

**The 20th Annual Debtors Anonymous
World Service Conference
Report**

San Diego, CA, 2006

2006 Convocation Minutes, General Service Board Reports,
Committee Reports, Caucus Reports, and 2006 Issues and Concerns List

San Diego, CA, USA
August 16-20, 2006

This version of the 2006 World Service Conference report is
available to the Fellowship and other interested parties on the
Debtors Anonymous Web site at www.debtorsanonymous.org.

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**20th Annual Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference
San Diego, California, USA**

August 16-20, 2006

**SECTION 1
CONVOCATION MINUTES
REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND CAUCUSES**

AUGUST 19, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

The 20th Annual Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference was called to order by the General Service Board (GSB) Chairperson, Carla J. on Saturday, August 19, 2006, at 8:43 a.m.

The assembly said the Serenity Prayer. Volunteers were asked to read the DA Preamble, the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts of World Service, and the Debtors Anonymous Charter while a basket was passed to collect the 7th Tradition contribution.

There were 95 delegates registered for the Conference. At all times during the meeting when votes were conducted, the quorum was verified and a quorum was present.

INTRODUCTION OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

Michael Malumut, a professional parliamentarian who has been assisting the Debtors Anonymous Fellowship since 1998, gave a presentation on the parliamentary procedures that would be used during the Convocation.

CONFERENCE VOTING PROCEDURES

The previously distributed agenda was adopted without objection. The Chairperson announced that all motions must come from the General Service Board or a Committee or Caucus Chair. Conference delegates were asked to refer to the General Service

Representative (GSR) Service Manual for more information about the rights and duties of Conference members.

**MOTION TO APPROVE 2005
CONVOCATION MINUTES**

Motion: to accept the 2005 minutes with the inclusion of the corrections handed out at the Convocation.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO REVISE CONCEPT 6

GSB Motion 1: The General Service Board moves that the language of Concept 6 be amended to read: *“The Conference acknowledges the primary administrative responsibility of the Debtors Anonymous General Service Board.”*

Current language of Concept 6
“The Conference acknowledges the primary administrative responsibility and other duties of the Debtors Anonymous General Service Board. The Trustees delegate full authority for routine management of the DA headquarters to its executive committee.”

The motion carried. 94 in favor; 1 opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT APPLAUSE

The Chairperson announced that because voting in Convocation is a spiritual process, by tradition delegates should refrain from applauding after motions pass or fail.

MOTION TO REVISE CONCEPT 5

GSB Motion 2: The General Service Board moves that the language of Concept 5 be amended to read: *“The traditional Rights of Appeal and Petition ought to protect the minority opinion and ensure the consideration of personal grievances.”*

Current language of Concept 5

“Throughout our world service structure, a “Right of Appeal” protects minority opinion and assures that they be heard.”

Motion to amend [Robert P./Kay D.] to read as follows: *“The traditional Rights of Appeals and Petition protect the minority opinion and ensure the consideration of personal grievances.”*

General consent to accept the amendment was not present, and individual votes were counted. The amendment passed (47 in favor, 41 opposed). Robert P. asked if it was possible to withdraw the amendment due to the lack of substantial unanimity.

Motion to reconsider: A motion was made to reconsider the previous vote on the amendment. **The motion to reconsider failed.**

The vote on the original motion as amended was taken. **Motion carried.**

The approved wording of Concept 5: *“The traditional Rights of Appeals and Petition protect the minority opinion and ensure the consideration of personal grievances.”*

There was a recess from 9:56 to 10:05 a.m. The assembly reconvened with the Serenity Prayer.

COMMITTEE AND CAUCUS REPORTS, AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (RDC) REPORT

The Chairperson of the Resource Development Committee (RDC), Bill B. presented the RDC report. There were no motions.

RDC Recommendations

1. That the General Service Board establish a separate, autonomous, fund to manage bequests from the estates or trusts of deceased members.
2. That the GSB InfoTech Subcommittee allocate a prime right-hand block of space on the DA home page for 7th Tradition awareness information from the Resource Development Committee.
3. That information about on-line bill paying or bank-site automatic withdrawals to DA be made available to interested members. The RDC requests that this information be added to the list of “Frequently Asked Questions” provided to the staff at the General Service Office, as well as be added to the 7th Tradition page on the website.
4. That the GSB approve sending the following five letters with the quarterly DA Focus mailings. The RDC will prepare articles for the DA Focus related to the mailings. The RDC will explore resources to translate the letters/mailings into Spanish. The mailings are:
 - John Henderson Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Birthday or anniversary celebrations for DA groups and members
 - World Service Month
 - Seventh Promise Month
 - Seventh Tradition Month
5. That the Resource Development Committee continue to develop the Treasurer Service Manual that was begun last year. The goal is to complete this project by the 2007 WSC.
6. That the General Service Board approve an “Events Service Resource” created by the RDC that is similar to Item GSB-3 “Conference Approved Literature” that includes:
 - a. Suggestions on how to have a successful fundraising event such as a step-study workshop, visions workshop, silent auction, or Fellowship Day.
 - b. Methods to reach out to newcomers, create fellowship and strengthen membership.
7. That the GSB approve a worldwide fundraising event to celebrate DA recovery around the

world. The Resource Development Committee will present an event plan to the GSB for approval.

2. PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI) COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chairperson of the Public Information (PI) Committee, Peter K., gave the PI Committee report. The PI Committee had no motions or recommendations.

The Public Information Committee will not be submitting any motions to the Convocation at this World Service Conference. The Public Information Committee will not be submitting any recommendations to the General Service Board at this World Service Conference.

In keeping with the General Service Board's request that we refocus all efforts of the Conference on our primary purpose, carrying the message of DA, not incurring unsecured debt, one day at a time, the Public Information Committee undertook the following actions:

- Developed a list of suggestions for reaching out to and supporting Debtors in isolated meetings/ areas. Some of those suggestion follow:
 - Encourage the use of on line and telephone meeting where strong face to face meetings are not available
 - Encourage strong meetings to function as "sister meetings" to offer support to new or struggling meetings and develop suggestions for such a relationship
 - Define the needs of small or weak meetings and develop specific responses to these needs
 - Increase awareness of available literature
 - Connect people with human (adopt-a-loner) resources
 - Support existing meetings in their outreach efforts through the use of the Carry the Message network
 - Encourage the use of Meeting Inventories
 - Suggest that struggling meetings consider possible changes in their meeting formats (in most cases a return to the tried and true formats discussed in the DA literature)
- We developed a draft of a media contact questionnaire and an accompanying cover letter. These drafts were submitted for General Service Board approval during the Service Conference. The GSB recommended changes in content and procedure which the Public Information Committee will implement. The concerns of the Board will be addressed and the documents amended and resubmitted for approval.
- Developed an Action Plan for carrying on the work of the Public Information Committee throughout the upcoming year. These actions include:
 - Continuing the work of the Carry the Message Network during monthly conference calls scheduled on the last Sunday night of each month. Currently there are approximately fifty Public Information Representatives across the US and Canada. Our goal is to recruit another fifty by the next World Service Conference.
 - Continue to develop and expand upon ways to expedite and facilitate our contacts with all forms of media.
 - Continue to support the work of the new Diversity Subcommittee.
- Develop literature addressing the issue of how to speak to non-debtors and communicate with professionals.

The above Action Plan will be accomplished during the course of monthly conference calls scheduled for the third Monday of each month, email correspondence and a Public Information Committee Yahoo group.

3. BUSINESS DEBTORS ANONYMOUS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson: Leslie K.
Vice Chairperson: Julie F.
Secretary: Camille W.
Treasurer: Mark L.

Motions

No motions submitted by the BDA Committee this year.

Recommendations

Business Debtors Anonymous is an integral part of Debtors Anonymous. Its members have specific issues around debting that includes their businesses. They use their common experience of how to implement Debtors Anonymous Steps, Tools, and Traditions, in order not to incur unsecured debt one day at a time, and to carry this message to the still-suffering debtor.

Break from 11:00 to 11:15 a.m.

4. CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Recommendations from the Conference Committee as a Whole

1. The Conference Committee moves that the General Service Board (GSB) provide the funding for the WSC expenses for the host committee chair for the following year, based upon the availability of adequate funds in the GSB Spending Plan. The GSB will do its best to provide at least an appropriate share of funding.
2. In the spirit of the rotation of service, the Conference Committee recommends that conference members serve on the same World Service Conference committee for a maximum

of three consecutive years. (Change from 2005 underlined.)

3. In the spirit of rotation of service, the Conference Committee recommends that the Trustees of the General Service Board serve on the same committees or in the same officer positions for a maximum of three consecutive years.
4. The Conference Committee recommends that the General Service Board (GSB) implement a web-based file-sharing system for the purpose of being accountable to, and sharing information with, the Fellowship of Debtors Anonymous before and after each World Service Conference. The General Service Board shall develop this system and related processes and procedures in collaboration with the Technology Caucus, the Conference Committee, and other committees of the Conference as may be appropriate. The GSB should begin a 12-month trial period (beta test) on or before May 1, 2007. The General Service Board and the Conference Committee must participate in this 12-month trial period, and all other committees of the Conference are encouraged to volunteer to participate in the trial period.
5. The Conference Committee recommends that each year, the General Service Board create and maintain separate lists of the following:
 - A. All motions that carry at each convocation of the World Service Conference, and
 - B. All Committee recommendations to the Board that are approved at each convocation.
6. The Conference Committee recommends that every new Trustee of the General Service Board (GSB) receive training in the management and operations of non-profit organizations and the leadership of large, diverse organizations during their first year on the GSB and all current Trustees receive similar training within one year of the passage of this recommendation.
7. The 2006 Conference Committee recommends that future Conference Committees accept candidate cities to host World Service Conferences contingent upon the approval of a

complete spending plan by the GSB Finance Committee no later than one year before the actual date the Conference begins.

Host Subcommittee of the Conference Committee Recommendations

1. The Conference Committee recommends that the General Service Board choose a broad theme concept for the World Service Conference and that the Host Committee be responsible for developing the specific wording of the theme.
2. The Conference Committee recommends that the individual groups and intergroups should be self supporting and responsible for sending their representatives to the WSC. In the event that an individual member chooses to personally and voluntarily fund part of the expense, it is allowed. Regardless of who funds their attendance to the WSC, GSRs and ISRs retain the rights of decision and participation as stated in Concepts 3 and 4 of the 12 Concepts of DA World Service.
3. The Conference Committee recommends that the WSC Host Committee hold Fellowship Day workshops on best practices for group treasurers, service people, cross-talk issues, checking accounts, group debting, and how to keep newcomers.
4. The Conference Committee recommends that the Host Committee open a separate P.O. Box ten to eleven months before the conference begins.
5. The Conference Committee recommends that groups use creative methods to raise funds to send General Service Representatives to the WSC and to grow their membership.
6. The Conference Committee recommends that the Technology Caucus evaluate the implementation of online registration for the World Service Conference.
7. The Conference Committee recommends that the World Service Conference registration packets be mailed and posted online 120 days before the Conference begins.

8. The Conference Committee recommends that the Host Committee establish a formal mentor-mentee program that matches new GSRs/ISRs with experienced delegates during the 2007 World Service Conference.

John Henderson Scholarship Subcommittee of the Conference Committee

1. The Conference Committee recommends that a DA World Service Conference GSR/ISR sample spending plan and fund raising suggestions be published in three issues (fall, winter, and spring) of the DA Focus and the Ways and Means newsletters before the 2007 DA World Service Conference.

Conference Committee Motions

Motion 1: The Conference Committee moves to amend Article 9, Amendment to the Conference Charter, to state the following: "Amendment of the Conference Charter will require that the text of such amendment be sent to the General Service Representatives of all registered groups to all registered Intergroups postmarked **ninety (90)** days prior to the first day of the annual meeting of the Conference.

Motion carried by general consent. (No count was taken.)

Motion 2: The Conference Committee moves that the World Service Conference recommends to the General Service Board that it prepare a Five-Year strategic plan by or before June 30, 2008, and present it to the 2008 World Service Conference for review and approval. The Five-Year strategic plan shall include, but not be limited to a vision for DA, a Mission Statement, Goals, Objectives, Capabilities Analysis, Trend Analysis, Action Plan, and Prosperity Spending Plan.

Motion carried by general consent.

Motion 3: The Conference Committee moves that the World Service Conference establish a Regional Trustee Selection Study Commission to evaluate the selection, by geographic and cyberspace region, of Class A debting Trustees of the General Service Board. The Study Commission will review the draft Proposal for Regional Selection of Trustees for the General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous prepared by the Conference Committee and present a final proposal concerning the regional selection

of Trustees to the 2007 World Service Conference. The members of the Study Commission will be the Chair and Vice Chair of the following Committees of the Conference: Fellowship Communications, Resource Development, Conference, and Internal Operations, or delegates elected by the same committees to serve on the Study Commission, if the Chair and/or Vice Chair do not wish to serve, and the Trustee members of the Policy and Delegate Support Committee of the General Service Board.

Motion to amend Motion 3 to read as follows: The Conference Committee moves that the World Service Conference establish a Regional Trustee Selection Study Commission to evaluate the selection, by geographic and cyberspace region, of Class A debting Trustees of the General Service Board. The Study Commission will review the draft Proposal for Regional Selection of Trustees for the General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous prepared by the Conference Committee and present a final proposal concerning the regional selection of Trustees to the 2007 World Service Conference. The members of the Study Commission will be the Chair and Vice Chair of the following Committees of the Conference: Fellowship Communications, Resource Development, Conference, and Internal Operations, or delegates elected by the same committees to serve on the Study Commission, if the Chair and/or Vice Chair do not wish to serve, and the Trustee members of the Policy and Delegate Support Committee of the General Service Board. *and other such members and outside consultants as the board may choose.*”
Motion to amend carried, 51 in favor.

Voting on the amended motion commenced.
Motion carried, 53 in favor.

Motion to establish substantial unanimity standard

The GSB Chairperson entertained a motion to establish a standard for substantial unanimity as being two-thirds of the members present.

The motion carried by general consent.
The Second Tradition is read.

The Conference Committee presented Motion 6.
Motion 6: The Conference Committee moves that the World Service Conference (WSC) accept Salt Lake City as the host city for the 2008 World Service Conference, provided that the Finance

Committee of the General Service Board approves the Spending Plan for the 2008 WSC 12 months before the conference begins.

Motion carried by general consent.

Motion 5: The Conference Committee moves that the World Service Conference (WSC) create a Diversity Caucus beginning at the 2007 WSC. The mission of the Diversity Caucus is to carry the message of Debtors Anonymous to the debtor in underserved populations and locations.

Motion carried by general consent.

Motion 4: The Conference Committee moves that the official World Service Conference schedule be amended so that the caucus meetings are held at the same time as the committee meetings.

Motion to extend debate: A motion is made to extend the debate fifteen minutes. The motion to extend debate did not receive two-thirds approval and did not carry. Debate on the motion was closed.

RECESS

The meeting was recessed at 12:30 p.m. until Sunday, August 20, at 8:30 a.m.

August 20, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

At 8:30 a.m., Sunday, August 20, 2006, GSB Chairperson Carla J. called the Convocation of the 20th annual Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference to order for the second session.

The session opened with the Serenity Prayer, and readings of the DA Preamble, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts. The agenda was adopted as presented. An announcement was made that of 82 voting delegates registered, 79 were present in the room; a quorum was 45 people.

5. HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, AND PRISONS (HIP) REPORT

Chairperson: Jean C.
 Vice Chairperson: Bill C.
 Secretary: Marci W.
 Treasurer: Nancy A.

The HIP Committee presented no motions.

HIP Recommendations

1. Post letter and flyer to DA Intergroups and DA members requesting their H.I.P. service on www.debtorsanonymous.org and DA Email lists; mail hard copies of letter and flyer to DA Intergroups and small DA groups with DA Focus and Ways & Means and local Intergroup newsletters for publication.
2. Write and encourage other DA members to write articles for Ways & Means devoted to H.I.P. issues.
3. Create an H.I.P. Information Packet for use by Intergroup representatives and DA members doing H.I.P. service.
4. Obtain GSB approval for Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") for DA Members In H.I.P. Service.
5. Gather recovery stories from DA members who have ever been confined in an institution.
6. Continue to build list of abstinent DA speakers for H.I.P. service.
7. Respond to inquiries received by WSO from prisoners and institutionalized persons; assist with inquiries received by local Intergroups.
8. Draft a form response letter to answer information requests from prisoners and institutionalized persons as well as administrators at institutions.
9. Have H.I.P. members take a commitment to selected local sites; e.g., prison, treatment facility, bad check restitution program, etc. to gain experience, strength, and hope about serving hospitals, institutions and prisons.
10. Continue to communicate with local DA Intergroups.
11. Gather experience, strength and hope from members of Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons in other 12-Step Fellowships.

6. FELLOWSHIP COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (FCC) REPORT

GSB Liaison: Peggy R.
 Members: Ruthie F., Juliet D., Stephanie A., Harvey W., Jon L., Susan S., Rick F.

The meeting was called to order and volunteers filled the following positions:

Chair: Harvey W.
 Vice Chair: Ruthie F.
 Secretary: Susan S.
 Treasurer: Stephanie A.

FCC Mission Statement

The FCC will facilitate communication between the World Service Conference, the General Service Board, the DA membership and the debtor who still suffers. This includes but is not limited to:

- The publication and editorial management of content for the Way and Mean Newsletter, Debtors Anonymous website content, and e-news (email announcement bulletin).
- Recommendation on all forms of communication within the fellowship.

FCC Recommendations

- that the GSB create an information management and approval process for website and email news content.
- that the GSB accept and act on the Technology Caucus' recommendation to hire a professional web producer.
- that all content changes and additions to the website and e-news be directed to the FCC.
- to the Internal Operations Committee -- that any group registration form request e-mail addresses.
- that the GSB research and consider the feasibility of posting a sample chapter of the Currency of Hope online.
- that the Internal Operations committee give newly registering groups instructions on how to access the Ways & Means newsletter online.
- that the Internal Operations committee ensures availability of the Ways & Means and other fellowship communications to all meetings that lack online access receive.

- that the GSB give priority to the development of the e-news announcements.
- that the GSB hire a part-time professional web content editor.

FCC Goals and Actions

1. To make the website a more effective resource and make members more aware of the website:
 1. Consider how to address the request for a speakers list and a temp sponsor list online
 2. Better visibility of online and phone meetings
 3. Increased BDA content throughout/visibility
2. To continue our work on the FAQs on the website.
 - Create bibliographical references to current FAQs.
 - Post additional FAQs.
3. To continue to grow and develop the Ways & Means.
 - Provide the W&M with its own section on website.
 - Make the “Submit to W&M” a separate white box.
 - Add date & title of current issue of W&M to home page.
 - Post past issues of W&M online.
 - Provide instructions for submitting articles on website.
 - Develop capability to directly submit article from website.
 - Add due date for submissions.
 - Spread the word the W&M is available free online.
 - Physical mailing to registered groups with paper copy of W&M and request to register online, to submit articles to W&M.
 - Expand W&M to include cartoons & other content.
 - Way to increase solicitations of articles to W&M.
 - How to contribute to W&M on website.
 - Column feature in W&M of local group histories.
 - Solicit articles from the membership in W&M on race, class & disabilities.

- Solicit an article in W&M to ask groups to adopt and use new Tools as per Tradition 1.
 - Create Loner sponsorship program in W&M.
4. To facilitate our role as web content manager.
 - Create website content guidelines
 5. To facilitate our role as manager of the e-news.
 6. To better serve the entire population of DA so that there are no barriers to full participation, whether that member be a loner, an online member, or a member of a face to face meeting.

7. TECHNOLOGY CAUCUS REPORT

Chairperson: Jon L.
Vice Chairperson: Jennifer D.
Secretary: Julie F.
Treasurer: Bill B.

Our caucus continues its commitment to be a resource for all committees and the fellowship as a whole:

The technology caucus is composed of GSRs, ISRs and Trustees who have experience with and/or an interest in the utilization and implementation of technology. Our mission is to facilitate DA fellowship communications, as outreach to the debtor who still suffers, and to develop resources that enable DA as an organization to leverage the power of technology. In addition, upon request, this Caucus will act as a resource to the Committees of the World Service Conference, the General Service Office, and the General Service Board, to recommend, and when possible, to implement fellowship-enhancing technologies. These technologies encompass, but are not limited to, website design/architecture, e-mail list services, telephone systems, conference calls, and database software.

Technology Caucus Recommendations

1. The GSB bring the searchable meeting list/database online as soon as possible, so that it becomes the single point of entry for meeting list data. We note that appropriate disclaimers need to be added to the website’s database

results pages; and that there is contract work needed to expand the searchable meeting list database so that it includes all of the information requested in the latest "Meeting Registration and Change" form.

2. The IOC and the InfoTech Subcommittee of the Board create a clear procedure and process for re-listing meetings and for adding or updating them in the new meeting list database and to have them proofed for accuracy.
3. We strongly recommend that the GSB hire a professional web production person.
4. The DA E-News (email announcement bulletin) subscription form be added to the website as soon as possible, at least on the home page, and hopefully on every page.

Break from 9:30 to 9:45 a.m.

GSB Chairperson Carla J. reminded the delegates that the committees start on Thursday [of the Conference week] and work throughout the year. When they talk about all the work that happens, these committees are the ones who do the work.

8. INTERNAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (IOC) REPORT

Chairperson: Jeffrey H.
 Vice Chairperson: Jeff G.
 Secretary: Vanessa T.
 Treasurer: Dennis H.

IOC Motion

The Internal Operations Committee moves that DA Meetings and Intergroups renew their listing annually for inclusion in the DA International Directory. The purpose of this motion is to have updated meeting information and does not affect the registered status of meetings.

Motion carried; 72 in favor, 3 opposed.

IOC Recommendations

1. The Internal Operations Committee recommends that a revised Meeting

Registration/Update Form be adopted. A proposed draft has been sent to the GSB.

2. The Internal Operations Committee (IOC) recommends that an Office Development Plan be created by the GSB and be presented to the 2007 World Service Conference.
3. The IOC further recommends that input be obtained from the IOC Office Development Subcommittee, New England Intergroup, and GSO staff members.

9. INTERGROUP CAUCUS REPORT

The Intergroup Caucus met and there were 12 participants representing 10 intergroups from the United States and Canada.

Each Intergroup gave an update on what is working in their area and what they need support with. Some of these comments were:

- Guidelines developed for temporary sponsors
- Intergroup is staying current with group contact information which makes supporting groups much easier.
- Sent letters to groups describing what Intergroup does.
- DA hotline for people in crisis with debt
- Intergroup takes meeting and PRG support to Montreal
- Quarterly newsletters by several intergroups
- Websites very active
- Intergroup office has service manual and operations manual
- Maintain list of people to speak/sponsors/PRGs/media contact
- Follow up to give support if GSRs stop attending Intergroup
- Intergroup sponsors a number of workshops and events

Copies of "How to start an Intergroup" were distributed. The pamphlet is in Literature Services.

Intergroup Caucus plans to continue work with a monthly conference call.

Tracey S. volunteered to be the Intergroup support contact person for new and existing Intergroups needing support. Her contact information will be

published in the “Ways and Means” along with a summary of the Intergroup Caucus efforts and an invitation for Intergroups to utilize her ESH.

An article will be written for the Ways and Means on “What is working in your Intergroup” and another one on “Is your area ready for an Intergroup?”

Intergroup Caucus Recommendations

- that GSB create an Intergroup-specific registration form.
- that DA develop a pamphlet on service mentoring.

10. LITERATURE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson: James Q.
Vice Chairperson: John S.
Secretary: Tracey S.
Treasurer: Diana D.

Literature Committee Motions

Motion 1: To withdraw the concept of the creation of a PRG Guide pamphlet as approved at the 2005 WSC, and instead revise the existing Pressure Relief Groups and Pressure Relief Meetings pamphlet to include more detail "nuts and bolts" suggestions on how to give a pressure relief meeting.

Motion carried.

Motion 2: To adopt the following statement regarding conference approved literature: In the spirit of clarity of the DA message and the unity called for in the First Tradition, the Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference strongly suggests that only conference approved DA literature be displayed or distributed at DA meetings. If a group chooses not to follow this recommendation, and makes non-conference approved literature available at its meeting, it is suggested that it be placed in a different area from the DA conference approved literature and that it be clearly designated as outside literature. We encourage all DA meetings to recommend conference approved literature to newcomers. We also encourage and welcome all DA meetings who have developed literature for local use to submit it

to the Literature Committee of the World Service Conference for conference approval consideration. **Motion carried; 66 in favor; 23 opposed. 89 delegates were in the room, 60 were needed for substantial unanimity.**

Motions 5 and 6 were presented as a block motion.

Motion 5: To approve the concept and outline of "BDA Business Plan" pamphlet as developed by the BDA Committee.

Debate was ended by a motion to call the question, which carried. Voting commenced on Motion 5.

Motion carried.

Motion 6: To approve the concept and outline of "BDA Numbers" pamphlet as developed by the BDA Committee.

Motion carried by general consent. 88 in favor; 1 opposed.

Motion 3: To approve the concept and outline of the “DA Basics Steps and Tools” workshop format as developed by the Capitol Area DA Intergroup.

Motion carried.

Motion 4: To approve the “Suggested BDA Meeting Format”

Debate was ended by a motion to call the question, which carried. Voting commenced on Motion 4.

Motion carried.

Motion 7: To approve the “Just For This Day” bookmark.

Debate was ended by a motion to call the question, which carried. Voting commenced on Motion 7.

Motion carried unanimously.

Literature Committee Recommendations

1. That the statement on conference approved literature along with contact information for the Literature Committee be published on www.debtorsanonymous.org, be e-mailed to the General Service Office e-communications list, and be published quarterly in the Ways and Means as well as the DA Focus during the conference year 2006- 2007.
2. That the Literature Services Board writer for the DA 12 x 12 book build on the existing manuscript and blueprint as created by the DA 12 x 12 subcommittee of the Literature Committee and use it to the extent possible for the benefit of the fellowship.

3. That a DA newcomer packet be created containing existing DA materials.
4. To allocate funds in the DA GSB spending plan to pay for Spanish translation of DA literature.

11. CLOSING BUSINESS

APPRECIATION OF HOST COMMITTEE

GSB Chairperson Carla J. thanked the 2006 Host Committee Chairperson, Anne W., who in turn thanked the members of the San Diego Host Committee and all the volunteers who gave service throughout the Conference.

TRANSFER OF GAVEL

Anne W., 2006 Host Committee Chair, transferred the Conference gavel to Pat, Marge, and Vanessa, of the 2007 New England Host Committee.

RATIFICATION OF NEW TRUSTEES

Motion: to ratify new General Service Board Class A Trustees, Jan S., Jan J., and Chris S. and Class B Trustees, Peggy R. and Mary Jane R.

Motion carried unanimously.

The new GSB Trustees accepted the pledge to uphold the duties of the role of GSB Trustee.

RATIFICATION OF RETURNING TRUSTEES

Motion: to ratify returning General Service Board Class A Trustees Aishlin O. and Willie W. for a second term of service.

Motion carried unanimously.

The returning GSB Trustees accepted the pledge to uphold the duties of the role of GSB Trustee.

OFFICER PLEDGES

Pledges were conducted for the following GSB Officers:

Deborah C. – Assistant Treasurer

Paul S. – Secretary

Willie W. – Treasurer

Aishlin O. – Vice Chairperson

Carol B. – Chairperson

The gavel was transferred to incoming Chairperson Carol B. by outgoing Chairperson Carla J.

Four departing Trustees were thanked for their service to DA:

Cookie S. and Hugh F. (Class B Trustees)

Carolyn H. and Carla J. (Class A Trustees)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and accepted.

The 20th annual Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference closed with the Serenity Prayer at 11:50 a.m.

SECTION 2

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

August 2006

This is the Annual Report of the General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous. The General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous is made up of debtors and non-debtors who desire to serve the DA fellowship in the capacity of world service. Having demonstrated ability and enthusiasm for DA service, they have been carefully recommended to the G.S.B. by their peers. After being elected unanimously by the existing G.S.B. and ratified by the Conference, these individuals are called upon by the fellowship to be “trustees” and are entrusted by the World Service Conference and the fellowship at large with the stewardship of Debtors Anonymous, the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts of service. The General Service Board handles all legal and fiduciary responsibilities required of non-profit corporations by law, handles all financial, administrative, business and policy affairs; supervises the General Service Office; and as the chief service arm of the Conference, administers and carries out the needs of the Fellowship.

The General Service Board included nine Class A debtor trustees and three Class B non-debtor trustees. The Class A trustees were Aishlin O., Alan C., Carla J., Carol B., Carolyn H., Deborah C., Jan J., Jan S., and Willie W. Our Class B trustees were Cookie S., Hugh F., and Paul S. The officers were Carla J., chairperson, Carol B., vice-chairperson, Paul S., secretary, and Carolyn H., treasurer. Cookie S. filled the role of Class B trustee on the executive committee, Hugh F. and Willie W. served as assistant Treasurer, Deborah C. served as Office Liaison and Willie served as Host Committee Liaison.

This is our annual report to the Conference and the Fellowship of our activities for the prior twelve months. We have included a revised tracking document of issues from last year’s Open Forum triage and Convocation 2005’s recommendations and motions (originally published in the DA Forum). The Committee reports and these documents will give you the overview of issues and tasks faced by the General Service Board, the

General Service Office and DA as a whole and our efforts to deal with them.

Far and above any other issue that faces the DA Fellowship today is our need for strong clarity around our primary purpose. We come together for one reason; because we are compulsive debtors and the only way we can not debt, one day at a time, is by helping another debtor practice the Twelve Steps. Any other focus waters down our message. Frankly, we are afraid for DA. It seems like members around the world want to focus on anything other than not debting. When we are willing to do anything not to debt, our underearning and compulsive spending habits are removed. Visions, prosperity, and abundance are all wonderful side benefits of not debting, but they not our primary focus. Clutter is an outside issue with its own Twelve Step program and does not have a place in DA. Procrastination, called “time-debting” by some members, is a character defect and is not part of how we define compulsive debting. Our focus must return to our primary purpose, helping other debtors by doing service. We believe it is crucial that this Conference refocus every aspect of DA back on our primary purpose. When we leave here we must be united on one simple message, “Don’t debt.” We believe if we can do that, the fellowship of Debtors Anonymous will prosper and grow.

Many other issues come before the GSB from committees, intergroups, the GSO, the Fellowship, the media, and the Conference itself. To better complete the many tasks before us we made some organizational changes. In addition to our existing committees, we divided up our Communications committee this year into separate Public Information, Info Tech, and Ways and Means committees. We also created a new Policy and Delegate Support committee to work directly on issues related to the Conference. And we created two new ad hoc committees, Archives and WSC Location committees. Reports from each will follow.

This year we held our annual Face-to-Face meeting in Houston, TX. From April 20–23, we met in Houston and completed a vast amount of work. We

were able, for the first time, to work together with the Literature Services Board in person by including them at our Face-to-Face. We also had the opportunity to attend a local DA meeting and have dinner with some of the members of the Fellowship in Houston. This annual opportunity to see and hear what different local areas of the Fellowship are dealing with is one of the best ways the GSB can learn what is working and what is not for local groups.

The DA Focus, the service newsletter of the DA was published three times since the last Conference. The DA Focus is mailed to every registered DA Group and posted on the DA web site. In each, we included an update on the work of the GSB committees, the Conference committees, and the General Service Office. Each issue also contains updated financial information and new announcements for the Fellowship.

Of course, the GSB works closely with the Conference committees throughout the year. Committee chairs worked with their liaisons to bring to the GSB and the GSO recommendations, mailings, and other proposals. This year we worked together with Internal Operations to complete the mailing and a motion for this Conference on re-registering groups; with Public Information on fielding media requests; with Resource Development on the mailings for World Service Month—our most successful one ever; with FCC on a Frequently Asked Questions for the web site; with Hospitals, Institutions and Prisons on a letter asking for related stories from the Fellowship; with the Tech Caucus on a host of Internet and Technology items; and with the Conference Committee on a WSC Site proposal, their Liaison Process, an Open Forum Reporting process, the current motion to amend the Charter, the issue of GSRs who do not participate in the work of the Conference by not joining a committee, and to accept the Conference Committee's recommendation to act in accordance with a spiritual moratorium of any action regarding changes to Article 3 of the Debtors Anonymous Charter for two years, beginning immediately after the 2005 Conference and to continue through the end of the 2007 Conference.

To better facilitate the work of the committees at this year's Conference, we have asked the Fellowship that all agenda items for this

Conference be submitted beforehand. On your registration forms, you saw that we asked that all Issues for the Conference be submitted three weeks prior to the WSC. Issues submitted to the Host Com will be available for the committees at the beginning of their sessions to better allow them to begin work in a timely manner. We will no longer generate a list of agenda items at the Open Forum. The Open Forum will continue to act as a forum for the GSRs and ISRs, but it will no longer drive the creation of the committees' agendas.

The General Service Board and I as chairperson, need to make an amend to this and the 2005 WSC. Each year we are charged with creating the Conference report including the GSB Reports, the Committee and Caucus Reports, and the minutes of Convocation. Last year's report included many errors, which we did not catch in proofreading the report. We apologize for publishing a report with so many mistakes. In particular, we apologize to the Public Information Committee, the Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee and the Tech Caucus whose reports were published from 2004. The 2005 WSC Report will need to be amended before approval at this year's Convocation.

The GSB will be submitting to you at Convocation motions to amend Concepts 5 and 6 to better define the how the we work together at the world service level. These amendments seek to clarify language to keep the spirit of each of these concepts. You will find copies of these motions in your packets. Please review them over the upcoming days.

You will also find a set of surveys to fill out. The WSC is a unique opportunity to gather information from 100 or so delegates about the Fellowship's beliefs about our primary purpose, use of conference-approved literature, the General Service Office, and how well our service structure is working. Please fill these out and return them to the registration desk before the WSC is over on Sunday. From your answers we hope to develop a qualitative picture of your perceptions of the DA Fellowship.

The upcoming year will be one of transition for the GSB. After this Conference four trustees will be rotating off and five new trustees will join the GSB. Cookie and Hugh, both Class B trustees, and Carolyn and Carla, class A trustees will rotate off. We leave the General Service Board trusting that

the spirit of rotation will bring a diversity of new ideas and new perspectives to the board. As such, you will be confirming five new trustees at Convocation. Rotation of service at the world service level is crucial to the healthy growth of our Fellowship and our service structure. We take rotation seriously because it our most powerful example of practicing principles above personalities. Otherwise we risk falling into the trap of imagining ourselves to be experts on DA and of holding on to our own pet agendas and not following the will of the higher power as revealed through the Conference group conscience. In another of those recovery ironies, only by rotating out of our world service assignments when they end, can we truly support unity at the world level.

You need to know that DA is graced to have had such committed, talented, hard-working and spiritually-grounded people serving you as trustees. We are a small group, still young enough to be faced with many growing pains and sometimes it feels like the pace of progress is glacial. Yet, when we come together on our conference calls or meet face to face, when we immerse ourselves in the Concepts, when we accomplish some

administrative milestone, when we wrestle with the best possible language for our materials, when we respond to cries for help from debtors who still suffer, it makes the thousands of emails and hundreds of hours worthwhile. As I rotate off after six years of service on the GSB, I can promise you that I have never been prouder to participate in something, as I have to have been able to serve this Fellowship as your trustee and as your chair.

The growth of the DA Fellowship is crucial to our society and to us as individual debtors. People need to see and believe that we can live without debting. This is our message of hope and we are the only ones who can share it because we have admitted that we are powerless over debt. What we do here at this Conference will reaffirm our individual recovery by ensuring that the DA Fellowship will continue carry our message of hope to the debtor who still suffers. Thank you for your service and for the opportunity to serve DA.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla J.
Chairperson, DAGSB

SECTION 3

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives Ad Hoc Committee Report

About one hundred years ago, the philosopher George Santayana wrote, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Taking this warning to heart, the General Service Board created the Archives Committee within the past year. The Board realized that, by the time of DA's 30th Anniversary, it had become necessary to start taking steps to preserve our past for those to come in the future.

The need was clear. For example, DA had records of the names of very few of our selfless servants prior to 1997. Their experience, strength and hope was about to be lost. Another example: minutes of the Board and its Committees for many years could not be found. Indeed, the status of records of our earliest World Service Conferences is still uncertain. A final example: those records which still survived were stored in cardboard cartons on shelves in our General Service Office, subject to the exposure of dust, cold and heat.

The Archives Committee decided that a two-pronged approach should be taken. First, to ensure that no additional records were lost, the Committee recommended to the Board that digital storage of our existing records be undertaken. The Board accepted this recommendation, and with the help of our Chair Carla J., has begun the process of transferring our computerized records to an on-line storage site, My Docs on Line. At a cost of approximately \$375 per year, this will eventually provide safe and convenient storage of all of our current and future documents and records.

Second, the Committee turned to the matter of preservation and acquisition of further historical materials. The Archives Committee recommended, and the Board approved—effective this fiscal year—the use of public climate-controlled storage to protect those documents already in our possession, at a cost of approximately \$750. Once this is done, the Committee hopes to turn to the business of indexing, collating and preserving these records. The Chair of the Board has written to past Trustees, seeking information on our earlier trusted

servants, and soliciting originals and copies of historical materials in their possession.

Much remains to be done, and can be done only with the help of volunteers. For purposes of indexing and preserving our existing records, we will need the help of those DA's who live in the Boston area, where our records will be stored. This includes the process of filing documents in acid free folders and the physical preservation of our more fragile items.

But beyond this, there is much room for assistance. The Archives Committee hopes to begin a collection of tapes of those who were important to our early years, and those whose memories will help cast light on our history. Any member of DA can participate in this project. We also hope to begin the process of collecting additional documentary materials. Those of you who possess early meeting lists, intergroup information, group records, flyers and literature can donate originals or copies to the General Service Office. We need help in creating lists of documents that are preserved in local or intergroup archives and in obtaining the materials necessary to assist in preservation. Eventually, we will need help in interpreting and explaining the history these records evidence.

We hope that a network of volunteers will develop, dedicated to the principle of protection and preservation of our history, so that those who come later will have a clear understanding of what went before. With such a network we can be confident that our archives will provide a clear insight into our past and a beacon for our future.

Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Carolyn H., Treasurer & Committee Chair
Hugh F., Assistant Treasurer
Carla J., Secretary, and
other members, Willie W. and Carol B.

This report is for the fiscal year of Debtors Anonymous, July 1, 2005 ending June 30, 2006.

The Finance Committee prepares and presents the annual Spending Plan to the GSB for approval. The Spending Plan for fiscal year 2006-2007 has been, for the third consecutive year, completed and approved by the GSB at the first Board meeting of the year, which was July 9, 2006.

The Finance Committee meets monthly to review the financial reports prepared by the treasurer to be presented to the GSB for approval and is prepared to make recommendations to assist the Board in making prudent spending decisions. In addition to preparing the year's Spending Plan, an important function of the committee is the 6-month review of the plan, making revisions when needed and presenting the revised plan to the Board for approval.

The Finance Committee is pleased to report the following accomplishments for the year:

- Fiscal year 2005-2006 has ended with a net income for the 4th consecutive year.
- Quarterly financial reporting to the fellowship was published in the DA Focus.
- Contributions income exceeded literature income by \$3,502. This may be a first time, and is the first time per available past records. Although the World Service Month did not reach its goal of \$30,000, WSM contributions of \$10,508 did exceed the Spending Plan by \$7,000. One individual's unanticipated single contribution of \$5,000 resulted in individual contributions exceeding plan by \$5,724. Single individual contributions of \$500 and more totaled \$10,250.
- Income exceeding the Spending Plan made it possible for the Board to approve the expenditure and adjust the Spending Plan to send three Appointed Committee Members (ACMs) of the GSB Literature Publications Committee and Literature Services Board to the board's April Face-to-Face meeting in Houston - two ACMs joined the board and the third, unable to attend, contributed remotely via teleconferencing.
- Total Assets increased from year-end 2005 by \$21,662 and the total of all Equity accounts increased by \$23,250. The GSB approved increasing the Prudent Reserve to \$35,000 and the reserve established for a future move of the

office was increased to \$15,000. The long-term goal for the Prudent Reserve is one year's expenses. We are about one-third of the way to this goal. Equity accounts, reserves and this and prior year's net income, make future projects possible.

- The cost of reprinting and shipping literature increased. Two reprinting cost increases during the year and a postal increase resulted in a GSB decision to increase the prices of most literature and the shipping and handling prices. The total cost of printing the new "The Numbers: One Approach" and reprinting of existing literature was \$23,058 for the year. It is still the long-term goal of the Finance Committee and the GSB to reduce literature prices. In order to do this, the fellowship must continue to increase individual and group contributions.
- Because of the cost increase to print literature, the Finance Committee recommended for GSB approval a revision to the funding of the literature reserve, the fund set up by the GSB to be used for the reprinting of existing literature and new pamphlets. The recommendation, approved by the GSB, increased the funding from 25% of all literature sales to 35% of all *Currency of Hope* sales and 30% of pamphlet sales.
- *Currency of Hope* sales to Amazon and Hazelden for the year totaled \$4,662.64
- The GSB approved the purchase of a much needed new computer for the GSO.
- Funding of the John Henderson Scholarship was approved by the GSB: In the spirit of John Henderson and his personal contributions to DA, all profits and contributions from Fellowship Day, beginning with the 2007 WSC, will be designated as donations to the John Henderson Scholarship Fund. This funding will be in addition to the existing request for voluntary scholarship contributions on the WSC registration form and scholarship contributions mailed to the GSO.
- WSC Committee Spending Plan: The GSB approved a \$1,000 increase – a \$6,000 total for 2006-2007. The \$6,000 will be allocated - \$250 each to the 8 committees and 2 caucuses for a total of \$2,500. This will ensure every committee and caucus at least one mailing to the fellowship without regard to the number of committee members or that you are a caucus. Using it for a mailing, however, is not its

restricted use, just a recommendation. Under the old plan, caucuses received no funding and had to solicit a committee to expense a mailing or project. The \$3,500 balance will be allocated to the eight committees based on a per capita distribution using the formula of the committee's percentage of the registered GSR/ISRs times the number of people on each respective committee. For example, if there are 110 people registered and the committee has 12 people, the committee would have 10.9% of the \$3,500, or \$381.50 plus \$250 for a total of \$631.50 for the year. The GSB recommends communication between committee chairs to "share the wealth." When a committee determines it will not use all of its funds, and when a committee wants to do a project and needs additional funds, there needs to be a means of communicating this to the GSB

Treasurer. Funds allocated to committees go unused every year by many of the committees. Other committees stop projects due to insufficient funding. Committee helping committee is the way all committees can support the work for the benefit of all of DA

- The final responsibility of the Finance Committee for the year ending 2005-2006 is, at this conference, to ensure a smooth transition of the financial duties and responsibilities to the new treasurer and the 2006-2007 Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn H., GSB Treasurer

Debtors Anonymous General Service Board
BALANCE SHEET
As of June 30, 2006

		7/01/2005 to <u>6/30/2006</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking & Petty Cash	\$	5,036
Savings	\$	109,752
Set Aside for Reserves	\$	(65,000)
Accounts Receivable	\$	5,663
Prepaid Expenses	\$	-
Conference Advance	\$	-
Total Current Assets	\$	55,451
Other Assets		
Inventory	\$	19,359
Copyright & Trademark	\$	4,339
Office Equipment	\$	2,126
Rent Security Deposit	\$	300
Total Other Assets	\$	26,124
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	81,575
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$	5,428
Ways & Means Liability	\$	905
Total Liabilities	\$	6,333
Equity		
Restricted Reserves	\$	(65,000)
Unrestricted Reserves	\$	110,697
Net Income	\$	29,545
Total Equity	\$	75,242
TOTAL LIABILITY & EQUITY	\$	81,575

Debtors Anonymous General Service Board
INCOME STATEMENT
As of June 30, 2006

	PLAN	ACTUAL
	7/01/2005 to <u>6/30/2006</u>	7/01/2005 to <u>6/30/2006</u>
REVENUE		
Literature Sales	\$ 71,150	\$ 71,806
Group Contributions	\$ 35,000	\$ 39,994
Individual Contributions	\$ 18,500	\$ 24,224
World Svc. Month Contributions	\$ 3,500	\$ 10,508
Invitation to Prosperity	\$ -	\$ 582
World Service Conference	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,399
Ways & Means Income	\$ 2,100	\$ 506
Interest Income	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,290
Misc. Income	\$ 50	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 141,300	\$ 156,308
EXPENSE		
Board Administration	\$ 5,250	\$ 4,936
Board Travel	\$ 14,500	\$ 13,455
General Administration	\$ 12,975	\$ 10,383
Office Administration	\$ 14,000	\$ 12,690
Proposed Office Computer	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,395
Proposed Office Improvements	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Literature Printing & Production	\$ 22,500	\$ 28,175
Ways & Means	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,613
Payroll Expense	\$ 56,620	\$ 53,972
Conference Committees	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,540
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 138,345	\$ 130,659
NET REVENUE OVER EXPENSE	\$ 2,955	\$ 25,650

June 2005 & June 2006 Cash Position Comparison

	JUNE 30, 2005	JUNE 30, 2006
CHECKING	\$ 9,172.49	\$ 4,836.48
SAVINGS	\$ 82,441.72	\$ 109,752.05
PRUDENT RESERVE:	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
LITERATURE RESERVE:	\$ 4,595.39	\$ 4,091.85
W&M RESERVE:	\$ 1,358.74	\$ 904.99
WSC SEED FUNDS	\$ -	\$ -
SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE:	\$ 836.59	\$ 1,122.92
BOOK PRINTING RESERVE:	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
OFFICE MOVE RESERVE:	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
UNRESTRICTED SAVINGS:	\$ 17,151.00	\$ 38,632.29
	\$ 82,441.72	\$ 109,752.05
 TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE:	 \$ 26,323.49	 \$ 43,468.77

World Service Conference Committees 2004-2005 Spending Plan

	PLAN 7/01/2005 to 6/30/2006	ACTUAL 7/01/2005 to 6/30/2006
WSC COMMITTEE:		
Conference	\$ 571	\$ 602
Fellowship-Communication	\$ 619	\$ -
HIP	\$ 286	\$ 244
Internal Operations	\$ 381	\$ 123
Literature	\$ 1,143	\$ 272
Public Information	\$ 1,048	\$ -
Resource Development	\$ 381	\$ 299
Undesignated	\$ 571	\$ -
	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,539

12 REGISTERED GSR/ISRs DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN COMMITTEE WORK

**WORLD SERVICE MONTH
COMPARISON
2003-04 TO 2005-06**

	<u>JAN-JUNE 04</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>
JULY	\$ -	\$ 268.22	\$ -
AUGUST	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,525.34
SEPTEMBER			\$ 105.00
OCTOBER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NOVEMBER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
DECEMBER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32.00
JANUARY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FEBRUARY	\$ -	\$ 119.19	\$ -
MARCH	\$ 20.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,317.25
APRIL	\$ 1,962.96	\$ 1,022.55	\$ 1,080.39
MAY	\$ 2,870.43	\$ 1,228.61	\$ 3,480.80
JUNE	\$ 670.07	\$ 283.43	\$ 2,967.20
	<u>\$ 5,523.46</u>	<u>\$ 2,997.00</u>	<u>\$ 10,507.98</u>

NOTE: JAN - DEC 2001 = \$6,975.00
 JAN - DEC 2002 = \$2,201.00
 JAN - DEC 2003 = \$2,498.00

InfoTech Committee

The Information Technology Committee of the GSB oversees technology strategy, the DA web site, email list, and other related items. Members are Carla, Carol, Deborah and Alan. We have worked closely with the Tech Caucus this year and have valued their expertise and help.

The DA web site is one of our most important resources for communicating with the Fellowship, the public and for attracting new members. In the past eight months there were over 169, 000 visitors to our site who viewed its pages more than 470, 000 times. The site received over 1.2 million hits during since January. As important as we all recognize the web site to be, building and maintaining a useful, helpful, up-to-date web site for DA has been a challenge for the GSB.

This year we took the following actions to try to improve the debtorsanonymous.org. site:

1. Alan took over as interim webmaster for the site. Howard was our previous web master, but the growing needs of the site spurred us to migrate this function to Alan who has expertise in web site development and maintenance.
2. We abandoned our original plan to transition the DA meeting database into Access. Instead we accepted and approved a proposal from the Tech Caucus to implement a MySQL database that will allow us to both manage our meeting list as well as add a searchable meeting list feature to our web site. The work has begun and we will present to you a working demo of the searchable meeting list. We anticipate the full launch of this feature shortly after this Conference.
3. We created and implemented some guidelines for posting new items on the web site. For instance, now all appropriate items approved by the GSB for distribution to the Fellowship will also be automatically posted on the web site.
4. We started the process for a full-overhaul of the web site by asking the Tech Caucus to give us their critique of the current site and recommendations for changes, new features, and other usability issues.

5. In addition to the Tech Caucus' recommendations, we have also laid out a plan to create two new positions to maintain the site, a Web Hosting Master and a Web Content Manager. The Tech Caucus is currently helping us draft job descriptions for these roles, so we can have the best people possible in these important roles. Whether these are service or paid positions has not been determined.
6. Nine FAQs provided by the FCC were added to the web site. These are Frequently Asked Questions about DA that are answered with information pulled from DA literature.
7. We cleaned up the GSO e-mail addresses, creating a new email address for the DA e-mail list, communications@debtors-anonymous.org.

In addition to the work on the web site we also created and launched the first, official DA email list. This list serve will serve as our email link to anyone wishing to receive communications from the GSO. The DA Focus is now emailed to anyone who signs up for it. We will also be creating a GSR/ISR specific email list from the email addresses you supplied on your application forms (unless you opted out), so we may contact GSRs and ISRs directly.

We also approved creating and implementing a voicemail box system based on a proposal from the Tech Caucus. They recommended and we will be using GotVmail, an online voicemail system with 5 mailboxes. This service also comes with a 1-800 number so members may call the GSO toll-free. We anticipate setting this up after this Conference.

You can see that technology needs of DA are deep and we are extremely grateful to the Tech Caucus for their help this past year. The Info Tech committee is looking for qualified GSRs or ISRs who are interested in serving as Appointed Committee members to Info Tech and ask you to consider helping us.

Respectfully submitted
Carla J.
Chair, Information Technology

Literature Publications Committee

The past year has been a busy one for Literature Publications, the committee which manages the creation and production of conference-approved literature. The members of Lit Pub are Cookie, Carol, Alan, Jan J, and Carla. Carla served as chair, Carol as secretary, Alan and Cookie as liaisons to the Literature Committee, and Cookie as liaison/chair to the Literature Services Board. The Literature Services Board is the sub-committee which manages the creation, writing and editing of literature. Its members are Pat B., Gail O., and Kelly L.

This year we published four pieces of conference-approved literature:

1. The revised Twelve Tools of DA we posted on the web site as a free download.
2. The revisions to the Telephone pamphlet were made to the first reprinting of that piece of literature.
3. Numbers: One Approach was published for the first time.
4. Corrections were made to the Anonymity flyer, which is now a free download on the web site.

Lit Pub also reassesses our body of literature based on demand from the Fellowship. Two steps we took this year were to lower the price of our poor selling audiocassette to \$2.00 until inventory is gone and to eliminate the poorly utilized Meeting in a Box. Instead groups may now purchase a DVD of the video "How to Hold a DA Meeting." We also posted the previously posted text of the "Sponsorship" pamphlet as a free download, until a revised pamphlet is available for publication.

Lit Pub is also responsible for translating literature into languages other than English. This year, for the first time, the DA Preamble, Twelve Steps of DA, and the Twelve Traditions of DA are available on the DA web site. This small, but vital step, was achieved with the help of a Spanish-speaking group who provided us with translations in Spanish. These translations were reviewed by a professional translator and then posted to the DA site. We look forward to expanding more of our offerings of literature into additional languages.

Literature Services Board

Perhaps the greatest change for Lit Pub was our experience working with the Literature Services Board (LSB) for its first full year. The LSB had phone meetings throughout the year as well as using email to edit, write and manage a large number of projects. In addition, we were grateful to be able to bring two of the three members to the Face-to-Face meeting in Houston this year. They came for two and a half days and were able to work together on current project and with the GSB for final approvals for the pieces coming to conference this year. Together we approved two pieces, which will come to this year's Literature Committee for recommendation to the Conference to be approved: the content for "Just for This Day" and the "BDA Meeting Format."

This year, the LSB worked on the following projects:

1. Edit, finalize and approve for conference approval the content for a Just for This Day bookmark
2. Edit, finalize and approve for conference approval the BDA Meeting Format.
3. Development of a Newcomer's packet
4. Revisions to the "Debt Payment & Communicating with Creditors" pamphlet
5. Development of Business Debtors Anonymous Literature
6. Collaborating with writers to finalize the DA Glossary
7. Working with the gatherers of submissions to the "DA Daily Meditation Book"
8. Editing and additional development to the "How to Start an Intergroup" pamphlet
9. Collaborating with the GSB to create a recommendation for finishing the DA "12 & 12"

The LSB was extremely successful this year and their dedication to quality and clarity of message truly has served the Fellowship well. We thank them for their work and are grateful that they use their talent and expertise for DA. They are looking for other experienced writers and editors who have been GSRs to join them. The list of literature projects is growing and we need more people willing to serve in this capacity.

Together Lit Pub and the LSB have worked hard to try to develop and improve our conference-approved literature. We look forward to working with the

Literature Committee to envision, prioritize, and bring to the Conference additional literature for the Fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla J.
Chair, Literature Publications

Nominations Committee

Greetings from the 2005-2006 Nominations Committee. The members of our committee were Paul Sherman, Hugh Freyer, Deborah Chin, and Willie E. Williams. We were so privileged to serve as your Nominations Committee this past year.

During this past year we concentrated on ways to improve the administration of the process. Here is a list of new things we implemented as a committee.

We created a series of letters for trustee candidates.

- A letter acknowledging that we received your resume and letter of recommendation.
- A letter to notify you that the GSB has approved your candidacy.
- A letter to notify you that the GSB could not come to an unanimous affirmative vote on your candidacy at this time.

During last years conference we ask each of the committees to submit names of prospective candidates. We contacted every name on that list that was submitted by you to inquire whether the persons listed were interested in going forward and making themselves available for GSB candidacy.

One of the things we do when we are selecting cities to hold our GSB Face-to-Face Meeting is to select a city in a Region where there are not a lot of DA meetings and carry the message. While in the city we also try to go to a local DA meeting there, make the GSB presence known there and really try to recruit from that area. We are always seeking a balanced representation from all areas on the Board. This year we had our Face-to-Face meeting in Houston, Texas and was successful in getting and approving a candidate from there, Chris Spofford.

In an effort to attract new Trustees we developed a list of ten reasons to become a Trustee.

They are listed as follows:

1. To give back what I've been given.
2. To help DA live, prosper, and grow.
3. To maintain my own recovery.
4. To demonstrate the power of service to transform lives.
5. To understand how our organization operates.
6. To learn how to apply the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts to our service work.
7. To gain humility.
8. To practice leadership skills in a spiritual context.
9. To work with trusted servants who are working a rigorous recovery program.
10. To remember always that I am part of DA, and DA is a part of me.

One of the other things we realized is that we did not have an established process to actions to take once a new trustee has been elected to the General Service Board so we established a "New Trustee Checklist"

After a new Trustee is approved by the GSB the following actions are needed:

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Notification of approval | Nom Com Chair |
| 2. Calling Card | Treasurer |
| 3. Trustee Manual | GSB Chair |
| 4. Minutes from past 3 calls | GSB Chair |
| 5. Reimbursement and Requisition forms | GSB Chair |
| 6. Name and Info on Roster | Secretary |
| 7. Committee Assignments | GSB Chair |
| 8. DA GSB Bylaws | GSB Chair |
| 9. Establish when joining calls & Face-to-Face | Nom & GSB Chair |
| 10. Service mentor/buddy | Nom Com Chair |
| 11. The GSR Manual | GSB Chair |
| 12. Copies of the past WSC reports | GSB Chair |
| 13. Copies of the past financial report | GSB Chair |

A new class B, non-debtor should also be provided with a complete set of literature, including the *Currency of Hope*.

This year was a true year of transition. We had the privilege of five Trustees coming forward but unfortunately we had four Trustees rotate off. We are privileged to have three Class A trustees come aboard this year. Janet Janz and Jan Slusmon came aboard at the Face-to-Face in Houston and Chris Spofford joined us here. We chose two Class B Trustees that joined us here with voice and no vote.

There are four Trustees rotating off the General Service Board at the end of this Conference and we want to thank them dearly for unheralded service to our fellowship. They are Carla J., Carolyn H., Cookie S., and Hugh F. Carla and Carolyn who are Class A Trustees have completed second terms and both Cookie and Hugh decided to rotate after their first terms ended.

We are proud to announce that we had our first two ACMs join us in Houston this year. While they were there, they were able to complete a couple of their literature projects to bring forth for GSB approval.

The GSB also approved its 2006-2007 slate of officers. They are as follows:

Carol B. (Chair)
Aishlin O. (Vice Chair)
Paul S. (Secretary)
Willie W. (Treasurer)
Deborah C. (Asst. Treasurer)

At the Convocation you will be asked to ratify the candidacy of two returning Trustee candidates for a second term. They are Aishlin O. and Willie E. W.

You also will be asked to ratify the candidacy of five new Trustees. They are Class A Trustees Janet J., Jan S., and Chris S., and Class B Trustees Peggy R. and Mary Jane R.

We had some unfinished business that we forward on to this year's committee.

- We have asked the committee to create a standard resume that each candidate can use.
- A sample recommendation letter.
- We also have two Trustee candidate resumes for them to review.

Remember, if you are interested in receiving information about "How to become an Appointed Committee Member or a member of the General Service Board" please have lunch with us on Friday.

Respectfully Yours
Willie E. Williams

Office Committee Report

Office Committee Members: Hugh F. (Chair), Deborah C. (Office Liaison), Carolyn H., Aishlin O., Paul S., and Jan S.

- In January 2006, Office Liaisons Deborah C. and Jan S. made the annual trip to visit the General Service Office.
- Helped the office staff rearrange a room the office to make it more efficient and disposed of unused furniture.
- Instituted holding regular staff meeting with the Office Liaison.
- Developed answers to frequently asked questions for our office part-time staffer, Lydia.
- The Office Manager received training in Excel.
- Lydia has attended a DA telephone meeting to better serve the DA Fellowship.
- The Finance Committee approved funds for the Office staff to buy plants to enhance the décor of the General Service Office.

Policy and Delegate Support Committee

In May of this year the GSB voted to create a new committee, which we have named Policy and Delegate Support (Members: Aishlin, Willie, Carol, and Hugh). The twofold mandate of this committee is to help streamline the World Service Conference process for new GSRs and facilitate the work of the Conference Committee by responding in a timely and orderly fashion to their suggestions.

Making the World Service Conference experience easier for the new GSRs is a work in progress. This year we had decided to have a service speaker to focus on the "how to" of our primary purpose. We have further discussed the feasibility of having a designated page at the web site for the new GSR. We are encouraging any of the new delegates to wait until the end of the conference and within the context of our present resources perhaps let us know what would have been more helpful for you.

The Board has historically been understaffed and while many of us serve on four and five

committees our sense was that a smaller venue would be more successful in dealing with this workload.

Hence we have submitted to the wisdom of the group conscience of the Conference Committee our response and suggestions on the following pieces:

1. The Proposal for Regional Selection of Trustees for the General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous.
2. The Role of the Board Liaison Document.
3. The GSR Accountability Solution.

We are all looking forward to a productive conference year.

GSB Public Information Committee

The 2005-2006 GSB Public Information Committee consisted of four members (Cookie, Willie, Paul, and Carol) who worked this past year to fulfill a multi-faceted mission. The purposes of the GSB PI Committee are to:

- Support the work of the World Service Conference Public Information Committee by helping the WSC PI Committee implement its motions and recommendations.
- Offer suggestions to the WSC PI Committee where appropriate.
- Work to increase and improve General Service Office outreach efforts to helping professionals and members of the media.
- Work with the Chair of the WSC PI Committee to field and fulfill media requests that come through the GSO.

Public Information Manual Updated

The 2005 World Service Conference approved the WSC PI Committee's suggested revisions to the International Public Information Manual. The GSB PI Committee brought the revised document to the full General Service Board (GSB) for approval, and then posted the updated version on the DA Web site as a pdf file. It can be downloaded, viewed, and printed for use by DA Intergroups, groups and individuals. The updated version contains the new media release template, a sample spending plan, and several sample outreach letters in rtf format so groups can download and add their own contact information.

Recent Media Interviews Given and Articles Published

- March: Indianapolis Woman and St. Louis Woman magazines, Chicago Tribune
- May: The Columbus Dispatch, World News Tonight at ABC News
- June: Details Magazine
- July 8: numerous "Dear Abby"s including The Monterey County Herald, Duluth Superior, Arizona Daily Star, the Sun Herald, the Contra Costa Times, and Twin Cities Pioneer Press
- July 28: MSN Money
- August: Marketplace (NPR radio show)

A Big One We Missed

- June 11: The New York Times Sunday magazine

Media Contact Position Goes Unfilled

The GSB PI Committee continues the search for a DA member to serve as Media Contact (MC). The MC is expected to take over the task of fielding requests from the media, a job currently performed by the Chair of the WSC Public Information Committee. It is hoped that by establishing the Media Contact position, the PI Committee Chair would be more available to facilitate the work of the PI Committee. Announcements about the open position were published in the 2006 Winter and Spring issues of the DA Focus.

The GSB PI Committee asked the GSB Finance Committee to consider including funds in the 2007 spending plan to bring the Media Contact to the GSB Spring face-to-face meeting and at least a few days of the World Service Conference, where the MC can actively work with the GSB to formulate, discuss, and express public information policy, as well as meet with and recruit delegates from around the country who are willing to respond to requests for interviews.

GSB Outreach Efforts

A pending action item is the implementation of a plan to mail copies of the public outreach letter (page 12 of the updated Public Information Manual) to one-hundred major media outlets. The mailing campaign will take place when a person to serve as Media Contact is found.

Ways and Means Committee

The Ways and Means is our newsletter meeting in print, a forum for carrying the experience, strength and hope of the Debtors Anonymous members, groups and service entities to the debtor who still suffers. (Committee members: Aishlin, Cookie, and Deborah.)

2005 Accomplishments

This conference year has been an exciting one for all those involved as we successfully transitioned from a hard copy circulation of less than 200 to a free down loadable file format at the DA website. We have now increased our audience from a small section of the fellowship to any member or non-member with access to a computer. We are encouraging DA members to visit the web site, download copies of the Ways and Means and take them to a meeting or intergroup. We have also now filled the last of our paid hard copy subscription orders and will no longer mail the newsletter.

Action Plan

1. We are actively trying to encourage the fellowship to submit more articles to the Ways and Means.
2. To facilitate this we have asked the InfoTech Committee of the General Service Board to consider adding "Submit to Ways and Means" as a separate white box link on the homepage along with Register Your Meeting and Online Telephone Meetings. Or add an ability to submit articles right from the website (i.e., copy text into template on web and hit Send).
3. We would further like to have links for past issues as right now you can only view the current Ways and Means.

Production Team

The Ways and Means is produced quarterly by a paid editor with the help of members of the Fellowship Communication Committee and the Ways and Means Committee of the General Service Board. All articles are freely donated by DA members for the use of Debtors Anonymous.

The editor of the Ways and Means is Kieran K. from LA. He has had the position since Spring 2003. He is contracted through Fall 2006 and is now paid \$325 per issue. The editor is responsible for soliciting content, editing submissions and coordinating the production of the newsletter. Graphic design and layout this year were the contribution of Frank W.

Challenges for the Ways & Means

Our ongoing challenge with the W&M is to collect enough articles to be able to meet our promised publication deadlines, This publication like any good meeting is dependent on the member sharing their journey of recovery. To this end we would like you the group conscience of DA to consider using this venue to carry the message to the debtor who still suffers.

SECTION 4

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

BUSINESS DEBTORS ANONYMOUS (BDA) COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 17, 2006 / First Session - 2:15 p.m.
Brittany Room / Town & Country Hotel
20th Annual World Service Conference

Willie [GSB Liaison] opened up the meeting with an introduction. Positions are nominated for and voted on:

Chair – Leslie K.
Vice-Chair – Julie F.
Secretary – Mark L.
GSB Liaison – Willie

Willie turns meeting over to [Chair] Leslie. Group begins to discuss:

Issues for the Committee to Address

Possible new literature ideas

1. BDA numbers book
2. How to start a business or finance growth w/out debting (credit card and creditor)
3. Cash flow
4. Emotional blocks to marketing
5. Business PRG pamphlet
6. BDA recordings
7. 20 Questions – Should you be in BDA? (Do you want to start an abstinent business?)
8. Clarity for business owners
9. Fees/pricing/raising prices/profit
10. How to hire people
11. Transitioning from employment to self-employment
12. Spiritual principles in running a business

Existing literature ideas

1. BDA recovery stories
2. BDA and taxes
3. BDA and marketing
4. Underearning for business owners

Prioritizing the Issues / General Issues To Prioritize

First Priority

	<u>Priority Votes</u>
Processing literature – where does it go next	3
Literature – how much of a priority	12
Communication between groups.	3
Name of BDA	2
BDA day	0
Collect BDA recordings (copywrite/price)	6

Second Priority

	<u>Priority Votes</u>
Processing literature	0
Communication within BDA groups	12
Name of BDA	1
BDA day	2
Collect BDA recordings	3

Assessing Literature Progress

Drafts Moved Out of Committee

- Separating Business and Personal Finances
- Meeting Format (to be approved at Convocation)

Completed Drafts

- BDA – The Annual Business Plan
- BDA Signposts & Tools

Partial Draft

- BDA Newcomers Pamphlet
- Debtors Anonymous Business Recovery Stories

Some of these things can be addressed in Ways & Means

Prioritizing the Literature

Literature	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Priority</u>
BDA Newcomers Pamphlet	12	1
Debtors Anonymous Business Recovery Stories	9	2
BDA & Taxes	2	
Your Value & Your Fees	3	
BDA & Marketing	5	
20 Questions for Newcomers	7	
Underearning for Business Owners	5	

Literature	Votes	Priority
Clarity for Business Owners	2	
Business PRG Pamphlet	7	
BDA Numbers Book	8	3
How to Hire employees & Other Professionals	1	
How to Start a Business or Finance Growth Without Debting	8	4
Cash Flow	1	
Spiritual Principles in Running a Business	7	
Emotional Blocks to Marketing	3	
Jumping From Employee to Self-Employed	0	

Dividing Up the Work - Subcommittees

- BDA Newcomer
- Debtors Anonymous Business Recovery Stories
- BDA Numbers Book
- How To Start A Business Without Incurring Unsecured Debt
- Inter BDA Group Communication

August 17, 2006 / Second Session / 6:45 p.m.

Sub-Committee Reports

BDA Newcomer

- Chair - Maria
- Secretary – Mary
- Treasurer - Kelly
- Participants - Evelyn, Shelley

Debtors Anonymous Business Recovery Stories

- Chair - Willie
- Secretary – Sam
- Treasurer – Mark
- Participants - Debra
- Flyer was created

BDA Numbers Book

- Chair – Tim
- Secretary – Chris
- Treasurer – Christi
- Participants – Star
- Hope to come up with a business numbers book; using the DA numbers book as foundation

How to Start a Business Without Incurring Unsecured Debt

- Chair – Shelley

- Secretary – Evelyn
- Treasurer – Melissa,
- Vice-Chair – Rick
- Participants – Camille, Dominique
- Starting brainstorming about the the problems surrounding the issue to determine a clear course of action for the sub-committee.

General Issues:

Inter BDA Group Communication

- Chair – Julie
- Participants - Rick
- Met with Fellowship Communication committee – going to lobby with that committee and liaison with that committee. Rick moves over to the Fellowship Communication Committee – will be a liaison for inter-BDA communication for the BDA committee.

Review of BDA Meeting Format Draft

Committee approves format.

Review of BDA – The Annual Business Plan Pamphlet Draft

General comments:

- Reads like business plan first, DA second. One recommendation to shift it around so that the primary focus is BDA.
- Others comment that it was plenty DA/BDA focused.
- Maybe use quotes as headers for each category to keep bringing the focus back to DA/BDA.
- When we start our business without planning, we learn in DA to apply principles – we are acting against our disease to use the tool to plan our business.

Page. 1:

- Some people may not have experience in DA personal recovery, as they may have come right into BDA
- May not be appropriate for new business start-up. Maybe add a sentence about how it's not a model for a start up plan – introductory comments issue.
- Concerns about not addressing whether or not the business is viable.

- Clarify that this is a BDA tool, not one for a bank or for starting up a business
- Clarify examples for “seek professional advice”.

Page 2:

- Revenue tied to personal spending plan.
- Add “what would business look like 12 months” not just 5 years.

Page 3:

- Use capital letters.
- Quote about “unique selling proposition”; quotes with things so that it’s a DA approach.
- Maybe something about asking our clients why they like to work with us.

Page 4:

- Mission statement – define further as a short phrase/sentence.
- Switch around client and strategy sections (?)
- Under “measurement” something surveying clients how they found out about us.

Page 6:

- Boldface S.W.O.T items.

Page 7:

- Leave year open (20__)
- Discussion about making recordings available.

Page 8:

- Math incorrect: \$600, not \$400
- Numbers just based on historical sales? Need to be grounded in reality, yet allow for vision of growth.

Page 9:

- Change product to product/service. Restructure following sentences to incorporate service.
- Talk about allowing for slow periods.
- In numbers, allow for vacation/sick time and seasonal changes.

Page 10:

- 3rd paragraph, “Did the math and saw the results”
- How many non-billable hours? Allowances for travel time?

Page 11:

Page 12:

- Add product/service.

Page 13:

- Hold off on layout of categories until size/format is decided.
- Maybe add “other, other, other” lines.
- Maybe make structure vertical instead of horizontal

Page 14:

- #4 - Alternative wording: instead of “unique selling proposition”, “unique selling advantage”

End of discussion on BDA – The Annual Business Plan Pamphlet Draft

Leslie suggests recommendations that we make to Conference:

- Unity statement: BDA integral to DA
- Facilitate focus of BDA in all communications.

Meeting adjourns.

August 18, 2006 / Morning Session
Brittany Room / Town & Country Hotel
20th Annual World Service Conference

Chair – Leslie K.

Vice-Chair – Julie F.

Secretary – Mark L.

GSB Liaison – Willie W.

Attending: Leslie, Julie, Camille, Mark, Tim, Evelyn, Willie, Maria, Mary, Rick A., Starr, Sam, Christi, Melissa, Dominique, Shelley, Kelley, Debra, Willie, Christie

BDA Signposts & Tools: Leslie will hold on to draft for now.

BDA Numbers Book: Rough draft will be done by 1 p.m.

How to Start a Business Without Incurring Unsecured Debt: just getting the oars in the water, will be working on it this year.

Discussion about financing higher education/ starting a business without debting. Is getting credentials part of this topic? Could be a section in the pamphlet about starting a business without incurring unsecured debt.

Willie calls to the Chair return to the agenda – let subcommittees discuss the details.

Misa makes the point that we communicate to the Conference that our primary focus is to help the debtor who suffers, therefore we are united with the DA focus.

Tim requests ideas for 20 Questions for Newcomers.

Julie's idea: when we come back to session, each brainstorm 3 questions to give to sub-committee about Newcomers packet.

Willie: Reminder: you will have the year to brainstorm/write/work. Maybe plan committee conference calls to keep the work going.

For Agenda later today:

- Spending Plan
- Schedule of committee meetings/conference calls.

Afternoon session starts at 1 pm.

Meeting adjourns.

August 18, 2006 / Afternoon Session

Attending: Leslie, Julie, Camille, Mark, [Rick A. (partial attendance)], Chris, Maria, Mary, Willie, Misa, Sam, Starr, Tim, Evelyn, Chrisi, Debra, Evelyn, Shelley, Willie, Dominique, Kelly

AGENDA:

- 1) Review recommendations
- 2) Approve 2 lit drafts
- 3) Form sub-committee Signposts & Tools
- 4) Update from sub-committee
- 5) Future of Chair
- 6) Spending Plan

1. Review the Recommendations:

Recommendation #1:

Business Debtors Anonymous is an integral part of Debtors Anonymous. Its members have specific issues around debting and they use their common experience of how to implement Debtors Anonymous Steps, Tools, and Traditions, in order not to debt in their businesses one day at a time.

New draft with changes from discussion

Recommendation #1 (Revised):

Business Debtors Anonymous is an integral part of Debtors Anonymous. Its members have specific issues around debting that includes their businesses. They use their common experience of how to implement Debtors Anonymous Steps, Tools, and Traditions, in order not to incur unsecured debt one day at a time, and to carry this message to the still-suffering debtor.

13 for/Recommendation with changes passes

Recommendation #2:

In order to facilitate communication between BDA meetings, and to help us in our primary purpose to reach the still suffering debtor, we ask that the GSB, Intergroups, World Service Office, and the FCC be aware of the BDA focus and facilitate communication in all their work, including maintaining accurate lists of BDA meetings.

New draft with changes from discussion

Recommendation #2 (Revised):

Motion: Drop Recommendation #2 [Tim]

Abstentions-3 / Opposed-1 / For-12

Minority opinion: Willie

Ok with vote, just think it might be good thing to communicate what this recommendation says.

Motion passes. Recommendation #2 dropped.

Review of BDA- The Annual Business Plan

Draft is reviewed by group.

Motion to approve draft: For -15/ Against - 4
Abstentions -1

Draft is approved by group and copies are passed along to the Literature Committee

Review of BDA- The Numbers Book

Draft is reviewed by group.

Proposed additions:

INCOME: (to become INCOME/INFLOW)

Gifts

Royalty

Rents

Residuals

Reimbursements

Business Investment Interest

Gratuity

EXPENSES: (Becomes EXPENSES/OUTFLOWS)

Commissions (single line it)
(FACILITIES) Capital improvements
Oil lube goes under vehicle maintenance
Add long term care insurance
Add books/recordings

(BUSINESS INVESTMENTS)

Real estate

Stocks

Capital investment

(EMPLOYEE BENEFITS)

Workers Comp

(COST OF MATERIALS)

Materials

Supplies

Direct labor

Inventory withdrawn for personal use

Motion to empower group to modify and send to
Literature Committee by 4pm.

For – 17 / Against – 0 / Abstentions – 0

Recovery Stories Book Sub-Committee

Gives hard copy of their report

Newcomer Pamphlet Sub-Committee Minutes

- 1) Discussed a pamphlet versus a packet.
Pamphlet was decided because of cost issues
and other new publications.
- 2) Other members are completing 20 Questions
- 3) Recruit interested writers for contributions to
the Newcomers' Pamphlet.
- 4) Submit existing packets from BDA groups.
- 5) Created an outline for the Newcomer's
Pamphlet
- 6) First draft of Pamphlet by December 1, 2006
and second draft by March 1, 2007
- 7) First Sunday of the month 9 a.m. PST.
October 1, 2006; January 7, 2007; April 15,
2007 and July 8, 2007

How to Start a Business Without Incurring
Unsecured Debt

Gives hard copy of their report

Need flyer for How to Start a Biz to request stories

Discussion of Spending Plan

Recommendation: freeconferencecall.com

BDA Signposts & Tools

Feedback: Good material, yet cumbersome. Need
volunteers to work on it and revise it.

Sam, Julie, Mark, Leslie

Yearly Meeting Schedule

Conference calls quarterly:

- Monday, November 13, 5pm PST – 1 hour
- Monday, February 12, 5pm PST – 1 hour
- Monday, May 14, 5pm PST – 1 hour
- Monday, August 6, 5pm PST – 1 hour

Meeting Adjourns

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chairperson: Robert P.

Vice Chairperson: Amy C.

Secretary: Donna A.

Treasurer: Michele N-H.

Members: Pat C., Lawanda C., Jo G., Marge O.,
Riva S., Richard T., Anne W.

Minutes:

Initial Meeting

Attendees: Robert P., Donna A., Pat C., Lawanda
C., Amy C., Jo G., Michele N-H., Marge O., Riva
S., Richard T., Anne W.

Liaison – Aishlin called the meeting to order at
2:15pm, August 17, 2006. Elections for service
positions held. The following people were elected:
Robert P. as chairperson, Amy C. as Vice Chair,
Michele N-H. as Treasurer, and Donna A. as
Secretary.

- Robert assumed the chair and brought forward
suggested ground rules for the 2006-2007
Conference Committee. Marge moved to
accept ground rules as stated. Seconded by
Riva. Passed unanimously.
- The committee reviewed the work of the 2005-
2006 Conference Committee.
- The committee triaged the items from the
General Service Board (GSB) list and the 2006
Conference items list.
- The subcommittees were formed as follows:

- Host Committee Subcommittee: Pat C., Marge O., Richard T., Donna A. and Anne W.
- John Henderson Scholarship Committee Subcommittee: Amy C., Michele N-H. and Lawanda C.
- Board Communications Subcommittee: Jo G. and Riva S.

Meeting recessed at 4:45pm.

Meeting came to order at 8:35pm August 17th.

- Michele moved that the Conference Committee request the unanimous consent of the World Service Conference to change the wording of the Motion to amend Article III of the DA Charter from 90 to 120 days. Seconded by Jo and Marge. Passed unanimously.
- The committee received reports from the three subcommittees after they had triaged the items from the GSB list and the 2006 Conference items list, and determined their priorities.

The meeting recessed at 9:35pm.

The meeting came back into session at 10:30am August 18th.

Note: The wording of the final Motions and Recommendations adopted by the Committee are provided at the beginning of the report. The minutes reflect an abbreviated version of them.

Donna moved that the 2007 World Service Committee create a Diversity Caucus. Seconded by Amy. Passed unanimously.

Henderson Scholarship Subcommittee

- The Henderson Scholarship Subcommittee moved a recommendation to publish a sample spending plan and fund raising suggestions 3 times in the DA Focus and the Ways and Means newsletters prior to 2007 Conference. Passed unanimously.

Host Subcommittee

- The Host Subcommittee moved that the GSB provide funding for the WSC expenses for the host committee chair for the following year. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended that the GSB choose a theme for WSC and the Host

Subcommittee be responsible for the specific wording. Vote 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstained.

- The Host Subcommittee recommended that meetings and intergroups be self supporting in regard to sending their GSR/ISR to the WSC. All GSR/ISR attendees have rights of decision and participation regardless of how their WSC expenses funded. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended no action taken to amend WSC agenda page. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended that the Host Committee offer a variety of Fellowship Day workshops. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended the Host Committee get a P.O. Box ten to eleven months prior to Conference. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended no action regarding fees for international delegates. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended groups get creative to raise funds and increase membership rather than reducing the cost of the WSC. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended that the Technology Caucus evaluate implementation of online registration. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended that the WSC registration packets be mailed & posted online 120 days prior to Conference. Passed unanimously.
- The Host Subcommittee recommended that the 2007 WSC Host Committee establish a formal mentor-mentee program that matches new GSRs/ISRs with experienced delegates.

Board Communications Subcommittee

- The Board Communications Subcommittee recommended no action on a triage item to amend the Charter at this time, honoring the current moratorium.
- The Board Communications Subcommittee recommended no action needed on a triage item to abide by the spiritual moratorium on Article III until the 2007 WSC.
- The Board Communications Subcommittee recommended no action on an issue item to allow motions to change the Charter only one year within every five-year period.

The interim 2006-2007 meeting schedule was reviewed and adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm, August 18th.

Conference Committee Spending Plan for 2006-2007

20 (500 min @ 5cpm)	
Phone Cards @ \$25	\$500.00
Copies	50.00
Office Supplies	35.00
Postage	7.80
Contingency	<u>38.20</u>
Total Spending	\$631.00

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (FCC) MINUTES

Meeting Liaison: Peggy R.

Members: Ruthie F., Juliet D., Stephanie A., Harvey W., Jon L., Susan S., Rick F.

The meeting was called to order and volunteers filled the following positions:

Chair: Harvey W.

Vice Chair: Ruthie F.

Secretary: Susan S.

Treasurer: Stephanie A.

Mission Statement

The FCC will facilitate communication between the World Service Conference, The General Service Board, the DA membership and the debtor who still suffers. This includes but is not limited to:

- The publication and editorial management of content for the Way and Mean Newsletter, Debtors Anonymous website content, and e-news (email announcement bulletin).
- Recommendation on all forms of communication within the fellowship.

Recommendations

The FCC recommends:

- a. that the GSB create an information management and approval process for website and email news content.
- b. that the GSB accept and act on the Technology Caucus' recommendation to hire a professional web producer.

- c. that all content changes and additions to the website and e-news be directed to the FCC.
- d. to the Internal Operations Committee -- that any group registration form request e-mail addresses.
- e. that the GSB research and consider the feasibility of posting a sample chapter of the Currency of Hope online.
- f. that the Internal Operations committee give newly registering groups instructions on how to access the Ways & Means newsletter online.
- g. that the Internal Operations committee ensures availability of the Ways & Means and other fellowship communications to all meetings that lack online access receive.
- h. that the GSB give priority to the development of the e-news announcements.
- i. that the GSB hire a part-time professional web content editor.

Goals and Actions

1. To make the website a more effective resource and make members more aware of the website:
 - a. Consider how to address the request for a speakers list and a temp sponsor list online
 - b. Better visibility of online and phone meetings
 - c. Increased BDA content throughout/visibility
2. To continue our work on the FAQs on the website.
 - a. Create bibliographical references to current FAQs
 - b. Post additional FAQs
3. To continue to grow and develop the Ways & Means.
 - a. Provide the W&M with its own section on website
 - b. Make the "Submit to W&M" a separate white box
 - c. Add date & title of current issue of W&M to home page
 - d. Post past issues of W&M online
 - e. Provide instructions for submitting articles on website
 - f. Develop capability to directly submit article from website
 - g. Add due date for submissions
 - h. Spread the word the W&M is available free online

- i. Physical mailing to registered groups with paper copy of W&M and request to register online, to submit articles to W&M
- j. Expand W&M to include cartoons & other content
- k. Way to increase solicitations of articles to W&M
- l. How to contribute to W&M on website
- m. Column feature in W&M of local group histories
- n. Solicit articles from the membership in W&M on race, class & disabilities
- o. Solicit an article in W&M to ask groups to adopt and use new Tools as per Tradition 1
- p. Create Loner sponsorship program in W&M
- q. To facilitate our role as web content manager.
- r. Create website content guidelines
- s. To facilitate our role as manager of the e-news.
- t. To better serve the entire population of DA so that there are no barriers to full participation, whether that member be a loner, an online member, or a member of a face to face meeting.

DA WSC FCC Spending Plan:

Allotted Funds:	\$542
Expenses:Mailings	\$300
Office Supplies	\$50
Calling Cards	\$100
Other Expenses	\$92

HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, AND PRISONS (HIP) MINUTES

Mission Statement

To carry the message of Debtors Anonymous to the still-suffering debtor confined in hospitals, recovery and other institutions, and prisons.

Motion made, seconded to accept Mission Statement as adopted by HIP Committee at 2005 Conference. Motion carried.

Treasury Report

None of funds allocated to the Committee were used in 2005.

Motion made, seconded to accept Treasury Report. Motion carried.

Election of Officers: The following slate of Officers was proposed:

Chairperson: Jean C.
 Vice Chair: Bill C.
 Secretary: Marci W.
 Treasurer: Nancy A.

Motion made, seconded to accept Officers. Motion carried.

New Business

Action Plan: The Committee prepared the following Action Plan for the upcoming 2006-2007 year:

1. Post letter and flyer to DA Intergroups and DA members requesting their HIP service on www.debtorsanonymous.org and DA E-mail lists; mail hard copies of letter and flyer to DA Intergroups and individual DA groups with DA Focus and Ways & Means and local Intergroup newsletters for publication. Create an HIP Information Packet for use by Intergroups and meetings for HIP outreach purposes.
 - a. Correct flyer with updated information.
 - b. Request that HIP letter and flyer be included in *DA Focus* and *Ways & Means*.
 - c. Research Intergroups that publish newsletters and contact editors of those newsletters to request inclusion of HIP letter and flyer.
2. Write and encourage other DA members to write articles for *Ways & Means* devoted to HIP issues.
3. Create an HIP Information Packet for use by Intergroup representatives and DA members doing HIP service.
 - a. Make final revisions to Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") for DA members in HIP Service.
 - b. Determine materials to be included in Information Packet.
4. Obtain GSB approval for Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") for DA Members In HIP Service.
 - a. Edit final version of Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") for DA members in HIP Service.
 - b. Submit "FAQs" to HIP Trustee Liaison for presentation to WSB for approval.

5. Gather recovery stories from DA members who have ever been confined in an institution.
 - a. Follow up with those who have already agreed to submit their stories.
 - b. Distribute letter and flyer requesting that those who have been confined to institutions write their story for the HIP Committee's use.
6. Continue to build list of abstinent DA speakers for HIP service.
 - a. Distribute letter and flyer requesting abstinent DA members to speak at HIP commitments.
7. Respond to inquiries received by WSO from prisoners and institutionalized persons; assist with inquiries received by local Intergroups.
 - a. Obtain form Response to Inquiries letter presently used by WSO.
 - b. Revise WSO Form Letter for this use by HIP Committee.
 - c. Decide on and if necessary, prepare enclosures to accompany HIP Inquiry Response Letters.
8. Draft a form response letters to answer information requests from prisoners and institutionalized persons as well as administrators at institutions. Gather experience, strength and hope from members of Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons in other 12-Step Fellowships.
 - a. Revise WSO Form Letter for this use by HIP Committee.
 - b. Decide on and if necessary, prepare enclosures to accompany HIP Inquiry Response Letters.
9. Have HIP members take a commitment to selected local sites; e.g., prison, treatment facility, bad check restitution program, etc. to gain experience, strength, and hope about serving hospitals, institutions and prisons.
 - a. Identify selected sites for a meeting to be brought to that institution.
 - b. Contact administrators at selected sites and learn how to best serve their institution.
 - c. Each HIP member takes a commitment to their selected site.
 - d. Each HIP member share with other HIP Committee members and the DA Fellowship the experience, strength and hope that they gained from the commitment.
10. Continue to communicate with local DA Intergroups.
 - a. Attempt to establish HIP liaisons at every Intergroup.
11. Gather experience, strength and hope from members of Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons in other 12-Step Fellowships (A.A., N.A., C.M.A., etc.)
 - a. Read A.A.'s Correctional Facilities Workbook, A.A. pamphlet "A.A. in Treatment Facilities," and various other A.A. and N.A. pamphlets and guidelines pertaining to HIP service.

Motion made, seconded to accept Action Plan.
Motion carried.

Revised Long-Term Objectives

1. Have active, thriving HIP meetings in every region and meeting area throughout the U.S.A. and Canada to conduct the important Step 12 work of bringing Debtors Anonymous to debtors confined in hospitals, treatment and other facilities, and correctional facilities.
2. Establish HIP liaison at every Intergroup and/or individual meeting.
3. Develop a pamphlet of DA recovery stories from those confined in institutions of any type.
4. Develop a plan to address the Spanish-speaking needs of the HIP community.

Motion made, seconded to accept Revised Long-term Objectives. Motion carried.

Conference Call Schedule

The Committee scheduled 12 monthly conference calls throughout the 2006-2007 term with all its members and the Committee's GSB Liaison, Chris S.

Spending Plan

The following Spending Plan for the upcoming year was developed by the Committee.

Total funds allocated	\$446.63
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Expenses

A.A. Correctional Facilities Workbook (6 copies)	\$ 60.00
A.A. in Treatment Facilities pamphlet (6 copies, download from A.A. website)	\$ ---,---
Postage – 120 pieces to be mailed	\$ 50.00
Paper	\$ 40.00
Telephone: calls, cards	\$ 60.00
Transportation	\$100.00
Subtotal	<u>\$310.00</u>
10% Contingency	<u>\$ 31.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$341.00
 Prudent Reserve	 \$105.63

Motion made, seconded to accept Spending Plan.
Motion carried.

2006-2007 HIP COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

Action Plan: The Committee prepared the following Action Plan for the upcoming 2006-2007 year:

1. Post letter and flyer to DA Intergroups and DA members requesting their HIP service on www.debtorsanonymous.org and DA E-mail lists; mail hard copies of letter and flyer to DA Intergroups and individual DA groups with DA Focus and Ways & Means and local Intergroup newsletters for publication. Create an HIP Information Packet for use by Intergroups and meetings for HIP outreach purposes.
 - a. Correct flyer with updated information.
 - b. Request that HIP letter and flyer be included in DA Focus and Ways & Means.
 - c. Research Intergroups that publish newsletters and contact editors of those newsletters to request inclusion of HIP letter and flyer.
2. Write and encourage other DA members to write articles for Ways & Means devoted to HIP issues.
3. Create an HIP Information Packet for use by Intergroup representatives and DA members doing HIP service.
 - a. Make final revisions to Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQs”) for DA members in HIP Service.
 - b. Determine materials to be included in Information Packet.
4. Obtain GSB approval for Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQs”) for DA Members In HIP Service.
 - a. Edit final version of Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQs”) for DA Members in HIP Service.
 - b. Submit “FAQs” to HIP Trustee Liaison for presentation to WSB for approval.
5. Gather recovery stories from DA members who have ever been confined in an institution.
 - a. Follow up with those who have already agreed to submit their stories.
 - b. Distribute letter and flyer requesting that those who have been confined to institutions write their story for the HIP Committee’s use.
6. Continue to build list of abstinent DA speakers for HIP service.
 - a. Distribute letter and flyer requesting abstinent DA members to speak at HIP commitments.
7. Respond to inquiries received by WSO from prisoners and institutionalized persons; assist with inquiries received by local Intergroups.
 - a. Obtain form Response to Inquiries letter presently used by WSO.
 - b. Revise WSO Form Letter for this use by HIP Committee.
 - c. Decide on and if necessary, prepare enclosures to accompany HIP Inquiry Response Letters.
8. Draft a form response letters to answer information requests from prisoners and institutionalized persons as well as administrators at institutions. Gather experience, strength and hope from members of Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons in other 12-Step Fellowships.
 - a. Revise WSO Form Letter for this use by HIP Committee.
 - b. Decide on and if necessary, prepare enclosures to accompany HIP Inquiry Response Letters.
9. Have HIP members take a commitment to selected local sites; e.g., prison, treatment facility, bad check restitution program, etc. to gain experience, strength, and hope about serving hospitals, institutions and prisons.
 - a. Identify selected sites for a meeting to be brought to that institution.
 - b. Contact administrators at selected sites and learn how to best serve their institution.
 - c. Each HIP member takes a commitment to their selected site.

- d. Each HIP member share with other HIP Committee members and the DA Fellowship the experience, strength and hope that they gained from the commitment.
10. Continue to communicate with local DA Intergroups.
- a. Attempt to establish HIP liaisons at every Intergroup.
11. Gather experience, strength and hope from members of Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons in other 12-Step Fellowships (A.A., N.A., C.M.A., etc.)
- a. Read A.A.'s Correctional Facilities Workbook, A.A. pamphlet "A.A. in Treatment Facilities," and various other A.A. and N.A. pamphlets and guidelines pertaining to HIP service.

as they were submitted to GSB for review. Jeff worked with Conference Committee who supports motion, as does GSB.

Office Procedure Manual: Brandi - Subcommittee Chair
Draft Manual distributed. Brandi also announced that she will complete her work with IOC in December.

Sign for GSO: Jeffrey – Subcommittee Chair
Presented draft template that was provided to the GSB/Office Committee, who will make final selection. Cost approximately \$30 plus cost of design time.

New Business

Howard, Office Manager, was present and asked to share about any concerns he has. Howard expressed his appreciation for the work carried out by IOC in past year as it has been helpful to office operations. Howard shared positive changes at office – new computer with Windows XP. Mailing in January to update meeting information resulted in improved database. Challenges of office as relates to systems and maintaining updated information were discussed.

Discussed ways for groups to become more conscience of group numbers, which are important for treasury allocation and accurate reporting of group contributions. Group numbers will be available on website list.

Howard asked if it would be helpful to have more FAQ's. Suggested that Office Manager and Assistant revisit the current list and expand it based on their experience.

Inquired as to frequency of requests in other languages and how those handled. Howard reported that most requests are for Spanish and people directed to Spanish on-line group. No other resources available.

Motion passed: Jeffrey to Chair Re-listing Subcommittee

Motion passed: Brandi and Mitch to Co-chair Operations Manual Subcommittee

INTERNAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday Afternoon Session

Opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Jan S. welcomed and suggested reading GSR Service Manual and introduced other Board Liaison Alan K.

Election of Officers:
Chairperson – Jeffrey H.
Vice Chair – Jeff G.
Secretary – Vanessa T.
Treasurer – Dennis H.

Jeffrey read Mission Statement from 2005 Conference. Motion made, seconded to accept Mission statement as adopted by IOC at 2005 Conference. Motion carried.

No new issues brought to IOC. Committee will focus on existing issues carried forward and new business from committee members.

Reports from 2005 Committees

Re-Listing: Jeff G. - Subcommittee Chair
Approximately 500 registered groups, created motion that meetings resubmit information annually adopted model from Chicago Intergroup. Discussion regarding distinction between registered groups and meeting listing. Jeff read two motions

Thursday Evening Session

Re-listing Motion

Jeffrey read motion previously developed for annual GSO meeting list renewal. Discussion occurred whether to include Intergroups & GSR Area groups in motion to be presented. Jan & Alan, Board Liaisons, participated in discussion as did Carla, Board Chair. Decided to include Intergroups, not GSR Area Groups. Motion discussed and friendly amendments made, resulting in following motion to be submitted to convocation.

Motion for Convocation: The Internal Operations Committee moves that DA Meetings and Intergroups renew their listing annually for inclusion in the DA International Directory.

Jan pointed out that when a motion passes, it is up to the Board when & how to implement. Agreed to develop a flyer and distribute to conference in advance of convocation that identifies motion & reasons to support it. Language developed.

Registration Form

Howard agreed to take the existing form to review and suggested having the form simplified but also used as the only method for updating information. Possibility of pop-ups when field omitted and method to distinguish DA & BDA meetings. Alan made note of these suggestions for website development consideration.

Treasury

Dennis reported that an expense incurred in 2005 (purchase of a phone card) will need to be reimbursed from this year's funds.

Motion: The phone card expense of \$16.00 incurred in prior fiscal year be paid from this year's funds.

Motion: The Treasurer can pay expenses up to \$25.00 without Committee approval.

Office Sign

The IOC prepared 3 sample signs for the front door of the GSO. Office Committee will select from the samples provided. IOC supported #2 as preferred signage.

Friday Morning Session

Motion - Follow Up

Discussed response to issues that may arise regarding motion.

- Getting an accurate list and doesn't affect voting by registered group.
- Implementation questions; how the process gets implemented, what will have to be done, response: we believe if ratified the IOC and Board will work together for best result of fellowship.

Operations Manual

Brandi made contact with Mark L. who joined the meeting and said he is willing to take our request back to the Southern California Intergroup. Mark responded to questions from committee members.

Registration Form

Howard joined group and distributed a proposed revised Meeting Registration Form. After review, it was determined that one form could work for both processes of listing and updating meetings and Intergroups.

Recommendation: IOC recommends that a revised Meeting Registration/Update Form be adopted. A proposed draft has been sent to the GSB.

IOC asks the Board that GSO information be included in the Directory with hours of operation and website information included.

Jan informed the group that DA Focus will be produced by a GSB Committee, and will be looking for Committee submissions quarterly. Deadline for submissions will be published with requests made to the Committee Chair. IOC agreed to utilize the conference call to determine content for submissions to DA Focus.

Conference Call schedule

The Committee agreed to schedule regular conference calls throughout the year.

Spending Plan

It was agreed that each member be allocated \$25 for purchase of phone card.

Office Development

Discussion to establish an Office Development Subcommittee.

Motion: Vanessa and Jeffrey to Co-Chair Office Development Subcommittee

Recommendation: The Internal Operations Committee (IOC) recommends that an Office Development Plan be created by the GSB and be presented to the 2007 World Service Conference. IOC further recommends that input be obtained from the IOC Office Development Subcommittee, New England Intergroup and GSO staff members.

Friday Afternoon Session

Office

Discussed ways in which IOC can continue to support work of the General Service Office, including expansion of local volunteer support and other resources.

IOC nominated Mitch M, Vanessa T and Mark L. for consideration of Board election.

Continuing Business

1. Registration Process
2. Subcommittee Updates
3. Office Development Subcommittee Work
4. Site Visit to Needham at 2007 WSC
5. Operations Manual
6. FAQ's

Approved Spending Plan

Telephone	\$250.00
Mileage	\$100.00
Photocopies	20.00
Postage	20.00
Office Supplies	20.00
Contingency	<u>115.28</u>
TOTAL	\$525.28

Meeting adjourned. Closed with Serenity Prayer

LITERATURE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The following were elected: Chair, James Q.; Vice Chair, John; Secretary, Tracey S.; Treasurer, Diana D.

The outgoing DA General Service Board (GSB) Liaison to the Literature Committee, Cookie, reported that during the past year it has become apparent that there is an urgent need expressed by the fellowship for a DA 12 x 12. The Literature Committee has had a subcommittee of over 40 past and present members working on this project for the past 15 years (with the exception of 1998 – 2001 when they were charged with creating the Twelve Steps pamphlet) and the GSB has concluded that using volunteers will not produce the book in the foreseeable future. The recommendation was made by the GSB to hire a professional writer and turn the project over to the Literature Services Board (LSB) of the GSB in keeping with the literature approval process that was voted on and accepted at the Convocation of the 2004 WSC. However, the decision to turn the project over to the Literature Services Board would ultimately be made by the Literature Committee. Cookie reported that if the Literature Committee decided to keep the 12x12 project, the GSB would move forward on a new “How DA Works” book and assign that project to the LSB. Cookie expressed her gratitude and the gratitude of the GSB to the many writers who have worked on the 12x12 project over the years.

Concerns were raised by members of the 12x12 Subcommittee that emails to the LSB were not answered and feedback was not received for drafts that had been submitted. The GSB liaison replied that the GSB was disappointed in the drafts and struggled with trying to come up with a diplomatic response, and they got stuck. She took full responsibility for the way the situation was handled by the GSB and made an amends to the 12x12 subcommittee.

The incoming GSB Liaison to the Literature Committee, Jan J., spent some time clarifying the new literature approval process. The Literature Committee will no longer write material. It will instead generate or develop and approve concepts and outlines for new pieces of literature to be sent to the Literature Services Board to be written by an Appointed Committee Member (ACM) and/or a contract writer. The Literature Committee will then receive drafts back from the Literature Services Board to review content and change and/or edit as needed. The Literature Committee will have the final say as to whether or not a piece

of literature is brought before the Convocation of a World Service Conference.

DA members who want to work on writing literature may apply to be a contract writer or to be an ACM. GSRs or ISRs would be required to relinquish all other DA service responsibilities in order to be an ACM, but that would not be required to be a contract writer. An ACM could be assigned a variety of projects to work on by the GSB, while a contract writer could apply to work on a specific project. Either position requires DA membership. The GSB has the authority to accept or reject applicants for either position.

It became immediately clear during the opening session of the Literature Committee that this is a year of transition. Part of the responsibility of the Literature Committee at this 2006 WSC was to discuss and clarify the Literature Committee's new role in the approval process and specifically to decide how to handle literature that was already in process before the new procedure was implemented. A decision needed to be made whether pending drafts of literature would stay in the Literature Committee and its Subcommittees of writers groups or be sent on to the LSB, and whether consequently the Subcommittees would be disbanded. It was clarified that all new pieces of literature, or ideas for literature need to come through the Literature Committee before being sent to the LSB, ie no other WSC committee can submit literature directly to the LSB. There were expressions of frustration with the lack of clarity about the process and how the change in the approval process would impact items in the pipeline.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS & RELATED MOTIONS

Spanish Translation Subcommittee

Audrey offered to the Committee a Spanish translation of *The Currency of Hope* by Mario from Argentina. The Committee decided via group conscience to submit the disc to the LSB once it is received from Audrey.

Motion: To bring a motion to the Convocation to allocate funds to pay for Spanish translation of all DA literature. Yes – 12/no – 1. Motion carries.

Motion: To disband the Spanish translations subcommittee. Yes – 0/no – 10/abstention – 4. Motion fails.

Time Issues Subcommittee

A pamphlet draft has been submitted to the LSB. No feedback has been received. Several committee members expressed an interest in working on this topic.

Motion: To disband the Time Issues Subcommittee. Yes – 1/no – 12/ abstention – 1. Motion fails.

Daily Meditation Book Subcommittee

324 submissions to date – many on spiritual principles and tools, but light on steps and traditions. Not all were keepers but some could be combined. Request that each GSR go back to home meeting and have a meditation writing party. We can piggyback flyers to groups in mailings of DA Focus and post on website and in Ways and Means. Meditations can be submitted without quotes or reflections, and will be edited by subcommittee. A strong reason for keeping the Meditation book in Subcommittee and not turning it over to the LSB is to include the variety of many DA members experience so that this project is a creation of the fellowship as a whole, and not a creation of a single writer (as it might be in the LSB).

Motion: For the Daily Meditation Book to remain in the Literature Committee. Yes – 14/no – 0 /abstention – 0. Motion carries.

Glossary Subcommittee

Submitted first draft to the LSB. No feedback received as yet.

Motion: To disband the Glossary Subcommittee. Yes – 14/no – 0/abstention - 0. Motion carries.

PRG Guide Pamphlet Subcommittee

Original idea was to create a separate pamphlet to demystify the process of giving PRGs, and to provide “how to” tips and strategies as a way of helping DA members feel more confident. On further reflection and discussion, it was decided that revising the existing PRG pamphlet would be more productive and would better serve the fellowship. Several members expressed an interest in compiling related existing materials to forward to the LSB.

Motion: To disband PRG Guide Subcommittee.
Yes – 13/No – 1/abstention – 1

Just For Today Bookmark Subcommittee

Motion: To recommend to the WSC to approve the “Just For This Day” bookmark.
Yes – 11/no – 1-abstention – 1. Motion carries.

Work was completed and subcommittee was disbanded by acclamation.

Relationships, Money and Debt Subcommittee

Several drafts have been worked on by various writers groups in the Committee. LSB rejected the most draft with concerns that it may not be a viable pamphlet for DA. The LSB revised it and has informed the Lit Com that it will be returning a revision for the Committee’s review.

Motion: To disband the Relationships, Money and Debt Subcommittee. Yes – 14/No – 0/ Abstention – 1. Motion carries.

Non conference approved literature (CAL) Subcommittee

Subcommittee was disbanded by acclamation.

Revisions subcommittee

Subcommittee was disbanded by acclamation.

12x12 Subcommittee

Subcommittee has expenses that need to be reimbursed.

Motion: To disband the 12x12 Subcommittee.
Discussion (on whether to keep the 12x12 project in Lit Com or send it to LSB):

- Sending the project to the LSB is a sign of unity within the WSC and trusting the process.
- Mindful of responding to a sense of urgency in the fellowship (sign of debting mentality) rather than taking our time to do it right. Best quality better than fastest.
- One option might be to keep it in Lit Com now and send it to LSB after completion of first draft.
- Concern that sending it to LSB will not speed up the process, rather might slow it down.
- GSB reported \$15,000 in reserve to pay a contract writer. Concern that this is not enough.
- Frustration about lack of feedback or response from the LSB when drafts were submitted.

Yes – 9/no - 4/abstention – 2. Motion carries.

Motion: To recommend to the GSB that the writer for the 12x12 build on existing manuscripts and blueprint, and use it to the extent possible for the benefit of the fellowship. Yes – 10/no – 4/abstention – 1. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

BDA Committee submitted 3 documents for consideration.

Motion: To recommend to the WSC to approve the concept and outline of the “Suggested BDA Meeting Format” as developed by the BDA Committee. Yes – 13/no – 1/ abstention – 0. Motion carries.

Motion: To recommend to the WSC to approve the concept and outline of the “BDA Business Plan” pamphlet as developed by the BDA Committee. Motion carries.

Motion: To recommend to the WSC to approve the concept and outline of the “BDA Numbers” pamphlet as developed by the BDA Committee. Yes – 13/no -0/ abstention – 1. Motion carries.

ISSUES & CONCERNS SUBMITTED BY DA GROUPS TO THE WSC:

The Lit Com received 38 issues. The committee decided by group conscience that we would determine priority by tallying high, medium or low votes on each item. Items already in process were not considered. The following 10 issues received high priority:

1. Newcomers pamphlet
2. Revise all publications to include “international” rather than “national”.
3. Beginner’s meeting format.
4. Gender neutral spirituality in DA literature.
5. Official DA step guide or workbook.
6. Step workbook based on AA big book.
7. Retirement planning.
8. Teens pamphlet.
9. Publish a business meeting format online.
10. Gather and publish an anthology of John Henderson’s writings.

MOTION:

The Literature Committee will work on the top 10 priorities and create outlines during the year for presentation to the 2007 WSC. Yes – 8/no – 7/abstention – 1. Motion carries.

MOTION:

To recommend to the GSB that a newcomers packet be created containing already existing DA materials. Unanimous. Motion carries.

MOTION:

The Lit Com will review the “Debt Payment and Communicating With Creditors” first draft during the year. Unanimous. Motion carries.

MOTION:

To thank Cookie, outgoing Board Liaison of the GSB, during the Lit Com report at convocation. Unanimous. Motion carries.

MOTION:

To approve the concept and outline of the “DA Basics Steps and Tools” workshop format as developed by the Capitol Area DA Intergroup. Unanimous. Motion carries.

MOTION:

To approve the concept and outline of the “BDA Business Plan” pamphlet as developed by the BDA Committee. Yes – 13/no – 0/abstention – 0. Motion carries.

MOTION:

To approve the concept and outline of the “BDA Numbers” pamphlet as developed by the BDA Committee. Yes – 13/no – 0/abstention – 1. Motion carries.

Literature Committee Spending Plan for 2006 – 2007:

Postage	\$350.00
Phone card/conference calls	250.00
Copies	150.00
Office Supplies	100.00
Contingency	<u>79.21</u>
Total Expense	879.21

Literature Committee Conference Call Schedule:

The Lit Com will hold teleconference call meetings on the 2nd Sunday of every month at 8:00 – 9:00 pm EST/5:00- 6:00 pm PST. The first call will be Sunday September 10th. James will set up the first

call and email the committee with the phone information and agenda.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Peter K., Woodstock, NY
 Vice Chairperson: Richard H., Burbank, CA
 Secretary: Michael M., Brea, CA
 Treasurer: Eileen M., Fairfield, CT

The Public Information Committee will not be submitting any motions to the Convocation at this World Service Conference.

The Public Information Committee will not be submitting any recommendations to the World Service Board at this World Service Conference.

In keeping with the General Service Board’s request that we refocus all efforts of the Conference on our primary purpose, carrying the message of DA, not incurring unsecured debt, one day at a time, the Public Information Committee undertook the following actions:

1. Developed a list of suggestions for reaching out to and supporting Debtors in isolated meetings/areas. Some of those suggestion follow:
 - Encourage the use of on line and telephone meeting where strong face to face meetings are not available
 - Encourage strong meetings to function as “sister meetings” to offer support to new or struggling meetings and develop suggestions for such a relationship
 - Define the needs of small or weak meetings and develop specific responses to these needs
 - Increase awareness of available literature
 - Connect people with human (adopt-a-loner) resources
 - Support existing meetings in their outreach efforts through the use of the Carry the Message network
 - Encourage the use of Meeting Inventories
 - Suggest that struggling meetings consider possible changes in their meeting formats (in most cases a return to the tried and true formats discussed in the DA literature)
 - Encourage use of the DA pamphlets as topics of discussion

- Encourage members of established groups to speak at isolated or struggling meetings
- In areas where it is not practical for an outside speaker to visit a meeting in person suggest the use of a speaker phone to bring the speaker's strength, hope and wisdom to the meeting
- Consider teleconferencing a meeting to a remote meeting
- Utilize tapes and CDs at remote meetings
- Establish contact with strong meetings

These ideas and suggestions will be worked into a pamphlet which, once it has gone through the literature process will be available to the fellowship.

2. We developed a draft of a media contact questionnaire and an accompanying cover letter. These drafts were submitted for World Service Board approval during the Service Conference. The WSB recommended changes in content and procedure which the Public Information Committee will implement. The concerns of the Board will be addressed and the documents amended and resubmitted for approval.

3. Developed an Action Plan for carrying on the work of the Public Information Committee throughout the upcoming year. These actions include:

- Continuing the work of the Carry the Message Network during monthly conference calls scheduled on the last Sunday night of each month. Currently there are approximately fifty Public Information Representatives across the US and Canada. Our goal is to recruit another fifty by the next World Service Conference.
- Continue to develop and expand upon ways to expedite and facilitate our contacts with all forms of media.
- Continue to support the work of the new Diversity Subcommittee.

4. Develop literature addressing the issue of how to speak to non-debtors and communicate with professionals.

The above Action Plan will be accomplished during the course of monthly conference calls scheduled for the third Monday of each month, email correspondence and a Public Information Committee Yahoo group.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Bill B.
Vice Chairperson: Brad B.
Secretary: Jane L.
Treasurer: Barbara B.

Members: Lindi D., Mary D., Shawn C., Thomas L.
GSB Liaison: Deborah

Motions: None.

Recommendations

1. That the General Service Board establish a separate, autonomous, fund to manage bequests from the estates or trusts of deceased members.
2. That the GSB InfoTech Subcommittee allocate a prime right-hand block of space on the DA home page for 7th Tradition awareness information from the Resource Development Committee.
3. That information about on-line bill paying or bank-site automatic withdrawals to DA be made available to interested members. The RDC requests that this information be added to the list of "Frequently Asked Questions" provided to the staff at the General Service Office, as well as be added to the 7th Tradition page on the website.
4. That the GSB approve the issuing of the following five letters to the fellowship with DA Focus mailings throughout the year. The RDC will prepare articles for the DA Focus related to the mailings. The RDC will explore resources to translate the letters/mailings into Spanish. The mailings are:
 - John Henderson Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Birthday or anniversary celebrations for DA groups and members
 - World Service Month
 - Seventh Promise Month
 - Seventh Tradition Month
5. That the Resource Development Committee continue to develop the Treasurer Service Manual that was begun last year. The goal is to complete this project by the 2007 WSC.
6. That the General Service Board approve an "Events Service Resource" created by the RDC that is similar to Item GSB-3 "Conference Approved Literature" that includes:
 - Suggestions on how to have a successful fundraising event such as a step-study

workshop, visions workshop, silent auction, or Fellowship Day.

- Methods to reach out to newcomers, create fellowship and strengthen membership.

7. That the GSB approve a worldwide fundraising event to celebrate DA recovery around the world. The Resource Development Committee will present an event plan to the GSB for approval.

Minutes

The Resource Development Committee discussed business carried over from last year's WSC, the five new issues presented to the committee from the DA groups, and new business items related to the committee's focus. The results of these discussions are represented in the seven recommendations and the issues tracking table at the end of these minutes.

During the 2006 WSC, the committee developed action plans for each project (see recommendations above) for work by the committee as a whole during the coming year. Each project will be guided by the following trusted servants:

1. Jane – Online bill pay
2. Barbara and Brad – Prosperity Appeal mailings for DA Focus
3. Bill – Treasurer's Manual
4. Brad and Bill – Events Service Resources
5. Brad – Worldwide Event

Spending Plan:

1. \$600.00, Prosperity Appeal and World Service Month mailings in the DA Focus.
 2. \$60.00, Event Service Resource printing.
 3. \$70.00, Copying of Treasurer's Manual.
- Total = \$730.00

Resource Development Committee Issues Tracking No.	Issue	Committee	Status	Explanation
112	I am concerned about getting a tax I.D. number just to have a group checking account. I never had to do that before. Does that mean we have to file tax forms with the IRS? I am burned out on paperwork. Is there another way?	RDC	This issue will be addressed by the Treasure's Manual.	This is part of ongoing work of the RDC.
113	What are appropriate fundraisers for DA meetings (for example to raise funds to send a GSR to WSC)? Are garage sales, etc. acceptable in keeping with the Traditions.	RDC	This issue will be addressed by the Event Service Resource.	This is part of ongoing work of the RDC.
114	Put together guidelines for DA groups to raise GSR funds.	RDC	This issue will be addressed by the Event Service Resource.	This is part of ongoing work of the RDC.
115	Recommend that DA members may be able to leave bequests via a will or trust to DA up to \$10,000, and that the GSB will establish a DA Foundation with the sole purpose of administering monies in this fund. Have RDC establish.	RDC	See Recommendation #1 in this report.	Input from the GSB was that it should be a separate fund and not a foundation.
74	Publish some guidelines for group treasurers on the website: how to get a Tax ID #, how to open a group checking account, how to track group finances, how to give a report.	Lit Com/RDC	This issue will be addressed by the Treasure's Manual.	This is part of ongoing work of the RDC.

SECTION 5

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE CAUCUS MINUTES

INTERGROUP CAUCUS MINUTES

8/16/06

Selected new officers. Chair: Willie W. (Seattle)

Vice-Chair: Jean C. (NYC)

Secretary/Treasurer: Beth S. (MA)

Reviewed 2005 minutes.

Created an agenda for 2006/2007

1. Starting new and supporting existing Intergroups
2. Status of "How To" literature for creating Intergroups (Jan S. will report)
3. Service Mentoring/Sponsorship
4. Retention of DA Members and Intergroup Reps
5. Registration/Listing of Intergroups
6. Selecting a contact person for supporting Intergroups. This person's email will be available on the DA website and in the "Ways and Means".

1) Starting new and supporting existing Intergroups

Willie W. – Seattle

- 15-20 people showing up at IG mtgs, up from 5-6 last year
- IG created guidelines for temporary sponsors, which has increased #'s of people sponsoring
- 12 Step Retreat weekend got people fired up about working the Steps
- Talking up the value of service : "Increase your service, increase your prosperity."
- Newsletter – "Sound Recovery"

Kris K. – Houston

- DA listed in phone book – can't leave msgs, but has recorded mtg info
- Website
- "A Day in DA" marathon helped with retention of members

Jeffrey H. – Toronto

- DA listed in phone book – mtg info, plus people can leave msgs

- Had a marathon with workshops and offered mini-prms

Vanessa T. _ Boston

- DA listed in phone book – mtg info, plus people can leave msgs
- IG position of New Meeting Support, a person responsible for direct contact
- With new groups
- IG is staying current with group contact information, which makes supporting groups much easier.
- IG selects a "New Mtg of the Month", and each IG member commits to attending that mtg at some point during the month.
- GSR/WSC scholarship fund to support groups in sending members who want to attend WSC.
- IG mtg right after the largest mtg in the area encourages visitors at IG

Peter K. - Empire State

- Encouraging groups to participate in IG
- Toll free # for DA - mtg info only
- Website most useful tool in attracting new members
- IG created a beginner's packet with mtg list and literature, makes these
- Available for all area mtgs at cost.
- Sent letters to groups describing what IG does
- Created a list for area groups of people available to do service, such as speak/sponsor/do prms

Jean C. – NYC

- 63 mtgs in area, only 8-9 attending IG regularly
- "Share Day" marathon in Nov each year
- WS fundraiser – "Longtimers' Day" marathon
- Website up and active
- DA listed in phone book – only mtg info
- DA hotline for people in crisis with debt
- Created PSA in Spanish
- Wants to increase # of events to increase participation, such as prm events

8/17/06

Continue reports from IGs.

Tracey S. – NJ/PA

- IG mtgs rotate between NJ, PA and a phone meeting. Adding the phone mtg had increased attendance at IG.
- 2 Share-A-Days/year, one in each state
- Newcomer's packet with mtg list and literature
- DA hotline – mtg info and can leave messages
- One group had taken on responding to hotline messages as a service project, this is working well.
- Quarterly newsletter – people take detailed notes at the Share-A-Day and those are turned into articles, so there's no shortage of articles!!
- "PRM Travelling Roadshow" – an event that provides a session of training on how to do and receive a prg, then a session of prg's after that.
- IG funds WSC delegates and has a scholarship fund for WSC travel as well.

Stephanie A. – MN

- 8 mtgs in area, 4-8 show up at IG on a regular basis
- Groups take meetings and prg support to distant groups on a quarterly basis.

Jan S. – Northern Lights IG, VT

- 3 mtgs comprise IG
- 2 day long events each year, drawing from other states and Montreal
- IG takes meetings and prg support to English speaking Montreal group, and a struggling group in Syracuse
- Close, supportive relationship with New England IG
- IG buys DA literature for all meetings in area, and they supply it free to newcomers

Mark L. – LA

- 87 meetings, 20-30 attend IG meetings
- List maintained of people available to speak/sponsors/prgs/media contact
- Regular workshops on special issues – couples, prgs, sponsorship, etc
- Marathons and weekend retreats
- Monthly newsletter, "Checks and Balances"
- IG office is a literature distribution center
- Follow up to give support if GSRs stop attending IG

- Website very active
- IG office has service manual and operations manual

Beth S. - Motion to recommend that GSB create an IG specific registration form. PASSED

Copies of the current draft of "How to Start an IG" distributed. GSB is in lit development Process.

IG Caucus plans to continue work with a monthly conference call. Third Wednesday of each month, at 9pm EST. The call will last 1 hour, agenda planned by Chair with input from group. First call will be 9/20/06. Beth S. will make arrangements through freeconference.com and send a reminder email to the committee ahead of time. Tracey S. is very familiar with how to set up and conduct these calls.

Tracey S. volunteered to be the IG support contact person for new and existing IGs needing support. Her contact info will be published in "Ways and Means", along with a summary of the IG caucus efforts and an invitation for IGs to utilize her ESH. She will request help with this task from other members of the caucus, if needed.

Jean C. – Motion to recommend that DA develop a pamphlet on Service Mentoring. PASSED

8/18/06

Willie W (Chair), Beth S., Susan T., Mark L., Stephanie A., Rick F., Jan S.

IG Caucus has 2 recommendations for WSC

1. Recommendation that GSB create an IG specific registration form.
2. Recommendation that DA develop a pamphlet on Service Mentoring.

Rick F. Representing meetings in Fairfield, CT (suburban NYC) and Long Island

- Many meetings in the area, but they are very insular, no real understanding of working together for the common good.
- Who will do all the work of creating an IG? I don't want to do it alone.
- Where do I start?
- Area mtgs do prg events and vision fairs occasionally.

Feedback for Rick:

- Share your vision and how an IG can serve area mtgs and carry the message.
- Ask for help in starting IG.
- Use bylaws of strong IGs to help start.
- Participate in the monthly IG Caucus call for ongoing support.
- Utilize the ESH of Tracey S., the new IG support contact.

*****For reimbursement of out of pocket expenses approved by the IG caucus chair, incurred while doing IG caucus business, you must submit a legible, itemized receipt to the treasurer, Beth S., within 30 days of your expense. Phone cards to cover caucus calls are an approved expense.*****

We are looking for people to write articles for “Ways and Means” on IG related topics. Some of our ideas include:

- What’s working well for your IG?
- Are you ready for an IG?
- What is an IG?
- How does being a GSR benefit my personal recovery?
- How would your group benefit from being part of an IG?

The Monthly IG conference call time had been changed! We will have the call on the 3rd Wed of each month at 9:30 PM ET, instead of 9:00. Beth S. will arrange the call and send out a reminder email. Willie will create the agenda for the call.

SPENDING PLAN

\$250 FOR 2006-2007

Phone cards for conference calls	\$ 75
Mailings	50
Other expenses	100
Contingency	25
Total	250

ACTION PLAN FOR 2006-2007

1. Publish IG support contact information (Tracey S.) in “Ways and Means” and “DA Focus”.

2. Set up monthly conference call account on freeconference.com. Inform group of monthly call information, agenda, logistics.
3. Monthly IG Caucus conference call: 3rd Wed of the month at 9:30 PM ET
4. Further investigate how to support participation in IG and maintain new members.
5. Develop guidelines for how to run successful IG meetings that inspire GSRs to continue attending on a regular basis.

Thank you all for doing great service! You ROCK!!! Talk to you in September!

TECHNOLOGY CAUCUS MINUTES

Chairperson: Jon L.
 Vice Chairperson: Jennifer D.
 Secretary: Julie F.
 Treasurer: Bill B.

Our caucus continues its commitment to be a resource for all committees and the fellowship as a whole:

The technology caucus is composed of GSRs, ISRs and Trustees who have experience with and/or an interest in the utilization and implementation of technology. Our mission is to facilitate DA fellowship communications, as outreach to the debtor who still suffers, and to develop resources that enable DA as an organization to leverage the power of technology. In addition, upon request, this Caucus will act as a resource to the Committees of the World Service Conference, the General Service Office, and the General Service Board, to recommend, and when possible, to implement fellowship-enhancing technologies. These technologies encompass, but are not limited to, website design/architecture, e-mail list services, telephone systems, conference calls, and database software.

Technology Caucus Recommendations

5. The GSB bring the searchable meeting list/database online as soon as possible, so that it becomes the single point of entry for meeting list data. We note that appropriate disclaimers need to be added to the website’s database results pages; and that there is contract work needed to expand the searchable meeting list

database so that it includes all of the information requested in the latest “Meeting Registration and Change” form. The IOC and the InfoTech Subcommittee of the Board create a clear procedure and process for re-listing meetings and for adding or updating them in the new meeting list database and to have them proofed for accuracy.

6. We strongly recommend that the GSB hire a professional web production person.
7. The DA E-News (email announcement bulletin) subscription form be added to the website as soon as possible, at least on the home page, and hopefully on every page.

Robert Perry of the Conference Committee discussed his motion for a file sharing pilot program and the Tech Caucus agreed to collaborate with the Conference Committee on the implementation, if approved at Convocation.

In response to the Board Liaison, the Tech Caucus will recommend appropriate methods to ensure database backup for the searchable meeting list/database and the DA website.

The Tech Caucus confirmed that the new web hosting account will be legally registered to DA

SECTION 6

2006 ISSUES AND CONCERNS

DA groups, Intergroups, and individual members sent the following items to the 2006 World Service Conference (WSC) to be considered by the WSC Committees, the General Service Office, and the General Service Board. Each item begins with the committee or DA entity to which it was assigned.

1. **BDA:** We get newcomers who ask about business owners who want to take a loan to start or grow a business, for example buy into a franchise or real estate investment where they don't have the start up capital; Is there a way to take a bank or investor loan the DA way and retain solvency (other than a 2nd mortgage or re-finance using a home as collateral)?
2. **BDA:** Request more info/focus on BDA issues
3. **BDA:** Approve the personal Numbers booklet and create a business numbers booklet with appropriate business categories.
4. **BDA:** BDA-specific CDs of BDA speaker panels.
5. **Conference Committee:** Our group needs guidance on allowing--or expecting--the GSR to make up the difference in funding for the trip to WSC. Should the group try to reimburse the GSR, or is that debting? Is there a concern about a GSR in this situation having too much of a personal stake or agenda, rather than a perspective of representing the group's conscience?
6. **Conference Committee:** On Fellowship Day, have a workshop to share group ESH on best practices for treasurers, service people, and group issues like crosstalk, how to get the GSR to come back to the meeting, how to keep newcomers, how to open a checking account, what to do if the group debts, etc.
7. **Conference Committee:** For the next host committee, could you please add another column on the agenda/calendar page for us to write in the appointments we make during the WSC. It's hard to keep track of where I'm supposed to be at what time with what subcommittee because there's no place to write it down.
8. **Conference Committee:** That we want DA give 120 Days official advance notice of proposed amendment changes rather than the proposed 90 Days.
9. **Conference Committee:** How can we make the conference more affordable? We are a group of 3-4 members. It is costing over \$2,000 for us to come this year. We would each have to donate about \$11/week for a year just to come...that does not include donations for our rent, literature, etc. We have been saving for 4 and 1/2 years and had \$820 so far.
10. **Conference Committee:** Re: the JH Scholarship fund: For any location that is hosting a convention, it is suggested that they set up their PO box in time to receive applications that are sent on time.
11. **Conference Committee:** Notify all scholarship applicants whether funds are available or not, and say thank you for applying.
12. **Conference Committee:** Holding the WSC in a hotel is nice but expensive, and results in smaller groups or individuals not being able to attend.
13. **Conference Committee:** Because next year's Host Com chair is expected to attend the WSC, financial support should be provided for them to attend.
14. **Conference Committee:** The principle of rotation should apply to all GSRs and ISRs at the WSC. Delegates should be limited to two 3-year terms and limited to a maximum of 3 years on any one committee.
15. **Conference Committee:** Changes to the DA Charter should only be permitted during a one-year "window" every 5 years. This would allow the WSC to focus on real DA business not just frivolous proposals.
16. **Conference Committee:** Investigate possibility of having virtual GSR service via teleconferencing or web-based service, so small groups would have a voice and a vote at WSC.
17. **Conference Committee:** Regionalization of method to select Trustees, and more important, to encourage more service and growth of DA members at regional, Intergroup, group, and personal level. The Conference Committee's proposal should be given careful consideration when it is presented to the WSC.
18. **Conference Committee:** Please try to keep the cost of the WSC to under \$1200. This one will cost us \$1500 including airfare.
19. **Conference Committee:** Reduce conference fees for international delegates.
20. **Conference Committee:** Scholarship application must be received no less than 90 days prior to early registration deadline to allow adequate time for clubs to apply.
21. **Conference Committee/GSB:** That we want the WC Registration Packets by March 1 of each year. This gives us more time to plan the money we need to attend the WC. As it stands: The packet coming in late May, just too short of a time for small groups to gather the money. It creates too much of a crunch for small groups to come up with the large amounts of money for the expenses. If you want us small groups to attend, we need more time re: Registration Packets.
22. **Conference Committee/GSB:** Please move to an online, totally electronic registration system for the world service conference which allows for electronic payment, online using paypal. Rationale -Less data-base entry since registrants enter their own data. Separate data fields go to separate sub committees - Henderson to scholarship people, Registration to registrar, Rooming to the room coordinator, food to the person dealing with menus, etc.
23. **FCC:** In regards to the above 3 issues (race, class, disabilities in DA), more articles in newsletters, PR, specific workshops at conference.
24. **FCC:** Please issue an announcement to groups to adopt the new Tools, as per Tradition 1.

25. **FCC:** Keep a speakers list and temporary sponsor list.
26. **FCC:** Have a hotline for newcomers to call and talk to a real live recovering debtor.
27. **GSB:** Can we please define "debting" and "not debting." How do we use the words "abstinence" and "solvency" in light of the east coast/west coast split? What does the word "recovery" mean in DA? I think this is too important for just the Literature Committee to decide.
28. **GSB:** Make past issues of the DA Focus available online so we can go back and look up stuff.
29. **GSB:** If a person hasn't incurred any new debt by charging or bouncing checks, but continues to accrue finance charges and interest every month on existing debt, is that considered "new debt"? Is it debting?
30. **GSB:** We need guidance on using the DA name when we have local fundraising events. When is it ok to use the DA name to identify ourselves?
31. **GSB:** Publish a spending plan format online.
32. **GSB:** Our Business Meeting voted: 64.9% That DA literature be made available online to download free of charge.
33. **GSB:** That we want our DA Office to accept electronic payments for literature and donations
34. **GSB:** That the Public Information Committee of Debtors Anonymous:
- a) create and maintain an up-to-date list of all DA Intergroups and their contact information, and
 - b) contact (by e-mail, phone, or letter) each DA intergroup at least twice each year to exchange information about requests/contacts from local and national media, helping professionals, and all others."
35. **GSB:** As debtors we need clarity about all aspects of money, and as debtors we resist and rebel against anything that feels restrictive of our "freedom" or feels like an authority telling us what to do. We also tend to avoid dealing with some issues because they are too controversial or difficult. Consequently, we have no formal consensus or clear definition of what constitutes incurring unsecured debt. Both individual DAs and groups in NJ and PA are asking for this clarity. As a practical matter, we need to have agreement; because many of our service positions require 90 days or more of not incurring unsecured debt and we need to have confidence in our trusted servants. Also, the lack of a definition is confusing for newcomers. One example is that many don't realize that paying bills late is debting. I myself didn't hear that for the first time until I had been in the program for at least 1 year. One long-timer doesn't accept late bill paying as debting because it isn't written in a pamphlet anywhere, and he regularly gives PRGs. In NJ/PA intergroup and as part of a group inventory in my home meeting, we are in the process of discussing this issue and I'd like to share the "suggested guidelines" we have come up with so far. We have positioned these first as positive actions we take to be solvent, rather than negative actions we take to debt. We are asking for guidance and feedback from the World Service level. We are solvent today if: 1. We use cash, debit cards or checks to pay for all our transactions. We do not use credit cards. 2. We only write checks when we have funds available at the time of writing. We do not bounce or float checks. 3. We pay for goods and services when we receive them, for example a doctor visit. 4. We only borrow funds when we secure the loan with collateral such as a house or other asset. 5. We consistently pay our bills by the due date. The actions listed above are based on a list that was passed around at the New York World Service Conference in 2002. It was widely circulated among GSRs and ISRs at the conference, and a consensus developed that it is an excellent way to define solvency. It was felt that it covers 99.9 % of situations in which solvency might need defining. This is the list that was circulated: You can be considered solvent if: You have not used a credit card today; You have not bounced a check today; You have not borrowed anything without collateral today; You have not used any goods or services without paying for them today; and You have not paid a bill late today. Here is a comment from a GSR in a small PA meeting: Wanted to share with you the responses from my group about the solvency suggestions you circulated. So many people were beating themselves up with their own ideas about solvency, we felt such relief when we read the list. It was awesome. So many didn't volunteer for service because they felt they had to be perfect [in record keeping, having PRGs, etc] and didn't meet DA solvency guidelines. Some also have questions about losing solvency: For the purpose of service positions, is there a difference between a slip and full relapse? For example, does one lose solvency by paying a bill one day late? Some members who are also in the OA fellowship have mentioned that in OA there is a distinction between slip and abstinence. What about the very widespread practice of waiving solvency requirements just to get service positions filled? Of course, we know that groups are autonomous etc, but it would be great to have guidance. So, thanks for considering this topic. May we have the courage to boldly, compassionately and gently move through this! See you next month! "
36. **GSB:** Make the Steps and Traditions gender neutral instead of "He", "Him"
37. **GSB:** The DA office accept electronic payments for literature and donation. (Example: PayPal)
38. **GSB:** Please have the let the conference hear from you form be an electronic form available online throughout the year.
39. **GSB:** How do we get members to serve? I have been doing almost everything for this group for 4 and 1/2 years and am ready to quit! I have asked for help from the group over 2 years ago, they said they would help and then don't. I have no more trust of these members and am not willing to do it all anymore.
40. **GSB:** Make the 12 Steps gender neutral.
41. **GSB:** Make the 12 Steps religion neutral (suggest use of higher power instead of God).
42. **GSB:** Define Solvency. Our literature refers often to solvency but never defines it.
43. **GSB:** How do we get more people excited about service?
44. **GSB:** How do we retain "old timers"? Can we somehow study who and why members "drop out"?
45. **GSB:** It is suggested that a system to be put in place where DA literature, such as Currency of Hope, can be borrowed and returned, like a library book.
46. **GSB:** It is suggested that Jerrold Mundis book, "How to Get out of Debt, Stay out of Debt and Live

- Prosperously be added to DA's list of approved literature.
47. **GSB:** In the new Numbers One Approach booklet include a section above the expenses for earning and income.
 48. **GSB:** the WSC agenda is very ambitious, and longer than it used to be to allow for more free time, yet it doesn't seem like additional free time is available; are we time debting?
 49. **GSB:** I would like to put DA literature on I-Pod format; very convenient for people.
 50. **GSB:** Please use Paypal for electronic payment of literature.
 51. **GSB:** Put the basic DA pamphlet online--it's the closest thing we have to the Big Book.
 52. **GSB:** Put all pamphlets in one publication or sell a binder to put them in.
 53. **GSB:** Put all pamphlets on tape and CD.
 54. **GSB:** Please have database of all open meetings online, updatable by the GSR.
 55. **GSB:** Literature is expensive when sent abroad. Is there a way to address this?
 56. **GSB:** How should recovering debtors reestablish credit effectively? How to build a good FICO score; what is the program's strategy?
 57. **GSB:** Jerry Mundis book should be conference approved.
 58. **GSB:** A book that consolidates all the pamphlets as a Big Book?
 59. **GSB:** Define solvency more clearly. What about late library books or late bills?
 60. **GSB:** Establish training programs in non-profit organizational management for Trustees. Require all new board members to attend such training during their first year on the Board.
 61. **GSB:** Use a professional mediator to help resolve serious issues that divide the fellowship from the Board. Just as the parliamentarian has made a huge difference to the WSC, a mediator could do the same for Board-fellowship critical issues.
 62. **GSB:** Use coaches, experienced in non-profits and 12 Step recovery, to help Board members encourage their own growth as leaders.
 63. **GSB:** Have the Board take annual leadership training courses based on Kouzes & Posner Five Practices of Leadership--the Leadership Challenge. A DA member Robert P. is certified provide the course, and is willing to donate his services.
 64. **GSB:** The Board Treasurer and GSO should set up and offer the ability for DA members to do automatic donations to DA with auto withdrawals from their bank accounts. Many prosperous members would enjoy the convenience and be willing to do so. It would also help the Treasurer and GSO work more efficiently and accurately. The Board could require a minimum monthly amount (\$20-25) to reduce bank fee impacts and it could establish maximum withdrawals/limits to avoid any member exceeding the maximum allowed donation.
 65. **GSB:** Establish a non-profit foundation separate from the current Board of Trustess, as AA already has done to reduce and manage one-time bequests from estates of members who have prospered through DA after, and only after, they have died. I believe that as the spirit of a DA member continues to prosper with his/her higher power after death, their earthly resources can continue to help prosper the fellowship. The foundation made of debting trustees, DA members, and non-debting trustees would invest the bequests as a prudent reserve for the fellowship and give to the Board only the annual interest accrued by the principle. This would establish a perpetual and solid prudent reserve that would help the fellowship carry the message through good and bad times.
 66. **GSB:** Transparency of Board decisionmaking processes and results. Accountability of Trustees to the fellowship for their actions and of the Board for its performance.
 67. **GSB:** defining solvency across the entire country, not one version for East coast, and one for West.
 68. **GSB:** add the Word postal code to zip code indications.
 69. **GSB:** Please have the GSO offer banners of the Steps and Traditions for sale. We currently modify AA banners by hand, but we want real DA banners.
 70. **Intergroup Caucus:** What if there was an Intergroup newsletter, sort of like the DA Focus, accessible from the DA website, that could talk about regional issues and group issues? Our Intergroup has issues that I'm sure other Intergroups have dealt with, maybe if we had a method to share our ESH it would help everyone.
 71. **Intergroup Caucus:** that the Intergroup Caucus of Debtors Anonymous contact (by e-mail, phone, or letter) each intergroup at least twice each year to exchange information about caucus work and intergroup issues.
 72. **Intergroup Caucus:** Is there an Intergroup or some way we can be more connected? We are alone in Fairbanks, Alaska.
 73. **Intergroup Caucus:** We need help encouraging groups to participate in Intergroup meetings.
 74. **Literature/RDC:** Publish some guidelines for group treasurers on the website: how to get a Tax ID #, how to open a group checking account, how to track group finances, how to give a report.
 75. **Literature:** In order to make the steps more inclusive, and as alternative to changes in the charter & changes to the wording of the steps & traditions, we offer the following alternative: AT THE TOP OF EACH PAMPHLET OR PAGE WHERE WE PRINT THE STEPS, STATE: The steps of Debtors Anonymous are modeled after the original 12 Step recovery program, Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). The text of AA, published first in 1939 states "Here are steps we took which are suggested as a program of recovery:" AT THE END OF THE STEPS STATE: As an invitation to ALL, whom we openly welcome into DA, we offer these thoughts about a power greater than ourselves as quoted from "We Agnostics" pp 46-47 in the text of AA: "As soon as we admitted the possible existence of a Creative Intelligence, a Spirit of the Universe, underlying of the totality of things, we began to be possessed of a new sense of power and direction, provided we took other simple steps... To us, the Realm of Spirit is broad and roomy, all inclusive; never exclusive or forbidding to those who earnestly seek... When, therefore we speak to you of God, we mean your own conception of God. This applies too, to other spiritual expressions which you may find in this book. Do not let any prejudice you may have against spiritual terms deter you from honestly asking yourself what they mean to you." In DA we honor BOTH the

- historical wording of these steps while also honoring our members' liberty to choose wording meaningful to each of us individually. ALTERNATIVE AT THE END OF THE STEPS STATE: As an invitation to ALL, whom we openly welcome into DA, we offer these thoughts about wording as quoted from "How it Works" p.63 in the text of AA: "The wording was of course, quite optional so long as we expressed the idea, voicing it without reservation." In DA we honor BOTH the historical wording of these steps while also honoring our members' liberty to choose wording meaningful to each of us individually.
76. **Literature:** That we want an official DA Step Guide and/or DA Workbook.
 77. **Literature:** Are there any plans to write literature or have discussions about retirement planning?
 78. **Literature:** Publish a business meeting format online.
 79. **Literature:** Create an assortment of pressure relief meeting formats, and then put one or two of them online for free.
 80. **Literature:** We want an official DA Step Study/Tool Workbook: We want the Steps integrated with the financial tools. Many of us use the Southern Cal. Non-Conference Step Study Guide. Perhaps this could be a starting point? Incorporating using the 12 Steps of DA Pamphlet?
 81. **Literature:** Create literature dealing specifically with race issues in DA.
 82. **Literature:** Create literature dealing specifically with economic class issues in DA.
 83. **Literature:** Create literature dealing specifically with disability issues in DA.
 84. **Literature:** Literature on specific tools, with member stories of ESH on working the tools.
 85. **Literature:** Members have expressed interest in seeing a DA "Day by Day" meditation book put out by DA.
 86. **Literature:** We wish to submit this document ""DA Basics"" (PDF) with supporting documents (Word and Xls and PPT) and encourage the literature committee to incorporate it's contents in the development or expansion of future literature items.
 87. **Literature:** Change "spending plan" to Earning and Spending Plan in all literature. Earning and spending are equally important for recovery and prosperity.
 88. **Literature:** Consider adding "Action Partners" as a tool. In NY this is widely used, not well known.
 89. **Literature:** How about a book of essays on the Tools, written by DA members.
 90. **Literature:** Now that abstinence is no longer a Tool, how about a book on abstinence; essays from DA longtimers.
 91. **Literature:** More literature on a variety of DA topics: visions, recovery from underearning, etc.
 92. **Literature:** Create a singleness of purpose card to read at meetings, similar to AA's blue card to help us observe the 5th Tradition.
 93. **Literature:** A book of essays on the Tools.
 94. **Literature:** For the literature committee: an alternative to the movement to degenderize the Steps, a proposal to add several quotes from the AA Big Book on a spirituality that is "roomy and inclusive" and open to interpretation by each member. Phase in with new printing of each pamphlet or book, don't throw out all current lit.
 95. **Literature:** Meditation book: take one year and have an email subscription that would send any DA member a different sample meditation each morning and each evening. We could form an online newsgroup where members could give feedback on the meditations.
 96. **Literature:** Restore "abstinence" to the Tools.
 97. **Literature:** gather and publish an anthology of writings of John H our founder, like As Bill Sees It.
 98. **Literature:** Format for beginner's meeting.
 99. **Literature:** Recommend that the GSB and the Literature Committee develop a new process for literature approval. The current process does not allow the WSC to see or comment on literature that has been developed. Establish a Literature Development Board to review suggestions for new lit, bring recommendations, develop literature, obtain pre-publishing copyrights, post developed literature on the website for 6 months prior to WSC. Alternatively the WSC should grant autonomy to a Literature Board once the concept, topic, and general outline of proposed new lit has been approved. Include a new Approval disclaimer. Review process in 2 years. Delegates to WSC outside the GSB and Lit Com should be part of the process.
 100. **Literature:** Workbook/guide on how to work the Steps in DA.
 101. **Literature:** Gender-neutral spirituality in DA literature.
 102. **Literature:** Pamphlet on couples--how to handle finances when married/partnered re: bank accounts, lending each other money, etc.
 103. **Literature:** Daily reader for DA with meditations for each day of the year.
 104. **Literature:** Pamphlet outlining how ADD can contribute to DA. See attached list of ADD traits.
 105. **Literature:** Review all documents to include international references rather than "national."
 106. **Literature:** It is very hard to find a sponsor; sponsors only seem to take one sponsee, but often PR people take on 4 or 5 pressurees.
 107. **Non-issue:** Our group approves the 90-day Charter amendment motion.
 108. **Non-issue:** Maybe the "time debtors" could do a "separate but related" spin off like BDA did. Or maybe they should start their own program like Underearners Anonymous did. I think it's confusing to newcomers to hear about time debting. Ditto self-debting.
 109. **Non-issue:** Issues with debting and clutter seem to run hand and hand with some members in the DA fellowship. One member states, "I have many cluttered financial records that can't be understood clearly. There is a mixture of financial clutter and general clutter, which becomes expensive due to constantly having to duplicate things." Since the two issues of clutter and compulsive debting/spending seem to be common, it is suggested that there be workshops and/or literature that can effectively address both issues.
 110. **Public Information:** How to reach out to the debtor who still suffers in isolated areas
 111. **Public Information:** How do we do outreach without promoting?
 112. **RDC:** I am concerned about getting a tax I.D. number just to have a group checking account. I never had to do that before. Does that mean we have to file tax forms with the IRS? I am burned out on paperwork. Is there another way?

113. **RDC:** What are appropriate fundraisers for DA meetings (for example to raise funds to send a GSR to WSC)? Are garage sales, etc. acceptable in keeping with Traditions.
114. **RDC:** put together guidelines for DA groups to raise GSR funds.
115. **RDC:** Recommend that DA members may be able to leave bequests via a will or trust to DA up to \$10,000, and that the GSB will establish a DA Foundation with the sole purpose of administering monies in this fund. Have the RDC establish policies and procedures for this to occur.
116. **Technology Caucus:** Get a private password-protected online web service where previews of upcoming literature could be published for interested members to reflect and offer feedback.
117. **Technology Caucus:** Make the DA website home page less cluttered, and more exclusively oriented to the still suffering debtor. Have links to other info aimed at current Das or GSRs but don't busy up the page with newcomer and member/GSR stuff all on one page.

2006 Committee and Caucus Rosters

(Please respect our anonymity.)

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Christi S.
Christy S.
Debra P.
Dominique B.
Evelyn E.
Julie F.
Kelly W.
Leslie K.
Maria R.
Mark L.
Mary D.
Melissa-Misa A.
Rick A.
Sam B.
Shelley T.
Starr R. H.
Timothy G.
Willie W.

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Anne W.
Donna A.
Jo G.
Lawanda C.
Marge O.
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Pat C.
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Riva S.
Robert P.

Fellowship

Communications

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Rick F.
Ruthie F.
Stephanie A.
Susan S.

Hospitals, Institutions, and

Prisons

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Jean C.
Marcy W.
Nancy A.
Patricia S.

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Jeff G.
Jeffrey H.
Kara O.
Mitch M.
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Office Manager

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Liz G.
Maryann M.
Ruth E.
Ted S.
Tracey S.

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Susan T.

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Tracey S.
Vanessa T.
Willie W.

Technology Caucus

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Jennifer D.
Jill P.
Jon L.
Julie F.
Ruthie F.