

JUNE 2018

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The DA Focus is published quarterly by the D.A. General Service Board (GSB). It is available as a download from the official D.A. website.

The General Service Board seeks qualified trusted servants to fill a number of service positions. The positions are non-paying. Positions include Trustee and Appointed Committee Members. For details, email: office@debtorsanonymous.org

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Present and past issues of ***The DA Focus*** are available at:

debtorsanonymous.org
▶ Fellowship Services
▶ Fellowship Newsletters

From the Archive:

D.A. Service: Key To A Stronger Recovery

One of the most important issues facing D.A. today is how to strengthen struggling meetings so they can continue to be there for those of us in and out of the program who suffer from the disease of compulsive debting. A common feature of most strong meetings is a core of people who are willing to do service.

Someone once said that debtors want something for nothing. Maybe that's why more people don't step up to do service, but we don't think so; we think there are other reasons:

"I don't know how. I won't be able to do it right. I don't have time. I don't like this, that, or the other person, or debtors in general. I don't like to travel. I don't have enough recovery. I'll overextend myself. It'll get in the way of my own recovery. I don't have anything to offer. I'm not good enough. Someone else will do it. Someone else will do it better. I'm afraid."

Do you hear yourself in any of these reasons? The people who contributed these reasons for not doing service didn't make them up, nor are they trying to figure out why others don't do service. These are reasons they had themselves, and they are things that they have overcome.

Someone else once said in D.A. you get extra credit for service. Maybe that's why so many people do give service. But we don't think that idea is so simple, either. Some people begin out of their own need. Doing service gets us to meetings—sometimes in early recovery we need some sort of commitment just to do that. Some begin doing service because they want what the trusted servants around them have. Service and recovery invariably go hand in hand.

Service keeps us honest. We can't keep it unless we give it away (a weird concept, but true!) It strengthens a relationship with a Higher Power, saves us from isolation, teaches us the adult behavior and skills we didn't get the first time around, gives us a sense of self-esteem that comes from doing a job well and being a part of someone else's recovery. It allows us to know that we are enough.

There is another reason to give service, perhaps the most important reason of all. It's given because we remember where we were before we found D.A., and we know where we'd be today if we hadn't. We give service so the program will continue to be there both for us and for those who come after us.

Meetings stumble and fail when no one steps up to give service, and when meetings fail, people lose the chance to recover. Don't let that happen to your meeting.

Remember the principle of rotation of service. If you are not doing service, you needn't wait until someone burns out. Step up, and ask for help in learning your service position. If you are currently doing service, don't wait until you get to be

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General Service Board Committee Reports

GSB Audit Committee

The 2017-2018 GSB Audit Committee is in transition. We are a committee of two Class "B" Trustees, Jo Mc. (Chair) and Bob D. (Secretary), but we do have several responsibilities.

Some of these are:

- 1) Overseeing the accounting and financial reporting processes of the GSB.
- 2) The annual review or audit of the GSB's financial statements.
- 3) We also oversee selected GSB policies and internal controls, including
 - a) GSB Conflict of Interest policy
 - b) GSB Whistleblower policy
- 4) In 2017, the Audit Committee developed a CPA retention policy, which means
 - a) the GSB will seek competitive bids from CPAs every five years.
 - b) the process was done and the firm that served us for the past five years gave us the best bid again.
 - c) Bailey, Carr, CPAs was retained again this time for three years saving D.A. money on a yearly renewal basis.

As I said before, we are in a period of transition. Recently the Board voted unanimously to combine the GSB Audit Committee with the GSB Legal

Committee.

This will make room for another GSB Committee that was recently formed.

Bob and I have enjoyed our journey and anytime we learn more we can serve Debtors Anonymous more.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to become better trustees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jo Mc., Chair
2017-2018 GSB Audit Committee

GSB Communications Committee (Com Com)

The Communications Committee (ComCom) actively releases information from the General Service Board (GSB), GSB committees, WSC committees/caucuses, and the General Service Office (GSO) in the following three mediums: eNews announcements, the *DA Focus*, and *Ways & Means*.

We also keep the website current, displaying appropriate links to upcoming events, deleting links where the dates have passed, and providing links to debtorsanonymous.org that are utilized every day. One of our goals this conference year is to implement a more user-friendly method of listening to past recordings of Fellowship-wide calls by

using mp3 files. We hope this lessens the burden of trying to figure out where that older recording has gone to.

Our main goal is to get the informational announcements released in a timely manner, by the best medium, and to the largest reachable D.A. audience.

If you haven't done so, please register or re-register your meeting by June 30. Go to:

www.debtorsanonymous.org/register

The most efficient means for D.A. members to get announcements is via eNews. To sign up for eNews, please visit:

www.debtorsanonymous.org/enews

GSB Conference Support Committee (CSC)

The goal of the Board's Conference Support Committee is to support future World Service Conferences (WSCs). Given this charter, the committee is actively involved in the detailed planning for WSC 2018 to be held this August in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, and in the longer range planning for WSC 2019 to be held in August of next year in Los Angeles, California, USA.

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Would Your Area Like to Host the D.A. World Service Conference in 2020 and/or 2021?

Proposals: Proposals for hosting the 2020 and 2021 D.A. World Service Conferences (WSC) will be accepted and reviewed at WSC 2018 (being held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA).

An area or Intergroup can submit a proposal to host one or both years.

Submitting and presenting your proposal: To submit and present your proposal, one or more persons from your area or Intergroup must attend WSC 2018.

To create a proposal: Information about hosting the WSC and guidance for creating a proposal are provided in Pages 20-21 of the WSC 2018 Registration Packet, available at:

<https://www.debtorsanonymous.org/fellowship-services/world-service-conference/>

Thank you for considering this valuable service to D.A.!

General Service Board Committee Reports

(continued)

Key recent activities for WSC 2018 include:

- Continuing to participate on the planning committee for the Remote Participation Trial.

- Finalizing the Registration Packet for the Remote Participation Trial, working with the Board's Communications Committee to have it posted on the D.A. website, and sending out an eNews announcement about the packet.

- Starting to prepare the materials for WSC 2018 conference binder

- Preparing for the two GSR/ISR orientation conference calls to occur in late June and early July.

- Attending to many other details that support the Conference. This is the busiest time of the year for this Committee. Between now and early August, working with the Host Committee, it is one big push to get ready for and conduct the Conference.

Regarding the WSC 2019, CSC completed negotiations with the selected hotel for the 2019 Conference, then presented a final hotel contract to the full General Service Board for approval. That contract was approved by the Board in early May and signed by the GSB Chair. In terms of preparing for the Conference, it helps all parties—meaning the Board and the Host Committee—that we've signed the contract for WSC 2019 this far in advance. It's a big, big piece to have behind us and will now allow the Host Committee and the Board to start detailed planning for the Conference.

GSB Information Technology (Info Tech)

The Committee has made great progress on the project to add online contribution capability to the D.A. website. We're still in the testing phase,

but the technology is working for U.S.-issued debit cards, and the committee is exploring viable possibilities for international members to donate. We expect to release the capability to the Fellowship in the not-too-distant future.

The committee has also provided tech assistance to the board's Literature Publications Committee in its efforts to bring electronic editions of *A Currency of Hope* and *The D.A. Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts* books to fruition. The D.A. website is being updated on a weekly basis, with GSB ComCom assisting in making it much easier to navigate and in line with the D.A. Style Guide. In addition, InfoTech is assisting ComCom with the capability of adding Fellowship-wide call access and archives to the website. InfoTech also serves as a median between the GSB Office Manager and

the companies that update the website, ensuring that members always receive current information when they visit it.

GSB International Committee

Dobrodošli u tužitelj zajedništvo

The GSB International Committee continues helping individuals and groups across the world spread the word to the still-suffering debtor. Our biggest hurdle is trying to reach out to those who do not speak or understand the language in which our current available D.A. Conference-approved Literature is presented.

Helping worldwide members translate our D.A. literature into their own language, and then reviewing it professionally so the translated material

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HIP AWARENESS DAY Saturday, July 14, 2018

Purpose: To carry the message to those who cannot come to us and to raise awareness of outreach to Hospitals, Institutions and Prisons in Debtors Anonymous.

Suggested Action Steps:

Each individual member, group or Intergroup may choose to bring awareness of the hope offered through the D.A. Program by:

- Donating D.A. literature to a hospital, institution, prison, or shelter, recovery house, etc.
- Carrying the message by calling and/or visiting local institutions.
- We can help support your plans. E-mail us at: HIP@debtorsanonymous.org

**The HIP Starter Kit is Now Available
on the D.A. website at:
<http://debtorsanonymous.org/HIPStarterKit>**

In the kit you will find the following items:

- Why HIP Service for today's recovering debtor? (p. 2)
- HIP Service - Past, present, and a vision for our future (p. 3)
- Who does HIP work with and how do we reach them? (p. 4-5)
- How to reach out to hospital, institution, and prison systems (p. 6-8)
- How to carry the message in hospital, institutional, and prison settings (p. 9-10)
- What else can I do? - How to "Adopt a Loner" in D.A. (p. 11)
- Other available resources and contacts for HIP Service (p. 12)

General Service Board Committee Reports

(continued)

closely follows the D.A. Conference-approved edition but still represents the translated language—this is our biggest task.

It seems that we're hearing from members from countries all over the world who would like to translate D.A. literature into their language. We're also hearing from those D.A. members who wish to offer their services in reviewing translated languages in which they are fluent.

Our future goal is assisting the GSB Translations and Licensing Committee in getting the new and accrued, translated D.A. Literature published and distributed in the best possible way that benefits the Fellowship as a whole.

Thank You,
GSB International Committee

GSB Legal Affairs Committee

The GSB Legal Affairs Committee is involved in the registration, maintenance, and defense of Debtors Anonymous' intellectual property, copyrights, and trademarks. To provide the D.A. Fellowship with examples of recent work completed by the committee (and the Board,) we offer the following updates.

The Debtors Anonymous trademark has been renewed for ten years, or until 2028. A "Notice of Acceptance and Renewal" has been received from the law firm which the Board has engaged for assisting us with intellectual property topics. In this case, the law firm has assisted us with filing a "Combined Declaration of Continued Use and Request for Renewal" with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the Debtors Anonymous trademark.

The GSB Legal Affairs Committee is in the process of filing for a copyright for the approved whiteboard video through the U.S. Copyright Office. Likewise, the committee is maintaining a database

with each piece of D.A. literature, the registered copyright dates, and dates of last printings. Copyright dates will be renewed for a piece of literature if significant revisions are made to that literature. The database will be used by the GSB Literature Publications Committee to ensure the accuracy of copyright dates in our literature.

The GSB Legal Affairs Committee reviewed and approved the "Assignment of Rights" for the Debtors Anonymous *Daily Meditation Book* and forwarded the document back to the GSB Literature Publications Committee to forward as a motion to the full Board for approval.

We hope this report helps D.A. members understand the types of issues that the General Service Board addresses on behalf of the Fellowship.

GSB Literature Translation and Licensing Committee

We are a new GSB committee responding to the fact that in recent years the number of translations sent to us for approval has grown substantially, and the need for both clarity and focused attention on this work has grown too. We want to get on top of this and support the GSB International Committee and WSC International

Caucus to get as much translated literature out to the Fellowship as possible. So we will be working on the back-office detail of license agreements and policy about design and pricing. We will be creating a business plan for the most abundant way D.A. can license translated literature—and perhaps also English speaking literature for printing in regions other than the USA, where we have had requests for discussion about this issue.

We are a committee of three, or four if you count HP, who already have a number of other responsibilities so we don't expect miracles. But we might get some. We have our first meeting at the end of May 2018.

Josie OP, Chair

GSB Literature Publications (Lit Pub)

The GSB Literature Publications Committee is responsible for the creation, publication, revision, and reprinting of D.A. literature, including books, pamphlets and other items such as bookmarks and newcomer packets.

This has been a very exciting time for literature development in D.A. as several projects are coming to fruition.

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IMPORTANT LINKS

www.DebtorsAnonymous.org/enews

Sign up for special announcements from D.A.

www.DebtorsAnonymous.org/free

Download free literature from the D.A. website.

www.DebtorsAnonymous.org/register

Register your meeting annually with the D.A. website to keep online information current for D.A. members.

www.DebtorsAnonymous.org/contribute

Contribute to D.A. as a member and as a meeting to help publish literature and support the General Service Office.

General Service Board Committee Reports

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The GSB Literature Publications Committee has also been actively working on the development and production of several literature projects.

The “*Tools of Business Debtors Anonymously*” is a new pamphlet published in 2018 and is currently available for purchase as our newest piece of literature.

The Literature Services Committee, which develops each piece of literature by selecting a writer and editing various drafts, is currently in the process of selecting writers for the *Basic Text* of D.A., as well as the *Step Study Guides* for D.A. and B.D.A.

The Literature Publications Committee and the WSC Literature Committee are working together to review a new pamphlet: “*The Twelve Promises of Debtors Anonymously*.” We are hopeful that this pamphlet will be able to be presented to the WSC for review and possible approval in August in Minneapolis.

A Trustee member of Literature Publications also serves as the GSB liaison to the WSC Literature Committee and helps facilitate the development of a concept for a piece of literature through the Literature Approval Process. The WSC Literature Committee is currently working on several projects, including the *Daily Meditation Book*, collecting member stories for consideration to be included in the *D.A. Basic Text*, reviewing the *D.A. and Health Issues* pamphlet concept, and development of an outline for a Diversity Pamphlet, a new concept which was approved by the Convocation in Dallas in 2017.

For several years, the Literature Publications Committee has been exploring options for literature, such as eBooks and other electronic possibilities. The interior files for *The D.A. Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts* have been formatted for an electronic version

and we are working with a vendor to complete this process.

Lit Pub is also working with the GSB and WSC International Committees to address the needs of members requesting literature translations and increasing access to our literature resources. To this end, a new committee addressing licensing and translations was convened in May 2018 and will be a permanent GSB committee.

The GSB Literature Publications Committee is excited about the progress on our literature in process over the year. We will be involved in selecting the writers for both the *D.A. Basic Text* and *Step Study Guides* for D.A. and B.D.A., and we may have a new pamphlet ready to present for possible Conference approval in Minneapolis in August 2018. We will keep the Fellowship updated.

GSB Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

The Long Range Planning Committee facilitates the GSB’s long-term efforts to carry the message of recovery to suffering compulsive debtors around the world. It develops strategies and action plans to help D.A. remain a prosperous, effective Fellowship so that D.A. as a whole can fulfill its primary purpose. It works though the GSB to help all levels of D.A.—the GSB, the

GSO, the World Service Conference, and the Fellowship—plan and work to establish a strong foundation for the future of D.A.

Over the past two years, an Ad Hoc Committee to study D.A.’s finances was convened by the GSB Chair. That Committee recommended that the LRPC create a new 5-year plan for D.A. We have looked at the previous 5-year plan created in 2009, have gleaned some “lessons learned,” and are excited to have a fresh “look” forward. Creation of this new 5-year plan will be one of the main projects LRPC over the next several years.

LRPC also plans and conducts four “Ask-the-GSB” phone forums during each conference year. In October 2017, we conducted a call to recap the 2017 WSC in Dallas. We followed with calls on January 21, 2018 on the topics of “Solvency and Sponsorship,” and on May 6, 2018 on “D.A.’s Finances.” The final call this conference year will be on Sunday, July 15th, 2018 and will focus on “Updates from the GSB.”

The speaker portion of each call is recorded and there is also time reserved for those attending to ask questions or make comments. These calls provide an opportunity to hear the experience, strength and hope of other members and to deepen our D.A. experience.

2018 D.A. World Service Conference

August 1-5, 2018, Wednesday through Sunday
Crowne Plaza AiRE Airport Hotel, Minnesota

Transformation and Strength—The Twelve Steps

Please Join Us!

Early Registration discount deadline: June 30

D.A. 2018 WSC Registration Packet:

<http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/2018wsc>

Electronic Registration Available:

<http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/2018register>

World Service Conference Committee Reports

WSC Conference Committee

The WSC Conference Committee is currently discussing items to present as recommendations for the incoming Conference Committee. Among these issues are a workflow for review of the Charter and potential revisions to the John H. Fund award process. The Conference Committee also communicates regularly with the Twin Cities Host Committee, receiving reports from its Chair during monthly conference calls.

Since the last *DA Focus* report, the Committee has successfully communicated with the GSB Conference Support Committee to include on the WSC registration webpage a digital preliminary census of WSC Committee and Caucus staffing. The Committee also continues to work with the ad-hoc Remote Participation Trial Committee (RPTC) to prepare for the 2018 WSC Remote Participation Trial. The RPTC drafted a registration packet specifically for Remote Participants, and forwarded it to the GSB CSC for approval and distribution. The RPTC has received communication from a few potential Remote Participants in Europe and South America and hopes to receive more. The RPTC plans to host a mock Remote Participation session in July so that all parties are prepared for the Conference. Those eligible and interested in being a Remote Participant, or those interested in being of service for the trial, should email: wsc2018rpt@gmail.com.

WSC Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC)

After much deliberation, we concluded that our 4/29/18 Fellowship-Wide Call would have three 15-minute speakers with long time D.A. recovery speak on the subject of visions as it relates to fellowship. The description from our

flyer stated: "Three Dynamic Speakers Will Share Their Experience, Strength, and Hope About How They Moved Out of Isolation into a Life Filled with Rich Meaning and Purpose to Build Positive Loving Connections of Recovery with Others in D.A." Committee members who were on the call mentioned Melissa did a stand-out job leading the meeting and that all speakers did a profound job of sharing their ESH. There were 64 D.A. members on the call. To listen to the recording, call: (319) 527-2885, Code 214381#

On March 31st, I chaired the quarterly call for Chairs of WSC Committees and Caucuses. This was the third call out of four and the first that I chaired since replacing the wonderful Bill. Alexia was the timekeeper. You can hear the call here: 319-527-2885, 214381#, ref. #14 Eleven out of thirteen WSC Chairs attended but at least one of those who wasn't in attendance had never been notified.

Handling difficult personalities on committees/caucuses was discussed by one member. There was also discussion about having accessible materials via Google Drive for previous chairs to pass helpful information to incoming chairs. The next and last call which I will be chairing will be on June 30th, 2018 2PM Eastern time.

Alexia received an uplifting email from Eric of a Provincetown, MA D.A. group about how much the socialda.org speaker tapes inspire him and his group. He said that his meeting would set up and then have to wait for people to come for the first year. But now, his area has 4 D.A. groups! Every month for the past 6 or 7 years, the groups listen to a speaker from the website. For the first time his area is hosting a D.A. event! (I hope they know about the Fellowship-Wide Conference Calls!)

For the moment, the FCC has tabled the 4th World Wide Conference Call, which was potentially to be on the

subject of G-Sponsorship. It seemed to us that since there was so much vagueness as to how the practice of group sponsorship should be carried out, that it would in turn be difficult to find qualified speakers on the subject! Instead we thought it may be better to work on drafting a handout for the practice of group sponsorship. We would ideally like to have a clearcut format and structured handout for D.A. members at the 2018 WSC.

In the same spirit, we presented a recommendation via the GSB Communication Committee to the GSB Long Range Planning Committee on March 18, 2018 that information about G-Sponsorship be included in the 2018 D.A. Manual of Service (DAMS). This was approved.

In the meantime, our tireless trustee Jo Mc. has offered to do some research on the history of G-Sponsorship.

In The Spirit of Service,
Lynn S., FCC Chair

WSC Literature Committee (Lit Com)

Committee Officers

Chair: Amy O.
Vice Chair: Marysia H.
Secretary: Kelly L.
Treasurer: Andrea B.

Committee Members

Amina Z., Amos P., Amy O., Andrea B., Cynthia S., Debbie L., Diana G., Gail D. (stepped down in April,) Julie C., Kelly L., Lolly A., Maiya H. (stepped down in April,) Mary Jane B., Marysia H.

GSB Liaison
Sharon S.

The 2017-18 WSC Literature Committee continues to work on the literature projects within their subcommittees, though a few have been in a holding pattern as they
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World Service Conference Committee Reports

(continued)

wait for projects to move through the literature pipeline and be sent to our subcommittees for review and approval. Since the December report, the WSC Literature Committee has approved the following drafts and forwarded them to the General Service Board for review:

- D.A. Basic Text—Call for Stories — the WSC Literature Committee approved content in May and will send to the GSB Communications Committee (ComCom) for distribution by eNews to the Fellowship.

The five subcommittees have made the following progress:

2017-2018 subcommittee work:

- “Basic Text” stories subcommittee (Point Person: Kelly, Members: Amos, Andrea, Diana, Julie) — This subcommittee completed a “D.A. Basic Text—Call for Stories” which was reviewed and approved by the WSC LitCom in May 2018. The subcommittee will send it to the GSB Communications Committee (Com Com) for distribution by eNews to Fellowship.

- “BDA Annual Business Plan” subcommittee (Point Person: Amina, Members: Cynthia, Lolly) — Literature Publications is currently reviewing a draft of a BDA Annual Business Plan and will get back to this subcommittee on any further work needed on this project. This subcommittee has disbanded until further notice.

- “Daily Meditations Book” subcommittee (Point Person: Amos, Members: Amy, Debbie) — This subcommittee has developed a process for collecting original writings from D.A. Members for the Daily Meditation Book. They are awaiting the final copy of the Assignment of Rights from Legal before sending it and the revised and approved Call to Action to the GSB Communications

Committee (Com Com) for distribution by eNews to Fellowship.

- “Diversity in D.A.” pamphlet subcommittee (Point Person: Diana, Members: Andrea, Kelly) — This subcommittee is working on a draft outline for a pamphlet titled ‘Diversity in D.A.’. This literature concept was approved at the 2017 World Service Conference.

- “From Chaos to Clarity” pamphlet concept subcommittee (Point Person: Marysia, Member: Debbie) — This subcommittee is working on a concept proposal focused on debtors who suffer from debting that is perpetuated and worsened by symptoms of chronic disorganization. A draft was reviewed by the WSC Literature Committee; however, the committee decided it needs more work. The subcommittee will continue to work on the concept proposal at regular meetings and drop-in meetings.

- “Health Issues” pamphlet (Point Person: Mary Jane, Members: Debbie) — This subcommittee was disbanded in January due to lack of content to review. They have since reconvened to review content sent over from the GSB with the writings on this project to date (not approved by GSB Lit Pub). The subcommittee will review and determine what exactly is “missing” as it was decided that the writing has veered away from the original concept that was approved in 2011.

The Literature Committee is also reviewing the most recent version of the “Twelve Promises” pamphlet and will vote on whether or not to approve it as written during our June 13 WSC Literature Committee teleconference call.

This year’s Literature Committee conducted Drop-In meetings through January 2018, until all Issues and Concerns were approved and will pick them back up starting in May

2018. These weekly one hour-long teleconference calls will focus on literature projects that need focused attention. The Literature Committee is full of talented members that are committed to careful consideration of any and all literature produced for the D.A. program. It is an honor to serve on this committee.

In service,
Amy O.
WSC Literature Committee Chair

WSC International Caucus

The Caucus’s mission is to exchange information and develop initiatives to support the growth of D.A. internationally. We have met monthly (8 times) since WSC and have been working on the following goals:

- To develop a written history of International D.A.

- To request from GSB Communications Committee for updates to the history of D.A. from International D.A. — Europe, Asia Pacific. (Need to answer basic questions: “When did D.A. first start?, How did they find out about D.A.?”) We have collected the history of the UK, Kenya, and Czech Republic. We are working on Canada, Italy, France, Germany, South America, and Asia.

- To collate 2-3 international stories for an international edition of *Ways & Means* celebrating its 30th anniversary, as well as *DA Focus*, and *A Currency of Hope*, 3rd Edition. This agenda item dovetails with the Caucus’s 1st goal as we are receiving shares about how D.A. started in different countries. We have collected ones from Russia, Prague, and Kenya, and we are working on some more.

- To support the GSB as they continue to investigate implementing diversified payment options for international Fellowship members.

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World Service Conference Committee Reports

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GSB has tested a donate button for international fellows.

- To support the Trial of the Remote Participation for GSRs and/or ISRs—the Chair has attended monthly meetings to offer support of this trial.

- To support the Spanish speaking fellowship with literature.

- To work with the Intergroup Caucus to help with Mapping Project of D.A. meetings around the globe.

2019 WSC Host Committee

Greetings from Los Angeles, the site of the D.A. WSC 2019! We are excited to report that the GSB has approved the contract for the LAX Hilton Hotel for August 7-11, 2019. Fantastic location!

We are currently holding a contest for “Best Logo” and “Best Tagline (Theme).” We meet once a month, every second Saturday, at LA’s Original Farmer’s Market. Here is our 30-strong team so far—and we’ve just started!

Executive Committee:
Chair: Rob B.

Vice-Chair: Deb O.
Treasurer: Willie W.

Subcommittee Chairs:
Gala Subcommittee: Angel G.
Hospitality Subcommittee: Carolyn C.
Logistics Subcommittee: David M.
Technology Subcommittee: Peter A.

Host Committee:
Barnaby S., Ben A., Betty R., Burton B., Deborah R., Elizabeth M., Erik O., Ginger D., Harmony J., Jacquie J., Jerome S., Julia F., Kathleen I., Lindsey B., Lolly A., Lynda L., Mary P., Patricia W., Peggy M., Rob S., Ruby S., Stephanie H., Tim G.

The Tools of Business Debtors Anonymous

Debtors Anonymous
Conference-Approved Literature

“The Tools of Business Debtors Anonymous (B.D.A.), together with the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, allow us to operate our business without incurring new unsecured debt and to do business in the spirit of service.”

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: In D.A., our purpose is threefold: to stop incurring unsecured debt, to share our experience with the newcomer, and to reach out to other debtors.



New Pamphlet

The Debtors Anonymous General Service Board, the World Service Conference Literature Committee and GSB Literature Publications and Literature Services Committees are pleased to announce the publication of a new World Service Conference-Approved pamphlet:

“The Tools of Business Debtors Anonymous”

“The Tools of Business Debtors Anonymous (B.D.A.), together with the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, allow us to operate our business without incurring new unsecured debt and to do business in the spirit of service.”

“The Tools of Business Debtors Anonymous,” a new 14-page pamphlet, is available for purchase by individual members or groups. The Literature Order Form, which has been updated to include this new pamphlet (P-132), is available on the Debtors Anonymous website at debtorsanonymous.org.

Please share this information at your meetings, and please forward this announcement to other D.A. members.

An Important Message from the Debtors Anonymous General Service Board

The General Service Board is committed to keeping the Debtors Anonymous Fellowship informed of the financial health of the Fellowship through periodic updates.

Background

Over the last several years, expenses for the General Service Office, the Board, and other administrative requirements have increased, while contributions and literature sales have remained basically the same. This has resulted in a deficit, which the General Service Board has met by using a small portion of our prudent reserve.

Board Request

Continuing to use our prudent reserve to make up for shortfalls in income is not sustainable long-term. The 2018 spending plan already cut services to levels that have resulted in reductions of services. To avoid using more of our prudent reserve, the Board is asking all D.A. groups and individual D.A. members to consider increasing their contributions to Debtors Anonymous.

Some D.A. members may not know that, in addition to putting funds in the basket at their D.A. meetings, they can also make direct contributions to D.A. to help cover the expenses of the Fellowship as a whole. A number of D.A. members already do this every month—they include the contributions in their monthly spending plan and send their contributions to the General Service Office on a set schedule. Other D.A. members send contributions when they are able. Both types of contributions are important to meeting the goals of the Fellowship.

Concerning monthly contributions, any amount that fits into your spending plan is welcome. A contribution of even \$5 or \$10, made every month, can make a big difference. Additionally, for D.A. members in the United States, direct contributions may be tax-deductible. Note, however, that the maximum donation per member for any given year is \$5,000.00.

Regarding Seventh Tradition contributions from groups, D.A. members can remind their Treasurers that their group's commitment to regular contributions is a part of their group's commitment to support the Fellowship.

In summary, and with much respect for our incredible Fellowship, the General Service Board asks all D.A. groups and individual D.A. members to consider supporting the Fellowship by increasing their level of group and individual contributions. Thank you for your continued support.

**Thank you,
The General Service Board of Debtors Anonymous**

For the Good and Wellbeing of the Fellowship

Have you signed up for **eNews**? Has your group?

Get connected to D.A. worldwide.

Receive newsletters, announcements, event info, and more—about 3-5 emails per month.

To subscribe, visit:
debtorsanonymous.org

Share your personal story in **Ways & Means**, our meeting in print!

Have you been of service to a meeting by giving a **lead share**?

Write it down, send it in!

You can also email us your original photo, drawing, or poem that represents your recovery and/or vision in Debtors Anonymous.

Email your story/artwork to:
waysandmeansDA@hotmail.com



DEBTORS
ANONYMOUS

ANNOUNCEMENT CORNER

Here are some of the possible announcements for members—especially General Service Representatives (GSRs)—to make during D.A. meetings:

1. Sign up for eNews to receive D.A. announcements! You can subscribe at:
www.debtorsanonymous.org/enews
2. If it fits in your spending plan, please increase your 7th Tradition contributions!
3. Saturday, July 14th is D.A. HIP Awareness Day! How might you and your meeting carry the message to Hospitals, Institutions and Prisons? Get the HIP Starter Kit at:
www.debtorsanonymous.org/HIPstarterKit
4. There will be a Fellowship-wide call on Sunday, July 15th with three speakers sharing on the topic “Updates from the GSB” followed by Q&A. Details will be listed at:
www.debtorsanonymous.org/events
5. Check out the new pamphlet “Tools of BDA” available in the D.A. store!
6. Registration is open for GSRs to attend the 2018 World Service Conference from Wednesday, August 1st to Sunday, August 5th in Minnesota. For GSRs: the early registration discount ends on **June 30th**, final registration deadline is **July 8th**, and hotel reservations are due by **July 11th**. For Guests: registration is due by **July 8th** for the Fellowship Day lunch and the Gala Dinner, which are open to all D.A. members.
7. Consider submitting a bid for your city to host the World Service Conference in 2020 and/or 2021
8. The Board Literature Publications Committee received **13 proposals** from D.A. members to write the **D.A. Basic Text** and **D.A./BDA Step Study Guide** book projects. Thank you for your service to Debtors Anonymous!
9. Share your story in *Ways & Means*—the recovery magazine of D.A.—or share an article about service in the *DA Focus* newsletter. Go to:
www.debtorsanonymous.org/share

(“D.A. Service” continued from Page 1)

an institution before you rotate out. Train someone to take over your job, suggest that your sponsees do service, and most important, let go and let God!

We close with this thought, passed on to us by one of the people we asked to write about why they do service:

“I can only say that service is a way for me to practice the principles I learned in the first 11 Steps in all my affairs. It is a way of giving back to my Higher Power a little of what has been given to me, and it is a way of expressing my gratitude. Indeed, I have heard that service is ‘gratitude in action.’ It is so easy to talk of being grateful, but service is a way of expressing that gratitude through deeds. With respect to gratitude, service is a way of walking the walk, rather than just talking the talk. Additionally, service gives me a way of taking the focus off myself and thinking of others. The AA 12&12 says that self-centered fear is the chief motivator of all of our character defects. When I take the focus off myself and think of others, I am doing my best to overcome this crippling self-centeredness.”

— Excerpted from *Ways & Means*, 2007 4th Quarter