November 15, 2013

Re: Update on A.A.W.S. e-book publishing and distribution

It is a great pleasure to send you good news that the eagerly anticipated digital publication of our A.A. books is soon to be a reality.

As you know, this is a result of the Advisory Action from the 2013 General Service Conference: "A.A. World Services be permitted to utilize digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies, such as but not limited to, smart phones, tablets, e-readers, applications and commissioned online stores for the sale and distribution of digital A.A. literature. The committee requested that the board ensure that all contracts protect our Traditions, with the option to discontinue any and all contracts at any time. The committee requested that a status and financial report be submitted to the appropriate 2014 Conference Committee."

We plan to make available our catalog of book titles (a total of 11 items in the three languages of the U.S./Canada Conference) through the following retailers: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Apple iTunes.

The first title we will publish will be Alcoholics Anonymous (English), to be followed by Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (English), to be followed by all of our book titles in all three languages on an approximate one-title-per-week schedule over the next several months. We estimate that the Big Book, with a planned list price of \$5.99, will be published on or before December 1, 2013.

We will publish these e-books according to the third-party vendors' formats, terms and requirements, as is generally required of any other publisher—and we have the ability to remove our books from any retail site at our discretion.

Please also note that our currently available A.A. app for e-books (the Big Book and the Twelve and Twelve for Apple reading devices) will continue to be available to the Fellowship until further notice.

As we move forward with this exciting venture, announcements about our digital publications will be posted on G.S.O.'s Web site, www.aa.org.