

put aside our personal differences and work for the common good. If we're acting on pride and ego and our need to be right the only thing left is dissension and controversy—that equals disease.

Our Basic Text says "true spiritual principles are never in conflict" (p. 59). This tells me that if there is conflict, controversy and dissension, there is no spirituality. Each one of us has a responsibility to examine our motives, our behavior and our conscience. I have found that it's necessary to put aside my personal needs and wants and look at what's better for the Fellowship as a whole. All I can do is state my ideas, goals, feelings and then leave the results up to that Higher Power that is in our group conscience of whatever group that's there at the time. The truth will always ring clear if I get out of the way and let things be. My hope is that every addict be granted this gift of Narcotics Anonymous. We know that it can happen only as a result of our continued and unified efforts. Our obligation as trusted servants is to help make this a reality through individual and group efforts.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Jack B.  
Chairperson, WSB

Subject: Activities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has been particularly busy during the months since the World Service Conference. Immediately after the Conference the Board held a meeting at which assignments were made to each member for routine duties and for special projects. Each Trustee was assigned to one or more Committees of the Conference and most were assigned to separate committees of the Board.

The Board Committees have worked in special areas of concern to the Fellowship. Those committees are: Revision of the White book, Use of the N.A. Logo, Nar-Anon, travel and lodging, Tee Shirts. Each committee has held one or more meetings and progress is being made in each area.

The Board held a brief meeting at the Conference Workshop in Kansas City at which time progress reports were made and new problems discussed. The Board held a regularly scheduled two day meeting at the WSO in August. At the regular meeting additional progress reports were made and in-depth discussions were held concerning specific issues each of the Board Committees are working on. A lot of time was devoted to the review of letters written to the Board concerning issues which were or might have been violations of Traditions.

Considerable use has been made of the personal time of individual Board members to attend conventions, workshops, meetings and activities at the request of regions, areas and the World Service Conference. In most of these instances the Trustee was used as a resource for the resolution of major problems facing a segment of the Fellowship. These efforts, along with the regular meeting and the Conference workshop, have required considerable travel by the Trustees. Without exception, the Trustees believe these efforts have been valuable to the Fellowship and certainly worth the expense involved.

Two important events during this period were the attendance by a member of the Board, at the invitation of Alcoholics Anonymous, at their 50th year Convention in Montreal. The Trustee was invited to participate in a panel discussion concerning addicts in their Fellowship. The other important event has been the visit by a member of the Board to the N.A. communities in England and Ireland. One Board member who was being sent to London as part of his employment was prevailed on by the Trustees to spend additional time there to be an in-person resource to the segments of the Fellowship there.

Future plans for the Trustees include continued response to Fellowship communications, specific problems, participation in Conference committees and attendance at regional and area

events when necessary. Reports from Board Committees will be made to the Fellowship when work on these projects is completed.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Mary B., Chairperson WSC International Committee

Exciting response has been flowing in from our letters to the Fellowship outside of the continental United States. Iceland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Canada and England have all sent information on the development of N.A. in other countries. Additionally we have added new committee members from these countries. In order to more clearly report the development of N.A. in these and other countries, the International Committee developed a questionnaire which will be sent out to all of the contacts we have on our mailing list.

Many of you may be aware that the Second European Conference was held in London, England in July of this year the same weekend as the WSC meeting in Kansas City. Being that I have not learned to be in two places at one time, George H. and myself spent a week with the London fellowship just prior to the ESC II. There was no time for play and I can't say I've seen much of London but I am pleased to report on a STRONG fellowship with GREAT RECOVERY. We attended meetings of all but one of the service committees of the London Region and were right at home in recovery meetings. I felt the fear of being alone in a strange country only until I went to my first meeting. A detailed report on our experience will appear in an upcoming issue of the Newslines.

In the Kansas City meetings we had a lot of discussion on the importance of good communications with outlying N.A. communities. We developed a procedure for the WSO to use when letters are received. The International Committee will be responding to all communication received from outside the continental United States.

We are still in need of people who read and write languages other than English. Please, if you have the skills and want to be of service, send your name and address to the International Committee c/o World Service Office. The review of translated materials is an important task in order to protect the spirit and integrity of the N.A. message of recovery.

A plan to develop an International section in the Newslines is in the works. We are not certain how this will be accomplished but we need experience, strength, and hope to share. The following letter is to be shared with all members of the Fellowship in the interest of carrying the message the N.A. way.

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Dear Friends,

The purpose of the International Committee is to serve the International Fellowship by actively seeking and encouraging the growth and unity of N.A. outside the continental U.S.

We are asking your help in this effort so we can utilize the wealth of resources in the Fellowship. As in any kind of Twelfth Step work it is helpful to have a unified message to carry. By channeling our efforts through an International Committee, we hope to do just that. In order to assist the Fellowship, we need to know the problems and needs to best be of service.

Some of the needs that have been clearly identified are: overcoming language barriers, cost and availability of literature, the usual difficulties of starting meetings in isolated areas, and being a loner in recovery.

We are very interested in getting the N.A. communities in the U.S. and abroad involved together. Therefore, we are asking for input from the Fellowship outside the continental U.S. to write to us c/o the World Service office about your needs and specific problems.

We are asking the support of the U.S. regions, areas, and individual members in our endeavors. We are looking for bilingual members to assist us in translating correspondence.