

NORTHERN ILLINOIS AREA 20

Literature Committee

To: NIA Assembly
From: Tom Germuska, Literature Chair
Re: Committee Activity

Date: June 27, 2009

Up-date on literature-related activity since the last Area Assembly:

- Most significant are price increases of up to 40.8% effective July 1 for books published by A.A.W.S. (The cost of the Big Book goes up 33.3% to \$8.) The price hikes are a brutal reminder that, despite the assertion in our Preamble, as a fellowship we are not self-supporting through our own contributions. (When AA's publishing arm announced the increases it acknowledged that they were made: "to help keep our prudent reserve at acceptable levels.")

A motion to enable the Fellowship in Northern Illinois to cost-effectively carry the message by making the Big Book (B-1) available at discounted prices has been referred to the Area Finance Committee.

The A.A.W.S. price increases apply to all editions of the 29 books and boxed sets it publishes including translations; there is no change in the prices for other literature and materials.

A.A.W.S. practices for calculating shipping and handling charges as well as the discount structure also are unchanged. A list showing the price changes for the books is on the back of this report. A new catalog reflecting the price changes is now available. However, because only the cost of books has changed, the "2008" catalog still can be used.

- There is a surplus of the leave-behind information packages for use when making a 12th Step Call. Groups and Districts that can utilize them to carry the message can pick them up at the Literature Committee display. The packets can't help a drunk sitting in a box. In addition, a quantity of the imprinted envelopes used to hold the literature also is available. Groups and Districts that want to assemble their own packets are welcome to take some.
- Literature-related actions at the 59th General Service Conference include:
 - ✓ Approval was given for: a new pamphlet *A.A. for the Native North American*; the addition of a sentence to the pamphlet *A Newcomer Asks* that encourages newcomers to obtain and study the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*; and a change in the title of the pamphlet *44 Questions to Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.*
 - ✓ The Trustees Literature Committee will undertake a thorough review of the pamphlet *Questions and Answers on Sponsorship* to eliminate or revise outmoded ethnic, cultural and vocational references. The revised pamphlet *The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs* was returned to the Trustees Committee on Literature for further discussion.
 - ✓ A new pamphlet for members with special needs will be developed. Expect a call for stories from members in recovery who are deaf, blind, wheel-chair bound or have other special needs.
 - ✓ The 2010 Conference Literature Committee will discuss development of Conference-approved literature that focuses on spirituality and includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are successfully sober in the Fellowship.

The position of Alternate Literature Chair is vacant; an election to fill that vacancy is the first item on the agenda for today's meeting.

I am available to make a presentation or conduct a workshop in your District on the importance of relying on Conference-approved literature. Please call or email to schedule a date and time.

Price changes for books published by A.A.W.S. effective July 1, 2009

Catalog #	Title	Price 6/27/09	Price 7/1/09	% increase
B-1	<i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>	\$6.00	\$8.00	33.3%
B-30	<i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> (soft-cover)	5.60	7.60	35.7%
B-16	<i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> (large-print)	6.30	8.30	31.7%
B-35	<i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> (pocket-sized)	3.50	4.00	14.3%
B-20	<i>Experience Strength and Hope</i>	9.00	5.00	(44.4%)
B-2	<i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i>	6.40	7.40	15.6%
B-4	<i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> (gift)	6.25	7.25	16%
B-15	<i>Twelve Steps...</i> (soft-cover)	6.00	7.00	16.6%
B-14	<i>Twelve Steps...</i> (large-print)	6.75	7.75	14.8%
B-17	<i>Twelve Steps...</i> (pocket-size)	4.50	5.50	22.2%
B-3	<i>A.A. Comes of Age</i>	7.50	8.50	13.3%
B-5	<i>As Bill Sees It</i>	7.00	8.00	14.3%
B-18	<i>As Bill Sees It</i> (soft-cover)	6.60	7.60	15%
B-27	<i>As Bill Sees It</i> (large-print)	7.50	8.50	13.3%
B-8	<i>Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers</i>	8.50	9.50	11.8%
B-9	<i>Pass it On</i>	9.00	10.00	11.1%
B-10	Boxed set <i>Dr. Bob...</i> and <i>Pass it On</i>	17.50	19.50	11.4%
B-11	Boxed set " <i>Big Book</i> " and <i>E.S.H.</i>	15.00	13.00	(13.3%)
B-12	<i>Daily Reflections</i>	7.25	8.25	13.8%
B-19	<i>Daily Reflections</i> (large-print)	7.75	8.75	12.9%
B-13	<i>A.A. in Prison</i>	2.00	2.25	12.5%
B-6	<i>Came to Believe</i>	3.75	4.25	13.3%
B-26	<i>Came to Believe</i> (large-print)	4.25	4.75	11.8%
B-7	<i>Living Sober</i>	3.75	4.25	13.3%
B-25	<i>Living Sober</i> (large-print)	4.25	4.75	11.8%
BM-31	<i>A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts</i>	2.55	3.55	39.2%
BM-32	<i>Twelve Concepts for World Service</i>	2.45	3.45	40.8%
B-33	Service manual (large-print)	7.80	8.30	6.4%

Prices for the corresponding French, Spanish and other foreign language editions of these books have changed by the same amounts.