



WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE FELLOWSHIP REPORT

November, 1987

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

First, I would like to wish all of you a very happy, healthy, and joyous holiday season. The year is quickly drawing to a close, and pretty soon it will be time again for the Conference Agenda Report to be compiled and distributed. All items of business approved by RSC's to be published in that Report should be received at the WSO by December 25th.

NOTICE: The October Newsline contained incorrect information about ordering the Conference Agenda Report. There will be no phone orders and a shipping charge will be added to the \$5.00 cost of the report. Please order the Agenda Report as soon as possible so the Fellowship will have time to study the issues.

We have recently sent a notice to all the WSC participants regarding the RSR reports at the annual WSC meeting. As we have previously discussed, these reports which describe the activities within each region will be published in the March Fellowship Report, instead of being read aloud at the Conference. However, all new regions will give their reports verbally to the participants. The dates for the annual WSC meeting are April 25-29, 1988, with an orientation meeting held on Sunday, April 24th.

Our WSC Workshop in Denver went well and a lot of work was completed by the Committees although there is still some work yet to be finalized. The WSC Policy Committee voted to support the creation of an additional position on the Administrative Committee and recommended that the proposal be presented in the Conference Agenda Report. There will be more about that in the Policy Committee Report, along with some information about the process of recognizing new regions.

Members of the Policy and Administrative Committees also discussed the issue of securing the services of a parliamentarian for the next Conference. So we've written and contacted a few places to check on costs, hours, availability, etc., of such an individual. We are still working on this particular project and will have more information as it becomes available.

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TO BE DUPLICATED AND DISTRIBUTED TO N.A. MEMBERS
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I am sure by now many of you have been subjected to some discussion about the edits in the fourth edition of our Basic Text. What concerns me more than what my personal feelings are about the actual editing changes, are those members who seek to influence, intimidate, and manipulate the decision-making process of our Fellowship. By using the credibility of their positions to create dissension, disharmony, and controversy, they have shown a lack of respect as well as a lack of faith in our membership. I am deeply saddened by these actions as it is evident that they feel they must take things into their own hands instead of trusting a loving God to guide us.

As a Fellowship, we have a process we all agree upon to bring concerns to the attention of our members. Each year we come together to express ourselves as Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. Every region is given the same opportunity to be heard and voice their opinion on issues affecting N.A. It has always struck me as awesome to observe the many differing points of view coming together to form the collective voice of N.A. It is a spiritual event, which we do not have the right to interfere with, but have the responsibility to insure its freedom from misinformation, haste, and powerful personalities.

Very simply, in 1985, the WSC directed that the Basic Text be edited, and that the edit be approved by the Literature Review Committee prior to printing and distribution by the WSO. That process has been followed. We asked these members to do a job and they have complied with our request. We made the decision as a Conference and we, as a Conference, must take responsibility for it. It is only to be expected that reasonable people will disagree on practically any issue. If we decide as a Fellowship, that the final product is unsatisfactory and does not meet our standards then we will correct it and move on. The Basic Text is our book. It is not the property of any individual or group of individuals. It belongs to all of us here now as well as those members who will get here in the future.

I heartily encourage all members of N.A. who care to, to look for themselves and reach their own conclusions. Read the text, search your hearts, and convey to your trusted servants how you feel. I have faith that the collective voice of our Fellowship will be heard in spite of the efforts of some members who would have you see it their way only.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Chuck Lehman, Vice-Chairperson
World Service Conference

Since my last report, all of the Conference Committees met in Denver to complete work on items to be included in the Conference Agenda Report. Each Committee Chairperson will report in detail the progress of their Committee and the status of any motions being brought to the Fellowship.

The Denver Workshop was productive and again illustrates the value of having all Committees meeting at the same time in the same location. The benefits of continuing this practice are numerous. The Committees always have immediate access to one another. This is important in case the work of one Committee impacts on the work of another or if Committees are collaborating on a specific project. The Committees also benefit by having members of the WSC Administrative Committee, Board of Trustees, and WSO Staff and Board members present and available to assist as needed. Finally, areas and regions are able to

send trusted servants to the workshops to gather first-hand information and experience from the World Service Committees. If these Committees met separately, areas and regions in many cases could not access the information and experience as easily or cost effectively. It would appear that our current WSC workshop formula is the most effective use of available resources in an effort to accomplish the tasks assigned to each committee by the WSC.

When funds permit, it would be nice to add an additional workshop, say, in late February or early March. This workshop would be designed to allow committees to properly develop budgets and scopes of work for the coming year and would also allow for preliminary or continuing work on projects not slated for immediate Conference action. Projects receiving attention would most likely be scheduled for action at the following year's World Service Conference. I would encourage the Fellowship to consider such a plan and provide direction to the WSC Administrative Committee.

I am pleased to report that the Fellowship is fully supporting the expenses of the WSC. All current bills are either paid or soon to be paid and we should have a small surplus. We are not out of the woods, but if the present level of spending and Fellowship contributions continue, then the WSC will be able to accomplish its work within the current spending plan.

I spent much of my last report commenting on the financial issues facing the WSC in the future. I suggested further examination of our Seventh Tradition--our principle of self-support--and encouraged more vision as it relates to the development of our annual WSC spending plan. In that report, the Fellowship was encouraged to submit input to the WSC Administrative Committee regarding the future financial management of the World Service Conference. While the Administrative Committee will continue to encourage such input, we would also suggest that input relevant to the Seventh Tradition be forwarded to the ad-hoc committee working on the Twelve Traditions portion of the *It Works: How and Why* book.

Speaking of input, it seems appropriate to comment on our present situation as it relates to input from our Fellowship. Historically, every World Service Board and Committee has, on different occasions, sought to receive direction and input from the Fellowship. Generally speaking, this input was sought in order that the service board or committee might better serve the Fellowship in the accomplishment of their tasks. As a Fellowship, we have not responded as often or as completely as we should have to requests for input or direction. Committees and service boards have oftentimes presented ideas to the Fellowship and have been forced to try and determine the acceptability of those proposals based on the lack of critical reaction rather than the presence of positive reinforcement. Our service boards and committees cannot fully serve the needs and wishes of the Fellowship without regular guidance and written input. The input must come from a cross section of the Fellowship in order to accurately represent the wishes and needs of all of our members. We cannot criticize our trusted servants for failing to carry out our wishes if we have failed to provide them the adequate guidance and instruction. We must also recognize that our individual perspective and/or input may not be representative of the wishes of N.A. as a whole. Simply because an item does not reflect an individual's or group's specific input does not necessarily mean that it is in conflict with group conscience or the will of the Fellowship. God does have the capacity to speak in more than one group. Although the message that is heard seems to differ from group to group, I don't believe that God is providing conflicting messages. Rather, I am willing to suggest that, at times, our personal agendas and character defects may in fact be muffling God's voice or creating fertile ground for selective listening.

That notwithstanding, there is no substitute for written input. It provides our trusted servants with the guidance necessary to effectively serve the needs of all of our members. We all must share this responsibility. Our input should praise the efforts of our trusted servants and when criticism is warranted, it should include positive input as to how to improve the situation.

Personally, I am going to try to avoid peddling the familiar "suitcase of guilt, gloom and despair" when developing input for our service boards and committees. I will also try to present input in the positive sense and avoid personalizing criticism.

We can do together what cannot be done alone. Please provide me with guidance and input as to how I may better serve this Fellowship.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Biff Kramer, Chairperson
WSC P.I. Committee

As usual, the P.I. Committee has been busy since the last Fellowship Report. As a result of the Denver meeting, the following items will be brought to the World Service Conference in 1988:

The P.I. and the Media Section of *The Guide to Public Information* has been divided into two parts. One part will be recommended to the Conference for approval that had previously been sent to local area and regional P.I. committees for a 90-day review process. The WSC P.I. Committee recommends adopting this section along with the contingency plan for inclusion in *The Guide to Public Information*. The sample interview part of this section needs more work and will be sent out for input to various area and regional P.I. subcommittees.

The WSC P.I. Committee will present a motion to include in *The Guide to Public Information*, three paragraphs giving more direction on how to use both sample and cover letters. An appendix for the Guide to P.I., entitled "A Guide to Writing News Releases" will be proposed also.

We received approval from WSC 1987 to prepare a survey (census) to be brought back to WSC 1988, prior to implementation. As a result of several meetings of an ad-hoc committee and other input, we found ourselves at a standstill. After further discussion by the ad-hoc committee and the WSC P.I. Committee as a whole, it was decided to contact a professional survey consultant about ways to achieve the purpose of this survey and accurately collect the information we are seeking. We are in the process of doing this at the present time. The results of this input will be brought to the WSC P.I. Committee, and from them to WSC 1988. If the intent is approved at WSC 1988, it will go to the WSC P.I. Committee and the Fellowship as a whole to be brought back to WSC 1989. After all results are compiled, it will be brought back to the WSC P.I. Committee, workshopped, and then brought to the Conference with recommendations and final comments for utilization at WSC 1990.

In Denver we reviewed the motion from last year's Conference that originated from the Policy Committee regarding approval of public information materials when time is of the essence. After much deliberation, the WSC P.I. Committee reached a decision to recommend adoption of this motion by the Conference.

We're currently doing a more in-depth study of the Seventh Tradition and its application to N.A. P.I. efforts. Questions are going out to WSC P.I. members

in various geographical areas around the world about different aspects of the Seventh Tradition. The responses will then be collated and forwarded to the Board of Trustees. Jointly, we hope to have some recommendations for the Conference, as well as other questions.

There are several items which WSC P.I. is working on for which we desperately need input. These include a mass media preparedness inventory (before using billboards, bus benches, PSA's, etc.) which is being developed to help P.I. subcommittees and "N.A. in schools." These were discussed at length in Denver, and many pros and cons were expressed.

A media kit entitled "Information about N.A." has been sent to all P.I. subcommittees for a 90-day review and input period. A new project entitled "P.I. and the N.A. Member" was developed by one of our regional P.I. subcommittees. The draft was brought to the WSC P.I. Committee in Denver and workshopped. The results have been sent out to local area and regional P.I. subcommittees for the 90-day review and input process for service-related materials. The reason this draft came about is that several areas and regions have been publishing similar "pamphlets" on their own, causing some confusion with Conference-approved literature. In order to have uniform and correct information to meet the need (which has been made obvious by area and regional pamphlets being published), the WSC P.I. Committee has begun the developmental process of this material.

This year the WSC P.I. Committee has been working with area and regional P.I. subcommittees on non-N.A. events. We have already participated in or committed to all the non-N.A. events our budget will allow. Most of these have been of a truly international nature, ranging from Hawaii to Hong Kong outside the continental U.S., and several different cities within the continental USA including several in Chicago, St. Louis, Washington D.C., San Diego, Seattle, and Philadelphia. The participation and cooperation of WSC P.I. members, as well as regional P.I. subcommittees have made these events even more successful.

A major priority of the WSC P.I. Committee for this year was a complete restructuring and refocusing of the WSC P.I. Committee. Although there are some kinks yet to be ironed out because of the newness, it has been very successful. We have been able to reach out and actively involve P.I. subcommittees at regional and area levels around the world. The enthusiasm and participation of WSC P.I. Committee members has been without parallel. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those WSC P.I. Committee members and all members of the Fellowship involved with P.I. at all levels of service for their active support and participation this year.

Plans for the future include a restructuring of the format of *The Guide to Public Information*. Further work will also be done on the following topics in 1988-89: N.A. in schools, working with non-N.A.'s, the Twelve Traditions in public information, rewrite of sample letters, upgrading our displays for regional and multi-regional non-N.A. events, and P.I. in rural areas.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Randy Jones, Chairperson
WSC H&I Committee

Much has taken place since the last Fellowship Report. As a Committee we have met three times: two H&I Committee workshops and the WSC workshop in Denver. Our first workshop took place in Annapolis, Maryland. It was a very

productive weekend. We worked on the sections of the H&I Handbook dealing with corrections, committee structure and function, general, and learning days and workshops. Much of input was assembled and we began putting together each section. By the end of this workshop we had a rough draft of these sections.

The second workshop took place at the World Service Office in California. At this session we concentrated on the section of the handbook that dealt with treatment. We had a considerable amount of input on this section and there were many different opinions about the philosophy of H&I. We reviewed all input and assembled it into a rough draft.

At the WSC workshop in Denver the main goal of the weekend was to review and prepare a draft of the H&I Handbook to be sent out to the H&I committees in the Fellowship for review and input. The other tasks for this weekend were to prepare any motions to be presented to the Fellowship for WSC '88. The next thing was to review motions sent back to the H&I Committee during WSC '87. Fortunately, after many long hours in session, the Committee managed to perform all of the tasks put forth to us.

The first issue to deal with was the review draft of the Handbook. The Committee spent many hours reviewing the work that was done in the two workshops. We started at the beginning of the Handbook and went through it section by section. Many issues dealing with different philosophies of H&I were discussed at great length. Many times during this session it came to a point where we thought certain issues could not be worked out. Through much discussion the answers came and we were able to deal with the issues and come to an agreement which will be reflected in our Handbook. We feel we will have a workable draft to present to the Fellowship very soon.

Another item that was discussed was the booklet *For Those in Treatment*. It had been sent to WSC Literature Committee for review last year. The Literature Committee has asked the Vice-Chairperson and me to participate in the review of this piece of literature, to allow us the opportunity to give input and convey an understanding of what we, as a Committee, wanted to get across in this piece of literature. We feel it was a good gesture to help two WSC Committees to work together in cooperation and to maintain a good line of communication.

We received the draft of a piece on the transition from a correctional institution to N.A. "From the Inside Out" that was written by the Colorado Region. The feeling of our committee was that it was a good piece of draft literature and that, after some minor editing, we would send it to the WSC Literature Committee for review.

We addressed the issue concerning the 30% discount motion that was tabled to the H&I Committee during WSC '87. We voted not to address the motion further.

As a committee we felt at this time that there were no issues or motions we need to present to the Fellowship in the Agenda Report.

During this year the voting members and pool members have put much of their time and effort into working on the revision of our Handbook. It continues to amaze me the way this Committee can work together and have such a wide variety of philosophies and come to a consensus that they believe will work for the Fellowship as a whole. It is a real privilege to work with this group of members.

We still have a desperate need for updated copies of "Sunshine Letters" from facilities where we carry the message. These letters have been very helpful for new areas in getting H&I meetings started.

In closing, we hope to have the draft of our Handbook ready for review in January for area and regional H&I committees to review and give input over the next year. Following this report is a Distribution Report for the WSC H&I literature stockpile.

**WSC H&I LITERATURE STOCKPILE
DISTRIBUTION TOTALS**

<u>Description</u>	<u>Months Sent Out</u>					<u>Total</u>
	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sep.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	
Basic Text	38	69	48	44	21	212
Catalog	4	19	14	19	0	56
H&I Handbook	1	5	3	10	0	19
Laminated Readings	0	0	0	0	1	1
N.A. Literature Tape Set	0	2	0	0	0	2
N.A. Way	0	1	0	0	0	1
Packet of Guidelines	0	0	2	5	0	7
Reaching Out	68	105	96	103	11	383
White Book	78	279	198	99	238	892
<u>I.P.'s:</u>						
No. 1	1	0	0	0	0	1
No. 2	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. 5	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. 6	95	262	183	87	188	815
No. 7	96	260	183	87	188	814
No. 8	105	260	183	87	188	823
No. 9	1	0	0	0	0	1
No. 11	95	260	183	87	188	813
No. 12	1	0	0	0	0	1
No. 13	96	260	183	87	188	814
No. 14	1	1	0	0	0	2
No. 16	95	260	183	87	188	813
No. 17	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. 18	43	33	15	18	6	115

**WSC Literature Stockpile
Financial Statement**

Beginning Balance as of May 1987	\$12,409.00
Reduction for Disbursements [June-Oct.]	\$ 2,884.81
Reduction for Disbursement in November	\$ 1,020.41
Balance as of November 22, 1987	\$ 8,503.78

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To: The Fellowship

From: Ed Duquette

Greetings from the dynamic, innovative and relentless WSC Policy Committee. The October workshop in Denver has proven to be the most productive workshop I've experienced in my three years of involvement with the WSC Policy Committee. I believe that the new committee guidelines, developed and approved last year, have played a major role in the Committee's accomplishments this year. These guidelines, coupled with a rather remarkable crew, have produced stability within our Committee which has in turn produced fruitful efforts.

I would like to review the progress of each agenda item for which we are responsible. The first item pertains to a motion that would have established guidelines for membership on the WSC Policy Committee:

- I. Committed Motion: To include amongst all the above, two (2) members from outside the continental USA.

Discussion on this motion began during the Newark Workshop in July. After consideration we concluded to take no action other than present our feelings on this motion in a report to the Conference. We drafted this report which was amended and approved at the October Workshop in Denver. This report states:

All members of our WSC Committees and Boards are elected, selected or appointed according to what they may have to offer in the areas of expertise that these committees and boards are responsible for. In the past, the WSC has only been able to finance the participation of certain members of the WSC: the Administrative Committee, the WSB and the Chair and Vice-Chair of each standing committee. Recently, some Conference Committees have included in their annual budget, funds for their Committee members to attend specific functions or events. At this time though, the WSC is simply unable to assume the financial responsibilities for travel and lodging of all Committee members to participate in all Committee functions. Quite often RSC's have provided funding for members of their region to participate on Conference Committees. This practice has helped take the focus of participation away from those who are willing, capable and financially able, and more importantly placing it on those who are willing and capable.

Until such time that the WSC is financially able to fund all participation, we must stand on the principle that if a member of the Fellowship of Narcotics

Anonymous is willing, capable and able to fulfill their responsibilities to participate on a Committee or Board of our World Service Conference, then he/she should be considered with the same respect as all other nominees.

To set special attention or preference to members simply because of where they happen to live, or not live, is a precedent we are not willing to support. If we are truly the same, regardless of the things that have divided us in the past, then we need to approach the membership of our Conference Committees and Boards with equality.

II. Committed Motion: That this Conference establish a policy of redress of any item of approval that has not followed the correct or proper approval process.

During the July workshop this motion was discussed at length. We found difficulty trying to understand the intent of this motion from its wording. After listening to the intent by the maker of the motion it became apparent that the Committee didn't need to develop a new process to satisfy the concerns of the maker. Instead, we needed to make it known to the participants of the Conference that Robert's Rules of Order already has mechanisms for this.

The Committee concluded to include the "motion to rescind" and the "motion to amend something previously adopted" into the parliamentary short form that we were working on. The Committee recommended that we inform the Conference participants that these mechanisms exist as well as how to utilize them.

III. Committed Motion: To remove the word temporary from the Working Guide.

We first discussed this motion in Newark and concluded again in Denver not to take action other than report to the Conference our feelings. We prepared a report at Newark which was approved with minor revisions during the October workshop in Denver.

THIS REPORT WILL STATE: After consideration of this motion, it was the feeling of the Committee that there will be significant and eminent changes to the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure*. Therefore, it is the unanimous recommendation of the Policy Committee to retain the word "temporary" in the title of this service guide.

IV. Committed Motion: That RSR's be the only voting participants at the WSC.

Our original plan of action, as we discussed it during our final session at the annual Conference, was to present a motion stating "that RSR's be the only voting participants at the WSC." This motion would be accompanied with both pros and cons which would be developed by the Committee through input received from the Fellowship. We then again concurred to follow this plan when it was discussed in Newark.

We assigned two members of the Committee the responsibility of developing pro(s) and con(s). Two drafts were developed prior to the Denver Workshop, but there was not a great deal of input received from the Fellowship. But we did receive a lot of input on this motion during the weekend of the Denver Workshop.

This left us in a position where we needed to revise our plan of action to be in compliance with the committed motion. The motion stated that the Committee

was responsible to include this motion in the '88 Conference Agenda Report in a proper form. The committee concluded that the proper form for this motion was:

"Be it resolved that only RSR's (or their equivalent) be voting participants at the WSC. Non-voting participants (WSC Officers, WSC Committee Chairpersons, Trustees, WSO Chairperson) may make motions or address the Conference."

In addition, the Committee decided to prepare a package of all the input received on this motion, including the original intent by the maker and all other historical accounts of this matter from WSC minutes. This package will be available from the WSO, free of charge, upon request after December 15, 1987.

V. Committed Motion: That all items of literature for approval by group conscience submitted to the Fellowship, should include these items:

- (1) Intent
- (2) Pros
- (3) Cons

We first discussed this motion in Newark. We were unsure if this motion pertained only to "literature items" or all items. After discussing the intent with the maker of the motion we were still unclear. We decided to table any further work until we listened to the tapes of the Conference so that we might better isolate the intent of the motion.

In Denver we did have a great deal of discussion on this motion after reviewing the tapes. The Committee concluded to take action by presenting the following motion:

"Any motion that appears in the Conference Agenda Report will include a written intent. The maker of any motion submitted or committed to a WSC Committee or Board will provide the Chairperson of the WSC Committee or Board with a written intent."

VI. Committed Motion: That the Proposal for Operation of the WSC, pages 1-17 be committed to the Policy Committee.

We were finally able to address this item at the October Workshop in Denver. We had received substantial input on this document from many Conference participants. I had written a letter to the Committee members prior to Denver explaining some concerns I had about the Conference Committees' work schedule outlined in this document. My feelings are that there needs to be a major consideration of how our Conference Committees respond to input from the Fellowship while trying to complete work with ongoing projects.

The Committee agreed with my recommendation to remove any reference to Committee work schedules from the document and direct those sections for consideration next year. We then proceeded with the remainder of the document.

What we developed was a revised draft on operational procedures for the WSC, a draft on budgeted expenditures, and a parliamentary short form for use by the Conference. We agreed to include the descriptions of the WSC Administrative Committee, the Joint Administrative Committee, the Fellowship Report and the Conference Agenda Report in the '88 Conference Agenda Report for the Fellowship to review for adoption.

The sections on budgeted expenditures and parliamentary short form will not be included in the Conference Agenda Report because they are procedural only and do not change any present Conference policy.

The entire document, including budgeted expenditures and parliamentary short form, will be mailed to all Conference participants 90 days prior to the annual Conference for their review. The Conference members may choose to adopt these procedures at the WSC. In addition the sections on budgeted expenditures and parliamentary short form will be included in the January Fellowship Report.

It is the intention of this Committee that when this document is completed, including a comprehensive work schedule for the Conference Committees and Boards, that it be included in the *Guide to Service*.

This completes the work for all motions committed to the Policy Committee. There were a few related items discussed in Denver that the Committee would like to report.

First, we had discussions relating to a parliamentarian being hired to assist us at our annual WSC meeting. We have placed this concept on next year's agenda for further consideration. In addition, the Policy Committee has recommended to the WSC Administrative Committee that they employ the services of a parliamentarian to assist with the '88 WSC.

In regards to the WSC Chairperson's comments in the September Fellowship Report, we entered discussions on adding a second Vice-Chairperson position to the WSC Administrative Committee. The Chairperson presented her thoughts directly to the Committee about the need to divide the work load between two Vice-Chairpersons.

The Committee recommended to the WSC Administrative Committee that they submit a motion to the Conference to create a second Vice-Chairperson's position.

The Committee also utilized our guidelines to replace a Committee member who has been unable to attend our meetings. Tim B. from Dallas was then elected as the replacement.

FORMATION OF NEW REGIONS: During the Newark workshop the Policy Committee reviewed a draft of information that would be mailed to newly forming regions. At this point it is intended to be the initial contact form, in a process that is expected to start with initial contact, and proceed to information collection, to processing this information and finally presenting this information to the Conference via the Conference Agenda Report. At least this is the framework of the process at this point.

Unfortunately, the Committee was unable to add any new input throughout the remainder of the year. It was our priority to address the motions committed to the Committee before continuing with any ongoing projects. This places us in a very precarious position. I expect that there will be at least one new region present at the Conference wishing to be recognized.

Our Committee guidelines state that the Policy Committee is responsible to collect information concerning the formation of any new regions and present it to the Fellowship in the Conference Agenda Report. Obviously, if we have not finished this process, then we will be unable to comply with the guidelines.

What I would suggest is that we continue with the present policy until we are able to replace it with the new process when it is completed. I expect that this would be accomplished during the next year, provided we are not overwhelmed with committed motions from the Conference.

In closing, I would like to thank all the Fellowship for allowing me to be of service. I am extremely pleased with the Policy Committee's contributions to the Fellowship over these last two years. They have been two years of rebuilding and

reassuring. I feel I will be leaving the Committee with a stable foundation for further greatness and productivity. It has been an honor and privilege to be of service to you as Chairperson of the dynamic, relentless and innovative WSC Policy Committee.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Michael Lee, Chairperson
World Literature Committee

INTRODUCTION: This report has been extremely difficult for me to write. It's been harder to do than most of the written moral inventories I've had to make. As an addict, I hope and pray that this service work helps me stay clean and helps Narcotics Anonymous to grow.

BASIC TEXT, NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 4TH EDITION: It seems that the best introduction I can make to this subject which is confronting Narcotics Anonymous comes from the Introduction to the Basic Text itself:

"Everything that occurs in the course of N.A. service must be motivated by the desire to more successfully carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. It was for this reason that we began this work. We must always remember that as individual members, groups and service committees, we are not and should never be in competition with each other. We work separately and together to help the newcomer and for our common good. We have learned, painfully, that internal strife cripples our Fellowship; it prevents us from providing the services necessary for growth.

It is our hope that this book will help the suffering addict find the solution that we have found. Our purpose is to remain clean, just for today, and to carry the message of recovery."

Prior to writing this report, I have had the opportunity to read and review what the Chairpersons of the World Service Conference, Board of Trustees and WSO Board of Directors have written elsewhere in this November Fellowship Report. Clearly, the Basic Text and the issues surrounding the publication of the 4th Edition affect Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, and each of these reports should be read.

Another thing which warrants mentioning at the beginning is that as the Vice-Chairperson of the World Literature Committee and member of the Literature Review Committee last year, I was a conscious participant in the Literature Review Committee's work. I am prepared to give a full accounting to the World Service Conference of my personal role in this matter, as well as any other specifics. I am NOT going to discuss any specific edits in the book or get drawn into any debates about whether or not concepts have been changed. At this point, those things are for the Fellowship to decide through the established service structure. Because of the controversy developing, I have been encouraged to take all kinds of sides by some and to maintain a neutral role by others. Under such pressure, it is really a no win situation. After weeks of prayer, meditation and widespread consultation and dialogue with others, I have come to the conclusion that as a participant I cannot possibly be entirely neutral and free of bias in this situation. My goal is, however, to do my best to serve the Fellowship given my present skills, abilities, and character. In the spirit of openness I have tried to bring to this year's World Literature Committee, I hope to demonstrate a fairness, objectivity and open-mindedness that allows me to serve the Fellowship effectively, while maintaining my personal integrity and dignity.

WHAT'S GOING ON?: The fourth edition of the Basic Text has only been available for sale a few weeks. As such, tens of thousands of members have never seen a copy yet, and know little or nothing about the controversy which is developing against using or selling this book.

Whether you're a newcomer or a Conference participant, as a fellow addict in recovery let me share with you about the problems I'm hearing about the fourth edition of the Basic Text and the history of how it came to be.

From my mail and telephone calls, it appears that there are those who are upset and feel strongly that wrong, unauthorized, conceptual changes in the fourth edition Basic Text have been made. These individuals are calling for an immediate WSO recall of the fourth edition book to be replaced by copies of the third edition revised, expecting WSO to begin reprinting. Everybody who is anybody (joke) has received midnight telephone calls ranging from reasonable requests for help or information to personal attacks and/or insults. There have been reports that RSO's and RSC's have been pressed to take various action on these demands. Rumors of all kinds have run rampant through the Fellowship's informal communication network. Requests/demands/suggestions for emergency meetings, jointly or separately, have been made to the WSO Board of Directors and Board of Trustees.

EVALUATING THE FOURTH EDITION: Facts, judgment, hindsight. I'm going to discuss all of these issues and other problems below. But no matter what I say, the reality now is that the Fellowship has the responsibility to read and evaluate the fourth edition for itself. Read the book and make up your own mind. All input, positive or negative, received by the World Literature Committee in care of WSO will be reviewed by all committee members. Use the service structure responsibly to make your thoughts known.

THE BASIC FACTS: The basic facts in this matter are as follows. The 1985 World Service Conference passed the following motion proposed by the World Literature Committee:

"That the WSO be instructed to have the Basic Text professionally edited to ensure consistent and correct use of capitalization, verb tenses, gender, singular/plural endings, and other grammatical errors and that the edited text be returned to the Literature Review Committee for acceptance and approval prior to printing and distribution."

This motion set in place a Conference-approved process to produce an edited version of our Basic Text, specifically authorizing the Literature Review Committee to act as a trusted servant for the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous by investing this directly responsible service committee with the task of accepting and approving the edited text prior to printing and distribution to the Fellowship.

The 1986 and the 1987 World Service Conferences took no action to change the fundamental process under which the fourth edition was to be edited and published. This process and the progress being made on this project were reported regularly by both the WSO and the WLC through the standard communication tools of the Fellowship: the *Newsline* and the Conference Agenda Report, as well as reports from the 1985, 1986, and 1987 WSC and in other miscellaneous communications. Every member, group, area, region and WSC participant in existence during this period of time bears some share of responsibility for the fourth edition and the action, or lack of action, by the 1985, 1986, and 1987 World Service Conferences.

The other key fact is that the edited text was returned to the Literature Review Committee in August of 1986 and was subsequently accepted and approved by the LRC.

The Literature Review Committee was keenly aware of its responsibility to ensure that conceptual changes were not made in the text. Although the Fellowship may, or may not, come to the conclusion that conceptual changes have, or have not, been made in the text, there are two important aspects of the Literature Review Committee's work that illustrate the Committee's understanding of the limitation of the authority delegated to it by the Conference. These two things are, first, how the Committee considered bringing the fourth edition into alignment with the Newly Revised Little White Booklet (adopted at the 1986 WSC) and, second, how the Committee brought what it felt were certain conceptual problems to the attention of the Fellowship for action. Both of these matters were discussed and reflected in the Literature Review Committee's October 1986 meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The facts concerning the Little White Booklet situation are as follows. The 1986 WSC, in adopting a revised version of the Little White Booklet, changed, among other things, certain specific phrases. One example was changing "first fix, pill or drink" to "first drug." The Conference, in making these changes in the White Booklet, did not give specific direction to make these changes wherever they occurred in N.A. Literature. So, when the Literature Review Committee discovered a series of these inconsistencies in the Basic Text, a major debate occurred within the LRC about whether or not the Committee was authorized to make such changes. Some members argued that the will of the Fellowship had already been unanimously expressed to make these changes, that the Committee had "the implied authority of the Conference" to go ahead and make these changes. Others argued that these would be conceptual changes, not grammatical changes, and so fell outside of the scope of the original motion to edit the text. The Committee was cautious and conservative, and the eventual result, after seeking guidance from the WSO Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees, was to wait until the 1987 Conference took action on this issue, which it did through adopting a series of motions.

The other significant thing which demonstrates the Literature Review Committee's unwillingness to make intentional conceptual changes in the text is illustrated by how the Committee dealt with conceptual problems which were revealed as a result of carefully reviewing the edited text. The Literature Committee Chairperson's January 1987 Fellowship Report stated:

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

EXAMPLES OF CONCEPTUAL PROBLEMS IN THE BASIC TEXT

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

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

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

The important point is that the Literature Review Committee did not try to make any deliberate conceptual changes in any part of the Basic Text using the justification that a grammatical error was involved.

In sum, the topic of editing the Basic Text was discussed at the last three successive World Service Conference meetings, in addition to other Fellowship communications. It cannot be said that the subject never came up or that it was overlooked at the World Service Conference. If, at any time, the World Service Conference had wished to change its directions to the WSO or the Literature Review Committee, it had ample opportunities to do so. Since the Conference did not change its mind on this topic and, in fact, continued providing additional specific directions each year, it can be ascertained that it was the clear group conscience of the Conference to have the Basic Text edited using the procedure established in 1985.

JUDGMENT: Whenever one of our service committees or boards is given the trust, responsibility and delegated authority to carry out the wishes of the Fellowship, it is asked, directly or indirectly, to make judgment calls along the way. That is what the Literature Review Committee was required to do and what it did. Perhaps its final work is not what the Fellowship wanted. Only the World Service Conference can determine and express that judgment at its meeting next April, 1988.

HINDSIGHT: Hindsight is the perception of an event after it has happened. Being human, we shall all have the benefit of the clear perspective which hindsight brings to this situation. Unfortunately, hindsight does not include the power to change the past.

DRASTIC ACTION: The World Service Conference will have the opportunity to take whatever action it feels is appropriate on this issue at its next meeting. The options are endless. But if a major or minor mistake of any kind has been made, whether it is in the job the Literature Review Committee did or in the process that the Conference itself created, it is up to the Conference, and only the Conference, to take corrective action. In particular, the WSO Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, or World Literature Committee, together or separately are simply not authorized under our existing service structure to decide for the Fellowship and the World Service Conference to recall the fourth edition and replace it with the third edition or take any other such drastic action. In my opinion, not only would it be spiritually wrong, but also it would be disastrous to the overall operation of our World Service Office and world services. On this point, I cannot and will not be neutral. Such calls, whether made in the emotion of anger or made out of a sense of principle or justice, are simply not responsible and not well thought out.

IN SUMMARY--A PERSONAL CONCLUSION: Because of the nature of the criticism and input received to date, a certain defensiveness in this report has been impossible to weed out and not react to. I hope what I've said helps somebody. It

is equally possible that the Fellowship may love, like or accept the fourth edition as is and congratulate the Literature Review Committee on a job well done. But if there are problems, I have a suggestion as to where to look for our solution. I have been looking at the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous. I am powerless over addiction and my life has become unmanageable. I do believe a Power greater than myself can restore me to sanity regarding the Basic Text. I have made a decision to turn my will and my life and the Basic Text over to the care of my God. I have been taking my own inventory, and asking God to remove my shortcomings. I am willing to make any necessary amends as appropriate. I am seeking through prayer and meditation to improve my conscious contact with God so that I might better do God's will in my life and in my service work, practicing all of the principles of the steps to the best of my ability as I try to carry this message to fellow addicts.

I am sure that if we look for solutions together we will also find them collectively in an application of the principles of each of the Twelve Traditions. But especially, whatever our differences have been or might be over literature, "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on N.A. unity." This is our First Tradition. Our primary purpose must be to carry the message to the addict who still suffers, in the spirit of our Fifth Tradition. And in keeping with Tradition Twelve, "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities." Let us listen to what each member is saying, no matter who they are or how they are saying it. Through open-mindedness and a Higher Power, we may find a common understanding that carries us through this together.

DENVER MEETING: The World Literature Committee met during the Denver Conference Workshop (October 17-19) and focused its energies on reviewing the Committee's Procedural Guidelines. It was agreed that it was necessary to spend most of the weekend working on this material.

Before discussing the Committee's progress on the guidelines material, a few items that were discussed and acted upon by the full Committee should be reported to you.

1. The proposed book, "In Loving Service" was discussed again. A motion was carried to refer this manuscript to the WSC Select Committee. The intent is for this material be evaluated and incorporated where appropriate in *A Guide to Service*.
2. An outline of the proposed Unity pamphlet was approved and the task of developing a working draft was assigned to the Georgia Regional Literature Committee.
3. A Basic Text Survey was approved. By design, the survey has been distributed for completion by area and regional literature committees only. Initially, the survey was intended to ask a variety of questions about the literature development process, but after Committee discussion in Denver, the focus of the survey was reduced so that it would cover the question of possible future revision of the Basic Text only. Development of a more comprehensive survey on the use and development of literature in Narcotics Anonymous may be undertaken in the future. It should also be noted that this survey is not related to developments which have occurred since Denver in response to the fourth edition of our Basic Text, *Narcotics Anonymous*.

4. A separate survey on the proposed book, "Just for Today," was reviewed by the WLC. The survey was NOT approved. Based on Committee discussion, the survey will be revised for possible future approval and distribution by the Committee either in December or in the Spring.
5. The Committee is in the process of reviewing the input received on the five information pamphlets currently in approval form. The outcome of this review will be reported in the future. On one issue, however, the Committee reached a clear consensus and directed me to give notice to the Fellowship and the World Service Conference. The World Literature Committee views "approval form" literature to be in final form for Fellowship consideration, and, as such, subject to a yes/no, approval/disapproval vote at the World Service Conference. As a Fellowship, we have a history of making changes in approval-form literature or otherwise revising Conference-approved literature DURING meetings of the World Service Conference. The World Literature Committee feels this is NOT in the best interests of the Fellowship and a statement to this effect will be published in the 1988 Conference Agenda Report along with any other recommendations the WLC may arrive at regarding this year's approval-form literature items.
6. Continued work on the drafts of three proposed pamphlets was postponed for future action at the November 20th meeting of the Literature Review Committee and the December 5th meeting of the full Committee.

NOVEMBER LITERATURE REVIEW MEETING: Because of the magnitude of the work being done on the WLC Guidelines, the November meeting of the Literature Review Committee also focused primarily on this subject.

There has been an incredible amount of time and energy dedicated to the guideline work. We hope that the Fellowship will approve the new set of guidelines the Committee will be proposing to the 1988 World Service Conference. Although the Committee has worked within the currently approved guidelines this year and was bound by those guidelines, I believe that to keep working within them after this year's discussion and proposals, would be self-defeating.

Originally, after discussing the guidelines and the literature process in a general way at the full Committee planning meeting held in June of this year, it was felt that a small ad-hoc committee of experienced WLC members meeting in Baltimore in August could hammer out a new set of guidelines in one weekend. The discussions in Baltimore, followed by the meetings in Denver in October and Van Nuys in November have revealed that more work is required than first imagined due to the complexity of some of the issues involved. Exactly what appears in the Conference Agenda Report will depend upon the full Committee's discussions at its December meeting. Because the work does not yet appear final or complete, however, the Committee is leaning in the direction of dividing the work into at least two parts:

1. Internal working guidelines for the WLC itself.
2. Other policy/guidelines concerning various parts of the literature development process, which would include the revision of portions of the *Handbook for Narcotics Anonymous Literature Committees*.

Under this plan, only part one--internal working guidelines--would be presented for Conference approval this year, to replace the existing Procedural

Guidelines. A new work development list proposal already agreed upon would be presented for Conference approval on an interim, one year basis, without the corresponding, supporting sections of the Committee's guidelines being approved. Other portions of the existing Handbook would remain Conference-approved, but would at the same time be carried over for further work next year.

The reasons for even considering such a plan are numerous. Most importantly, it seems to be the responsible thing to do. Although we would like to have everything completed, in reality it is not. On some cases, clear Committee consensus has been achieved on the basic issues or policies, but the final language has not been sufficiently refined or reviewed to complete satisfaction. In other cases, a clear consensus has not yet emerged and/or the nature of the discussion has led the Committee to conclude that the problems involved are far deeper than the solutions under consideration. Finally, there is other material, particularly in the Handbook, which has not been reviewed sufficiently to ensure that it is entirely consistent with the major conceptual changes under consideration for the World Literature Committee structure and development process.

In any event, next year is bound to be another transition year for the World Literature Committee, just as this year has been. With new guidelines being implemented, some of the things being proposed may not work in practice and so will need to be changed. The Committee will need flexibility and the trust and confidence of the Fellowship, expressed through the Conference, to move forward. This summary of recent developments and work in progress is provided to prepare the Fellowship for the material that may or may not be presented in the Conference Agenda Report in the manner explained above. A summary of the major problems with the current guidelines and the major conceptual changes anticipated is provided below:

CURRENT PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES: THE WAY IT IS NOW

The WLC was the first WSC Committee to develop any written guidelines. The original guidelines were approved by the 1984 World Service Conference. The first major revision of these guidelines occurred the next year, at the 1985 World Service Conference, and the current WLC Procedural Guidelines are basically the same as they were in 1985, except for minor changes made at the 1986 and 1987 World Service Conferences.

The current guidelines provide for a WSC elected Chair and Vice-Chair, eleven registered members (five WSC elected, six drawn); and a Literature Review Committee consisting of the Chair and Vice-Chair, Trustee/Liaison, three WSC elected members, and two members appointed by the Chairperson. Some of the major problems with the current guidelines are: 1) they are written in a narrative style difficult to follow, understand and interpret; 2) closed, defined Committee membership has conflicted with a desire for more open Fellowship participation in the literature process; 3) relationship between registered members and Literature Review Committee has presented conflicts and structural problems; 4) use of a professional writer has been a problem; 5) the evaluation of material submitted and/or on file has not worked effectively; 6) the annual "priority list" procedure has not been workable; 7) in conjunction with 5 & 6, good material has not been developed while WLC has focused on major works; 8) continuity has been a problem--budget/funding of members attendance; 9) lack of written policy or procedure in certain areas and/or problems with existing policy.

PROPOSED CONCEPTUAL CHANGES: THE WAY IT COULD BE

Using the same number system as above, the following major conceptual changes in the guidelines are under discussion in response to the simplified description of the problems numbered above:

1. New guidelines to be reorganized in an outline, section format;
- 2-3. Composition of the Committee would change to:
 - a. An administrative, coordinating body elected by the WSC (which would combine and replace the existing body of registered members and the Literature Review Committee);
 - b. General members (defined as regional literature committee chairpersons and qualified nominees for the administrative coordinating body who are NOT elected by the WSC);
 - c. Advisory members (Trustees, WSO Board members, and members appointed by the WLC Chairperson);
4. Use of a professional writer eliminated as an appropriate resource, but provision made for professional editing services;
5. Creation of an Evaluation Subcommittee with ongoing responsibility for evaluating new proposals submitted to WLC and existing material on file, making recommendations for development to the full WLC;
- 6-7. Replacement of the annual Priority List procedure with a new "WLC Work Development Process" which would consist of four lists which would all be published in the Conference Agenda Report for Conference approval, and which would categorize works in various stages of development by various Fellowship resources, as well as limit the amount of work which WLC itself could undertake in a single Conference year;
8. Continuity of membership and ability to hold meetings to accomplish work assigned by the Conference would be ensured by a revised budget procedure that would provide for funding of all administrative, coordinating members to all required meetings (not just the Chair, Vice-Chair and Trustees);
9. Clarification of approval and review form policy and procedure/WSO production policy and procedure; process of revising Conference-approved literature, etc.

Hopefully, a careful review of this summary will provide some insight into the scope of the problem, the solutions under consideration, and the general direction in which the Committee is headed. As stated previously, exactly how these proposals are refined and presented to the Fellowship in the Conference Agenda Report will depend on the Committee's discussions at its next meeting. Therefore, all of the above, although discussed several times by the World Literature Committee, may still be revised, changed or reconsidered in any number of ways.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Vince Daley, Chairperson
WSC *It Works* Ad-hoc Committee

As of this writing, the workshops in Baltimore, Sydney, Seattle, Dallas, and Kansas City have been completed. What we had hoped would happen in this process is happening.

At the workshops, our members are getting their first experience with how we create and develop a major work of literature in Narcotics Anonymous. Our members are taking this experience back to their area and regional literature committees and sharing it. Strengthening our area and regional literature committees is important because we have so much writing to do during the next few years.

Our members are bringing quality, prepared written input to the workshops. They are bringing something else to our book as well: their love, hope, and experience.

We're slowly combining the two books into one with overall additions, deletions, changes and rewrites. We still need more original written material on ideas and concepts that are not in our book.

FIVE DOWN AND THREE TO GO: The final three workshops are to be held in January in San Francisco, Chicago, and Miami. We may have to hold a final workshop in February or March if we cannot go through all the material in the January workshops. Please note: This is very important! All groups, areas and regional literature committees make arrangements to get all of your *It Works* material to one of the final three workshops in January. These may very well be the last workshops in this stage of the process and if you miss them your material may not get in the review draft. If you can't bring it to a workshop, mail it to the WSO by January 1, so we can get it to a workshop for you. You still have November, December and January to keep writing and we encourage you to do so.

HELP NEEDED: It has come to my attention that many areas and regions are meeting twice a week and creating stacks of input. This is great, but holding all this material until the last minute creates a problem for us--a problem which we can solve together easily. To evaluate this mountain of material we will need as many members as possible to attend each of the January workshops. Throughout this whole process we have done everything we could to let everyone know they are welcome to come and participate at the *It Works* Workshops. The atmosphere is open and we need you. This needs to be a full Fellowship effort and we can't over-emphasize that we need as many and all of you that can attend. We ask areas and regions that are within driving distance to the January workshops to talk it up among yourselves and try to bring the number of warm, loving N.A. bodies we need. If you can afford to fly, take a train or teleport, please do. We have good advance notice on the dates and locations of these upcoming workshops and flyers should be out by the time you read this. Here are the dates:

Chicago:	January 22-24, 1988
San Francisco:	January 22-24, 1988
Miami:	January 29-31, 1988

NOTE: The Miami date was just recently changed. The date reported in the October *Newsline* is incorrect. Please pass on this corrected information throughout your areas and regions.

In Dallas I attended a couple of N.A. meetings and at the end of both meetings a circle of prayer was formed with the announcement "Let the circle represent that we can do together what we can't do alone." That's what the spirit of this project and our book is all about...the ties that bind us, our unity, common welfare, our Twelve Steps and our Traditions. Thank you.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Bill Zimmerman, Chairperson
Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee

At the World Service Conference Workshop meetings in Denver Colorado, the Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee met on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Three voting members were added to the Committee and we then had a total of twelve voting members present for the weekend.

Updates and reports were received on Friday, and the Committee learned that several regions now have standing area and/or regional committees on additional needs. This includes the New England Region, the Lone Star Region, the Chesapeake/Potomac Region, the Volunteer Region and the New Jersey Region. We also learned that there is considerable activity in this area of interest in several other regions including Florida, Arizona and others.

During the first day of our meetings, we focused upon results which had been received from the questionnaire. The questionnaire has been circulated and distributed to groups and committees several times since May 1987. As of October, there had been 137 responses to the questionnaire. A tally of responses to each question and overall responses is attached to this report. Since the middle of October there have been approximately 30 more questionnaires received and we anticipate that many more will be received during the coming months.

An in-depth discussion of the results received so far was undertaken. Each question and its response was examined and discussed. While it is obvious that the number of responses cannot be taken as a significant representation of the entire Fellowship, the responses were nevertheless useful. Combined with the input and the contact we have had from committees, groups and individuals, the questionnaire responses, in some cases, allowed us to formulate specific recommendations.

Some specific recommendations concern the future development of service and recovery materials to be used by N.A. members when the need arises. Another recommendation will concern the development of materials which explain accessibility to N.A. meetings and what can be done to improve accessibility.

There were a couple of areas in which further investigation is definitely necessary. One of these is the subject of interpreters of all kinds at N.A. meetings. Another subject which will require further research and input is the methods used by N.A. groups and service committees to pay for services for addicts with additional needs. Our information so far reveals that sometimes there are questions which arise regarding the use of interpreters who are members of N.A., Seventh Tradition funds, and addicts with additional needs who bring their own interpreters who then provide interpreter services for other members of that group.

At the end of this session, all of the Committee members agreed that work in the area of addicts with additional needs should be continued in some way in

the future. The committee deliberated and agreed upon several specific recommendations which will be presented in our report to the WSC Administrative Committee.

Another result of our Denver meeting was to develop some suggestions for goals and directions of any service body which may be called upon to continue the work on addicts with additional needs in Narcotics Anonymous. We did not undertake the project of writing guidelines. However, we did come up with several possible internal goals and directions. Among these are maintaining a contact process which can allow an addict with a specific additional need to be in contact and exchange experience, strength and hope with another addict having the same circumstances. For instance, this approach could facilitate communication and sharing between blind addicts, wheelchair-bound addicts, etc.

During our discussions on Saturday in Denver, we finalized our recommendations, formulated a possible motion for consideration by the Administrative Committee, and also received and reviewed input which will require future work. A draft of I.P. No. 1 translated into easier English for the deaf and hard of hearing, along with a draft of a possible future I.P. on accessibility to N.A. meetings, was received and will be forwarded to the World Literature Committee. Additionally, a region submitted an initial draft of questions for professionals and facilities which may have addicts with additional needs as part of their clientele. This draft will be forwarded to the World Public Information Committee. Input was also developed and given to the World H&I Committee for their examination in their continuing work on revising the *H&I Handbook*.

With the conclusion of the Denver meetings, our Ad-Hoc Committee has completed its work for the Conference year and will not meet again. A detailed final report will be given at WSC '88 and presented to the World Service Conference Chairperson.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS
QUESTIONNAIRE TALLY

Total # of Responses	Yes		No		Questions
	%	#	%	#	
137	3%	4	97%	133	1. Our Group Offers: Sign Language Interpreters
137	1%	1	99%	136	Deaf/Blind Interpreters
137	4%	6	96%	131	Foreign Language Interpreters
137	0%	0	100%	137	Computer Monitored Meeting for Deaf
137	19%	26	81%	111	Special Seating Arrangements
137	74%	102	26%	35	None of the Above
137	34%	46	66%	91	2. Is your group willing and able to provide any of the above?
137	6%	8	94%	129	3. Is your group financially able to provide any of the above?
137	46%	63	54%	74	4. Does your meeting hall offer the following? Wheelchair ramps
137	43%	59	57%	78	Accessible restrooms
137	55%	75	45%	62	Accessible parking
137	50%	68	50%	69	People to assist entry and exit of wheelchair bound
137	34%	46	66%	91	Telephone or TTY for the deaf
137	4%	5	96%	132	Other
137	28%	38	72%	99	5. Can your meeting become more accessible?
137	52%	71	48%	66	6. Groups willing to be listed in a coded reg./area meeting list
137	28%	39	72%	98	7. Is anyone interested in becoming involved in an area/regional additional needs ad-hoc comm.?

ADDITIONAL NEEDS
QUESTIONNAIRE TALLY
BY REGION

NAME OF REGION	NUMBER OF RESPONSES
Alaska	3
Chesapeake/Potomac	37
Greater Illinois	2
Indiana	1
New England	24
New Jersey	12
Oregon/S. Idaho	3
Show-Me	6
Tri-State	9
Washington/N. Idaho	13
Wisconsin	23
Africa	1
Puerto Rico	2
Other	1

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To: The Fellowship
From: Leah Goodrich, Chairperson
WSC Select Committee

The date (Dec. 1st) for submitting input on *A Guide to Service* is drawing near. At our November meeting we began the process of factoring in the input we have received so far. Most of this input has been directed on Chapters One through Five, with very little attention given to the proposal on world services published in the September Fellowship Report.

At the input session held during the Denver workshop, the comments the Committee heard were very positive towards the proposal. However, we would appreciate hearing from those committees and members currently reviewing the guide, on what their thoughts may be about the present direction we are taking.

The World Literature Committee, in Denver, voted to turn work in progress, "In Loving Service," over to our committee. "In Loving Service" is not a service manual type of work but could serve to enhance the information normally associated with service handbooks. Each member of the Select Committee will be studying this draft and determining if the material is suitable for expanding the *Guide to Service*.

At our November meeting we also discussed our present timetable for completion of the *Guide*. We will be discussing this further and advising the Fellowship of our thoughts about revising our schedule.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Bob Rehmar, Chairperson
Board of Trustees

I have received phone calls from two members of the Board of Trustees informing me, as Chairman, of some concerns about the fourth edition of the Basic Text. In response to these concerns, I have asked each Trustee to study both editions and the original WSC motion which concerned editing the book. Each Trustee has also been asked to convey any communications which they receive about this to me. The World Service Boards and Committees are maintaining daily communication in order to keep abreast of this situation.

Sometimes during situations like this, we may have a tendency to listen to people and personalities rather than obtaining the pertinent data and information. I support and encourage all N.A. members to let our Twelfth Tradition continue to guide us; *"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."* I would hope that all N.A. members will study the documentation thoroughly and form their opinions based on correct information. We can then continue to base all of our actions on the spiritual principles of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

At this time, there is not enough input from the Fellowship to form any conclusions. I will continue to report all further developments regarding this matter.

The Board of Trustees met on October 24 and 25, 1987 at the World Service Office in Van Nuys, California. As previously reported, two articles were recently approved by the Board of Trustees. The Board took action at this meeting to publish "The Relationship of Narcotics Anonymous to Nar-Anon and Families Anonymous" and "Open and Closed N.A. Meetings" in both the *Newsline* and the *N.A. Way* magazine. Additionally, they will be added to the package of thirteen articles from previous issues of the *Newsline* and made available to members of the Fellowship upon request.

At the October meeting, the Board also concluded its consideration of some other specific topics for articles. Two articles which were tabled from our last meeting, one of them concerning methadone and medication and the other concerning addicts with AIDS, were reconsidered at this meeting. By a unanimous vote, the Board decided to table these articles indefinitely. The Board recognized that over the past eighteen months, attempts at producing articles on these subjects have not produced anything which can be helpful to the Fellowship.

With this action, the Board of Trustees has concluded its consideration of all of the articles which have been worked on since WSC '86. The two articles mentioned above will be published as noted, and all others have not received the necessary approval from within the Board. They will not be pursued any further at this time.

Several major topics were discussed at our meeting and I have appointed ad-hoc committees to do some preliminary work on these subjects and make a report at our next meeting. One of the ad-hoc committees will be evaluating the merits of a long form version of the Twelve Traditions and whether or not this will have value to Narcotics Anonymous. The ad-hoc committee will recommend a plan of action to the Board for a possibility of expanding N.A. Twelve Traditions into a long form.

Over the past several years, we have had much discussion at times regarding the role of the Board of Trustees as well as the role of each individual Trustee. An ad-hoc committee has been appointed to begin work on evaluating this subject in terms of the guidelines in our service manual and our experience. This project may also provide input for the chapter in *A Guide to Service* which concerns the Board of Trustees. This project will examine many aspects of the functioning of the Board, specifically the role of non-addicts on the Board of Trustees, the role of individual Trustees as they function in Conference Committees, and also as individual Board members.

Another ad-hoc committee has been created to do some preliminary work and make a report regarding the Seventh Tradition as it applies to Narcotics Anonymous today and in the future. The need for this work has become evident over the past few years and a considerable number of questions and input from elements of the Fellowship have been received on a sporadic basis.

The individual members of the Board of Trustees have been very involved in Fellowship events recently. Several Trustees have been or will soon be attending the various scheduled workshops for the ad-hoc committee on *It Works*. Other Trustees have been involved in regional conventions and events. This interaction with the Fellowship on behalf of members of the Board of Trustees has proven to be most valuable to the Board as a whole and we look forward to it continuing.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Jim Wymore, Chairperson
World Service Office

There has been some negative reaction to the recent release of the fourth edition of the Basic Text. While some negative response is normal for nearly every change in our literature, it cannot always be rationalized. After starting with one group of members assembled at a regional convention, a collection of individuals have launched a campaign against the fourth edition.

The campaign has included mailings, phone calls and personal visits to convince members and service committees to reject the fourth edition and impose their solution to the matter. While every member has the right to express their opinion on every aspect of N.A., privately directed campaigns of this type are disunifying.

Group conscience matters are sensitive issues that originate as an action by an individual through their home group and area. From the area committee's conscience the matter is then discussed in a reasonable and logical manner at the region. And in time, through the rest of the service structure. This process allows us to deal with our feelings and come to a clear understanding of the questions we need to ask. Along the way many decisions die a natural death because they lack support or clear direction. The current campaign disregards the service structure and our group conscience process. It plays on the emotions of members who may not have all the facts when they are pressed to join the campaign.

The issues involved are significant and deserve the best reflection of our personal recovery. Attempting to stampede others on this or other issues is a disservice to the Fellowship and counterproductive to our spiritual aim.

The overall issues are fairly simple. The Conference adopted a motion that gave instructions to the WSO and the Literature Review Committee to complete some work on the Basic Text. Although there were two annual WSC meetings after the original action (1986 and 1987), no effort was made by the Fellowship to change the instructions. The WSO and Literature Review Committee both performed their respective duties with integrity and clarity. If any problem remains, it is with the decision of the Conference rather than with the WSO or Literature Review Committee in their completion of the assignment.

The Conference in 1985 adopted a motion assigning responsibility to the WSO to select a person to do draft work on an edit of the Basic Text. The edited work was to be given to the Literature Review Committee for evaluation and concurrence. After approval by the Literature Review Committee, the WSO was to print the work as the fourth edition of the Basic Text.

It took over two years to complete this assignment. During this period, reports and communications to the Fellowship on the progress and process were made. Almost a year after the motion was originally adopted, a member was found to do the work and the edit started. This was discussed at the Conference in 1986 but no action was taken. The Literature Review Committee received the work in August 1986. They performed their part of the responsibility and turned the work back over to the WSO. The last part of the work was accomplished by the WSC when it met in April of 1987. At that meeting the Conference adopted several conceptual changes that the Literature Review Committee felt were in excess of the responsibility they were given in the original motion.

The Literature Review Committee was then, as it is now, composed of reasonable members with service experience and considerable personal recovery. They performed their duty with diligence, concern and judgment. They did the job they believed was appropriate.

Every time a trusted servant completes an assignment given by a service committee, there is the opportunity for the members to review their work. This is an important element in the group conscience decision-making process we have chosen to follow. However, that review process should be handled in a spiritual manner through the service structure. If the service committee decides that they want some change made in the work completed, that is their option and they can devise a plan to have that done. This is exactly how and why the process adopted in 1985 came about. The Conference in 1988 can certainly do the same thing. If the Fellowship conscience is to change any or all of the edits in the fourth edition that is their option.

This circumstance highlights two separate problems that the Fellowship faces on a regular basis. One is that the decision-making process followed by the Conference has some flaws and that when the Conference assigns responsibility or authority, the time to question that responsibility or authority is before the effort has been expended to fulfill that responsibility or authority. Trying to keep the cows in the barn by closing the barn doors after the cows have left, makes little sense.

The second issue this matter highlights is the propensity of some members to use unorthodox methods to accomplish their personal agendas. A few members have taken it upon themselves to create and drive this campaign. Rather than following the procedures of using the service structure like the rest of the N.A. Fellowship, they have decided that they should by-pass the service structure. Not only have they said, "to hell with the right procedure" they have not sought to be fully informed or encouraged others to obtain facts before acting. Furthermore they have elected to ignore the practical aspects and impacts their actions may cause.

This attitude of some members selecting themselves as the authority for what is right or wrong in N.A., is causing controversy, disservice, disunity and strife, one more time. This time it may have a drastic financial impact. Regional and area offices along with the WSO cannot survive this kind of financial trauma. A lesson to learn from this episode is that we have outgrown the time when members can act irresponsibly by calling "fire!" in a crowded room."

Following the Conference Workshop in Denver, the WSO Ad-hoc International Committee held a meeting. Unfortunately, due to poor communications, few members from outside of the United States were in attendance. The discussion did proceed, however, concerning four areas affecting the Fellowship worldwide.

A review was conducted of the Cost Equalization Plan that was distributed at the Workshop to all participants. The Ad-hoc Committee, in discussing the plan, reviewed the weaknesses in the plan financially and the value to international membership participation that such a cost equalization plan would promote. Input is being requested on this plan, and any ideas concerning this or alternative concepts for cost equalization should be addressed to the office.

The second issue was the article recently published in the Fellowship Report and *Newsline* concerning possible reorganization of the Fellowship being worked on by the Select Committee on the Service Structure. No action was taken on this.

The third issue was the translation of N.A. materials. The resolution from this discussion was to proceed in the current manner of using the most appropriate means for translation applicable to an individual language. Currently, the translation process takes place in different countries in different forms. This flexibility has allowed continued participation by members to assist in the translations of their own materials.

The fourth item was the WSO plan to open a branch office in Europe. There was general support for the concept, although some problems are expected. In subsequent action on this matter, the WSO Board has delayed implementation of opening the office. Efforts are still being pursued to this end. However, the current financial circumstances of the Office do not permit rapid action on this plan. Consequently, the Board of Directors has rescheduled the tentative date for implementation until some time during 1988. As changes occur to improve the financial condition of the World Service Office, this matter will be reconsidered.

The Office has set the time and place for the March Workshop for Service Offices. The workshop will take place on the weekend of March 18th, 19th and 20th, 1988, at the Hilton Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Individuals or offices interested in attending this workshop should contact Steve Sigman at the WSO for further information.

In a matter related to the Tulsa Workshop, the Convention Corporation and the Office have jointly agreed to expand the activity of this particular workshop to include a separate workshop (at the same time) on conventions. This workshop will be directed towards sharing and an exchange of information about convention programing, convention financing, and other important aspects of organizing and conducting regional conventions. Individuals interested in discussing participation in this workshop should contact Anthony Edmondson at the Office.

The Literature Committee discussed in Denver the format for publications printed by the Office. It was the recommendation of the Literature Committee that the format of the I.P.'s be changed slightly to remove the lines protruding from the double circles and N.A. logo that appears on the face of our pamphlets. Inasmuch as this is a matter of form and not of content, in a matter that was originally decided by the World Service Office approximately ten years ago, the Board of Directors has concurred with the request of the Literature Committee, and in future printings these lines will be deleted.

As reported in the recent study on costs of N.A. literature from the WSO, the Board of Directors examined in greater detail an analysis of orders during the months of August, September, and October. This report reflects very clearly the change that has resulted in WSO income and expenses as a result of policies adopted last year. Consequently, the Board has tentatively adopted a staff recommendation that will change the shipping policy for certain types of orders. This policy will be discussed again for adoption at the January 1988 meeting of the Board. The language to be changed is shown in the following paragraphs. Offices and others who use these paragraphs of the Sales Policy are encouraged to examine the impact this will have on their orders and advise the Office.

ADDENDUM TO THE SALES POLICY

1. Pages 3 and 4, item numbers 4, 6 and 7, delete "and the shipping and handling costs are waived." Insert "The shipping expense is paid by the customer."
2. Page 4, item number 8, delete "the standard shipping and handling costs are waived." Insert "The shipping expense is paid by the customer."

3. Insert on page 4, between numbers 9 and 10, a new number 10 as follows:
"10. For all Fellowship purchases that are in excess of \$40,000.00, a thirty-five percent (35%) discount is applied to the purchase. The handling charge is waived if the shipment is made directly from the WSO or our printer to the customer, and the shipping expense is paid by the customer."
4. Renumber 10 to become 11, 11 to become 12, 12 to become 13, 13 to become 14.

The chart that follows this section shows the problem in clear financial terms. The chart shows a loss in shipping expense related to those shipments made by Yellow Freight, CF Air, or miscellaneous. These three are all related. Yellow Freight is the name of an individual trucking company used until recently for most of our shipments. CF Air is the company used for shipments made outside of the United States. (The majority of all non-U.S. orders are shipped by air in order to make it realistic to receive the material in less than three or four months.) The amounts shown in the category of miscellaneous are shipments made by trucking companies other than the Yellow Freight company. The Office experiments from time to time with different trucking companies to see where we can obtain the most favorable rates for shipment, while maintaining an acceptable shipping time and handling process. Accordingly, the Office periodically changes the primary freight company. The total loss reflected by these orders is approximately \$6,700.

SHIPPING COST STUDY
AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER, 1987

<u>August Shipping Method</u>	<u>September Shipping Net</u>	<u>October Shipping Net</u>	<u>Quarterly Shipping Net</u>	<u>Total</u>
UPS Reg:	-201.84	204.18	492.12	494.46
UPS SDA:	6.58	-4.16	9.66	13.08
Yellow Freight:	-994.95	-2,429.25	-802.29	-4,226.49
1st Class:	-30.08	-22.63	-28.17	-80.88
3rd Class:	-5.39	-10.23	-7.02	-22.64
4th Class:	-0.77	-3.57	-3.28	-7.62
CF Air:	-291.50	-413.72	-338.88	-1044.10
AO:	-55.56	-44.91	-83.15	-183.62
Misc:	-154.56	-812.60	-616.78	-1583.94
Walk In:	87.86	21.54	95.88	205.28

TOTALS FOR THE QUARTER

AMOUNT	DISCOUNT	SHIP CHARGE	SHIP COST	DIFFERENCE
173,077.48	27,859.66	7,390.67	9,031.05	-1,640.38
204,890.13	43,078.51	5,623.73	9,136.35	-3,512.62
<u>150,552.04</u>	<u>21,867.05</u>	<u>6,111.84</u>	<u>7,375.32</u>	<u>-1,263.48</u>
528,519.65	92,805.22	19,126.24	25,542.72	-6,436.47

* * * * *

To: The Fellowship
From: Steve Bice, Chairperson
World Convention Corporation

The World Convention Corporation received bids from five different cities for hosting the 1989 convention. The cities submitting bids by the October 1st deadline were: Sydney, Australia; Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington; Orlando, Florida; and Miami, Florida.

Evaluations have been completed on four of the bid sites. Evaluation has not been completed on the Sydney, Australia site. Of those examined so far, it seems reasonably certain that an N.A. World Convention can be adequately held in each of these cities. There does not appear to be anything in the Sydney, Australia bid that would prevent us from having an equally successful convention there either. There are, however, some aspects of the world convention in 1988 or 1989 that may be different than in previous world conventions. This seems like an auspicious time to discuss some of those differences.

Historically, Saturday night has included a banquet for several thousands of members followed by a main speaker and a countdown. New Orleans was the second time we held the banquet in a convention facility, but the first time with a large attendance. There were over 2,400 dinners served in a facility that could have held several thousand more. There were complaints concerning the quality of the food, how warm it was when it was served, and the service itself. When it becomes necessary to serve two, three, or four thousand dinners at one time, we must learn to accept that we are not going to get the same quality of food, nor the same quality of service that we would obtain with a smaller banquet in a hotel setting. Consequently, for banquets in the future, the experience in New Orleans will become the standard rather than the exception.

This leads to the general question of the future of banquets at N.A. conventions. There are several alternatives to having a large single banquet. They include not having one banquet, but having smaller more intimate banquets in different facilities, or to not have a banquet at all. Each of these options is being examined by the Anaheim Host Committee and the Convention Corporation. The corporation is asking for input from the Fellowship on this subject.

The New Orleans convention was the first world convention that was simply too large to put into one facility. Consequently, although two hotels were used for major activities, some of the activities were held in the Rivergate Convention Facility several blocks away. In the world convention scheduled for Anaheim, this will also be the case. Three principal hotels will accommodate approximately 2,200 rooms, and other hotel rooms are available in the nearby area. The three principal hotels are on the block adjacent to the convention center facility, which will house some of the activities, particularly the Friday night and Saturday night major meetings. The distance between these hotels and the Convention facility is very small.

However, the situation for 1989 may be substantially different. In each of the four cities so far surveyed, there may be a considerable distance between the closest hotels and the convention center facilities. This will entail additional transportation planning that has not been required before. In the case of two cities, if either is selected, it will require bussing to move the large number of members to the convention facility for the Friday night and Saturday night events. This aspect of the changing circumstance of world conventions is not a pleasant one at first, but seems to be very essential if we are to continue having world conventions on an ever larger scale.

The Convention Corporation is proposing several changes in the Guidelines in the Conference Agenda Report when it is published in January. The changes were previously discussed in reports to the Fellowship, and were clarified through input received in Denver and Newark. There has come, as a result of these discussions, an additional input item that had not previously been discussed. It has been recommended that some realignment of the regions within two zones be considered. This matter was discussed at the most recent Board of Directors meeting and the decision reached was to propose that the States of Michigan, Indiana and Ohio all be moved from Zone One to Zone Three. This change would not effect the eligibility of cities in these states for bidding for a world convention as both zones one and three are eligible to bid during 1988 for the conventions in 1990 or after. The reason for this change was to enlarge the possibility of cities in these states to host a future world convention. In the current zone they compete against a lot of big cities, Philadelphia, Boston, New York City, Baltimore, Washington D.C., and others. In the new zone they would compete with fewer big cities.

Another matter considered by the Board, based on input from members of the Fellowship is the idea of only having the world convention every other year or every third year or even less often. No action has been taken on this concept but input is requested.

The Southern California Host Committee has begun work on the 1988 convention. They withheld work on the convention until they were finished with their October 1987 regional convention. Their efforts for the 1988 world convention will be reported in future Fellowship Reports and *Newsline* articles. The convention dates have of course been set: Thursday, September 1, through Sunday, September 4, 1988. Information from the Host Committee, flyers and registration forms will be available after the first of the year. But mark your calendars now and reserve that vacation time so you are definitely in Anaheim for the world convention.

The following is a special report from the Convention Corporation concerning the last item of business from the London World Convention.

The World Convention Corporation recently resolved a problem left over from the 1986 world convention in London. Because the issue could have resulted in formal litigation against us, the details were withheld until the matter was clearly going to be resolved or result in a lawsuit. The withholding of information on the matter was intended to provide protection of the Fellowship interest in the controversy so that the discussion on our part would not be taken out of context by lawyers for the other party.

The hotel accommodations upon which the London Host Committee based their bid were rooms blocked through the services of a company named Expotel Limited. This company was the enterprise through which the rooms that were used by our members would be counted as credit towards convention hotel

expenses and complimentary rooms. Using a company for this purpose is the normal business practice in the United Kingdom.

In January 1986, the World Convention Corporation, after considerable research, allowed a travel company to offer their services to our members with their travel arrangements for the 1986 world convention. This company was Cardillo Travel Inc. The travel company obtained money from some of our members and reserved rooms for them through Expotel Ltd., according to the agreed upon procedure.

Cardillo Travel Inc. paid only part of the money for the rooms and defaulted on over half by allowing their check to bounce. They then went out of business, seeking bankruptcy in court proceedings. Expotel Ltd. took the position that Cardillo Travel was functioning as an agent of the World Convention Corporation and therefore the World Convention Corporation was responsible for making up for the loss.

In early 1987, Expotel Ltd. formally contacted the World Convention Corporation to inform us of this position. The response from the World Convention Corporation was that Cardillo Travel was not formally engaged by the World Convention Corporation and as such there was no obligation by WCCNA to Expotel Limited to cover loss caused by Cardillo Travel. The World Convention Corporation solicited the opinion of our attorney. His opinion was slightly ambiguous and another opinion was obtained.

Through correspondence during the early months of 1987, it became clear that Expotel was indeed going to file suit in the English Court to recover their loss. WCCNA was eventually served with notice that proceedings had been instituted for the full amount of their loss, plus standard interest on that amount from the date Expotel believed the obligation became effective.

At the June 1987 meeting of the Board of Directors, this issue was discussed in detail. There were four separate issues: (1) The WCCNA Board's belief that WCCNA was not liable for the loss and would win in court; (2) Even if WCCNA won the suit the matter would become public knowledge and create a public controversy; (3) There was doubt about the ability of Expotel to sue WCCNA by using English courts; (4) Even if WCCNA won the suit, the matter would take several years to resolve, costing considerable man hours of WSO staff and legal fees that would not be recovered. The cost of defending the suit would eventually exceed the amount that Expotel sought to recover. It was decided at that time that if settlement became possible we would be willing to accept a settlement for approximately 50% of the original loss.

On the 14th of July 1987, the World Convention Corporation was formally served by a U.S. Marshall with a lawsuit by Expotel Limited. The lawsuit was for \$13,800.00 plus attorney's fees plus 5% per day interest. The total would have been approximately \$16,000.00 US.

We immediately discussed this with the attorney and we delivered a copy of the material to him. There was some initial discussion by the attorney that the service itself may not be valid. There was some initial doubt as to whether or not an English court could effectuate a service on a corporation that existed outside of their jurisdiction. The thrust of our discussion was that he was to call the solicitor (lawyer) in London used by the UK Service Office to pose this question. It was determined at that time that we would wait until this question could be answered before taking any formal actions of response.

Our attorney here called the solicitor and arranged for a meeting with Bob Stone, Chuck Lehman, Steve Bice, and Jamie Scott-Hopkins while they were to be in London on their way to the European Service Conference.

The following week the meeting was held. After presenting the solicitor with copies of all the relevant materials, his analysis was that both WCCNA and

Expotel were the victims of the travel company. Rather than forcing WCCNA into the long legal battle and expending an amount larger than the amount being sought, and rather than Expotel doing likewise without any clear assurance of success, that the matter should be resolved with both parties accepting an equal share of the financial loss.

A call was made to the Solicitor for Expotel suggesting that neither Expotel nor the World Convention Corporation are to blame for the problem. That Expotel is the victim of Cardillo Travel and although the World Convention Corporation admits no responsibility for the loss, it would be reasonable to accept a settlement. In this way WCCNA could avoid the expense and inconvenience of a lawsuit to prove that we are without liability in the matter. The settlement suggested that both parties share equally in the loss, not including interest.

During a meeting of the WCCNA Board in September it was agreed that we would accept settlement if the figure was around 50% of the initial amount. We notified the solicitor to inform Expotel Limited that we would settle for this amount and began the necessary financial arrangements to do so. We insisted that part of the settlement state that if Expotel received any or all of their claim against Cardillo Travel they would refund to WCCNA an amount commensurate with the level of compensation. In other words, if Expotel received any of the money they were seeking from Cardillo through the bankruptcy proceedings, that WCCNA would receive 50% of the settlement back. Additionally, we insisted that no further action could be taken against the individual members who the rooms were booked for.

In early October 1987, we were contacted by our solicitor in London. He had been in contact with the solicitor from Expotel Limited and they proposed that the World Convention Corporation settle this matter for five thousand pounds/sterling plus a part of the Expotel legal expense.

On the day the funds were converted to pounds and the funds sent to our solicitor, the total amount of the settlement was approximately \$8,500.00 US. The funds were taken from the operational account of the Convention Corporation.

We consider the issue closed. This was not a pleasant matter and the settlement was accepted with great reluctance. We must avoid public controversy, but at the same time, this situation left us with little room for negotiation or the option of fighting it out. The distance involved, the high cost of fighting the suit and the relatively modest amount of the settlement all led to acceptance of the settlement idea.

This experience caused considerable discussion within the Board and other members involved concerning the appropriateness of becoming engaged in a lawsuit. In the situation we found ourselves, we believed, from a legal position, that WCCNA should not be financially responsible for the bankruptcy of another company. But in order to prove that, we would have to proceed through the court process. This would undoubtedly cause public attention to be drawn to the case. However, we need to avoid such public controversy because of our Traditions. Does this mean we will always have to roll over and play dead whenever someone wants to use the courts to get something out of us?

The other side of the argument is that one of the purposes for having the WSO or WCCNA as corporations is to be able to sue or be sued and not create a violation of our Traditions. The Board would appreciate input on this dilemma from members and committees.

1987/88 WSC AGENDA REPORT
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