

The Basic Text of Narcotics Anonymous

How We Got "Our Book"



July 2, 2010

Boyd P. and Chris B.
Raleigh, NC



nahistorylovers@gmail.com

6th Edition

Released October 2008



Narcotics *Anonymous.*

Sixth
Edition

NAWS, Inc.

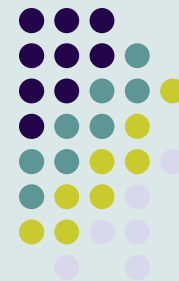
Narcotics *Anonymous*

Narcotics
Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous

Fifth
Edition

W.S.O. Inc.



5th Edition

Released January 1989

Narcotics
Anonymous

Narcotics
Anonymous

4th Edition

Released October 1987

Fourth
Edition

W.S.O. Inc.





3rd Edition Revised
Released November 1986

Narcotics
Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous



Third
Edition
Revised

W.S.O. INC.

Narcotics
Anonymous

Narcotics
Anonymous

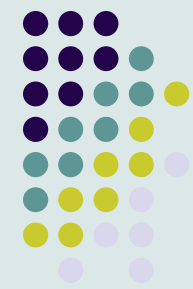
3rd Edition

Released October 1984

Third
Edition

W.S.O. INC.





Narcotics
Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous

Second
Edition
CARENA



2nd Edition
Released September 1983

1st Edition “Blue”

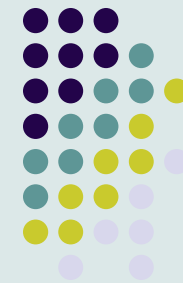
Released April 27, 1983

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

CARENA



I
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NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



11
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CARENA

1st Edition

“Limited Red”

Released April 27, 1983

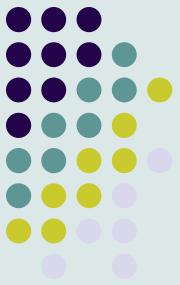
Approval Form

Printed November 1981



NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

FOR REVIEW ONLY
UNPUBLISHED LITERARY WORK
NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

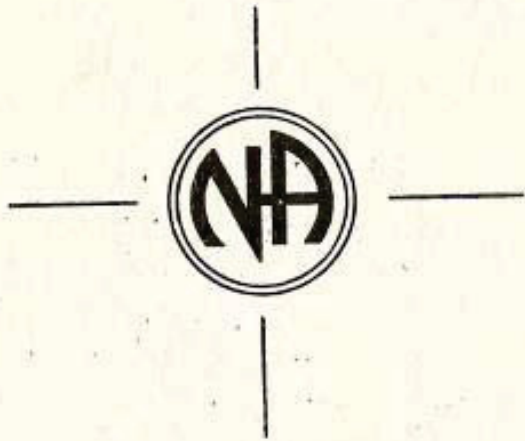


Grey Review Form
Printed February 1981

White Book
Released 1976



NARCOTICS
ANONYMOUS



NARCOTICS
ANONYMOUS

P. O. Box 622
Sun Valley
California



White Book
Circa 1962/1963

Buff Book

Circa 1954

NARCOTICS

ANONYMOUS



P. O. Box 1043

Studio City, California





How We Got Our Book



- The spark for a book by addicts for addicts
 - 7th World Convention – San Francisco 1977
- World Literature Conferences
 - How the book was written
- The stories that need to be told and memories that need to be preserved
- Show the influence of Alcoholics Anonymous on the writing of the Basic Text
- The impact of the Basic Text on the Fellowship



The Spark in San Francisco that Led to the Basic Text

Bo S. meets Jimmy K. and Greg P.

7th World Convention – San Francisco 1977

- Bo S. travels to San Francisco to the 7th World Convention to find out what is happening about a book.
 - Bo meets Jimmy K. and Greg P.
 - This is where the process for the book really begins



Bo S.

SAN FRANCISCO'S
NARCOTICS
ANONYMOUS
FELLOWSHIP

presents



**THE SEVENTH
WORLD
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
CONVENTION**

OCT. 21-23

Jack Tar Hotel

for further info. call 415 587-7576



San Francisco's
**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
FELLOWSHIP**
presents

Now We Are THOUSANDS

The Seventh World
**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
CONVENTION**

October 21 – 23
Jack Tar Hotel

For further information Call 415-587-7576

REGISTRATION FORM

7th World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous
Jack Tar Hotel - Oct. 21-22-23 - San Francisco, CA

Name _____

Address _____

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Registration & Dinner
\$6.00

Payment **\$9.50**
For dinner and travel will
be sent at the convention.

Mail Registrations To:
7th World Convention of
Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 453
San Francisco, CA 94101

7th World Convention of
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
- Jack Tar Hotel
San Francisco, CA
October 21, 22 & 23, 1977
Name _____
Address _____

Deborah A. Britain This Month



MARGOT'S ANONYMOUS 7TH WORLD CONVENTION

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23
1979

New We Are Thousands

*Over The Hill
San Francisco, California*

THURSDAY cont.

OCTOBER 22

6:45pm-9:15pm

SPEAKER MEETING
*Grand Ball Room

Bob B., San Francisco

Leader:

Roll Call:

Towns & States

Sobriety Call:

Convention Credits:

Official Welcome:

Who is an Addict:

How it Works:

12 Traditions:

Speakers:

Alice M., San Francisco
Speritt Richard Hongisto
Jim P., San Francisco
Jim G., San Francisco
Gebe G., San Francisco
Frank D., Venice Beach

Closing prayer:

Margie G., San Francisco

10:00pm-2:00am

DANCE
*Grand Ball Room

Band: ARM & HAMMER-Disco music

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 23

9:30am-12noon

SPIRITUAL MEETING
*Grand Ball Room

Leader:

Who is an Addict:

How it Works:

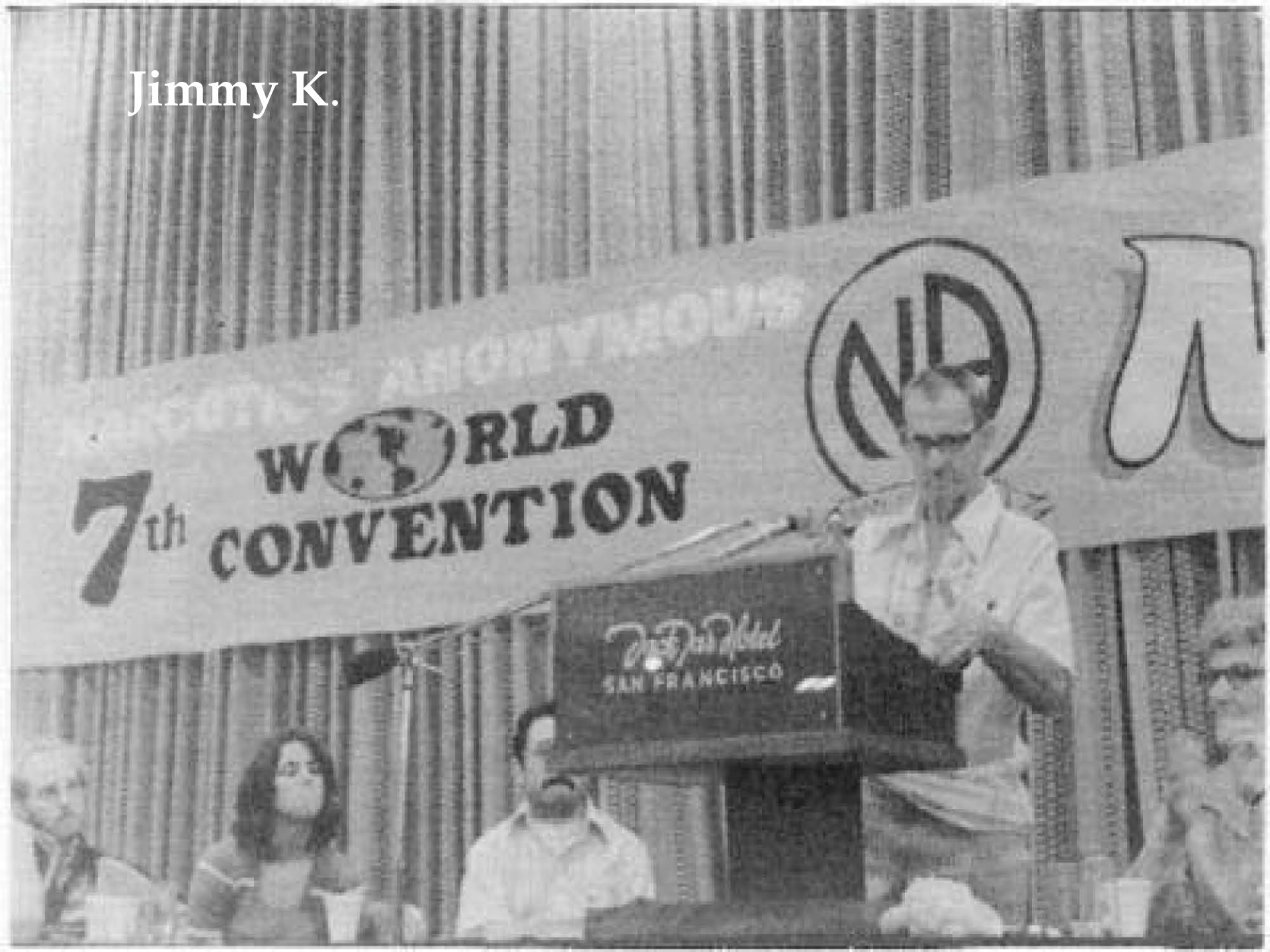
12 Traditions:

Speakers:

Pattie S., Redwood City
Margie C., Palo Alto
Gary C., Redwood City
Stephen T., San Francisco
George M., Redondo Beach
Lucille S., Mt. View
Cliff C., Norwalk
Tim H., San Francisco

NEXT YEAR'S
CONVENTION & Closing prayer: Alice M.

Jimmy K.





Greg P.

- Member of the Board of Trustees
- Wrote the N.A. Tree, our first service structure
- Wrote IP #9 “Living the Program ”
- Wrote IP #12 “The Triangle of Self-Obsession”
- His story in the Basic Text is titled “I Was Different”
- Passed away April 29, 1999 with 28 years clean



December 16, 1977

Dear Greg:

Guess who bought a typewriter!

I hope you have a nice Christmas. Please say hi to Lois and the baby. Hope to see you next year.

I've gotten off to a rolling start with the writing. I've started umpteen pamphlets and worked on a few notes for the N.A. book. My friends here know of my efforts and I hope to get a few of them together soon for input and discussion. Hopefully this will take place here and elsewhere. Thank God it has begun. At this point I feel like we have to involve as many as possible to make sure we cover all the points of view. Involving people might strangle the effort in controversy but I really trust the Spirit and believe that we'd be poor servants to leave them out. Somehow if we could get our best minds working on this in harmony, I just know it would strengthen the gut of the program. In my thinking it has occurred to me what we're up against. Like: is N.A. a cure for addiction? How to help doctors learn to treat or react to addiction. I would hate to see any valid point of view left out. Also I would hate to see any great length of time elapse without some progress.

Please write to me my friend

Your friend,



Jimmy and Greg encourage Bo



- January 1979 Bo sends out a letter to the Fellowship asking for input

We realize that some will be skeptical about this effort, but we're really not doing this for selfish reasons. People who could be helped are dying every day from our disease. A book telling the story of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous would make our program more available to them.



A few of us can't do this alone; we need your help. Please send your stories, articles and other input to:

World Service Office Literature Committee
391 Cranfill Street
Marietta, Georgia 3006

Bo S. elected World Literature Chair



- April 1979 – Elected Chairperson of the World Literature Committee
- Letters start going out to the Fellowship
 - i.e. Main Line (Northern California Regional Service Committee)
- The Main Line (Aug. 1979) reports Literature Committees begin sprouting up:
 - Venice, CA
 - San Fernando Valley, CA
 - Atlanta, GA
 - Wichita, KS
 - Scranton, PA
- Prospective Literature Committees:
 - Miami, FL
 - Minneapolis, MN

MAIN LINE

"to stay clean and sober...to carry the message to the addict/alcoholic who still suffers..."

POST OFFICE BOX 11550

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 4

SAN FRANCISCO 94101

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS 9TH WORLD CONVENTION

"I CAN'T WE
CAN AND
TOGETHER
WE WILL!"
THURS. SEPT
6TH EARLY
BIRD DISCO
THAT EVEN-
ING FRI.
SEPT 7TH
JAM SESSION
HOME MADE
ICE CREAM



9th WORLD CONVENTION
of
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
ATLANTA 1979
SEPT. 6-9

BRITANNIC HOTEL
317 West Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia, 30301
1-404-253-3333

HOTEL RATES: *High 125**
*Low 120**
*Taxes 120**
*Club 120**

Early Bird
Disco

Space Cones
and
Copper

Sunday Morning
SPIRITUAL ACTING

Saturday Morning
DANCE

Southern
HOSPITALITY

Saturday Afternoon
WORKSHOPS

I CAN'T WE CAN

"ENJOY OUR
SOUTHERN
HOSPITALITY"
SAT. SEPT. 8TH
10TH WORLD
CONVENTION
BIDS
WORKSHOP
BANQUET-
MEETING DANCE
SUN. SEPT. 9TH
SPIRITUAL
MEETING AFTER-
NOON GET
TOGETHER AT
ATLANTA CLUB
HOUSE

LITERATURE DISPLAY

We are all working hard and looking forward to the convention here in Atlanta in September. We hope to make it the best ever!

We are preparing a panel as part of the literature display that will consist of leaflets and posters about Narcotics Anonymous functions across the country. If anyone there has any posters or leaflets on dances, conferences, picnics, etc. (past or future) please put them in an envelope and mail them to:

"Literature Display Committee", 9th WCNA
P.O. Box 53302, Atlanta, Ga. 30355

We need them to set up with the night of the 6th. Thanks, and see you in Atlanta!

-Kathleen F.

BIDDING CITIES

As you may know, the world conventions have been voted to be in a series of four. Then at that time in 1981 they will be probably every 10th year. If you saw or want to bid on the 10th world convention, get your bids together for presentation for Atlanta, Ga. The site of the 10th convention will be decided Saturday morning, the 8th. It is important that you have facts and figures--so come on, you can do it. Atlanta did it, Houston did it, San Francisco did it, and you can do it too!

**Narcotics Anonymous has no big
shots, no little shots. . .one shot and
we're all shot.**

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

© 1979, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

WICHITA LITERATURE CONFERENCE YOU ARE THE BOOK

I received my copy of the new **Main Line** today and love it. We are grateful for your support in publishing the material we have been able to send out to only a few. The editing was fine. Steve H., chairman of one of our literature committees in Venice, CA, contributed the title.

We now have literature committees in: Venice, CA; San Fernando Valley, CA; Wichita, KS; Scranton, PA; Atlanta, GA; and prospective committees in Minneapolis and Miami. The Literature Conference is scheduled for October 6th and 7th, at 961 Parklawn, Wichita, Kansas. It will be hosted by our committee in Wichita. The chairperson of the committee is Anne W. and the chairperson of the conference is Cliff H. We are inviting members interested in literature from all over and of course chairmen and members of literature committees. We hope to see some of the staff from the **Main Line**, too.

LITERATURE NEWS

We want to welcome our new literature committees in Wichita, Pennsylvania, and San Fernando Valley. Please take time to write them. Letter writing is a habit; the best time is today!

Pennsylvania has 32 groups. The N. A. NEWS, published in Pennsylvania, has brought inspiration and hope to many members in the East. We are deeply grateful for their response.

The literature committee in San Fernando Valley is working on collecting material on where our literature has come from in the past. The Chairman of the committee is a volunteer service worker at the WSO. They have already copied our mailouts to make them available to their ASC members and plan to do so at the regional level. Trusted servants like this are making the dream of new literature for the Narcotics Anonymous program come true.

Wichita has formed a literature committee and has several active members involved. They have one of the few clubhouses in the country. A special conference for literature will be held in Wichita this October 6th and 7th. We will meet to review our progress, share material and plan for the future. Plans for our new book will be the central task of the conference.



NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

WSC Literature Committee • 391 Cranfill Street, Marietta, GA 30060 • 404/436-0953

August 21, 1979

Dear Fellow Members:

We have received several stories and committee applications from our world mailing. Copies of all material received have been sent to the literature committees nearest the contributors. Members here are pitching in answering correspondence.

We all need to attend the Wichita Conference for N.A. literature. October 6th and 7th will be here soon. Some members have set deadlines for themselves for material for the book. Hopefully many of you can attend the 9th World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous here in Atlanta September 6th through the 9th. There will be an Atlanta Literature Committee Hospitality Suite, although the emphasis of a convention is on celebrating another year clean and sober.

Feel free to write the other committee members and concerned members on the mailing list. Your letters will encourage their efforts.

Talking with different members, I thought I would share some of my personal experiences in getting involved with N.A. literature. I felt I had to have "permission" from someone high up in the N.A. service structure before I could write anything without worrying that my self-will would run riot. I attended the 7th World Convention Of Narcotics Anonymous in 1977. It was held in San Francisco and I met some beautiful people there. They had been clean and sober and involved in N.A. service for quite a few years. Their warmth and encouragement inspired me. I came home and prayed for strength and guidance to help us get literature. I even felt like writing a bit myself. It was during this period that I discovered that God wants our book. God as I understand Him is hungry for N.A. literature, been waiting for years. What's been lacking is the development of a part of our service structure devoted to literature. The World Service Conference has changed that. Together, God willing, we will proceed along a path of obvious necessity to accumulate, compose and review material for our book and many needed pamphlets. We will form and support anyway we can literature committees in any area responding to our cry for help. In this manner we hope to succeed.

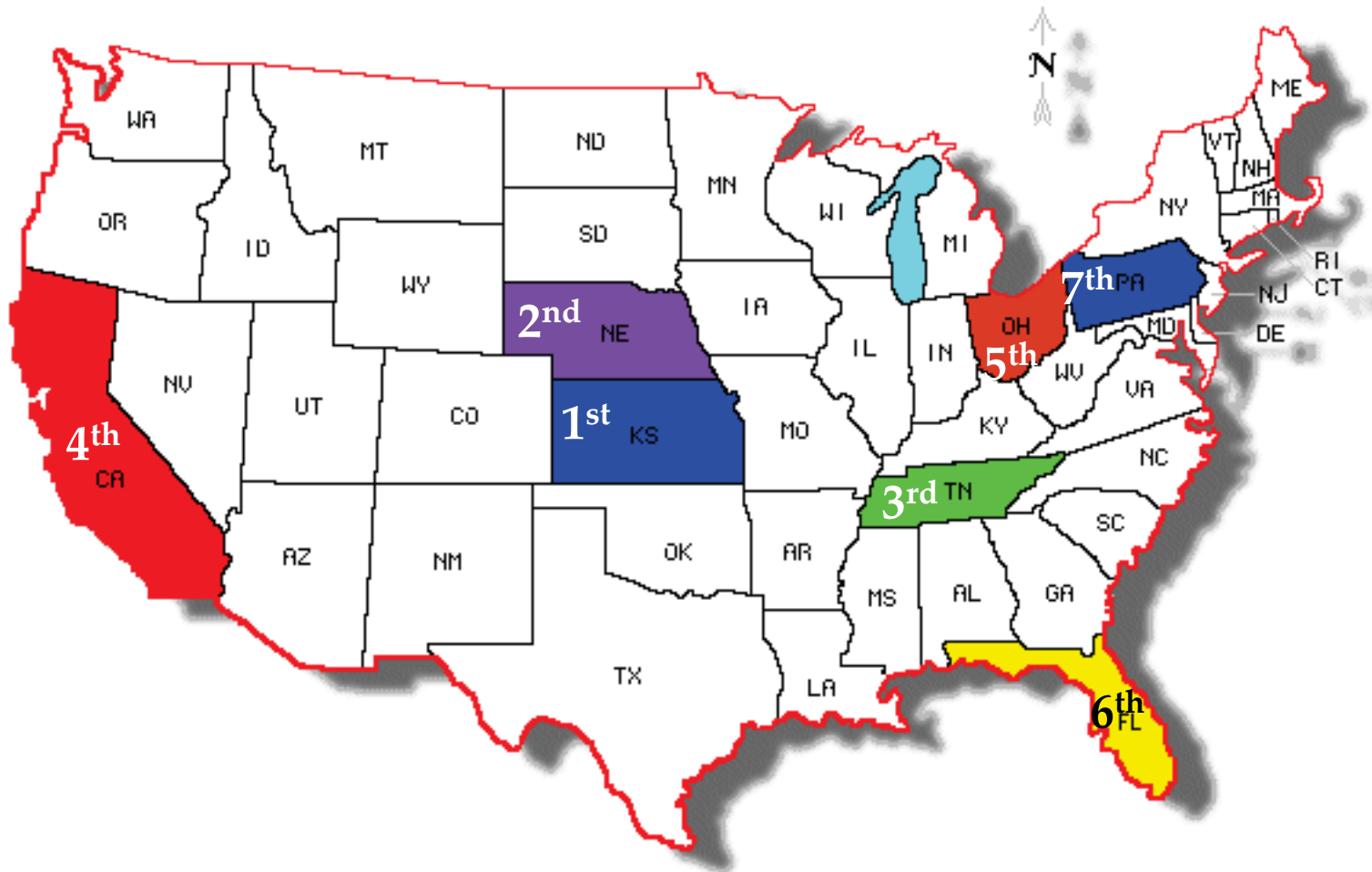
We pray for the strength and guidance to do the footwork and attend to the next thing on an ongoing basis. Ultimately we leave to our Loving Ultimate Authority. Above all write of your own experience of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous. We pray for contributors. We don't need hundreds of members trying to get others to write. We need hundreds writing. Our experience of affirmation and joy in committing our feelings and thoughts should be shared.

In Loving-Service,

Bo



World Literature Conferences





World Literature Conferences

- Basic Text is written over 7 World Literature Conferences
 - Between October 1979 and January 1982
- 412 addicts participated
 - 25 States and 1 Province are represented
- Other addicts contributed through local Literature Committees



NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



World 1st Literature Conference

Oct. 6-7, 1979 Wichita, Kans.

YOU ARE THE BOOK

WORKSHOPS DISCUSSION NEW IDEAS FELLOWSHIP

Preregistrations will receive a Conference Program, motel & accomodation information, map, and list of local meeting times.

1st N.A. World Literature Conference

c/o 205 North Ash Wichita, Kansas 67214

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

LIKE
I would ^{to} stay
in an N.A. mem-
ber's home.

Zip _____

\$10⁰⁰ Registration Fee



“You Are The Book”

- 1st World Literature Conference
 - Wichita, KS
 - October 6 – 7, 1979
- 25 addicts registered
- 34 addicts from 6 states were listed in the minutes
 - Addicts came from: California, Georgia, Kansas, Nebraska, Tennessee and Virginia

**HANDBOOK
FOR
NARCOTICS
ANONYMOUS
LITERATURE
COMMITTEES**



1st World Literature Conference



- Resulted from the minutes of the Wichita literature conference.
- “The handbook contains a system for review and preparatory work to help insure that the material presented to the WSC for approval is complete and acceptable to the different areas within our fellowship.”

written form. If we can each share our experience, strength and hope and combine the sum in a single text, we will in effect tell our group story, the story of Narcotics Anonymous.

We want every nook and cranny of the disease to be in the book so addicts can know the seriousness of addiction regardless of the progression at the point of their last usage. The seriousness of what happens when we pick up that first fix, pill, drink or toke. We want to use phrases and words that clearly express what we mean to say. Complication would lead to misinterpretation. To involve others we need to create incentive not pressure. It is a privilege to serve the Fellowship. We want a book we can call our own. There is nothing, no structure or rules that stand in the way of a good piece of literature to serve the growing needs of our program.

To serve the needs of those who will use this handbook to get involved with the writing of our book, we include a listing of possible topics drawn from the Wichita Conference. This list will probably be incomplete without your input. Feel free to write on any topic which you feel will help someone seeking recovery from addiction. We would appreciate any additional topics which you as members might suggest; and include them in future editions of this handbook.

Disease concept

Guilt

Recovery

There is hope

Living in the here and now

Finding a Higher Power when you don't believe in one

Powerlessness

Sponsorship

Beer and grass was no excuse

90 meetings in 90 days

I didn't know I was sick

Positive thinking

Negative thinking

Complete abstinence from all drugs?

The benefits of a clean life

Learning how to live clean

Chipping

Old playmates, playgrounds and playthings

Problems in recovery

Little old ladies can get sick too

Hope and the 12 Steps

Self honesty is the key

Self will run not

Forward

It's not what or how much

I can't, We can

Longform of the 12 Traditions of N.A.

What is normal . . .

I thought I had an emotional disturbance but I didn't think the dope caused it.

(psychological maintenance)

13th Stepping

Medicine, religion and psychiatry seemed to have no answers

Turn away no chances

Inventories

One minute at a time

1st World Literature Conference



- Core value emerged from this literature conference:
 - Input was encouraged, actively sought and highly valued from all members of the Fellowship, regardless of clean time or experience
- This core value is contained in many places within the *Handbook for Narcotics Anonymous Literature Committees*

Core Value



- “Every member is welcome to contribute material to this effort (p. 1)”
- “We need all types of stories and yours might be just the one to help your type of addict (p. 2)”
- “We ask all members to send in their material without worrying too much if it is any good or not. Some of the best is probably in trash cans right now (p. 3)”

Core Value



- “The theme is: ‘You are the Book!’ This expresses the fact that so much of our program is in the minds, hearts and spirits of our members with time in the program. Those not fortunate enough to live in a an area strong in the fellowship have to do without. In a real sense ours is a movement of the message from those who have it to those who are dying for it (p. 4)”

Core Value



- “Acknowledgement of material received in the mail can help the contributing member know that their effort is appreciated. A sample response might be as follows:
 - Thank you for your literature contribution. You have our prayers for your ongoing recovery and our gratitude for your effort in writing. You know, you can really do no wrong in this effort. None of us involved are professionals. We are all just recovering addicts with a common desire for new literature for our brothers and sisters still suffering from our disease (p. 6)”
- “We feel we must reach a certain level of freedom to express ourselves to have a useful and reasonably complete basic text (p. 11)”
- “...and we feel we must include the thought, feelings and experiences of a great many of our members to have a reasonably complete first edition (p. 12)”

Profanity



- The *Handbook for Narcotics Anonymous Literature Committees* emphasized the need to eliminate profanity from any literature:
 - “Stories can include slang but not profanity since this would limit the availability of our book in some areas and institutions (p. 6)”
 - “Like all N.A. literature, profanity will be edited to insure that our message is widely available (p. 10)”
 - “Avoid profanity because it lowers spiritual content. We want our message to get to the suffering addict and profanity would allow profanity groups to exclude our book from institutions where it might do some good (p. 11)”



THE WORD FLICK SHOULD NOT BE USED:

THE WORD BRINGS THE SCENE DOWN TO
A LOWER ENERGY LEVEL

IT REMINDS ME AND OTHER MS. HAVE TO
WALK STREET

IT OFFENDS THEM WHO HAVE RETIREMENT
OF AN ORDER AND WHO BECAUSE PERSECUTION
ADVICE THAT DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORD AND
CANNOT ACCEPT THE WORD IT COULD BE A
TRIP TO GO TO THEIR RECOVERY

2ND World LITERATURE CONFERENCE



LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
SEPT. 8TH - 14TH
Old FEDERAL Blvd.
9TH & Pst.

COME HELP US WRITE THE Big Book

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: Jim N. 477-4923
Joey J 435-4463
Angie C 423-1776
Dave K 474-9212

Registration \$10.00

N.A. of Lincoln, P.O. Box 30764 St. "A"
Lincoln, NE 68503

NAME - _____
ADDRESS - _____



“Come Help Us Write the Big Book”

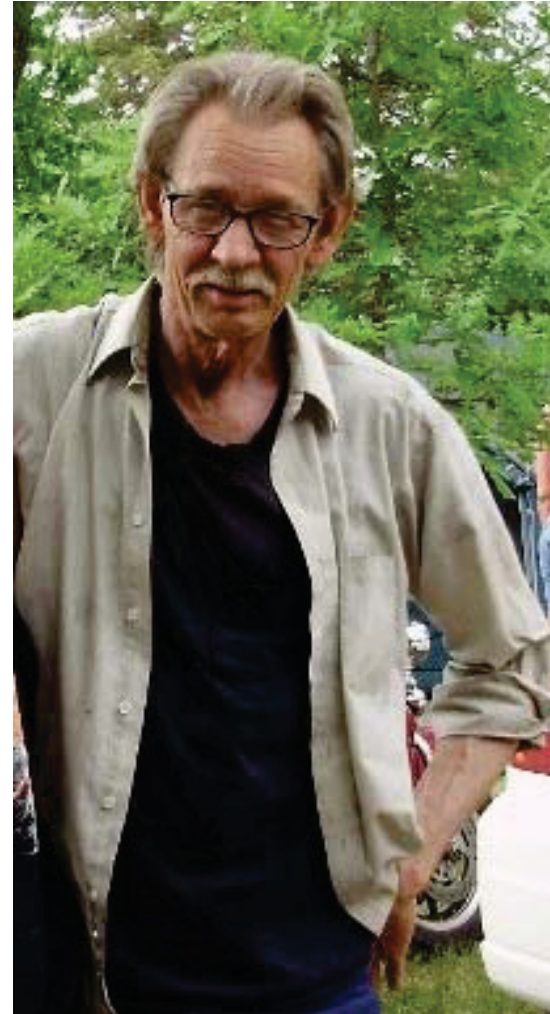


- 2nd World Literature Conference
 - Lincoln, NE
 - September 8 – 14, 1980
- 36 members from 8 states and 1 province attended:
 - California, Georgia, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee
 - Vancouver, British Columbia
 - 7 members also attended the Wichita literature conference
 - Board of Trustees, Bob B. and Greg P., attend

Willing to go to any lengths...

“The WLC had no funds to give the host community in Lincoln. Through discussion and planning, they located some typewriters and a copier that a local company was able to donate. Money was needed for supplies to run the equipment. There was so much support within the Lincoln N.A. Fellowship that several members went to a blood bank and sold blood to raise money to meet the expenses.”

Source: The Story of the Basic Text



Jim N.



Important Decision



- Greg P. suggests using the chapters from the White Book as the outline for the chapters in the Basic Text
 - Two additional chapters were added
 - Just for Today – Living the Program
 - More Will Be Revealed (which Greg envisions as our version of AA's A Vision for You)

Second Annual World Literature Conference
Second Day September 9, 1980
Lincoln, Nebraska

Lunch Break at 2:30 p.m.

Sorting continued until done.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

OUTLINE WITH SUBHEADINGS

Preface

Introduction

Dedication

1. Who is an addict?

Disease concept

2. What is NA?

Fellowship

3. Why are we here?

Reservations

4. How it works

Recovery process

5. What can I do?

Actions

6. Twelve Traditions

Atmosphere of recovery

7. Recovery and Relapse

Reservations

8. We do recover

Hope

9. Just for today

Spiritual maintenance

10. More will be revealed

Vision - Discovery

11. Stories

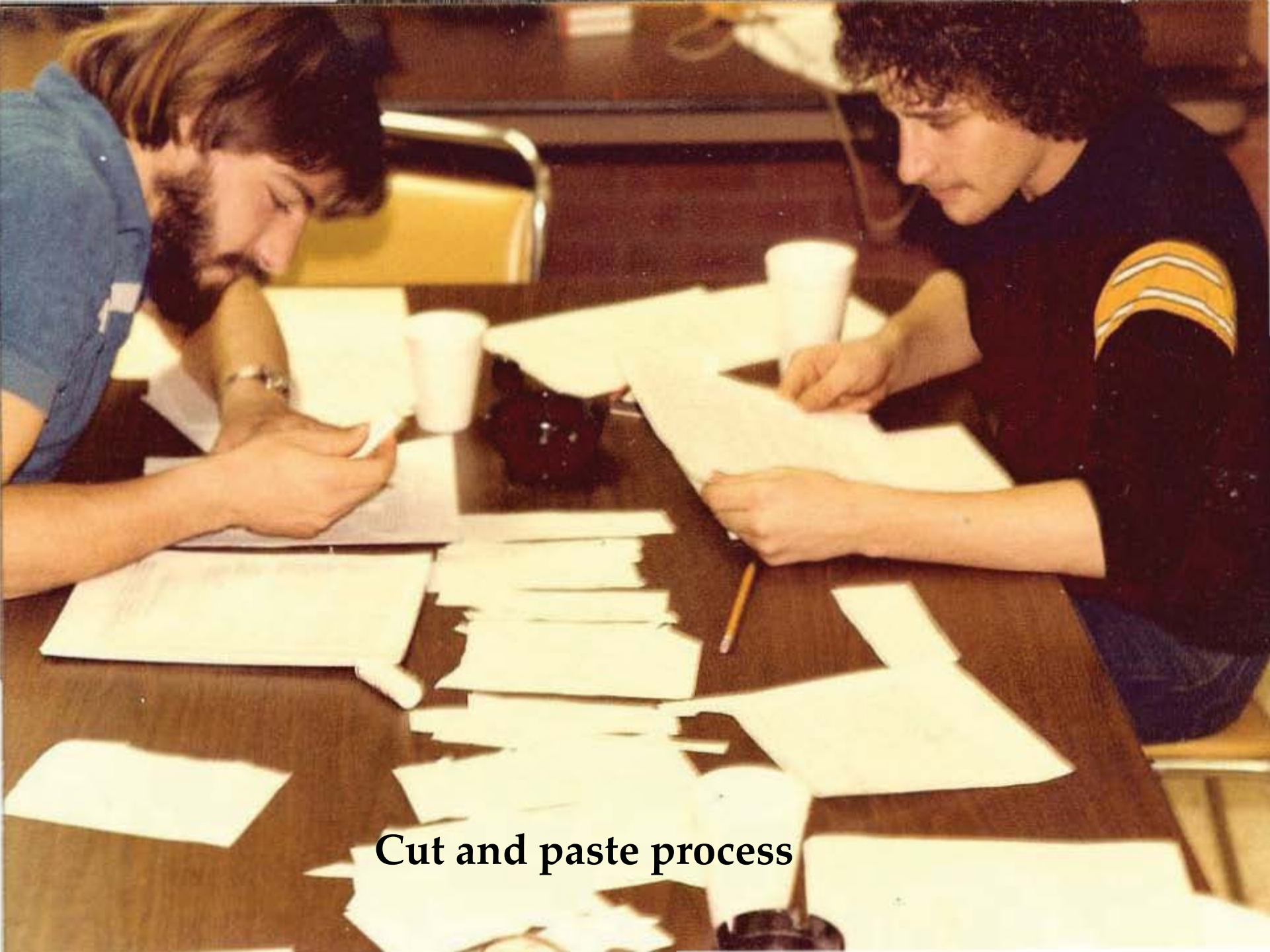
12. Appendix





Cut and Paste

- The 800 pages of material collected for the 2nd World Literature Conference was assembled in a unique fashion.
 - Material was first cut and filed under the different chapter headings
 - The material was then pasted into topics within each chapter



Cut and paste process

DISEASE ASPECT

I felt an aching need for something that I could not feel. I experienced it as a physical sensation, the need for something outside of myself that I could not find. It was this need, this yawning chasm in my soul that drove me to drink, to use and involve myself in characteristically destructive relationships and behavior. Only by working my steps thoroughly have I really been able to see that my life was unmanageable.

My addictive personality does not want it to be a spiritual disease; does not want it to develop grave emotional and mental disorders or a case of nervous breakdowns when not relying in God; it wants the disease to be a physical one that can be cured by drugs so it can continue the course of selfwill run riot and attempt to keep control of the soul.

The complication of the spiritual disease by using drugs leads to complete separation from God as the result of the drug chemical physically separating my consciousness from God-consciousness. This separation now shows signs of grave emotional, mental and physical disorders, and the final admitting that I'm powerless and unmanageable at least as far as drugs are concerned.

WHAT A MAJOR BREAK THROUGH, THANK GOD.

It is a spiritual disease. I'm completely powerless and unmanageable in all areas of my life. When fit spiritually, there are no grave emotional, mental or physical disorders God cannot clear up. God gives me the energy to manage only what God has me doing.

Prescription Addiction ~~1-2~~ *1-2*

I recently had an operation and I must admit that even though I have 2 years sobriety I was concerned about the medication I would be taking. I am happy to say, because of what I learned in N. A., I am still sober. I took it one day at a time and also relied on friends I made in the program. Just thinking of them and their concern helped me stay sober. I am very grateful for the help and support I received in the program. Not just during my operation, but since the 1st day I entered the doors of N. A. I felt I was accepted from the 1st. This meant a lot to me and helped me. I will be ever grateful to N. A.--it's principles and it's people. Sincerely, Claire T.

1-D

I wish I could reach out to whoever reads this and lay my whole life and heart on the line to reach you

I wish I could reach out to whoever reads this and lay my whole life and heart on the line to reach you and show you what this program and the spirit of N.A. has done for me but there is just too much to say and I am only one miracle. But I can say if you are an addict to whatever kind or kinds of drugs and have had enough and desire to stop using there is hope and help in our meetings and fellowship.

Types

of drugs and have had enough use of them go stop using. There is hope and help in our meetings and fellowship.

In all honesty the most we can hope to do for the newcomer is to share our experience, strength and hope. We can also stand ready to help when asked, if we go beyond this we risk becoming the enablers and most of us can remember going limp as long as we could get someone else to take care of us. We don't want the help we can offer to rob the new person of that essential ingredient of living which setting your house in order can bring.

If you are in the program and find yourself cultivating feelings of isolation and despair don't feel alone. Many of us have had similar difficulties at different stages in our recoveries. Usually they come at a time of great potential growth. In other words self destructiveness will make us want to go out and use again instead of recovering. We can overcome this if we make a special effort to share our feelings at a meeting, in fellowship or with a friend or sponsor. By doing this we are moving out of ourselves rather than inwardly. We don't want to protect, hide or cherish negativity. By getting it out we run a better chance of encountering someone who may be able to help us.

The Nakan growing fellowship of N.A. supports us in our efforts and gives us new friends who understand us only those who have been there can.

In the program of Narcotics Anonymous we make use of the men that have helped those who have gone before us in the program: the twelve steps, the principles and the many positive traits that help us learn how to live and make lasting recovery possible.



SECOND ANNUAL WORLD LITERATURE CONFERENCE
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
SEPT. 8-14, 1980
HISTORY



→ Although relatively few of the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous stood in the Lincoln Federal Building in September, 1980, the spirits of our contributors and of those still suffering addicts were all around us, encouraging us, sharing with us their hope and pain. Those who enjoyed the actual effort were but servants of a larger whole.

From the moment that the early arrivals gazed into the empty hall in the Federal Building, it was apparent that this was the time and the place for the fulfillment of a dream. Men and women, who had had little or no previous acquaintance of one another, embraced each other readily, eager to enjoy what each had to share.

During that first day, there was a pervasive sense of awe. The impact of what we could accomplish sank into the group conscience and we were excited.

Although few individuals had had much experience and the group had had none, there was divine co-operation throughout the conference. The subject matter was so large; yet our outline work proceeded along a natural course. Our outline and the material fell together unaccountably. Much of the time, the thoughts most appropriate fairly leaped from a page. From the hundreds of pages of collected material, we sorted, compiled, and read; and we read, the ties that bind us were strengthened. We were made whole by our work.

As could be expected, there were problems with weariness, impatience and ego. We all wanted so much and had come so far. We all had to deal with the frustration of working with others on a common goal, perhaps for the first time. Yet, we were able to overcome these very human obstacles and to offer encouragement to our fellow addicts. Our successes tempered our despair, and we reassured one another.

As long days grew into longer nights, we gave each other back-rubs and hugs; pausing often for meditation and prayer. We found need strength in maintaining contact with our Higher Power, and we endured long hours, personalities and problems.

→ As a result of addicts meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, in September, 1980, a book - a dream - will be realized; but it would be inaccurate to say that we have written a book. We all came from many parts of the country and many walks of life. We have all, by the grace of our Higher Power and the help of our fellow addicts, survived a killing disease. In an effort to continue to survive, we have met here to share our experience, strength, and hope. The book is just a reflection of this effort. It is in this spirit that our book will come forth. Addicts all over the world will have the Narcotics Anonymous book for comfort and for study. When we find ourselves by ourselves, we need not be alone. We will have our book; and we will have each other.

3RD

WORLD

LITERATURE

CONFERENCE

OF

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



WE ARE THE BOOK
AND
TOGETHER WE WILL HAVE THE BOOK
DEDICATED TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE EFFORT FOR
NEW LITERATURE FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
THAT OTHERS MAY FIND THE FREEDOM OF RECOVERY
WE HAVE FOUND.

Saturday, January 31 thru Sunday, February 8, 1981
Richardson Towers
Memphis State University
Memphis, TN

With gratitude in our cleanliness, we dedicate our N.A. Book to the loving service of our Higher Power that through the development of conscious contact with God, no addict seeking recovery need die without having had a chance to find a better way of life. When at the end of the road we find that we can no longer function as a human being, either with or without drugs, we all face the same dilemma. What is there left to do? There seems to be these alternatives: either go on as best we can to the bitter ends — jails, institutions or death; or find a new way to live. For the first time in man's entire history, a simple way has been proving itself in the lives of many addicts. It is available to us all. This simple spiritual—not religious—program, known as Narcotics Anonymous.

You've been hearing about the Book...
and the time has come...

For Information:
JOSEPH P. (901) 529-8779
CATHY T. (901) 276-6163



Consensus in Memphis



W.S.O., Inc.

REGISTRATION:

Pre-registration fee is \$12.00

If you would like to register for a newcomer or for someone who cannot afford to register, please send an additional \$12.00

N. A. Member?

NARANON?

Other _____

Name _____ Address _____

Phone () _____

Saturday, January 31 thru Sunday, February 8, 1981
Richardson Towers, Memphis State University, Memphis, Tn.

NOTE: Please make checks payable to Narcotics Anonymous 3rd World Literature Conference. Please send self-addressed, stamped envelope for receipt and hotel information to:

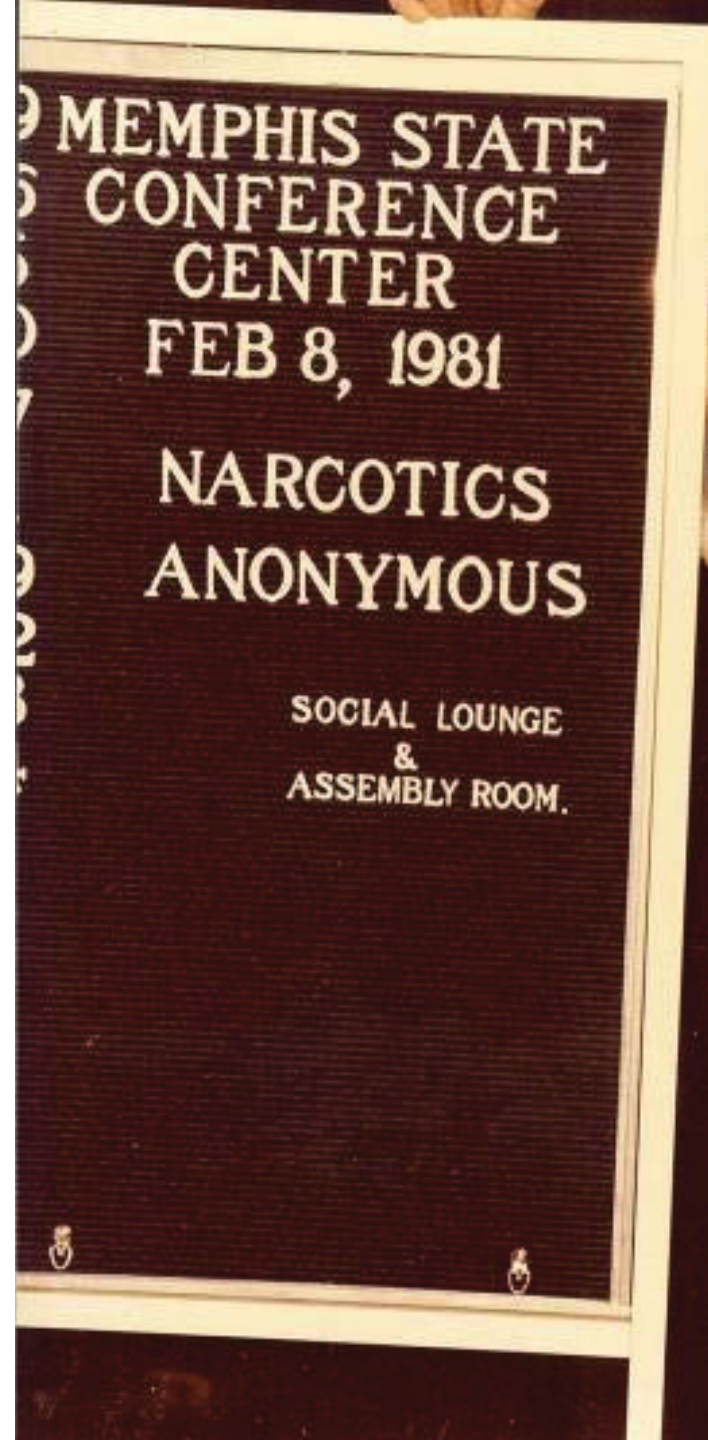
Narcotics Anonymous 3rd World Literature Conference
P. O. Box 41323, Memphis, Tennessee 38104

For Information: Joseph P. (901) 529-8779
Cathy T. (901) 276-6163



“Consensus in Memphis”

- 3rd World Literature Conference
 - Memphis, TN
 - January 31 – February 8, 1981
- 73 people attended
- 14 States were represented
 - AL, CA, FL, GA, IA, ID, IN, KS, LA, MO, NE, OH, PA and TN



THIRD ANNUAL WORLD LITERATURE CONFERENCE

January 31, 1981
Memphis, Tennessee


Chaired by Tom M., Sec., Stephen E. & Mindy M., Pres., Joseph P.
Meeting was opened by a moment of silence followed by the Serenity
Prayer. The meeting began by the reading of the following N.A. literature:
Who is an addict, What is Narcotics Anonymous, Why are we Here, How it
works, 12 traditions, Just for today, and We do recover.
Members present:

Stephen S.- Memphis, Tenn.
Mindy M.- Sioux City, Iowa
Duane P.- Memphis, Tenn.
Kenny H.- Memphis, Tenn.
Jack H.- Memphis, Tenn.
Bill B.- Decatur, Ala.
Nolan W.- Venice, Calif.
Joseph P.- Memphis, Tenn.
Tom M.- Atlanta, Ga.
Ted S.- Philadelphia, Penn.
Linda M.- Topoka, Ks.
Bo S.- Atlanta, Ga.
Shorty H.- Marietta, Ga.
Duane L.- Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Molly P.- Sioux City, Iowa
Jane B.- Memphis, Tenn.
Page E.- Marietta, Ga.
Lee M.- Memphis, Tenn.
Joannette P.- Hartselle, Ala.
Cathy T.- Memphis, Tenn.
Gene L.- Memphis, Tenn.
Gina H.- Nashville, Tenn.
Teresa W.- Bristol, Penn.
George R.- Philadelphia, Penn.
Alan C.- Marietta, Ga.
Hank F.- Atlanta, Ga.
Jim M.- Lisbon, Ohio

Tom M. chaired the meeting, beginning by restating the first
tradition of N.A., the need for compassion and empathy in the N.A. book.
Joseph P. and Cathy T. were introduced as the co-chairpersons of the
literature conference. Joseph P. read the introduction from the first
literature conference in Kansas in October 1979. George R. read the
history of the second literature conference held at Lincoln, Nebraska
in September 1980. He commented how the second conference had decided
to use the Little White Book as an outline for the N.A. Big Book.
During that conference, the book was outlined in chapters, information
was filed, and the Twelve Steps Of N.A. were put together.

GOALS FOR THIS CONFERENCE

1. Complete final draft of the Narcotics Anonymous Big Book. 
2. Submit literature to the World Service Conference in San Valley,
Calif. two months prior to May first.

Members were called on to discuss why we are here and what we hope
to accomplish. We hope to help the practicing drug addict. We do not
need to feel comfortable with failure any more; we can succeed in life.
We are not alone. There is strength in numbers. We can have pride in
our recovery. We are free, clean & sober because of this design for
living. We are here because God wants us to be here. Meeting closed
with the Lord's Prayer.

Jobs were later distributed to members by the conference chairpeople.



GENERAL SERVICE BOARD OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, INC.

408 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016 212-686-1100

(Between 25th and 22nd Streets)



Please accept all correspondence at:

P.O. BOX 49
GRAND CENTRAL STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017
CARE OF: ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, NEW YORK

January 20, 1981

Mr. Bo Sewell
WSC Literature Committee
890 Atlanta Road
Marietta, Georgia 30060

Dear Bo,

Your letter of December 15 came to my desk since one of my staff duties is to serve as a sort of "liaison" between A.A. and similar Fellowships. Thanks for keeping us informed re the progress you are making on your book. We send warm wishes for a successful conference in Memphis.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lois Fisher'.

Lois Fisher
General Service Staff

LF: eb



Work Continued Between Conferences

- Chapter One – Who Is An Addict?
 - Submitted by the Atlanta Literature Committee
- Chapter Six – The Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous
 - Greg P.
- Chapter Seven – Recovery and Relapse
 - Submitted by San Francisco – Bud K.
- Chapter Eight – We Do Recover
 - Submitted by Philadelphia Literature Committee



A VERY IMPORTANT STEP, THIS ONE, FOR RESTORING A PERSON'S SELF RESPECT AND LIFTING ONE'S GUILT. THE NINTH STEP IS THE "WEIGHT LIFTING" STEP; WE ALL CARRY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF WEIGHT BECAUSE OF OUR PAST ACTIONS, AND THIS STEP LIFTS THESE FEELINGS OF GUILT OR LOW SELF ESTEEM SO THAT WE MAY CONTINUE WITH OUR PERSONAL RECOVERY. BEFORE WE CAN GO SLAY DRAGONS WITH THE NINTH STEP THOUGH, WE MUST BE PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED REALIZATION THAT THIS STEP IS FOR MY PERSONAL RECOVERY, NOT SO THAT A PERSON WILL LIKE ME AND ACCEPT ME, IS ESSENTIAL TO WORKING THE NINTH. DOING OR SAYING THINGS TO GET A DESIRED REACTION IS PART OF MY OLD BEHAVIOR, COMING TO GET WHAT I WANT, THIS HAS NO PART IN THE PURPOSE OF THE NINTH STEP. IF A PARTY DOES NOT ACCEPT MY AMENDS THAT'S O.K. I'VE DONE MY SINCERE BEST AND GOD'S WILL, AMEN!

A THOROUGH SELF INVENTORY SHOULD PRECEED EACH AMENDS WE MAKE. AM I SINCERELY SORRY ABOUT WHAT I'VE DONE TO THIS PARTY? DID I REALLY DO HARM TO THE PARTY? AND AM I ANTICIPATING A DESIRED REACTION FROM THIS PARTY? IF SO I'M AMENDING FOR THE WRONG REASONS.

I MUST BE HONEST WITH MYSELF ABOVE ALL ELSE AND THOROUGH TO THE LAST, THUSLY THE WEIGHT IS LIFTED AND I AM PURGED OF GUILT, RENEWED TO CONTINUE ONWARD ~~WITH THE NINTH STEP~~ IN THE JOURNEY TO A NEW SELF.

Bristol Literature Committee:

Chapter Six – The Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous



- Greg P. wrote Chapter Six
- The Twelve Traditions



Greg P.

Audio clip – Bo S.

Bo S. helping Molly
as Greg P. dictates
Chapter Six over the
phone from his home
in Wolf Creek, OR



Bo S. holding the
phone for Molly



Jim M.



- Became involved during the Memphis Literature Conference
 - Despite business commitments, he flew back and forth between Ohio and Memphis several times during February 1981 to help ready the Grey Review Form
- Jim was relied heavily upon to catch a “logical flaw” or “carry out an approved plan of action”
- Hosted the 5th World Literature Conference in Warren, OH
- Was instrumental in emphasizing consistent and Fellowship specific language

STYLE SHEET FOR COMPOSITION REVIEW

Use the word/phrases:In reference to (instead of):

CLEAN

Condition of abstinence from drugs (Sober)

CLEAN TIME

Sobriety

ADDICT/ADDICTION

Identity as people powerless over chemicals (Drug Addict, Alcoholic, Drug Dependent, Drug Abuser, Dope Fiend)

USING

Operating, Practicing

STOP

Quit (i.e., I didn't quit, I stopped using drugs)

WE/US/OUR

Those, These, They (in reference to experience with addiction/recovery)

THEM/THEIR

He/She/His/Him/Her (remove gender)

USEFUL

Normal

WORKING THE STEPS

Taking steps

LIVING A DAY AT A TIME/LIVE TODAY/JUST FOR TODAY

One day at a time

TAKE IT EASY

Easy does it

IT WON'T LAST

This too shall pass

PRIORITIES

First things first

ACHIEVE ADEQUACY NOT PERFECTION

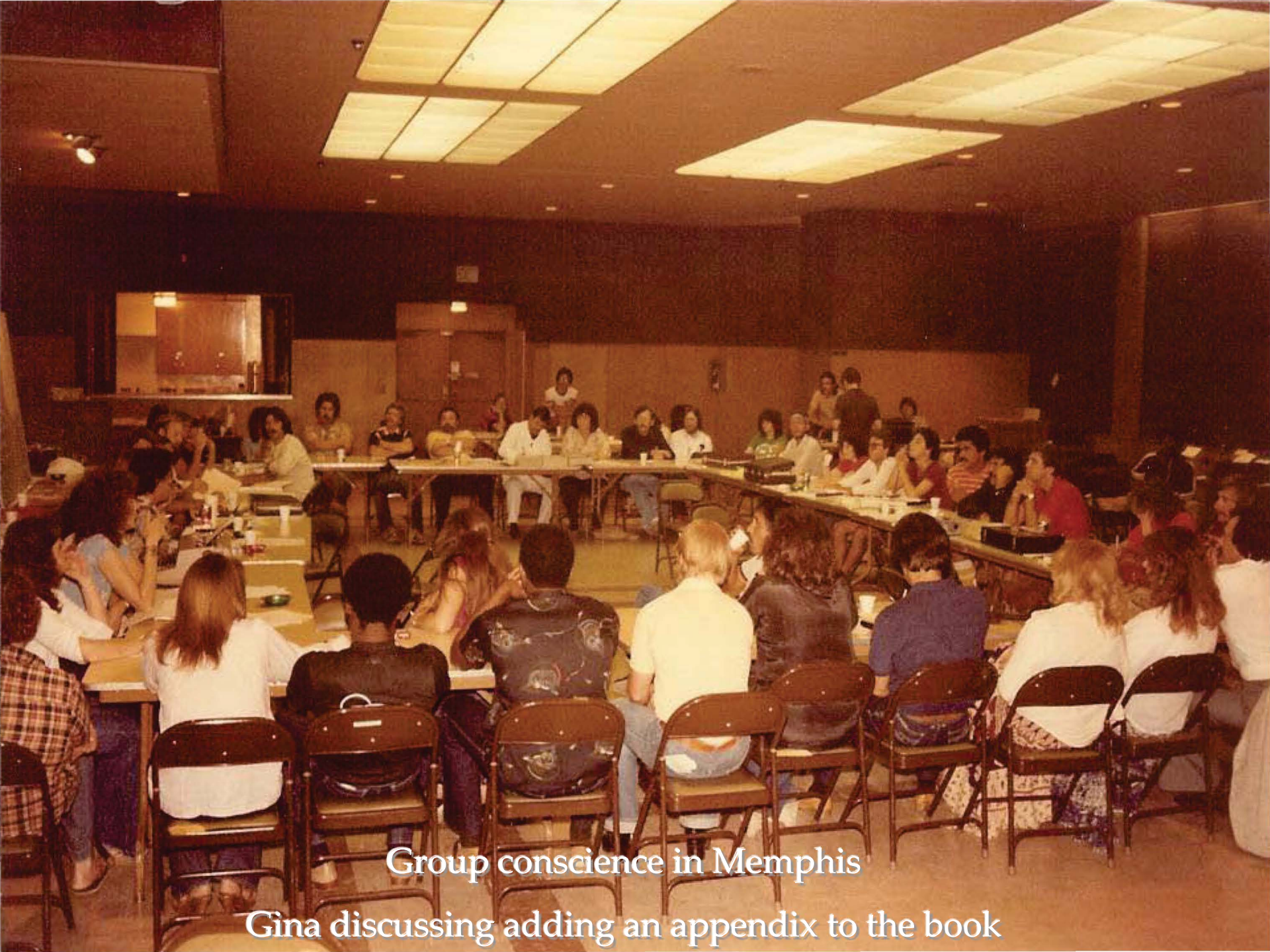
Strive for progress rather than perfection



Group Conscience Meetings



- The following audio clip provides a chance to experience what it would have been like to participate in discussion about what to include in the book.
 - We will hear from Gina H., who suggests that similar to the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, that our text include an appendices to expand upon spiritual concepts
 - We will hear Bo ask for everyone's input, one at a time, to get a feel for the group's conscience
 - We will hear Dan describe his experience with belief in a Higher Power



Group conscience in Memphis

Gina discussing adding an appendix to the book

Group conscience in Memphis

Bo seeking input, describing how input will be gathered
and clarifying that this is not a vote - just a feel for it





Group conscience in Memphis

Dan sharing his experience with belief in a Higher Power



Did you get clean when you could smoke in meetings?



Telegram

MGA039(1301)(4-013919S038)PD 02/07/81 1300

ICS IPMRNCZ CSP

2137643155 TDRN SUN VALLEY CA 25 02-07 0100P EST

PMS MR PROCTOR

RICHARDSON TOWERS MEMPHIS RPT DLY MGM, DLR

MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMPHIS TN 38104

THE FULL FRUIT OF A LABOR OF LOVE LIES IN THE HARVEST, AND THAT
ALWAYS COMES IN ITS RIGHT SEASON, YOURS IN FELLOWSHIP AND LOVE


JINNY KINNON

10717 SHERMAN WAY

SUN VALLEY CA 91352

NNNN

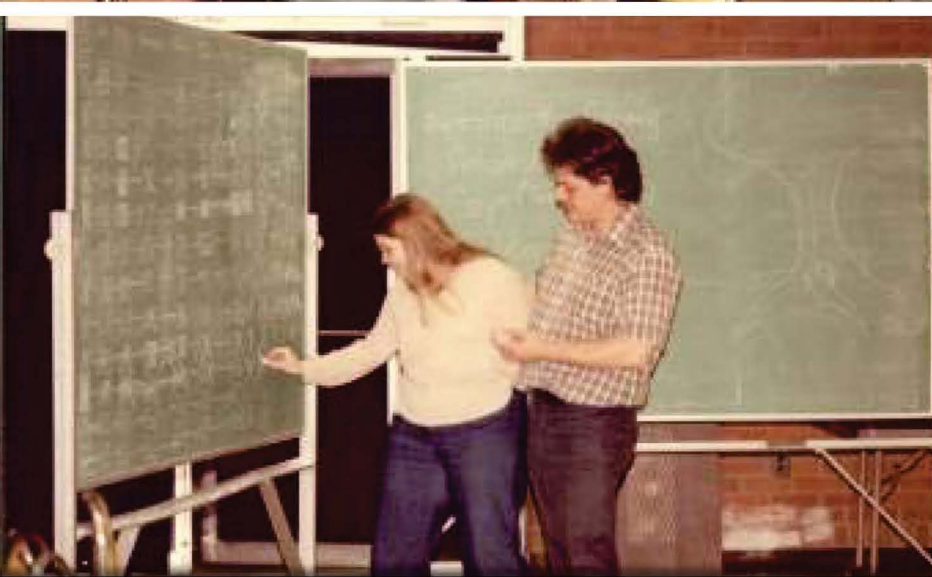
PROGRESS IN MEMPHIS



The fourteen hundred forty service hours put in by Thursday morning cannot account for the great leap in NA literature taking place in Memphis, Tennessee at the Third World Literature Conference. The fact of our progress seemed to reflect three things. First, that a great deal of groundwork was accomplished at the Witchita and Lincoln Literature Conferances that is only now being evidenced. Sec-
ond, that that a great deal of work has been done since the Lincoln Literature Conferance by individuals and areas, and thier work has been unseen until Memphis. Third, and probably the greatest factor of all, is that a potential for new literature has been built up in the spoken Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous over the last twenty eight years. The observation that members serving at Memphis reach about the same leval of performance after only a few hours at the Conferance can only be explained in that the message lives in the spoken traditions and exists in all areas of our fellowship. The basic message of recovery is being recorded at Memphis and consti-
tutes the material being written.

The
N. A.
///

Big
Book
///



**Top left – Bo and Nolan;
Bottom left – Bo and Linda;
Right – Joseph P.**



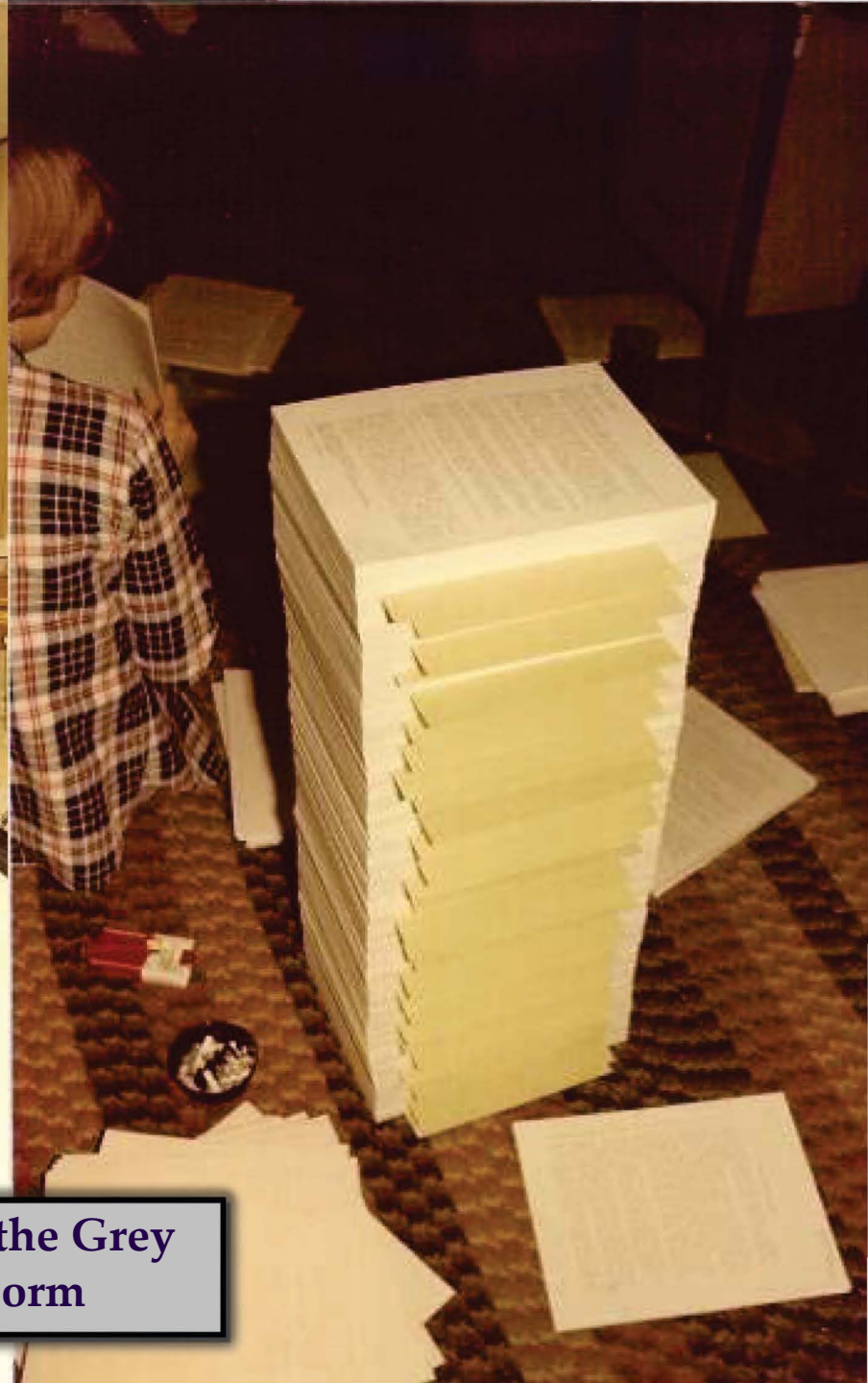
1 As practicing addicts, we could really get down and it
2 we experienced a periodic jolt of self-awareness, it seemed
3 as if we were two people instead of one, like Mr. Jekyll and
4 Mr. Hyde. We became capable of depravity--of betrayal to
5 ourselves and to others. Temporarily clean, we ran around
6 trying to get it all squared away before our next spree.
7 Sometimes we could do this very well, but later it seemed less
8 important, and at the same time, more impossible. After years
9 of trying to make ourselves happy with cars, sex and dope, we
10 were unhappy and less satisfied than when it all started.
11 Some of us first saw the effects of addiction in the people
12 we were close to. We became very dependent on people to carry
13 us emotionally through life. We were always left disappointed
14 and hurt when they had other interests, other friends and
15 loved ones. We regretted the past; we feared the future. We
16 were constantly searching for "the answer"--searching for
17 meaninglessness and purposelessness. While using, we lacked
18 the ability to cope with day-to-day affairs. As our addiction
19 caught up to us, we found ourselves in and out of hospitals,
20 jails and institutions more and more. Because of these experi-
21 ences, we began to realize how screwed up our lives really
22 were. Drugs could no longer hide the pain. We just wanted
23 an easy way out. Suicide was on many of our minds. Our sui-
24 cide attempts were often feeble, and only helped to contribute
25 to our feelings of worthlessness. Part of ourselves could see
26 what was happening; another part would not accept it. We were
27 caught in an illusion of "what if," "if only," and "just one
28 more try."
29 We remember going through a lot of pain and despair before
30 considering the possible connection between drugs and our
31 misery. We had used all sorts of drugs over the years and
32 experienced numerous living problems as the result of our
33 using and yet did not consider ourselves addicted. The problem
34 was that most of the information available to us, before coming
35 to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, came to us from
36 misinformed people or others who also used heavily but did not



Joseph P.



- Served as World Literature Treasurer
- Bo S. states that without the dedication and commitment of Joseph P., Narcotics Anonymous would not have a book



**Assembly of the Grey
Review Form**



Grey Review Forms to be mailed

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Jimmy K.
Grey Review Form #1



Motorcycle
Eos

Charles Kuech
Boston Rouge, La

Chiffy
Wichita, Kan.

John
Walter
Frank
Santa Monica

Frank
Mauiette

Miss
Phila PA
Jelly L France

Bob
W. I. A. CA

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Pat Palmer
Lima H.
Newville
N.C.

Fenny
Memphis

Kinda M.
Topeka, KS
Thanks God!

Bob Barrett
LA Ca.

Mike Jensen
Chico, Ca coffee

James L
No Hollywood

Gene

Dick
Bellflower, CA
Eastern Counties

Almond
Sandy
Calif

I Love
You
Lain
Cal

1st Book used
OFFICIALLY @ WSO
Conf. 5-2-81 1410 2nd

All my love
Sydney R.

FOR REVIEW ONLY CALIF.
UNPUBLISHED LITERARY WORK

NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

River Blaine

June 1985
MARJETA



More Contributors



Gina H.

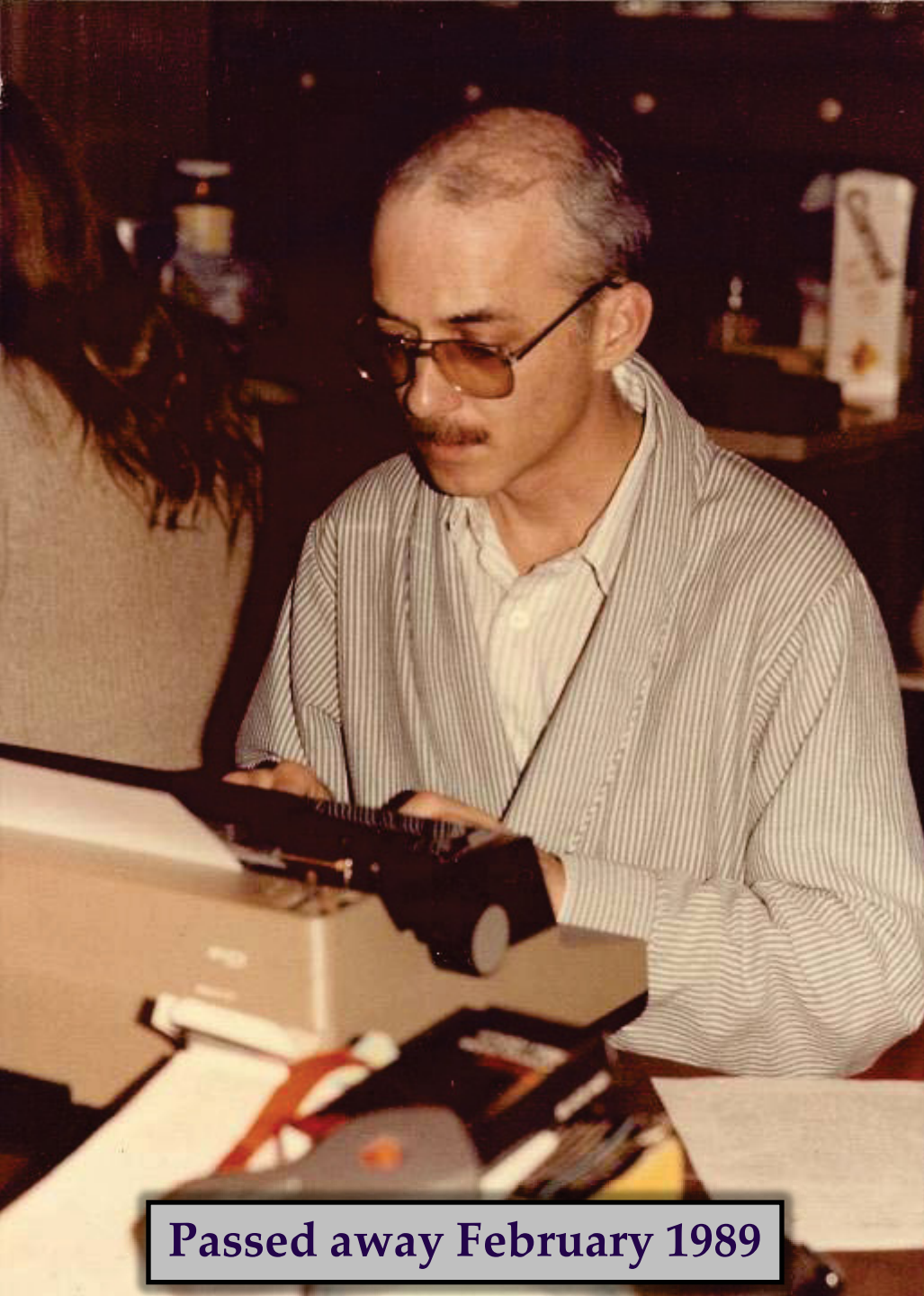


- Her story “No Excuse for Loneliness” appears in the 3rd – 5th editions of the Basic Text
- Passed away 1987

Gina H. – Group Conscience Memphis, TN



- In this audio clip, Gina shares about:
 - The effort it would require to revise the language of the text to not include “God” or “Him”
 - Scaring “shaken little dope fiends”
 - That addicts are more likely to be scared of the concept of “abstinence from all drugs”



Roger T.

- He worked to locate every group address in the world so that a copy of the Grey Review Form could be sent to every known NA group in the world
- Chair of the World Literature Committee from May 1981 until September 1981 when he stopped answering his phone or returning calls following the 6th World Literature Conference in Miami

Passed away February 1989

Page C.

- Served as the chair of the World Literature Committee from January 2, 1982 to May 28, 1983
 - Assumed the responsibilities of the chair of the World Literature Committee during Roger's absence



Page C. – Group Conscience Memphis, TN



- In this audio clip, Page shares about the differences between:
 - The practicing addict
 - The suffering addict
 - The recovering addict

"WITHOUT A DREAM A MAN IS ONLY HALF A MAN.
WITHOUT A VISION A FELLOWSHIP IS A FABLE.
WITH BOTH ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE."

4th.

WORLD

LITERATURE

CONFERENCE

OF

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE EFFORT TO
NEW LITERATURE FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
THAT OTHERS MAY FIND THE FREEDOM OF RECOVERY
WE HAVE FOUND.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 7PM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1981

RETAIL CLERK UNION HALL
1412 2nd STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA.

WITH GRATITUDE IN OUR CLEANLINESS, WE DEDICATE OUR N. A. BOOK TO THE LOVING
SERVICE OF OUR HIGHER POWER THAT THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSCIOUS
CONTACT, NO ADDICT SEEKING RECOVERY NEED OBE WITHOUT HAVING HAD A CHANCE
TO FIND A BETTER WAY OF LIFE.

You've seen the Book _____ and the time has come _____

TO BE OR NOT TO BE _____ TO DO OR NOT TO DO _____

For information:

NOLAN W. (714) 392-8858
N. L. C. IV
444 LINCOLN BLVD., SUITE 307
VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291

Santa Monica, CA



We Want Our Book! How About You?

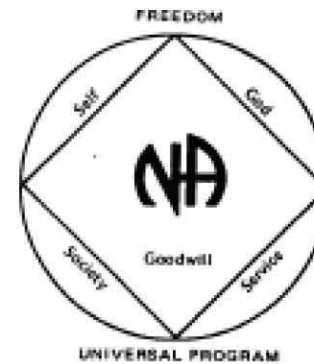


“You’ve Seen the Book and the Time Has Come”



- 4th World Literature Conference
 - Santa Monica, CA
 - April 26 – 30, 1981
- 146 people attended
- Members attended from fifteen different states
 - AL, CA, GA, HI, KS, LA, MO, NE, NY, OH, OR, PA, TN, VA and WS

5th.
WORLD
LITERATURE
CONFERENCE
OF



NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

THAT OTHERS MAY FIND THE FREEDOM OF RECOVERY
WE HAVE FOUND.

MONDAY, JUNE 29th. - SUNDAY, JULY 5th.
WILLARD HALL
2020 WILLARD AVE., S. E.
WARREN, OHIO

For Information:

Jim M. (216) 424-3701
Roy D. (216) 637-5342
Pam K. (216) 856-4200

*
* 4th. of JULY PICNIC *
* Sponsored by Ohio Regional Service Conference *
*

“That Others May Find the Freedom of Recovery that We Have Found”

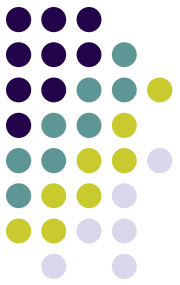


- 5th World Literature Conference
 - Warren, OH
 - June 29 – July 5, 1981
- 115 people attended
- Members attended from eighteen different states
 - CA, DE, FL, GA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MO, NE, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, TN and VA

“That Others May Find the Freedom of Recovery that We Have Found”



- 6th World Literature Conference
 - Miami, FL
 - September 14 – 20, 1981
- 60 people attended
- Members attended from fifteen different states
 - CA, FL, GA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, NE, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI and TN



- 7th World Literature Conference
 - Philadelphia, PA
 - January 15 – 19, 1982
- 67 people attended
- Members attended from seven different states
 - DE, GA, KS, NJ, NY, OH and PA

Dear Fellow Member,

We invite you to read and evaluate this, the second part of what we have endeavored to assemble as the basic text of Narcotics Anonymous. These are the Personal Stories of Recovery that have been submitted to the W.S.C. - Literature Subcommittee.

A World Literature Conference was held in Ivyland, PA on the weekend of January 15th through 17th to finish compiling these stories. We have 50 stories that we feel represent a good cross-section of the recovering addict. We regret the fact that we could not include all the stories that we received. Some of them required editing and rewriting which we were not at the liberty of doing, since these are personal stories. In cases such as these, the author was contacted by phone and asked to make the necessary changes. Most of these were technical changes, such as not mentioning brand names of drugs. Other stories lack sufficient details related to recovery. Since this is a program of recovery, and the book we're writing a basic text for recovery, these stories were omitted, as well.

As a committee we did not feel that we should be the ones to decide how many of these stories, or which ones, should be included in the Book. So we submit to you all of the approved stories that we now have. Once again, it's on you! Tell us what to do. Should we print 10, 20, 30 or all 50 of the stories? Which ones should we print? Please indicate your answer to these questions on the included form and return it to us as soon as possible.

There is one more section of the Book that still needs to be compiled, and we need your help with this, also. This section is to be the History of N.A. At this time we have a sketchy history, taken from the Gray Book Review Form. This version of the history of our Fellowship began with the first meeting in 1953 and went all the way up to February of 1981, but we found many gaps and omissions in it that need to be filled in. For instance, the first time that any state outside of California was mentioned was in the year of 1977. Our own experience tells us that N.A. has indeed been in existence in other parts of the country, and the world, before 1977. What we are looking for is any significant events which took place within the Fellowship, between

Continued on Back Cover

1953 and 1982. When did N.A. start up in your area, region or state? Specific dates and places would be very useful in piecing together the still-clouded picture of our growth. Details relating to your first meeting, your first Area Services Committee meeting, and your first Regional Services Committee meeting would be a good place to start in tracing your history. As a historical record of reference, check old minutes from these early meetings. Then, read through the minutes from these earliest meetings and continue through to the minutes of subsequent meetings, and so on, right up to the present time. As you read through these minutes, take special note of motions carried, (or motions 'passed'); this way, it should become clear what major decisions were reached by the Group Consciences, and the picture of N.A. growth in your area, region or state should open up and become more clear to you, as it has others who have already begun to do this. We suggest that members who have been around for awhile, or who have been instrumental in getting N.A. started in their area, get together and start to compile your history. We request that you send it in to us as soon as you have it completed, so that it may be included in the history of N.A. as a whole. We need your support in order for our History to be an all-inclusive one. So don't exclude yourself. Be a part of.

If you have any questions concerning how to go about compiling your history, please contact us so we can help. We are here to serve you, as always. The need for your input on the History of N.A. is an urgent one. We would like to stress that, the sooner you get in it to us, the sooner we'll be able to piece the whole picture together. There is not much time so, please, don't procrastinate or hesitate, get together today and help make the history of N.A. a complete and accurate account of where we came from, what happened, and how we got to where we are today.

Your Trusted Servants in Love and Fellowship,

W. S. C. - Literature Subcommittee
P.O. Box 3585
Lawrence, KS 66044

I N D E X
(Continued)

TITLES	Yes	No
A Little Girl Grows Up		
My Gratitude Speaks		
No Excuse For Loneliness		
I Was Unique		
Nowhere To Turn		
Pain Is Pain		
Physician-Addict		
Pothead		
Realization Of A Dream		
Recovery Is My Responsibility		
Relapse And Return		
Resentment At The World		
Sick And Tired At Eighteen		
Surrendered		
Part Of The Solution		
Today I Live		
The War Is Over		
Why Me? Why Not Me?		
Unmanageable		
He Is In Charge And I Am Responsible		
A Long Way Down		
Up From Down Under		
It Wasn't Always Like This		

I N D E X
(Continued)

TITLES	Yes	No
Long Distance Recovery		
Mid-Pacific Serenity		

1. How many stories do you want in OUR BOOK (Circle your choice).

Less than 15

15 to 25

25 to 35

35 to 45

Over 45

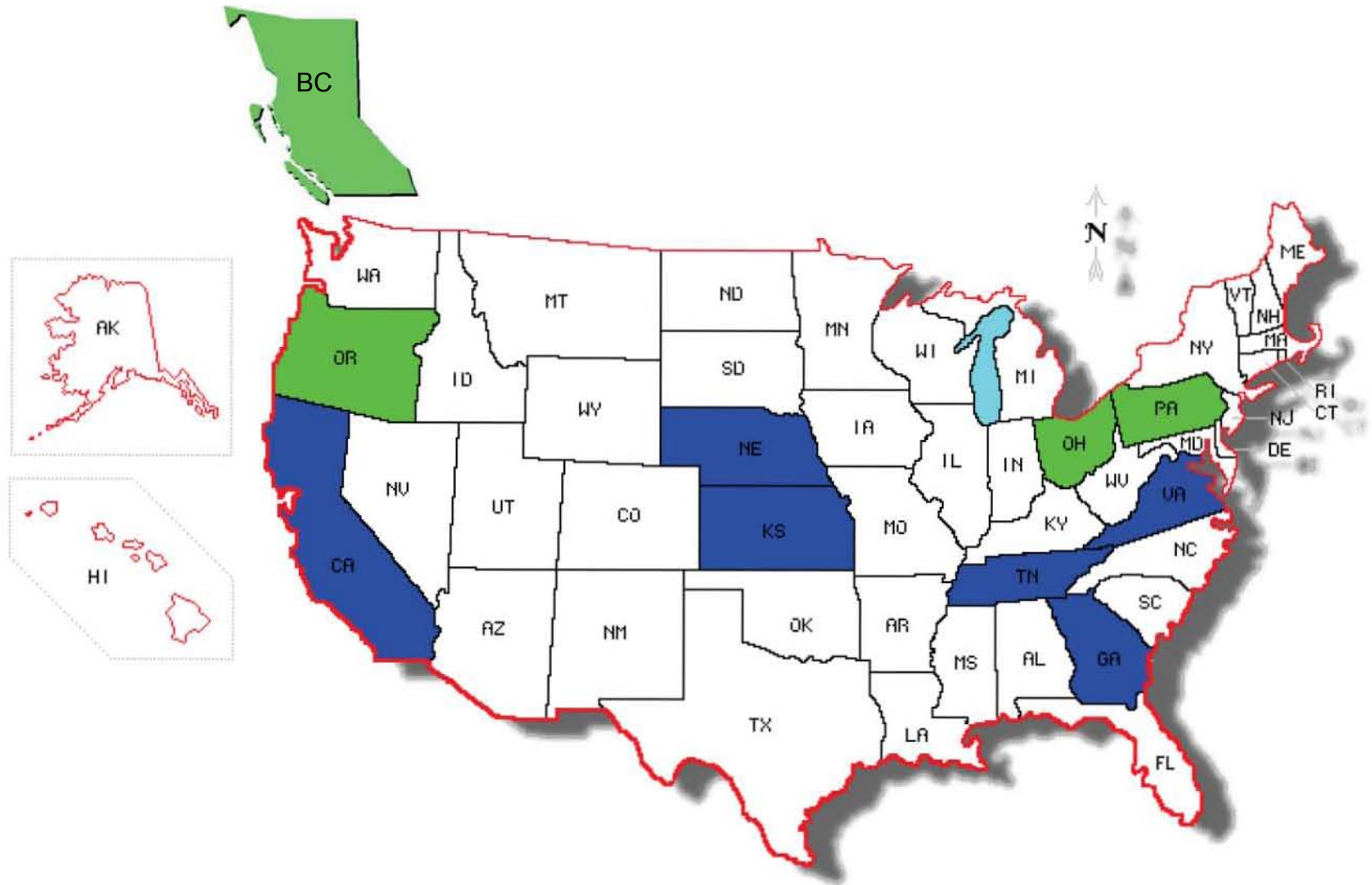
2. How do you want to deal with references to AA?

Send Input To:

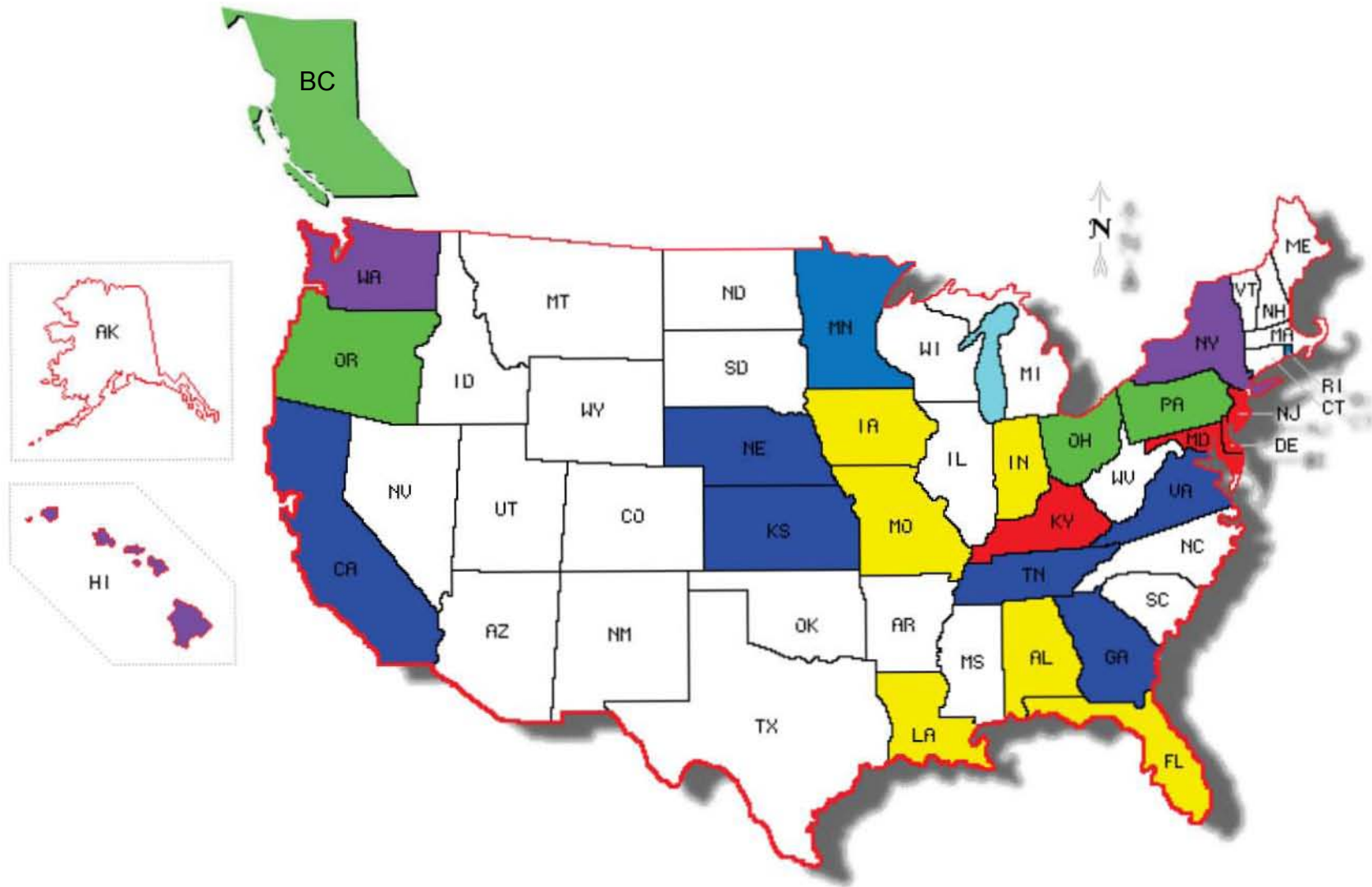
WSC-LC
P. O. Box 3585
Lawrence, Kansas 66044



States Represented at the 1st World Literature Conference



States Represented by the 2nd World Literature Conference



States Represented by the 6th and 7th World Literature Conference

World Literature Conferences Attended	Total Participants	%
1	348	84.47%
2	34	8.25%
3	17	4.13%
4	5	1.21%
5	5	1.21%
6	2	0.49%
7	1	0.24%
	412	

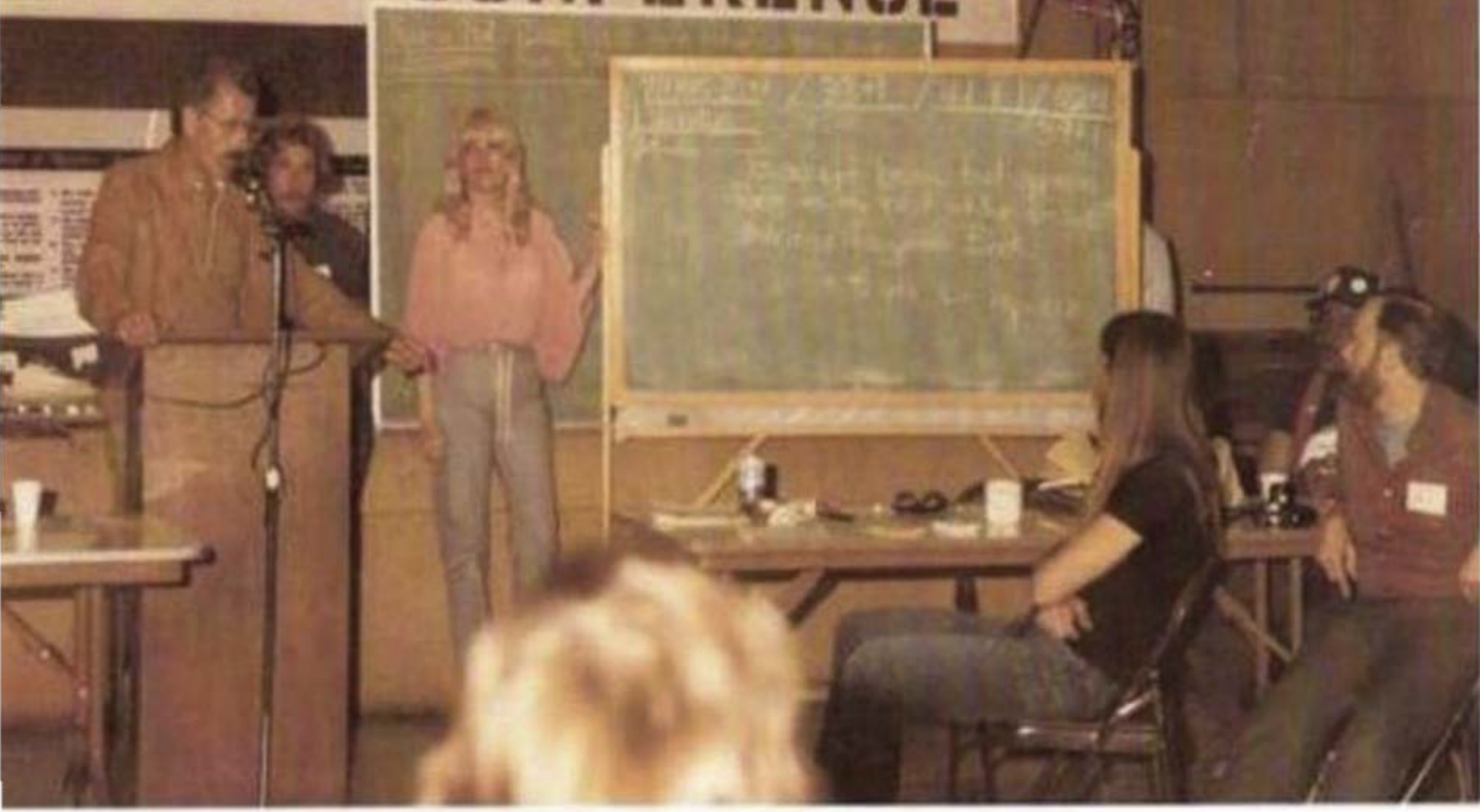
The majority of members attended just one WLC

World Literature Conferences Attended	Members
7	Bo S. (GA)
6	Hank F. (GA) and Joseph P. (TN)
5	Doug W. (NE), Jim M. (OH), Linda M. (KS), Terica W. (PA), Tom McT. (GA/OH)
4	Dean K. (CA), George R. (PA), Mary L. (GA), Page C. (GA) and Roger T. (TN/GA/FL)
3	Al R. (PA), Bill G. (NJ), Bob B. (CA), Bob S. (TN), Bobby B. (PA), Charles K. (LA), Cliff H. (KS), Dan K. (NE), Ed B. (GA), Gina H. (TN), Greg P. (OR), Jim B. (CA), Matt K. (CA), Mike F. (PA), Nickie C. (CA), Roy D. (OH), Sally E. (CA)
2	Andy O. (PA), Bernie A. (PA), Bob D. (MO), Bob G. (FL), Bob M. (DE), Cathy T. (TN), Chuck S. (CA), Denise T. (DE), Donna N. (NE), Frank S. (CA), George S. (GA), Glenn S. (NE), Jamie S. (PA), Jeff L. (NE), Jim B. (IN), Jim N. (NE), Kenny H. (TN), Louis C. (PA), Marc B. (OH), Mary V. (OH), Mike P. (TN), Nolan W. (CA), Pam K. (OH), Pat T. (KY), Pete B. (PA), Rich M. (PA), Richard B. (CA), Richard D. (TN), Richelle T. (OH), Stephen K. (PA), Sydney R. (CA), Tish G. (PA), Tom L. (MO)

COME TO "82"

Motion to Approve
Basic Text WSC 1982

SERVICE CONFERENCE



Addicts in Michigan
help get NA literature
to addicts in need

RECOVERY



CAN'T | WAIT

APPROVED MAY, 82

Basic Text ~~Approved~~
Unpublished Literary Work

The World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous has specified that our book be hard cover with the inlay lettering "Narcotics Anonymous". The color of the cover and lettering was not specified. In keeping with the spirit of our Fellowship and group conscious, we are further asking you to let us know what color of cover and lettering you want. Please indicate your preference on the order form in the space provided.

We believe that with a loving God, through you, the Fellowship will provide the means necessary to publish our book; thus we are asking you, the Fellowship, to once again make the impossible a reality, and by doing so help to better carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers.

FIRST EDITION N.A. BIG BOOK PRE-ORDER

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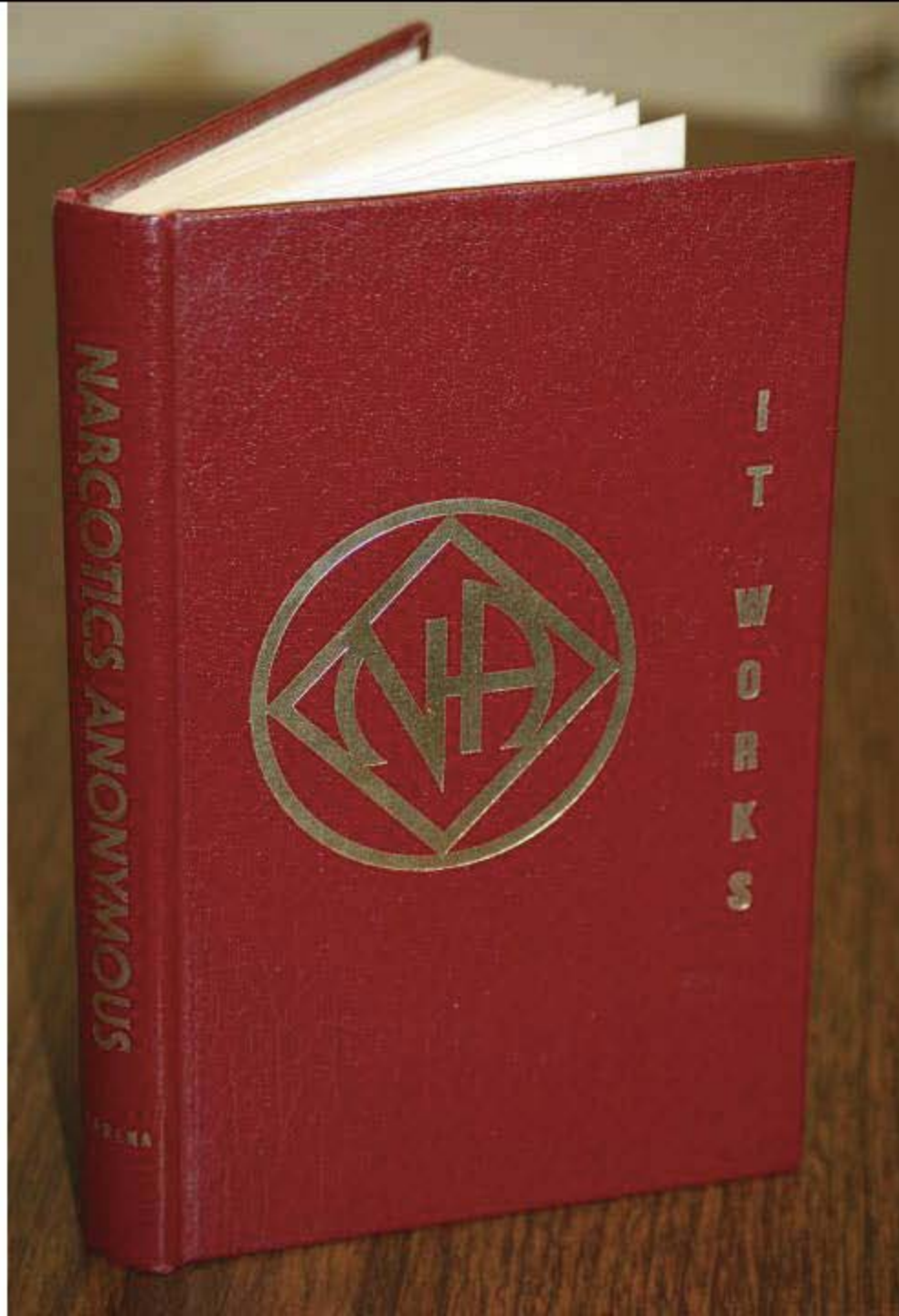
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I understand that this advance sale will continue for a period of three months, and even at the close of this sale final distribution must await type-setting, printing, binding, and mailing. I know that I may not receive my copy until November, 1982. I realize that should I move, or if my copy cannot be delivered at the address below, I must either pick up my book at W.S.O., or notify them of my correct address before November, 1982. (Try to give us an address that will be valid for 6 months.)

INPUT: - Cover Lettering and Color



Last line of the 1st Edition

- Tom C.'s story, Mid-Pacific Serenity originally was the last chapter in the Basic Text.
- The last sentence reads:
 - "God is loving us now"



making room for the new. For me, it never gets real easy to do, usually, I have to be backed up against the wall and humiliated and then I share. They say this is a Program of action and that you can't keep it without giving it away; how true it is. In the beginning, I thought I had to say all the right things and save everyone, today I realize I only have what's in my heart to share. Today, I can walk into a meeting and if I am full of the Father's love, then I share it, yet there are times that I walk into a meeting and want to throw the coffee pot through the window, yet I have to stay honest for that's the way I stay clean.

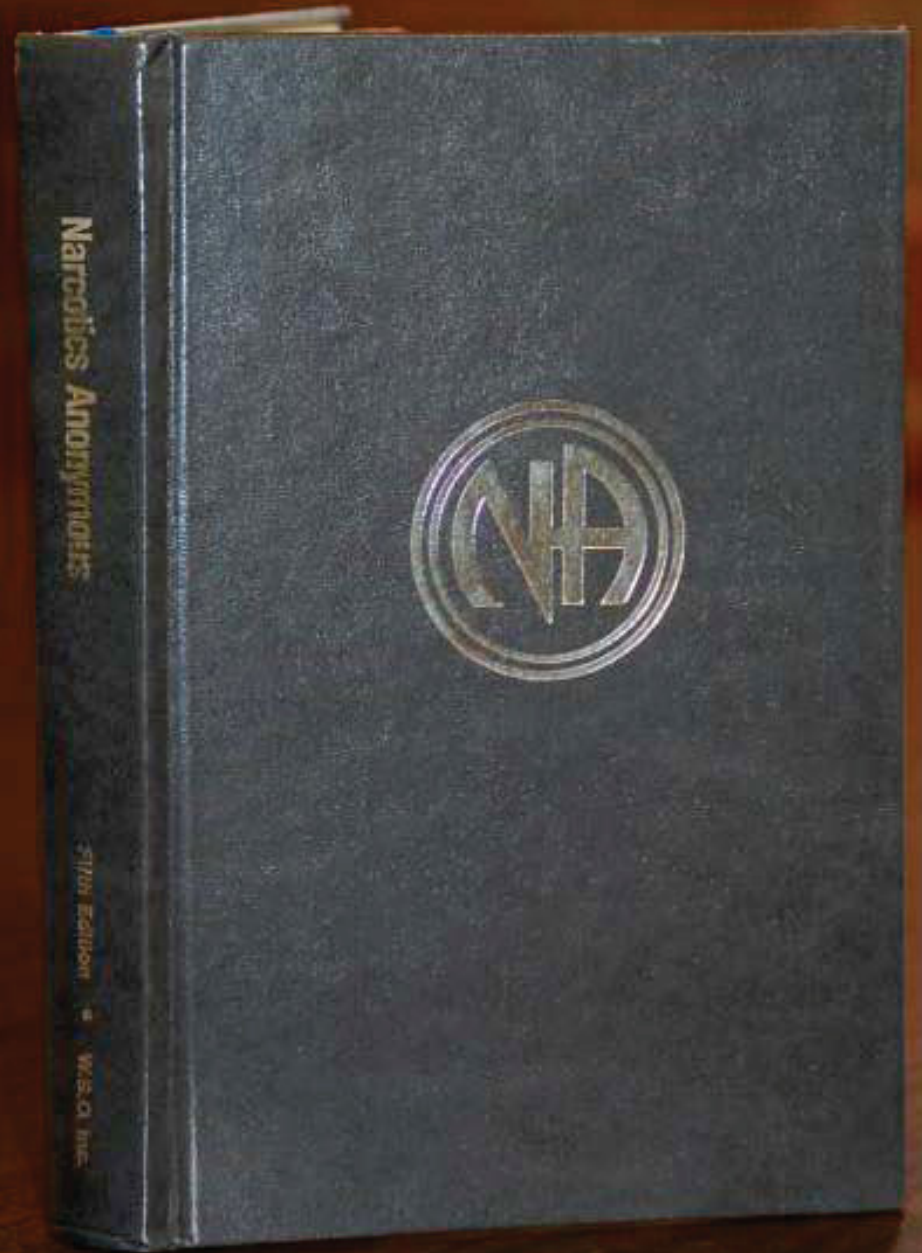
I know today that staying clean and having a relationship with God as I understand Him is the most important thing in my life. When I do that and carry the message to the ones who still suffer, then all else is provided in my life. I really believe that I don't have to prove anything to anybody. I carry the message by letting the newcomer know who I am inside and sharing how I work the Steps one day at a time.

Since getting clean in 1971, life has been anything but boring. I have traveled all over. My sponsor was an able example of following your heart, and that wherever we went, N.A. was alive. Our houses were always open, with a coffee pot going. We started meetings wherever we arrived. Sometimes, we had no money, but we went out to do our primary purpose, and God always showed us the way.

My sponsor died three years ago with eighteen years clean. Most of the group has family now, and we are scattered around the United States, learning different lessons, yet N.A. always comes first. Today, I am married and pursue different things than during the first seven years of my recovery, yet I know that the only way I can have any outside gifts is to put this program and God first. We really have found a way up and out, and so long as we keep giving it away, no matter if it is love and joy or tears and fears, it will be all right.

Today, I live because people are there who care and will listen. I really believe in magic, for my life is full of it. God is loving us now.

**Commemorative Edition
1 Millionth Copy
of the Basic Text
1988**





Narcotics
Anonymous
20th Anniversary



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Fifth Edition

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NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

**Commemorative
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25th Anniversary 2008

Sixth
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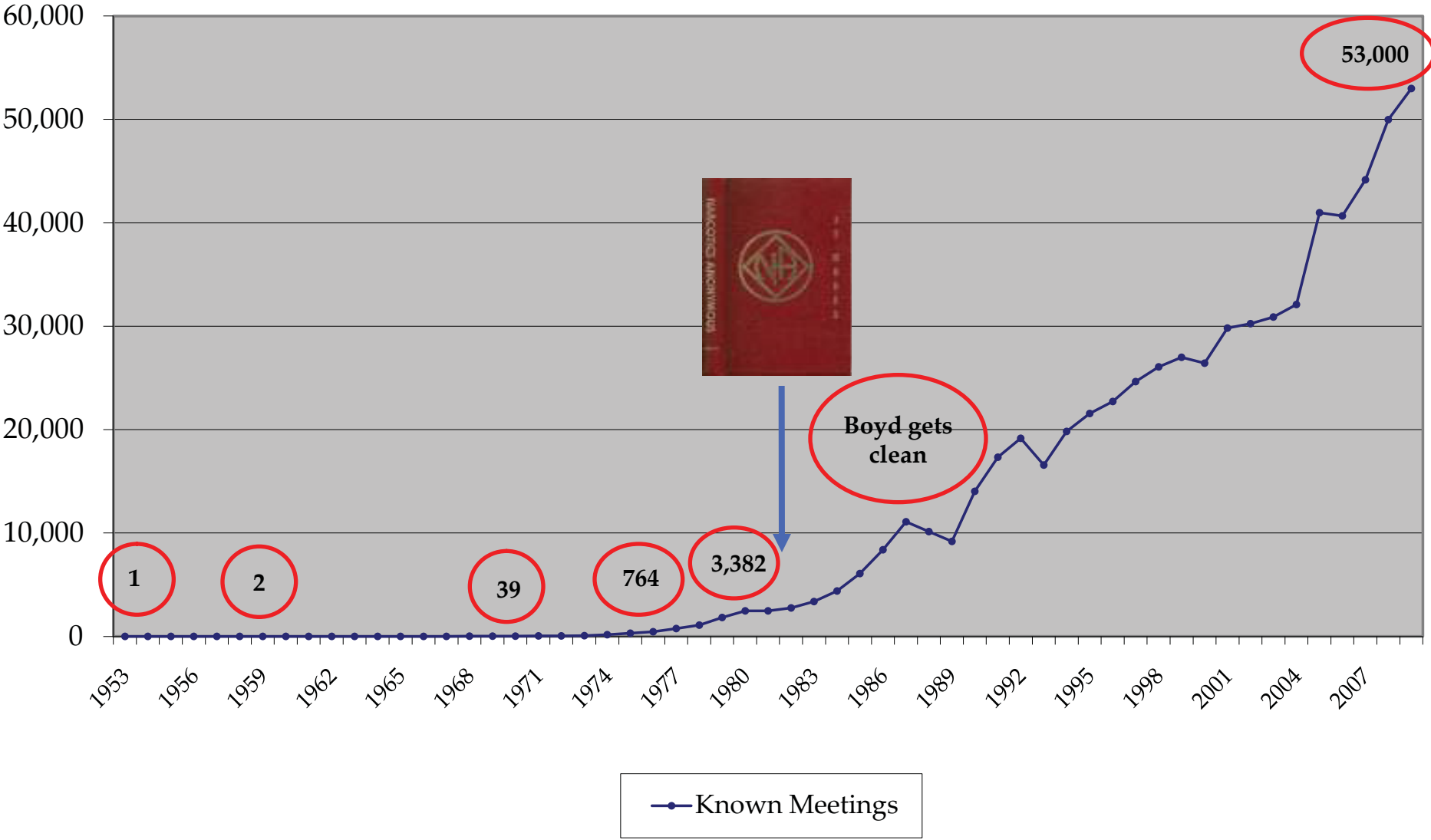




The Impact of the Book

- Unified the message and language of Narcotics Anonymous
- “NA would not have had the financial resources to meet the challenges that growth in the eighties afforded” (Bob Stone p. 544)

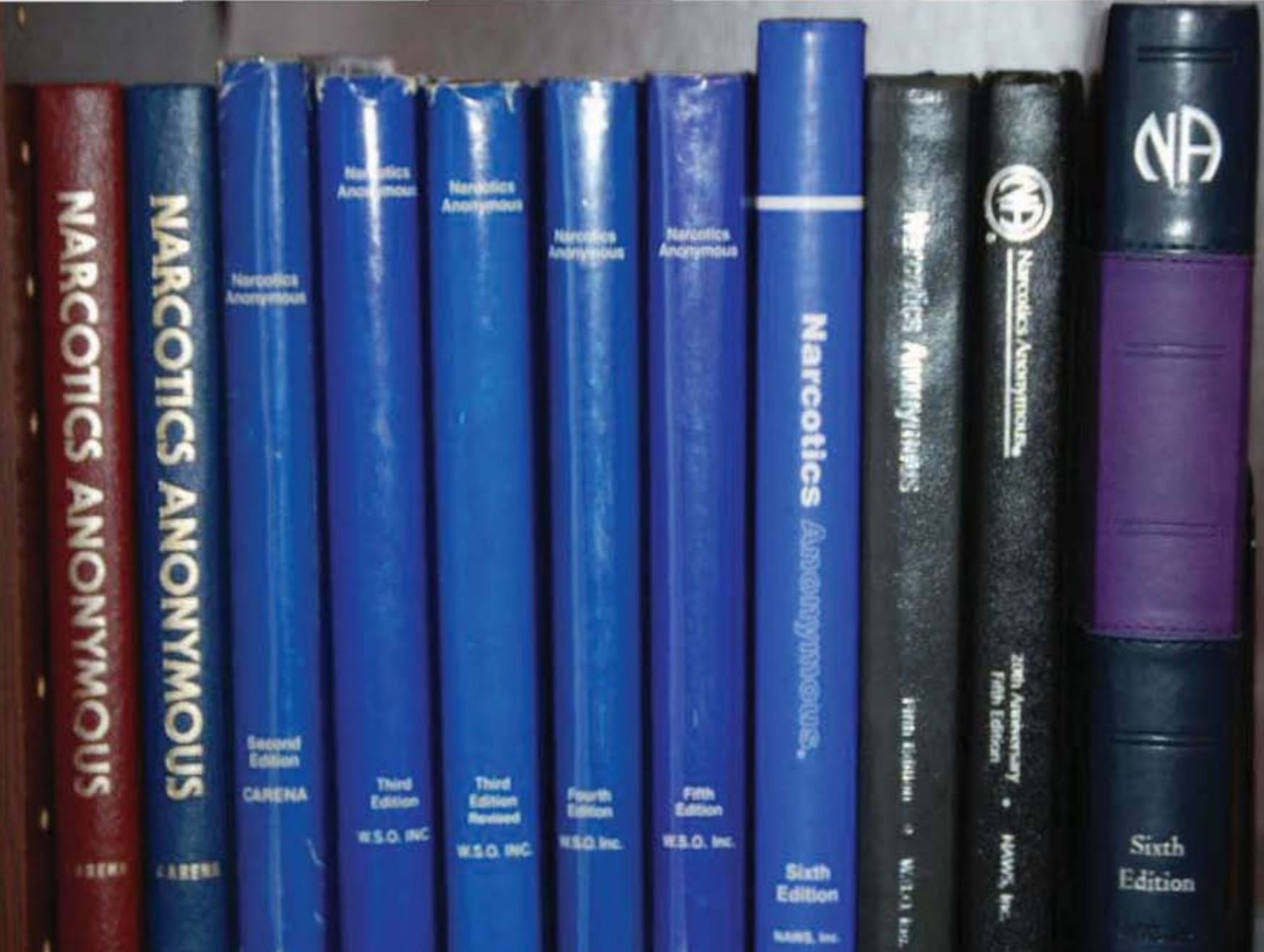
Known Meetings





The Impact of the Book

- Has been translated into 16 other languages, making the message of Narcotics Anonymous available to so many others
- “Without the book, the message of NA would become fragmented, and the fellowship could have been eclipsed by other recovery movements” (Bob Stone p. 544)



What has the Basic Text meant to you?

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