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WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC., P.O. BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91409; (818) 780-3951
VOLUME 5 FEBRUARY, 1988 NUMBER 1

CONVENTION INFORMATION WCNA-18

Greetings from the host committee for WCNA-18. We are happy to report that all subcommittees are working hard to ensure a festive celebration of recovery. The Program Committee is busy scheduling workshops and meetings with speakers from around the country and the world! The Entertainment Committee has arranged a bus tour of some of the hot spots in the Los Angeles area which will include the Pacific Ocean, Hollywood, the Mexican bazaars on Olvera Street and a tour of our World Service Office in Van Nuys. If you are interested in the tour, look for more information on the registration form.

There will also be a talent showcase. It would be helpful to know how many people plan on participating. If you plan to be involved, write to WCNA-18, c/o WSO, P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409, Attention: Peggy.

The banquet, main meeting and Sunday morning breakfast will all be held in the Anaheim Convention Center. Also, there will be a Live "Oldies" show featuring some excellent performers. A live comedy show has also been scheduled. All of these activities should prove to help make this world convention one of the best ever. More details on these activities will be made available as soon as the planning has been completed.

We would appreciate early registration. It would enable us to work more efficiently and keep registration lines to a minimum. We are looking forward to seeing you.

NEWSLINE MAIL LIST UPDATE AND GROUP REGISTRATIONS

The *Newsline* is currently mailed to approximately 12,000 addressees within the Fellowship and a few to addressees outside of the Fellowship. This represents the largest accumulation of mail list addressees that the Office has, or ever uses.

One of the principle elements of the *Newsline* mail list is group addresses. Every group that registers with the Office is added to the *Newsline* mail list. Unfortunately, we have no real assurance that changes in contact individuals for the group get made when new people are elected to those service positions.

Consequently, the ability of the Fellowship to receive information at the group level from the *Newsline* is in serious question. It would be a relatively easy thing for every group to send to the Office an updated contact person and address periodically when the group elects a new secretary.

The Office encourages every group in the Fellowship to assign this responsibility as a task to the secretary or another officer of the group, so that this gets done every time a change is made in that contact person or address.

This will substantially assist every group in being informed of what is going on throughout the Fellowship.

BASIC TEXT IN PAPERBACK

The Basic Text *Narcotics Anonymous* is now available in a soft cover paperback version. It is the same size as the hard cover book (5-1/2" X 8-1/2") and sells for the same price, \$8.00. The cover is a deep blue with white type, the same colors used on the dust jacket of the hard cover book. These paperback books are more flexible than a hard cover book and were originally requested for use in hospitals and institutions work. They are also convenient for use by other N.A. members because they are somewhat lighter than a hard cover book, thereby making them more portable. Perfect for reading on a bus or plane, or stuffing in your gym bag or briefcase.

Item No. 225X

Each: \$8.00

I.P. MODERNIZATION--A NEW LOOK?

Members and some service committees have sent letters each year concerning the format of our I.P.'s. This year a Conference Committee recommended the deletion of the cross lines on our logo as it has appeared on the I.P.'s. The WSO Board of Directors (BOD) has agreed to do this and is looking further at other ways to improve the general appearance of Conference-approved informational pamphlets.

At the last meeting of the BOD, several new designs were offered including: using a new typeface, rearranging the existing layout, and the use of illustrations. Although the Board did not choose a new design or agree to change the existing design at that time, they did encourage the

investigation of new designs to continue. Progress on this issue will be reported in the coming editions of the *Newsline*.

CATALOGS NOW AVAILABLE FROM WSO

The World Service Office now has catalogs available, which can be purchased for twenty-five cents (\$.25) each. The catalog includes photographs and descriptions of NA literature, as well as medallions, chips and keytags, posters, audio tapes, service handbooks, and other materials. The descriptions allow a person looking through the catalog to get a better idea of what they are looking at than they could get from the order form sheets we have used in the past.

Because of the descriptions and the attractive appearance of the catalogs, they are useful to have available for P.I. committees to use, as well as for N.A. members. Many P.I. committees are starting to provide catalogs to professionals and others in the public, and to have them at health fairs and conferences at which we exhibit. To order catalogs, just check the box to request "N.A. Catalogs" on the order form, at \$.25 each.

EUROPEAN NEWSLINE

Enclosed with this issue of the *Newsline* is a copy of the second issue of the European Newsline. It is being mailed upon the request of the United Kingdom Service Office which has accepted responsibility for distributing the newsline. It contains various articles written by N.A. members from European countries which may be of interest to all N.A. members.

TULSA WORKSHOP FINALIZED

The plans for the workshop to be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma have been finalized. The site is the Hilton Inn of Tulsa, 5000 E. Skelly Dr., Tulsa, Oklahoma (918/622-7000). Notification has been sent to each region and also to each person or service committee who has expressed interest. It is important that anyone who plans to attend make their arrangements with the hotel and also notify us at WSO.

We will begin on Friday, March 18, at 6:00 p.m. This session will address office and convention corporations in terms of their relationship to our service structure, process of incorporation, tax exemption, and how the board of directors functions.

On Saturday, we will divide into three groups during the day in order to focus on new offices, existing offices, and conventions. In the evening, all groups will combine. Sunday will be devoted to questions and answers and some new possibilities for sharing information in future months.

There will be presentations by WSO staff, world level trusted servants, and also members of the Fellowship who have hands on experience. The workshop is aimed at sharing information and experience with the eventual goal of developing a booklet which will be helpful to our service committees in the future.

Any questions can be directed to Steve or Anthony at WSO.

LITERATURE PROJECTS

The WSO Literature Department has been receiving a number of calls in the past couple of weeks from literature subcommittees asking about projects that they can work on between now and the World Service Conference. In response to that, we would like to emphasize several items here that require those committees' attention. Of course, the review-form pamphlet *Questions and Answers about N.A.*, mentioned above, is out for your input.

Then there is the very important job of reviewing the items in the Conference Agenda Report which must be accomplished in time for your RSR's to bring your group conscience to the WSC in April. Those items include the five approval-form pamphlets and the newly proposed guidelines for the World Literature Committee. In addition, a project begun by the WSC Ad-hoc Committee on *It Works*, a draft step outline, has been mailed to all literature subcommittees with a request for input to be submitted by the end of April. Input on this outline should include specific comments about which topic headings are lacking or unnecessary, etc. Please call the WSO literature coordinator if you have questions about any of these items.

REVIEWING AND UTILIZING THE CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT

As area and regional service committees undertake the project of disseminating information from the Conference Agenda Report to groups and members, it may be helpful to consider some of the experience which has been shared with the WSO.

It seems that each year there are many different approaches used. Some of these have met with great success, while others have resulted in valuable learning experiences for everyone involved.

Special Conference Agenda meetings, or service conferences, have been utilized each year for this purpose. Experience suggests that attempting lengthy discussions of this material during regular ASC or RSC meetings can be nonproductive because there usually is not sufficient time to adequately review and understand the amount of information presented.

There are several approaches which have been reported to be productive and beneficial. Each of these is dependent upon communication between

the regional service committee, the area service committees, and the groups involved.

For instance, if a regional committee plans a service conference for the sole purpose of gathering or tallying group conscience votes from the ASC's, it may be best to hold area service conferences several weeks before this event. This allows enough time for the area conferences to discuss, examine, and even workshop the material if necessary. Then, there is still enough time for follow-up workshops, if appropriate, before sending the ASR to the regional conference. Also, this timing is conducive to schedule planning on behalf of the regional trusted servants, thus providing the opportunity for them to be present at the area conferences.

A different situation exists in some regions where the regional service conference is held for the purpose of providing a discussion forum. Under these circumstances, it may be wise to hold the regional conference immediately following release of the report, and then hold the area conferences after this event. Under these circumstances, the regional forum can possibly provide input for the areas and groups to consider. In this situation, a mechanism must be provided which allows for input and feedback from the areas back to the region. This can be accomplished by another regional conference or simply by a special purpose meeting between the ASR's, the RSR, and the RSR-Alternate.

Some regions which are either very small (in terms of the number of meetings), don't have many area committees, have a relatively young service body, or have meetings which are geographically isolated from one another, have improvised. In order to meet their communication needs, many of these have simply held one event which includes all interested N.A. members, while others have held several meetings. These serve the combined functions of discussing the material and also gathering a conscience of the N.A. community.

Our service committees have the responsibility to provide the opportunity for all N.A. members to communicate their input and thereby take an active part in the policies, philosophies and literature which will affect N.A. as a whole. There are several fundamental considerations which are important when working toward this goal:

1. The Conference Agenda Report is published at the end of each January and is sent to each region. It is available to any N.A. member, group, or service committee for \$5.00 (plus shipping charge) and may be ordered now from the WSO.
2. Regardless of the specific approach which is used, every effort should be made to provide advance notification to all members and groups. Communication between the RSC, ASC's, and groups is essential in planning for service conferences.
3. The timing and sequence of service conferences is a primary concern.

4. Scheduling should be arranged to best accommodate the area and regional trusted servants who might have the most experience to share regarding some of the items discussed in the Conference Agenda Report.
5. RSR's and alternates have found it most beneficial to attend the special area conferences. This enables them to share their understanding and experience about the agenda items and also allows them to get a first hand feeling for each of their area's group conscience. RSR's can represent their region with confidence when they have had the chance to hear input from every group and area.

The World Service Office staff is available to assist the Fellowship in preparation for WSC '88. We hope that this information will help service committees to meet the needs of their membership.

IT WORKS: HOW AND WHY An Update

**FROM VINCE DALEY, CHAIRPERSON
WSC AD-HOC COMMITTEE**

It's a good feeling to be able to report a successful year. We received good direction from the Conference. Although quite a few times it was like standing on one side of a canyon looking at the other side. You could see where you wanted to go, but how do you get there? Of course the first impulsive urge was to take a running jump, but sanity and recovery prevailed.

It was faith and trust in the Fellowship, our group conscience process, and a loving God that provided the solutions. Everyone worked toward the same end and cooperated unselfishly.

By January we had a mountain of material generated by our Fellowship for our book *It Works: How and Why*. Time was running out and we needed to have very productive world level workshops in Chicago, San Francisco and Ft. Lauderdale if we were to complete our task this year. Again, we had good Fellowship participation, with everyone working long and hard. We completed the last of the Fellowship material in the last hour of the final workshop in Ft. Lauderdale. Nothing like living on the edge...

WSC 1988 CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT

The committee has a motion in the WSC 1988 Conference Agenda Report that deals with dissolving the committee and ending this stage in the development of our book. At the time that the report and motion were written, we still did not have enough information to help you in making a decision. Much depended on the success of the January workshops and they were indeed very productive.

Today I can report that we have, to the best of our ability, fulfilled the goals and direction given this committee by WSC '87. There is no leftover work and we have a single master list of changes ready to hand over to the World Literature Committee. *It Works* has been thoroughly worked on by our members in the Fellowship and only the material they felt belonged in the book remains. It appears that it is time to put together a single review-form draft so that we, as a Fellowship, can improve upon it with more creative writing.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NEXT?

This is the most common and frequent question being asked of me as the chairperson of the ad-hoc committee. Many area and regional literature committees throughout the Fellowship want to keep writing on our book. They want to know how to do it and what to write on.

At WSC '88 we will be given new direction but until then you certainly can keep writing.

SIMPLE, BASIC GUIDANCE

There has been a wonderful evolution in the nature of the Fellowship's written input this year. Our members and committees started out requesting lots of short simple changes such as "delete this sentence or word." Later they became more confident in their writing skills and began writing whole paragraphs on ideas and concepts they want included in the book.

Use of the prepared written input forms has been invaluable, time saving, clear and understandable. We recommend that all future Fellowship input on review-form literature be prepared on input forms, if possible. Until there is a single review-form draft, you will have to use as a basis for your writing the black and white book.

Read your black and white book and write on the ideas and concepts you feel are missing from each chapter or that need to be expanded. For example, one literature committee that meets at least once a week and is really into this, felt that very little was mentioned about the concept of surrender in the First Step.

Use your step outline to guide you and be creative. Meet regularly and keep writing. Send your material into the World Literature Committee, c/o WSO and keep copies that you can use on the review form when it comes out. It will be easier to figure out where to place your material when the review form is published.

When writing, it is very helpful to keep your focus simple. We're writing a book that is our experience and understanding of our steps. Write in the tone and spirit you feel the book and each chapter needs. Picture a beginning, middle, and an end, then fill in the gaps. Add to this your love, guidance of a Higher Power and our group

conscience process, and the end result will be awesome.

For most members who have attended the world workshops on *It Works*, it was their first opportunity to participate in the creation and development of a major work. My hope is that you will take your newly learned skills and experience home and share it with the members in your area.

When we sit down as a group to write and work on our steps, everyone benefits. There's a terrific sense of purpose, unity and togetherness which happens to all our members in the areas and regions that are meeting regularly to write on our steps. Try something different in your recovery and share your experience in our literature process.

REVIEW-FORM LITERATURE

We are pleased to announce that an item of review-form literature is now available to all registered literature committees. The item is a proposed information pamphlet (I.P.), tentatively titled Questions and Answers about N.A. A cover letter and copy of the pamphlet was recently mailed to all literature committees registered with the WSO. Input will be accepted until at least October 31, 1988.

Because the WSO Literature Department continues to receive a number of calls regarding review- and approval-form literature, we are taking this opportunity to share the following information. This information has been recently printed in various forms in different reports to the Fellowship and general correspondence from the World Literature Committee.

The review stage of N.A.'s literature development process is a very important stage. This is the time to let your World Literature Committee know how you feel about a possible new item. Input forms similar to those that have been used successfully in the *It Works* ad-hoc process will be distributed shortly. These will include important additional general questions to answer, such as, "Does this item address a concept or idea which we feel is important?" And if so, "Does it address it accurately and appropriately?"

The World Literature Committee is also in the process of producing review-form drafts of two additional I.P.'s: For Those in Treatment and In Times of Illness. Depending on how this work progresses, these may or may not be ready for distribution this coming May.

APPROVAL-FORM LITERATURE

The World Literature Committee has made available through the WSO, during the last year, five pieces of approval-form literature. These five items are *Staying Clean on the Outside*, *Hey! What's the Basket for?*, *Am I an Addict?* - Newly Revised, *The Group* - Newly Revised and *Working Step Four in Narcotics Anonymous*. It is important that we

understand the difference between review-form and approval-form literature. Although we seek an abundance of input on literature during its review stage, quite the opposite is true once it reaches approval stage. The approval stage is not the time to submit indepth input, suggestions or criticisms. The time for that is during the review stage, which is why it is so important to involve our membership during that time. It's really too late for that type of input at the approval stage, unless an item is rejected for further work at the WSC.

Regarding the items out this year in approval form, it is important for literature subcommittees to make an informed decision about the adoption of each at this year's World Service Conference as approved items of N.A. literature. Literature subcommittee's decisions should be communicated through the service structure to RSR's for inclusion in the group conscience of the Conference when it meets in April. Approval-form literature is distributed in a final form and is out for a yes or no vote only. If a subcommittee feels that there are substantial changes necessary before you are comfortable with adopting it, then it must send a no vote. If it feels the item is great, then it would send a yes vote. If it feels an item is basically in good shape, but would like to see some minor changes, a yes vote may still be sent and your comments should be mailed to the World Literature Committee. All such input is considered when the items come due for their regular review, which is normally every five years. Input should not be sent with your RSR to the WSC with the expectation that changes will be made on the Conference floor prior to adoption. Although there have been occasions where the Conference has accepted specific amendments in the adoption of material, hindsight suggests that this is not in the best interests of our Fellowship.

THOUGHTS ON ANONYMITY

How does anonymity serve as the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions? And, how does it always remind us to place principles first? What is it that's spiritual about all this anyway?

Many N.A. members shy away from these questions, leaving them to the Board of Trustees or others. However, many service committees have recently begun discussions of these and other topics, in the belief that their discussions allow an exchange of experience which is vital to their function.

A member of our staff had the privilege of visiting an area service committee meeting in a western state recently. This committee spent 20 minutes discussing the Twelfth Tradition before proceeding with the meeting, and the following thoughts represent a summary of their discussion.

Member A related that his personal desire for recognition and competition had prevented him from understanding "common welfare" and "unity" for at least the first year of his recovery in N.A.

He had thought that common welfare meant only that everyone stayed drug free, and that unity meant agreement. The idea that no one member was more important than the group and the concept of spiritual unity in purpose only began to be meaningful after careful examination of self-will and many self-serving character defects.

Member B shared that the Ultimate Authority concept in Tradition Two seemed like religious dogma at first, but took on a new meaning since she had been a part of several "group conscience" processes and had been elected as a trusted servant. She told a story of having the impulse to "govern" because she knew something that other group members did not. Instead, she was supported in sharing what she knew and allowing the group to utilize and discuss the information, thus avoiding ego and control problems.

Member C admitted candidly that he did not see how anonymity was involved at all in Traditions Three, Four, or Five. He always thought of anonymity as "being secret" and he was asking for help in understanding the discussion. Several other members then went on to relate that requiring no more than the desire to stop using gave assurance that there would only be one type of membership. This membership would then have no relationship to a person's social standing, importance, wealth, or any other characteristic. It was in this sense that lack of recognition, or anonymity, was the non-self centered foundation of Tradition Three.

The discussion continued with emphasis on how "spiritual anonymity" meant the opposite of any type of self-centered recognition or importance. Opposite meant "Higher Power centered" in this case. Many agreed that this applied not only to individuals, but also to groups and service committees. They also held a short discussion on the difference between group anonymity (one group being no more nor less influential than any other group), and group autonomy (self government). In this context, anonymity was seen as a part of group autonomy and also as the basis for a clause in Tradition Four, "...except in matters affecting other groups or N.A. as a whole."

The next person to talk read from the Basic Text, under Tradition Five, about maintaining the atmosphere of recovery in meetings and that "Unity of action and purpose makes possible what seemed impossible for us--recovery." With each group having the same purpose as conveyed in Tradition Five, and each member realizing the spiritual implications of carrying the message according to the Twelfth Step, the destructive possibilities of "separate agendas" are removed. To this member, this was how anonymity served as the Spiritual foundation of this tradition.

The allotted twenty minutes was almost up by now and the discussion neared an end. All of those present expressed an interest in continuing the discussion and agreed to do it after the meeting was over. Our staff member had to leave,

but received a report from the area chairperson several weeks later.

The report didn't give details of the discussion but did indicate that every single participant had input and expressed a feeling of renewed gratitude. The gratitude was not only for deepening their understanding of spiritual principles, but mostly for being part of the discussion. It seems that each person had previously felt as though they had nothing to contribute to these discussions because they didn't have many years clean, or their recovery experience was confined to their home town, or they weren't holding a position in World Services.

The chairperson went on to express his own renewed feelings of inspiration, faith, and gratitude in the process he had been part of. He said that he had previously felt a need to direct and manage these types of discussions in order to produce certain results, whereas he now saw that by doing his job and providing the forum for it to take place, he experienced a new type of anonymity himself!

ESTABLISHING A LIST OF MULTILINGUAL MEMBERS

On a regular basis, the WSO receives communications and other materials in a variety of languages other than English. Most of these items are translated for us by a commercial translation company. All of our responses are translated into the originating language. This has been an expensive and time consuming process. The number of items we receive in non-English languages continues to increase each year.

There are a number of alternatives. The first one is to hire people who are fluent in more than one language (English and some other language). A second alternative is to use, when practical, the volunteer services of our members who have multi-lingual skills.

We have kept an eye out for multi-lingual workers while we have been searching for persons for other tasks. We have not been able to afford an employee simply for translations. This may occur in the future, but for now we have to continue with alternative plans.

The second alternative seems practical, if we can identify members with these skills who are willing to assist. In order to truly determine the practicality of this, we need to identify members who are multi-lingual and have the time to assist us.

This might also permit us to translate some items that we have not translated before, because of the cost. These items include the *Newsline*, Fellowship Reports, *N.A. Way* magazine and minutes of service meetings. If you would like to help us with this work, please send information regarding your skills to the Production and Translations Dept. here at the WSO.

N.A. INSURANCE

One of the issues the Office receives a growing amount of communications about is the matter of insurance for coverage of a group and its meeting place. From time to time, this issue is highlighted when the facility that a group is using specifically requests that some evidence of insurance be provided by the group as a condition of continuing to use the facility.

Unfortunately, at this time, insurance is not available for this purpose for N.A. groups. This matter has been under study for a rather considerable period of time and requires additional work. There are several specific issues that need to be addressed before insurance can be obtained for groups, if it can be obtained at all.

Other associations that are organized on a worldwide and local basis have similar problems and have achieved a relatively satisfactory solution by providing a single insurance package for the nation-wide or worldwide organization. Each smaller unit subscribes by paying a set fee to the overall insurance policy. It is possible that a similar arrangement can be achieved for Narcotics Anonymous, but it does raise other issues.

Other organizations that have this insurance arrangement do not have the admonition contained in our Traditions against being organized. The reality of our Ninth Tradition, as it may influence this insurance matter, has caused more caution and study than we might otherwise have applied to this issue.

Insurance may be readily available after the matter of our Ninth Tradition is resolved. In the interim, there is little World Services can provide in terms of guidance and recommendations if this situation should arise with your local group.

N.A. TAX AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Another significant item being studied at this time concerns the responsibility of Narcotics Anonymous to fully comply with state, Federal or national tax regulations. The issue concerning tax responsibilities applies to all financial transactions of non-profit organizations.

If Narcotics Anonymous, from the group level through World Services, was organized as a business and tax returns made for each level of N.A., then there would be no question. However, N.A. is not a business and is not organized as such. Because of this, the relevant government regulations concerning tax returns are less certain.

There does exist in the government regulations, of each national government the Office has so far studied, requirements that would seem to apply to every group, area committee, regional committee and the Conference.

This matter is being researched thoroughly in order to determine specific requirements for compliance by Narcotics Anonymous for such reporting by groups, areas and regions.

Again, a principle matter related to this investigation is the aspect of our Fourth Tradition which provides for autonomy of each group. All of this tends to point in the direction of Narcotics Anonymous, as a form of organization, not easily being able to comply with appropriate tax regulations.

This difficulty of meeting requirements that seem to apply continues to be investigated and the Office hopes to be able to advance to the Fellowship, at a later date during this calendar year, more specific information.

TAPE REVIEW

A number of tapes have gone through the tape review process that was adopted by the Fellowship several years ago. The Office continues to receive and send tapes through this process for consideration and entry into the WSO inventory. The Office is in the process of working with the Tape Review Committee to develop specific guidelines and policies that would be appropriate to use in the tape review system. It is the plan, currently, that the draft of this tape review policy be made available to the Conference for their review and action at a later date.

The flexibility that has been extended to the tape review process has made it possible for the members of the Tape Review Committee to evolve a better understanding of the practices and policies of tape approval. This experience will work towards a more practical and efficient system for reviewing tapes in the years to come.

THE N.A. WAY MAGAZINE

GROUP SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE-- SPECIAL PRICES

This month we're kicking off another group subscription drive for the *N.A. Way* magazine. Personal recovery stories, thoughts on N.A.'s Twelve Steps and Traditions, and articles focusing on specific issues in recovering addicts' lives form the core of the magazine, our "Meeting in Print" section. Fascinating feature articles and interviews highlighting N.A. communities around the world--including Japan, Australia, and England--appear in our "Features" section. The "Editorial" section takes a stimulating look at vital issues affecting the N.A. Fellowship today. On top of all this, we've just finished redesigning the "look" of the magazine, giving it a much more professional appearance. We've got a magazine N.A. members can be proud of, a magazine your group members really shouldn't miss a single month of. But many

N.A. members have never even *seen* the *N.A. Way* magazine, much less read it. We hope to remedy that.

During the group subscription drive we're making it possible for new subscribers to *try* the magazine *before they buy it!* The last page of this month's *Newsline* is a sign-up sheet. We hope you'll tear it off, take it with you to your next home group meeting, pass it around, and return it to us. We'll send two months of the *N.A. Way* free to everyone who signs up during the subscription drive. During those two months, they'll get bills in the mail. If they decide they don't want to continue receiving the magazine, no problem. They should just throw the bills away and keep the two magazines they've received with our compliments. But if they want to keep getting the magazine, they can send us their check--and we'll sign them up for a regular twelve month subscription on top of the two months they've received free. In other words, they'll get fourteen months of the *N.A. Way* magazine for the price of twelve! But in order to take advantage of this offer, you've got to get those forms back to us by April 30, 1988.

REPRINTING BACK ISSUES

After numerous requests from our readers, we're ready to propose once again that we reprint back issues of the *N.A. Way* magazine. We've gotten estimates on the cost of reprinting five soft cover volumes, each book containing a year or more of the *N.A. Way* magazine. We can print five hundred sets of these five books and sell each book for \$15--the current price of a regular subscription to the magazine. We can sell the entire set--volumes one through five--for \$60. If enough of you indicate to us that you are interested in buying the paperback reprint volumes, we'll go for it.

You'll find a survey form attached at the end of this issue. Simply check the appropriate boxes and mail it back to us. We'll base our decision to reprint on the number of responses we receive from this survey.

COMING EVENTS

ALASKA: Mar. 11-13, 1988; ARSCC IV; Lake Lucille Lodge, 1300 Lake Lucille Drive, Wasilla, AK 99687, (907) 373-1776; Michelle (907) 745-1052; ARSCC IV, PO Box 874935, Wasilla, AK 99687

ALBERTA: Jun. 3-5, 1988; Third Edmonton N.A. Convention; speaker Jack B., Los Angeles; Highlands Community League, 11333 62nd Street, Edmonton; Barb H. (403) 423-0850; Barb H., #3-9321-101 A Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 0C4

ARIZONA: May 27-29, 1988; ARCNA-2; Sheraton Phoenix Hotel (800) 325-3535; Richard R. 247-2076, Rosemary H. 293-3706, Ann R. 285-0869; AZ Convention Committee, P.O. Box 11422, Phoenix, AZ 85061

ARKANSAS: May 20-22, 1988; Fourth Annual Beaver Roundup; Lake Leatherwood, Eureka Springs, Arkansas; Kathryn P. (501) 253-

7602; Velma R. 423-2765; Eureka Springs Group, c/o Kathryn P., 32 Benton, Eureka Springs, AR 72632

AUSTRALIA (NSW): Sep. 30-Oct. 3, 1988; Australasian Regional Convention, "Living Proof," Petersham Town Hall, Sydney, New South Wales; Sydney phone contacts, Melinda 698-2563, Brett 309-2135; Australasian Convention, P.O. Box B88, Boronia Park, Sydney, NSW AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA (WA): Apr. 1-4, 1988; Combined Areas Convention, "Courage to Change"; Fremantle Technical College, Marine Annexe, Fremantle, Western Australia; Kay (09) 335-9542; Seb 328-8909; Mary 339-7237; Convention Committee, Box 668, Subiaco, W.A. 6008, AUSTRALIA

BRITISH COLUMBIA: Jul. 1-3, 1988; British Columbia N.A. Rally; send speaker tapes; Henry B., (604) 434-8314; BCNAR, 4650 Fernglen Place, Barnaby, BC V5G 3W1

2) Aug. 12-14, 1988; Third Annual Northern Lights Outdoor Campout Roundup; Bidnisti Lake Resort, 35 mi. w. of Prince George; send speaker tapes; contact Phil H. (604) 562-2931; Warren, Chris 563-5719; ROUNDUP, c/o Warren & Chris M., 2510 Upland Street #113, Prince George, BC CANADA

CALIFORNIA: Mar. 4-6, 1988; NCCNA; Oakland Hyatt Regency Hotel & Convention Center, 12th & Broadway, Oakland, CA; Steve (408) 446-4445; NCCNA 10, PO Box 59114, San Jose, CA 95159

2) Apr. 25-29, 1988; World Service Conference Annual Meeting; AirTel Plaza Motel, Van Nuys, CA, corner of Valjean and Sherman Way; for information and reservations contact Trinkka, (818) 780-3951; World Service Conference, P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9999

3) July 8-10, 1988; San Diego Regional Convention; speakers with 5 yrs. clean, strong N.A.-oriented message send tapes w/return address and phone number; Harold D. (619) 283-7220; San Diego Convention, 3768 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92105

COLORADO: Apr. 9, 1988; 6th Annual Regional Service Workshop; Masonic Lodge, Boulder, CO; dance follows; Gary O. (303) 744-8482; Pat R. 443-4083; Colorado RSC, 1290 Williams, Box 9, Denver, CO 80218

FLORIDA: Mar. 18-20, 1988; P.I./Helpline Multi-Regional Learning Conference; Sheraton Twin Towers, 5780 Major Blvd., Orlando, FL 32818, in-state (305) 351-2311, out-of-state (800) 327-2110; info Bob G. (305) 896-4349, Glenn S. (813) 978-8847; P.I. Learning Day, P.O. Box 350181, Tampa, FL 33695-3501

2) June 30 - July 4, 1988; FRCNA-7; Stouffer Hotel, 6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando FL 32821, (305) 351-5555; contact Charlie M. (305) 588-6273, Lovell H. 291-6138, Richard C. 891-1867; Florida RCNA, P.O. Box 17807, W. Palm Beach, FL 33416

HAWAII: May 27-29, 1988; "Ride the Miracle," Second Annual Gathering of the Fellowship; Black Sands Beach, Kalapana; Big Island Gathering, P.O. Box 10842, Hilo, HI 96721

2) Jul. 1-3, 1988; Fifth Western States Unity Convention, Beachcomber's Hotel, Honolulu; Tom C. (808) 262-4631, Steve S. 254-1647, RSO 533-4900; WSUC-5, 1305 Aalapapa, Kailua, HI 96734

ILLINOIS: Mar. 11-12, 1988; 1st Annual Fellowship Agenda Conference; Ramada Inn, Danville, Illinois (217) 446-2400, flat room rate \$38; activities begin Friday noon; review of 1988 WSC Agenda Report, open forum; registration \$10, banquet \$12, no meal tickets sold at the event; Vince N. (815) 965-9033, Jeff B. 964-5467, Dean (217) 431-3163; GIRSCNA, P.O. Box 3271, Rockford, IL 61106

2) June 24-26, 1988; 4th Annual Flight to Freedom; Coy & Wilma's Campground, Rend Lake, Sesser, IL; Earl (618) 735-2409; Jim (217) 347-0305; Lawrence (618) 829-5387; Campout, 107 E. Lawrence, Effingham, IL 62401

INDIANA: Apr. 1-3, 1988; KRCNA II; Executive Inn, 6th & Walnut St., Evansville, IN, (800) 457-3841; Mike W. (812) 424-1673; Donnie A. 422-5815; Bernie T. 426-0357; KRCNA II, PO Box 3184, Evansville, IN 47730

KENTUCKY: Apr. 1-3, 1988, KRCNA II, Evansville, IN--see under INDIANA

LOUISIANA: Mar 4-6, 1988; LPRCNA VI; Holiday Inn, Covington; Hotel res--Cheryl Hunt, (504) 893-3580; Info--Peter or Mary, (504) 626-7298; John or Kat, (504) 893-9265; LPRCNA VI, P.O. Box 1693, Covington, LA 70434

MAINE: Sep. 9-11, 1988; We're A Miracle V; Bruce & Kim (207) 772-4558; Stan & Jane (207) 784-5863; Bill (617) 563-5885; ASC of Maine, Convention Committee, P.O. Box 5309, Portland, ME 04101

MASSACHUSETTS: May 7-8, 1988; Martha's Vineyard Area 1st Annivention; Martha's Vineyard Island; Tony L. (617) 693-5976, Jessica S. 693-3002, Don C. 693-5850, Steve G. 693-3384; Martha's Vineyard ASC, P.O. Box 2754, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

MICHIGAN: Jul. 1-4, 1988; Freedom IV; Hope College, Holland, MI; Bob W. (616) 857-2583, Carl D. 344-7530; tickets, John F. (313) 987-8620; 4th Michigan Convention, 523 Butternut #106, Holland, MI 49424

MINNESOTA: Mar. 5, 1988; Fourth Annual Spring Thing; workshops, dinner, speaker, dance; Plato Community Bldg., 5 mi. s east of Glencoe on Hwy. 212, Plato, MN; Judy M. 253-0956; Cheryl A. 251-5904; West Central ASC, P.O. Box 115, St. Cloud, MN 56302

NEVADA: Jul. 15-17, 1988; Sixth Annual Stampede for Serenity campout, Stampede Reservoir, Truckee, Nevada; proceeds to Sierra Sage RSC and the World Service Conference; information call hotline (702) 322-4811; Sierra Sage RSC, P.O. Box 11913, Reno, NV 89510

NEW HAMPSHIRE: June 24-26, 1988; "Vision of Hope," 9th ECCNA; University of NH in Durham; Jay N. (603) 437-5501; Brian (617) 452-7875; Shirley (617) 458-4808; 9th ECCNA, PO Box 388, Pelham, NH 03076

NEW JERSEY: Mar. 12, 1988; Cumberland-Salem (NJ) Area One Year Anniversary Banquet; dinner, dancing, guest speaker; Wind Jammer Restaurant, 785 W. Sherman Ave. off Rt. 47, Vineland, NJ; Nick K. (609) 692-5987; Cumberland-Salem ASC, P.O. Box 1246, Millville, NJ 08332-1246

NEW MEXICO: May 28-30, 1988; High Hopes ASC Campout and Retreat; Bandiler National Park; for fliers and info call (505) 662-0669; Hal, 2130 A 37th, Los Alamos, NM 87544

NORTH CAROLINA: Mar. 11-13, 1988; 1st Capital Area Family Reunion; Sheraton Imperial, Exit 282 off I-40 between Raleigh and Durham, NC, (800) 222-6503; info Dayne W. (919) 839-1219, David C. 553-3439, John H. 479-2040; Capital Area Convention, 316 Kings Parkway, Raleigh, NC 27610

2) Apr. 15-17, 1988; Grtr. Charlotte Area Convention; Marriott Hotel, Charlotte, NC (704) 527-9650, (800) 228-9290; Andy 892-3286; Debbie 892-7206; James 527-2091; GCACNA, P.O. Box 32262, Charlotte, NC 28232

3) July 1-3, 1988; 9th Carolina Regional Convention; Sheraton Greensboro Hotel, 3 Southern Life Center, Greensboro, NC; contact Marc (919) 855-3294, Ed 565-4913; C.I. Chair, 9th Carolina, Regional Convention, 6518 Dusty Road, Liberty, NC 27298

NORTH DAKOTA: Apr. 9, 1988; "Service Begins With Me" Mini-Banquet, Fargo; contact Steve F. 293-7501; Pam F. 236-5199; Fargo-Moorhead ASC, P.O. Box 3213, Fargo, ND 58108-3213

OHIO: Mar. 5, 1988; WSC Agenda Workshop; dinner/dance follows, funds benefit RSR travel to WSC annual meeting; St. Augustines, 2486 w. 14th St., Cleveland, Ohio

2) May 27-29, 1988; OCNA VI; Holiday Inn Eastgate, 4501 Eastgate Blvd., Cincinnati, OH 45245; Carolyn R. (513) 863-9870; Buck F. 752-8281; send speaker tapes; OCNA VI, P.O. Box 9234, Hamilton, OH 45014

OKLAHOMA: Apr. 1-3, 1988; Oklahoma Regional Convention; Camelot Hotel, 4956 S. Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74105, (800) 331-4428, (918) 747-8811; Leo S. (918) 664-4883; Sarah L. (918) 742-4816; Chuck G. (405) 372-4007; Tonja H. (405) 787-4007; OKRSC, PO Box 52465, Tulsa, OK 74152

2) Jun. 24-26, 1988; Seventh Annual Clean'n'Crazy Campout; Cherokee Landing, Wildcat Park (Area C), Lake Tenkiller, OK; Mike A. (405) 382-8741; Chuck G. 372-4007; Patrick D. 372-1875

ONTARIO: May 13-15, 1988; 1st Ontario Regional Convention; Toronto, Ontario; Rachel (416) 789-0264; Susan 821-7562; ORCNA 1, 5468 Dundas St.W. Box 620, Toronto, Ontario, M9B 6E3

OREGON: Aug. 6-8, 1988; 3rd Oregon-Southern Idaho Regional Convention; Eugene Hilton Hotel; send speaker tapes; Laurie P. (503) 726-2449; OSIRCNA-3, 3255 Gateway #68, Springfield, OR 97477

PENNSYLVANIA: Mar. 25-27, 1988; 6th Grt Phila RCNA; Adams Mark Hotel, City Line and Monument Rd., Philadelphia PA 19131, rsvn.s (215) 581-5000; conv. contacts Dennis D. (215) 423-1761, Dennis N. 879-1172, J.R. 482-6186, Margie 534-8782; Grtr. Phila. RSC, P.O. Box 42628, Philadelphia, PA 19101-2628

QUEBEC: March 4-6, 1988; Congres C.S.L. Mauricien Narcotiques Anonymes--4th French N.A. Convention; Community Center, 253 3rd St., Shewinagan, Quebec; INFORMATION--Marc (English) (819) 537-5219; Helene (Francaise) 537-8902; L'envol 4, P.O. Box 841, Shewinagan, Quebec, G9N 1G8

RHODE ISLAND: Apr 1-3, 1988; NERC III; Marriott Hotel, Providence; Info-Sandy (401) 849-5602, Ken N. 728-2714; NERC III, Attention, Mishell L., P.O. Box 3009, Newport, RI 02840

TEXAS: Mar 25-27, 1988; LSRCNA III; Rodeway Inn, Hwy 360 at Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011, (817)640-7080, (800)228-7080; Vince 924-0939; Don 738-5329; Rick 573-3201; LSRCNA III, Prog. Committee, PO Box 5540, Fort Worth, TX 76108

2) Apr. 15-17, 1988; Texas Unity Convention, Whitney, TX; David (713) 332-8236; Texas Unity (Whitneys), 1612 Second Street, League City, TX 77573

3) Nov. 4-6, 1988; First Best Little Region in Texas Convention; Koko Palace, 5101 Avenue Q, Lubbock TX 79412; info Kerry W. (806) 745-4309, N.A. Helpline 799-3950; BLRCNA-1, P.O. Box 3013, Lubbock, TX 79452-3013

VIRGINIA: Mar. 4-6, 1988; 2nd Annual Chesapeake/Potomac Regional Convention; Stouffer Concourse Hotel, Arlington, (703)979-6800; Loncia C. (703)437-6433; Dave H. 860-2880; Kevin A. 941-7474; Registration Committee, P.O. Box 6821, Arlington, VA 22206-0821

WASHINGTON: Mar. 11-13, 1988; 5th Annual Retreat, "Clean and Free by the Sea;" Galilean Retreat Center, 823 Ocean Shores Blvd., Ocean Shores, WA; Judi P. (206) 532-3509; Judy L. 533-0525; Joe K. 532-6654; GHANA, P.O. Box 374, Hoquiam, WA 98550

2) Apr. 8-10, 1988; 3rd Annual Washington-Northern Idaho Regional Convention; Holiday Inn, 1515 George Washington Way, Richland WA 99352, (509) 946-4121; to submit a tape contact Rhonda A., 6622 W. Yellowstone, Kennewick, WA 99336; gen.info. Crystal (509) 735-3952, Rhonda A. 783-4060; WNIR Convention Committee, 7403 W. Canal Drive #400, Kennewick, WA 99336

WEST VIRGINIA: May 6-8, 1988; Mountaineer Regional Convention, "Back to Basics;" Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley, W.Va. (304) 372-7000; pre-registration by April 1; Jim D. (304) 525-8411, Danny W. 925-7088; Mountaineer RSC, P.O. Box 2381, Morgantown, WV 26502-2381

N.A. Way magazine volume reprint survey

I would buy the following volume(s) if they were available @ \$15 U.S. each:

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Einladung

zum 1. Treffen der Narcotics Anonymous

am 2. und 3. April 1988

in Kempten / Allgäu.

Wir würden uns freuen, wenn Ihr zahlreich kommt.

Folgende Daten können wir jetzt schon bekannt geben:

1. Die Adresse, wo das Treffen stattfindet:

Haus International

Beethovenstr. 1

8960 Kempten

2. Die Adresse, wo Ihr übernachten könnt:

Jugendherberge Kempten

Auf dem Drumlín

8960 Kempten

(DM 11,50 Incl. Frühstück)

Am Samstag ist um 10.00 Uhr die offizielle Eröffnung.

Es sind Meetings bis ca. 20.00 Uhr geplant. Für Verpflegung und Getränke wird gesorgt.

Am Sonntag beginnen die Meetings um 10.00 Uhr. Das Ende des Treffens wird gegen 15.00 Uhr sein.

Wir werden auch ein Arbeitsmeeting am Samstag einplanen zur Gründung einer "Unter Gruppe Süd". Bitte meldet Euch so bald wie möglich an, spätestens bis zum 15. März 1988.

Telefonische oder schriftliche Anmeldung bitte an:

Udo Borowski

Duzacherstr. 2

8960 Kempten

☎ 0831 / 67650

Gruß, Udo



The views or opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. Publication of any article does not imply endorsement by either the European Fellowship or the Worldwide Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

WELCOME

Welcome to the second issue of your European newslines. With the approach of the World Service Conference in April, and the 5th European Service Conference in July, the level of discussion, communication and co-operation between European Members is enthusiastically high. A week ago we only had two pages of copy, today we have a bumper issue. Please keep it coming; As soon as we have enough input we will produce another issue.

This issue is now going to at least 18 countries. These are: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Wales and Israel.

IT WORKS !

* * *

NA IN BELGIUM!

We have recently heard and had confirmed that there are now 3 NA meetings in Belgium. Two of these meetings are in Brussels and one is in Liege. Hopefully we will be able to confirm in the next issue the venues of these meetings. NA Belgium we look forward to hearing from you!

* * *

NA SPAIN**BARCELONA.**

Contacts: Toni (93) 431 5128, Mike (93) 675 0195, Eddie (93) 423 4431.

MEETINGS

Wednesday, 8.00pm: Grupo 84, Calle Sant Pere Mes Alt 25.
Friday, 8.00pm: Grupo Vida, Plaza Lesseps 27.
Saturday, 7.00pm: Grupo Libertad, Calle Valencia 302.
Sunday, 8.00pm: Grupo 84, Calle Sant Pere Mes Alt 25.

MADRID. - Contact: Mayte (91) 448 9905

Monday, 12.00am: Calle Trafalgar 19.
Wednesday, 7.30pm: Calle Trafalgar 19.

IBIZA. - Contact: Paul (971) 31 59 82

Monday 12.15pm: Calle Mariano Requiem Wallés, Edificio Insalud, Planta I.
Saturday 6.30pm: Calle Mariano Requiem Wallés, Edificio Insalud, Planta I.

FUENGIROLA (MALAGA)

Friday 8.30pm: Calle Nueva 3, Lux Mundi. (In English)

* * *

~~~ PLEASE PHOTOCOPY &amp; DISTRIBUTE ~~~

NA U.K.

THE U.K. ASSEMBLY.

After starting from scratch it certainly seems that the concept of a National Assembly is valid. The Assembly has two roles, not only is it supporting the growth of new groups U.K. wide, in addition it has been able to serve the National Fellowship through its sub-committees, promoting Public Information and Hospitals & Institutions Service on a national level.

The U.K. Fellowship also continues to grow, with 16 new meetings starting in the last 3 months. Four of these meetings are in London, the other twelve are spread around the U.K.

The U.K. Assembly has come to the conclusion that there is a need to elect a European Service representative. One suggestion is that part of his/her responsibility would be to compile a list of 'foreign' language speaking members throughout the U.K. These members would be available to assist in communication between the U.K. and non-English speaking countries.

The recently formed U.K. Ad Hoc Committee to review and provide input on the book 'It Works - How and Why', is coming together for two days on the 5th and 6th March to discuss and collate all input on the project.

A London region learning day held on 13th February was a great success with over 150 members participating, many of whom had travelled from outside London to attend.

The following is a preview of the London regions Report to the World Service Conference which will take place in April

#### REPORT TO WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE 1988

This last year has been an exciting one in terms of the growth of NA both within the London Region and the UK as a whole. We have experienced certain changes within our Service Structure that have taken a long time to execute, involving commitment, effort and much painstaking research. We are now at the point where we are beginning to feel the benefits of these changes and of course in making some mistakes we have learned some lessons!

By the early Summer of 1987 the London Region had become very large, with more areas outside Greater London affiliated to the Region than within. For several months we had been devoting much of our time and energy to the formation of the UK Service Assembly (UKSA), and we realised that we were in danger of falling short of our primary purpose: that of unifying the many areas within our region and carrying the message of recovery through our sub-committees and our groups. As a result of this, 2 or 3 months after the formation of UKSA those areas outside Greater London withdrew from the Region and supported the UKSA. This gave London Region the opportunity to fully concentrate on fulfilling the basic function of a region.

Conscious of our "lack of direction" the London Region, 4 of the 5 areas within it and some of the sub-committees took inventory in the latter half of 1987. This was obviously a beneficial process for all concerned and much was learnt. Sadly however, the most consistent problem faced by our areas, sub-committees and the Region is a lack of support and the way in which 'Service' perceived by the fellowship in the London Region. It is not generally considered "cool" to be seen to be involved in Service, in fact the reverse is true. For this reason, all of those committees mentioned fail to get the support they deserve or need to operate with the utmost effect and efficiency; which is not to say that they

# 薬物をやめたいなら 私たちと一緒にやりませんか。



## NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

お問い合わせは 〒103-91東京日本橋郵便局 私書箱264号  
☎0473(51)1834

rough translation of the invitation which has been sent out:  
We invite you to the first convention of Narcotics Anonymous on  
April 2nd and 3rd, in Kempten/Algäu.

We would be very happy if as many as possible of you would come.  
We can already let you know the following:

I. The address of the convention:

International House  
Beethovenstr. 1  
8960 Kempten

2. The address where you could spend the night:

Jugendherberge Kempten  
Auf der Drumlin  
8960 Kempten

(approximately 11.50 DM including breakfast).

The convention begins on Saturday April 2nd at 10am. Meetings are  
planned to go on until 8pm. Refreshments will be provided.  
Sunday April 3rd meetings start at 10am. They will go on until  
about 3pm.

We have also planned a workshop on Saturday to discuss the formation  
of a South Area.

Please register as soon as possible, by March 15th at the latest.

Call or write to:

Udo Borowski  
Duracherstr.2  
8960 Kempten

Telephone 0831 / 67650

Love,  
Udo

## COMING EVENTS

1st SOUTHERN GERMAN CONVENTION: April 2nd, 3rd at the 'International House',  
Beethoven Str 1, 8960 Kempten/Algau. W. Germany. Contact: Udo at: Duracherstr.2.  
8960 Kempten. W. Germany. Tel: 0831/67650

LONDON REGION HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS WORKSHOP: February 27th at 'Winchester  
Project', 19, Winchester Road, London NW3. 2.00pm - 6.00pm

NORTH EAST LONDON AREA H&I WORKSHOP: 2.00pm, 12th March, Friends Meeting House,  
Church Street, Colchester (next to Mercury Theatre) Essex, England.

WEST COUNTRY CONVENTION '88: May 28th, 29th in Gloucester, England (venue to  
be confirmed. Contacts Tom/Dave Tel: Stroud (04536) 72732

EUROPEAN SERVICE CONFERENCE V.: 22nd, 23rd and 24th July in Paris (venue to be  
confirmed) Information from: NA European Service Conference, 38 Rue des  
Amandiers, 75020 Paris, France.

NA PARIS 5TH BIRTHDAY PARTY: Mardi gras costume party at: 2 Boulevard D'Aurelle  
de Paladine, Porte Des Terres, Paris 17e on 27th February 1988

do not work to the best of their ability. The fellowship continues to grow both  
in London and the UK, currently we have:

84 - per week in London

92 - per week outside London, UK-wide

We also have a total of 33 H&I meetings operating on a regular basis.

Many of our areas and committees have held workshops in the last year to explain  
their particular role in the Service Structure; the London Region is holding a  
Service Learning Day in Mid-February. We believe that much of the cause of this  
general apathy to service lies in ignorance or knowledge merely of the negative  
aspects of service - i.e. it is time-consuming, and a general assumption that  
"someone else" will do it.

In July 1987, the Region elected to send the RSR and Alternate to the European  
Service Conference in Frankfurt, Germany. It was a productive conference, with  
the decision to print a European Newsletter and preliminary discussions on the  
idea of establishing a European Service Office - which cater to the needs of the  
European fellowship. Certainly, since this last conference there has been greater  
communication amongst the European fellowship and the London fellowship is looking  
forward to the next ESC in Paris, France.

In September 1987 the London Region funded the first ever UK Convention, which  
was held in Bournemouth. The Region was able to use the invaluable experience  
gained from hosting the World Convention in 1986. The UK Convention was a great  
success, and the fellowship in Bournemouth has grown considerably since hosting  
that Convention. This year, under the auspices of the UKSA, we hope to hold a  
second UK Convention. An ad-hoc committee is currently looking into the  
feasibility of establishing a Convention Corporation and guidelines for future  
conventions.

There has, in this last year, been a better communication and liaison between  
our Regional sub-committees than ever before. The Region is indebted to our  
Fundraising & Entertainments Committee and our Literature Committee, without  
whose efforts we would not have been able to support our Office, let alone  
underwrite a convention and send representatives to WSC and ESC.

In January 1988 every Regional Committee, the ASR's, RSR and Chairperson  
produced an annual report as an overview of the past year. The Region now aims  
to do this at the end of each year and also to take its inventory annually.

For the past 10 months our literature sales have been a steady decline - both  
within London and the UK generally. Our Literature Committee and the UK Service  
Office (UKSO) are looking for ways in which to improve sales. The UKSO now has  
its first paid worker and is certainly benefitting from that. Sadly, however,  
we have as yet been unable to achieve Charitable Status which in the UK is a  
complex and lengthy process. Nevertheless, the fellowship feels that it would  
be in our best interests to pursue and achieve Charitable Status.

It is worth noting that the UKSA has provided an excellent platform for  
communication and unity in Great Britain, and has appreciably helped the growth  
of meetings and the Service Structure outside London. It has helped the RSR and  
Alternate fulfill the task of communicating with other areas. Currently the UKSA  
meets on a monthly basis at different locations/areas in and around the country.  
With the formation of the UKSA we now have national levels of Service in H&I,  
PI and Literature. These committees are now making a significant and effective  
contribution to the way in which NA is perceived, recognised and accepted by  
Government bodies, other self-help groups and organisations and the public at  
large all over the UK.

## WEST COUNTRY CONVENTION

The 1988 West Country Convention will this year be held in Gloucester. Though the venue is yet to be confirmed much of the programming has been completed and a definite date set for 28th and 29th May.

Registration will commence at 9.00 am on the Saturday with the convention commencing at 10.00am. There will be meetings, workshops and a marathon through till 8.00pm. Entertainment will commence at 9.00pm and go on till late.

The Convention continues on Sunday at 10.00am with more meetings, workshops and the marathon till 4.00pm - at which point there will be a closing meeting with a clean time countdown.

The theme of the convention is 'Everyday a Birthday'.

Topics for the Workshops include:  
Public Information, Hospitals & Institutions, The Traditions, Sponsorship, Meetings in Outlying Areas and Service in Recovery.

Themes for the meetings include:  
Everyday a birthday, Living the Steps, Relationships, Recovery & Relapse, The head and the heart, Illness in Recovery, My Higher Power...and more.

For more information contact Dave/Tom Tel: Stroud (04536) 72732

## NA FRANCE

The European service Conference which was held in Frankfurt last year, will be in Paris this Summer on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of July. The host fellowship in Paris urgently need suggestions for topics (workshops) at the conference. The Mailing address is:

N.A. EUROPEAN SERVICE CONFERENCE, 38 RUE DES AMANDIERS, 75020 PARIS.

To celebrate the 5th Anniversary of NA in Paris there will be a costumed Mardi Gras Party on the 27th February at:

2 Boulevard D'Aurelle de Paladine, Porte Des Ternes, Paris 17e.  
Metro: Porte Maillot.

There are now 11 meetings a week in France, 9 in Paris and 2 in Nice. The Paris meetings have really grown over the last two years. This year Paris formed an area, together with a Public Information Sub Committee. NA France is working with Canada to translate the literature

### MEETING LIST.

#### PARIS:

- Monday: 8.30pm - 7 Rue Auguste Vacquerie, Paris 16e. Metro: Etoile ou Georges V. - In English.  
Tuesday: 8.30pm - 50 Rue Mouraud, Paris 20e ( Between Rue Croix St.Simon & Rue des Orteaux ) Metro: Porte de Montreuil- In French.  
Wednesday 8.30pm - 7 Rue Auguste, Vacquerie, Paris 16e. Metro: Etoile ou Georges V. - In French.  
Thursday 7.30pm - 2 Bd D'Aurelle de Paladine, Paris 17e (Pte des Ternes) Metro: Porte Maillot. -In French  
Thursday 9.00pm - 7 Rue Auguste, Vacquerie, Paris 16e. Metro: Etoile ou Georges V. - In English.

Conference was well done, the quality is acceptable, and though they are not copied yet, the next issue of the newslines should include a list of the tapes so anyone interested can order them.

We hope to hear from you soon. Love to you all. Heinz S.

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## GERMAN LITERATURE TRANSLATIONS

Dear Friends,

The following is a brief report of the German regional Literature Committee. The RLC has worked in the past years primarily on the review of Recovery literature. So far nine NA pamphlets have been completed and are available to all the members of our region. We reviewed translations which we received from the World Service Office. The translations of these nine pamphlets were done by a professional agency. Considerable changes had to be made before they could go into print.

During the last year we focused on the White Booklet. Our Region has asked us to put this item at the top of our priority list. This piece of literature took almost one year to be completed. Numerous changes had to be made on this text as well. Unusual German words in the translation and expressions that could be translated in different ways were just a few of the problems we experienced. Recently this review process was completed. What is still missing are German language recovery stories. One reason is that only a few addicts submitted their stories, another problem is that only a fraction of these stories are suitable for publication.

At our last Regional Service Conference a decision was made to once again ask the fellowship for input of stories. The RLC may also use some of the translated stories of the English version of the White Booklet. A motion was passed that asked the RLC to devise a plan for the translation of our Basic Text.

In the past only a small core of dedicated members participated actively in the RLC. Off and on other members showed up at our regular meetings. The RLC meets once a month on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Sometimes when there is a lot of work to be done we meet more often. We always meet at the same location. The latest piece of literature (White Booklet) created a lot of enthusiasm and willingness among NA members to participate and commit themselves to RLC work. We hope that with the help of our higher power and the rest of the fellowship of NA there will one of these days be a Basic Text available in German.

I wish you all the best in your recovery and hope to hear from some of you literature people out there. Happy New Year.

Glueckliches Neues Jahr

Ralph.

REGIONALES LITERATUR KOMITEE / POSTFACH 1272 / 6073 EGELSBACH / WEST GERMANY.

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## GERMAN CONVENTION- NEW AREA

The Southern West German groups are getting together with Switzerland and Austria in an attempt to consolidate their efforts by forming a new area. It is proposed that this area be known as the 'Sud Area'. The following is a

## NA GERMANY

Hello dear members of the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, my name is Heinz, I'm an addict from Germany.

It's one of those nights when I'm up late drinking lots of coffee and hanging around with people. But today it's O.K. to be up till 2 or 3am in the morning, because today I'm clean and I know what, and why I'm writing - that makes a difference. Right now I'm in Paris, where, together with members from England, France and Germany, we are having a meeting to organize for the 1988 European Service Conference.

The last conference, in 1987, was held at Frankfurt in Germany and was a big step forward. A few more members got involved in service. The slogan of the conference was "Recovery depends on Unity", and there was unity...but that unity only appeared to last for those few days and then everyone returned to their respective countries. Several of the European countries came, but many didn't; Italy, Ireland, Greece, Portugal, Belgium, Sweden, Norway and a few more were sadly missed. Ideally, unity in Europe requires the participation of every country... Together We Can!

A lot of good things were discussed. We started a European Newsline - Our newsline. So far we have only had one issue, the reason being that only one article had been received for the next. It can only survive if we submit input to it. Everything is welcome: flyers for your conference, convention or learning day; articles about Service in your country, or about your personal recovery...even your meeting list can be printed. Please don't be shy or idle - We need your input.

Another thing that came up in '87 was members wanting to celebrate recovery at a European Convention, however, we didn't even manage to start to organize one. For me, in these situations, I find the best thing to do is not to bitch about it, but get on with it. If anyone has any ideas or wants to help, and I need help, please contact me.

I've been to quite a few conventions - they have been a big step forward in my recovery. I've found that I cannot have the power of a convention at a regular meeting. The American 'World' Convention in New Orleans was a turning point in my recovery, I felt like I was born anew; When I got back to Germany people thought I was crazy. I'm surprised that we are still calling this American Convention a World Convention since it has only been outside the U.S. once and is held in only one language...that's a shame. It appears that America is slowly starting to realise it is not the World, and English is not the only language of recovery, and God is not necessarily an American. A lot of our members didn't go to WCNA 17 because they couldn't understand, I believe this message of recovery is for everybody.

This year we in Germany are sending our RSR (Regional Service Representative) to the WSC (World Service Conference) to bring up this issue. Please do the same. If we are alone there is not a big chance to change it, but if we stand together we can change it. We need to ask where is the American Convention, where is the American Service Conference to discuss their specific problems - they shouldn't be discussed on a world level. This is just one example of why we need unity in Europe. We need to talk about these things...and more than once a year. We need to share with each other how we feel and what we need. I believe we need to make a file of contacts and addresses. Please send the addresses of your National Committee members, and others who are involved, either to my address or to Kevin in London. Probably the best thing to do is to send it to both addresses.

The last thing I want to share is that the taping of the 4th European Service

Friday 8.30pm - 38 Rue des Amandiers, Paris 20e. Metro: Pere Lachaise.  
- In French.

Saturday 7.00pm - 2 Bd D'Aurelle de Paladine, Paris 17e. (Pte des Ternes)  
Metro: Porte Maillot - In both French and English.

Saturday 8.30pm - Versailles, 76 Rue Champ la Garde, Centre Social Rauben.  
Train: Ligne St Lazard Versailles ( Station Montreuil)  
- In French.

Sunday 6.00pm - 2 Bd D'Aurelle de Paladine, Paris 17e. (Pte des Ternes)  
Metro: Porte Maillot - In French.

NICE.

Thursday 8.00pm - II Rue de la Buffa, 06000 Nice. - In French.

Saturday 8.15pm - 44 Ave Auguste Raynaud, 06000 Nice. -In French.

## EUROPEAN UNDERGROUND

It was the end of January 1988. Here I was in the Paris Metro, buying a 'carnet' of tickets. The place smells of yesteryear. Not unpleasant, but a strong whiff of nostalgia for the powerless beginnings of my life out in the big bad world alone. When I left school I went to Paris to learn how to smoke dope - between French and Beaux Arts lessons. Over the years I returned frequently to this city, sometimes to live for a while, sometimes just to pass through or score. It was always a field of great and wanton powerlessness. My visits characterised the progression of my addiction, as I moved through my drugs of choice, from dope to hallucinogenics, coke, smack and anything else that was going. Behaviour became more erratic and unmanageable. As I stood there buying my Metro tickets, a kaleidoscope of increasingly painful memories flickered through my mind's eye. From late sixties 'alterations' to trying to score smack in the bars down by the river and giving my sole-flapping boots to a tramp in the metro. Then on to desperate days sick and hitching to the suburbs for cut respite from pain, ripping off a kind, old grandmother who lent me the money supposedly to get home to England, when staying in her flat at the invitation of an absent grandson.

Here I was with that same smell in my nostrils, buying tickets six years later, to go to an NA meeting at a place called Pere Lachaise. Someone told me that Jim Morrison was buried in the cemetery nearby, true or false, it smacked of typical Parisian romanticism. My first time in Paris clean. To be here having not drugged or drunk for several years, with my memories, put so much of recent times in strong perspective. The miraculous and bizarre twists of life: I would never have believed this a possibility if you'd asked me five years ago.

Arriving near the end of the line, it once again all seemed a little familiar as I searched through a deserted block of residential flats for an assignation in a strange place - a huge complex of flats, not what I'd expected at all. I had no idea where to go. Like trying to score so many times before. Strange town, strange people - alone. Starting to feel a bit lost and unsure of whether I had the right place, I was beginning to get those old feelings of slight desperation. Backing out on to the street, thinking of my next move, suddenly someone called my name. There, leaping from his car was a familiar German form, bouncing down the pavement at me. Straight off the Autoroute, far from home, he made me feel as though the sun had come out. This thing we do is bizarre; the magic created by addicts reaching out across the continent to help each other is special like nothing else I've felt. Strangers with a common cause that know each other intimately.

We foreigners went along to the 8.30 meeting, to find it well-attended - about 20-30 members. They were already reading the preamble, in French. It sounded so weird and yet so familiar. The meeting opened immediately with discussion and the topic that soon developed was sharply honest and up-front. Talk of the difficulties dealing with the erratic extremes of emotions we have to cope with once we find ourselves clean. The swings of mood caused by unrealistic expectations and misplaced ideals of what life owes us, compared with moments of the dawning of hope for a new life and another chance. It was not long before the secretary realised that there were out-of-town (country) visitors and quickly took a group conscience on whether to change the usual format of the meeting which is French-speaking and make it bi-lingual. The continental groups are so much more hospitable than we, English-speaking fellowships when it comes to taking account of those who do not speak our language. For the rest of the meeting members translated sentence by sentence on a shared basis. The feeling of welcome that this creates must be said because its hard to share it at the time. You immediately feel on the inside when before, understanding or not, you feel a little on the edge. It was a great meeting and I was amazed at how big it was. I don't know what I'd expected, but I guess more of an NA outpost, which is far from what I found.

Over the next two days we had a series of 'committee' meetings at which members from France, Germany and Britain shared and discussed things to do with the upcoming European Service Conference to be held in Paris this July. The German members shared their great experience from Frankfurt last year and the Paris members had an opportunity to ask their questions about all kinds of details and issues that had been popping up since getting into the thing. The Paris fellowship had already found a suitable venue not only for the conference but also with hostel facilities at a really reasonable rate. One of the subjects that came up over the weekend was the finances of the conference. In the past the European Service conference has always been held in countries with relatively strong fellowships. The money side of things has never been talked about as we meet only once a year and it's too late by then. We have had no established ways of communicating with each other in between. Now we find ourselves with the Conference being hosted by a small fellowship who, though they are willing, are going to find themselves using virtually all their funds on hand just to secure the venue. I am sure that it is not any of our's intention that a fellowship should use all its hard-gained money to put on our Euro-Conference, and thus seriously hamper their primary purpose of carrying the message in the meantime! No accounts have been published for previous conferences in Dublin and London, but a surplus of approximately 1,000 Dm. was reported from Frankfurt last year. Whilst it is surely absolutely appropriate that the host fellowship should benefit from all the hard work of putting on the conference and there are also often costs involved in following up on the great interest created by the Conference, it is also appropriate surely that we set up some way for some of the surplus funds that may be created to be handed on to the next conference, wherever that may be. For example, if it should be in Barcelona next year, the problem would be even more obvious. Some kind of rolling fund needs to be set up, so that we can pass it on from one year to the next. To do this, however, we would need some kind of permanent standing committee of the European fellowship, elected by our Conference, to manage the details and to be available for communicating our needs throughout the year.

The Conference-funding issue was only one thing that brought up our growing need to have some way through the year to talk to each other and agree to do things together. There is so much that we can do to help each other

and agree to do things together. There is so much that we can do to help each other carry the message through Europe during the year. Not just doing our own thing in isolation and then getting together to share about it once a year. 'Together we can'. As our fellowships are growing, the potential of the things we can do together are really exciting. Most of the members over that weekend came up with urgent ideas of ways we need to work together. Communications are our biggest problem. Some kind of centrally compiled list of addresses and contacts seems vital. Files and records of our efforts with Public Information could help us all not just to avoid crossing our wires but to share our experience too. A European Convention was another idea that came up. There are so many ways to channel the energy that happens when we get together. Isn't it time that we started to do just that and throughout the year, to reach and give some hope to those of us still out there, still using, all over Europe, with no idea that there is a chance!

To do it we need to make a commitment. Our chance is at the Paris European Service Conference. The Paris host committee needs to hear from us all for ideas for the agenda of what we wish to discuss or share about. The time for complacency or isolation is over. It's time to act. Together we really can!

As I'm sure you can all see the excitement of us all getting together that Weekend was contagious. We all agreed it would be great to get together again before the Conference and knock some ideas around and offer any help any one can, to the Paris Fellowship in the run-up to the Conference. So we arranged to do it the last weekend of May. Any one who can - I'm sure the French fellowship would love to see you then.

Thank you Paris for a special weekend. You've a great fellowship and I can't wait to come back. The Conference in July is going to be a blast and a huge success. The other fellowships have already made the commitment to help the money float; we are getting there. It makes me feel so proud to be a part of this thing. We know no boundaries.

Whatever happened to the cynic in me? Thank you.

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NA IRELAND.

NA in Ireland continues to flourish. The Hospitals & Institutions Committee continues to carry the message and Public Information is very active. They will be holding a public meeting in early March and anticipate a large attendance. The Irish office is looking into becoming a Limited Company (Corporation) much as the U.K. and Australian Fellowship Service Offices have done. They hope to be able to send their RSR (Regional Service Representative) to the WSC (World Service Conference) in April.

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