

To: The Fellowship

From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees

The 1989 World Service Conference marked a period of change and growth within the Board of Trustees. During this last year most of our efforts centered around more clearly defining the role of the World Service Board of Trustees. For instance the initiation of the Trustee Committee System, as described in the *Temporary Working Guide to the Service Structure*, has improved our ability to complete the projects entrusted to us. As a result the Trustees now have a clearer understanding of our service objectives as a Board, and how we may better serve the Fellowship in that capacity.

Projects completed during the year and reported to the Conference included the article entitled, "What is Addiction?", which was approved unanimously by the entire Board. Another article was generated and included in the *Fellowship Report* last November that addressed N.A. Service Workshops. The focus of that article concerned the presentation of issues outside of generally accepted service topics, such as N.A. members with AIDS. This article presented several suggestions indicating that the focus of any workshop needs to remain on the utilization of our steps and principles in dealing with any issue in a fellowship setting. Both of these articles were generated at the request of the Fellowship during the World Service Conference in 1988.

One other issue that has received a good deal of our attention and time, but which hasn't been resolved as of yet, is the issue of World Service Board of Trustees funding. The Board intends to develop a concise financial plan for presentation at next year's Conference. This matter has probably created as much confusion within the Board as has any other issue in recent years. As one of the three service arms of the World Service Conference, the World Service Board remains the only one without a distinct system of financial management for its operations. The WSB will continue to discuss funding for the Board and possible recommendations for any changes which might be considered.

At this year's Conference, the Trustees were entrusted with the development of the Traditions portion of *It Works, How and Why*. There have already been several discussions concerning a development plan. A major portion of these discussions has focused on how best to utilize the input we expect to receive from Area and Regional Literature Committees. We are very aware that these Committees are concerned about the input they have generated on this project. We want to reassure all of these committees that the WSB will continue to follow the original plan and will receive input until October 31, 1989. At this point in time, we have not begun to prepare any written material but are continuing preliminary preparations to move ahead when all the input is received.

The World Service Board has also spent considerable time this past year in discussing the election of non-addict Trustee members. The Board reported its recommendations on this subject to the World Service Conference along with its desire to develop internal guidelines which will allow us to best utilize non-addicts on the Board. The election at the Conference of Irwin "Stretch" Gars as a non-addict Trustee will add a fresh perspective to the Board. In addition we had three addict Trustees elected to the Board. Our new Trustees are Chuck Lehman, (Arizona), who is the past-Chairman of the World Service Conference, Danette Creel, (Southern CA), who is a former WSO Staff member and past RSR, and Donna Markus, (Southern CA) who has served most recently as Chairperson of the WSO Board of Directors. The Board is very grateful for our new members.

The WSB held its officer elections on Thursday during the Conference: Jack Bernstein was elected as Chairperson and Becky Meyer as Vice-Chairperson. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the members of the WSB who fulfilled their terms of office this year: Bob Barrett had served as a member of the WSB for 23 years, Sally Evans completed her tenth year as a WSB member, Bob Rehmar had served for five

years and John Farrell served five years. Our gratitude is immeasurable to these members for the many years of selfless service they have spent as Trustees. Their absence will be indeed felt.

Our last meeting during Conference week was mostly spent in determining assignments to the Trustee committees. In addition, chairpersons were selected to coordinate the work these Committees will be involved with for this coming year.

Our main priority as a Board this year will be the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*. We will be focusing a large portion of our energy on the management and development of this project. We have received support and encouragement from the WSC Literature Committee with whom we will be in regular communication. We will keep the Fellowship advised of our progress through both the *Fellowship Report* and the *Newsline*. Please address your questions or concerns regarding this project to either the Trustee Coordinator or the Literature Coordinator at the World Service Office.

The Trustees are looking forward to an exciting and busy year. The addition of a WSO staff member assigned specifically to the WSB will be of tremendous assistance in the implementation and completion of the projects the Board will be working on this year. We are very grateful for the opportunity to serve.

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To: The Fellowship

From: The World Service Office

There were a number of items contained in the annual WSO Report to WSC'89 which are of general interest to the Fellowship. The fellowship is still growing quite rapidly and in more places around the world, than ever before. Communications arrive daily announcing the initiation of new meetings and groups, many in languages other than English.

A great deal of our report was spent discussing our progress on translating N.A. literature. We were happy to report that a concerted effort this past year was moving us closer towards the production of the *Basic Text* into French, Spanish, German, and Portuguese. Additionally, work is being done in other languages such as Swedish, Dutch, and Finnish. Translations progress is often slow but we have been able to maintain a consistent pace which will continue during this next year.

The WSC participants acted favorably on the one WSO motion (regarding jewelry with the logo as an inventory item) placed in the Conference Agenda Report. The Board of Directors will be meeting soon to discuss it's implementation and then report their actions to you in the months ahead.

There was only one motion referred to the BOD by the Conference, and it concerned the commission of a study on the feasibility of moving the WSO to another city. In light of the discussions which occurred during the N.A. Service report, at the WSC, this study will become more and more important depending on the decisions the fellowship will make during the next two years.

One final but very important concern addressed by the WSO report was fellowship finances. For the past two years our report has attempted to sound an alarm in the minds of the WSC participants: WSO excess income above our expenses has been steadily declining. Although this may not seem to be directly related to WSC activities, as WSC operations are funded through contributions, it does impact heavily on the WSO's ability to support those activities.

Most projects initiated by WSC Committees involves WSO manpower and resources. The WSO responds to each project, depending on its nature and size, by allocating staff and other resources to satisfy the need. The priorities of the Conference therefore get translated into spending priorities of the WSO. It is becoming increasingly apparent that we have a very real need to establish fellowship priorities very carefully.