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WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC., P.O. BOX 9999
VAN NUYS, CA 91409; (818) 780-3951
FEBRUARY, 1987

VOLUME 4

NUMBER 2

CONFERENCE AGENDA REPORT

The Conference Agenda Report is still available. The report contains all of the motions being proposed for adoption by the boards and committees of the Conference. All groups and members are encouraged to exercise their option to obtain and study the report.

The Second Tradition tell us to rely on group conscience for our decision making process. Every member and every group has the right to exercise their Second Tradition responsibility as part of the worldwide group conscience process. Some of the Conference actions have impact throughout the Fellowship, while other actions may only affect certain activity.

The Agenda Report is published and made available in an effort to permit the widest possible member participation in the decision process. In the back of this *Newsline* is a special order form you can use when ordering the Agenda Report.

WCNA-17 CONVENTION INFORMATION

Here is our latest update on the convention. Hope it's what you need!

We of the Convention Information Subcommittee are pleased to report that the WCNA-17 convention planning is going well. The flyers are finally completed with registrations for the hotel and convention. The subcommittees are working in conjunction with each other, and a sense of unity is prevailing.

Due to an increasing amount of phone calls to the New Orleans hotline with regard to the convention, we ask you to please contact the Convention Information Subcommittee at our P.O. Box or call Steve M.: W-(504) 385-4664, H-(504) 384-5196, or Nancy S.: W-(504) 568-3339, H-(504) 835-5296. This will cut down our hotline costs and leave the lines open for addicts who are suffering and need to find a meeting. We ask for your cooperation in this most important matter. Looking forward to seeing you at WCNA-17.

WORLD CONVENTION CORPORATION

The 17th World Convention is progressing at a steady rate. The host committee has been busy

with all of the preparations to welcome members in September. A convention flyer is enclosed with this issue of the *Newsline*.

In the past the World Convention Corporation of Narcotics Anonymous (WCCNA) has found itself in a slight dilemma. A convention is the type of event which requires that the corporation sign a contract with the hotel to block rooms for the convention. This is accomplished by estimating the number of rooms needed for each day of the convention. One of the problems that this entails is that the convention committee has no way of determining the need for rooms unless members make sufficient reservations in advance. This alerts the committee to the necessity to increase the block in the hotel, if necessary, or to find an alternative hotel for the additional members. In this way the convention committee is able to negotiate a convention room rate at the alternative hotel. Members are strongly encourage to make their reservations well in advance to help insure that the convention committee is able to make the necessary arrangements, and to prevent members who wait until the last minute from paying whatever the regular room rate is at an alternative hotel. It is important to recognize that if the primary hotel is not close to being full for any individual night or group of nights there will be no attempt to arrange a contract with an alternative hotel.

Limited additional copies of the convention flyer can be obtained by sending a note to WCNA-17 at the WSO. However, because there are probably several hundred thousand members in N.A. and only 20,000 copies of the flyer, they should be saved for use by those who are actually planning to attend.

The question of how many will attend is one that perplexes those responsible for the convention. The number of attendees at the last four world conventions has increased, except for the 1986 convention in London. The rate of increase has been about 20% each year. However the number attending at London was about 1/3 of those having attended WCNA-15 in Washington D.C.

This deviation from the growing pattern has left great uncertainty in the minds of those in the Host Committee and the Convention Corporation. There were approximately 2,600 people registered at WCNA-15 in Washington. If the recent trend has been true for WCNA-16 (or if it resumes and picks up on that basis) the number attending this year should be about 3,700.

However, all convention committees estimate that on additional 10% attend conventions and participate but do not register. If that is true for WCNA-17, then the number attending will be over 4,200.

The uncertainty of such assumptions makes it hard for planning and especially for signing contracts that commit the Fellowship to the expenditure of funds. The best example of this problem is in writing an agreement with the hotel for room reservation guarantees.

The customary practice for hotels is to offer the meetings spaces free or at a reduced cost, based on the committee signing a guarantee to fill a certain number of rooms. This works well if the estimates of attendees is good.

If the estimate is way off on the low side, the host committee is usually required to pay more for meeting spaces used or pay a certain fee for unused room accommodations reserved in the agreement. There are some measures to take that may help. Setting an early cut off date for rooms available at the convention discount rate may free a convention committee from some of the potential loss.

The second approach is to enter the agreement with only a limited number of rooms reserved at the lower convention rate.

Both of these approaches have been used in the planning for WCNA-17. Only 1,500 rooms have been reserved in the hotel agreement at the low price shown in the convention flyer. This protects the Fellowship from financial loss. There is every reason to believe that more than 1,500 rooms will be needed. However, in the event only this number of rooms is needed, the convention should not lose money on room reservation guarantees.

This also means that members planning to attend who want to take advantage of the discount room rate should make their reservations as soon as possible. The hotel does have more rooms and another large hotel is across the street. Both hotels will most likely have rooms available, but they will be available at the regular room rate.

OFFICE WORKSHOP REMINDER

The next service office workshop will take place on March 21 and 22 in Atlanta, Georgia. It will be held at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 4736 Best Road, College Park, GA 30337, phone number 404-762-7676. Sleeping rooms are available at a cost of \$55 (plus tax) per room per night. Arrangements should be made directly with the hotel as soon as possible. Anyone wishing to share a room with someone else may contact the Group Services Department at the WSO.

We are also asking that anyone who is planning on attending this workshop please notify us at WSO. There will be some important written information mailed to all participants in early March, so it is imperative that we know who plans to attend.

This event should prove most valuable to all service committees which are considering service offices. Some of the topics to be covered will include incorporation, assessment of need and support, non-profit and tax exempt status, inventory procedures, sales policies, and the way in which offices (corporations) fit within the overall structure of Narcotics Anonymous.

This two day event is presented by the World Service Office and will include presentations from staff members as well as time for sharing by workshop participants. Participants will be a mixture of members already involved with existing offices and those investigating the possibility of opening an office in the near future.

We are finalizing plans for this workshop now. Anyone planning to attend should notify the WSO as soon as possible in order to insure hotel space and the receipt of materials.

WORLD DIRECTORY

The *World Directory* 1987 is progressing rapidly. Of the three volumes, the Eastern United States volume is now undergoing the final proofing process, and will be sent to the printer soon. This volume should be available for sale by the end of April, barring unforeseen difficulties.

The other two volumes (Western United States and Foreign) are currently being corrected and readied for proofing. Further information regarding the progress on these and the dates of availability will be forthcoming. In all probability, these volumes will also be available for sale very soon after the Eastern volume. We have learned from past experience not to project too far ahead when it concerns the *World Directory*, so it is too early for promises.

The entire *World Directory* has undergone some changes since it was last published in March 1986. All H&I meetings have been deleted (for future publication in a separate volume) and updates have been made on a more regular basis throughout the year. Our information has been sent out to each RSR for corrections and verification, and then returned to us. This information was then examined and our records corrected accordingly.

The resulting product is better than ever before, however still not without problems. These problems include inaccuracy, financial considerations, value to the Fellowship, and value to potential members of the Fellowship. These were discussed in some detail in the November/December issue of the *Newsline*.

Also in that issue, we asked for input from the Fellowship about all aspects of the *World Directory*. To date, we have received five letters about this subject. In an effort to solicit more Fellowship input, we are again presenting the article which appeared in Volume 3, Number 9 (November/December 1986).

WORLD DIRECTORY STUDY

From time to time the World Service office receives comments on the *World Directory*. Most frequently the comments are that it contains a lot of incorrect information. Unfortunately this is often an accurate complaint. That is only one of the problems we have with the Directory.

The Office began publishing the Directory as a result of an action by the World Service Conference requesting that one be published. We have chronicled the ups and downs of the Directory in these *Newsline* pages over the past years. It is not an easy project to maintain and it does not make money. Now money is not the essential measure of what services the WSO should provide. More important perhaps is the utilization value that the Directory provides.

On the financial side, however, we sell an average of 2,000 copies each year. The average income generated from selling these 2,000 copies is about \$10,000. The costs associated with the accumulation and management of the information is about \$25,000.00. The printing costs are relatively high because of the number of pages. The result is that we experience approximately a \$15,000 loss per year from publication of the *World Directory*.

This loss would not be particularly important if there was a clear or compelling value resulting from the publication. This then is the really important issue. Are we, by publishing the Directory with its current content, providing a valuable service to members and addicts in need of a meeting? This is very hard for us to judge at this time. We need your help on this matter if we are to make any future change.

When members need to find a meeting in a community distant from their home group, the *World Directory* is a logical place to look for information about where to find a meeting. Unfortunately, with so few copies of the *World Directory* actually sold, it is not realistically a vital resource to turn to when trying to find a meeting. If most members purchased copies of the *World Directory*, and had them available, then indeed people might more easily be able to utilize this resource to find meetings.

However, the difficulty of its accuracy, because of outdated information and lack of information on new meetings, means that there are a great number of times when a person using the *World Directory* still has difficulty finding a meeting. The combination of these difficulties points more directly towards using an alternative form of information that is more reliable. Our experience with the *World Directory* and the growth we have seen in the development of helplines points clearly in the direction of having helplines be responsible for providing meeting information. The effectiveness, however, of telephone helplines should be given consideration in this matter before a change is made. Telephone helplines around the

Fellowship are not operated and manned consistently with each other. Some telephone lines have N.A. members who answer only during given hours. Some use answering services. Some use answering machines. There are only a few telephone helplines that have very many hours during which an addict will respond when the phone rings.

We would like to re-evaluate this service and provide to the Fellowship and the addicts still out on the street the best service so they can find N.A. meetings. If publishing the *World Directory* in its current form is the right solution then we will make no change. However, we believe consideration of alternatives might be of value. It is our hope that these options will be discussed and the Office advised of any opinions or other options you may have concerning this.

Alternative One: Continue publishing the *World Directory* without change. Alternative Two: Print only a map of the service area of each phone helpline. Alternative Three: Discontinue publishing the directory entirely--have a policy that requires each ASC or RSC that publishes an area or regional directory to send copies to the WSO. Have the WSO use these local directories as the only source for meeting information.

Making any change that would impact every helpline, discontinuing the Directory, or substantially changing its content would require a lot more consideration and discussion. With this in mind, the World Service Office would appreciate N.A. members, groups, and areas considering these matters and voicing some opinion through the service structure about this suggestion.

An article appeared in the November Fellowship Report that discussed this issue in much the same language, seeking to encourage areas and regions to take some action to officially inform the World Service Office what your desires and wishes are. We will proceed with the publication of the 1987 *World Directory* and report later on any input we receive. No change can be made without the concurrence of the World Service Conference, so no changes would occur prior to the Conference meeting in the Spring of 1988.

N.A. WAY MAGAZINE

Subscription pads are again available for the *N.A. Way* magazine. We have printed a large quantity of subscription blanks and had them padded for easy use by groups, conventions and committees. Last time we did this, support from the Fellowship in distributing them was good, and we saw a marked increase in our subscriptions. We had run out of the pads a few months ago and have received several requests for more. We receive the vast majority of orders by this means, so you are encouraged to write us to request these and we'll gladly send you some.

Also still available are the poster boards used to display a copy of the magazine beside a pad of

subscription blanks. These will be shipped anywhere at no cost, so let us know if you want some. This method of gaining exposure for the magazine has proven successful in the past. Since the last time we reported our subscription number in the *Newsline* it has grown considerably. We sent 4,139 copies of the March issue to subscribers. In the absence of the pads in the last few months, our growth has tapered off. Your help in duplicating the subscription blank attached to this *Newsline* and sending for posters and pads is much appreciated.

P.I. DEPARTMENT EXPANDED

The World Service Office had been considering for some time the addition of a second Public Information Coordinator to work with our current P.I. Coordinator, Danette Creel, to handle the increasing work load in this department. We are pleased to announce that an excellent candidate for the position was found and the position filled. The additional PI coordinator is Willie Lubka, from Fargo, North Dakota. Willie has been clean more than eight and a half years and has served Narcotics Anonymous at the group and area levels, as RSR-Alt., RSR, and two years as a member of the WSO Board of Directors. He began serving as the Board's liaison to the WSC PI committee at the WSC quarterly meeting in Minneapolis. His formal education includes a degree with specializations in addiction and mass communication.

The division of work in PI at the World Service Office is in a development process. Currently, the work is beginning to be organized with Danette handling P.I. needs relating to committees and situations within the Fellowship, and Willie handling matters with contacts outside the Fellowship.

LONER GROUP

The Loner Group has been going strong now for over two years. We have made changes here and there, in response to input about what works and what does not work, and also to allow for the overwhelming growth. At present there are approximately 250 N.A. members involved in the Loner Group all over the world, and approximately fifty-five loner members.

The Loner Group has helped many geographically isolated N.A. members, as well as those who are physically disabled and those serving in the armed forces, in understanding and applying the N.A. program. It has helped these members receive N.A. support where there is little or none.

Last year a questionnaire was sent out in the *Meeting by Mail* to all members of the Loner Group asking for their input on how the Loner Group has helped them and how we might improve our services. The response was not overwhelming, but

we did find out that members were writing each other and were receiving N.A. support.

We have learned through our mistakes what does and doesn't work. Recently we had a problem with the *Meeting by Mail* going into institutions and being confused with the publication *Reaching Out*. At one time, there was a lack of available support tools necessary to carry the N.A. message to institutionalized addicts. The *Meeting by Mail* was used then as an H&I tool. However, with increased H&I activities and the *Reaching Out* newsletter, that is no longer the case. An article was written in a recent *Meeting by Mail* to clarify this.

The Loner Group, with its *Meeting by Mail*, provides a valuable service. However, we would like to reach the many loners we know are out there who have not yet heard of the group. We need the support of all N.A. members in order to accomplish our goals. The office has periodically sent special mailings to ASC's, RSC's, and international contacts with a cover letter asking them to inform members that there is such a service. Notices have also gone out in the *N.A. Way*. We receive letters every day at the office from members who have just learned about the Loner Group asking to be put on the mail list so they can help carry the N.A. message.

Overall, the input and letters we have received from members have been great, and indicate that the Loner Group is working. Again, N.A. members are getting the support necessary in order to stay clean.

PLEASE HELP

Once again, we are requesting your help in keeping mail lists updated. The only way that correct information can be mailed to the proper individuals is if mailing addresses are available and updated regularly. Each department coordinator at WSO gathers many of those updates from area and regional minutes which are sent to the Office. Note is taken of elections for new trusted servants (specifically those of subcommittee chair- and vice-chairpeople) along with any other changes which affect our mail lists. However, valuable information can easily be overlooked while reading through an entire document. (Some committee minutes could almost be called books!)

On the following page you will find a sample form entitled "Regional Subcommittee Chairperson List." Variations of this form are already in use by some service committees, as an attachment to their committee's minutes. It is used to indicate names, title, addresses and phone numbers of trusted servants in the area or region, and it presents that information in an easy-to-locate format. The form is designed for regional use, but areas may adapt it for their use, disregarding the column titled "AREAS."

We would greatly appreciate the use of this form, either as an attachment to minutes or as a separate item mailed to WSO. Secretaries may

want to make copies of the form and pass them around at each service committee meeting or simply fill in the information from personal knowledge. Please feel free to reproduce this form and use it frequently. Thank you in advance for your help.

COMING EVENTS

This space has been reserved for coming events anywhere in N.A. If you wish to list an event, send us a flier or note at least two months in advance. Include title, location, dates, contacts.

ALASKA: March 6-8, 1987; 3rd Annual Alaska Regional Convention; Travelers Inn, 820 Noble Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701; (907) Pat H. 452-7342; Larry L. 457-7326

ARIZONA: May 22-24, 1987; 1st Annual Arizona Regional Convention; ARCNA-I; Doubletree Hotel, 445 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85711; (602) Jeff 841-0046; Connie 398-9442

AUSTRALIA: Apr 17-20, 1987; 3rd Australasian Convention Easter '87; Glenelg Town Hall, Moseley Square Glenelg; Tony M. 085-366124

CALIFORNIA: Mar 27-29, 1987; 9th NCCNA; Marriott Hotel, Burlingame, CA; 9th NCCNA, Box 6323, San Mateo, CA 94403; Todd (415) 347-3296; Joe (408) 296-4833

2) July 10-12, 1987; San Diego Imperial Regional Convention III; Holiday Inn at Embarcadero, 1355 Harbor Drive, San Diego; (619) Elisa 563-1759; Olga 296-2920; Ron 282-6777

CANADA: June 12-14; 2nd Annual N.A. Roundup; Garneau Community Hall, 10923 84th Avenue, Eventon, Alberta; (403) Neil 465-5424; Sue 464-2805

2) (CANCELED) Apr 10-12 1987; 1st Annl Ontario Reg Conf

FLORIDA: July 2-5, 1987; FRCNA 6; Diplomat Hotel, 3515 South Ocean Dr., Hollywood, FL 33019, (305) Mike 564-1262; Chris 891-1867; Bee Gee 565-7312

ILLINOIS: June 26-28, 1987; 3rd Annual Flight to Freedom Campout; Coy's & Wilma's Campground, Rend Lake, Sesser, IL; (618) Vicky 242-5968; Mark 532-1327

2) July 24-26, 1987; 3rd Mid-Coast Convention; Holiday Inn, 7550 E State St., Rockford, Ill 61107; (815)398-2200; Greg 963-5811

IOWA: July 3-5, 1987; IRCNA IV; Civic Center Holiday Inn, 4th & Commercial, Waterloo, IA; (800)465-4329; Don (319) 233-2906; Paul (515) 274-4347

KENTUCKY: March 7, 1987; KRCNA I Fundraiser; Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Claysmill, Lexington, Kentucky 40503; Brenda (606)271-0647; New Hotline (606)252-3484

2) April 10-12, 1987; KRCNAI; Ramada Inn, 4767 Scottsville Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42101; Deanie (502)843-8209

LOUISIANA: March 6-8, 1987; LPRCNAV; Palace Suite Hotel, 2211 MacArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA; (318)443-2561

2) Sept. 3-7, 1987; World Convention; WCNA 17; Sheraton New Orleans Hotel & Towers, 500 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70130; (504)525-2500

MASSACHUSETTS: Apr 17-19, 1987; 2nd New England Reg Conv; Marriott Hotel, Springfield, MA; NERC II, Box 422, Chicopee, MA 01021; (413) Steve 736-3979; Nancy 593-3809

MICHIGAN: July 2-5 1987; Freedom III MRCNA; Hyatt-Regency, P.O. Box 525, Flint, MI 48501; (313) Jim 233-4704; Mike 232-7490

MISSISSIPPI: April 3-5, 1987; MRCNAV; Best Western Trace Inn; (Hwy 6 & Natches Trace) Tupelo, MS; Allen (601)862-7334

MISSOURI: June 5-7, 1987; 2nd Annual Show-Me Regional Convention; Ramada Hotel, 2431 N. Glenstone, Springfield, MO; Bob R. (417)358-5800; (800)781-0500

NEW JERSEY: May 8-10, 1987; 2nd Annual Jersey Convention; P.O.Box 597; Manasquan, NJ 08736; (201) Nancy 223-2909; Karin 483-0310; Interested Speakers submit tapes to Program Comm, Rd 1, Box 222, Pennington-Mt. Rose Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534, Tom (609) 737-8791

2) July 17-19, 1987; 4th Annual Powerless in the Pines Campout; Sonya F. (609) 227-2319

NEW MEXICO: July 3-5, 1987; WSUC IV; Box 37558, Albuquerque, NM 87176; Susan (505) 984-2305, Debra (505) 982-8650, Bill (505) 984-1469

NEW YORK: May 29-31, 1987; Freedom Three; Third Annual Greater NY Reg Conv; Stevensville Country Club, Swan Lake, NY; (718) Danny 347-6643; Tina 342-5233

OHIO: April 4, 1987; Buckeye Region Unity Day; St. Patricks Ch. W. 38th & Bridge, Cleveland, OH

2) May 22-24, 1987; Ohio Reg Conv; Holiday Inn Cascade Plaza, Akron, OH 44372; Please submit speaker tapes for consideration to ORCNA V; Box 5837, Akron, OH 44372; (216) Meredith 832-5361; Curt 453-1758; Gary 864-8175

3) June 12-14, 1987; 8th ECCNA; Kent State University, Kent, OH; P.O. Box 1492, Youngston, OH 45501; (216) Bob 545-4387; Laura 898-2176; Roy 638-7895

4) July 17-19, 1987; 3rd CCANA; Camp Vention; Summit Valley Park, Summitville, OH 43926; (216) Rusty 385-5761; Bill 424-7681

OKLAHOMA: March 27-29, 1987; 1st Annual Oklahoma Regional Convention; Central Plaza Hotel, 112 N. Eastern Ave., OK City, OK 73117; (800) 522-4383, Leo (918) 747-4556

OREGON: Apr 4-5, 1987; OSI Regional Service Conference; Bend, Oregon; (503) Tom 382-3324; Ericka 382-2480; Joyce P. 388-2168

2) July 24-26, 1987; 2nd Annual Oregon & Southern Idaho Reg Conv; Black Angus/Executive Inn, Salem, OR; (503) Barry 371-7928; Larry 371-7782

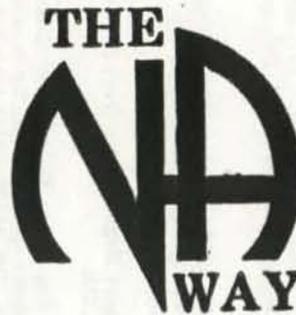
PENNSYLVANIA: Mar 6-8, 1987; Central PA Convention NA; Holiday Inn-Center City, Harrisburg, PA; 717/234-0193:

2) Mar 27-29, 1987; 5th GPRCNA; Dunfey City Line Hotel, City Line Ave. & Monument Rd., Philadelphia; GPRCNA, PO Box 42628, Philadelphia PA 19101-2628; (215) Steve & Sharon 925-7766; Alice & Marge 534-2887

TEXAS: Mar 27-29, 1987; LSRCNA II; LSRCNA II Pro Subcom, PO Box 300794, Houston, TX 77230-0794; (713) Rick 531-6734; Janie Rae 973-7002

WASHINGTON: Mar 27-29, 1987; 2nd Annual Washington/Northern Idaho Reg Convention; Vance Tyee, 500 Tyee Dr., Tumwater, WA 98502-7398; 1-800-426-0670

WEST VIRGINIA: May 8-10, 1987; WVCNA-IV; Cedar Lakes Camp & Conference Center, Ripley, WV; (304) 372-7000



THE INTERNATIONAL
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The 17th World Convention is progressing at a steady rate. The host committee has been busy

with all of the preparations to welcome members in September. A convention flyer is enclosed with this issue of the *Newsline*.

In the past the World Convention Corporation of Narcotics Anonymous (WCCNA) has found itself in a slight dilemma. A convention is the type of event which requires that the corporation sign a contract with the hotel to block rooms for the convention. This is accomplished by estimating the number of rooms needed for each day of the convention. One of the problems that this entails is that the convention committee has no way of determining the need for rooms unless members make sufficient reservations in advance. This alerts the committee to the necessity to increase the block in the hotel, if necessary, or to find an alternative hotel for the additional members. In this way the convention committee is able to negotiate a convention room rate at the alternative hotel. Members are strongly encourage to make their reservations well in advance to help insure that the convention committee is able to make the necessary arrangements, and to prevent members who wait until the last minute from paying whatever the regular room rate is at an alternative hotel. It is important to recognize that if the primary hotel is not close to being full for any individual night or group of nights there will be no attempt to arrange a contract with an alternative hotel.

Limited additional copies of the convention flyer can be obtained by sending a note to WCNA-17 at the WSO. However, because there are probably several hundred thousand members in N.A. and only 20,000 copies of the flyer, they should be saved for use by those who are actually planning to attend.

The question of how many will attend is one that perplexes those responsible for the convention. The number of attendees at the last four world conventions has increased, except for the 1986 convention in London. The rate of increase has been about 20% each year. However the number attending at London was about 1/3 of those having attended WCNA-15 in Washington D.C.

This deviation from the growing pattern has left great uncertainty in the minds of those in the Host Committee and the Convention Corporation. There were approximately 2,600 people registered at WCNA-15 in Washington. If the recent trend has been true for WCNA-16 (or if it resumes and picks up on that basis) the number attending this year should be about 3,700.

However, all convention committees estimate that on additional 10% attend conventions and participate but do not register. If that is true for WCNA-17, then the number attending will be over 4,200.

The uncertainty of such assumptions makes it hard for planning and especially for signing contracts that commit the Fellowship to the expenditure of funds. The best example of this problem is in writing an agreement with the hotel for room reservation guarantees.

The customary practice for hotels is to offer the meetings spaces free or at a reduced cost, based on the committee signing a guarantee to fill a certain number of rooms. This works well of the estimates of attendees is good.

If the estimate is way off on the low side, the host committee is usually required to pay more for meeting spaces used or pay a certain fee for unused room accommodations reserved in the agreement. There are some measures to take that may help. Setting an early cut off date for rooms available at the convention discount rate may free a convention committee from some of the potential loss.

The second approach is to enter the agreement with only a limited number of rooms reserved at the lower convention rate.

Both of these approaches have been used in the planning for WCNA-17. Only 1,500 rooms have been reserved in the hotel agreement at the low price shown in the convention flyer. This protects the Fellowship from financial loss. There is every reason to believe that more than 1,500 rooms will be needed. However, in the event only this number of rooms is needed, the convention should not lose money on room reservation guarantees.

This also means that members planning to attend who want to take advantage of the discount room rate should make their reservations as soon as possible. The hotel does have more rooms and another large hotel is across the street. Both hotels will most likely have rooms available, but they will be available at the regular room rate.

OFFICE WORKSHOP REMINDER

The next service office workshop will take place on March 21 and 22 in Atlanta, Georgia. It will be held at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 4736 Best Road, College Park, GA 30337, phone number 404-762-7676. Sleeping rooms are available at a cost of \$55 (plus tax) per room per night. Arrangements should be made directly with the hotel as soon as possible. Anyone wishing to share a room with someone else may contact the Group Services Department at the WSO.

We are also asking that anyone who is planning on attending this workshop please notify us at WSO. There will be some important written information mailed to all participants in early March, so it is imperative that we know who plans to attend.

This event should prove most valuable to all service committees which are considering service offices. Some of the topics to be covered will include incorporation, assessment of need and support, non-profit and tax exempt status, inventory procedures, sales policies, and the way in which offices (corporations) fit within the overall structure of Narcotics Anonymous.

This two day event is presented by the World Service Office and will include presentations from staff members as well as time for sharing by workshop participants. Participants will be a mixture of members already involved with existing offices and those investigating the possibility of opening an office in the near future.

We are finalizing plans for this workshop now. Anyone planning to attend should notify the WSO as soon as possible in order to insure hotel space and the receipt of materials.

WORLD DIRECTORY

The *World Directory* 1987 is progressing rapidly. Of the three volumes, the Eastern United States volume is now undergoing the final proofing process, and will be sent to the printer soon. This volume should be available for sale by the end of April, barring unforeseen difficulties.

The other two volumes (Western United States and Foreign) are currently being corrected and readied for proofing. Further information regarding the progress on these and the dates of availability will be forthcoming. In all probability, these volumes will also be available for sale very soon after the Eastern volume. We have learned from past experience not to project too far ahead when it concerns the *World Directory*, so it is too early for promises.

The entire *World Directory* has undergone some changes since it was last published in March 1986. All H&I meetings have been deleted (for future publication in a separate volume) and updates have been made on a more regular basis throughout the year. Our information has been sent out to each RSR for corrections and verification, and then returned to us. This information was then examined and our records corrected accordingly.

The resulting product is better than ever before, however still not without problems. These problems include inaccuracy, financial considerations, value to the Fellowship, and value to potential members of the Fellowship. These were discussed in some detail in the November/December issue of the *Newsline*.

Also in that issue, we asked for input from the Fellowship about all aspects of the *World Directory*. To date, we have received five letters about this subject. In an effort to solicit more Fellowship input, we are again presenting the article which appeared in Volume 3, Number 9 (November/December 1986).

WORLD DIRECTORY STUDY

From time to time the World Service office receives comments on the *World Directory*. Most frequently the comments are that it contains a lot of incorrect information. Unfortunately this is often an accurate complaint. That is only one of the problems we have with the Directory.

The Office began publishing the Directory as a result of an action by the World Service Conference requesting that one be published. We have chronicled the ups and downs of the Directory in these *Newsline* pages over the past years. It is not an easy project to maintain and it does not make money. Now money is not the essential measure of what services the WSO should provide. More important perhaps is the utilization value that the Directory provides.

On the financial side, however, we sell an average of 2,000 copies each year. The average income generated from selling these 2,000 copies is about \$10,000. The costs associated with the accumulation and management of the information is about \$25,000.00. The printing costs are relatively high because of the number of pages. The result is that we experience approximately a \$15,000 loss per year from publication of the *World Directory*.

This loss would not be particularly important if there was a clear or compelling value resulting from the publication. This then is the really important issue. Are we, by publishing the Directory with its current content, providing a valuable service to members and addicts in need of a meeting? This is very hard for us to judge at this time. We need your help on this matter if we are to make any future change.

When members need to find a meeting in a community distant from their home group, the *World Directory* is a logical place to look for information about where to find a meeting. Unfortunately, with so few copies of the *World Directory* actually sold, it is not realistically a vital resource to turn to when trying to find a meeting. If most members purchased copies of the *World Directory*, and had them available, then indeed people might more easily be able to utilize this resource to find meetings.

However, the difficulty of its accuracy, because of outdated information and lack of information on new meetings, means that there are a great number of times when a person using the *World Directory* still has difficulty finding a meeting. The combination of these difficulties points more directly towards using an alternative form of information that is more reliable. Our experience with the *World Directory* and the growth we have seen in the development of helplines points clearly in the direction of having helplines be responsible for providing meeting information. The effectiveness, however, of telephone helplines should be given consideration in this matter before a change is made. Telephone helplines around the

Fellowship are not operated and manned consistently with each other. Some telephone lines have N.A. members who answer only during given hours. Some use answering services. Some use answering machines. There are only a few telephone helplines that have very many hours during which an addict will respond when the phone rings.

We would like to re-evaluate this service and provide to the Fellowship and the addicts still out on the street the best service so they can find N.A. meetings. If publishing the *World Directory* in its current form is the right solution then we will make no change. However, we believe consideration of alternatives might be of value. It is our hope that these options will be discussed and the Office advised of any opinions or other options you may have concerning this.

Alternative One: Continue publishing the *World Directory* without change. Alternative Two: Print only a map of the service area of each phone helpline. Alternative Three: Discontinue publishing the directory entirely--have a policy that requires each ASC or RSC that publishes an area or regional directory to send copies to the WSO. Have the WSO use these local directories as the only source for meeting information.

Making any change that would impact every helpline, discontinuing the Directory, or substantially changing its content would require a lot more consideration and discussion. With this in mind, the World Service Office would appreciate N.A. members, groups, and areas considering these matters and voicing some opinion through the service structure about this suggestion.

An article appeared in the November Fellowship Report that discussed this issue in much the same language, seeking to encourage areas and regions to take some action to officially inform the World Service Office what your desires and wishes are. We will proceed with the publication of the 1987 *World Directory* and report later on any input we receive. No change can be made without the concurrence of the World Service Conference, so no changes would occur prior to the Conference meeting in the Spring of 1988.

N.A. WAY MAGAZINE

Subscription pads are again available for the *N.A. Way* magazine. We have printed a large quantity of subscription blanks and had them padded for easy use by groups, conventions and committees. Last time we did this, support from the Fellowship in distributing them was good, and we saw a marked increase in our subscriptions. We had run out of the pads a few months ago and have received several requests for more. We receive the vast majority of orders by this means, so you are encouraged to write us to request these and we'll gladly send you some.

Also still available are the poster boards used to display a copy of the magazine beside a pad of

subscription blanks. These will be shipped anywhere at no cost, so let us know if you want some. This method of gaining exposure for the magazine has proven successful in the past. Since the last time we reported our subscription number in the *Newsline* it has grown considerably. We sent 4,139 copies of the March issue to subscribers. In the absence of the pads in the last few months, our growth has tapered off. Your help in duplicating the subscription blank attached to this *Newsline* and sending for posters and pads is much appreciated.

P.I. DEPARTMENT EXPANDED

The World Service Office had been considering for some time the addition of a second Public Information Coordinator to work with our current P.I. Coordinator, Danette Creel, to handle the increasing work load in this department. We are pleased to announce that an excellent candidate for the position was found and the position filled. The additional PI coordinator is Willie Lubka, from Fargo, North Dakota. Willie has been clean more than eight and a half years and has served Narcotics Anonymous at the group and area levels, as RSR-Alt., RSR, and two years as a member of the WSO Board of Directors. He began serving as the Board's liaison to the WSC PI committee at the WSC quarterly meeting in Minneapolis. His formal education includes a degree with specializations in addiction and mass communication.

The division of work in PI at the World Service Office is in a development process. Currently, the work is beginning to be organized with Danette handling P.I. needs relating to committees and situations within the Fellowship, and Willie handling matters with contacts outside the Fellowship.

LONER GROUP

The Loner Group has been going strong now for over two years. We have made changes here and there, in response to input about what works and what does not work, and also to allow for the overwhelming growth. At present there are approximately 250 N.A. members involved in the Loner Group all over the world, and approximately fifty-five loner members.

The Loner Group has helped many geographically isolated N.A. members, as well as those who are physically disabled and those serving in the armed forces, in understanding and applying the N.A. program. It has helped these members receive N.A. support where there is little or none.

Last year a questionnaire was sent out in the *Meeting by Mail* to all members of the Loner Group asking for their input on how the Loner Group has helped them and how we might improve our services. The response was not overwhelming, but

we did find out that members were writing each other and were receiving N.A. support.

We have learned through our mistakes what does and doesn't work. Recently we had a problem with the *Meeting by Mail* going into institutions and being confused with the publication *Reaching Out*. At one time, there was a lack of available support tools necessary to carry the N.A. message to institutionalized addicts. The *Meeting by Mail* was used then as an H&I tool. However, with increased H&I activities and the *Reaching Out* newsletter, that is no longer the case. An article was written in a recent *Meeting by Mail* to clarify this.

The Loner Group, with its *Meeting by Mail*, provides a valuable service. However, we would like to reach the many loners we know are out there who have not yet heard of the group. We need the support of all N.A. members in order to accomplish our goals. The office has periodically sent special mailings to ASC's, RSC's, and international contacts with a cover letter asking them to inform members that there is such a service. Notices have also gone out in the *N.A. Way*. We receive letters every day at the office from members who have just learned about the Loner Group asking to be put on the mail list so they can help carry the N.A. message.

Overall, the input and letters we have received from members have been great, and indicate that the Loner Group is working. Again, N.A. members are getting the support necessary in order to stay clean.

PLEASE HELP

Once again, we are requesting your help in keeping mail lists updated. The only way that correct information can be mailed to the proper individuals is if mailing addresses are available and updated regularly. Each department coordinator at WSO gathers many of those updates from area and regional minutes which are sent to the Office. Note is taken of elections for new trusted servants (specifically those of subcommittee chair- and vice-chairpeople) along with any other changes which affect our mail lists. However, valuable information can easily be overlooked while reading through an entire document. (Some committee minutes could almost be called books!)

On the following page you will find a sample form entitled "Regional Subcommittee Chairperson List." Variations of this form are already in use by some service committees, as an attachment to their committee's minutes. It is used to indicate names, title, addresses and phone numbers of trusted servants in the area or region, and it presents that information in an easy-to-locate format. The form is designed for regional use, but areas may adapt it for their use, disregarding the column titled "AREAS."

We would greatly appreciate the use of this form, either as an attachment to minutes or as a separate item mailed to WSO. Secretaries may

want to make copies of the form and pass them around at each service committee meeting or simply fill in the information from personal knowledge. Please feel free to reproduce this form and use it frequently. Thank you in advance for your help.

COMING EVENTS

This space has been reserved for coming events anywhere in N.A. If you wish to list an event, send us a flier or note at least two months in advance. Include title, location, dates, contacts.

ALASKA: March 6-8, 1987; 3rd Annual Alaska Regional Convention; Travelers Inn, 820 Noble Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701; (907) Pat H. 452-7342; Larry L. 457-7326

ARIZONA: May 22-24, 1987; 1st Annual Arizona Regional Convention; ARCNA-I; Doubletree Hotel, 445 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85711; (602) Jeff 841-0046; Connie 398-9442

AUSTRALIA: Apr 17-20, 1987; 3rd Australasian Convention Easter '87; Glenelg Town Hall, Moseley Square Glenelg; Tony M. 085-366124

CALIFORNIA: Mar 27-29, 1987; 9th NCCNA; Marriott Hotel, Burlingame, CA; 9th NCCNA, Box 6323, San Mateo, CA 94403; Todd (415) 347-3296; Joe (408) 296-4833

2) July 10-12, 1987; San Diego Imperial Regional Convention III; Holiday Inn at Embarcadero, 1355 Harbor Drive, San Diego; (619) Elisa 563-1759; Olga 296-2920; Ron 282-6777

CANADA: June 12-14; 2nd Annual N.A. Roundup; Garneau Community Hall, 10923 84th Avenue, Eventon, Alberta; (403) Neil 465-5424; Sue 464-2805

2) (CANCELED) Apr 10-12 1987; 1st Annl Ontario Reg Conf

FLORIDA: July 2-5, 1987; FRCNA 6; Diplomat Hotel, 3515 South Ocean Dr., Hollywood, FL 33019, (305) Mike 564-1262; Chris 891-1867; Bee Gee 565-7312

ILLINOIS: June 26-28, 1987; 3rd Annual Flight to Freedom Campout; Coy's & Wilma's Campground, Rend Lake, Sesser, IL; (618) Vicky 242-5968; Mark 532-1327

2) July 24-26, 1987; 3rd Mid-Coast Convention; Holiday Inn, 7550 E State St., Rockford, Ill 61107; (815)398-2200; Greg 963-5811

IOWA: July 3-5, 1987;IRCNA IV; Civic Center Holiday Inn, 4th & Commercial, Waterloo, IA; (800)465-4329; Don (319) 233-2906; Paul (515) 274-4347

KENTUCKY: March 7, 1987; KRCNA I Fundraiser; Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Claysmill, Lexington, Kentucky 40503; Brenda (606)271-0647; New Hotline (606)252-3484

2) April 10-12, 1987; KRCNAI; Ramada Inn, 4767 Scottsville Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42101; Deanie (502)843-8209

LOUISIANA: March 6-8, 1987; LPRCNAV; Palace Suite Hotel, 2211 MacArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA; (318)443-2561

2) Sept. 3-7, 1987; World Convention; WCNA 17; Sheraton New Orleans Hotel & Towers, 500 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70130; (504)525-2500

MASSACHUSETTS: Apr 17-19, 1987; 2nd New England Reg Conv; Marriott Hotel, Springfield, MA; NERC II, Box 422, Chicopee, MA 01021; (413) Steve 736-3979; Nancy 593-3809

MICHIGAN: July 2-5 1987; Freedom III MRCNA; Hyatt-Regency, P.O. Box 525, Flint, MI 48501; (313) Jim 233-4704; Mike 232-7490

MISSISSIPPI: April 3-5, 1987; MRCNAV; Best Western Trace Inn; (Hwy 6 & Natchez Trace) Tupelo, MS; Allen (601)862-7334

MISSOURI: June 5-7, 1987; 2nd Annual Show-Me Regional Convention; Ramada Hotel, 2431 N. Glenstone, Springfield, MO; Bob R. (417)358-5800; (800)781-0500

NEW JERSEY: May 8-10, 1987; 2nd Annual Jersey Convention; P.O.Box 597; Manasquan, NJ 08736; (201) Nancy 223-2909; Karin 483-0310; Interested Speakers submit tapes to Program Comm, Rd 1, Box 222, Pennington-Mt. Rose Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534, Tom (609) 737-8791

2) July 17-19, 1987; 4th Annual Powerless in the Pines Campout; Sonya F. (609) 227-2319

NEW MEXICO: July 3-5,1987; WSUC IV; Box 37558, Albuquerque, NM 87176; Susan (505) 984-2305, Debra (505) 982-8650, Bill (505) 984-1469

NEW YORK: May 29-31, 1987; Freedom Three; Third Annual Greater NY Reg Conv; Stevensville Country Club, Swan Lake, NY; (718) Danny 347-6643; Tina 342-5233

OHIO: April 4, 1987; Buckeye Region Unity Day; St. Patricks Ch. W. 38th & Bridge, Cleveland, OH

2) May 22-24, 1987; Ohio Reg Conv; Holiday Inn Cascade Plaza, Akron, OH 44372; Please submit speaker tapes for consideration to ORCNA V; Box 5837, Akron, OH 44372; (216) Meredith 832-5361; Curt 453-1758; Gary 864-8175

3) June 12-14, 1987; 8th ECCNA; Kent State University, Kent, OH; P.O. Box 1492, Youngstown, OH 45501; (216) Bob 545-4387; Laura 898-2176; Roy 638-7895

4) July 17-19, 1987; 3rd CCANA; Camp Vention; Summit Valley Park, Summitville, OH 43926; (216) Rusty 385-5761; Bill 424-7681

OKLAHOMA: March 27-29, 1987; 1st Annual Oklahoma Regional Convention; Central Plaza Hotel, 112 N. Eastern Ave., OK City, OK 73117; (800) 522-4383, Leo (918) 747-4556

OREGON: Apr 4-5, 1987; OSI Regional Service Conference; Bend, Oregon; (503) Tom 382-3324; Ericka 382-2480; Joyce P. 388-2168

2) July 24-26, 1987; 2nd Annual Oregon & Southern Idaho Reg Conv; Black Angus/Executive Inn, Salem, OR; (503) Barry 371-7928; Larry 371-7782

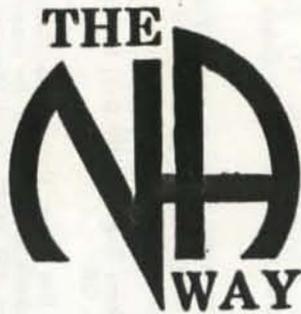
PENNSYLVANIA: Mar 6-8, 1987; Central PA Convention NA; Holiday Inn-Center City, Harrisburg, PA; 717/234-0193:

2) Mar 27-29, 1987; 5th GPRCNA; Dunfey City Line Hotel, City Line Ave. & Monument Rd., Philadelphia; GPRCNA, PO Box 42628, Philadelphia PA 19101-2628; (215) Steve & Sharon 925-7766; Alice & Marge 534-2887

TEXAS: Mar 27-29, 1987; LSRCNA II; LSRCNA II Pro Subcom, PO Box 300794, Houston, TX 77230-0794; (713) Rick 531-6734; Janie Rae 973-7002

WASHINGTON: Mar 27-29, 1987; 2nd Annual Washington/Northern Idaho Reg Convention; Vance Tye, 500 Tye Dr., Tumwater, WA 98502-7398; 1-800-426-0670

WEST VIRGINIA: May 8-10, 1987; WVCNA-IV; Cedar Lakes Camp & Conference Center, Ripley, WV; (304) 372-7000



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