

**Literature Thought Force Report**  
**AWSC 8/1/2015**

The Literature Thought Force is charged with looking at options for how the Area will handle CAL (Conference Approved Literature) going forward as well as the duties and responsibilities of the Literature Coordinator.

We have come to the conclusion that there are two major concerns that need to be addressed. The first is whether the Area should continue to purchase and sell literature and in what capacity. The second is what should the primary role of the Literature Coordinator be? Depending on which direction the Area decides to pursue, different questions and/or concerns need to be addressed.

There are some issues that should be addressed regardless of the direction the Area decides to take:

- 1) What will the financial impact be on the Area if we no longer make a 'profit' off the sales? How will we handle it if literature sales actually go into the 'red'? (As a reference, over the past six years literature has 'cleared' an average of \$1400/year; that is not including the Coordinator expenses.)
- 2) A literature "kit/display" should be created. The kit would have a sample of literature that the Literature Coordinator could use to show members what CAL is as well as what it contains. It could also be used to help them place their own literature order if needed.
- 3) Survey the AWSC members to get input from their districts. Example of a question to be asked - Do members think we should have CAL at events to carry the message or make a profit?

If the Area decides we SHOULD continue with the sale and distribution of literature, the following issues should be addressed:

- 1) Should the Area register as an official LDC so as to get a discount on the purchase of literature from the WSO? If the Area does not become an LDC then we will continue to purchase literature from the SE WI LDC and need to look at the possibility of a mark-up to cover shipping and handling costs.
- 2) The Area should obtain insurance coverage on the literature.
- 3) A maximum dollar amount for on-hand inventory should be set.
- 4) How can we incorporate more of the WSO (World Service Office) Literature Coordinator's focus as that of a carrier of the message through educating members about our literature and resource person for CAL? Do we need to separate out the responsibilities of seller vs educator and create two positions?
- 5) Make sure it is understood that a Literature Coordinator has flexibility when it comes to vehicle and space requirements. If a member is willing to serve in the position they can work out the logistics.

If the Area decides we SHOULD NOT continue with the sale and distribution of literature, the following issues should be addressed:

- 1) Need to re-define the Literature Coordinator position to reflect that the primary role is to educate and inform the membership of the existence of and content of the literature as well as encouraging submitting new writings, etc.
- 2) May want to look at a way to 'contract out' to others the selling of literature at Assemblies, Conventions, workshops, etc. ("Others" could possibly mean an LDC, districts or groups.)
- 3) Will we need to dispose of any inventory and if so how?

At this time we feel the Thought Force should be dissolved and a Task Force be created to actually answer and implement these thoughts.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann J

Literature Thought Force Chairperson