

The Voice*

OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Vol. I, Issue 2

November 1978

It has been a long time since February...but here we are in print again! We are happy to report that many wonderful things have been happening since our last issue: The N.A. Conference last April, the formation of Conference Committees and most recently, the compilation of the N.A. World Directory which has just been completed

The Voice expresses deep gratitude and heartfelt thanks to everyone who has written us and the many people who have made generous donations. We are in the process of compiling a subscription/ mailing list so be assured, if you are on the list you will get every issue requested.

CONFERENCE REVIEW

The N.A. World Conference held last April (in Los Angeles) was a large success. Even though attendance was somewhat small, we had good representation from many areas including: Canada, Minnesota, Atlanta, Ga., Lincoln, Neb., Texas, Colorado, British Columbia, etc. An important achievement of this conference was the formation of Conference Committees for next year's Conference. One of these committees was set up to write a set of guidelines for next year's gathering. The following other committees were set up: Administration, Institutional, Policy, Literature and Public Information.

Every newsletter ever put out by N.A. has asked the same question, made the same plea... 'Send us something interesting to you that may be interesting to the rest of us...' etc. The response: a little better, but letters read something like this: 'Great! Keep up the good work - right on!! I'll write something later but send me the next copy you get out.' They are good for our ego but how about something that's also good for N.A. and the spirit of the fellowship? It's not admiration we want, it's your ideas, your ideals, your practical applications, your problems, your successes, your deep feelings on paper. Write a sentence, a paragraph or a page that is the REAL YOU...yes, that's what we want to know - the real you! And to those who have been giving us "your all" - thanks and KEEP COMING BACK!

Jimmy K.
Assist. Editor

DATELINE: PENNSYLVANIA*****

(Dear Rich B., Just love your newsletters ..beautifully written...tell everybody there that we really appreciate receiving them! Loved that line about living problems of the editors, remind me to steal that from you in our next issue! - Editor)

A big congratulations to Kingston, Pa.'s first year of Public Service. Since the formation of a mailing address a little over a year ago, they have received over 150 pieces of mail with other areas of N.A.: an attempt at an Eastern Conference, and from all over Northeastern Pa.

The Philadelphia Area Service Committee announced a special N.A. sponsored Retreat for male members in Malvern, Pa. This is something that many areas have talked about doing...perhaps someone would consider dropping us a line to let us know how you got it organized!

Wilkes Barre, Pa. held their regular monthly steering committee in August. The main discussion: A new Public Service announcement will soon be aired on W.N.E.P.-TV for N.A.

DATELINE: LINCOLN, NEBRASKA*****

Mary L. from Lincoln, Neb. sent us a letter to this area's (Lincoln) N.A. members put out in behalf of the Institutional Committee. One of the things this area is doing is putting together a pamphlet 'To The Addict In An Institution.' This will touch on how local groups can get more involved in institutional work.

There is an international nonprofit organization in Lincoln that brings people, resources and information together to implement new ideas and programs. It originated in the field of criminal justice and most staff workers are ex-felons, some of whom are addicts in N.A. The president has offered to publish an article about N.A. as an available resource to addicts in institutions. This would greatly expand our ability to carry the message of N.A. and ideas and feelings about this are currently being requested from N.A. members in the Lincoln area.

Another consideration is to have some articles about N.A. published in the American Journal of Corrections and in the Grapevine (a publication of the warden's association.)

They are also hoping to get together a Tape Library so that individuals who are in institutions where no N.A. exists can reap some of the benefits of Our program

(Nice going Mary, thanks for this generous amount of information. Sorry I missed you at the Convention. - Ed.)

I'd like to procrastinate, but I keep putting it off.

DATELINE: MAUI*****

The following is a letter we received a couple months ago.

Aloha from the island of Maui:

Just a note to say we enjoyed The Voice. Our group is just getting started and we need all the experience, strength and hope we can get. The Voice is a good source.

If any of you mainland N A 's are planning to visit Hawaii, do get in touch. Phone: 808/874-3164 or 808/874-3865.

Mahalo,
Maui N.A.
No Ka Oi

A Short Note to the Island Groups from a former member in Hawaii:

Aloha,

I love you all. I'm happy to know the fellowship is there. Be seeing you and for sure thinking of you.

Aloha,
Frank S.

ATTENTION PLEASE

We want to ask all groups who either have orders for literature already sent in or who are in the process of ordering to realize that due to a paper strike in the Northwest we are experiencing a serious shortage of paper and cannot fill orders for White Books as fast as we would like. However, Informational Pamphlets and other things are plentiful, so please bear with us through this crisis.

The World Service Staff

BIG BOOKS, LITTLE BOOKS, COMIC BOOKS

As a result of the recent World Service Conference, N.A. now has an ongoing Literature Committee that is responsible for reviewing and revising all existing and all new pieces of literature. And this committee needs your help!

As of now, all N.A. literature (the N.A. Pamphlet, the N.A. Tree, and all the Information Pamphlets) is up for review/revision and is subject to approval by the members of next year's World Service Conference.

Have you ever wished you could rewrite part or all of the N.A. Pamphlet or one of the I.P.? Now you can! Just sit down and write out your suggestions, type them up, and mail them to:

Conference Literature Committee
c/o World Service Office
P.O. Box 622
Sun Valley, CA 91352

All suggestions received will be considered.

We also need input from you, the Fellowship, in order to be able to put together new literature. There is still a sad lack of literature in N.A. ANY ideas you might have are probably good ones. write them up! And this means anything. books, pamphlets, personal stories, experience or views on the 12 Steps and the 12 Traditions, anything on God and how did you find your Higher Power, etc. etc. etc.

The Literature Committee exists to respond to you. If we receive input from you, anything can happen. If not, very little will happen. Share your experience, strength, and hope. Share the message of a loving God and recovery from a lethal disease. The time is now and -

Here we are,

Mark M.
Chairman, Conference
Literature Committee'

The Voice neither endorses nor opposes any letters appearing in this issue. All replies should be directed to the authors at their addresses, if any, given. We gladly accept contributions and if demands require, look forward to seeing a 'Letters To The Editor' column in the near future.

Len A.,
Editor

A BIG WELCOME TO MORE NEW GROUPS!

Seeds sown widespread sometimes take years to find proper conditions for growth. A number of years ago in Germany, Vietnam, Guam and other Armed Forces bases in the U.S., our White Book was distributed with only the hope that something would happen. That only small problems with drugs were admitted to exist and transfers were more or less the rule; it is not surprising that little happened for years.

Until something is admitted to exist then nothing can be done to change the condition. This is only an observation of the past and not the present thinking in many Armed Forces areas. We wish to welcome all groups now in existence and hope that many more will form.

All groups have a voice in Narcotics Anonymous, let's hear from more of our members in all branches of the Service.

The Portland-Vancouver Area and the Houston Conventions this past month were a great success. Observers noted to us that many people were surprised and very happy to see such a large turnout from Californians at the Houston Convention. Just one more proof that we love, care for, and watch out for our own members.

At present we have a small mailing list set up. For those who wish to receive copies on a regular basis, subscription information will be forthcoming in a future issue. If you currently wish to receive a couple for your group or area, please let us know at the address given below. Your contributions will help currently pay the paper bill and postage. Any contributions should be made out to:

THE VOICE
P.O. Box 622
Sun Valley, CA 91352

May He who is Father of the Christians,
Allah of the Mohammedans,
Jehovah of the Jews,
Ahura Mazda of the Zoroastrians,
Buddha of the Buddhists,
Divine Mother - Infinite and All-
abiding spirit of the Indo-Aryans
Grant unto all peace and blessing
this Holiday Season and throughout
the year to come.