Franney Jardine, and Earlene Hurst. Mel Nosan, selected in mid-year to complete Ellen Antill's term, will serve until April 1991. Only one name remains in the pool from last year's nominations.

NOMINEE DATA

Full name _____

Address _____

Clean time: _____

Qualifications, background: _____

TELEPHONE _____

HOME
WORK

ADDENDUM 6

INPUT FROM REGIONS

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE MOTION FORM

MOTION FORM:

NAME: _____ REGION or OFFICE O.S.I.R.N.A.

SECOND: _____ REGION or OFFICE _____

This motion (Circle correct option and put in page numbers).

(A) Creates or changes procedure of the Conference

(B) Is advisory for the Fellowship

(C) Amends (Name the document or policy: TWIGS

_____ by adding language), page _____ para. _____

X (by replacing language), page 17 para. LAST

_____ by deleting language), page _____ para. _____

(D) Is new

The motion reads as follows:

REPLACING: AN R.S.R. SERVES ON ONE OR MORE W.S.C. SUBCOMMITTEES.

TO: AN R.S.R. MAY SERVE ON ONE OR MORE W.S.C. SUBCOMMITTEES.

INTENT: TO CHANGE THE LANGUAGE FROM A REQUIREMENT TO AN OPTION,
BECAUSE TRAVEL COST ARE PROHIBITIVE FOR SOME REGIONS
AND R.S.R.'S. ALSO, THE NUMBER OF POSITIONS AVAILABLE IS
LIMITED.

"That the *Guide to Service* and/or the Twelve Concepts go out to the fellowship for a twelve-month review and input period prior to going out in an approval form."

Submitted 11/5 by Florida Region.

Joint Admin. Committee.

Greetings and Happy Holidays from the Connecticut Region. The purpose of this letter is to submit a motion to be included in the Conference Agenda for 1990.

The following motion was passed at our November REC.

MOTION: That the WSO/WSC investigate establishing secondary service centers.

INTENT:

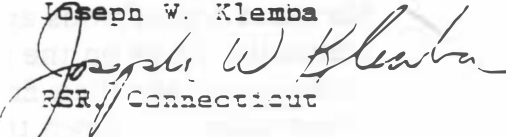
Provide easier and more economic accessibility for the Fellowship.

1. Provide a meeting place for exchange of ideas & resources.
2. Provide the necessary resources for involvement work, insuring that work will reflect a Fellowship view.
4. Lower shipping costs.
5. Lower real estate costs.
6. Increase accountability through increased awareness.
7. Protection of N.A. resources from natural disaster.

Your consideration of this motion for inclusion in the agenda will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please contact me at 203-346-5602; or in writing at 114 Hendley St., Middletown, CT. 06457.

In Loving Service,

Joseph W. Klemba



RSR, Connecticut



**Comité de Service Régional
du Québec
de Narcotiques Anonymes**

C.S.R.Q.N.A.
C.P. 5377
SUCCURSALE B
MONTREAL QUEBEC
H3B 4P1

December 13th 1989

World Service Conference
of Narcotics Anonymous

The Quebec Region is presenting this motion to be included in the
1990 Conference Agenda.

Motion: The Quebec Region is requesting that only the French name
Narcotiques Anonymes appears on the front cover of all
French N.A. literature. This motion to be effective at the
time of the next printing of French material as present
stocks are used up.

Intent: At WSC 88 a motion was passed asking that the name
Narcotics Anonymous appear in English along with the
translated name on the front cover of all N.A. literature in
languages other than English. The fellowship of Narcotics
Anonymous is known throughout Quebec as Narcotiques
Anonymes, the direct translation of Narcotic Anonymous.
We would like to have that name only on the cover of the
French literature as a sign of respect for national and
cultural differences. We believe that unity is not a
matter of uniformity, but a matter of working together
towards a common goal despite our differences.

Lyne Rancourt
RSR Quebec Region

Have a nice day

**Tri-State Regional Service Committee
of
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**

P.O. Box 2902
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-2902

"... directly responsible to those they serve."



Chairperson, WSC
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

December 14 1989

Dear Bob,

At our most recent RSC meeting we voted to ask that the following motion be included in the 1990 Conference Agenda Report:

"That the Treasurer's Handbook be revised by the WSC Administrative Committee and WSO."

INTENT: To delegate the necessary authority and responsibility to WSC-Admin. and WSO to revise the existing Handbook, making it more useful to service committees in areas such as budgeting and reporting to both the fellowship and government agencies (where necessary).

When we put the foxes in charge of the chicken coop in 1986, WSC-Admin became the only committee to turn to in hope for improvements in the inadequate Handbook. WSO's development of the Group Treasurer's Workbook has been a real blessing. Between you guys, I'm sure you can come up with a useful revision fairly quickly.

Best wishes for a safe, sane and happy holiday season.

In loving service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Lynagh'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning.

Shannon Lynagh, Tri-State RSR
2407 Highland Avenue
Allison Park, PA 15101
(412)487-3907

cc: WSO BOD



Narcotics Anonymous

Chesapeake and Potomac Regional Service Committee

December 14, 1989

TO: Bob Hunter, Chair
World Service Conference

FROM: Karen Ponton, RSR
Chesapeake and Potomac Region

SUBJECT: Two Regional Motions for the Conference Agenda Report

The Chesapeake and Potomac Region requests that the following two Motions and Intents be placed in the Regional Motions Section of the Conference Agenda Report:

1. MOTION:

That all Narcotics Anonymous literature be written and developed through fellowship via the Regional Literature Committees, overseen and facilitated by the World Literature Committee (WLC) and that the staff team approach recommended by the WLC not be approved.

INTENT:

To ensure the spirit of recovery in our literature it must be developed in accordance with our 7th and 9th traditions, the workload must be shared throughout the fellowship. It is the experience of our Regional Literature Committee that quality literature is and can be produced at the regional level. This is how one addict best helps another in print. By allowing the Fellowship as a whole to share its experience, strength and hope within our literature process, we believe that more and better literature can be produced at a minimum of fellowship expense. The World Literature Committee has proposed that its guidelines be amended that the Steps portion of the book, IT WORKS: HOW AND WHY be written by a paid WSO staff team. If our literature is to carry a pure message of recovery, it must be written in the pure spirit of recovery. "In the Eighth Tradition", states our Basic Text, "we do not single out members as professional." Designation and employment of staff writers is clearly such a singling out. Further, identifying staff writers destroys the concept of anonymity that is the foundation of everything we believe. According to the Twelfth Tradition, "No member is greater or lesser than any other" -- yet the offer of money and prestige to a staff writer or writers is clearly an identification of that person or group as greater than. We believe that a book on the steps which is written in defiance of our Traditions is worse than no book at all.

Page 2
Dec. 18, 1989
C&P Region
Reg. Motions

2. MOTION:

That the World Literature Committee's Guidelines be amended to provide that all Regional Literature Committee Chairpersons be voting members of the World Literature Committee.

JUSTIFICATION:

To ensure regional representation in the World Literature Committee, which would broaden the voice of the Fellowship in the work of the World Literature Committee. The C&P Regional Literature Committee is concerned about accountability in the World Literature Committee and the literature development process. We wish to ensure that the voice of group conscience be carried through regional representatives into the work of the Committee. By having greater participation and regional representation, dissension that in the past has arisen about the actions of the World Literature Committee could be forestalled. An example is the controversy surrounding the changes to the Basic Text that occurred in connection with the changes in the Fourth Edition. Additionally, by increasing the number of voting members, perceptions of the World Literature Committee's actions as being founded in unity could increase. The development of the Fellowship's book on the Steps has come to a halt and for the last 6 months, the committee has not done any work on developing new literature for the Fellowship. By increasing the number of voting members, the World Literature Committee will become more efficient in carrying out its primary purpose.

Thank you for your assistance.

In loving service.



Karen Ponton, RSR
Chesapeake and Potomac Region
2001 Randolph Road #201
Silver Spring, MD 20902
(301) 949-3507



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL
SERVICE COMMITTEE

109 North Ivy, Suite A
Monrovia, CA 91016 (818) 359-0084

December 17, 1989

TO: Joint Administrative Committee
World Service Conference
Board of Directors
World Service Office-
Bob Hunter, Chairman
World Service Conference

From: Southern California Regional Service Committee

RE: Motion Passed at December Conference of
the Southern California Regional Service Committee

At our service conference held on December 17, 1989, the following motion was passed by a 2/3 majority vote (per our guidelines for any motions brought forth by this region for WSC consideration).

MOTION: To recommend that the WSO translate and produce for sale our existing conference-approved PSA's to American Sign Language.

INTENT: To make available to area and regional committees, PSA's that would not only reach suffering addicts with hearing ability, but also those with hearing impairments. This carries the message of N.A. further. The WSO is presently in the process of translating our literature into foreign languages and it seems important and plausible that we translate those applicable forms into the American Sign Language.

In advance, we thank you for all the hard work you do and for taking this motion into consideration and discussion.

In loving service,

Southern California Regional
Service Committee

**Narcotics**

DEC 20 1989

AnonymousNEW JERSEY REGIONAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

DATE: 12/15/89
TO: BOB HUNTER, CHAIRPERSON
WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE
FROM: JON THOMPSON, R.S.R.
NEW JERSEY REGION

DEAR BOB,

ENCLOSED YOU WILL FIND A COPY OF A MOTION THAT WAS PASSED AT THE 11/18/89 N.J.R.S.C. TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 1990 CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT. ALSO ENCLOSED YOU WILL FIND A COPY OF HOW THAT MOTION APPEARED IN OUR MINUTES.

BEING THAT THIS WILL BE MY FIRST YEAR SITTING ON THE CONFERENCE FLOOR COULD YOU PLEASE INFORM ME ABOUT THE PROCESS I NEED TO FOLLOW WHEN BRINGING MOTIONS FROM MY REGION TO THE CONFERENCE WITH ME. HOW DO I GET THEM RECONIZED ON THE FLOOR?

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP.

IN LOVING LIGHT AND SERVICE,



JON T.

R.S.R. N.J.R.S.C.

Motion:

That the WSO make available its regional literature review committee chair's mailing list to and only to regional literature review chairpersons who request it.

Intent:

To facilitate more and better communication among regional lit review chairs. At the WSO quarterly in St. Louis there was much discussion about the need for better communication. It was generally felt that better communication is crucial to our lit process working. The current system for obtaining addresses (by contacting the corresponding RSR for the address) is both ineffective and/or slow.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AT WSC 1990

Due to the ongoing delays that have occurred in the development of our book; IT WORKS, HOW AND WHY, the California Midstate Regional Service committee has decided to include the following items for discussion at WSC 1990.

Issue: That at WSC 1990 the conference consider the following procedure for the approval of Fellowship literature:

Motion: Amend section 9b of the WSCLC guidelines: That all literature in review form be available to all members of the fellowship.

Motion: That time periods for review form literature be set by the originating committee.

Motion: The WSCLC develop a review/input form that is different than line by line input.

Motion: That as review drafts or sets of review drafts are completed, they be released to the fellowship.

Motion: That the WSCLC add to its purpose: To support area/regional lit. committees with ideas and information for the discussion of review form literature.

Motion: That approval form literature be released no later than 90 days prior to the forthcoming conference.

Intent: Doing something different to get a different result.

While the above 6 motions refer to the entire lit. review/approval process, it was felt for simplicities sake, they have been separated into individual motions.

In Service and Gratitude.

California Midstate Regional Fellowship

January 2, 1990

Greetings from the Greater Illinois Region of Narcotics Anonymous!

I spoke with Ann on 1-2-90 regarding submitting a motion for the 1990 Conference Agenda Report. Ann told me that if I could get this motion to W.S.O. within the next two days, it would probably be included in the C.A.R.

The motion from the Greater Illinois Region is as follows:

"To open the North American Service Office in Kansas City Missouri".

I really appreciate your consideration in accepting this motion after the stated deadline date.

Yours in Loving Service,



Mona McG. R.S.R.
Greater Illinois Region

