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

The 17th World Convention has come together very nicely. To date, there are approximately 1731 members pre-registered, and we have sold 1422 banquet tickets, 1361 brunch tickets, and 800 boat tickets [sold out]. We have rooms in several hotels: the Sheraton, Marriott (504)581-1000 [rooms available only 9/4-9/6], the Doubletree (504)581-1300, and the Le'Meridien (504)525-6500. If you call you must identify WCNA-17 to get convention rates. The advance response to this convention has been very encouraging. This report will hopefully assist you in preparing for your visit here in New Orleans. We have compiled a brief list of necessities you may wish to consider. This will hopefully make your visit here a more enjoyable and pleasant experience.

New Orleans in September is still hot and humid. Spring or summer clothes will suffice. You may wish to bring a light cotton sweater if you're planning to go on the Midnight Cruise. Also it often rains for brief periods, so you may wish to include an umbrella when you pack. For those members who are planning a vacation around WCNA-17, several options of sight-seeing are available. The Sheraton, Marriott, Doubletree, and Le'Meridien are all within walking distance to the French Quarter, as well as other historical sites. All of the hotels will be able to help arrange any other tours you may wish to take. There are several places for parking in and around the hotels for those members who are planning to drive to the convention. The Sheraton offers a flat rate of \$9.00/day with valet parking. The Marriott charges \$8.00/day Monday through Friday and \$9.00/day during the weekend. There are two lots offering spaces outside the hotels including the Superdome at \$3.50/day with shuttles leaving to the Marriott every 10-15 minutes, costing \$.30/person, and the Rivergate at \$4.00/day. These offer limited access as well as occupancy.

The transit system in New Orleans is reputable and lists of schedules can be attained at your hotel. Transportation from and to the airport can be easily accommodated economically by using a company with a city charter (Rhodes Airport Transportation) or one of the other public transport companies. Please don't hesitate to call Debbie W. at (504)767-3196 or Michael A. at (504)834-9160 for further information.

Beginning on Thursday night and continuing Friday and Saturday nights, there will be a Talent Showcase. This is an opportunity for you to share your talents with the Fellowship. Whatever your talents, whether it be music, poetry, dance, comedy, magic, etc., you are invited and encouraged to express them at the Talent Showcase. Equipment provided will include: microphones, amps, drums, piano, cassette tape player, and monitor speakers. You need to bring whatever instruments or props are necessary for your performance. Inquiries regarding signing up for the Talent Showcase can be made at the WCNA-17 registration desk.

Friday there will be various entertainment functions. The biggest will start with a Mardi Gras Parade. There will be floats, marching bands, Indians, and plenty of music. Everyone is invited to "Second Line" which will be explained to you the night of the parade and ball. We ask that everyone bring a costume (although there are costume rental companies throughout the city). Friday night's parade is followed by a masquerade party, the WCNA-17 Mardi Gras Ball and Krewe of Clean. Other functions will be a Cajun Country Dance band, Oldies Dance, and Jazz Brunch. In short, there will be plenty of exciting things to do.

In addition to the entertainment, one open podium meeting has been scheduled for Friday and Saturday nights at 11:00 p.m. in the Sheraton.

This is a short report to acquaint ya'll with the entertainment that will happen at WCNA-17 in New Orleans.

ANAHEIM WORLD CONVENTION SITE FOR 1988

Congratulations are in order for Anaheim, California, the host site of the 1988 World Convention for Narcotics Anonymous (WCNA-18). We are certain that the folks in Southern California will have an excellent convention.

Since plans for WCNA-18 are well under way, it is now time to begin looking ahead to 1989 and WCNA-19. Bids are being accepted by the World Convention Corporation for Narcotics Anonymous (WCCNA). This is the corporation, formed with the approval of the '86 World Service Conference, which oversees the activities and finances of world conventions beginning with WCNA-16 in London. The deadline for submitting bids for WCNA-19 is October 1, 1987.

In order to bid on WCNA-19 your area and/or region must accomplish certain tasks and meet certain eligibility requirements by the October 1st deadline. These requirements are best explained in the *Convention Guidelines*, pages 48 and 49. Please note that according to those guidelines, which were adopted at the 1985 World Service Conference, zones 1, 6, and 8 are ineligible to bid for WCNA-19.

Your bid package should be sent in its completed form, including the Hotel Fact Sheet, to World Service Office, Inc., P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409 to the attention of Anthony Edmondson.

Once your package is received the following actions will be taken:

1. Your bid will be reviewed by the WCCNA and, providing that the information is sufficient, it will then be evaluated to determine eligibility.
2. A liaison will be assigned to communicate with your committee in the event that additional information or assistance is required.
3. The letter of need from your bid committee will be included in the 1988 WSC Fellowship Report along with any other bids which are eligible.
4. The WCCNA Board of Directors will forward their recommendation(s) as to the site(s) that they determine to be most suitable to the 1988 World Service Conference.
5. The site of the 1989 WCNA-19 will be determined by the 1988 World Service Conference.

We wish you well in your endeavors and hope your committee will focus strongly on the N.A. principles of recovery throughout its efforts. If you should need additional information during preparation, contact Anthony Edmondson at the World Service Office.

FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SERVICE STRUCTURE

During the past three years, as the Select Committee on Service Structure has been working to prepare a handbook on service in N.A., there have been a great many lessons learned by the committee. The task was much greater than any member imagined it would be. As the committee members began to participate, they found that they were hard pressed to conceptualize the changes in the structure that now seem fairly obvious.

At first glance the task seemed to be to simply rewrite the existing *Temporary Working Guide* and incorporate some of the ideas presented by members in their letters. The learning process that resulted from the lengthy discussions revealed a

much more comprehensive task. These past six months have been the most enlightening. They have revealed the need for a comprehensive change in the structure of the world level of service as we currently know it. The report that follows is an attempt to describe the current discussions of the Select Committee on Service Structure. These discussions are still incomplete at this time and in no way imply any final decisions. The material that follows represents only a few of the ideas and concepts being discussed. The Committee invites members to comment on this material by sending written input to the Committee through the World Service Office.

The Service Structure of Narcotics Anonymous

The basic elements of the service structure of the Fellowship are already proven to work and need little if any change. The group, the area committee and the regional service committee comprise the structure of service in N.A., and the method for decision making for the Fellowship as a whole. This report includes few changes in that existing service pattern.

Where a major change seems to be needed is at the level of service beyond the scope of an individual region. In earlier service materials it was presumed that the next level of service was the world level. While that was a logical assumption then and has been tried, there have evolved some problems with the quick jump from a region to a truly worldwide conference.

The difficulties involved in that jump include differences in language, culture, distance and ability to provide services. While the Fellowship grew primarily in the U.S. and Canada these problems were not fully visible. Now that the Fellowship is growing strong in places so far away as Australia, South America, Europe and Asia the difficulties of language, culture, distance and self-support, must be addressed.

There are several practical matters that highlight these problems. After three years of trying different techniques for translation of literature written in American English into different languages, no simple or single process has been found to be universally practical or satisfactory. Some language materials have been in the translation process for all of these past three years. Some items have been translated and re-translated several times and a completely satisfactory product has not yet been achieved. In addition to the difficulties of translating the material adequately and ensuring the accuracy of the N.A. message, there is the question of cultural differences making some of the material unsuitable even if translated correctly.

Although our disease is universal, language and cultural differences make it hard, if not impossible, for addicts in many places to identify

with the settings, terminology, and experience described in much of the American recovery stories. Addiction in the rural areas of the Philippines, Columbia or Jordan is a real problem, but the patterns of living are so culturally different that stories of Americans provide little common ground for identification.

The translation of service materials approved by the World Service Conference, for things such as the *Guide to Phoneline Service* or *Convention Guidelines*, is simply not even being addressed. With such vast differences existing in cultural foundations these materials are not relevant in places like India, most of Africa, and parts of Europe or South America.

This non-relevance therefore raises a question of the propriety of calling such materials "World Service Conference" tools. This matter of relevance can be expanded to question why such materials should be sent to places in the Fellowship for "world approval" when actually they are not relevant to the entire world Fellowship. And of course if they are not relevant, why translate them?

These significant issues have been made more clear as a result of the participation of more non-Americans in the past two World Service Conferences and efforts to participate in various Conference Committees. As a result of these lessons and growing discussions, new ideas for service beyond the regional level have taken place. On the pages that follow are the results of those discussions. The first task was to establish concepts that can form the basis for more detailed discussions. Following refinement of those conceptual discussions, the specific language that can formulate structural options is presented. In order to foster open debate on these options, several options are presented for those elements when more than one option was widely discussed or developed.

General Concepts

World services should be a term applied to those issues and activities that are generally universal in their application rather than specific to a particular language, culture or geographical area.

Future recovery literature should be developed and approved more along language and cultural lines rather than a universal worldwide basis. Similarly, service materials should be developed and approved more for the setting in which they will be used rather than attempting to evolve a single document on each segment of service.

Both recovery literature and service materials must reflect a consistent application of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of N.A. and should not be changed, altered or modified. The concepts must remain true to our current understanding regardless of language or cultural differences.

Although nationalism has not been a large issue within N.A. discussions, and it generally conveys negative concepts with respect to a spiritual program, there are some situations where our service structure may benefit by taking into consideration the geo-political structure of nations. Some service materials and structures may work more effectively on a nation by nation basis than on the basis of regions as we now know them. An example of this may be the N.A. community in the United Kingdom. They currently have one region covering the greater London area but other regions will soon evolve. In matters of H&I or P.I. service especially, it would be logical that the Fellowship would benefit from a committee that served the UK as a whole. In some ways this has already been accomplished through the formulation of the UK Assembly which will be an administrative unit responsible to handle concerns affecting all of the UK. The London Region, and others as they form, will continue to function as elements of the World Service Conference. But they will also function as part of the UK Assembly, although the UK Assembly will not have a direct relationship to the World Service Conference.

World services need to be practical, affordable and effective. As the Fellowship grows in the years ahead it will eventually have as many meetings (areas and regions too) outside the U.S. as there are inside the U.S. This may mean as more addicts are elected to world service, many may speak languages other than English. This may also mean that an extraordinary financial burden may be involved for the conduct of a World Service Conference. The movement of trusted servants around the globe to attend the Conference meeting or committee meetings alone will be staggering. Additionally, the cost for translation of even the basic conceptual materials will remain a long, awkward, and expensive process.

A more practical and effective approach seems to be to encourage a system that permits the evolution of N.A. decision making, take advantage of prior experience, strength and hope, but does not require all of that to take place at one World Conference each year. Developing decision making elements like the UK Assembly or Continental Service Conferences seems the most reasonable and practical solution. However, consistency to our basic spiritual principles must be continually assured.

For this reason, an effective worldwide element must exist within the Fellowship. That element should be large enough to be representative of the whole N.A. Fellowship while at the same time small enough to be practical and efficient. Whichever method we choose to accomplish our Fellowship's goals, the responsibilities of our worldwide service element should be wide reaching in some ways but rather restricted in others. For example, it should be the holder of the ultimate copyright and trademarks of N.A., including the name Narcotics Anonymous. It should be able to grant permission

to print and distribute literature within continents or countries, it should conduct the world convention, it should be the caretakers of our spiritual principles. It should not, however, involve itself in the approval of specific programs and/or activities that are relevant only to parts of the Fellowship, it should not impede or delay the structural development unless that development affects the Fellowship as a whole and it should not be involved in the development of service tools intended only for limited use within the Fellowship except to check for consistency with N.A. principles.

World services need to be small enough to be practical, but large enough to avoid the stigma of "an elite" or remote circle of members. There must be a practical relationship between world service and other service elements.

Financing of these service units is through the Seventh Tradition. This should include funds sent along through the service structure from funds collected at N.A. meetings, revenue from Fellowship events and sales of approved literature or other materials.

What these general concepts are intended to express is the manner by which the whole Fellowship becomes responsible for the safe keeping of the Narcotics Anonymous principles. To guarantee and preserve the opportunity for all our future members to find the chance for a new way of life, no matter where, who, or when that might be. For this, we are ALL responsible.

WORLD LITERATURE NEWS

There's so much new, exciting news in the world of literature these days, it's hard to know what to say. One important item that makes the task a bit easier is the fact that information about world services is available in so many sources now. In addition to bi-monthly issues of the *Newsline*, Fellowship Reports are now being mailed on a bi-monthly basis and the *N.A. Way* magazine is also carrying short articles on major highlights of World Committee activities and projects. All of this exposure and coverage will ultimately result in better and better communication which, in turn, will add to our ability to correctly determine and meet the Fellowship's needs. We are very grateful for the growth and maturity which these changes represent and we look forward to continuing progress.

Change is something we all experience in recovery, both personally and in service work. The World Literature Committee (WLC) is no different. One major new thrust of the Committee's work this year is to address the changing literature needs of Narcotics Anonymous. Regional and area literature committees have been contacted and invited to provide input to WLC about the Procedural Guidelines (including structure of the Committee), and how those guidelines impact the

method in which N.A. develops literature, from a first draft through a Conference-approved information pamphlet (I.P.) or book. The Committee welcomes all input on this or other matters. An ad-hoc committee of WLC will be meeting in late August to review the Procedural Guidelines and make recommendations based on input received.

Other activities of WLC include the production of drafts for the following items which were approved by WSC '87 as priority list projects: *For Those in Treatment*, *Questions and Answers about Narcotics Anonymous*, *In Times of Illness*, *Unity*, *In Loving Service* and the Twelve Traditions section of *It Works*.

As part of continuing change and improving procedures, the WLC agreed unanimously to open participation to regional literature chairpersons at the conference workshop in Newark in July. The result was wonderful and we are grateful to those members for their willingness to travel and commit to long hours of hard work, much of which is never adequately acknowledged.

One item which is also new and exciting is the WLC's decision to attempt using a survey to help determine the wishes of the Fellowship regarding certain items of literature business. When approved, it will be sent to all registered literature committees. We look forward to receiving input on the idea and usage of this type of survey in the future.

As mentioned earlier, improving communications in the area of literature development for Narcotics Anonymous is a big step forward and one which will, no doubt, have immense positive impact on our future. Any N.A. member, whether or not directly involved with literature service work, is always encouraged to contact the World Service Conference Literature Committee, c/o WSO or the WSO Literature Coordinator. Let us know how we can better serve you.

WSC AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON IT WORKS (THE STEPS)

As of this writing seven of the ten cities selected as sites for world workshops have contacted us. Fellowship enthusiasm and excitement for this project seems to be running very high even though only a month has passed since the notification went out.

We hope to be able to provide you with a schedule of dates and locations for the workshops sometime in September. We need your strength and help in communication here a little bit. All cities hosting world workshops and all regions hosting workshops, please contact the WSO as soon as possible. We need to know who we can reach as the contact person and the dates and locations of your workshops. This is very important because coordination of our efforts is necessary to make this a successful project.

The first world workshop date we have is September 26th and 27th at a senior high school in Baltimore, Maryland. For those looking for sites, this may be a good suggestion, as schools are closed on weekends, rent is inexpensive and classrooms and auditoriums make for a good working atmosphere. The Seattle workshop is tentatively set for early November. It must be noted here that, although WSC has every intention of paying for the world workshop site facilities and all necessary office supplies, etc., that will depend completely on the financial state of the WSC as each workshop date draws near. At the time of this writing, there are not sufficient funds to plan for any world service activities past September. Please, discuss this Seventh Tradition issue in your groups and service committees.

At the Newark WSC workshop in July we had a very productive meeting. We came up with guidelines and helpful hints for all area and regional literature committees. Also, thirteen regions contacted us to express their willingness and enthusiasm to hold workshops. We're really beginning to take off.

The creation of a comprehensive outline on the Twelve Steps is another major development from the meeting in Newark. We hope to have this available to area and regional literature committees to use as a guide by mid-September. This guide could possibly set the structure and format of the book. It will create topic headings into which the Fellowship's input will be sorted. It will guide and direct us by letting us know where we have plenty of material and where we need to have more writing. As soon as this information is available we'll pass it on to you. This leads us to a most important aspect of this project.

A Call for Assistance to all N.A. Members

Whether we have a few months clean, a few years, or many years clean, a simple basic fact remains, we need to work the steps. Each of us at varying points in our recovery and in our lives arrives at difficult periods of time when our need to learn and practice the Twelve Steps makes a difference as to whether we'll have any recovery or life to live. At these times, hopefully, we'll turn to our sponsors or other N.A. members at meetings and look for guidance from our literature. We hope the guidance will be there in the form of our book *It Works*. If this book is to be an in-depth study of our Twelve Steps, then we have a responsibility to each other to share our experience in writing with each other. Someone's input from the Southwest could make the difference in the life of someone recovering in New England or New York. Maybe a little later someone's input from New England or New York could make all the difference in the recovery of someone in the Southwest. We can make the difference in the

quality of our lives, our recovery and our spiritual condition. We truly need to share what each of us has learned. In our book, *It Works*, we are attempting to express the greatest possible amount of N.A.'s experience. That's not a small undertaking and it's the reason why we're appealing to all members to sit down for a while and write.

We urge you to write and participate in this project. You may write on any step or all of them. I'm sure there are many of you who have specific experiences or understandings you'd like to share. Please do. Information has been mailed to all registered literature committees about the status of this project and updates will continue to go out as they become available. Another information packet is scheduled to go out to regional literature committees about the same time as the *Newsline*. An excerpt from an earlier mailing about some of the specifics of inputting is provided below. In addition, a sample input/review form is being enclosed with all copies of *It Works* mailed after August 17th. If you need copies of that or any other *It Works* information, please contact the WSO literature coordinator for copies.

Here are some additional helpful hints on inputting: Look at the book to see what's missing and write that in. When we turn to this book for guidance and direction in our personal recoveries, it will probably be to get at the nature, the principles and levels of surrender which our steps talk about. Even if it's only to learn to keep it simple.

It's hard to write something inspirational enough to awaken a sleeping giant. In N.A., our needs push us toward that. If the need is there the Fellowship responds and we're getting a great response so far. We're searching for quality and depth shared with love and gratitude. In our efforts to help each other, we help ourselves. There's a good experience waiting to happen as soon as we sit down to review the material on these steps and begin to write our understanding. Thank you for your time, caring and understanding and keep in touch.

An Excerpt from the July Fellowship Report of the WSC Ad-hoc Committee on *It Works*

PLAN OF ACTION

There is a simple, basic plan of action and it revolves around the key phrase "prepared, written input." It is the responsibility of the local membership to bring their prepared, written input to the workshop. The review-form blue book of *It Works*, and the approval-form white book *It Works*, were combined into one review-form book which is available to area and regional literature committees from the WSO. Your prepared, written input should be based on these books. It does not matter

which version you write on or whether you choose to combine both, because the World Literature Committee will make one final book out of this input.

Put simply:

- A. As a member, get your review and input draft of *It Works* from your local area or regional literature committee. We must all be working in the same direction so it is important for all members to participate under the guidance and direction of their local area or regional literature committee.
- B. Go through the book paragraph by paragraph and list on a separate piece of paper for each step any additions, deletions, or concepts you would like to see in the book. If the concepts are not there, it is your responsibility to write them in BEFORE the workshop. Everyone is encouraged to share their experience of recovery with the Twelve Steps. Prepared input for each step should list the page, paragraph, and sentences to be changed. Because we are short on funds, we ask you, if at all possible, to make ten photocopies of your input for each step. Then each step group at the workshop will be able to review your work together in a more orderly fashion.
- C. Area and regional literature committees should notify their participating members as to where and when the workshops will be held and how the members may participate. Assisting members in preparing their input as described above would be another very helpful service.
- D. At the workshop, the members will split up into twelve groups, one group per step. Using our principle of group conscience, each group will be responsible to discuss and agree on the prepared input.
- E. Each step group will compile a master list of the additions, deletions and concepts they have found acceptable. At the end of the workshops, all master lists are to be sent to the WSO, Attn: *It Works* Ad-hoc Committee.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

The H&I Committee had a very productive work session at the WSC Workshop in Newark, New Jersey on July 18 and 19, 1987. The Committee is still in the process of collecting input for their current project, a comprehensive rewrite of the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*.

There are currently five ad-hoc committees working on different areas relating to H&I service. The ad-hoc committees are as follows: General, Treatment, Corrections, Committee Structure and Function, and Learning Days and Workshops. The committee is actively soliciting input from members who are active in H&I on all of these issues. If you or your H&I service committee

would like to submit input in any of these areas please send it to the H&I Project Coordinator at the WSO, P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9999.

The WSC H&I Committee is desperately seeking updated "Sunshine" letters from institutions where we carry the message. If your H&I committee has or can get letters from the institutions in your region or area please forward them to the WSO H&I Project Coordinator. These letters have played a vital role in our initial contacts with administrators in facilities where we have been trying to carry the message. For those members who may be unfamiliar with "Sunshine" letters they are simply letters from institutions that are supportive of having our Fellowship bring the message of recovery into their facility.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

N.A. members and groups are carrying the message further and better than ever before, and our Fellowship takes pride in doing so. As a result of living the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, our members have become aware of many situations which can present extra challenges to carrying the message of recovery. This awareness was addressed by the Fellowship at the World Service Conference meeting in April, 1987.

The Conference passed a motion which established an ad-hoc committee for the purpose of investigating and dispersing information about the accessibility of N.A. meetings and the N.A. message of recovery.

In pursuing this task, members of the committee have already been enlightened about some of the additional needs which exist. There are recovering addicts with visual limitations who cannot read regular print size, blind addicts who require braille literature or cassette tapes, deaf or hard-of-hearing addicts who cannot benefit from sharing in meetings, wheelchair bound addicts who cannot always get their wheelchair into the N.A. meetings, and other addicts whose physical circumstances may present obstacles. Additionally, there are addicts with learning disabilities, language barriers, reading disabilities, speech limitations, etc., which present a challenge to efforts by our N.A. groups to carry the message.

Many of these challenges have been approached by the Fellowship or by groups and committees within N.A., but usually only in isolated situations. We have made substantial progress in several areas of need but we must expand our understanding and our efforts. Attached in this *Newsline* is a sheet entitled "Recovery Materials for Addicts with Additional Needs," indicating that literature is available in braille, large print, and on cassette tape. Some areas and regions have begun coding meeting lists to indicate wheelchair accessibility and the availability of sign language interpreters. The WSO has a TTY phone number (818-376-8600) which allows telephone conversations with deaf addicts who also have a TTY machine.

There are three regional additional needs subcommittees in existence which are exploring how to help their N.A. groups further. For example, the New England Region is working on how N.A. literature can accommodate the deaf addicts who have, by necessity, learned the English language with a different structure than hearing addicts. Their regional additional needs subcommittee is also gathering in-depth information about such things as how to properly lift someone in a wheelchair, what makes a bathroom accessible to a wheelchair bound person, etc. In the Chesapeake-Potomac Region, their additional needs subcommittee is exploring how to gather pertinent information from professionals.

These efforts are aimed at helping N.A. groups achieve their primary purpose of carrying the message to the addicts who still suffers. The N.A. members involved are always mindful of this and careful not to be drawn into other causes or issues. Our Twelve Traditions (especially Six and Ten) speak very clearly about the importance of outside enterprises and outside issues remaining apart from N.A.'s efforts.

The object of collecting this information is to compile some resource material and make some recommendations to the WSC. The long range goal is to work towards a method of offering experience and information to N.A. service committees (region and area) which can then help their groups in these circumstances.

In order to make more progress, the committee needs all the input it can get. You may be able to help! Does your group, area, or region have any experience with addicts who have additional needs? Are these needs being met? How? Please share your experience with the WSC Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee by completing the attached questionnaire and sending it with any other pertinent information to: Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee, c/o WSO.

WORLD DIRECTORY INPUT

For the past several years, our process for registering groups has focused upon compiling a worldwide meeting list. As this task grew in magnitude, we became aware that one day this would be impractical. Upon objective assessment, we have discovered that we have meeting information for over 9,000 meetings, but only have contact addresses (P.O. boxes or updated group mailing addresses) for roughly 1000 meetings.

Our improved computer capabilities have made it possible to design a new system which should not only serve the addict well, but will also be a manageable project. This involves a three-faceted approach which includes; producing a Phoneline Directory, maintaining a regional and area meeting list file, and continuing to register all N.A. groups.

The phoneline directory concept has been discussed in previous issues of the *Newsline* and has

received popular support. We have exerted some effort to prepare a sample phoneline directory. It is nearly ready to be distributed to regions for their examination and comment.

If each region and area will send a few copies of their meeting list each time it is revised and printed, our files will remain current. It will be important, however, that each directory have a production date printed on it. The system we use on many timely items is to place the month and year (8/87) in some inconspicuous place. Inquiries for specific meeting information can then easily be answered.

N.A. WAY MAGAZINE

The format changes to the *N.A. Way* have begun taking effect during the last couple of months. "The N.A. News" section was introduced in the August issue and the "Opinion" section was added in September.

We anticipate that the size of each will fluctuate from month to month, but the new additions, once they are fully in place, will have increased our size by twelve pages. As a result of this size increase, as we announced last year, there will also be a price increase to \$15 annually beginning with the November issue. For those who wish to subscribe, now is the time.

We do have a billing system in place, so anyone who wishes to subscribe may simply send us a note to that effect. Address it to the *N.A. Way* at the WSO P.O. Box and we'll bill you later. You may send the \$12 if you wish, or you may wait for a bill.

Anyone who wishes to renew your subscription before the price increase may send in your money at the current price along with a note and a copy of your mailing label. We'll add 12 months to your current expiration date.

WSO AND WORLD SERVICE

Although the World Service Office is assigned the duty of serving the entire worldwide Fellowship, we sometimes fall short of fulfilling that commitment. When we recognize that our efforts fail to achieve that goal, we rededicate ourselves and work harder or try new approaches to providing service. As a result of this constant re-evaluation and commitment, we are always trying new approaches to our responsibilities.

One of the periodic suggestions we've received is to open a WSO office in other places that need the direct support WSO can provide, but that obviously cannot afford these services at their own expense. This was first suggested to the WSO Board in 1983 with respect to the difficulties being experienced with the growth of the Fellowship in Europe.

At that time the Board adopted a long range proposal to open such a small service branch in

1986. However, in the ensuing years ('84 and '85 particularly) it began to look like self-sustaining offices would be developed by the separate N.A. communities in different European countries. With this prospect then seeming likely, the WSO elected to let the idea of a WSO office there fade away.

Two N.A. offices have been opened in Europe but they are hard pressed even to satisfy the needs of the membership in their own countries, much less venture out to fill the needs in other places. Besides this outreach duty is the job of the WSO. While this was occurring, the WSO was providing some (but frequently inadequate) support to the rest of the Fellowship's needs in Europe.

The idea of opening a WSO branch in Europe has again been brought up as an important aspect of the commitment to serve the worldwide needs of addicts. The great distances involved in getting needs met from so far away, and from many who do not speak common languages, have hampered the effectiveness of past WSO efforts. The frequent diversion of staff time originally assigned to international duties onto other projects has further diminished the success of many efforts.

This was discussed by the WSO Board at recent meetings and in particular the June meeting. An acknowledgment of our limited success in serving the European members was a painful but real step in moving to improve the situation. A tentative commitment to open an office in Europe was accepted along with instructions for the staff to conduct more detailed research.

While staff members were attending the European Service Conference in July, in Germany, the idea was suggested. Also in separate discussions the suggestion for such an office was discussed with trusted servants in Ireland and the United Kingdom. While the reaction varied from person to person, there was general support for more WSO attention to Europe and an office was thought to be generally a good idea.

As all ideas frequently take their own time to mature, this one too has taken its time. At the recent August meeting of the WSO Board the matter was again discussed. A staff report recommended a definite commitment to a European Office with a time schedule leading to opening that office in the early months of 1988.

The Board adopted a motion setting forth several steps to be taken in this regard. The first step involves beginning to collect information that would be used by a staff person to be sent on this assignment (or selection of a member already in Europe). This will include a more comprehensive plan and the accumulation of information from Europe and agencies in the U.S. The second step is to begin searching for a person with skills, ability and recovery essential for this task. The last step will be to schedule and then initiate the opening of an office.

This plan will require the support and assistance of our European members. The work to be accomplished there will be tailored to avoid

conflict with the service offices started by the local N.A. communities there. The efforts of the office will be directed toward serving members in other places where a service structure has not developed.

Unfortunately, the office will not be self-supporting for several years. This will require the willingness of the entire Fellowship to support this effort so that the addicts of Europe will not continue to die without having had the choice of coming to N.A. The office can become self-supporting, and as the Fellowship continues to grow there, it will.

An important factor will be a committee of members from Europe who will advise and help support the activities the office participates in. A committee with this purpose will be developed in the months ahead.

As part of the worldwide efforts of the World Service Office, and with particular emphasis on this immediate project, there are many resources that need to be tapped for information. Much of this information can be gathered prior to opening an office through contact with public and private agencies. Some of these agencies have offices in New York or other international cities. The WSO has been gathering information from some of these sources already.

A concentrated effort to gather this information will require a more direct approach to some of these resources. Consequently, for a period of time, the Office will have an employee in New York gathering information. This staff member will also assist in forming the support group of European members and a more precise project proposal.

With all of this effort and your support it may be possible to have the European membership beginning to benefit from this as soon as next spring.

HIGHER POWER AND THE SEVENTH TRADITION

As part of the continuing discussion of the financial situation facing the Fellowship at large and world services in particular, the following essay on the spiritual aspect of the Seventh Tradition was received. It was such a clearly written and unique approach to a subject we frequently keep separated in our thinking that we decided to include in this issue of the *Newsline*.

N.A. is a spiritual program. It is based on spiritual principles which are embedded in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. The continuous application of these principles results in the development of a relationship with a Higher Power which then plays a prominent role in our lives. Certainly there are clean addicts who do not follow this approach to recovery. Some think that staying clean is enough and spiritual growth is "optional." The spiritual facts of the N.A. Program

are also sometimes missed among the rhetoric of service committees, reports and trusted servants. When we discuss a Higher Power it seldom is in the context of understanding the Seventh Tradition. Nevertheless, this essay is about a Higher Power and the Seventh Tradition.

When we make a decision to turn our lives over to the care of a Higher Power, things often become clearer to us. When we continuously renew this decision, we begin to see numerous opportunities for God to work in our lives. Our character defects are often rudely revealed to us, as well as our powerlessness over many situations. All of this is part of the process of being restored to sanity and having a spiritual awakening. If we couldn't see our shortcomings, we couldn't very well ask God to remove them in the Seventh Step. By using prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with this Power greater than ourselves, our lives begin to take on balance. Often we are given the power to carry out God's will--to not act out on our defects of character, to not run our lives on self-will as we did before. Our priorities shift, our egos are placed in proper perspective, and gradually we learn to use this set of spiritual principles as a guide in all our daily affairs. Many things are revealed to us and we become willing to let this Higher Power direct our lives rather than being ruled by pride, greed, distrust and a host of other unuseful attitudes and defects.

This Higher Power eventually gives us the ability to fulfill part of the Twelfth Step. A sense of selflessness and genuine caring seem to develop and somehow we are able to help other addicts seeking recovery. When we are rightfully connected with our Higher Power, a miracle occurs, and we who were once hopelessly addicted are able to find hope and share it with another addict. We really do carry a message of recovery to other addicts.

Sometimes we don't rely on our Higher Power and our efforts to live the Twelfth Step miss the mark. Many of us have experienced the frustration of trying so hard to "get the message across" to another addict and failing. We all want every addict to "get the message" and stop using. But we know only too well that addicts get the message when they are ready for it, not necessarily when we are ready to deliver it.

When we really understand this relationship we more fully appreciate the impact a Higher Power has in all the Twelve Steps and Traditions. When we think of a Higher Power being the key force in our Twelfth Step work, we may not see a direct relationship to the traditions. But there are several traditions that function only when a Higher Power influences our understanding of the Twelfth Step.

For example, the Second Tradition has more meaning when we understand that group conscience is a mechanism whereby we collectively plan and coordinate our energies to do Twelfth Step work. In the broadest sense, the Second Tradition is there for us in order to maintain

unity, to preserve a common understanding of N.A., and to plan our collective Twelfth Step work. There are many things we do through the Second Tradition which seem unrelated to these three purposes, but they should be the central themes of all we do.

It is also important to understand how the Seventh Tradition is based on the same three purposes. It is necessary to have some money in N.A. in order to accomplish those same three things: to maintain unity, preserve our common understanding of N.A., and plan our collective Twelfth Step work. Looking at the principles a little more closely may help to clarify this.

Maintaining unity requires that we fulfill the second principle--preserving a common understanding of N.A. We can preserve a common understanding only when we communicate. If we do not communicate we become isolated units, each searching for a clear vision of the N.A. Program. Communication permits the isolated units to keep the program and the message straight--our common understanding.

When we have that common understanding we can maintain unity. That communication, however, comes at a price. The money is used for phone calls, letters, magazines, to get people from one place to another, and permits us to develop the tools we need when we plan the Twelfth Step work.

The clearest example of the value of money in the search for unity and common understanding began in 1983. Until then, almost no money was available for world level trusted servants to travel from one place to another. Consequently, those who did travel did so at their own expense, and it usually wasn't very often if there was great distance involved. Some members did pay their own way. Some could afford it, others could not, and some hitch-hiked across the country. This left the majority of world level trusted servants out of the picture--doing only what they could afford to do. Some felt so strongly about the need to accomplish the work that they "cut corners" and suffered personal consequences.

Also at this time, N.A. was growing rapidly in towns, cities and rural areas. New groups were starting all the time. It was not uncommon for two groups to be started simultaneously in the same city with no knowledge or communication with each other. Frequently groups in the same town, city, or state connected only by accident or through someone in a different location who happened to know about both groups.

The worldwide result of this growth without communication led to the conflicts we've been wrestling with ever since then. The fears, suspicion and distrust which come naturally to us as addicts provided fast-burning fuel for conflict because nobody was really communicating very much. There wasn't any N.A. newspaper that everyone could get. World level trusted servants could be found only at the World Service

Conference each spring, maybe at the world convention, and there wasn't much communication in the meantime.

In 1983 the World Service Conference and World Service Office began to invest money in better communications and transportation. The *Newsline* was started by the World Service Office. The WSC began to pay for more transportation of Conference members and trustees. The WSO consented to pay for additional transportation for Conference members and trustees when needed.

The practical results of these investments was the lessening of some fears, suspicions and distrust. The more money that was invested in these efforts, the more results were produced. There is still conflict, fear, suspicion and distrust. But we now have the communication that permits us to understand what is being done and to maintain unity. Because unity can be maintained, group conscience (the expression of a Power greater than ourselves) can be maintained.

The Seventh Tradition made the communication and unity possible. Without these investments the conflicts would have gotten worse and new ones would have arisen. The Seventh Tradition is therefore a key element in the success of the First and Second Traditions. Money provided through our Seventh Tradition is not the only factor in the success of the First and Second Traditions, but it sure helps.

The relationship of the Seventh Tradition to the Twelfth Step is easier to see because we are all more directly involved now. Let's examine some of the Seventh Tradition expenditures that give us the practical means to carry out the Twelfth Step. Coffee probably comes first. Of course we can have N.A. meetings without coffee, but it puts the newcomers more at ease. Having newcomers present at our meetings gives us an opportunity to carry the message of recovery.

Literature and keytags at meetings are traditional parts of our Twelfth Step work. But there may be other ways groups could spend money that help carry the message to people who. For example, paying for sign language interpreters to enable deaf addicts to receive the message of recovery. Some of these might not be done if we didn't have the money. In general, we can easily see how Seventh Tradition money makes some Twelfth Step work possible.

Before examining the Seventh Tradition in relation to the area committee it is important to acknowledge that a group can succeed without an area committee. However, the existence of an area committee provides both a better environment for a group and more extensive Twelve Step efforts.

The primary purpose of an area committee is to accomplish the same three items discussed earlier, unity, common understanding and Twelfth Step work. It is in the accomplishment of the Twelfth Step efforts at the area level that we see a larger expenditures of funds. Work gets done at the area level that is usually too extensive for an individual

group. The combined efforts of several groups sets in motion H&I work, phonelines, meeting lists and other activities.

Because these efforts can, and usually do, require considerable amounts of money, there is often the perception that the work cannot be sustained only on the basis of money put in the basket at each group meeting. In some places this perception has become reality. Sometimes it was true from the start and perception followed reality.

The ready and common answer was to hold some social event and make money at the same time. This common sense approach has served us well in some places and has caused grief in others. The logic and simplicity of this approach is hard to assail. But there are some concerns about this solution to our financial needs.

Many of us like dances and other social activities, and we may reason that we would spend money on these entertainment functions anyway. We think that spending money on them, and benefiting N.A. at the same time, makes it doubly okay. It is not the purpose of this article to destroy that logic or that funding source. But it is appropriate to point out that participating in these social activities is not our primary way of exercising our Seventh Tradition.

There is a spiritual principle at the root of the Seventh Tradition--that is the principle of giving. As addicts, self-centeredness and selfishness are the spiritual manifestations of our disease. When we go through the action of giving (even a little bit if that's all we have), we are demonstrating in a tangible way our desire for recovery and change. Even if we secretly have a lot of fear about our financial insecurity, putting a dollar or two in the basket at each meeting we attend does a lot for our personal recovery. It teaches us to have faith that a Power greater than ourselves will take care of us. Usually we find that we don't even miss the donations we make to N.A. because the spiritual benefits received are so great. We pay back a little of what N.A. has given to us, a whole new life. And we learn a lot about self-respect and being self-supporting. We begin to change from the helpless dope fiends who were dependent on everyone else to take care of us because we could not manage our own lives, to responsible, productive members of society finding our strength in a Higher Power who takes care of us. Many of us have come to the realization that making regular donations to Narcotics Anonymous is a privilege because of the spiritual and emotional benefits it provides us.

Narcotics Anonymous has more than one source of money provided through the Seventh Tradition. Money donated directly by an individual is one source but there are also fund raising efforts and literature sales. At the group level, donations are collected and some money is spent by the group in its efforts to carry the message. All the money in excess of the group's *real* needs for the current month (and maybe an additional month or two)

should be sent to the area. Some groups don't do this. When a group hoards money, and doesn't pass it along to the next level of service, it cuts off the flow of funds necessary to help the area committee accomplish its Twelfth Step work. Frequently when this happens the area puts more effort into fund-raising efforts. Unfortunately this diverts everyone into fund-raising instead of our primary purpose which is to carry the message of recovery (the Twelfth Step).

Some fund-raising efforts have become fairly routine and should be managed with the purposes of minimizing the expense while accomplishing both the social and fund-raising purposes. For example, annual conventions which are held for the purpose of celebrating recovery, fostering unity and raising some funds. These definitely serve a purpose in Narcotics Anonymous. We need only keep our perspective straight and not become dependent on these activities while neglecting our responsibility and right to make direct contributions to the Fellowship that saved our lives.

There are some projects of an area committee that may seem far removed from carrying the message of recovery. For example, committees often seem to spend hours upon hours arguing over guidelines by which to govern themselves or taking the inventories of various "trusted" servants. Some of these activities seem to be the result of members focusing on the same fears, suspicions and distrust that drove us through the doors of Narcotics Anonymous in the first place. Although committee work can be frustrating and trying for many of us, it provides a wonderful opportunity for us to practice the spiritual principles of the program and even to carry the message to others with whom we serve.

When we are given the opportunity to serve in a position of trust we must be vigilant about keeping the primary purpose (to carry the message of recovery) foremost in our minds. It is very easy to become diverted in many other directions, and we are experts at justifying and rationalizing our well-intentioned, but often self-willed, aims. When issues of money are concerned, the arguments and controversy seem to get particularly hot. This is where we need to practice spiritual principles more than anywhere else. The funds provided through the Seventh Tradition are for one purpose only--to accomplish the three aims we have discussed before in this article, maintaining unity, a common understanding of the N.A. Program, and Twelfth Step work.

The efforts of trusted servants and committees at the regional and world levels should also be guided by the same three aims. Sometimes it is difficult for us to trust these people who seem so far removed from our local groups and members. We may read the reports they publish and not understand all of the complex issues they discuss. We may have met some of them and had personality conflicts or felt that they were too

busy to listen to our particular concerns. All of these are valid occurrences and unfortunately they sometimes make it difficult for us to trust our trusted servants.

The solution to this dilemma is to remember that it is a loving God who is our ultimate authority. We benefit spiritually from the act of having faith and trust whether or not the trusted servants do a good job. If they make mistakes, hopefully they will learn from them and do better the next time. If we make poor decisions in our choices of trusted servants, hopefully we will learn and do better the next time. Recovery, service, and Twelfth Step work is a growing and learning process. But the act of giving, as provided in our Seventh Tradition, is an act which comes back to us individually and collectively through the spiritual and personal growth we derive through application of this spiritual principle.

COMING EVENTS

ALABAMA: Sep. 25-27 1987; Surrender in the Mountains; Cheata State Park - Talladega National Forest, AL (205) 488-5155; Neal 834-8427; Kim 285-3354

AUSTRALIA: Oct. 2-4, 1987; 4th Annual NSW Combined Area Convention for N.A.; The Roundhouse, NSW University, High St. & Anzac Parade, Kensington; Sydney (02) Max 698-4572; Annette 646-4675; Sonya 662-6124

CALIFORNIA: Aug. 21-23; Central Sierra 3rd Annual High Country Camp out; Lyons Lake Resort; Sonora, CA; (209) 532-5396

2) Sept. 19, 1987; Stanislaus Valley Area Celebration; Elks Lodge, 945 McHenry, Modesto, CA; (209) 524-4421; Ken 634-3197; Ron 529-6728

3) Sept. 26, 1987; 1st Annual Unity Day; Laney College, Oakland, CA; Mitch (415) 235-0476

4) Oct. 3, 1987; 11:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.; Learning Day; Mt. Carmel High School, 9550 Carmel Mountain Rd., San Diego, CA;

5) Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 1987; Ninth Annual So. CA Reg. Conv.; Anaheim Hilton Towers, 777 W. Convention Way, Anaheim, CA; Bob (714) 540-0668; Vallerie (213) 370-8052

6) Mar. 4-6, 1988; NCCNA; Oakland Hyatt Regency Hotel & Convention Center, 12th & Broadway, Oakland, CA; Steve (408)446-4445

CANADA: Aug. 21-23, 1987; Regina's 3rd Annual N.A. Convention; WA-WA Shrine Temple, 2065 Hamilton St.; Bernie L. 352-9214; John H. 781-7384; Cory D. 949-0995

2) Sept. 4-6, 1987; Calvary Round-up, 1423 8th Avenue S.E., Calvary, Alberta; Linda (403)228-9626

3) Oct. 9-11, 1987; 3rd Annual Bilingual Quebec Regional Convention; MBCNA, P.O. Box 446, Beloeil, Quebec, J3G 6B6; Lyne (514) 676-6168, 443-0804; Johanne 532-5336; Vincent 332-9058

4) Oct. 23-25, 1987; 10th PNWCNA; Interested speakers submit tapes to PNWCNA Box 468-810, West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 4C9; (604) Wendy 294-9016; Brant 254-9094

COLORADO: Oct. 23-25, 1987; CRCNA-I; Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs; (303) Julie 321-8930; Jeff 755-6813; George 830-7811

ENGLAND: Sept. 18-20, 1987; First Annual U.K. Convention; Bournemouth Conference Centre, Exeter Rd., Bournemouth BH2 5BH

FLORIDA: Oct. 9-12, 1987; Keys Recovery Weekend IV, Marriott's Casa Marina; Keys Recovery Group P.O. Box 4664, Key West, FL 33040; Pat 296-2810; Susan 296-4420; Sonia 296-7087

IOWA: Sep. 26 & 27, 1987; Iowa Regional H&I Learning Weekend; Des Moines, IA; Becky B. (712)622-8467; Martin B. (515)274-0080

IRELAND: Oct. 23-25, 1987; 3rd Irish Regional Convention; The Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin; Irish Convention Comm. P.O. Box 1368, Sheriff St., Dublin 1, Ireland

KENTUCKY: Oct. 17, 1987; P.I. Awareness Day; Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd., Lexington, KY; (606)252-3484

LOUISIANA: Sept. 3-6, 1987; World Convention; WCNA 17; Sheraton New Orleans Hotel & Towers, 500 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70130; (504) 525-2500

MINNESOTA: Sept 11-13; Camp Vermilion Regional Retreat; Camp Vermilion: 5 miles from Cook, MN; P.O. Box 1046, Cook, MN 55732; Joe: (218) 749-3709

2) Oct. 17, 1987; 6th Annual Fargo/Moorhead Area Banquet; St. Mary's Church, McMerty Center, 604 Broadway; for info (218)233-4621

MISSISSIPPI: Sep. 25-27, 1987; 5th Annual Natchez Camp out; Clear Springs Recreational Area, Hwy 84/98, Nachez, MS; John & Pam (601) 442-4441; Ray 442-5086

NEBRASKA: Oct. 9-11, 1987; NRCNA IV; Holiday Inn, 72nd Grover, Omaha: 1-800-HOLIDAY; P.O. Box 3532, Omaha, NE 68103

NEVADA: Aug 27-30, 1987; 5th Annual Stampede for Serenity Camp out; Stampede Reservoir; (702) 322-4811

NEW YORK: Oct 4, 1987; Together in Recovery Breakfast; Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, White Plains, NY; West-Rock ASC, 405 Tarrytown Rd. Ste. 321, White Plains, NY 10607; John K. (914) 352-4592; Steve F. 237-9131; Noel A. 946-9596

OREGON: Oct. 2-4, 1987; OSIRC; Neighborhood Facility Building - Coos Bay, OR; Kathy O. (503) 269-7513; Caryl M. (503) 267-5689

PENNSYLVANIA: Oct. 9-11, 1987; T.S.R.C.N.A. V; Hyatt Hotel, Pittsburgh; (412) Ken 521-1086; Roz 361-6250; Rich 371-3891

TENNESSEE: Nov 5-7; Volunteer Regional Convention 5

TEXAS: Mar 25-27, 1988; LSRCNA III; Fort Worth, TX; (817) Vince 924-0939; Don 738-5329; Debbie 599-3475

2) Oct. 3, 1987; 7th Anniversary of Step One N.A.; South Hills Christian Church; 4813 Odessa, Ft. Worth, TX; Carlton C. (817) 624-4221; Richard F. (817) 921-2489

VIRGINIA: Jan. 8-10, 1988; 6th AVCNA; The Hyatt Hotel Richmond; Interstate 64 at Broad St. & Glenside Dr., Richmond, VA; Mel 644-9143

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

WEST VIRGINIA: Nov. 6-8, 1987; True Colors, an Autumn Convention; Jackson's Mill, Weston, WV 26452; Registration: (304) 269-5100, Danny (304) 925-7088, Jim (304) 525-8411

WISCONSIN: Oct. 23-25; WSNAC IV; P.O. Box 1688, Oshkosh, WI 54902-1688; If interested in speaking or chairing workshops, submit speaker tapes for consideration. Gene, Phil or Steve (414) 231-6219

Instruction:

Please answer the following questions in order that the WSC Additional Needs AD-Hoc Committee can best serve the Fellowship.

Area: _____

Group Name: _____

Group Location: _____

Name of Meeting Hall: _____

Meeting Day: _____

Time: _____

Type of Meeting: _____

1. Our Group Offers:

- Sign Language Interpreters
- Deaf/Blind Interpreters
- Foreign Language Interpreters for _____.
- Computer Monitored Meetings for Deaf
- Special Seating Arrangements
- None of the Above

2. Is your group willing and able to provide any of the above?

Yes No If yes--what? _____

3. Is your group financially able to provide any of the above?

Yes No If yes--what? _____

4. Does your meeting hall offer any of the following:

- Wheelchair ramps into hall
- Accessible restrooms
- Accessible parking

People to assist entry and exit of wheelchair bound

Telephone TTY for the Deaf

Other _____

5. Is there potential for your meeting to become more accessible?

Yes No If yes, explain

6. If your group and hall meets any of the above criteria for any accessible meeting, are you willing to be listed as such in a Coded Regional and Area Meeting List?

Yes NO If yes, complete the following:

We wish our group to be listed as offering the following handicapped services (refer to the lists in question 1 & 4).

7. Are there any members of your group/area who are interested in becoming involved in an Area/Regional Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee?

Yes No If yes, please send name, address and phone, and return with the completed questionnaire to:

World Service Office, Inc.
Attn: Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

/hazel/addlques

Recovery Materials for Addicts with Additional Needs

Braille

White Booklet and I.P. Nos. 1, 2, 6, 8, 13, and 16.

Large Print

White Booklet (\$.75).

N.A. Literature Tapes

N.A. Basic Text The Conference-approved recovery text *Narcotics Anonymous*. Book One comprises five sides of three cassette tapes, forty-five minutes apiece. Excellent listening for blind or visually-impaired addicts as well as anyone who wishes to listen to the message of recovery.

Item No. 954 Each: \$8.00
Item No. 954B (Braille Label) Each: \$8.00

N.A. Informational Pamphlets Conference-approved pamphlets on N.A. recovery make the message of recovery available to addicts with limited reading skills, visual impairments and all others who desire the accessibility of cassette tapes. Side One contains I.P. Nos. 1, 5, 7, 8, 13 and 16; Side Two contains I.P. Nos. 6, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 19.

Item No. 952 Each: \$2.00
Item No. 952B (Braille Label) Each: \$2.00

N.A. White Booklet and Service Pamphlets The Little White Booklet *Narcotics Anonymous Newly Revised* comprises Side One of this 90 minute cassette. Side Two includes the N.A. *Group Starter Kit* (I.P. No. 18) as well as I.P. Nos. 2 and 20.

Item No. 953 Each: \$2.00
Item No. 953B (Braille Label) Each: \$2.00

Complete N.A. Literature Set The entire set of N.A. literature tapes (a five tape set) which includes the Basic Text, the Little White Booklet, the N.A. *Group Starter Kit*, and informational pamphlets listed above.

Item No. 955 Each: \$10.70
Item No. 955B (Braille Label) Each: \$10.70

Audio Materials

Dean G. A member's talk on recovery at the first Volunteer Regional Convention.

Item No. 940 Each: \$5.00

Jimmy K. An N.A. founder's talk on recovery; recorded in Pasadena, California.

Item No. 941 Each: \$5.00

Sydney R. A member's talk on recovery at the Philadelphia Regional Convention.

Item No. 943 Each: \$5.00

Bob B. A member's talk on recovery at the 1978 N.A. World Convention.

Item No. 944 Each: \$5.00

Motorcycle Ed A member's talk on recovery at the 1985 Louisiana regional convention.

Item No. 945 Each: \$5.00

Johnny H. A member's talk on recovery at the 1984 Ohio regional convention.

Item No. 946 Each: \$5.00

N.A. History A talk given by Bob B. at the Tenth World Convention of N.A. in 1980.

Item No. 947 Each: \$5.00
Item No. 947B (Braille Label) Each: \$5.00

Sydney R. A member's talk on recovery at the 1985 Regional Convention in British Columbia, Canada.

Item No. 948 Each: \$5.00
Item No. 948B (Braille Label) Each: \$5.00

Chuck L. A member's talk on recovery at the 1985 Philadelphia Regional Convention.

Item No. 949 Each: \$5.00
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Jeff T. A member's talk on recovery at the 1984 Western States Unity Convention.

Item No. 951 Each: \$5.00
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P.O. Box 9999

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Add 6.5% Sales Tax
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**Add Shipping and
Handling Fee**

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WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC., P.O. BOX 9999, VAN NUYS, CA 91409; (818) 780-3951
VOLUME 6 AUGUST, 1987 NUMBER 5

WORLD CONVENTION

The 17th World Convention has come together very nicely. To date, there are approximately 1731 members pre-registered, and we have sold 1422 banquet tickets, 1361 brunch tickets, and 800 boat tickets [sold out]. We have rooms in several hotels: the Sheraton, Marriott (504)581-1000 [rooms available only 9/4-9/6], the Doubletree (504)581-1300, and the Le'Meridien (504)525-6500. If you call you must identify WCNA-17 to get convention rates. The advance response to this convention has been very encouraging. This report will hopefully assist you in preparing for your visit here in New Orleans. We have compiled a brief list of necessities you may wish to consider. This will hopefully make your visit here a more enjoyable and pleasant experience.

New Orleans in September is still hot and humid. Spring or summer clothes will suffice. You may wish to bring a light cotton sweater if you're planning to go on the Midnight Cruise. Also it often rains for brief periods, so you may wish to include an umbrella when you pack. For those members who are planning a vacation around WCNA-17, several options of sight-seeing are available. The Sheraton, Marriott, Doubletree, and Le'Meridien are all within walking distance to the French Quarter, as well as other historical sites. All of the hotels will be able to help arrange any other tours you may wish to take. There are several places for parking in and around the hotels for those members who are planning to drive to the convention. The Sheraton offers a flat rate of \$9.00/day with valet parking. The Marriott charges \$8.00/day Monday through Friday and \$9.00/day during the weekend. There are two lots offering spaces outside the hotels including the Superdome at \$3.50/day with shuttles leaving to the Marriott every 10-15 minutes, costing \$.30/person, and the Rivergate at \$4.00/day. These offer limited access as well as occupancy.

The transit system in New Orleans is reputable and lists of schedules can be attained at your hotel. Transportation from and to the airport can be easily accommodated economically by using a company with a city charter (Rhodes Airport Transportation) or one of the other public transport companies. Please don't hesitate to call Debbie W. at (504)767-3196 or Michael A. at (504)834-9160 for further information.

Beginning on Thursday night and continuing Friday and Saturday nights, there will be a Talent Showcase. This is an opportunity for you to share your talents with the Fellowship. Whatever your talents, whether it be music, poetry, dance, comedy, magic, etc., you are invited and encouraged to express them at the Talent Showcase. Equipment provided will include: microphones, amps, drums, piano, cassette tape player, and monitor speakers. You need to bring whatever instruments or props are necessary for your performance. Inquiries regarding signing up for the Talent Showcase can be made at the WCNA-17 registration desk.

Friday there will be various entertainment functions. The biggest will start with a Mardi Gras Parade. There will be floats, marching bands, Indians, and plenty of music. Everyone is invited to "Second Line" which will be explained to you the night of the parade and ball. We ask that everyone bring a costume (although there are costume rental companies throughout the city). Friday night's parade is followed by a masquerade party, the WCNA-17 Mardi Gras Ball and Krewe of Clean. Other functions will be a Cajun Country Dance band, Oldies Dance, and Jazz Brunch. In short, there will be plenty of exciting things to do.

In addition to the entertainment, one open podium meeting has been scheduled for Friday and Saturday nights at 11:00 p.m. in the Sheraton.

This is a short report to acquaint ya'll with the entertainment that will happen at WCNA-17 in New Orleans.

ANAHEIM WORLD CONVENTION SITE FOR 1988

Congratulations are in order for Anaheim, California, the host site of the 1988 World Convention for Narcotics Anonymous (WCNA-18). We are certain that the folks in Southern California will have an excellent convention.

Since plans for WCNA-18 are well under way, it is now time to begin looking ahead to 1989 and WCNA-19. Bids are being accepted by the World Convention Corporation for Narcotics Anonymous (WCCNA). This is the corporation, formed with the approval of the '86 World Service Conference, which oversees the activities and finances of world conventions beginning with WCNA-16 in London. The deadline for submitting bids for WCNA-19 is October 1, 1987.

In order to bid on WCNA-19 your area and/or region must accomplish certain tasks and meet certain eligibility requirements by the October 1st deadline. These requirements are best explained in the *Convention Guidelines*, pages 48 and 49. Please note that according to those guidelines, which were adopted at the 1985 World Service Conference, zones 1, 6, and 8 are ineligible to bid for WCNA-19.

Your bid package should be sent in its completed form, including the Hotel Fact Sheet, to World Service Office, Inc., P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409 to the attention of Anthony Edmondson.

Once your package is received the following actions will be taken:

1. Your bid will be reviewed by the WCCNA and, providing that the information is sufficient, it will then be evaluated to determine eligibility.
2. A liaison will be assigned to communicate with your committee in the event that additional information or assistance is required.
3. The letter of need from your bid committee will be included in the 1988 WSC Fellowship Report along with any other bids which are eligible.
4. The WCCNA Board of Directors will forward their recommendation(s) as to the site(s) that they determine to be most suitable to the 1988 World Service Conference.
5. The site of the 1989 WCNA-19 will be determined by the 1988 World Service Conference.

We wish you well in your endeavors and hope your committee will focus strongly on the N.A. principles of recovery throughout its efforts. If you should need additional information during preparation, contact Anthony Edmondson at the World Service Office.

FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SERVICE STRUCTURE

During the past three years, as the Select Committee on Service Structure has been working to prepare a handbook on service in N.A., there have been a great many lessons learned by the committee. The task was much greater than any member imagined it would be. As the committee members began to participate, they found that they were hard pressed to conceptualize the changes in the structure that now seem fairly obvious.

At first glance the task seemed to be to simply rewrite the existing *Temporary Working Guide* and incorporate some of the ideas presented by members in their letters. The learning process that resulted from the lengthy discussions revealed a

much more comprehensive task. These past six months have been the most enlightening. They have revealed the need for a comprehensive change in the structure of the world level of service as we currently know it. The report that follows is an attempt to describe the current discussions of the Select Committee on Service Structure. These discussions are still incomplete at this time and in no way imply any final decisions. The material that follows represents only a few of the ideas and concepts being discussed. The Committee invites members to comment on this material by sending written input to the Committee through the World Service Office.

The Service Structure of Narcotics Anonymous

The basic elements of the service structure of the Fellowship are already proven to work and need little if any change. The group, the area committee and the regional service committee comprise the structure of service in N.A., and the method for decision making for the Fellowship as a whole. This report includes few changes in that existing service pattern.

Where a major change seems to be needed is at the level of service beyond the scope of an individual region. In earlier service materials it was presumed that the next level of service was the world level. While that was a logical assumption then and has been tried, there have evolved some problems with the quick jump from a region to a truly worldwide conference.

The difficulties involved in that jump include differences in language, culture, distance and ability to provide services. While the Fellowship grew primarily in the U.S. and Canada these problems were not fully visible. Now that the Fellowship is growing strong in places so far away as Australia, South America, Europe and Asia the difficulties of language, culture, distance and self-support, must be addressed.

There are several practical matters that highlight these problems. After three years of trying different techniques for translation of literature written in American English into different languages, no simple or single process has been found to be universally practical or satisfactory. Some language materials have been in the translation process for all of these past three years. Some items have been translated and re-translated several times and a completely satisfactory product has not yet been achieved. In addition to the difficulties of translating the material adequately and ensuring the accuracy of the N.A. message, there is the question of cultural differences making some of the material unsuitable even if translated correctly.

Although our disease is universal, language and cultural differences make it hard, if not impossible, for addicts in many places to identify

with the settings, terminology, and experience described in much of the American recovery stories. Addiction in the rural areas of the Philippines, Columbia or Jordan is a real problem, but the patterns of living are so culturally different that stories of Americans provide little common ground for identification.

The translation of service materials approved by the World Service Conference, for things such as the *Guide to Phoneline Service* or *Convention Guidelines*, is simply not even being addressed. With such vast differences existing in cultural foundations these materials are not relevant in places like India, most of Africa, and parts of Europe or South America.

This non-relevance therefore raises a question of the propriety of calling such materials "World Service Conference" tools. This matter of relevance can be expanded to question why such materials should be sent to places in the Fellowship for "world approval" when actually they are not relevant to the entire world Fellowship. And of course if they are not relevant, why translate them?

These significant issues have been made more clear as a result of the participation of more non-Americans in the past two World Service Conferences and efforts to participate in various Conference Committees. As a result of these lessons and growing discussions, new ideas for service beyond the regional level have taken place. On the pages that follow are the results of those discussions. The first task was to establish concepts that can form the basis for more detailed discussions. Following refinement of those conceptual discussions, the specific language that can formulate structural options is presented. In order to foster open debate on these options, several options are presented for those elements when more than one option was widely discussed or developed.

General Concepts

World services should be a term applied to those issues and activities that are generally universal in their application rather than specific to a particular language, culture or geographical area.

Future recovery literature should be developed and approved more along language and cultural lines rather than a universal worldwide basis. Similarly, service materials should be developed and approved more for the setting in which they will be used rather than attempting to evolve a single document on each segment of service.

Both recovery literature and service materials must reflect a consistent application of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of N.A. and should not be changed, altered or modified. The concepts must remain true to our current understanding regardless of language or cultural differences.

Although nationalism has not been a large issue within N.A. discussions, and it generally conveys negative concepts with respect to a spiritual program, there are some situations where our service structure may benefit by taking into consideration the geo-political structure of nations. Some service materials and structures may work more effectively on a nation by nation basis than on the basis of regions as we now know them. An example of this may be the N.A. community in the United Kingdom. They currently have one region covering the greater London area but other regions will soon evolve. In matters of H&I or P.I. service especially, it would be logical that the Fellowship would benefit from a committee that served the UK as a whole. In some ways this has already been accomplished through the formulation of the UK Assembly which will be an administrative unit responsible to handle concerns affecting all of the UK. The London Region, and others as they form, will continue to function as elements of the World Service Conference. But they will also function as part of the UK Assembly, although the UK Assembly will not have a direct relationship to the World Service Conference.

World services need to be practical, affordable and effective. As the Fellowship grows in the years ahead it will eventually have as many meetings (areas and regions too) outside the U.S. as there are inside the U.S. This may mean as more addicts are elected to world service, many may speak languages other than English. This may also mean that an extraordinary financial burden may be involved for the conduct of a World Service Conference. The movement of trusted servants around the globe to attend the Conference meeting or committee meetings alone will be staggering. Additionally, the cost for translation of even the basic conceptual materials will remain a long, awkward, and expensive process.

A more practical and effective approach seems to be to encourage a system that permits the evolution of N.A. decision making, take advantage of prior experience, strength and hope, but does not require all of that to take place at one World Conference each year. Developing decision making elements like the UK Assembly or Continental Service Conferences seems the most reasonable and practical solution. However, consistency to our basic spiritual principles must be continually assured.

For this reason, an effective worldwide element must exist within the Fellowship. That element should be large enough to be representative of the whole N.A. Fellowship while at the same time small enough to be practical and efficient. Whichever method we choose to accomplish our Fellowship's goals, the responsibilities of our worldwide service element should be wide reaching in some ways but rather restricted in others. For example, it should be the holder of the ultimate copyright and trademarks of N.A., including the name Narcotics Anonymous. It should be able to grant permission

to print and distribute literature within continents or countries, it should conduct the world convention, it should be the caretakers of our spiritual principles. It should not, however, involve itself in the approval of specific programs and/or activities that are relevant only to parts of the Fellowship, it should not impede or delay the structural development unless that development affects the Fellowship as a whole and it should not be involved in the development of service tools intended only for limited use within the Fellowship except to check for consistency with N.A. principles.

World services need to be small enough to be practical, but large enough to avoid the stigma of "an elite" or remote circle of members. There must be a practical relationship between world service and other service elements.

Financing of these service units is through the Seventh Tradition. This should include funds sent along through the service structure from funds collected at N.A. meetings, revenue from Fellowship events and sales of approved literature or other materials.

What these general concepts are intended to express is the manner by which the whole Fellowship becomes responsible for the safe keeping of the Narcotics Anonymous principles. To guarantee and preserve the opportunity for all our future members to find the chance for a new way of life, no matter where, who, or when that might be. For this, we are ALL responsible.

WORLD LITERATURE NEWS

There's so much new, exciting news in the world of literature these days, it's hard to know what to say. One important item that makes the task a bit easier is the fact that information about world services is available in so many sources now. In addition to bi-monthly issues of the *Newsline*, Fellowship Reports are now being mailed on a bi-monthly basis and the *N.A. Way* magazine is also carrying short articles on major highlights of World Committee activities and projects. All of this exposure and coverage will ultimately result in better and better communication which, in turn, will add to our ability to correctly determine and meet the Fellowship's needs. We are very grateful for the growth and maturity which these changes represent and we look forward to continuing progress.

Change is something we all experience in recovery, both personally and in service work. The World Literature Committee (WLC) is no different. One major new thrust of the Committee's work this year is to address the changing literature needs of Narcotics Anonymous. Regional and area literature committees have been contacted and invited to provide input to WLC about the Procedural Guidelines (including structure of the Committee), and how those guidelines impact the

method in which N.A. develops literature, from a first draft through a Conference-approved information pamphlet (I.P.) or book. The Committee welcomes all input on this or other matters. An ad-hoc committee of WLC will be meeting in late August to review the Procedural Guidelines and make recommendations based on input received.

Other activities of WLC include the production of drafts for the following items which were approved by WSC '87 as priority list projects: *For Those in Treatment, Questions and Answers about Narcotics Anonymous, In Times of Illness, Unity, In Loving Service* and the *Twelve Traditions* section of *It Works*.

As part of continuing change and improving procedures, the WLC agreed unanimously to open participation to regional literature chairpersons at the conference workshop in Newark in July. The result was wonderful and we are grateful to those members for their willingness to travel and commit to long hours of hard work, much of which is never adequately acknowledged.

One item which is also new and exciting is the WLC's decision to attempt using a survey to help determine the wishes of the Fellowship regarding certain items of literature business. When approved, it will be sent to all registered literature committees. We look forward to receiving input on the idea and usage of this type of survey in the future.

As mentioned earlier, improving communications in the area of literature development for Narcotics Anonymous is a big step forward and one which will, no doubt, have immense positive impact on our future. Any N.A. member, whether or not directly involved with literature service work, is always encouraged to contact the World Service Conference Literature Committee, c/o WSO or the WSO Literature Coordinator. Let us know how we can better serve you.

WSC AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON IT WORKS (THE STEPS)

As of this writing seven of the ten cities selected as sites for world workshops have contacted us. Fellowship enthusiasm and excitement for this project seems to be running very high even though only a month has passed since the notification went out.

We hope to be able to provide you with a schedule of dates and locations for the workshops sometime in September. We need your strength and help in communication here a little bit. All cities hosting world workshops and all regions hosting workshops, please contact the WSO as soon as possible. We need to know who we can reach as the contact person and the dates and locations of your workshops. This is very important because coordination of our efforts is necessary to make this a successful project.

The first world workshop date we have is September 26th and 27th at a senior high school in Baltimore, Maryland. For those looking for sites, this may be a good suggestion, as schools are closed on weekends, rent is inexpensive and classrooms and auditoriums make for a good working atmosphere. The Seattle workshop is tentatively set for early November. It must be noted here that, although WSC has every intention of paying for the world workshop site facilities and all necessary office supplies, etc., that will depend completely on the financial state of the WSC as each workshop date draws near. At the time of this writing, there are not sufficient funds to plan for any world service activities past September. Please, discuss this Seventh Tradition issue in your groups and service committees.

At the Newark WSC workshop in July we had a very productive meeting. We came up with guidelines and helpful hints for all area and regional literature committees. Also, thirteen regions contacted us to express their willingness and enthusiasm to hold workshops. We're really beginning to take off.

The creation of a comprehensive outline on the Twelve Steps is another major development from the meeting in Newark. We hope to have this available to area and regional literature committees to use as a guide by mid-September. This guide could possibly set the structure and format of the book. It will create topic headings into which the Fellowship's input will be sorted. It will guide and direct us by letting us know where we have plenty of material and where we need to have more writing. As soon as this information is available we'll pass it on to you. This leads us to a most important aspect of this project.

A Call for Assistance to all N.A. Members

Whether we have a few months clean, a few years, or many years clean, a simple basic fact remains, we need to work the steps. Each of us at varying points in our recovery and in our lives arrives at difficult periods of time when our need to learn and practice the Twelve Steps makes a difference as to whether we'll have any recovery or life to live. At these times, hopefully, we'll turn to our sponsors or other N.A. members at meetings and look for guidance from our literature. We hope the guidance will be there in the form of our book *It Works*. If this book is to be an in-depth study of our Twelve Steps, then we have a responsibility to each other to share our experience in writing with each other. Someone's input from the Southwest could make the difference in the life of someone recovering in New England or New York. Maybe a little later someone's input from New England or New York could make all the difference in the recovery of someone in the Southwest. We can make the difference in the

quality of our lives, our recovery and our spiritual condition. We truly need to share what each of us has learned. In our book, *It Works*, we are attempting to express the greatest possible amount of N.A.'s experience. That's not a small undertaking and it's the reason why we're appealing to all members to sit down for a while and write.

We urge you to write and participate in this project. You may write on any step or all of them. I'm sure there are many of you who have specific experiences or understandings you'd like to share. Please do. Information has been mailed to all registered literature committees about the status of this project and updates will continue to go out as they become available. Another information packet is scheduled to go out to regional literature committees about the same time as the *Newsline*. An excerpt from an earlier mailing about some of the specifics of inputting is provided below. In addition, a sample input/review form is being enclosed with all copies of *It Works* mailed after August 17th. If you need copies of that or any other *It Works* information, please contact the WSO literature coordinator for copies.

Here are some additional helpful hints on inputting: Look at the book to see what's missing and write that in. When we turn to this book for guidance and direction in our personal recoveries, it will probably be to get at the nature, the principles and levels of surrender which our steps talk about. Even if it's only to learn to keep it simple.

It's hard to write something inspirational enough to awaken a sleeping giant. In N.A., our needs push us toward that. If the need is there the Fellowship responds and we're getting a great response so far. We're searching for quality and depth shared with love and gratitude. In our efforts to help each other, we help ourselves. There's a good experience waiting to happen as soon as we sit down to review the material on these steps and begin to write our understanding. Thank you for your time, caring and understanding and keep in touch.

An Excerpt from the July Fellowship Report of the WSC Ad-hoc Committee on *It Works*

PLAN OF ACTION

There is a simple, basic plan of action and it revolves around the key phrase "prepared, written input." It is the responsibility of the local membership to bring their prepared, written input to the workshop. The review-form blue book of *It Works*, and the approval-form white book *It Works*, were combined into one review-form book which is available to area and regional literature committees from the WSO. Your prepared, written input should be based on these books. It does not matter

which version you write on or whether you choose to combine both, because the World Literature Committee will make one final book out of this input.

Put simply:

- A. As a member, get your review and input draft of *It Works* from your local area or regional literature committee. We must all be working in the same direction so it is important for all members to participate under the guidance and direction of their local area or regional literature committee.
- B. Go through the book paragraph by paragraph and list on a separate piece of paper for each step any additions, deletions, or concepts you would like to see in the book. If the concepts are not there, it is your responsibility to write them in BEFORE the workshop. Everyone is encouraged to share their experience of recovery with the Twelve Steps. Prepared input for each step should list the page, paragraph, and sentences to be changed. Because we are short on funds, we ask you, if at all possible, to make ten photocopies of your input for each step. Then each step group at the workshop will be able to review your work together in a more orderly fashion.
- C. Area and regional literature committees should notify their participating members as to where and when the workshops will be held and how the members may participate. Assisting members in preparing their input as described above would be another very helpful service.
- D. At the workshop, the members will split up into twelve groups, one group per step. Using our principle of group conscience, each group will be responsible to discuss and agree on the prepared input.
- E. Each step group will compile a master list of the additions, deletions and concepts they have found acceptable. At the end of the workshops, all master lists are to be sent to the WSO, Attn: *It Works* Ad-hoc Committee.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

The H&I Committee had a very productive work session at the WSC Workshop in Newark, New Jersey on July 18 and 19, 1987. The Committee is still in the process of collecting input for their current project, a comprehensive rewrite of the *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook*.

There are currently five ad-hoc committees working on different areas relating to H&I service. The ad-hoc committees are as follows: General, Treatment, Corrections, Committee Structure and Function, and Learning Days and Workshops. The committee is actively soliciting input from members who are active in H&I on all of these issues. If you or your H&I service committee

would like to submit input in any of these areas please send it to the H&I Project Coordinator at the WSO, P.O. Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9999.

The WSC H&I Committee is desperately seeking updated "Sunshine" letters from institutions where we carry the message. If your H&I committee has or can get letters from the institutions in your region or area please forward them to the WSO H&I Project Coordinator. These letters have played a vital role in our initial contacts with administrators in facilities where we have been trying to carry the message. For those members who may be unfamiliar with "Sunshine" letters they are simply letters from institutions that are supportive of having our Fellowship bring the message of recovery into their facility.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

N.A. members and groups are carrying the message further and better than ever before, and our Fellowship takes pride in doing so. As a result of living the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, our members have become aware of many situations which can present extra challenges to carrying the message of recovery. This awareness was addressed by the Fellowship at the World Service Conference meeting in April, 1987.

The Conference passed a motion which established an ad-hoc committee for the purpose of investigating and dispersing information about the accessibility of N.A. meetings and the N.A. message of recovery.

In pursuing this task, members of the committee have already been enlightened about some of the additional needs which exist. There are recovering addicts with visual limitations who cannot read regular print size, blind addicts who require braille literature or cassette tapes, deaf or hard-of-hearing addicts who cannot benefit from sharing in meetings, wheelchair bound addicts who cannot always get their wheelchair into the N.A. meetings, and other addicts whose physical circumstances may present obstacles. Additionally, there are addicts with learning disabilities, language barriers, reading disabilities, speech limitations, etc., which present a challenge to efforts by our N.A. groups to carry the message.

Many of these challenges have been approached by the Fellowship or by groups and committees within N.A., but usually only in isolated situations. We have made substantial progress in several areas of need but we must expand our understanding and our efforts. Attached in this *Newsline* is a sheet entitled "Recovery Materials for Addicts with Additional Needs," indicating that literature is available in braille, large print, and on cassette tape. Some areas and regions have begun coding meeting lists to indicate wheelchair accessibility and the availability of sign language interpreters. The WSO has a TTY phone number (818-376-8600) which allows telephone conversations with deaf addicts who also have a TTY machine.

There are three regional additional needs subcommittees in existence which are exploring how to help their N.A. groups further. For example, the New England Region is working on how N.A. literature can accommodate the deaf addicts who have, by necessity, learned the English language with a different structure than hearing addicts. Their regional additional needs subcommittee is also gathering in-depth information about such things as how to properly lift someone in a wheelchair, what makes a bathroom accessible to a wheelchair bound person, etc. In the Chesapeake-Potomac Region, their additional needs subcommittee is exploring how to gather pertinent information from professionals.

These efforts are aimed at helping N.A. groups achieve their primary purpose of carrying the message to the addicts who still suffers. The N.A. members involved are always mindful of this and careful not to be drawn into other causes or issues. Our Twelve Traditions (especially Six and Ten) speak very clearly about the importance of outside enterprises and outside issues remaining apart from N.A.'s efforts.

The object of collecting this information is to compile some resource material and make some recommendations to the WSC. The long range goal is to work towards a method of offering experience and information to N.A. service committees (region and area) which can then help their groups in these circumstances.

In order to make more progress, the committee needs all the input it can get. You may be able to help! Does your group, area, or region have any experience with addicts who have additional needs? Are these needs being met? How? Please share your experience with the WSC Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee by completing the attached questionnaire and sending it with any other pertinent information to: Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee, c/o WSO.

WORLD DIRECTORY INPUT

For the past several years, our process for registering groups has focused upon compiling a worldwide meeting list. As this task grew in magnitude, we became aware that one day this would be impractical. Upon objective assessment, we have discovered that we have meeting information for over 9,000 meetings, but only have contact addresses (P.O. boxes or updated group mailing addresses) for roughly 1000 meetings.

Our improved computer capabilities have made it possible to design a new system which should not only serve the addict well, but will also be a manageable project. This involves a three-faceted approach which includes; producing a Phoneline Directory, maintaining a regional and area meeting list file, and continuing to register all N.A. groups.

The phoneline directory concept has been discussed in previous issues of the *Newsline* and has

received popular support. We have exerted some effort to prepare a sample phoneline directory. It is nearly ready to be distributed to regions for their examination and comment.

If each region and area will send a few copies of their meeting list each time it is revised and printed, our files will remain current. It will be important, however, that each directory have a production date printed on it. The system we use on many timely items is to place the month and year (8/87) in some inconspicuous place. Inquiries for specific meeting information can then easily be answered.

N.A. WAY MAGAZINE

The format changes to the *N.A. Way* have begun taking effect during the last couple of months. "The N.A. News" section was introduced in the August issue and the "Opinion" section was added in September.

We anticipate that the size of each will fluctuate from month to month, but the new additions, once they are fully in place, will have increased our size by twelve pages. As a result of this size increase, as we announced last year, there will also be a price increase to \$15 annually beginning with the November issue. For those who wish to subscribe, now is the time.

We do have a billing system in place, so anyone who wishes to subscribe may simply send us a note to that effect. Address it to the *N.A. Way* at the WSO P.O. Box and we'll bill you later. You may send the \$12 if you wish, or you may wait for a bill.

Anyone who wishes to renew your subscription before the price increase may send in your money at the current price along with a note and a copy of your mailing label. We'll add 12 months to your current expiration date.

WSO AND WORLD SERVICE

Although the World Service Office is assigned the duty of serving the entire worldwide Fellowship, we sometimes fall short of fulfilling that commitment. When we recognize that our efforts fail to achieve that goal, we rededicate ourselves and work harder or try new approaches to providing service. As a result of this constant re-evaluation and commitment, we are always trying new approaches to our responsibilities.

One of the periodic suggestions we've received is to open a WSO office in other places that need the direct support WSO can provide, but that obviously cannot afford these services at their own expense. This was first suggested to the WSO Board in 1983 with respect to the difficulties being experienced with the growth of the Fellowship in Europe.

At that time the Board adopted a long range proposal to open such a small service branch in

1986. However, in the ensuing years ('84 and '85 particularly) it began to look like self-sustaining offices would be developed by the separate N.A. communities in different European countries. With this prospect then seeming likely, the WSO elected to let the idea of a WSO office there fade away.

Two N.A. offices have been opened in Europe but they are hard pressed even to satisfy the needs of the membership in their own countries, much less venture out to fill the needs in other places. Besides this outreach duty is the job of the WSO. While this was occurring, the WSO was providing some (but frequently inadequate) support to the rest of the Fellowship's needs in Europe.

The idea of opening a WSO branch in Europe has again been brought up as an important aspect of the commitment to serve the worldwide needs of addicts. The great distances involved in getting needs met from so far away, and from many who do not speak common languages, have hampered the effectiveness of past WSO efforts. The frequent diversion of staff time originally assigned to international duties onto other projects has further diminished the success of many efforts.

This was discussed by the WSO Board at recent meetings and in particular the June meeting. An acknowledgment of our limited success in serving the European members was a painful but real step in moving to improve the situation. A tentative commitment to open an office in Europe was accepted along with instructions for the staff to conduct more detailed research.

While staff members were attending the European Service Conference in July, in Germany, the idea was suggested. Also in separate discussions the suggestion for such an office was discussed with trusted servants in Ireland and the United Kingdom. While the reaction varied from person to person, there was general support for more WSO attention to Europe and an office was thought to be generally a good idea.

As all ideas frequently take their own time to mature, this one too has taken its time. At the recent August meeting of the WSO Board the matter was again discussed. A staff report recommended a definite commitment to a European Office with a time schedule leading to opening that office in the early months of 1988.

The Board adopted a motion setting forth several steps to be taken in this regard. The first step involves beginning to collect information that would be used by a staff person to be sent on this assignment (or selection of a member already in Europe). This will include a more comprehensive plan and the accumulation of information from Europe and agencies in the U.S. The second step is to begin searching for a person with skills, ability and recovery essential for this task. The last step will be to schedule and then initiate the opening of an office.

This plan will require the support and assistance of our European members. The work to be accomplished there will be tailored to avoid

conflict with the service offices started by the local N.A. communities there. The efforts of the office will be directed toward serving members in other places where a service structure has not developed.

Unfortunately, the office will not be self-supporting for several years. This will require the willingness of the entire Fellowship to support this effort so that the addicts of Europe will not continue to die without having had the choice of coming to N.A. The office can become self-supporting, and as the Fellowship continues to grow there, it will.

An important factor will be a committee of members from Europe who will advise and help support the activities the office participates in. A committee with this purpose will be developed in the months ahead.

As part of the worldwide efforts of the World Service Office, and with particular emphasis on this immediate project, there are many resources that need to be tapped for information. Much of this information can be gathered prior to opening an office through contact with public and private agencies. Some of these agencies have offices in New York or other international cities. The WSO has been gathering information from some of these sources already.

A concentrated effort to gather this information will require a more direct approach to some of these resources. Consequently, for a period of time, the Office will have an employee in New York gathering information. This staff member will also assist in forming the support group of European members and a more precise project proposal.

With all of this effort and your support it may be possible to have the European membership beginning to benefit from this as soon as next spring.

HIGHER POWER AND THE SEVENTH TRADITION

As part of the continuing discussion of the financial situation facing the Fellowship at large and world services in particular, the following essay on the spiritual aspect of the Seventh Tradition was received. It was such a clearly written and unique approach to a subject we frequently keep separated in our thinking that we decided to include in this issue of the *Newsline*.

N.A. is a spiritual program. It is based on spiritual principles which are embedded in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. The continuous application of these principles results in the development of a relationship with a Higher Power which then plays a prominent role in our lives. Certainly there are clean addicts who do not follow this approach to recovery. Some think that staying clean is enough and spiritual growth is "optional." The spiritual facts of the N.A. Program

are also sometimes missed among the rhetoric of service committees, reports and trusted servants. When we discuss a Higher Power it seldom is in the context of understanding the Seventh Tradition. Nevertheless, this essay is about a Higher Power and the Seventh Tradition.

When we make a decision to turn our lives over to the care of a Higher Power, things often become clearer to us. When we continuously renew this decision, we begin to see numerous opportunities for God to work in our lives. Our character defects are often rudely revealed to us, as well as our powerlessness over many situations. All of this is part of the process of being restored to sanity and having a spiritual awakening. If we couldn't see our shortcomings, we couldn't very well ask God to remove them in the Seventh Step. By using prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with this Power greater than ourselves, our lives begin to take on balance. Often we are given the power to carry out God's will--to not act out on our defects of character, to not run our lives on self-will as we did before. Our priorities shift, our egos are placed in proper perspective, and gradually we learn to use this set of spiritual principles as a guide in all our daily affairs. Many things are revealed to us and we become willing to let this Higher Power direct our lives rather than being ruled by pride, greed, distrust and a host of other useless attitudes and defects.

This Higher Power eventually gives us the ability to fulfill part of the Twelfth Step. A sense of selflessness and genuine caring seem to develop and somehow we are able to help other addicts seeking recovery. When we are rightfully connected with our Higher Power, a miracle occurs, and we who were once hopelessly addicted are able to find hope and share it with another addict. We really do carry a message of recovery to other addicts.

Sometimes we don't rely on our Higher Power and our efforts to live the Twelfth Step miss the mark. Many of us have experienced the frustration of trying so hard to "get the message across" to another addict and failing. We all want every addict to "get the message" and stop using. But we know only too well that addicts get the message when they are ready for it, not necessarily when we are ready to deliver it.

When we really understand this relationship we more fully appreciate the impact a Higher Power has in all the Twelve Steps and Traditions. When we think of a Higher Power being the key force in our Twelfth Step work, we may not see a direct relationship to the traditions. But there are several traditions that function only when a Higher Power influences our understanding of the Twelfth Step.

For example, the Second Tradition has more meaning when we understand that group conscience is a mechanism whereby we collectively plan and coordinate our energies to do Twelfth Step work. In the broadest sense, the Second Tradition is there for us in order to maintain

unity, to preserve a common understanding of N.A., and to plan our collective Twelfth Step work. There are many things we do through the Second Tradition which seem unrelated to these three purposes, but they should be the central themes of all we do.

It is also important to understand how the Seventh Tradition is based on the same three purposes. It is necessary to have some money in N.A. in order to accomplish those same three things: to maintain unity, preserve our common understanding of N.A., and plan our collective Twelfth Step work. Looking at the principles a little more closely may help to clarify this.

Maintaining unity requires that we fulfill the second principle--preserving a common understanding of N.A. We can preserve a common understanding only when we communicate. If we do not communicate we become isolated units, each searching for a clear vision of the N.A. Program. Communication permits the isolated units to keep the program and the message straight--our common understanding.

When we have that common understanding we can maintain unity. That communication, however, comes at a price. The money is used for phone calls, letters, magazines, to get people from one place to another, and permits us to develop the tools we need when we plan the Twelfth Step work.

The clearest example of the value of money in the search for unity and common understanding began in 1983. Until then, almost no money was available for world level trusted servants to travel from one place to another. Consequently, those who did travel did so at their own expense, and it usually wasn't very often if there was great distance involved. Some members did pay their own way. Some could afford it, others could not, and some hitch-hiked across the country. This left the majority of world level trusted servants out of the picture--doing only what they could afford to do. Some felt so strongly about the need to accomplish the work that they "cut corners" and suffered personal consequences.

Also at this time, N.A. was growing rapidly in towns, cities and rural areas. New groups were starting all the time. It was not uncommon for two groups to be started simultaneously in the same city with no knowledge or communication with each other. Frequently groups in the same town, city, or state connected only by accident or through someone in a different location who happened to know about both groups.

The worldwide result of this growth without communication led to the conflicts we've been wrestling with ever since then. The fears, suspicion and distrust which come naturally to us as addicts provided fast-burning fuel for conflict because nobody was really communicating very much. There wasn't any N.A. newspaper that everyone could get. World level trusted servants could be found only at the World Service

Conference each spring, maybe at the world convention, and there wasn't much communication in the meantime.

In 1983 the World Service Conference and World Service Office began to invest money in better communications and transportation. The *Newsline* was started by the World Service Office. The WSC began to pay for more transportation of Conference members and trustees. The WSO consented to pay for additional transportation for Conference members and trustees when needed.

The practical results of these investments was the lessening of some fears, suspicions and distrust. The more money that was invested in these efforts, the more results were produced. There is still conflict, fear, suspicion and distrust. But we now have the communication that permits us to understand what is being done and to maintain unity. Because unity can be maintained, group conscience (the expression of a Power greater than ourselves) can be maintained.

The Seventh Tradition made the communication and unity possible. Without these investments the conflicts would have gotten worse and new ones would have arisen. The Seventh Tradition is therefore a key element in the success of the First and Second Traditions. Money provided through our Seventh Tradition is not the only factor in the success of the First and Second Traditions, but it sure helps.

The relationship of the Seventh Tradition to the Twelfth Step is easier to see because we are all more directly involved now. Let's examine some of the Seventh Tradition expenditures that give us the practical means to carry out the Twelfth Step. Coffee probably comes first. Of course we can have N.A. meetings without coffee, but it puts the newcomers more at ease. Having newcomers present at our meetings gives us an opportunity to carry the message of recovery.

Literature and keytags at meetings are traditional parts of our Twelfth Step work. But there may be other ways groups could spend money that help carry the message to people who. For example, paying for sign language interpreters to enable deaf addicts to receive the message of recovery. Some of these might not be done if we didn't have the money. In general, we can easily see how Seventh Tradition money makes some Twelfth Step work possible.

Before examining the Seventh Tradition in relation to the area committee it is important to acknowledge that a group can succeed without an area committee. However, the existence of an area committee provides both a better environment for a group and more extensive Twelve Step efforts.

The primary purpose of an area committee is to accomplish the same three items discussed earlier, unity, common understanding and Twelfth Step work. It is in the accomplishment of the Twelfth Step efforts at the area level that we see a larger expenditures of funds. Work gets done at the area level that is usually too extensive for an individual

group. The combined efforts of several groups sets in motion H&I work, phonelines, meeting lists and other activities.

Because these efforts can, and usually do, require considerable amounts of money, there is often the perception that the work cannot be sustained only on the basis of money put in the basket at each group meeting. In some places this perception has become reality. Sometimes it was true from the start and perception followed reality.

The ready and common answer was to hold some social event and make money at the same time. This common sense approach has served us well in some places and has caused grief in others. The logic and simplicity of this approach is hard to assail. But there are some concerns about this solution to our financial needs.

Many of us like dances and other social activities, and we may reason that we would spend money on these entertainment functions anyway. We think that spending money on them, and benefiting N.A. at the same time, makes it doubly okay. It is not the purpose of this article to destroy that logic or that funding source. But it is appropriate to point out that participating in these social activities is not our primary way of exercising our Seventh Tradition.

There is a spiritual principle at the root of the Seventh Tradition--that is the principle of giving. As addicts, self-centeredness and selfishness are the spiritual manifestations of our disease. When we go through the action of giving (even a little bit if that's all we have), we are demonstrating in a tangible way our desire for recovery and change. Even if we secretly have a lot of fear about our financial insecurity, putting a dollar or two in the basket at each meeting we attend does a lot for our personal recovery. It teaches us to have faith that a Power greater than ourselves will take care of us. Usually we find that we don't even miss the donations we make to N.A. because the spiritual benefits received are so great. We pay back a little of what N.A. has given to us, a whole new life. And we learn a lot about self-respect and being self-supporting. We begin to change from the helpless dope fiends who were dependent on everyone else to take care of us because we could not manage our own lives, to responsible, productive members of society finding our strength in a Higher Power who takes care of us. Many of us have come to the realization that making regular donations to Narcotics Anonymous is a privilege because of the spiritual and emotional benefits it provides us.

Narcotics Anonymous has more than one source of money provided through the Seventh Tradition. Money donated directly by an individual is one source but there are also fund raising efforts and literature sales. At the group level, donations are collected and some money is spent by the group in its efforts to carry the message. All the money in excess of the group's *real* needs for the current month (and maybe an additional month or two)

should be sent to the area. Some groups don't do this. When a group hoards money, and doesn't pass it along to the next level of service, it cuts off the flow of funds necessary to help the area committee accomplish its Twelfth Step work. Frequently when this happens the area puts more effort into fund-raising efforts. Unfortunately this diverts everyone into fund-raising instead of our primary purpose which is to carry the message of recovery (the Twelfth Step).

Some fund-raising efforts have become fairly routine and should be managed with the purposes of minimizing the expense while accomplishing both the social and fund-raising purposes. For example, annual conventions which are held for the purpose of celebrating recovery, fostering unity and raising some funds. These definitely serve a purpose in Narcotics Anonymous. We need only keep our perspective straight and not become dependent on these activities while neglecting our responsibility and right to make direct contributions to the Fellowship that saved our lives.

There are some projects of an area committee that may seem far removed from carrying the message of recovery. For example, committees often seem to spend hours upon hours arguing over guidelines by which to govern themselves or taking the inventories of various "trusted" servants. Some of these activities seem to be the result of members focusing on the same fears, suspicions and distrust that drove us through the doors of Narcotics Anonymous in the first place. Although committee work can be frustrating and trying for many of us, it provides a wonderful opportunity for us to practice the spiritual principles of the program and even to carry the message to others with whom we serve.

When we are given the opportunity to serve in a position of trust we must be vigilant about keeping the primary purpose (to carry the message of recovery) foremost in our minds. It is very easy to become diverted in many other directions, and we are experts at justifying and rationalizing our well-intentioned, but often self-willed, aims. When issues of money are concerned, the arguments and controversy seem to get particularly hot. This is where we need to practice spiritual principles more than anywhere else. The funds provided through the Seventh Tradition are for one purpose only--to accomplish the three aims we have discussed before in this article, maintaining unity, a common understanding of the N.A. Program, and Twelfth Step work.

The efforts of trusted servants and committees at the regional and world levels should also be guided by the same three aims. Sometimes it is difficult for us to trust these people who seem so far removed from our local groups and members. We may read the reports they publish and not understand all of the complex issues they discuss. We may have met some of them and had personality conflicts or felt that they were too

busy to listen to our particular concerns. All of these are valid occurrences and unfortunately they sometimes make it difficult for us to trust our trusted servants.

The solution to this dilemma is to remember that it is a loving God who is our ultimate authority. We benefit spiritually from the act of having faith and trust whether or not the trusted servants do a good job. If they make mistakes, hopefully they will learn from them and do better the next time. If we make poor decisions in our choices of trusted servants, hopefully we will learn and do better the next time. Recovery, service, and Twelfth Step work is a growing and learning process. But the act of giving, as provided in our Seventh Tradition, is an act which comes back to us individually and collectively through the spiritual and personal growth we derive through application of this spiritual principle.

COMING EVENTS

ALABAMA: Sep. 25-27 1987; Surrender in the Mountains; Cheata State Park - Talladega National Forest, AL (205) 488-5155; Neal 834-8427; Kim 285-3354

AUSTRALIA: Oct. 2-4, 1987; 4th Annual NSW Combined Area Convention for N.A.; The Roundhouse, NSW University, High St. & Anzac Parade, Kensington; Sydney (02) Max 698-4572; Annette 646-4675; Sonya 662-6124

CALIFORNIA: Aug. 21-23; Central Sierra 3rd Annual High Country Camp out; Lyons Lake Resort; Sonora, CA; (209) 532-5396

2) Sept. 19, 1987; Stanislaus Valley Area Celebration; Elks Lodge, 945 McHenry, Modesto, CA; (209) 524-4421; Ken 634-3197; Ron 529-6728

3) Sept. 26, 1987; 1st Annual Unity Day; Laney College, Oakland, CA; Mitch (415) 235-0476

4) Oct. 3, 1987; 11:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.; Learning Day; Mt. Carmel High School, 9550 Carmel Mountain Rd., San Diego, CA;

5) Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 1987; Ninth Annual So. CA Reg. Conv.; Anaheim Hilton Towers, 777 W. Convention Way, Anaheim, CA; Bob (714) 540-0668; Vallerie (213) 370-8052

6) Mar. 4-6, 1988; NCCNA; Oakland Hyatt Regency Hotel & Convention Center, 12th & Broadway, Oakland, CA; Steve (408)446-4445

CANADA: Aug. 21-23, 1987; Regina's 3rd Annual N.A. Convention; WA-WA Shrine Temple, 2065 Hamilton St.; Bernie L. 352-9214; John H. 781-7384; Cory D. 949-0995

2) Sept. 4-6, 1987; Calvary Round-up, 1423 8th Avenue S.E., Calvary, Alberta; Linda (403)228-9626

3) Oct. 9-11, 1987; 3rd Annual Bilingual Quebec Regional Convention; MBCNA, P.O. Box 446, Beloeil, Quebec, J3G 6B6; Lyne (514) 676-6168, 443-0804; Johanne 532-5336; Vincent 332-9058

4) Oct. 23-25, 1987; 10th PNWCNA; Interested speakers submit tapes to PNWCNA Box 468-810, West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 4C9; (604) Wendy 294-9016; Brant 254-9094

COLORADO: Oct. 23-25, 1987; CRCNA-I; Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs; (303) Julie 321-8930; Jeff 755-6813; George 830-7811

ENGLAND: Sept. 18-20, 1987; First Annual U.K. Convention; Bournemouth Conference Centre, Exeter Rd., Bournemouth BH2 5BH

FLORIDA: Oct. 9-12, 1987; Keys Recovery Weekend IV, Marriott's Casa Marina; Keys Recovery Group P.O. Box 4664, Key West, FL 33040; Pat 296-2810; Susan 296-4420; Sonia 296-7087

IOWA: Sep. 26 & 27, 1987; Iowa Regional H&I Learning Weekend; Des Moines, IA; Becky B. (712)622-8467; Martin B. (515)274-0080

IRELAND: Oct. 23-25, 1987; 3rd Irish Regional Convention; The Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin; Irish Convention Comm. P.O. Box 1368, Sheriff St., Dublin 1, Ireland

KENTUCKY: Oct. 17, 1987; P.I. Awareness Day; Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd., Lexington, KY; (606)252-3484

LOUISIANA: Sept. 3-6, 1987; World Convention; WCNA 17; Sheraton New Orleans Hotel & Towers, 500 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70130; (504) 525-2500

MINNESOTA: Sept 11-13; Camp Vermilion Regional Retreat; Camp Vermilion: 5 miles from Cook, MN; P.O. Box 1046, Cook, MN 55732; Joe: (218) 749-3709

2) Oct. 17, 1987; 6th Annual Fargo/Moorhead Area Banquet; St. Mary's Church, McMerty Center, 604 Broadway; for info (218)233-4621

MISSISSIPPI: Sep. 25-27, 1987; 5th Annual Natchez Camp out; Clear Springs Recreational Area, Hwy 84/98, Nachez, MS; John & Pam (601) 442-4441; Ray 442-5086

NEBRASKA: Oct. 9-11, 1987; NRCNA IV; Holiday Inn, 72nd Grover, Omaha: 1-800-HOLIDAY; P.O. Box 3532, Omaha, NE 68103

NEVADA: Aug 27-30, 1987; 5th Annual Stampede for Serenity Camp out; Stampede Reservoir; (702) 322-4811

NEW YORK: Oct 4, 1987; Together in Recovery Breakfast; Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, White Plains, NY; West-Rock ASC, 405 Tarrytown Rd. Ste. 321, White Plains, NY 10607; John K. (914) 352-4592; Steve F. 237-9131; Noel A. 946-9596

OREGON: Oct. 2-4, 1987; OSIRC; Neighborhood Facility Building - Coos Bay, OR; Kathy O. (503) 269-7513; Caryl M. (503) 267-5689

PENNSYLVANIA: Oct. 9-11, 1987; T.S.R.C.N.A. V; Hyatt Hotel, Pittsburgh; (412) Ken 521-1086; Roz 361-6250; Rich 371-3891

TENNESSEE: Nov 5-7; Volunteer Regional Convention 5

TEXAS: Mar 25-27, 1988; LSRCNA III; Fort Worth, TX; (817) Vince 924-0939; Don 738-5329; Debbie 599-3475

2) Oct. 3, 1987; 7th Anniversary of Step One N.A.; South Hills Christian Church; 4813 Odessa, Ft. Worth, TX; Carlton C. (817) 624-4221; Richard F. (817) 921-2489

VIRGINIA: Jan. 8-10, 1988; 6th AVCNA; The Hyatt Hotel Richmond; Interstate 64 at Broad St. & Glenside Dr., Richmond, VA; Mel 644-9143

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

WEST VIRGINIA: Nov. 6-8, 1987; True Colors, an Autumn Convention; Jackson's Mill, Weston, WV 26452; Registration: (304) 269-5100, Danny (304) 925-7088, Jim (304) 525-8411

WISCONSIN: Oct. 23-25; WSNAC IV; P.O. Box 1688, Oshkosh, WI 54902-1688; If interested in speaking or chairing workshops, submit speaker tapes for consideration. Gene, Phil or Steve (414) 231-6219

Instruction:

Please answer the following questions in order that the WSC Additional Needs AD-Hoc Committee can best serve the Fellowship.

Area: _____

Group Name: _____

Group Location: _____

Name of Meeting Hall: _____

Meeting Day: _____

Time: _____

Type of Meeting: _____

1. Our Group Offers:

- Sign Language Interpreters
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- Foreign Language Interpreters for _____.
- Computer Monitored Meetings for Deaf
- Special Seating Arrangements
- None of the Above

2. Is your group willing and able to provide any of the above?

Yes No If yes--what? _____

3. Is your group financially able to provide any of the above?

Yes No If yes--what? _____

4. Does your meeting hall offer any of the following:

- Wheelchair ramps into hall
- Accessible restrooms
- Accessible parking

People to assist entry and exit of
wheelchair bound

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Other _____

5. Is there potential for your meeting to become more accessible?

Yes No If yes, explain

6. If your group and hall meets any of the above criteria for any accessible meeting, are you willing to be listed as such in a Coded Regional and Area Meeting List?

Yes NO If yes, complete the following:

We wish our group to be listed as offering the following handicapped services (refer to the lists in question 1 & 4).

7. Are there any members of your group/area who are interested in becoming involved in an Area/Regional Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee?

Yes No If yes, please send name, address and phone, and return with the completed questionnaire to:

World Service Office, Inc.
Attn: Additional Needs Ad-Hoc Committee
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

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