

**v cv Responses to Issues & Concerns from the Fellowship  
from the 2010 D.A. World Service Conference**

CC = World Service Conference committee

GSB = General Service Board committee

NOTE: A number of issues & concerns were responded to at the conference by assigned committees. These responses have already been published in the 2010 World Service Conference Report, available for download at [debtorsanonymous.org](http://debtorsanonymous.org).

**Issue 10-01 GSB-InfoTech**

CITY: Brookline MA

GROUP NAME: Steps, Tools, & Resources of Entrepreneurship

GROUP NUMBER: 102

ISSUE for the D.A. World Service Conference:

With the goal of carrying the message of DA recovery to the widest possible audience, we propose that DA follow the example of Alcoholics Anonymous ([www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)) and post the text of all DA conference approved pamphlets on the DA web site in a read-only format.

**RESPONSE:** Because individual and group contributions cover only about one-fourth of DA's annual spending plan, the Fellowship is dependent on the sale of pamphlets and other literature to cover its costs. Better than 50 percent of our revenue comes from such sales--without them there would be no General Service Office or many of the other services DA offers to its membership. However, a large number of non-revenue producing pieces of literature are available on DA's web site for viewing and/or free download. This includes most of DA's service literature, and several recovery pamphlets that have been discontinued because of poor sales.

CITY: Minneapolis GROUP NAME: South

Minneapolis D.A. GROUP

NUMBER: 1101

Issue 10-02 CC LitCom

We need a Big Book! Big Book and 12 x 12 specific to D.A. (like O.A. has) Big Book, 12&12,

**RESPONSE:** "The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of DA" is currently being written. An author has been hired, who has submitted eight steps so far for review by the Literature Publication Committee. The approval and publishing process is scheduled to continue to timely completion. A "DA 12-Step Study Guide and Workbook" is planned to follow the finished 12+12. A DA basic text, "How It Works," is in

Phase I of the literature publication process. An author will be hired when the fellowship has sufficient resources. The "Currency of Hope" has been reviewed by the Literature Committee to update before its next printing; revisions are being proposed for approval to the 2010 World Service Conference. The Literature Committee is discussing what should constitute the "Big Book of DA," pending completion of the above-named books already in process. Members are advised to continue using the Big Book of AA as a basic text, substituting DA-related words for alcohol-related terms, at least until a recommendation is made for a DA Big Book. The Literature Committee is discussing what should constitute the "Big Book of DA," pending completion of the above-named books already in process. Members are advised to continue using the Big Book of AA as a basic text, substituting DA-related words for alcohol-related terms, at least until a recommendation is made for a DA Big Book. LitCom has discussed these issues in great detail. We are recommending to LitCom 2011 that the Basic Text be made a priority over the Meditation Book. We are also recommending it as a 3rd Edition of the Currency of Hope. We are also discussing what might constitute the Basic Text/Currency of Hope.

**Issue 10-03 GSB- LIT PUB**

GROUP NAME: Prosperity BDA (internet group)

GROUP NUMBER: #1136

ISSUE for the D.A. World Service Conference:

Over the past several years, we have had a "DA Primer" posted to the group by a member (the poster does refer to it as a "DA Primer" in the body of the work and in subsequent discussion) It arrives in 21 consecutive emails over several days and is copyrighted. Controversy has arisen each time it has been posted as some group members consider it literature and contrary to DA Traditions regarding non-DA approved literature, while others consider it a legitimate share as it includes some of the poster's own experience.

The list members engage in cross-talk and lengthy discussion in the process of sorting this out each time it appears. In an attempt to settle the matter, it was suggested that the topic be moved to the business meeting (on a separate list) and a motion made to clarify the group conscience. For that reason, the following motion was made during the June 2010 business meeting:

Motion 1: That any copyrighted and/or published work posted to this list be first submitted to and approved by the World Service Conference of Debtors Anonymous. This motion was passed.

Clarification is requested on defining "literature" in line with DA Traditions and group conscience, as well as guidelines in handling such disputes. Further clarification is requested regarding copyright: It was pointed out during discussion of the motion that all email posts to any list-server are automatically copyrighted and therefore, any and all posts to the list would be in violation of the group conscience as expressed by the motion. As a result, some members have declined to post so as not to be in violation of the group conscience, while others have written a statement ceding copyright to DA. Although there is expectation that the motion will be rescinded in the next business meeting to avoid this complication, clarification on the rules of copyright as it applies to DA is requested. Thank you for your service, Sheila

#### **Issue 10-04 GSB Com Com**

CITY: Worldwide telephone meeting

GROUP NAME: DA and Health Issues

GROUP NUMBER: 1176

We are writing to request that the DA World Conference begin to address the urgent needs of DA members with health issues, such as by creating literature on DA & Health Issues. Debtors with health issues have a special place in DA. We have higher expenses (because of our medical expenses), but less ability to generate income, than other DA members. In fact, outside of DA, most people who choose bankruptcy do so because of medical debts. This issue is critical in order to address DA's primary purpose: to stop debting and to help the debtor who still suffers. DA members with health issues have difficulty achieving abstinence from debting, even after years in DA. Our lack of abstinence affects our local DA groups and DA as a whole. Meanwhile, we feel shame and may even withdraw from DA because of lack of understanding. For this reason, we request your urgent attention. Because of our health issues, we cannot attend the World Conference to urge our case. We are, however, submitting a concept to the Literature Committee (attached) for a piece of literature on health issues. We urge both the Literature Committee and the membership at large to support our request. Thanks to each of you for your service. --Tuesday DA & Health Issues Telephone Meeting (Group #1176)

**RESPONSE: Thank you for your concern. Would you be willing to write a summary of this letter for Ways & Means to invite discussion of how D.A. members use the Steps and Tools to resolve health issues without incurring unsecured debt?**

#### **Issue 10-05 CC-Conf Com**

CITY: Minneapolis

GROUP NAME: Saturday Prosperity DA

GROUP NUMBER: 276

Issue for the DA GSB:

We request that the GSB create a motion to change the charter to require that the World Service Conference approve any subsequent votes to change the charter or change the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions or the Charter of DA. The only way to stop these costly, constant attempts to override the previous decade of votes is to free the DA Fellowship from the tyranny of a few. To do this, the charter must be changed to require that any votes be approved by the WSC.

Thank you for your service.

#### **Issue 10-06 CC- FCC**

CITY: Minneapolis, MN

GROUP NAME: South Minneapolis DA

GROUP NUMBER: 276

Outreach and support for the newcomer. Growth of fellowship

#### **Issue 10-07 CC- CONFERENCE COM**

CITY: Dallas

GROUP NAME: Prosperity

GROUP NUMBER: 364

*What progress was made on this issue? Did not find anything in DA focus about this. Suggest or strongly recommend that GSR terms begin & end in July. Even if a new GSR is elected in January, and may want a bit of time to get up to speed by meeting with the exiting GSR, have the official term begin in July, right before yearly conference. That way the incoming GSR knows they are attending conference & can plan, but start actual work on the conference -year calendar. Each conference we form committees in August. Certain committees I have served on loose a half to a third of the members due to GSR terms ending at the first of the following year. This reduces the work that gets finished and the 3rd & 6th year GSR's have valuable experience that is lost for 8 months of the subsequent conference year. This year is a great example...from December on we had HALF to a THIRD of our committee members working.*

#### **Issue 10-08 CC-Lit Com and GSB ComCom**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

ONE MORE TIME: Officially declare Under earning, Clutter, and Work a holism as outside issues and begin the process of removing all mention of these from DA literature. Debtors and the assorted stragglers we have accumulated have lost site of the fact that DA is *NOT* a "support group" for generic "money trouble." This is especially problematic for debtors trying to recover in fellowship with under earners. I have a lot of friends in my DA community who went to DA for years but never really debted, just under earned & lived in poverty. They worked & worked DA but did not progress very much. Then UNDEREARNERS ANONYMOUS was founded. It is still pretty small & most meetings are on the phone. Here is the thing: DA friends of mine who spun their wheels in DA for years started working the 12 steps from the Big Book, but for *under earning*. These UA's began using their UA tool of keeping a TIME record rather than a SPENDING record. All of them had DRAMATIC transformations as a result of working the steps specifically

on under earning; SEPARATE from Debtors Anonymous, *with fellow under earners*. I did not want to see my under earner friends in my DA community go away from DA...As a debtor given to grandiosity; I wanted a BIG EXPANSIVE FELLOWSHIP. I sure did not want to be alone with this disease. But I was a total failure as a sponsor to an under earner. WHY? Because of step 1. That thing that I do, even when I know better, even when I see all the trouble it causes, and even when I want to stop, but can't, THAT IS THE THING I AM powerless over. For me that is compulsive debt. But when I exhibit *under earning symptoms*, I notice them and just quit doing them. I have the will power to stop. I lack the needed empathy to be helpful because compulsive under earning is not my disease. So, no UA should ever settle for debtor-me; any more than they should settle for less money than needed. Here is how I have seen the DA fellowship shoot itself in the foot: The real grandiose debtors tend to bite off more than they can chew. In that vein, we debtors took on the attempt to help the still suffering under earner, *even though we are not under earners ourselves*. WE DEBTORS give in to the false thinking that we are just trying to be inclusive and expand the fellowship. But we do not understand the UA disease, and we *over-obligate the DA agenda to a problem where we can never be helpful, the same way us debtors incur debt we can never repay. The under earner's pamphlet is a well meaning but wrong-headed distraction from compulsive debt recovery.* What I have heard in my own fellowship is, many UA's share they just do not relate to the shopping, spending, debt accumulation and other acting out shared by debtors. But the raw poverty of the UA is not a safe space for the wealthy grandiose debtor to share the shameful compulsion for conspicuous consumption, any more than the UA needs to be in the rather intimidating environment of those high spenders. And many debtors share, after the meeting, that they feel MORE shame listening to the impoverished UA's, so much so that a lot of them go out and *binge spend right after the meeting*. Many real debtors wind up at a "DA" meeting where the purpose has been co-opted by the under earners' agenda. The real compulsive under earner, in my experience, is typically not compulsively debting at all, but, just like they settle for less money than needed, they settle for DA. (If the under earner is not debting, how can he or she have a desire to stop debting?)The REAL Compulsive Debtor does hear his or her symptoms and does not stay. The still suffering debtor does not see hope and the *DA primary purpose is lost*. THE THING IS, BOTH addictions result in a *circumstance*: "MONEY TROUBLE." *But the addiction that CAUSED the money trouble is very different*, as I witness it. But we both have a common *circumstance* to co-miserate about and so our addictive minds get distracted & deceived. What happens in meetings when these two addicts collide, is there is a lot of co-miserative sharing about *crappy circumstances*, but no clear defining of what the compulsion IS or the solution to stopping it. The cunning baffling powerful thing is, *anyone* can benefit by recording expenses, compiling numbers in columns and categories and planning spending. *So many who wind up at DA find our pamphlets beneficial*. But that does *not* mean necessarily that they are *addicted* compulsive debtors who MUST take the 12 steps. The way this appears to me is: BOTH DIS-EASES are valid, but unique.... The "admitting;" the sharing, the confessing of one is significantly different from the other. WE BOTH DESERVE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT to share the exact nature of wrongs committed. We both need to be off the hook for the expectation that we are 100 % helpful to each other. We each have DIFFERENT ESH and that it OK. The two groups cannot be expected to fully empathize with each other and *that is OK*. Both need to own that limitation and reclaim their own fellowships. Each of us must explore what we may be *most* powerless over.

What belongs in the phrase in step 1: "We admitted we were powerless over "\_\_\_\_." *If it is not compulsive debt, under earners may be struggling in DA because DA is not the treatment & tool kit they really need*. It is time for Debtors Anonymous to reclaim its primary purpose for suffering DEBTORS and *let go of other agendas*. DA, it is time to release the under earning agenda & under earning literature to a separate fellowship -from Anonymous. Member of Group 364 Dallas TX *This issue is resubmitted as last conference's response, while appreciated, was not fully aligned with DA's primary purpose.*

*Please do not give this issue to only lit com. This goes to our primary purpose and reason for DA's existence. It should be addressed by the fellowship as a whole.*

*Please cease publishing the underearning pamphlet as a DA piece, consider releasing it to UA, and REMOVE references to this and other outside issues from all DA lit.*

**RESPONSE:** *Thank you for sharing your concerns. This is clearly an issue on which many will have strong opinions in DA. We strongly suggest that you submit a version of these comments as a contribution to the feature "My 2 Cents" in the Ways & Means. Hopefully it will attract more people to contribute to the Ways and Means and open the topic up for more debate.*

*Thank you for a very well-argued concern, your point is well-made. Although surveys of GSRs (see Debtors Anonymous Five Year Plan 2009-2014) have shown that a lot of DA members feel underearning is an outside issue, the same surveys also show that many members disagree. The Literature Committee will put the item on its agenda, to see if the Committee supports making a motion to the 2011 Conference for consideration.*

*Follow up:*

The committee has carefully considered these concerns and does not support making motions to the 2011 conference.

We cite our preamble which states: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop incurring unsecured debt." and "we neither endorse nor oppose any causes".

Debtors arrive in D.A. for a variety of underlying symptoms. Sometimes, D.A members will find that they need additional 12-Step Groups to address more deeply an underlying issue contributing to their debting. Sometimes, they arrive from other 12-Step Groups.

Our Primary Purpose is to stop debting and to carry the message to the debtor who still suffers.

We believe that our Preamble is sufficient to help members remind members and groups of our Primary Purpose.

If a person finds that his/her primary issue is one of underearning, gambling, cluttering or other behaviors rather than compulsive unmanageable debting, he or she may want to explore the specific 12 step programs that exist for those addictions. Some may want to work more than one program for separate addictions. If however, the primary problem is debting and the other behaviors exist to enable the debting and/or are symptoms of debting addiction, then DA is the appropriate program.

### **D.A. literature acknowledges symptoms of debting:**

#### **Preamble:**

“ The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop incurring unsecured debt.” and “we neither endorse nor oppose any causes”.

#### **D.A Signpost 10:**

Overworking or underearning: Working extra hours to earn money to pay creditors; using time inefficiently; taking jobs below your skill and education level.

#### **Pamphlet: 12 Steps of D.A.**

Introduction states: “As compulsive debtors, we experienced the pain of our debting behaviors. Our debting may have manifested in our lives in the form of unpaid credit card debt or student loans, compulsive shopping, or chronic underearning.”

#### **PRG/PRM Pamphlet:**

Paragraph: Action: “As the pressure is relieved in pressure relief meetings, we see many other actions we can take. These might include setting up a job interview, asking for a raise, or getting information on medical coverage.”

#### **Just For Today Bookmark:**

Just for this day, I will ask my Higher Power to remove my compulsion to debt, underearn, or overspend. I am willing to go to any lengths not do debt today.

#### **A Word to Newcomers:**

Our Newcomers' Welcome message states: "If you are having problems with money and debt ... then you have come to the right place and we can help you."

#### **Issue 10-09 GSB-LRP**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

What progress has been made RE: Find ways to encourage all groups to have an acting GSR even if they do not send them to conference. Encourage year round participation in world service committee work via phone & e-mail.

**RESPONSE:** *Thank you for your concern. To address your first point: GSRs and ISRs, as well as Trustees, are involved in the Board-sponsored Regional Forums, which are intended to foster service at the world level. Three forums were held in the Conference year 2009-10, three will be held in 2010-11 (Phoenix, New York City, and San Francisco), and three more are planned for 2011-12. To your second point: The "GSR/ISR Service Manual," available on the website and distributed to delegates at the WSC, was revised a few years ago to state explicitly that the delegates' commitment is expected to continue throughout the Conference year. In addition, the GSB sponsors a series of conference calls for delegates new to the WSC, but open to all D.A. members. Each call focuses on an aspect of World Service. The telephone workshop is announced via eNews, which members can sign up for on the home page of [www.debtorsanonymous.org](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org) Locally, area GSRs can invite current and past delegates to speak at Fellowship Days and at fundraisers to send GSRs to the WSC. By explaining the work and spiritual rewards of the Conference, these delegates can inspire others. Individual meetings can display The D.A. Focus at literature tables and make it a priority to elect active GSRs.* rev. and approved by LRPC 11/29/10

#### **Issue 10-10 GSB- INFO TECH**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

**STILL NEEDS ATTENTION:** Have the Tech Caucus, FCC Committee, Internal Operations Committee and the corresponding DA GS board members begin the process of "weaning" DA of commercial advertising-supported web hosting services. Examples would be conference committees or registered online DA meetings utilizing Yahoo or Google news groups that carry advertising. These are not 'free.' They are supported by outside advertisers. Although the membership lists are supposed to be anonymous they really are not. Commercial hosting providers use the interests on these news groups to market to advertisers. Increasingly, both on the home pages AND in the postings of DA newsgroups, commercial services are advertising paid debt retirement counseling and other types of services to debtors. Many of our newcomers have their first contact with DA online. If that online meeting is full of ads, it is as if they walked into a meeting room plastered with posters for payday loans, credit card consolidation and bankruptcy companies, AND members passed out business cards soliciting such services. DA, more than other addiction fellowships, needs better vigilance about breaches of 7th tradition: getting 'something for nothing' is TOXIC for the debtor. Using Yahoo & Google groups because 'everyone does it' is a 'fudging' of our guidelines that is sick debtor brain candy and must be avoided. Request DA members' postings for online groups observe the 11th tradition not have a business signature at the end of such emails. Especially if the individual is in a debt service related business, this is just another debtor "flavor of fudge." We must never appear to the new, suffering debtor as if we charge for our services. DA needs a spending plan that includes full web hosting with a closed DA website, DA's own newsgroups and even DA's own anonymous user ID's and email boxes for all GS board & WSC committee members, all supported by our own contributions. The benefit would also be that all files of the committees could be stored on these DA owned

newsgroups, assuring continuity of the work. We need especially to ask our phone & online meetings to more regularly and proactively request 7th tradition donations. Just because there is no room rent does not mean there are no expenses, DA has just not been paying them. ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO ADDRESS THIS DURING THIS YEAR But we are not aware of what if any progress was made. A thoroughly researched PROPOSAL by the BDA committee to test a paid private news group was not approved.

**RESPONSE:** *For many years, the General Service Board has operated without the use of advertiser-supported services. It communicates among its members and to the Fellowship in a totally commercial-free manner and acts to protect anonymity, through the use of its proprietary web site, newsletters, e-mail service, etc. The GSB has written extensively about this situation in DA's service literature, and has urged WSC committees and other service bodies to adopt the same practices. However, each group (and Intergroup and committee) is autonomous and has the freedom to choose its own methods of communication. No one in DA can impose the use of a particular communications channel on others.*

#### **Issue 10-24 GSB Info Tech**

City: London Group Name: UK Intergroup Group No. 1269

Could the "An Introduction To Professionals" power point be downloadable on the web site either publicly or in a secured section, and in turn on the UK web site?

**RESPONSE:** *To date, no committee has submitted this to the General Service Board for consideration. If it is submitted in the future, the Board would be glad to look make a determination whether this could be done.*

#### **Issue 10-11 GSB- LIT PUB**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

CHANGE THE WORDS OF "THE TOOLS OF DA PAMPHLET:"

Add *back* to the tools pamphlet: Abstinence statement in full regarding not incurring new unsecured debt. We are here to *abstain* from new unsecured compulsive Debting. Deleting that statement was INSANE. Bring it back.

Please do not only give this to Lit com. Our primary purpose is to stop debting. This is the essence of our fellowship. All members of conference should be concerned that the statement on abstinence ONLY appears online in an obscure document ; "Getting Started". An FULL abstinence statement needs to be printed on a widely read and used document such as the DA tools. It does not need to be defined as a tool but should be a key part of the text of the DA tools pamphlet. A sticker on each DA pamphlet to be used until the pamphlet is set for reprinting might be good. OR members of other conference committees may have ideas how to spread this message. PLEASE GIVE THIS ISSUE TO ALL COMMITTEES!

#### **Issue 10-12 GSB- LIT PUB**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

To THE LITERATURE SERVICES COMMITTEE: First thanks for your ABSOLUTELY amazing service....You STILL must do what ever it takes to get a committee large enough so that concept approved literature projects do not stall in this committee. The revamped lit process is proving slower than the old way. The reconceived 12 + 12 has languished since 2006 and a writer was only hired this last year. The meditation book has sat for 3 years now, and the desperately needed step study guide is stalled completely behind the 12+ 12. Well meaning but wrong headed choices, all! *Meanwhile there was*

*member interest in continuing work on these projects. Please say what support you need & what was the snafu that so much lit is stalled. You have DA members waiting at the ready to help if you will just let the membership know what is needed. The Fellowship is DESPARATE FOR A step study guide. The concept has been approved. Numerous drafts of several formats are circulation now. All who have used any of these agree a flawed template is better than no template. Leaving this one project stalled behind the 12 + 12 is extremely detrimental to DA. DA needs specific step directions YESTERDAY! The most common request from "Adopt" groups & loners is to be taken thru the steps.WE SUGGEST A SPECIAL ACM, a long time ex GSR, to specifically be in charge of stalled projects. An ACM who is familiar with various members' skill sets could form some additional special ACM teams to get these projects back on track.*

**RESPONSE:** *Thank you for your concern. Please be assured that there are no "stalled" projects. New publications are prioritized by the WSC Literature Committee and the General Service Board in light of their cost and relative to resources earmarked for ongoing revisions of existing literature, especially in terms of our primary purpose, also as determined by the Literature Committee. Many of us doing this service find that a great benefit is to continue trusting the process, while resisting the feeling of urgency, which is often just compulsion by another name. No D.A. member has to wait to take the Steps. Besides traditional one-on-one work, members also participate very productively in Step Workshop meetings both physical and on-line. Fellowship Days also offer opportunities for Step Workshops. Besides D.A.'s publications, we have the literature of Alcoholics Anonymous and other mature fellowships to guide our Step work. A good grounding in AA's Twelve Step literature can only strengthen our own fellowship. Similarly, the templates that resourceful D.A.s come up with, test, and refine will only benefit the eventual Step-study guide.*

#### **Issue 10-13 GSB – Finance**

CITY: Dallas, (plus other online DA study groups) GROUP NAME:

Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364 COMMITTEE SPENDING PLANS: In 2007 the Meditation book subcommittee, believing it had got as far as possible with volunteer help, desired to use its spending plan for a professional in data management services. The individual in question been doing this service as a volunteer successfully, and had the appropriate skill set & professional credentials. But the committee was told, AFTER putting together a detailed proposal, that WSC committee spending plan funds could not be used to hire services. The meditation book assets were then handed off to lit services *where they sat for OVER 2 years.* FIRST-As I understand it, WS committee funds have been traditionally used for copies, postage & phone cards. With the availability of e mail & cheap long distance, there is less need for this type of reimbursement. SECOND-a functioning subcommittee with a project that was moving forward was stopped by a procedural snafu. THIRD-Again in 2010, a BDA sub-committee, having spent HOURS on various adopt a loner & adopt a group projects, attempted to transfer its unneeded conference budget over to test some hired online automated services. Adopt a loner is a critical project for the DA newcomer and for the growth of the fellowship. It keeps getting dropped, we determined, due to the labor intensity of the services. Our plan would also have beta tested private paid online news groups, giving DA a chance, with a small project, to begin the process in weaning ourselves from ad-supported

news groups. *Once again a well researched proposal was rejected. AND this is money that was allocated to our committee, which we voted to prioritize this way. AGAIN...PLEASE CHANGE POLICY & BROADEN THE ABILITY OF WSC COMMITTEES TO HAVE DISCRETION OVER THEIR SPENDING PLANS. Find a way to support committees who are getting work done and help get hired contractors approved.*

**Issue 10-14 CC- FCC**

CITY: Dallas, (plus other online groups) GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

Adopt a Group, Adopt a loner programs-new idea.

These programs are so critical to the fellowship it is suggested these be a complete separate "12 step recovery" conference committee, possibly with a paid part time staffer to coordinate.

The coordinating is daunting without automation and a point person who can stay on this like a day job. The paid person would not need to even be in Massachusetts. This work could be done with a home computer + phone from anywhere. A group that has RECOVERY has members with the means to fund needed projects like this!!! The most requested activity by adoptees was to be taken though the DA 12 steps. It is suggested that the 'adopt' program name be changed to StepSponsorDA The purpose of StepSponsorDA is to learn precisely what our approved DA and AA literature says, learn more about the nature of our disease, learn the precise directions and prayers indicated in the twelve steps and tools of DA, to grow in spiritual awareness and to support each other in the practice of these principles in all our affairs. We take the steps rapidly. We apply the experience, strength and hope found in the literature to our own recovery. And we commit to learn a method of sponsorship in order to carry this message to the compulsive debtor who still suffers and expand the culture of service in Debtors Anonymous.

**Issue 10-15 GSB- LIT PUB-**

CITY: Dallas plus other online groups GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

LITERATURE: The DA Step Study guide to current lit is THE MOST critically needed literature.

In our Adopt a group activities, guidance thru the steps is the most requested service. Our experience shows that a flawed template is better than none. A DA study guide concept has been approved. Several "rogue" formats have been in circulation, tested by groups using their autonomy. Stalling this vital piece behind the '12+12' was well meaning but still a mistake! This document could be digitized to avoid the expense of paper publishing, and revised as new DA works are published. Please appoint a Step Study guide writer/editor ASAP.

**10-16 WSC Lit Com**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364 Revise RecordKeeper Offer a NEW SHAPE OF THE MONTHLY RECORD KEEPER BOOKLET... DEBIT CARD SHAPE In addition to offering this booklet in the shape of a

checkbook, as it has been all these years, offer the booklet in debit card shape that will fit in the plastic sleeve that some banks now issue with a debit card. It will be more helpful to those who choose to use a debit card, as the booklet is in the plastic sleeve with the card, reminding the debtor to record each transaction every time the card is used. Also it will also fit more easily fit in a man's hip pocket style wallet than the check book shape.

RESPONSE: Thank you for your suggestion regarding the updated Record Keeper booklet. This concept has been accepted for consideration by the Literature Committee of the World Service Conference during the 2010-2011 year. Please note that this is the first phase of the literature approval process adopted by the World Service Board in 2008. If the Literature Committee recommends adding this format of the Record Keeper, it will be given appropriate priority in relation to the other literature needs of the fellowship. Thank you for your innovative suggestion. After much discussion, we have seen possibilities of how this could be done via a prototype. We are recommending this as an additional version of the current Record Keeper to the LitCom 2011 as a motion or recommendation. (LitCom): Thank you for your innovative suggestion. After much discussion, we have seen possibilities of how this could be done via a prototype. We are recommending this as an additional version of the current Record Keeper to the LitCom 2011 as a motion or recommendation.

**LitCom Follow-up Reply:Issue 10-16: Shape of Record Keeper**

Thank you for your innovative suggestion. After much discussion, we have seen possibilities of how this could be done via a prototype. We are recommending this as an additional version of the current Record Keeper to the LitCom 2011 as a motion or recommendation

**Issue 10-17 GSB- CSC**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

GSR's better serve with literature easily available.

Have the WSC registration packet include a recommendation that all GSR's bring an AA big book & their personal copies of all DA pamphlets to conference for reference during committee meetings, and Fellowship Day.

**RESPONSE:** *Thank you for your suggestion. It may be incorporated into the 2011 Registration Packet.*

**Issue 10-18 GSB- Finance**

CITY: Dallas GROUP NAME: Prosperity GROUP NUMBER: 364

Appropriation of John Henderson scholarship funds. At conference 09 a motion was made regarding this issue that was unclear, we perceive causing its defeat. We are asking that scholarship GSR's have their registration fee be reduced and only be required to pay the part of the registration fee that goes to costs, and not have to pay the portion that would go back to the DA general fund as profit. This would spread the fund over more GSR's and earmarked scholarship money would not wind up in DA's general fund.

**Issue 10-19 CC- LIT COM**

CITY: Washington, DC GROUP NAME: SpendersDA GROUP NUMBER: 450

1) Remove all stories by anyone not currently sober in DA 2) Remove all stories by anyone not in DA at all or who is unreachable currently. 3) Remove all stories EXCEPT the ones by sober da members that address specifically not debting with money odat, taking all 12 steps of da, making direct amends and having a spiritual experience. 4) Add new stories from www.debtorsanonymous.org that better reflect our primary purpose & show the 12-Step Program applied. 5) Update front part so page numbers MATCH debtors anonymous basic pamphlet

**Issue 10-20: Singleness of Purpose**

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CITY: Washington, DC GROUP NAME: SpendersDA GROUP NUMBER: 450. SINGLENES OF PURPOSE IN ALL DA LITERATURE (electronic & print)

Please remove all references to outside issues including but not limited to: time debting, self debting, workaholism, underearning, codependence, co-debting, 'adult child', inner child', therapy, other 12-step programs...

**RESPONSE:** *Thank you for your concern. Surveys published in the Debtor's Anonymous Five Year Plan 2009-2014) have addressed some of the issues raised. The surveys show that there does not seem to be a clear agreement on whether these issues are 'outside' DA, or not. The Literature Committee will put these issues on it's agenda, to*

*see if the Committee supports making a motion to the 2011 Conference for consideration.*

**Follow up:**

The committee has carefully considered these concerns and does not support making motions to the 2011 conference.

We cite our preamble which states: " The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop incurring unsecured debt." and "we neither endorse nor oppose any causes".

Debtors arrive in D.A. for a variety of underlying symptoms. Sometimes, D.A members will find that they need additional 12-Step Groups to address more deeply an underlying issue contributing to their debting. Sometimes, they arrive from other 12-Step Groups.

Our Primary Purpose is to stop debting and to carry the message to the debtor who still suffers. We believe that our Preamble is sufficient to help members remind members and groups of our Primary Purpose.

If a person finds that his/her primary issue is one of underearning, gambling, cluttering or other behaviors rather than compulsive unmanageable debting, he or she may want to explore the specific 12 step programs that exist for those addictions. Some may want to work more than one program for separate addictions. If however, the primary problem is debting and the other behaviors exist to enable the debting and/or are symptoms of debting addiction, then DA is the appropriate program.

**D.A. literature acknowledges symptoms of debting:**

**Preamble:**

" The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop incurring unsecured debt." and "we neither endorse nor oppose any causes".

**D.A Signpost 10:**

Overworking or underearning: Working extra hours to earn money to pay creditors; using time inefficiently; taking jobs below your skill and education level.

**Pamphlet: 12 Steps of D.A.**

Introduction states: "As compulsive debtors, we experienced the pain of our debting behaviors. Our debting may have manifested in our lives in the

form of unpaid credit card debt or student loans, compulsive shopping, or chronic underearning.”

### **PRG/PRM Pamphlet:**

Paragraph: Action: “As the pressure is relieved in pressure relief meetings, we see many other actions we can take. These might include setting up a job interview, asking for a raise, or getting information on medical coverage.”

### **Just For Today Bookmark:**

Just for this day, I will ask my Higher Power to remove my compulsion to debt, underearn, or overspend. I am willing to go to any lengths not do debt today.

### **A Word to Newcomers:**

Our Newcomers' Welcome message states: "If you are having problems with money and debt ... then you have come to the right place and we can help you."

#### **10-21 CC- PI**

Issues for the D.A. World Service Conference

City: London Group Name: UK Intergroup Group # 1269

PI-UK have an incoming slogan for PI. 'One Member, One Action for DA Public Information' Could this be rolled out to DA across the world?

If members don't know what to do for PI our first suggested action will be that members read the PI manual.

#### **Issue 10-22 CC-RDC**

City: London Group Name: UK Intergroup Group # 1269

Why is the scholarship fund called John Henderson and not John H?

#### **Issue 10-23 CC- PI**

Issues for the D.A. World Service Conference

City: London Group Name: UK Intergroup Group # 1269

How do members appear on radio and TV if being interviewed and what can they say?

#### **Issue 10-24 GSB Info Tech / CC PI**

City: London Group Name: UK Intergroup Group # 1269

Could the 'An Introduction to Professionals' power point be downloadable on the web site either publicly or in a secured section and in turn on the UK web site?

#### **Issue 10-25 GSB- LIT PUB**

Issues for the D.A. World Service Conference \]

City: London Group Name: Hyde Park Crescent Group # 1159

Please find out if there is more BDA literature. As we can no longer use BODA literature, what is available for BDA?

**RESPONSE:** *There are currently four BDA pamphlets in process: BDA Annual Business Plan, BDA Numbers Booklet, Clarity in Business Finances, and BDA Signposts and Tools.*

#### **Issue 10-26 CC- LIT COM**

City: London Group Name: Hyde Park Crescent Group # 1159

Is there a Big Book for DA?

**For Response, see 10-02**

**Follow up:**

The Literature Committee is discussing what should constitute the “Big Book of DA,” pending completion of the above-named books already in process. Members are advised to continue using the Big Book of AA as a basic text, substituting DA-related words for alcohol-related terms, at least until a recommendation is made for a DA Big Book.

**\*\* Note: additional reply resulting from this issue becoming a LitCom Agenda item for the Conference year.:**

LitCom has discussed these issues in great detail. We are recommending to LitCom 2011 that the Basic Text be made a priority over the Meditation Book. We are also recommending it as a 3rd Edition of the Currency of Hope. We are also discussing what might constitute the Basic Text/Currency of Hope.

**Follow-Up Reply from LitCom: Issues 10-02 and 10-26**

LitCom has discussed these issues in great detail. We are recommending to LitCom 2011 that the Basic Text be made a priority over the Meditation Book. We are also recommending it as a 3rd Edition of the Currency of Hope. We are also discussing what might constitute the Basic Text/Currency of Hope.

#### **Issue 10-27 GSB- LIT PUB**

City: London Group Name: Hyde Park Crescent Group # 1159

Please find out how the translation of literature for Africa is going. What African languages are available?

**RESPONSE:** *There are currently no African translations available or in process. The Legal Affairs Committee of the GSB is working on a translation policy to hasten the process of translating D.A. literature while protecting the copyrights.*



**Issue 10-28 GSB- LIT PUB**

City: London Group Name: BDA Mayfair Group # 199

Are there any updates on BDA literature?

**RESPONSE:** *FYI, literature updates occur from time to time in the DA Focus newsletter, which is mailed to all registered groups on a quarterly basis.*

**Issue 10-29 GSB- COM COM**

CITY:Seattle, WA GROUP NAME:Higher Visions GROUP NUMBER:349

Would it be possible to provide downloadable speakers, workshops, conferences, etc on the national DA website or on regional or local websites?

**RESPONSE:** *There are Recovery Stories currently available for download from the website. However since each group/intergroup is autonomous we cannot provide the workshops and conferences sponsored by the various groups.*

**Issue 10-30 CC- PI**

CITY:Seattle, WA GROUP NAME:Higher Visions GROUP NUMBER:349

We would like to see more PSAs for DA specifically on subways, buses, radio, and TV.

**10-31 CC- LIT COM**

CITY:Seattle, WA GROUP NAME:Higher Visions  
GROUP NUMBER:349

Would it be possible to make all DA pamphlets available for download from the DA national website? We would suggest charging for downloads, possibly even at 100% of the pamphlet prices, while saving on costs of paper and postage.

**RESPONSE:** Thank you for your innovative suggestion. We forwarded this issue to our Tech Caucus. The Tech Caucus has the formidable challenge of exploring technical possibilities that would allow purchasing without the use of credit/debit cards. LitCom Follow-up Reply: Thank you for your innovative suggestion. We forwarded this issue to our Tech Caucus. The Tech Caucus has the formidable challenge of exploring technical possibilities that would allow purchasing without the use of credit/debit cards.

**LitCom Follow-up Reply: Issue 10-31**

**Downloadable Pamphlets**

Thank you for your innovative suggestion. We forwarded this issue to our Tech Caucus. The Tech

Caucus has the formidable challenge of exploring technical possibilities that would allow purchasing without the use of credit/debit cards.

**10-32 CC- LIT COM**

CITY:Seattle, WA GROUP NAME:Higher Visions  
Group # 349@on behalf of Building a Prosperous  
Business, in Seattle, a BDA group who are  
helping to fund our GSR's trip to Denver)

We would like to see all references to Higher Power in existing DA literature revised, and all references in new literature written, so that they are read as gender-neutral. Gender Neutral

LitCom answered at WSC

Thank you for your concerns about gender issues. In2007, the following motion was approved by the World Service Conference: "All new DA literature, including literature in process, [will] be written in such a way that all references to Higher Power and/or God are gender neutral, except for personal stories. The language of the 12 Steps and 72 Traditions will not be changed as a result of this motion". **Regarding existing literature, it would not be economically feasible to make changes, however the Literature Committee will research the feasibility of making changes to existing literature when it comes up for re-printing.**

**Issue 10-33 CC- CONFERENCE COM**

Tuesday DA and Health Issues Telephone Meeting Group # 1176

To the Conference Committee of D.A. World Service:

We, the D. A. and Health Issues Tuesday telephone meeting, are writing to request that you make it possible for us to attend the World Conference by removing barriers to access that are presently making it nearly impossible for a person with severe health challenges and/or disabilities to attend. We understand that prohibiting our attendance or discrimination is not your intent, but the fact is we need to speak up for ourselves to call attention to the issue. What we request is that we be able to send a GSR by video teleconference or similar technology. This would allow the Representative to attend from within her/his own living space, handling mobility issues or issues of fatigue, as well as the extreme difficulty of raising the money to get to the conference while honoring the Seventh Tradition. Our reasons are these: first, in the spirit of the Third Tradition, any person who has a desire to stop debting is allowed as a member, and therefore a disabled or ill person who does not have the ability to earn this kind of money ought still to be welcome to attend, provided she/he has the required solvency. Second, it is

a requirement of the law to make a "public accommodation" (such as a non-profit, of which the World Service Organization is one) accessible to people with disabilities. Countless well-meaning organizations have overlooked the need to provide access, but thankfully DA is so fully committed to filling the letter of the law in every way that we trust that you will handle this matter proactively. We want very much to be a part of the service of D.A., and we are not asking for a free ride, only for a fair chance at participation. This request does not address the conference fee, for which we may apply for scholarships like any other group, but only handles the issue of travel expenses and the physical hardship of traveling to the conference. We recognize that the challenges of presenting a conference are many, and we do not wish to overburden you. However, we are sending this letter in accordance with our group conscience.

We thank you for your attention to this. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance. In recovery, The Tuesday DA and Health Issues Telephone Meeting (contact GSR: Liz G., lizgold@windstream.net, 505-351-1381) from the Americans with Disabilities Act website (<http://www.ada.gov/cguide.htm>): The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, State and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation, and telecommunications. Title III covers businesses and nonprofit service providers that are public accommodations, privately operated entities offering certain types of courses and examinations, privately operated transportation, and commercial facilities. Public accommodations are private entities who own, lease, lease to, or operate facilities such as restaurants, retail stores, hotels, movie theaters, private schools, convention centers, doctors' offices, homeless shelters, transportation depots, zoos, funeral homes, day care centers, and recreation facilities including sports stadiums and fitness clubs. Transportation services provided by private entities are also covered by title III.

#### Issue 10-34 CC- Lit Com

CITY: Sherman Oaks NAME: In the Solution BDA GROUP #: 1079

Please have sample formats, at the very least ONE sample format for meeting treasurers to record meeting numbers available on the [debtorsanonymous.org](http://debtorsanonymous.org) web site. You could do this as an available download, under Literature or Starting a Meeting or all three of them. There is a form for weekly and monthly contributions for 7th Tradition (see attached). Could someone please modify or completely redo this form to include weekly GSR contributions AND a column for GSR disbursements?

RESPONSE: Thank you for your suggestion. The Literature Committee has recommended that the Resource Development Committee create a downloadable Treasurer's Format for recording weekly meeting and GSR contributions and expenses to be included on the DA website along with the current Treasurer's Manual. The RDC (Resource Development Committee), discussed this at length. They had gathered several

samples from groups. Ultimately the RDC suggests that a sub-committee be formed at the WSC 2011 consisting up member from both the RDC and LitCom. **LitCom Follow-up Reply:** The RDC (Resource Development Committee), discussed this at length. They had gathered several samples from groups. Ultimately the RDC suggests that a sub-committee be formed at the WSC 2011 consisting up member from both the RDC and LitCom.

#### Issue 10-35 GSB-Com Com

CITY: Sherman Oaks NAME: In the Solution BDA GROUP #: 1079

Please clearly state who or what the checks/money orders should be made out to for distributions on the Meeting Numbers Report Format for Treasurers and also somewhere on the website. Maybe you could have a page or a link for Contributions or Donations. Maybe you could have a page or a link for Meeting Treasurers. On the form the donation recipient could be included somewhere in the Suggested Distributions area. For example: If the GSB donations should actually be written out to Debtors Anonymous, then say so! The instruction could read, "Please make check or money payable to Debtors Anonymous."

**RESPONSE: The D.A. Treasurers Manual is available for download from [debtorsanonymous.org](http://debtorsanonymous.org). Click on the Literature tab, then Service Literature in the drop-down box. If you do not have access, it can be ordered from the office for a moderate fee.**

#### Issue 10-36 GSB-Info Tech

CITY: Sherman Oaks NAME: In the Solution BDA GROUP #: 1079

Please provide a list of the regions/addresses with phone numbers (if available) nationwide and worldwide on the web site.

**RESPONSE: DA's 13 regions are enumerated in the DA Service Manual For GSRs and ISRs. However, the regions are used only to ensure geographical diversity for the election of Trustees. There are no regional offices, and hence no telephone numbers or other contact information. DA has one General Service Office, which serves all 13 regions and DA groups and members around the world.**

#### Issue 10-37 GSB Info Tech

City: Sherman Oaks Name: In The Solution BDA Group #: 1079

Please find a way to make it easy to send email messages on the web site. I don't understand why I have to "set up an account" just to send an email. When I want to send an email and I have to figure out who my server (or whatever) is and I need to do something with popups, you have lost me completely! I want to click on "contact" and have an email message appear to just write my communication and send it off. The current email system is user unfriendly.

**RESPONSE: There appears to be some confusion here with limitations of the user's own computer and web browser. There is no such thing as "sending email messages to the DA web site", nor is there any requirement whatsoever to "set up an account" or answer questions regarding an account. Anyone with an existing e-mail account can send e-**

**mails to the DA General Service Office without any sort of special logistics or arrangements, just as they would send an e-mail to an individual. Instructions are found on the web site.**

**Issue 10-38 GSB-LRP**

CITY: Sherman Oaks

NAME: In the Solution

BDA GROUP #: 1079

To the General Service Representatives:

First, thank you for your tremendous service to Debtors Anonymous, and all debtors, by your attendance at this convention. We are a more effective service organization because of it. I am writing to address an issue that puzzled me upon my entry into DA in 2005, and which I have since discovered has perplexed many members for many years. That is the question of outside issues and the Our Father prayer. For clarity, here is the Long Form of the Tenth Tradition: 10. No D.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate D.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Debtors Anonymous groups oppose no one.

Concerning such matters they express no views whatever. For further clarity: The Our Father, or Lord's Prayer, is recorded in the Christian canon in the New Testament, Book of Matthew: Verses 10-13, and is attributed to Jesus. I am asking that the convention clarify for its members the question of whether the Our Father prayer is an outside issue. It is my experience that there is considerable confusion about whether it is a sanctioned 12 step prayer. Thank you for your consideration.

**RESPONSE: Thank you for sharing your concern. In keeping with Tradition 10, the DAGSB has no opinion on prayer at meetings. The choice of a closing prayer or other meditation is a matter to be decided by each group's conscience. An informed group conscience is the best method of ensuring that outside issues do not endanger group unity and the overall unity of our Beloved Fellowship. Rev. and approved by LRPC 11/7/10**

**Issue 10-39 GSB-LRP**

CITY: Sherman Oaks

NAME: In the Solution

BDA GROUP #: 1079

In a wide range of face to face and phone meetings, I have noticed that there is little understanding of or consideration for the Traditions in general and the Traditions in particular as they relate to outside issues. People refer to and read from religious and secular non-DA readings both as speakers and as sharing individuals. People refer to their other programs at length. All this seems to be at odds with the unity, serenity, and continued longevity of DA.

**RESPONSE: Thank you for sharing your concern. An informed group conscience is the best method of ensuring that outside issues do not endanger group unity and the overall unity of our Beloved Fellowship. DA groups remain strong when they use DA conference-approved literature. Rev. and approved by LRPC 11/7/10**

**Issue 10-40 GSB Info Tech**

City: Sherman Oaks Name: In The Solution Group#: 1079

The telephone meeting listing/details on the main DA web site are not up to date. This is discouraging, particularly so if you are a newcomer. Plus, there are no contact people/phone numbers for each telephone meeting.

**RESPONSE: Members of every DA group, including telephone, Internet, and face-to-face meetings, are responsible for updating their group's information whenever it changes. Otherwise, there is no way the General Service Office can know the details are outdated. A meeting update and registration form is sent to every registered DA group every year, or can be downloaded from the web site at any time. In addition, an online re-registration form is in the works and will be added to the web site in the near future. DA does not reveal confidential information about its members, including the names and phone numbers of group contacts. The web site does include all necessary information for members to locate and attend the meeting.**

**Issue 10-41 GSB- LIT PUB**

CITY: Las Vegas GROUP NAME: Abundance Flows GROUP #: 1088

What happened to the 12 & 12 book project, in which writers had to submit in-depth proposals with several writing samples, credentials, recommendations, etc? The deadline was two years ago and we have never heard back. To me, this was not respectful to writers and the business of writing/writers who should at least been told what happened to all their hard work.

**RESPONSE: A 12x12 writer was chosen over a year ago and has completed first drafts for the first nine Steps. All writers who submitted proposals were sent letters informing them of the status of their proposals.**

**10-42 CC- LIT COM**

CITY: Minneapolis GROUP NAME: South Minneapolis D.A. GROUP NUMBER: 1101  
Gender bias in the readings Gender Neutral

**RESPONSE:** Thank you for your concerns about gender issues. In 2007, the following motion was approved by the World Service Conference: "All new DA literature, including literature in process, will be written in such a way that all references to Higher Power and/or God are gender neutral, except for personal stories. The language of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions will not be changed as a result of this motion". Regarding existing literature, it would not be economically feasible to make changes, however the Literature Committee will research the feasibility of making changes to existing literature when it comes up for re-printing. Thank you for submitting your concern re gender neutrality. LitCom learned that we will need to make a recommendation at the WSC2011 for the LitCom LitCom 2011 to make a recommendation or motion at the WSC 2011 in

regards to changes for gender neutrality in existing literature as it comes up for re-printing and new literature. We were informed of motions and recommendations made at prior WSCs concerning gender neutrality. We studied the motion made in 2007. The Summary of Motions and Recommendations of World Service Conferences 1997-2009 details intense discussions at the WSC around this issue. A Trustee who was there during those discussions also clarified for us the result. Final amended motion in 2007: The Literature Committee moves that all new DA literature, including literature in process, be written in such a way that all references to Higher Power and/or God are gender neutral, except for personal stories. The language of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions will not be changed as a result of this motion. ("Literature Committee Motion 2: was apparently postponed) LiCom Follow-up reply : Issue 10-32 & 10-42 Gender Neutrality: Thank you for submitting your concern re gender neutrality. LitCom learned that we will need to make a recommendation at the WSC2011 for the LitCom LitCom 2011 to make a recommendation or motion at the WSC 2011 in regards to changes for gender neutrality in existing literature as it comes up for re-printing and new literature. We were informed of motions and recommendations made at prior WSCs concerning gender neutrality. We studied the motion made in 2007. The Summary of Motions and Recommendations of World Service Conferences 1997-2009 details intense discussions at the WSC around this issue. A Trustee who was there during those discussions also clarified for us the result. Final amended motion in 2007: The Literature Committee moves that all new DA literature, including literature in process, be written in such a way that all references to Higher Power and/or God are gender neutral, except for personal stories. The language of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions will not be changed as a result of this motion. ("Literature Committee Motion 2: was apparently postponed)

#### **Issue 10-43 CC- LIT COM**

CITY: Minneapolis

GROUP NAME: South Minneapolis D.A.

GROUP NUMBER: 1101

Conference approved sponsor booklet or Step workbook

Response:

The Sponsor booklet is no longer available as a printed pamphlet. However, an electronic copy is available as a free download from [www.debtorsanonymous.org](http://www.debtorsanonymous.org). A decision has already been made to publish a Step Workbook for DA. This project is currently on hold, pending completion of the DA 12 and 72 which is presently under development.

#### **Issue 10-44 CC- LIT COM**

CITY: Minneapolis

GROUP NAME: South Minneapolis D.A.

GROUP NUMBER: 1101

Publishing a 2nd Currency of Hope

#### **Issue 10-45 CC- LIT COM**

CITY: Minneapolis

GROUP NAME: South Minneapolis D.A.

GROUP NUMBER: 1101

Correcting "A.A. literature" to "D.A. literature"

**RESPONSE:** *Thank you for your suggestion. The LitCom considered your request carefully. After much discussion, we voted unanimously to continue to include A.A. Literature as a support tool in DA. A.A.'s 12-Step approach to recovery is the basis of our D.A. program. Our D.A. Tool #8 states: "We study the the literature of Debtors Anonymous to strengthen our understanding of compulsive disease and recovery from debting. In A.A. literature we can identify with many of the situations described by substituting the words 'compulsive debt' for 'alcohol'." Also, A.A. literature is copyrighted by A.A. D.A. cannot violate A.A.'s copyright by publishing our own version substituting the words "D.A." for "A.A." etc. We are grateful for your commitment to D.A. and to your continued recovery.*

#### **Litcom follow-up reply: Issue 10-45 Correcting A.A to D.A.**

Thank you for your suggestion. The LitCom considered your request carefully. After much discussion, we voted unanimously to continue to include A.A. Literature as a support tool in DA.

A.A.'s 12-Step approach to recovery is the basis of our D.A. program. Our D.A. Tool #8 states: "**We study the the literature of Debtors Anonymous to strengthen our understanding of compulsive disease and recovery from debting.** In A.A. literature we can identify with many of the situations described by substituting the words 'compulsive debt' for 'alcohol'."

Also, A.A. literature is copyrighted by A.A. D.A. cannot violate A.A.'s copyright by publishing our own version substituting the words "D.A." for "A.A." etc.

We are grateful for your commitment to D.A. and to your continued recovery.

**Issue 10-46 CC-RDC**

CITY: Sherman Oaks GROUP NAME: In the Solution BDA  
GROUP NUMBER: 1079

There are DA phone meetings where one person is taking everyone through the steps and they mail the 7th tradition to that person at their home. Who is this person held accountable to for the monies collected?

**Issue 10-47 GSB Lit Pub**

CITY: Sherman Oaks GROUP NAME: In the Solution BDA  
GROUP NUMBER: 1079

Are there guidelines for what issues warrant a PRG and what issues do not warrant a PRG?

**RESPONSE:** *No there are not. Whether or not an issue "warrants" a PRGM is up to the individual who requests one. And whether or not that issue remains to be the focus of the PRG is up to the three individuals who have the meeting. The Tools state: "... The group meets in a series of Pressure Relief Meetings to review our financial situation. These meetings typically result in the formulation of a spending plan and an action plan." Many D.A. members have regular PRMs, because they find this to be a Tool that enhances their recovery and brings expansiveness into their lives.*

**Issue 10-48 GSB Lit Pub**

Issues for the D.A. World Service Conference  
CITY: Sherman Oaks GROUP NAME: In the Solution BDA  
GROUP NUMBER: 1079

What is DA's position when a DA member asks their PRG group for support in Disability Fraud during a PRG?

**RESPONSE:** *DA does not take positions on outside issues. A PRGM proceeds on the spiritual principles of the Twelve Steps and Traditions of DA and is based on the experience, strength and hope of the individuals in the PRG. Those individuals need to use their own ESH to decide whether or not a request is appropriate or even potentially harmfully to the individual making it, or if they are even equipped to respond.*

**Issue 10-49 GSB-Com Com**

Issues for the D.A. World Service Conference  
CITY: Brookline MA  
GROUP NAME: Steps, Tools, & Resources of Entrepreneurship  
GROUP NUMBER: 102

With the goal of carrying the message of DA recovery to the widest possible audience, including members with visual impairments and members who do not have regular access to the Internet, we propose that DA make downloadable podcasts and/or recordings of recovery stories and fellowship day/share a day workshops available on the DA web site.

**RESPONSE:** *The possibility of broadcasting Fellowship Day is currently being looked into by the WSC Tech Caucus and the GSB Legal Affairs Committee. We need to respect the contract already in place with the recorder, Glenn K. Communications Committee will research having downloadable podcasts of the Recovery Stories.*

**LitCom: Issue 10-50**

Issue: Targeting Young People, Tithing, Talking to Creditors

Response: Re issues of: Tithing, Talking to Creditors was answered at the WSC, and can be read in the 2010 WSC Report, available on our D.A. Web site. Re Targeting Young People. Thank you enlightening us to possibilities to explore. After much discussion, we forwarded this to the Diversity Caucus.

**Litcom Follow-Up Reply: Issue 10-50 Targeting Young People**

Re issues of: Tithing, Talking to Creditors was answered at the WSC, and can be read in the 2010 WSC Report, available on our D.A. Web site.

Re Targeting Young People. Thank you enlightening us to possibilities to explore. After much discussion, we forwarded this to the Diversity Caucus.

**Issues 10-51-10-53 (Numbers Booklet)**

Portland Oregon, Relationships and Money DA. Group 739 Numbers: Categories

Rearrange & add columns to the planning portion of "One Approach to Numbers" as follows: Balance from Prior Period, Current Plan, Additional Amt to Fund, Actual Spent, Balance (Carry Forward) Rationale: 1) The current "One Approach to Numbers" brochure does not provide a place for us to track money left in each category at the end of the prior month to consider in funding the current plan. 2) The current order of columns, which starts with the "actuals" works well for a newcomer's first spending plan, but does not work well for continuing plans. Implementation: Announce so membership can pencil in changes on existing booklets until a print is run

**Issue 10-52**

Portland Oregon, Relationships and Money DA. Group 739

Suggestion & Explanation: Add a "Contingency" category to "One Approach to the Numbers" either before or after Debt Repayment. This category is different from the Prucedn Reserve in that we would expect to use some of the contingency money nearly every month, transferring it to the category in which it is needed. Rationale: 1) It is recognition of the fact that in any month there is almost always something we cannot anticipate or costs more than we estimated. 2) It allows for funding for the unexpected without reworking our basic plan and without juggling between categories 3) I requires less money to fund a contingency category that it does build up large enough reserves with each category to dover what may come up. Revision

### **Issue 10-53**

Portland Oregon, Relationships and Money DA. Group 739

Suggestion & Explanation: Add subcategories "Job Search" and "Captiol into Business to the Personal Business category of "One Approach to Numbers". Rationale: 1) These are expenses that frequently occur and the current format doesn't suggest them. Implementation: This is one of the three suggested changes to "One Approach to Numbers" Coordinate implementation with the other two suggested changes if they are adopted.

### **Response (LitCom) to 10-51, 10-52, 10/53:**

We discussed **Issues 10-51, 10-52 and 10-53**, relating to "The Numbers: One Approach", separately. After much discussion regarding the fact that the booklet is geared to newcomers, and everyone tweaks it according to their own needs, and everyone has different ideas about the setup, and that it would cost money to change it, it was moved, seconded and approved to leave the booklet as is.

We discussed **Issues 10-51, 10-52 and 10-53**, relating to "The Numbers: One Approach", separately. After much discussion regarding the fact that the booklet is geared to newcomers, and everyone tweaks it according to their own needs, and everyone has different ideas about the setup,

and that it would cost money to change it, it was moved, seconded and approved to leave the booklet as is.

### **Issue 10-54: However Humble**

Portland Oregon, Relationships and Money DA. Group 739

Remove "however humble" from 5th Tradition. Rationale: Description of each tool is core information about the Tool "However humble goes beyond basic description and suggests a narrow way to look at savings.: Implementation: Announce change when approved and change it on website. 2) Print revised Tools in new literature when existing literature comes up for next print run

Response (LitCom): Thank you for your diligence. LitCom thoughtfully reviewed and discussed your concern. We concluded to leave "However humble" as it reads. Our reasoning is that "However humble" is a beginning.

### **Litcom Follow Up Reply: Issue 10-54 However Humble**

Thank you for your diligence. LitCom thoughtfully reviewed and discussed your concern. We concluded to leave "However humble" as it reads. Our reasoning is that "However humble" is a beginning.

### **Issue 10-55 (Parenthesis)**

Portland Oregon, Relationships and Money DA. Group 739

Remove parenthesis from the Introduction to the Tools and the 5th Tool. Rationale: Parenthesis are correctly use for parenthetical material, that is, material set aside from the main topic. In the introduction, the definition of unsecured debt is primary information and should not be in parenthesis. In the Fifth Tool, the parenthesis incorrectly divides a prepositional phrase "to build cash reserves..." from the work that it describes, "savings" 2) It is distracting to have part of the enclosed information enclosed in parenthesis. Implementation: 1) Announce the change when approved. 2) Print revised Tools in

new literature and when existing literature comes up for another print run.

**Response (LitCom):** Thank you for your service and taking the time to contact us. We reviewed your request and the Fifth Tool with great consideration. However, the LitCom was in agreement to leave the parenthesis as is.

**Litcom Follow-Up Reply: Issue 10-55 Parenthesis**

Thank you for your service and taking the time to contact us. We reviewed your request and the Fifth Tool with great consideration. However, the LitCom was in agreement to leave the parenthesis as is.

**Issue 10-56 Vacation Spending Plan**

Portland Oregon, Relationships and Money DA. Group 739

Publish the attached Vacation Spending Plan and Ledger as conference approved literature. Rationale: Several people in our are have piloted uses of the plan and find that it is easy to use and that it is liberating from money anxiety while on vacation. If adopted, I can provide an electronic file. Request the electronic file by e-mailing me at [hkayd@comcast.com](mailto:hkayd@comcast.com)

Response (LitCom): Thank you for submitting the Vacation Spending Plan to the 2010 WSC for LitCom to consider submitting a recommendation for new Literature. We are grateful for your commitment to D.A. and taking the time to write to us. We discussed your suggested plan and our Group Conscience feels that the Vacation Spending Plan is currently covered within D.A.'s "Numbers: One Approach" Booklet. We thank you and wish you continued success in your recovery.

**LitCom Follow-up Reply: Issue 10-56 Vacation Spending Plan**

Thank you for submitting the Vacation Spending Plan to the 2010 WSC for LitCom to consider submitting a recommendation for new Literature. We are grateful for your commitment to D.A. and taking the time to write to us. We discussed your suggested plan and our Group Conscience feels that the Vacation Spending Plan is currently covered within D.A.'s "Numbers: One Approach" Booklet.

We thank you and wish you continued success in your recovery.

Issue 0X: (Not Numbered.)

4th Step Inventory booklet given to LitCom at the WSC 2010 for approval as a D.A. 4th Step Inventory.

RESPONSE: We are grateful your group is dedicated to this vital step.

D.A.'s 12 & 12 is in process. This will consist of the D.A. 12 Steps and 12 Traditions.

The 12-Step Study Guide is on hold until the completion of the 12 & 12. We needed to table the suggested 4th Step given to us. Otherwise, we would be "putting the cart before the horse".

LitCom Follow-up reply:

We are grateful your group is dedicated to this vital step. D.A.'s 12 & 12 is in process. This will consist of the D.A. 12 Steps and 12

Traditions. The 12-Step Study Guide is on hold until the completion of the 12 & 12. We needed to table the suggested 4th Step given to us.

Otherwise, we would be "putting the cart before the horse".

Issue: 1X: Bookmarks (Not Numbered)

Bookmarks given to LitCom at 2010 WSC

Monthly Bookmarks: consisting of the

DA Sign, Step, Tradition, Concept, Tool, Promise for that month on one side

BDA Sign, Tool, Recovery for that month & Preamble on the reverse side.

RESPONSE: Thank you for your innovative prototypes. After much discussion, we agree that this set of Bookmarks could be a good seller while helping keeping the basics of D.A. and BDA as handy references. And they would seem to be easily & quickly produced since the material is all D.A. Conference-Approved . We are recommending the Bookmarks to the LitCom at WSC 2011 for motion/issue at the WSC 2011.

**RDC suggested these two pamphlets at the WSC: "After the Crisis": Suggestions for**

Recovering Debtor” A request to DA Members who have worked the Steps and found abstinence to share their abundance with the DA fellowship and create a culture of generosity. 7th Tradition: Deepening your Spiritual Relationship with Money: The importance of the 7th Tradition as an aspect of each DA members’ spiritual growth with an emphasis on how Sponsorship and PRGs can play a role in that Development.

**LitCom Follow-up reply:** Thank you. Your suggestions prompted much discussion. We felt that existing service literature speaks to our 7th Tradition. We felt too, that it would not be a good seller since service pamphlets have not been good sellers (we do have to consider sell-ability particularly in this economic climate.) We arrived at two suggestions, a direct result and outgrowth of RDC’s. which we feel would be good sellers and strengthen Hope and generosity in our fellowship. These suggested pamphlets are: #1: The D.A. Gifts: essays on each promise for the reminder of hope. The 5th Gift addresses culture of generosity: 5) There will be enough, our resources will be generous, and we will share them. #2: 5th Gift: Culture of Generosity (sub-title: Beyond the Basics) To address the 7th Tradition 5) There will be enough, our resources will be generous, and we will share them. We are recommending these two pamphlets to the LitCom 2011 to present as motions or recommendations to the WSC 2011.