

August 8, 1983

Dear Ginni:

The truth. Since I've received the material on the Steps and Traditions and Living Clean I've been able to read and study them enough to say that so far the Living Clean material seems nearly suitable for approval and publication. A lot of newcomers would derive a lot of benefit while other work goes ahead to improve our literature as a whole. No doubt it could be improved but approval would encourage other members to put forth major effort without fear of it being totally turned around. This might be an important step towards having a body of approved material from several individual sources and speak to the freedom we each have to contribute our best to the Fellowship.

The Step-Traditions material has several glaring omissions. It is a very worthy effort. The thing I need to get very honest and make myself vulnerable to you in a way is that the years of work which went into the production of the Basic Text has resulted in a situation where this little dope addict could rewrite the whole thing in a few weeks if uninterrupted to a form which would be very inclusive of the things which appear in newsletters, the drafts leading to the Basic Text as well as what has since been revealed to us. Several of our members played important roles in the production and still carry with them the knowledge of how its done. Lets just say it involved a certain suspension of the rules to get at the deeper levels of feeling and wording in a group setting. It is very easy to get off track. It is very easy to loose momentum and personalities set in like a green mold. We participants in this miracle don't quite know what to do with ourselves. We are still service ready but are required to hold back what we hold inside until the Fellowship tells us to do specific work. We have to await permission. Otherwise we would have to work without the Spirit which has guided us so far. It is how we eliminate the fear of self-will entering the picture. You know we had to do something to free ourselves to serve. We got the Fellowship to tell us to do what we were already willing and prepared for and we did it freely with fun and glee. This may sound wierd to you but to us it is the key.

The recommendation for substantial improvement of the Step-Traditions material is this: that the work be made available to any member, anywhere for input through the WSO at cost. The front section of the material would contain a brief treatise on how to effectively input to the work, how input would be addressed and some samples of how it is done. Page, paragraph, line and the use of key words: add, change, insert, delete. In this way noone would be able to say they were left out and we would feel free to work without any sense of powerfullness. A lot more work would be done at home and every member who input would recieve a response as to how their input was addressed. This may seem an impractical approach to those who were not participant to the work before but it works. The members who are negative to the work will be silent or illiterate. If they can't write, they can send in a tape. This approach pulls on the combined strength of the Fellowship as a whole. It will be almost totadly self supporting. Approximately a thousand members know how to do this and God-willing it would be smoother than before, less pressure. Yes, a conference would have to be held to factor in the input. It would be styled based on the ammount of input received. Honestly, it might be a little of it might be a lot.

I hope we're still in the running for the lit conference. I think you would be very pleased. Regards, we will support any location.

In Loving Service,

