

25 April 1996

Dear *NA Way* subscriber or other interested member,

I trust that you all received the insert in the April issue of the magazine that notified you of the WSO board's desire to stop production of the magazine. I have received many phone calls and several letters asking questions that weren't answered in that first letter. In response to the frustration both you and I have experienced from trying to communicate through my editor's column (published two months after I write it) or one person at a time by phone and mail, I am writing you this letter to keep you current on the situation with *The NA Way Magazine*.

The questions that literally everyone has asked me are these: "Is shutting down the magazine a done deal? Can we save the magazine?" I can only answer that question by restating something that was in the April letter, but perhaps not stated as clearly as we would have liked. The April letter asked "Is this service important enough to justify that kind of expense? [more than \$100,000 a year]. If it is, of course, then we must by all means continue footing the bill." What we really meant to convey was that the fellowship must ask itself if it wants this magazine, and if so, does it want its World Service Office to spend that much money on it.

Another question I have been asked is "Won't the fellowship get to discuss this?" Yes. Absolutely. The WSO board fully expects this issue to be discussed at the World Service Conference, and didn't mean to imply otherwise in stating its *intention* to stop producing *The NA Way*. The fellowship sends regional service representatives to the World Service Conference every year. It is hoped that each one of those representatives are aware of the feelings and beliefs of the members in their respective regions. If you have thoughts on this issue that you'd like to make sure your RSR is aware of, please contact him or her before the WSC, which is scheduled to begin 25 May.

The expense, weighed against the value of the service provided by *The NA Way*, is probably where the discussion at this year's World Service

Conference will focus. Several people have asked me what I think will be outcome of this issue at the WSC. Unfortunately, I am unable to forecast what will occur at the annual meeting of the representatives of our fellowship. Anything could happen, ranging from a motion being made and carried to stop publication of the magazine in December as the WSO board recommended, to a plan for more widespread discussion being put together, to the RSRs deciding that *The NA Way* must continue no matter what.

Last but not least, several people have asked about subscriptions that may not be scheduled to expire for years. That's probably the easiest question to answer. If the magazine is no longer published, everyone who has time remaining on her or his subscription will receive a prorated refund for the remaining issues.

I will keep you updated through inserts in the magazine, special letters, or my monthly column as this discussion evolves and decisions are made. However, if you have any other questions or comments along the way, please don't hesitate to call me. You can reach me at (818) 773-9999, extension 156.

In service to the fellowship,
Cindy T. [redacted], Editor
The NA Way Magazine