



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES, INC.
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115 (212) 870-3400

(Between 119th and 120th Streets)

Please direct all communications to:

GRAND CENTRAL STATION
P.O. BOX 459
NEW YORK, NY 10163
FAX# 212-870-3003

September 19, 2014

Dear Conference Member:

I hope you have enjoyed your summer and are reaping the fruits of your sobriety.

Concept 9 talks about the "vision" that is required for our leaders and the A.A.W.S. board has been spending a great deal of time focusing on the future of G.S.O. and how best to serve the Fellowship.

Looking at the future, the A.A.W.S. board realizes that depending on literature profits to make up the shortfall of contributions is not a sustainable model to remain self-supporting. We are also aware that while we may communicate numbers and dollars well, we could do a better job informing the Fellowship of how member contributions are used to carry our life-saving message to the still sick and suffering alcoholic.

To this end, we plan to make better use of Box 4-5-9, the A.A. Grapevine, the contribution acknowledgements, and aa.org to communicate to the Fellowship examples of the "7th Tradition in Action"—stories that we hope will better convey where and how the "dollar in the basket" is being used. I have attached a sample story and want to encourage you to send in your own 7th *Tradition in Action* story.

You can send your stories to A.A.W.S. by email or regular mail to Sandra Wilson, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1100, NY, NY 10115/wilsons@aa.org.

Thank you for your service, and we look forward to hearing from you.

In fellowship,

Bill Noonan
Chair
A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors

Encl.



What Is My Contribution to G.S.O. Used For?

I recently had the privilege of attending an A.A. Conference in another country, where I was also able to attend a few local A.A. meetings. While at one meeting, I had the opportunity to talk with an old-timer about A.A. in his country the last 25 years.

Stressing to me how vital the availability of A.A. literature in their language was to the growth of A.A., he described to me the tears members had in their eyes after receiving the first shipment of Big Books in their native language. He shared with me that while it might not seem that important to others, for those dying of alcoholism, it was like the hungry getting a supply of food and water.

This conversation which occurred thousands of miles from where I live, reaffirmed for me the sacred obligation we have to carry the message and to help the next sick and suffering alcoholic. Translating A.A. literature is one of the life-saving actions -- an action made possible by your contribution to the General Service Office.

Member of the A.A.W.S. Board