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WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC., P.O. BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91409; (818) 780-3951  
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## A SPECIAL REPORT

The report which follows was written by Tom McCall, one of our Trustees assigned to the International Committee. This report, originally to the committee, is so moving and significant, we thought everyone would like to read it.

### TOKYO, JAPAN

Over the past five years the Fellowship has been aware that N.A. was alive and well in Japan. But only recently have we found out how alive and well.

Once a year a couple of Japanese members from Tokyo would come to Hawaii to visit. They spoke only Japanese, so with the help of interpreters, we were able to sketch a small picture of the N.A. community there.

For these members the experience of touching base with N.A. outside of Japan was like turning on a light. They would return to Tokyo with much enthusiasm about N.A. recovery.

In the fall of 1985 the only English speaking member from Japan was on his way to the U.S.A. He had a stop over in Hawaii and attended a meeting that night. After the meeting I asked him how long he was going to be in Hawaii. I said I would like to spend some time with him to find out all I could about N.A. in Japan. He said that he would love to do that, but he had to catch a flight in the morning. I asked him where he was going. He said to Philadelphia. The following weekend the World Service Conference was holding its workshop in Philadelphia. The International Committee would be meeting there.

When things like this happen in Japan, the Japanese say, "Ah Hiya Powa." From this point, the momentum has been rapid for Japan. They had translated the Little White Book a few years ago. It was the only piece of N.A. literature that they had. Communications between W.S.O. and Tokyo became very active, and as a result, the process of translating all our literature into Japanese began.

In the spring of 1986, Japan announced they would be sending a representative to the World Service Conference. To them that step was like turning on the light that turned on all the lights.

They were unified with the entire Narcotics Anonymous Fellowship once and for all time.

Up until now no one from the W.S.O., W.S.C. or W.S.B. had been to Japan.

Over the past couple of years the members in Japan had asked me if I would come and visit Japan. I would always tell them that I would love to. They would bow their heads and say "good, we will wait." Politeness for the Japanese is sincerity.

Through Hiya Powa, that opportunity came about when I became eligible for a free round trip ticket to Japan. So, at the end of May I arrived in Tokyo. Four members who I had previously met were there at the airport to meet me.

The Japanese have only recently acquired the Western custom of shaking hands. Usually they bow to one another. To touch and hug openly in public is not a part of their culture.

But addicts have never been known to follow the norm. So we hugged and embraced the N.A. No Mechi (the N.A. way).

As we neared the outskirts of Tokyo, I started seeing buildings--then more and more and more. They say Tokyo is one of the most densely populated cities in the world. Over twelve million people living within a thirty mile radius. More people than in the whole State of California.

The members told me officially that the Government does not recognize that they have a drug problem. There are no treatment programs, no detox centers, methadone clinics or therapeutic communities. There are only the jails, the prisons, the mental hospitals and Narcotics Anonymous.

There is not much heroin, cocaine or pot. It's there, but the laws are so severe that they have not become a widespread problem. But there is addiction, and with a population of twelve million, in just the City of Tokyo, there are plenty of addicts.

There is much wealth in Japan as well as poverty. The society is very diversified, with a mixture of traditional Japanese, European and Western influence.

The substances they use vary from prescription drugs, speed you can inject--to paint, alcohol and whatever else the inventive mind of an addict can discover.

Speed is generally the biggest problem. It was legal during the war and taken by the Kamakazie pilots and soldiers. Also during the reconstruction period of Japan and its industrial revolution, eventually the government began to regulate it, but from what the members told me, it is still widely

used. One member told me that there were many so called "workaholics" in Japan. Much of their culture today is based around the "company" and the job is very important.

There were quite a few addicts at the meetings who were primary users of paint fumes. This is a big problem among the youth in Japan. I had sniffed glue for a couple of years so I identified and understood.

Right now the only N.A. meetings are in Tokyo. Their structure has been set up by the formation of "the group." They call it the Tokyo N.A. group. It consists of nine meetings. Some open, some closed, one step study where they use A.A.'s Twelve Step book, that has been translated into Japanese. They were quite aware that this was a tradition violation, but decided that since they had nothing on the steps, that they would use it. They are very tradition conscious. They have a tradition meeting once a week, as well as a business meeting that everyone attends, even newcomers--to them this is N.A. too. The newcomers are even asked for their input.

The Japanese put a lot of effort into doing things well. The group is firmly focused on their primary purpose to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. I cannot emphasize enough how impressed I was at the quality of service that this small region puts out. Having mostly developed on their own without any guidance from the Conference or N.A. literature, they have done things a little differently.

In the U.S.A. we have had discussions on the merits or disadvantages of one group sponsoring several meetings. We discussed this in Japan. They could see that new groups must and will be formed. But at present an attempt to do this might prove to be more disunifying.

Each month a member takes over the responsibility of setting up a meeting, making the coffee, etc. They keep this rotating so everyone stays involved.

They do not hold regular H&I meetings in the prisons or hospitals. Through their P.I. efforts they have established a rapport with the staffs and officials at these institutions. What they do is call these institutions and ask if they have anyone that would be interested in a visit from Narcotics Anonymous. The staffs are always on the look-out for possible prospects.

At the business meetings, H&I is discussed and decisions made as to who will make contact with what institutions and arrange for members to visit or pick up patients to take to meetings. Many of these institutions doctors and government officials subscribe to their newsletter, "The Voice of N.A."

At least twice a year they put on a "seminar" which is, to them, a P.I. workshop for the public. What they do is send out invitations to different government officials, nurses, doctors, social workers, etc. They tell them about N.A. and share their stories with them. After that they have a question and answer period.

Although the government doesn't officially recognize a drug addiction problem, these officials do, and deal with all the time.

They used the occasion of my visit as an opportunity to hold one of these "seminars." This was all to my surprise. They had told me that they were going to have a little welcoming party for me and they had invited some guests that they wanted me to meet. When I entered the room there was a long banquet table overflowing with food and flowers and lots of people in the room. The guests included some government officials, case workers, doctors, nurses, missionaries, a priest, nuns, a judge from the higher court of Japan, some A.A. members and others. All were considered friends of N.A.

They all wanted to know about N.A. outside of Japan, how big it was, what we were doing, and about the drug problem in other countries. With an interpreter I shared about N.A., the W.S.O., the W.S.C., our growth and literature and a little of my own story. Along with Kiyoshi and Roy's visit to the Conference this year, this was a big event for the Fellowship in Japan. Some members traveled considerable distances to be a part of all this.

Something that impressed me a lot was the way the Japanese have put into practice our principle of "good will" not only in giving it, but also receiving it. They believe the best and most effective way of getting the message out to the public, and thus to the still-suffering addict, is through people speaking well of them. From each person who learns first hand about N.A., they will in turn tell several of their colleagues about us. When they put on these seminars they plan them well in advance and send out special invitations, they provide refreshments and, what they hope to be, an interesting format. They follow it up with a letter of thanks, and a survey of their reactions, and how they might better improve their presentation so that the guests and others might get the most out of it. The reactions have been very positive.

I attended a meeting every night and I was with N.A. members every day. I was surprised at how well we communicated. When they say we speak the language of the heart in N.A., it is true.

They do not pass the basket at meetings. A can is left by the coffee pot for the purpose of the Seventh Tradition. If they were to pass a basket at meetings, and a newcomer had no money, he would be ashamed and would not come back. When asked about this, they bowed their heads and said "Japanese way." Roy told me that many employers give their workers a large bonus twice a year and that it is not uncommon for our members to give a percentage of it to N.A.

I was surprised also to hear that the Japanese fellowship donated money to the W.S.C., being such a small region and so active. They said that even though they had very little money, they felt that they were part of the whole N.A. Fellowship, and that they should be self-supporting and a contributor to it.

I attended their translating committee meeting. They have put out an incredible amount of energy and have been very busy with this. They sometimes have two to three meetings a week. They have quite a job because there are so many words and expressions in our literature that have no meaning to them in Japanese. Even the word "addict" or "addiction" doesn't translate into their language to mean what it means to us. They said it means something like "appetite," which relates to food. The word "drug dependent" is what most describes addiction to them. The translating of N.A. Conference-approved literature is their most important need.

During the welcoming party I met a few A.A. members who were considered friends of N.A. and noticed at meetings that no one was identifying as "cross addicted," etc. I asked about how they avoided this, since it is such a controversial problem in the U.S.A. Kiyoshi said he was rather amused at the N.A./A.A. paranoia that he has seen in Hawaii and California. One of the reasons they have been able to carry such a clear N.A. message is because they are carrying the message directly to the addict. In the U.S.A., with the advantage of so many treatment centers, the members get a message carried by a treatment center, which tends to be a mixed N.A./A.A. message.

I met one member who said he was clean eighteen months and then went back out to use. Several months later he received an invitation in the mail to return to N.A., he did.

I feel fortunate to have had the privilege of going to Japan and meeting all the members there. Our last meeting was quite moving. They have truly become an extension of my heart. But more important, they have all felt more a part of the whole of N.A.

More and more, as a member of the International Committee and the Board of Trustees, my perceptions of N.A. as a whole widens. Regions like Japan, Australia, London and others hold some keen insights for the rest of us. Because of the uniqueness of their cultures and customs, they, at times, are able to reach the core of the spirit of recovery, unity, service and good will.

#### **FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The following section is the fifth item in a series of reports presented by the Board of Trustees to the World Service Conference in April of this year. In this section the Board seeks to obtain assistance from the Fellowship for work they are doing on a special subject.

#### **ON THE ISSUE OF SPECIAL INTEREST MEETINGS:**

The World Service Board of Trustees has been discussing special interest meetings for many months. We have been attempting to come to a firm position regarding this issue. Some of the Trustees feel special interest meetings within

Narcotics Anonymous may violate our Traditions by excluding some addicts who seek recovery and also by reinforcing a separation or isolation of some addicts. However, all of the trustees also recognize the need for identification which many of our members have expressed when they come to Narcotics Anonymous. The dilemma we see is one of maintaining the integrity of our Traditions, while not alienating recovering addicts who have special needs. Can the Fellowship meet any or all of these special needs in unity? It is apparent that some N.A. meetings have been started and continue to exist which are attended primarily by addicts with one type of special need or another. Many members of Narcotics Anonymous have related to us and others that these meetings have served a need in their early recovery.

The Board of Trustees has decided to submit this issue to the Fellowship and request written input which relates to all sides of the issue and the rationale involved. In addition to soliciting opinions of all members of our Fellowship, in the coming year we will continue to gather information and experience regarding special needs and special interest meetings in Narcotics Anonymous.

We are interested in how special interest meetings may or may not interfere with our message of recovery from the disease of addiction. We are concerned with how that message may or may not be inhibited by labeling and identifying any special needs in addition to the need for recovery from the disease of addiction. We would also like to hear from members who believe that these meetings and their identification enhances their recovery.

### **FROM THE WORLD LITERATURE COMMITTEE**

The World Literature Committee is compiling a new handbook which will serve as a Resource Guide for Trusted Servants. Although work on this new book is still in the early stages, some preliminary work has already been done. Input has been collected from the files of the World Literature Committee, the World Service Office and a variety of service committees and members have submitted material. A basic outline has been drawn up and the material sorted into chapters.

Our vision for this handbook is that it will make life simpler for trusted servants. It is not intended to be a textbook or description of the principles of service (We'll leave that task for the Select Committee who is working on *A Guide to Service in N.A.*). The new handbook is designed to be used like a workbook in conjunction with other service manuals. Our plan is to include a variety of samples, worksheets, forms, etc. We have already collected a lot of good material but we need more. The chapter headings and specific input we need are listed below.

## GROUP SERVICE

Information on how to be a GSR

## AREA SERVICE

Meeting formats for ASC

Taking inventory at an area level

ASC by-laws

Information on forming activities committees

Information on forming outreach committees

Information on putting on area fund-raisers

## REGIONAL SERVICE

Information on maintaining archives

Information on training replacements

Reasons and procedures for terminating officers

## WORKSHOPS AND SERVICE CONFERENCES

Steps for planning

Meeting formats

## REGIONAL OFFICES

Banking information

Liabilities and responsibilities (for tax purposes)

Sales tax liability

Information on non-profit status

As we receive more input, look it over and begin collating it, we will undoubtedly find that some is more appropriate for inclusion in the manuscript being developed by the Select Committee. The World Literature Committee will be working very closely with the Select Committee as we refine this handbook so that duplication does not occur.

The Resource Guide for Trusted Servants (probably not the final title) is not going to be a service manual. It is going to be a workbook/handbook type publication which will contain forms which can be torn out, samples with blanks to be filled in, etc. At this point, we are still collecting input and we ask the support of the Fellowship all over the world. Don't hesitate to send in your input because you don't know if it would be appropriate. Send it in anyway. The Committee will be happy to receive it and look it over. If it's not appropriate, we can always send it back or pass it on to another committee who's working on another project. But if you don't send in your material, we may never know how appropriate or helpful it would have been.

Most importantly, we depend upon the members of N.A. to share the materials that you are using in your daily service work. This is the best way to ensure that we produce a publication which truly reflects the needs and the solutions which have been found by N.A. members around the world.

The deadline for these materials is October 1, 1986. You may send your input to the World Literature Committee in care of the WSO. The address is printed on the front of this *Newsline*.

## SERVICE OFFICE WORKSHOP

The service office workshop was held recently (June 28th and 29th) in Detroit, Michigan. It was attended by thirty-one participants from around the Fellowship. Eleven new or existing offices were represented, with the remaining participants representing service committees who are planning for an office.

Information and experiences were presented, shared, and exchanged. All participants reported that they found the week-end to be well worthwhile.

The results of this event and similar future workshops will formulate the basis for an eventual resource guide. This guide will undoubtedly be a valuable tool for our Fellowship.

Another workshop concerning service offices and possibly other topics is tentatively being planned for February 1987. Please let us know if you are interested by contacting Group Services Department at WSO.

## N.A. WORLD WIDE MEETINGS

The following reflects the July 23, 1986 count of meetings around the world. In this issue we are printing the meetings in the U.S. In the next *NEWSLINE* we will print the meetings by country for the rest of the Fellowship. There were two important reasons for presenting this information. Near the beginning of 1986, we reported that we had just crossed the 6,000 meeting mark. Here we are just six months later and we have crossed the 7,000 meeting mark. Our rate of growth continues to march right along showing that recovery in N.A. is real. We feel that sharing the information about our growth is a positive factor in having confidence in the future of recovery through N.A.

We also included the information as part of our prior discussion about separating Hospital and Institution meetings from the regular World Directory of meetings. We hope to identify all H&I meetings before the end of the year and print information about them in a separate directory rather than in the directory for general use. We need your help in this matter. The easiest way, we believe, to help would be for each area chairperson or area secretary to make a photo copy of the pages of the current (1986) World Directory which includes meetings of their area and indicate which are Hospital or Institution meetings and send that to us. We are anxious to have this done as soon as possible, so we can avoid a complicated search near the end of the year when we are short of time and have many other projects going on.

**EASTERN STATES**

	WD	H&I	TOTAL
Alabama .....	59	14	73
Connecticut.....	72	7	79
Delaware.....	19	1	20
Florida .....	372	42	414
Georgia .....	198	28	226
Illinois.....	200	29	229
Indiana.....	99	11	229
Kentucky .....	71	2	73
Maine.....	31		31
Maryland.....	217	1	218
Massachusetts.....	89	1	218
Michigan .....	176	18	194
Mississippi.....	56	7	63
New Hampshire.....	11		11
New Jersey.....	206	8	214
New York.....	318	1	319
North Carolina.....	104	5	109
Ohio.....	172	4	176
Pennsylvania.....	382	17	399
Rhode Island.....	12		12
South Carolina.....	56	2	58
Tennessee.....	79	1	80
Vermont.....	16		16
Virginia.....	137	8	145
Washington D.C.....	55	2	57
West Virginia.....	40	11	51
Wisconsin .....	<u>132</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>142</u>
WD Meetings .....	3379		
H&I Meetings.....		230	
<b>TOTAL MEETINGS (EAST)</b>			<b>3609</b>

**WESTERN STATES**

	WD	H&I	TOTAL
Alaska.....	45	5	50
Arizona.....	73	8	81
Arkansas.....	28		28
California.....	708	16	724
Colorado.....	71	1	72
Hawaii.....	58	4	62
Idaho.....	39	5	44
Iowa.....	94	1	95
Kansas.....	111	5	116
Louisiana.....	88	30	118
Minnesota.....	73		73
Missouri.....	86	16	102
Montana.....	24	1	25
Nebraska.....	40	3	43
Nevada.....	42	2	44
New Mexico.....	40	7	47
North Dakota.....	25	2	27
Oklahoma.....	166	18	184

Oregon.....	187	6	192
South Dakota.....	28	2	30
Texas.....	323	13	336
Utah.....	30		30
Washington.....	206	25	231
Wyoming.....	<u>40</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>44</u>
WD Meetings.....	2625		
H&I Meetings.....		174	
<b>TOTAL MEETINGS (WEST)</b>			<b>2799</b>

The figures above for the U.S. reflect these totals  
 Non-H&I Meetings: 6,004. H&I Meetings: 404.  
 Total Meetings : 6,408. Non-U.S./Non-H&I  
 Meetings: 597. Non-U.S. H&I Meetings: 14. Total  
 Non-U.S. Meetings: 611. Total H&I Meetings in the  
 World: 418. Total Non-H&I Meetings in the World:  
 6601. Total Meetings in the World: 7019

**N.A. WAY MAGAZINE  
 SURVEY RESULTS**

Earlier this year we sent out a survey with both the *Newsline* and the *N.A. Way* regarding the future of the *N.A. Way* magazine. We wanted to see just how much and what kind of support existed for the magazine among the Fellowship, so that the some decisions could be reached regarding the magazine's future. The response to that survey was heavy. We would like to thank all those who took the time to participate in this information gathering effort.

To understand the results, it is important to note that questions two through five were only directed at non-subscribers, and the rest of the questions were directed at both subscribers and non-subscribers. In other words, when we show that question two was answered "yes" by 89%, we are saying 89% of the 152 non-subscribers. When we say that question six was answered "yes" by 75%, we mean 75% of the 459 people who responded before our cut-off date of May 20.

To start out, let's give a simple listing of each question as it appeared on the survey, the statistics we gathered from your responses on each item, and a brief discussion of each one.

*Item One: Do you subscribe to the N.A. Way magazine?*  
 Yes: 307 No:152 Yes = 67% No = 33%  
 Blank = 0%

This question was asked, of course, so that we could look at the responses in the end and see how subscribers' answers compared to non-subscribers' answers. About two thirds of those who answered were people who subscribe to the magazine.

**For items two through five, total responses = 152  
 (those who answered item one "no")**

These items are self-explanatory. They were designed to give us a feel for the level of exposure the non-subscribers had to the magazine.

*Item Two: Have you ever heard of the N.A. Way magazine?*

Yes: 136 No: 16 Yes = 89% No = 11%  
Blank = 0%

*Item Three: Have you ever seen a copy of the N.A. Way magazine?*

Yes: 113 No: 38 Yes = 74% No = 25%  
Blank = 1%

*Item Four: Have you ever read the N.A. Way magazine?*

Yes: 94 No: 58 Yes = 62% No = 38%  
Blank = 0%

*Item Five: Have you ever planned to subscribe, but just never got around to it?*

Yes: 95 No: 54 Yes = 63% No = 36%  
Blank = 2%

And now back to the questions asked of everyone:

*Item Six: Do you feel that the WSO should continue to print and distribute N.A. news, such as is now printed in the Newsline?*

Yes: 342 No: 83 Yes = 75% No = 18%  
Blank = 7%

This question relates to the discussion put forth in that article regarding the respective roles of the N.A. Way and the Newsline. We found that this item produced some misleading results. When we cross-checked responses to this item with those to item eight, we noticed that of the 83 people who said "no" to this item, 79 said "yes" to item eight. When we took that into consideration, we saw that of the 459 people who responded, only four indicated that we should quit distributing N.A. news in any form. You were almost unanimous in your agreement that the Newsline type of information should still be distributed.

*Item Seven: Do you feel that the WSO should continue to absorb the \$33,000 to distribute this news free?*

Yes: 154 No: 266 Yes = 34% No = 58%  
Blank = 8%

A clear majority of you, though not an overwhelming one, felt that this information should not be distributed free of charge. Thirty-four percent of you felt the WSO should continue to absorb these costs.

*Item Eight: Do you feel that a section should be added to the N.A. Way magazine to include this type of information in addition to its current format?*

Yes: 328 No: 103 Yes = 71% No = 22%  
Blank = 6%

Your answers to this question frankly surprised us a little. We had been operating on the

assumption that there was quite a bit of strong feeling that we should not make any substantial changes to the format of the magazine. You clearly indicated, both in your answers to this question and in your essay responses, that you would support an expansion of the format of the N.A. Way.

*Item Nine: Would you be willing to pay \$15.00 per year to receive such a combined publication?*

Yes: 363 No: 74 Yes = 79% No = 16%  
Blank = 5%

Again, these numbers speak for themselves. You have told us that an expanded version of the N.A. Way would be worth paying more for.

*Item Ten: Would you be willing to pay \$15.00 per year to receive the N.A. Way as it is?*

Yes: 285 No: 147 Yes = 62% No = 32%  
Blank = 6%

You still said yes, but a with little less enthusiasm.

*Item Eleven: Do you feel that there should be any change from the current format of the magazine under any circumstances?*

Yes: 242 No: 133 Yes = 53% No = 29%  
Blank = 18%

This was just a bad item, and turned out not to mean too much. We were trying to assess the level of feeling that we mentioned earlier--that the N.A. Way should never be changed. We tried to avoid putting you in a "yes I don't" kind of position in your answer, but we still failed to make it clear. Many of you just said "?". Oh, well... every survey should have at least one meaningless item.

*Item Twelve: Do you feel that such a position ought to be created?*

Yes: 278 No: 149 Yes = 61% No = 32%  
Blank = 7%

"Such a position" referred to a group level N.A. Way representative whose responsibility it would be to see that the magazine had plenty of exposure at the meetings. This idea seemed to get a cool reception, judging from your answers to this item and the next three. We elected not to move ahead with this idea, at least for the present. However, that does not stop any group who feels that this is a good idea to pursue it on its own. Our only decision at this time is not to coordinate anything through our office.

*Item Thirteen: Do you feel that the creation of such a position in your group would generate more sales of the magazine in its current form?*

Yes: 294 No: 114 Yes = 64% No = 25%  
Blank = 11%

Item Fourteen: Would you be willing to hold such a position?

Yes: 214 No: 210 Yes = 47% No = 46%  
Blank = 8%

Item Fifteen: Would a member of your group most likely follow through with this responsibility?

Yes: 280 No: 100 Yes = 61% No = 22%  
Blank = 17%

## CONCLUSIONS

Space limitations prevent us from discussing here such specifics as the differences between subscribers' and non-subscribers' answers. Suffice it to say that these details were carefully analyzed by the WSO Board of Directors, who then came up with the following decisions during their most recent meeting.

First, the magazine will be expanded, in keeping with your responses to item eight above, to include an "N.A. News" section and a "General Forum" section. The news section will include short points of interest submitted by various committees, boards, trusted servants ect. The General Forum will comprise a monthly essay written by a world level trusted servant or special worker, followed by a section of responses to past essays. This section may take on more of an editorial flavor than we have seen in the magazine in the past. Responsible views on a variety of issues related to our philosophy and development as a Fellowship will be printed.

This move represents a shift in our perception of ourselves. Our primary focus will remain on the "meeting in print," which will still appear with artwork, and will still dominate the magazine's overall layout, but we now view ourselves as a publication with much broader possibilities. We expect to be fluid and changing, striving to meet the needs of a fluid, changing, growing Fellowship. You will see these changes begin to take effect as of the October issue. We hope you are as excited about our future as we are.

The second change that will take place is that we will increase our subscription price to \$15.00, in keeping with your responses to item nine. We will publish the new format for a few months first at our current price of \$12.00 to give everyone a chance to get on board before the new price goes into effect.

An interesting side benefit of the survey is that our subscriptions are booming. When we wrote the article for the *Newsline* we had just under 3,000 subscriptions. At this writing we have just under 4,000. You have spoken in more ways than one.

## ABOUT THE LONERS GROUP

We wish to express our appreciation to all those members who responded to the latest request for support from the Loner Group. The last issue of

the Loner Group's *Meeting By Mail* was sent to ASC's, RSC's and members listed as contacts on our International Committee list, in addition to the regular Loner Group mail list. This special mailing was done in the hopes of reaching more members interested in becoming members of this group. The response, although not overwhelming, resulted in eighteen new members that can be directly attributed to the special mailing. The total number of members in the Loner Group at this time, both loners and non-loners, is 240. We still hope to hear from many more of you as ASR's and RSR's continue to spread the word.

Many members who visit the WSO and see copies of the *Meeting By Mail* are seeing it for the first time. They are always enthused and excited about this special way of carrying the message by mail, as are the members who become active in the group. The problem is we simply have not been able to reach enough of the N.A. population.

Because there are over 7,000 N.A. meetings, it is very likely that there are several hundreds of thousands of N.A. members regularly attending meetings around the world. More than half of those attending meetings found N.A. only during the past three years. Based on that and on estimated rates of growth, there are probably quite a few thousand addicts out there who still haven't found N.A., as we know it. Many of those addicts are loners who will never be in the position to attend regular N.A. meetings.

Please send any ideas or suggestions you have that might help us in getting the word out that the Loner Group and *Meeting by Mail* exists and how to get involved with it. Any input should be mailed to the WSO, attn: Loner Group.

## CONVENTION GUIDELINES

This year's World Service Conference adopted several motions which made changes to the *Convention Guidelines*. Those changes are being made by replacing text on the appropriate pages. Anyone who would like to receive replacement pages for their copy of the *Convention Guidelines* handbook may do so by sending the request with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the WSO, attn: Shipping.

The Fellowship also requested that WCCNA begin work on guidelines for regional, coastal and multi-state conventions. This is being accomplished by an ad-hoc committee of WCCNA. The members of that committee met during the WSC workshop in Minneapolis, the week-end of July 19-20. Input, including new material and rewrites of existing material, was reviewed and work will continue by mail, with final drafts to be reviewed again in October.

## WSC P.I. PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL N.A. EVENTS

The WSC Public Information Committee has made extensive efforts during the past two years to participate in regional P.I. workshops and learning days. That participation proved to be very beneficial in helping unify the message we carry in all P.I. efforts, within and outside of the Fellowship.

The Committee's experience has been that workshops held specifically for sharing service experience are generally better attended than those held during a convention. Of course, there is always the exception and every convention committee would like to believe that their workshops will be successful and well attended. However, WSC P.I. has a limited budget within which it must respond to requests responsibly and attempt to provide the services most widely required by the Fellowship. That responsibility has included assessing individual requests based on the age of a region, the status of the region's P.I. activities and availability of a WSC P.I. committee member. In the past, the final decisions in these matters were left to the WSC P.I. Committee Chairperson. During the recent WSC workshop in Minneapolis, the committee agreed to some guidelines for future requests for WSC P.I. participation at regional N.A. events. Those are as follows:

1. WSC P.I. will participate in P.I. workshops held at regional conventions, provided that all expenses of participation, i.e. travel and lodging, will be absorbed by the region in which the event is held.

2. WSC P.I. will participate in regional learning days, workshops or other P.I. events not held in conjunction with conventions. WSC P.I. will absorb the participating committee member's total travel and lodging expenses for non-convention events, if required.

Regions desiring WSC P.I. participation in N.A. events may contact the P.I. coordinator at WSO.

Other items being worked on by task forces of WSC P.I. include new draft sections to the *Guide to Public Information*, addicts with special needs, i.e. physically and mentally disabled, sample formats for P.I. workshops, sample responses to media exposure. More information on the ongoing activities of the WSC P.I. Committee is available through Fellowship Reports.

FROM BOB STONE

In the March issue of the *Newsline*, I reported that we were initiating a search for another employee to assist in the management of the Office. Through further discussion a determination was made to ultimately divide the responsibilities described in that notice into two separate positions. This happened while we were already asking for members to apply for the

position. We did receive over ten inquiries. Each applicant was sent a letter indicating the change in job description and purpose along with a comprehensive application for them to complete.

All applicants were treated fairly and equally. Applicants included members from each branch of world service (WSC, Trustees and WSO) as well as regional and area service. Completed responses were received by the deadline and reviewed by the WSO Personnel Committee and myself. A recommendation was jointly made to the full Board where the selection was ultimately made.

There were a number of good choices and although we would have liked to select more than one, only one position was available. The member selected, like his competitors had wide-ranging personal, business and N.A. experience. We believe his selection will enhance the WSO staff and add measurably to our ability to serve the Fellowship.

The member selected was George H., the immediate past Chairperson of the WSC. His vast experience and knowledge will be of tremendous help to WSO. He began working almost immediately. His primary tasks will be to better coordinate the activities of the project coordinators and their service to the Conference Committees. He will directly participate as an assistant to the International Committee. Because of his overall supervision of all other project coordinator activities, serving with the International Committee will provide for the most complete assistance to that committee.

During the past several years George has worked with all of the Conference Committees. By taking advantage of this we have assigned him also to work with the Policy and Select Committees. His service with these two committees will aid in the completion of their work programs.

We have already had him attend the Conference in Minneapolis and activities in two other cities. He has already made arrangements to move to Los Angeles and will have been moved in by the time this *Newsline* arrives in your mail box. We expect great things from his continued service in this new capacity.

ORDER FORM CHANGES - Included in this issue of the *Newsline* is a new, but temporary, order form. This form includes items adopted by the Conference in April. This form will be used for the next few months, until the catalog mentioned in the last *Newsline*, is complete. You will notice that we have included three additional speaker tapes that recently completed the review process. We also added a note concerning one of the tapes previously included in the inventory. These tapes are offered for sale to members and also the general public. In order not to offend people sensitive to strong language (we did receive a few letters) a note will be included on the order form indicating any tapes that contain strong language.

On the subject of tapes and the tape review process, we believe we have communicated with all members elected to the review process and will



have all of them directly involved very soon. We plan to have an ongoing discussion among the members in order to have a more common understanding of what criteria the individual members look for when evaluating tapes.

We receive a large number of tapes each month for evaluation and possible inclusion in the tape review process. With the expansion of the review committee we will be able to increase the number of tapes reviewed and future order forms will reflect a larger number of tapes available.

There are, however, a great number of issues related to tapes made of N.A. speakers at conventions and at other occasions. A few of those matters are: concurrent sales of tapes by outside vendors and the WSO. Who actually owns tapes made of a convention speaker? Should a convention committee or sponsoring region continue to be paid a royalty by companies that sell tapes after the event is over? Should outside vendors even be authorized to sell tapes of events after they are over? Is it appropriate to have tapes sold in this manner that do not receive benefit of an appropriate tape review process? We are preparing a special report to be included in the next Fellowship Report on this subject. We are soliciting input from those companies we currently have knowledge of that provide taping services to N.A. events and conventions. If anyone has thoughts on this subject I would welcome having the benefit of your ideas. However, as time will be short, please speed your comments as soon as possible.

Earlier in this *Newsline* you will have read the report written by Ron H. of our staff about the results of the study made concerning the *N.A. Way Magazine* and the *Newsline*. This report was also recently included in the August copy of the magazine. The report he prepared for the WSO Board was rather extensive. A computer analysis of the data and accompanying input covered over a hundred pages. From this survey and background of the magazine, the *Newsline* and Fellowship Reports, the WSO Board was able to reach reasonable conclusions.

However, before the action of the Board is implemented, comments from the Fellowship will be welcomed. This is another attempt to move in conscience with the Fellowship and in the direction the Fellowship wants, rather than the Office simply making decisions for the Fellowship.

The action taken by the Board will provide opportunity to have some things happen that have been talked about for a long time. For example, there has been a growing need to have opportunity a Fellowship-wide dialogue on important issues before we are faced with making decisions at the World Service Conference. Indirectly the WSO has attempted to foster this type of action by using the *Newsline* to propose things and listen for the response from the Fellowship. This more formal approach to encourage dialogue will be of great benefit to more and unity comprehensive understanding of many issues.

There were many years when the lack of communication forced members to initiate Fellowship-wide mailings on their own to press one issue or another. Many times these efforts were divisive and counterproductive to the purpose or need which prompted the concern. Before we slip back into the era of multitudinous Fellowship-wide letters, reports and complaints we hope this approach can be tried. This will be a great step forward in maintaining unity for N.A. at a time when we need it.

We expect to have in stock all of the revisions in handbooks, pamphlets, etc., that were approved by the Conference by the time this *Newsline* is received. We have and are sending out copies of the revised Little White Booklet.

The exception will be the changes in the Basic Text. As reported in the last *Newsline*, changing the Basic Text is more complex and time consuming. We are exerting every effort to have the Text changed as soon as possible because we believe it is important to do so. Unfortunately we do not have, at this time, a specific date or period of time when we can accurately forecast that the revised printing will be available. We will keep you advised in the next issue *Newsline* as progress is made.

One of the issues discussed at the Conference in April was related to the desirability of printing N.A. literature in some countries where it will be used if that particular country is distant from the WSO. We have discussed this matter several times over recent years in the *Newsline* and evolved an understanding from the Fellowship that this was desirable and essential because of the savings that would probably result.

As this matter was more fully discussed each year and particularly with the emerging N.A. Communities in such countries, the range of concerns which held up action on the proposal was narrowed. At the recent Conference the concerns had finally narrowed to finding that the respective countries had the administrative strength and skills to properly manage the work involved. Several of the possible places where such arrangements have been sought have continued to exhibit the important strengths and skills. Accordingly draft agreements have been developed which will soon lead to allowing printing in several countries.

The first agreement will be between the WSO and the Fellowship in the United Kingdom. A corporation has been created there which is under the direct control of the Fellowship there, to hold responsibility for such printing activities. The draft agreement has been studied by the WSO Board of Directors and the Directors of the corporation in the U.K. That corporation, Services Limited, will be authorized by agreement to print a specified list of approved N.A. literature items. So far there has been agreement on all points presented by WSO or Services Limited. Consequently we expect the agreement to be complete within thirty days.

An identical draft agreement has recently been sent to the Australian N.A. Community for their review. They also have a N.A. created and controlled corporation which can be authorized to manage similar printing activities. We will keep you informed of these events as they continue to unfold.

Other places where discussions along similar lines have taken place are Germany and Ireland. A corporation has been created in Germany and we expect to be able to report soon that similar action has been taken there also. One of the factors that has slowed progress with this project has been the necessity of having the draft agreement translated. A corporation has not been completed in Ireland, but efforts to investigate creation of one have been initiated.

Earlier this year, and at the Conference in April, we reported that the Convention Committee which managed WCNA-15 had turned over their funds and financial records to the Office for disposition. A year-end financial report was made (and recently amended slightly to correct for inventory items returned to the WSO that had not been sold by the Committee). That report will be published in full in the next Fellowship Report in September.

## COMING EVENTS

*This space has been reserved for coming events anywhere in N.A. If you wish to list an event, send us a flier or note at least two months in advance. Include title, location, dates, contacts.*

**CALIFORNIA:** Aug 22-24; Unity Weekend; Mill Creek County Campground; M.C.A.S., PO Box 792, Ukiah, CA 95482; (707) Ray 964-3535; Sue 463-1484

2) Oct 24-26; So Calif 8th Annl Conv; Hyatt Regency, Long Beach, CA; CC of NA, Box 60846, Pasadena, CA 91106-6846; Valerie (213) 370-8052; Peggy (818) 505-8505

3) Mar 27-29, 1987; 9th NCCNA; Marriott Hotel, Burlingame, CA; 9th NCCNA, Box 6323, San Mateo, CA 94403;

**CANADA:** Oct 10-12; 2nd Bilingual Convention Montreal 86; MBCNA, Victoria Stn, PO Box 313, Westmont, Mont., Quebec H3Z 2V8; (514) Paul 484-4048; Beverly 489-1748

2) Aug 29-31; 3rd Calgary NA Roundup; 1423-8 Avenue S.E., Calgary, Alb, Canada; (403) Doug 283-5143; Donna 284-0800

**ENGLAND:** Aug 28-31; World Convention-16, Wembley/Conference Center; Registration in the U.S.A., Vida (818) 780-7951, P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409; Registration outside U.S.A., P.O. Box 667, London, England NW8-7JW

**FLORIDA:** Aug 24; 3rd Annl Group Picnic; Tradewinds Park, Pompano Beach, FL; Dave S. (305) 566-1526

2) Sep 19-21; London Alternative Conv for NA; LACNA, PO Box 2514, Ft. Myers Bch., FL 33931; (813) Pauline 263-2274; John 332-3467; Joe 332-4083

3) Nov 13-16; Serenity By The Sea; Colonnades Hotel, Singer Island, WPB, FL; Recovery 5, Box 164, Delray Bch, FL; (305) Ray 734-2601; Joe 499-2354

4) Oct 10-13; Keys Recovery Weekend III; Marriott's Casa Marina, Key West; Keys Recovery Group, Box 4664, Key West, FL 33041; Pat 296-2810; Susan 296-4420

**ILLINOIS:** Aug 1-3; W Central Ill Area 1st Birthday; URSA Retreat House; Ursa, Ill; (217) Carol 222-9079; Linda 222-0408

**LOUISIANA:** Nov 7-9; Second Chance Group 4th Campout; Burns Point State Park, So of Centerville LA; (318) Howard 386-5161; Fred 828-5888

**MAINE:** Sep 12-14; We're A Miracle III; ASC of Maine, PO Box 5309, Portland ME 04104; (207) Bruce C. 772-4558; Lisa D. 773-5492

**MISSOURI:** Aug 8-10; High on Life Picnic; Stockton Lake; 112 Hillcrest, Carl Junction, MO 64834; (417) Bob 781-6770; Bud 649-6377

**NEBRASKA:** Sep 19-21; NRCNA III; Midtown Holiday Inn, Grand Island; NRC 3, Box 1186 Grand Island, NE 68802; Dave (402) 346-3711

**NEVADA:** Aug 1-3; 4th Annl Campout; Sierra Sage Reg Serv Comm, PO Box 3344, Sparks, NV 89431; 24 Hour NA Hotline (702) 322-4811

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Oct 31-Nov 2; TSRCNA-IV; TSRCNA-IV, P.O. Box 110217, Pittsburgh, PA 15232; (412) Bob P. 563-6854; Jeff W. 363-8444;

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Nov 7-9; Serenity Festival IV; Myrtle Beach, SC; David Pressley, PO Box 91, Columbia, SC 29202; Stan (803) 781-2841

**TENNESSEE:** Nov 26-30; 4th Regional Conv.; Radisson Plaza Hotel, Fourth & Union, Nashville, TN; PO Box 121961, Nashville, TN 37212; Charlie (615) 868-3150

**UTAH:** Aug 22-24; WFASC Campvention; WFASC, P.O. Box 6157, Salt Lake City, UT 84106-0157; George N. 364-1231

**VIRGINIA:** Aug 29-31; Labor Day Wkend Conv; Cedar Lakes Conf Ctr; Mountaineer RSCNA PO Box 2381, Morgantown, WV 26502-2381;

**WASHINGTON:** Oct 24-26; 9th Annual Convention; Everett Pacific Hotel; Everett WA; PNWCNA #9, P.O. Box 5393, Everett, WA 98201; (206) Mike S. 672-6848; Russ F. 259-4904

**WISCONSIN:** Oct 24-26; 3rd Wisconsin Conv; WSNAC III, P.O. Box 3305, Madison, WI 53704; (608) 258-1747 (phoneline)

2) Aug 1-3; Mid-Coast Regional Conv II; Living Today for Freedom; Sheraton Manitowoc; Mid-Coast Reg Conv Com, PO Box 347, Manitowoc, WI; Kathy C. (414) 921-4044; Bill L. (414) 233-6037