

THE

DA

focus

The Quarterly World Service Newsletter for the Fellowship of Debtors Anonymous

February 2014

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

GSB Committee Reports.....	2
Office Report.....	3
World Service Conference Committee and Caucus Reports.....	4,5
Financial Reports.....	6,7
Concept Four.....	8

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D.A.'s New Text Heads to Press

Excitement is building on the D.A. Board and at your General Service Office as the Second Edition of *A Currency of Hope* (ACOH2) is tantalizingly close to publication. This final stretch of the process of publishing the most important work D.A. has put out in fifteen years involves filing for the copyright, obtaining an ISBN, tweaking the cover art so the colors are just right, setting up the print for the presses, and so on. A prototype of the new cover is pictured here. The first printing of the second edition will be 4,000 copies. The cover price will remain the same as the first edition - US\$14.00. As soon as our Office Manager receives physical copies from the printer, an eNews blast will be sent out to the fellowship. All 5,519 current contacts in our eNews database will get the news simultaneously. Each member will be able to notify his/her group members through the local 'grapevine' or at the next meeting. Widespread and immediate notification of the availability of ACOH2 will give everyone equal chance to place orders with the GSO. Updated literature order forms will be mailed to every group, too. Full case discounts will still be available for group orders. The Office is open Monday through Friday to provide over-the-counter sales for walk-in members. Our two part-time employees will be busy assisting Howard as they fulfill the many orders. The Board will monitor the stock carefully so that the second printing is on the presses before the Office stocks out of this historically significant first press run. So, keep an eye out for a momentous eNews of the impending release of the Second Edition of *A Currency of Hope!*

Annual GSB 'F2F' is a Fellowship Tradition

When the Trustees of D.A.'s General Service Board visited Eastern Massachusetts for four days of business meetings this January, they continued a long tradition of service and connection with local members that has been ongoing since 1998.

The Trustees gathered in late January at a hotel just a few miles from D.A.'s General Service Office in Needham, MA. From Thursday through Sunday, they conducted numerous committee and full board business meetings, attended a local D.A. meeting, met with trusted servants of the New England Intergroup, and conducted a condensed version of a Regional Forum for interested members.

The midyear GSB session, known as the "face-to-face" or "F2F", has become an important part of its annual work program for carrying out the group conscience of the Fellowship as expressed through the annual World Service Conference. Started in 1998 in Dallas by then-GSB Chair David P., the idea behind the F2F is to give Trustees an opportunity for intensive and concentrated work that is not possible on telephone conference calls alone. The Trustees meet in person in a similar intensive two-day session just before the World Service Conference each year, and the rest of the year via telephone conferences. In the 17 years since 1998, board members have found the extra session indispensable in carrying forward their work on dozens of projects requested by the WSC.

A number of traditions have developed over the years for the F2F. Board members always attend at least one local D.A. meeting, and where possible, also meet with members of the local Intergroup. In recent years, since the Regional Forum program was launched in 2009, an abridged version of the full-day forums has been offered in several locations. The idea is that the Trustees are ambassadors from the World Service level of D.A. to local groups and members in various parts of the U.S. and Canada.

The locations of the F2F have been carefully planned over the years to assist the growth of D.A. in areas where D.A.'s presence is not robust. Several F2Fs over the years have been held in Midwestern cities such as Chicago and St. Louis, with an eye toward bolstering membership in the middle of the country. In the past five years, two

Continued on page 5

General Service Board Committee Reports

Audit

The main focus of the Audit Committee in October and November 2013 was to update its Composition, Scope, & Procedure document and present it to the GSB for approval. This document will help streamline and guide the Committee's activities and make it easier for new members to get started on the Committee. In December, we reviewed the latest monthly financial reports, and found a number of points of interest and discussion. As a byproduct of that discussion, we will be addressing the risk profile of the Office during the next few meetings.

Communications

The WSC Technology Committee helpfully provided this analysis of how visitors to our website are using the D.A. site.

The year from Oct 2012 to Sept 2013:

The D.A. website had **107,792** visitors who visited 224,925 times and did 747,465 page views. That made an average of 3.3 views per visit and the average duration was 2 minutes & 41 seconds.

86% of the visits originated in the United States. 3% came from Canada, 2% from the UK, 1% from Australia, and 8% from everywhere else. Looking by city; 11% came from New York City, 5% from LA, 2% from Chicago, while a number of cities accounted for about a percent each but nearly 2/3 came from outside these major metropolitan areas.

Three quarters (76%) of the visitors visited just once during the year, 13% twice. 71% stayed less than a minute, 23% between 1 and 10 minutes, and 8% over 10 minutes.

By looking at the Page Views data we find that the **most popular page** was "Find a DA meeting" which was looked at on slightly more than half the visits. Almost as many looked at the Home page, while the Phone Meetings page was seen on about a third of all visits. Rounding out the top ten we have Literature, Questions, Stories, Signs, Getting Started, Help and About DA.

68% used Desktop Computers, 24% Mobile

Devices (phones) and 8% Tablets. 49% arrived via a search, 26% were referred from another site, 24% typed in the URL or used a bookmark, and the remaining 1% came via social media.

Some changes from the prior year

The number of visitors **increased 3%** while the number of visits increased by 8%. The number of page views essentially stayed constant. Both the average pages per visit and the average duration declined slightly. The percentage of visits from outside the US increased from 12% to 13%. Visits to the phone meeting page increased 9%. **Use of Mobile devices was up about 50% and the use of Tablets doubled.**

Some changes since the year ending Sept 30, 2013

The percentage of international visits has gone up another percent. The traffic on the Phone Meeting page continues to increase. Also increasing markedly is Mobile Device and Tablet use.

What else we can find out.

We infer from the statistics for Phone Meeting information that DA is in fact growing but that the **growth is in phone meeting attendance**. There is a wealth of information available, for free. We just need to know what our other questions are. Some examples of possible uses of Google Analytics data are by the Public Information committee's Detroit project to see how many people from Detroit are accessing the web page and what they are looking at. For the International and Diversity Caucuses, knowing where visitors are located and what they are looking at. Once people know that this information is available and make requests the WSC Technology Committee's Usability subcommittee is ready to provide answers.

Ways & Means Publishing Schedule and Proposed Content.

May 15, 2014

Solvent Vacations
& History of D.A.

August 15, 2014

Back To School & RDC

Conference Support

Committee finalized response to its assigned Issue & Concern and approved online registration for WSC 2014.

Finance

I am Maureen C. and I am your new D.A. GSB Assistant Treasurer as of the 2014 WSC in Phoenix. It is a pleasure to serve D.A. in this capacity. This is my first time compiling the Finance Report for the Focus and as part of my research I began reading past issues of the D.A. Focus beginning with the first issue in the Fall of 2004. I will compare our current financial situation to that report as written by Carolyn H. for comparison and historical knowledge. Part of her comments include that "the D.A. website is in need of long overdue enhancements". That is just now being addressed. Income then was \$35,000 for the 1st Fiscal Quarter of 2004. This year it was \$107,000 for that time period. Expenses then were \$35,000. This year they were \$100,000. I cannot say her words addressing the financial picture of D.A. any better now than she did then: "It is only through your group and personal contributions that the General Service Office can pay existing expenses and can achieve our visions of future growth: to expand our office space and hire additional staff to meet the needs of the Fellowship, to reprint existing and develop much-needed new literature, and have a spending plan where we proactively add services in order to reach the debtor who still suffers." Thank you for your service Carolyn.

This issue presents financial information as of October 2013. Our fiscal year began July 1, 2013. A reminder that the Finance Committee will be looking for an ACM in the next month or so.

Information Technology

The GSB Information Technology Committee is pleased to be joined by a second Appointed Committee Member (ACM), Jon L. who will be facilitating the development of the new website. We will keep the fellowship informed once a potential time-line for the site is established. In the mean time, updates to the current site are continuing on a daily basis. Since the WSC in August, over 50 additions, modifications or fixes have been completed. Most of the actions taken by the conference in Phoenix are reflected on the site, including the Statement of Purpose, the D.A. Tools and the Promises. These three items are found on the 'Start a Meeting' page. The 2013 WSC Final Report is available on the World Service Conference tab, and the

General Service Board Committee Reports

revised Public Information Manual is available as a free download from the Public Information tab.

International

The International Committee has chosen a first group of texts we're suggesting for translation by groups speaking languages other than English or Spanish. Alcoholics Anonymous gives D.A. permission to adapt A.A.-approved translations of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, under certain conditions. (See the "En Español" page at debtorsanonymous.org.) Along with the AA-approved translations, Int'l Com will send "A Word to Newcomers" and the Statement of Purpose, which groups may choose to use until the Fellowship approves an introductory statement. Int'l Com hopes that in areas where there are no Inter-groups, the formation of a translation committee will create the foundation for a local or regional Inter-group.

Legal Affairs

The Legal Affairs Committee is working on renewing the trademark of our DA logo. We are also looking into acquiring the now-expired trademark on the term BODA. We are preparing to secure the copyright on the 2nd edition of *A Currency of Hope* as soon as the final copy of the text is ready. To better address common requests regarding copyrights, we are reviewing existing documents in order to create a library of standard responses. We had a privacy statement placed on the D.A. website directly below the sign-up box for the E-News. We are reviewing the draft RFP for the new D.A. website for legal considerations.

Literature Publications

The Literature Publications (Lit Pub) Committee of the General Service Board (GSB) has been working hard at completing the second edition of *A Currency of Hope* for publication. We have also added the Statement of Purpose to three pamphlets, Awareness, Meetings and Record Keeping when they came up for reprinting. The Statement of Purpose and the Responsibility Pledge have been added to the website under the Start a Meeting tab. We continue to work closely with Literature Services and the World Service Conference (WSC) Literature Committee to further the completion of D.A.'s Twelve and Twelve. We are still asking members or groups to submit suggestions for D.A.'s mission statement to dalit-pub@yahoo.com.

General Service Office

Along with the printed copy of the D.A. Focus, in January the GSO sends every registered group an Annual Re-registration form. This is the principal method by which we know the status and the details of the meetings and which we use in posting meeting information on the D.A. website. Most groups are diligent in completing and returning the form, but every year there are several dozen groups that, for a variety of reasons, do not. With the addition of another staffer in the office, we have undertaken active outreach to those groups that are two years or more past due in submitting a re-registration.

We are using a variety of methods to contact the groups, determine their existence, and get the form completed and returned. If we suspect the Group Primary Contact has moved or is no longer a member, we might contact the alternate contact. When available, we check the regional Inter-group web sites for a telephone contact. As a last resort, we have sent letters to the group in care of the meeting facility.

We have had fair success to date and will continue our efforts.

How can you as a 'regular' member help us? You can ask at your group's Business Meeting if your group is registered with the GSO and who is the Primary Contact for the group. You can check the listing on the D.A. website. In particular note when the group information was last updated. If the date is two years or more old, it is likely the GSO has out of date information.

Thank you for your assistance in keeping the meeting list current so that newcomers and members can reliably find a meeting, and in maintaining an accurate database of Group Contacts.

Literature Services

The Literature Services subcommittee is reviewing the Literature Committee's suggestions for the Twelve Steps. The second edition of *A Currency of Hope* is in the last rounds of corrections and production before going to the printer. Lit Serv is evaluating the revision of the "Underearning" pamphlet and the draft of the "BDA Numbers Booklet" and has issued a call to the fellowship for Beginners' Meeting formats. The "BDA Clarity in Business and Personal Finance" pamphlet is with the author. The "BDA Tools" pamphlet is with the Lit Com and BDA committees for review, and the "BDA Annual Business Plan" pamphlet is with the BDA committee.

Long-Range Planning

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) of the General Service Board (GSB) has been busy so far this year. We have completed one of our Ask the GSB calls, with three remaining. We have taken steps to record the remaining calls and make the recordings available to members for a limited time. Details will be sent out with the eNews announcements. We have also asked our archivist to join our calls on a quarterly basis beginning in January 2014 when we meet in Needham, MA. We will also sit down with the Office Committee to discuss the future of the GSO. LRPC has also developed a plan of action to assist the Fellowship in planning their celebrations for D.A.'s 40th anniversary on 2016.

Nominations

The D.A. General Service Board currently has thirteen out of its fifteen maximum trustee positions filled. There are currently two open positions: for a Class A (debtor) trustee and a Class B (non-debtor) trustee. The committee has begun reviewing and revising the Board's bylaws according to recommendations from an outside counsel.

WSC Committee and Caucus Reports

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES AND CAUCUSES

Business Debtors Anonymous

The BDA Committee consists of three subcommittees:

- Spiritual Marketing
- Outreach
- Vocations and Visions

Spiritual Marketing

The Spiritual Marketing subcommittee has been conducting a step study with members of the committee for possible proposal to the Fellowship. We are also working on spiritual marketing pamphlet outline focusing on isolation. Finally, we have established a spiritual marketing action buddy list that enables anyone in DA to easily find an action partner to bookend or build accountability for difficult tasks. The action buddy list is open to all DA members and can be found on Google groups under the name bda-action-buddy-list.

Outreach

The Outreach subcommittee has focused on collecting the BDA stories of committee members and anyone in the Fellowship who would like to participate. Any member of DA is encouraged to submit their story answering two questions: 1. "What brought you to BDA and what does BDA mean to you?" and 2. "How are you discovering and/or achieving your vision/vocation in your DA/BDA recovery?" Stories may be submitted by email to bdacommitee@gmail.com, or if they prefer to submit their stories anonymously they can be mailed to:

385 S. Lemon Ave
Suite E 124
Walnut, CA 91789

Vocations and Visions

The Vocation and Visions subcommittee is concerned with helping debtors, particularly business-owning debtors, achieve their true visions, which are often related to owning one's own business or following some form of self-employment. We are also collecting stories to this end. In addition we have been working on a pamphlet to help debtors devise a spiritual business plan for their businesses.

Conference

The WSC Conference Committee of 2013-

2014 has met every 1st Sunday of the month since September. As the Chair of this year's WSC Conference Committee, I'm thrilled that our committee has 8 members. We started with 3 subcommittees. The subcommittees were 1) WSC Transparency, 2) WSC Schedule Changes, and 3) D.A.'s 40th anniversary celebration. Both the Transparency subcommittee and Schedule Changes subcommittee wanted to do a survey so the two subcommittees are working together on a survey that we intend to send to the delegates who attended WSC 2013. The third subcommittee, the 40th celebration, is currently working with the WSC Fellowship Communication Committee (FCC). In addition to our subcommittee work, we are working closely with the WSC 2014 Chicago Host Committee. We would like to express gratitude to the past Host Committee Chair of WSC 2013 as she has graciously shared with us her time and valuable experience as a Host Committee Chair. We have a lot to look forward to over the next several months!

Diversity Caucus

The Diversity caucus has taken on three important initiatives so far, and we are making steady progress.

1. We are in the process of creating a physical and electronic map of DA meetings across the US and abroad so we can get a clearer sense of where the underserved areas are which need support in forming DA meetings. We look forward to presenting this map at next year's conference.
2. We are in the process of starting up two new meetings, one in West Oakland and one in the Fruitvale neighborhood of Oakland, both of which will be held in facilities serving primarily communities of color. We are intending to build alliances within these communities to help spread the message of DA to a wider field of participation.
3. We are in discussions about how to create DA events and activities to attract more low income folks, more LGBT members, and more DAs of color to the program. We are intending to support at least one such event before the DA World Service Conference.

Fellowship Communications

This year's Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC) is currently:

- 1) Monitoring and publicizing the Group Sponsorship service which helps newer / less experienced / struggling D.A. groups to be sponsored by more experienced groups. If you send an email to gsponsorship@gmail.com you will receive a wealth of information about how to grow / strengthen your D.A. meeting. The FCC is responding to all Group Sponsorship inquiries sent to this email address and following up with the GSO about transferring this service to them.
- 2) Working to broaden electronic and international access to (a) DA information and (b) DA Literature.
- 3) Working to ensure that D.A. surveys sent to the Fellowship honor the 10th and 12th D.A. traditions (safeguarding anonymity and not inquiring about outside issues). We are using a recent Intergroup Caucus survey as a positive example for producing tradition-honoring D.A. surveys. Because of the inverted pyramid structure of D.A., gathering information / feedback from individuals and groups can help us in achieving the Fellowship's mission.
- 4) Working to support other WSC Committees / Caucuses that will host Fellowship-wide teleconference calls this year.
- 5) Working with the WSC Conference Committee to brainstorm ideas for the D.A. 40th Anniversary celebration scheduled for 2016.

International Caucus

The International Caucus is gathering information about service structures outside the U.S. In conjunction with FCC and Intergroup Caucus, we will broaden the discussion of regional intergroups outside the U.S. International Caucus submitted a revised "Outreach Letter to International Groups" to the GSB for approval. The letter introduces the International Caucus, requests feedback about local intergroups and regional forums, offers contact information, and requests that groups encourage other groups to register with the GSO. There is continued discussion with the WSC Tech Committee, regarding website content and features that might better serve D.A. internationally. The Caucus drafted a format for a fellowship-wide confer-

ence call that features D.A. group stories from around the world, and looks to discuss international-related items such as public information, literature translation, group sponsorship, regional intergroups, as well as the Twelve Traditions as they relate to D.A.'s expansion.

Literature

The Literature Committee has responded to all I&Cs. We are actively assessing the results of the Health Issues and Solvency survey as well as reaching out to old timers in an effort to record the founding and spread of D.A. nationally and worldwide. We have written long form drafts of all 12 Promises of Debtors Anonymous to be forwarded to a prospective writer. We are eagerly awaiting the 12 Steps of D.A. to be sent to us from the Board.

Public Information

The WSC Public Information (PI) Committee interfaces with the media, helping professionals, and the general public in person, on the telephone, and through written information. This year's committee has several initiatives on its agenda.

First, The PI Committee is looking to expand its outreach to PI Representatives within the fellowship in order to inform and inspire the fellowship about this important service position. To this end, we are organizing an "Informative Workshop for PI Representatives on PI Outreach" which will take place via conference call in February.

The PI Committee is also planning to work with the Technology Committee to improve online access to information and resources for PI Representatives.

This year's WSC PI Committee conducted an analysis of the results of last year's committee's fellowship-wide survey on PI activities. We are using the findings to direct our agenda.

The WSC PI Committee is eager to put our resources to work in a regional setting, and we hope to take initiative in the Detroit area in the coming months. We plan to employ all the resources available in the PI Manual to help carry out the mission of the committee and work to increase the reach of the DA

fellowship in that particular community. And finally, the Long Range Planning Committee has asked that the GSB PI and WSC PI Committees work together to develop a national press release and a local press release that can be adapted to local activities. We are looking forward to collaborating with the GSB PI Committee on this interesting project.

Resource Development

The chair is pleased and honored to work with such an energetic and cooperative group of fellow committee members and our always-helpful liaison, Allen T. The RDC is about increasing contributions to the fellowship and encouraging participation in service at all levels. So far, the 2013-14 RDC has made headway on the following key initiatives:

We provided proposed redesign and content for the John H. Letter, which has been distributed to the fellowship.

We are in the process of submitting a redesigned World Service Month letter to the GSB for approval.

We are planning a fellowship-wide conference call in April of this year on the topic of "Recovery Through Service in D.A."

We are working on suggested wording for online and telephone meeting formats to remind members that they can make contributions to DA using online banking.

We have more to do on our ambitious agenda. Happy New Year!

Technology

The RFP sub-committee is pleased to be working with Jon L., the new ACM for the GSB Info Tech Committee. He has extensive experience with website development and will help us shape the RFP (Request for Proposal), which will outline the all features required for our new website.

The Paperless Conference sub-committee is working with Sue, our GSB liaison, and Howard, GSO office manager, to create an online registration form for the WSC. The Usability sub-committee has looked at data collected from analytics software about how many visitors use the DA website, where they come from, how they access the site,

what pages they view, and for how long. The Tech Research sub-committee is preparing a report about the feasibility of creating an electronic version of *A Currency of Hope*. We are also going through information shared by AA about their experience publishing e-literature.

continued from page 1

face-to-faces have been held in the Deep South (North Carolina and Florida), where there are fewer D.A. meetings than any other region of the U.S. And in 2007, Trustees left U.S. soil for the first time ever and held the session in Toronto, Ontario, encouraging the growth of D.A. in Canada.

Every third year the event is held in Eastern Massachusetts, which includes a visit to the General Service Office and meetings with the staff, and ensures that each Trustee will have the opportunity to visit the office in person at least once during their three-year term.

For many years the F2F was held in April or May, but since 2007 has been scheduled for January or February, which has proven a better fit with D.A.'s year-round Conference calendar that begins and ends with the annual WSC in August. Inclement weather has threatened on a few occasions, but most board members were able to arrive, albeit late, by making alternative transportation arrangements.

Only once in its 17-year history has the face-to-face been canceled altogether. In the early 2000s, during a period of extreme financial crisis for D.A., the Trustees canceled the event as part of their contribution toward getting the Fellowship back on a sound financial footing, and a subsequent rebound in contributions and literature sales allowed many Fellowship projects, including the F2F, to be reinstated the following year.

Compiled by our Archivist, Jan S.

Financial Reports

Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison

	Jul - Oct 13	Jul - Oct 12	\$ Change	% Change
Income				
401 · Group Contributions	17,819	18,569	-750	-4.04%
403 · Individual Contributions	20,139	12,176	7,963	65.4%
405 · Other Contributions	179	0	179	100.0%
406 · John H Scholarship Fund {I}	1,431	1,714	-282	-16.47%
409 · World Service Month	38	88	-50	-56.82%
421 · Pamphlet Sales	12,869	9,889	2,980	30.14%
423 · Book Sales	168	4,587	-4,419	-96.34%
425 · Audio Visual Sales	16	48	-32	-66.67%
429 · Shipping	2,365	2,603	-238	-9.16%
445 · Conference Income	62,453	71,954	-9,501	-13.2%
498 · Interest Income	40	87	-47	-53.56%
Total Income	117,518	121,714	-4,196	-3.45%
Cost of Goods Sold				
511 · Pamphlet Printing	5,523	5,009	514	10.25%
515 · Book Printing	4	678	-674	-99.41%
518 · Audio Visual Duplication	7	34	-27	-79.24%
521 · Production Costs	478	0	478	100.0%
531 · Shipping & Postage	1,725	1,837	-112	-6.12%
535 · Shipping Supplies	261	156	105	67.79%
575 · WSC Event COGS	66,223	0	66,223	100.0%
Total COGS	74,221	7,715	66,506	862.04%
Gross Profit	43,297	113,999	-70,702	-62.02%
Expense				
611 · Gross Salaries	20,290	17,963	2,327	12.96%
613 · Payroll Taxes	1,586	1,406	179	12.74%
621 · Contracted Services	544	483	61	12.67%
623 · Professional Fees	2,643	1,945	698	35.86%
631 · Office Expense	337	479	-142	-29.68%
633 · Printing & Copying	636	702	-67	-9.48%
636 · Archival Expense	359	231	128	55.31%
637 · Postage	1,131	599	531	88.63%
641 · Telecommunications	1,023	1,040	-17	-1.6%
643 · Internet	600	245	355	145.11%
645 · Utilities	233	280	-47	-16.81%
647 · Rent & RE Tax	3,224	2,994	230	7.67%
649 · Insurance	646	639	7	1.14%
661 · Travel	1,903	444	1,459	328.51%
665 · Per Diem & Meals	2,685	3,609	-925	-25.62%
668 · Lodging	1,859	1,292	567	43.91%
670 · Outreach Expense	337	275	62	22.69%
691 · WSC Committee Expense	393	190	204	107.51%
695 · WSC Event Expense	0	62,888	-62,888	-100.0%
696 · John H Scholarship Expense	492	645	-153	-23.73%
798 · Section 179 Expense	0	509	-509	-100.0%
799 · Depreciation & Amortization	50	50	0	0.0%
990 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	50	0	50	100.0%
Total Expense	41,021	98,909	-57,888	-58.53%
Net Income	2,277	15,091	-12,814	-84.91%

Balance Sheet As of October 31, 2013

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

101 · Main Checking 0979	
101-1 · Bank of America Checking 0108	\$115,381.80
101-2 · Literature Reserve	<u>\$ 7,184.55</u>
Total 101 · Main Checking 0979	\$122,566.35
102 · WSC Checking 0072	\$ 30,382.53
103 · John H Checking	
103-3 · John H for WSC 2013	\$ -
103-4 · John H for WSC 2014	<u>\$ 3,751.20</u>
Total 103 · John H Checking	\$ 3,751.20
111 · Bank of America Savings 4170	
111-1 · Unrestricted Savings	\$ 68,310.68
111-3 · WSC Seed Fund	\$ 2,000.00
Total 111 · Bank of America Savings 4170	\$ 70,310.68
121 · Office Petty Cash	<u>\$ 11.56</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$227,022.32

Other Current Assets

139 · Prepaid Expense	\$ 2,913.03
140 · GSO Pre-paid Postage meter	\$ 178.81
141 · Undeposited Funds	\$ 910.70
148 · Advances	
148-1 · WSC Host Committee Advances	<u>\$ -</u>
Total 148 · Advances	\$ -
149 · Conference Pre-paid Expenses	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>\$ 4,002.54</u>

Total Current Assets \$231,024.86

Fixed Assets

151 · Office Equipment	\$ 3,034.02
152 · Accum Depreciation-Equipment	<u>\$ (3,034.02)</u>
Total Fixed Assets	\$ -
Other Assets	
181 · Rent Security Deposit	\$ 300.00
182 · Copyright & Trademark	
182-1 · Original Value	\$ 5,873.98
182-2 · Accum Depreciation/Amortization	<u>\$ (1,547.07)</u>
Total 182 · Copyright & Trademark	\$ 4,326.91
191 · Pamphlet Inventory	\$ 16,372.95
193 · Book Inventory	\$ -
195 · Audio-Visual Inventory	<u>\$ 146.35</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$252,171.07</u></u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Other Current Liabilities

209 · Conference Registration	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>

Total Liabilities

Equity

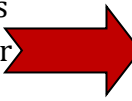
352 · Fund Balance	\$137,666.37
390 · Retained Earnings	\$112,228.15
Net Income	<u>\$ 2,276.55</u>
Total Equity	<u>\$252,171.07</u>

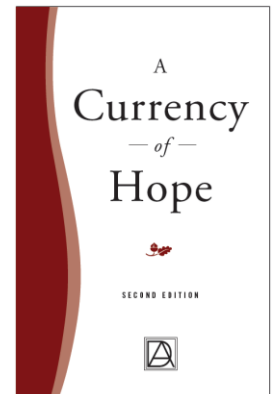
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY **\$252,171.07**

Service Positions

The D.A.GSB Is Seeking
One Class A (recovering-debtor)
Trustee, One Class B (non-debtor)
Trustee, and several Appointed
Committee Members (ACMs).

All positions are on a volunteer basis.
See "Open Service Positions"
at www.debtorsanonymous.org

Soon to be available through GSO, the Second Edition of *A Currency of Hope*, is in the final stages of design. The cover, chosen by Literature Publications, is pictured here. Individual copies will be \$14.00; volume order discounts available. Watch the website for updates! 



Throughout our Conference structure, we maintain at all levels a traditional “Right of Participation,” ensuring a voting representation.

One of the fundamental principles in D.A. service is the ideal of equality. To the extent possible in carrying out D.A.’s business, we try to emphasize the basic dignity and inherent worth of every individual. This emphasis on equality underlies both the Fourth and the Fifth Concepts.

As a result, we attempt to ensure that everyone in service—from the groups down to the General Service Board—is accorded the right to participate in the decisional process in a way commensurate with his or her authority and duties. Thus, every group member—and a person is a member if he or she says so—has the right to participate in group business meetings and has a vote equal to that of any other member. If the group has a steering committee, in the steering committee each member of that committee must be consulted and heard wherever possible before a decision is made.

On the Intergroup level, Intergroup Representatives must be consulted at the monthly or quarterly meetings before any major decision is taken or policy change is implemented. This means that meetings must be scheduled at a time and place that is most convenient to the greatest number of representatives, and with sufficient notice to all.

At the World Service Conference, limited time makes it difficult for all who wish to speak to be heard. However, efforts must be made to provide an opportunity for a representative cross-section of the Delegates and Trustees present to speak their minds. In D.A. we should be careful not to abuse tactics available in rules of order, such as calling the question, to prevent a full opportunity for all relevant viewpoints to be heard. In all important matters, time rules should be flexible enough to enable the greatest number of GSRs and ISRs to present their arguments. Here it is also important to note that the Office Manager of the General Service Office has been given a voice and a vote at the Conference because the experience of that person may be helpful in the decisional process and because that person is the one who will most likely have to answer for Conference decisions.

In meetings of the Board of Trustees, each member is given an opportunity to speak. Her or his opinion is of equal weight with that of any other Trustee. While the views of an officer may be enlightening in matters affecting that office, and while committee members may have greater expertise on a particular issue relevant to their committee, this special knowledge can never be decisive. All decisions in D.A. should be made only after full participation by all parties.

Finally, the Right of Participation should be viewed as a right of *meaningful* participation. Each opinion should be accorded the deference and respect that we would want to be given to our own opinions. The fact that a person is perceived as negative or even obstructive should not cause us to close our ears to his or her comments. Even the person we most dislike may be used by the Higher Power to speak the truth if we are willing to listen. We should never be dismissive of any person’s contribution to the debate, if we wish to carry out the intent of this Concept.