



NewsGram

Vol. I, No. 5

C.A. World Services, Inc. P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232

April-May, 1988

Plans finalized for Chicago Convention

'Connection' returns; Stories needed for recovery newsletter

"The Connection" is back. After several months without an editor, "The Connection," C.A.'s recovery publication is ready to resume with a new editor and a new enthusiasm.

Susie S. of Arcadia, CA, with a wide background in writing and editing, has become the new editor and is looking for stories to include in the publication.

"We will need the support of all our friends to keep this going," Susie said in a flyer sent out to all C.A. meetings.

'The Connection' will be a source of hope, strength and courage ...

-- Suzie S., Editor

She has asked that GSRs begin making announcements in individual meetings asking for contributions of material to "The Connection."

"We're looking for stories, poetry, letters as the core material for the publication," Susie said. "We won't do hard news -- the "NewsGram" will handle that. 'The Connection' will be a source of hope, strength and courage for the fellowship."

Susie recommends that material be typed, although that isn't necessary. "On a trial basis," she said, "we will accept audio tapes of stories."

Susie said she is hopeful that fellow addicts will submit stories and letters relating to specific subjects of recovery (i.e. the "moment of clarity," how agnostics handle "turning it over," or "hitting bottoms in sobriety").

By Lisa O.
Staff Writer

Plans are being finalized for the Fourth Annual Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention July 1-4 in Chicago.

The Chicago Convention Committee has had 5,000 flyers printed that have been distributed and Debby B. of Chicago reports that more are being printed.

"The flyers have been mailed to all meetings in the World Directory," she said.

The theme for the convention is "Under New Management," reflecting the Third Step -- turning our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understand him.

A key in the shape of the Chicago skyline with the letters "C.A." on it is the convention logo. The key represents the steps as keys to positive changes in our lives, Debbie said.

The skyline symbolizes the growth of Cocaine Anonymous, and Chicago as the site of the convention.

Previous conventions were held in Santa Barbara, San Diego and San Francisco and the 1989 convention has been awarded to New York City.

Improvisational workshops will be the focus of this year's convention, Debbie said. Subject of the workshops will be recovery topics, including sponsorship, relationships, nutrition, traditions, service and a Fourth-Step workshop.

The convention will be at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, which sits on Chicago's scenic lakefront. Some 350 rooms have been blocked off for C.A. members at the discount rate of \$75 per night. For reservations, members may call either the hotel at 312/922-4400 or Hilton's toll-free number, 800/445-8667. Be sure to identify as being with the C.A. Convention to receive the reduced room rate.

Buttons with the convention logo are available through the World Services Office at \$1 apiece. Areas are encouraged to sell them to generate income.

Helene H. new chairperson of WSO board of directors

Helene H. of Van Nuys, CA, is the new chairperson of the C.A. World Service Board of Directors. She was chosen recently by the C.A. World Services Board of Trustees to lead the board for the two years.

The board of directors runs the day-to-day activities of the fellowship.

Helene has been secretary on the board for the last year and has been active in World Service activities for several years.

Steve P. of Monrovia, CA, who has been the director-at-large on the board for the past year, was chosen vice chairman and is the only other holdover from the past year's board.

Sara Lynn C. of Canoga Park, CA is the new secretary and Bob C. from Montrose, CA, is the new treasurer. The director-at-large position has not yet been filled.

Both Sara Lynn and Bob have been active in C.A. service for several years.

Ray G. of Riverside, CA, chairman of the board of trustees, said he felt the new board will continue the fine work done by the last year's board, headed by Coco C. of Beverly Hills, CA. "I feel confident that this board will be diligent and hard-working in furthering the goals of Cocaine Anonymous," Ray said.

3rd Concept: trust and 'the Right of Decision'

By Margie G.
Staff Writer

The 12 Concepts of World Service are like a Bill of Rights for C.A. members, according to Ray G. of Riverside, CA, chairman of the board of trustees.

The Concepts also provide a system of checks and balances within the service structure. They are, as their name implies, rather vague; and many of them intertwine with other concepts and traditions.

Concept Three states: "As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, World Service Board of Trustees and its service corporation, staffs, committees and thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of

these elements of world service with a traditional 'Right of Decision.'"

What this concept boils down to simply is trust -- as in "trusted servant," and the responsibility the name implies, Ray said.

"Not just trust, but mutual trust," he said. "For our service structure to function, our C.A. fellowship must have trust in our 'trusted servants.'"

A trusted servant must be informed, aware of his group's needs and conscience, but he also must have the right to make a decision based upon his judgment and conscience at the time he hears all the facts.

"We cannot demand," Ray said, "that any of our 'trusted servants' carry only one message, one opinion, one conscience; and vote or act that way regardless of what is being shared and revealed at a service meeting. We have

to trust that our 'trusted servant' will vote or act within the best interest of those he is serving."

The "Right of Decision" is essential for C.A. to function on any level, but especially on a world level.

"We show our trust in all levels of service," Ray said. "We trust our secretary and treasurer at our meetings. We trust our GSRs at our area level. We trust our world service delegates at conference level -- and we trust our trustees at our world service level.

"The 'Right of Decision,' is not, and cannot ever be, a reason for not taking a group conscience before a major action or decision is made. But our whole fellowship is based on trust and faith. Our service structure, in order to grow with enthusiasm, also needs trust and faith, which we show through the 'Right of Decision.'"



NewsGram

C.A. World Services, Inc.

Board of Trustees:

Raymond G., Riverside, CA	Chair
Jennifer R., Yonkers, NY	Vice Chair
Fenn P., Fairfax, CA	Secretary
Bob L., San Francisco, CA	Trustee
Reginald L., Los Angeles, CA	Trustee
Greg D., Park Ridge, IL	Trustee
H. Lee S., Houston, TX	Trustee
Jack P., Southport, CT	Trustee

C.A. World Services Office

Board of Directors:

Helene H., Van Nuys, CA	Chair
Steve P., Monrovia, CA	Vice-Chair
Sara Lynn C., Canoga Park, CA	Secretary
Bob C., Montrose, CA	Treasurer
Vacant	Director-at-large

Committee Chairs:

Jim B., Altadena, CA	Intergroup
Cory A., Beverly Hills, CA	Office Manager
Jim G., Claremont, CA	Newsletter
Susan S., Arcadia, CA	"The Connection"

"NewsGram" Staff:

Jim G., Claremont, CA	Editor
Mel M., Arcadia, CA	Production Manager
Margie G., Pasadena, CA	Staff Writer
Jim B., Altadena, CA	Staff Writer
Lisa O., Pomona, CA	Staff Writer

"NewsGram" is a bimonthly publication of the World Services Office of Cocaine Anonymous. It is intended solely for the information of members of the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. © 1988 Cocaine Anonymous World Services Organization. All rights reserved. Any unauthorized publication or duplication is expressly prohibited. Send all mail to "NewsGram," P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232. Vol. 1, No. 5

Lawyers committee being formed

A committee of lawyers is being formed by Cocaine Anonymous.

Trustee Jack P. of Southport, CT, said there are two purposes behind the committee:

-- To have a cadre of available attorneys to represent C.A. locally, and

-- To provide a support group of recovering attorneys helping recovering attorneys, similar to a group within Alcoholics Anonymous.

Jack hopes to have lawyers from all over the country participate on the committee.

"This is a committee that the board of trustees feels is extremely important," Jack said. "The attorneys group within A.A. has proven to be a valuable part of that fellowship.

Those interested should write Jack P., 203 Southport Woods Drive, Southport, CT 06490.

Information Numbers

Canada	(416)445-3896	Illinois	(312)278-7444
Alabama	(205)869-0779	Kansas	(316)264-3066
Arizona		Massachusetts	(617)581-5600
Phoenix	(602)279-3838	Nebraska	(402)556-2126
Tucson	(602)326-2211	New Hampshire	(603)889-6681
Northern California		New Mexico	(505)984-9207
San Francisco	(415)563-2358	New York	
East Bay	(415)835-8522	Manhattan	(212)496-4266
South Bay	(408)378-6097	Peekskill	(914)739-8105
Mid-Peninsula	(415)367-7107	Westchester	(914)941-7590
Marin County	(415)453-8439	Oregon	(503)256-1666
Sonoma County	(707)578-4160	Pennsylvania	(215)270-3036
Monterey/Santa Cruz	(408)462-1926	Tennessee	(615)327-8990
Southern California		Texas	
Los Angeles	(213)839-1141	Houston	(713)668-6822
San Fernando Valley	(818)988-1777	Austin	(512)397-6700
San Gabriel Valley	(818)447-2887	Utah	(801)266-1793
Inland Empire	(714)369-8220	Washington	(206)722-6117
Orange County	(714)650-1011	Wisconsin	(414)257-1510
San Diego	(619)268-9109	(Please submit any information on new meetings or hotline numbers to the CAWSO, P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232.)	
Santa Barbara	(805)969-5178		
Colorado	(303)650-8989		
Georgia	(404)255-7787		

WSO: It's not plush, but it's where you get the goods

Tiny office is where chips, literature, starter kits mailed

By Jim G.
Editor

The World Service Office. The name conjures up an image of a plush office with exotic-looking secretaries, private bars and executive washrooms.

With the C.A. World Service Office in Culver City, however, what you get is a tiny two-room office crowded with unmatched furniture, a copy machine, a computer and paper, one overworked office manager and a bathroom shared with the office next door. To say nothing of the chickens nesting in the parking lot outside. And there's definitely no bar.

Culver City may be a stone's throw from Century City, but it's worlds apart.

This is Cory A.'s world at least eight hours a day. She's the one-person paid

It's hard for me to tell you what I do because I do so many different things.

-- Cory A., office manager

staff of Cocaine Anonymous, taking care of a multitude of jobs that keep the fellowship afloat on a daily basis.

When an area gets a shipment of chips and literature, Cory probably packaged it and got it to United Parcel Service. When a new meeting is starting up, it's probably Cory who sent out the starter kit and answered questions on the phone about the fellowship. When Conference delegates receive their monthly mailing, it's Cory who put it together and into the mail. When you call the WSO, it's Cory who most likely will answer the phone.

"It's hard for me to tell you what I do because I do so many different things," she said.

Getting chips and literature to the fellowship is one of her biggest duties. That involves sending out more than 30,000 chips each month and stacks of literature.

"We send out better than 10,000 newcomer chips alone," she said. "But an encouraging sign is that in the six months that I've been working here the orders for one-year chips has tripled. That tells me that it's working out there."

Another encouraging sign is that Cory sends out about 50 starter kits a month.

"One of the things I do a lot of is work with people starting new meetings," she said. "A lot of good things are happening with new friends of the fellowship. I get a lot of calls from people who have moved and want to start meetings in their new areas. Or people who are just getting the fellowship started in their hometowns. I correspond with these people and do all I can to help them get started."

An example happened recently, when Cory worked with a recovering addict on the Big Island of Hawaii to start meetings there. The fellowship in Hawaii previously had been confined to the Island of Oahu.

"Sometimes," she said, "people want to start meetings and have no money. Then, we'll send along some free chips and literature and they can pay us back when the meeting gets going. That's what this fellowship is all about and it's very rewarding to help."

Cory also spends a good deal of time at the office's new computer, purchased with a contribution from C.A. in Connecticut.

"Right now we're using the computer to compile our mailing lists, to keep chip and literature inventories and to record all the financial records," she said.

Cory said it's an exciting time for Cocaine Anonymous because of all the activity with new meetings being started in all parts of the country.

"I try to keep track of all the new meetings," she said. "I now have a form to send back to me included with all the starter kits." She also asked for people to let her know about any new meetings being started so they may be included in the next World Directory. You may write her at P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232 or by calling 213/559-5833.

And you won't have to worry about being put on hold by her secretary.

Shopping for C.A. merchandise? Give a call to the WSO

By Jim G.
Editor

The World Service Office is a place to go shopping for C.A. goods. And the offerings are increasing all the time. Now available are:

-- Plastic chips. They're available for newcomers, 30, 60 and 90 days, six and nine months and years up to 15 for 25 cents apiece.

-- Metal chips. The newest chips are there now for years one through five. New dyes are being made for years six through eight and it is hoped that years nine and 10 will be available in the not-too-distant future. They cost \$1.25 apiece.

-- Literature. At 15 cents apiece the brochures are a real bargain. What's

Logo stickers may be the hot item this year.

available is "To the Newcomer," "Tools of Recovery," "Choosing a Sponsor," "The First 30 Days," and "A Power Greater Than Ourselves."

-- The World Directory. This listing of all known meetings is available for \$2.

-- Meeting signs. These attractive signs are 8 x 14 inches and include the C.A. logo and the words "Meeting Here." The cost is \$7.50 apiece.

-- Podium signs. Perfect to put at the front of any meeting. They are an 8x8-inch replica of the C.A. logo. The cost is \$5 apiece.

-- Logo stickers. This may be the hot item this year. They are 2 1/2-inch-square stickers of the C.A. logo. These will cost 25 cents apiece.

The last WSO Conference also approved the selling of banners of the 12 Steps and the 12 Traditions. The manufacture is being held up, however, until the WSO has the funds for the expensive manufacturing process.

First Tradition calls for unity

By Margie G.
Staff Writer

Unity is a legacy we give the newcomer and it is the spiritual concept that keeps C.A. alive. Unity through common welfare is safe-guarded in Tradition One, which states in the long form: "Each member of Cocaine Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. C.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward."

While unity is a legacy promised in 12-step recovery, the irony is that if we don't maintain it, we sober members of C.A. will flounder and die just as quickly as the newcomer, according to Steve P. of Monrovia, CA, Vice-Chairman of the WSO board.

"For C.A. to survive," he said, "we must stay united. This is why this tradition is extremely important to me as a board member. My goal is to do the best job I can in uniting C.A. on a world level."

Tradition One insures a commonality, equality and cohesiveness to C.A. on a meeting level and a world level.

"It is my goal that everybody be treated equally throughout the states and world," Steve said, ". . . that the smallest group in the Midwest receive its chips and literature just as promptly as the largest group in Beverly Hills or New York City."

While working the steps is a great humbling process to us all, Steve feels that the traditions, as well, can be applied on a personal level.

The traditions are just as important to the individual as they are to the group because they must be maintained on an individual level as well as a group level.

"My home group is a step/tradition study," Steve said. "We study the steps one week and the traditions the next."

How do we get such strength and purpose out of such apparent anarchy? Perhaps it is because Someone bigger than all of C.A. is running the show for us, and perhaps because we diligently try to practice His principles in all our affairs.

"We're a small part of a much vaster whole," Steve said -- a great concept for a bunch of God's chosen drug-addict-misfits!

WSO Board of Directors minutes

A great amount of office housekeeping chores were performed by the new WSO Board of Directors at its meetings in March.

The directors also voted to accept the trustee's recommendation for two-year terms of office for directors and talked extensively about getting non-profit status for one of the two C.A. corporations.

One of the corporations is trustees, which protects the steps and traditions and is a non-profit corporation.

The other is for the board of directors, which runs the day-to-day operations of the World Service Office. It does not have non-profit status.

The board authorized three steps necessary to receive the status: applying for a federal tax I.D. number, a state Board of Equalization resale number and the actual filing for non-profit status.

This action was taken at the March 17 meeting at the WSO headquarters in Culver City, CA.

The treasury report showed \$12,037.23 in the operating account and \$3,375.42 in the trust account as of March 17 and balances of \$1,657.20 in the operating

account and \$3,294.52 in the trust account on March 31.

In discussing the terms of office, Helene H. of Van Nuys, CA, the new chairperson, stressed the importance of board members letting it be known if they were beginning to suffer from "burn-out."

It was decided at the March 31 meeting to pay bills on a semi-monthly basis at board meetings. There was also discussion about how to handle deposits and Bob C. of Montrose, CA, the new treasurer, was assigned to get signature cards for the new board members.

Ray G. of Riverside, CA, chairman of the Board of Trustees who is a regular attendee of Board of Directors meetings, said the trustees have taken an active role in soliciting money for the fellowship and are working on various fundraising ideas. He also reported that the Chicago Convention committee is working hard and holding numerous fundraisers.

It also was decided that the original copies of minutes from the WSO Conferences will remain in the Culver City office.

Meeting count

There are now more than 775 meetings worldwide in Cocaine Anonymous. Following is a list of meetings by state and country in 1985, 1986 and 1987

	1987	1986	1985
Alabama	8	3	--
Alaska	3	3	--
Arizona	38	19	4
California	326	221	108
Colorado	8	3	--
Connecticut	25	17	4
Dist. Columbia	10	1	1
Delaware	2	--	--
Florida	23	8	--
Georgia	31	7	7
Hawaii	4	4	1
Illinois	56	28	13
Indiana	2	--	--
Kansas	7	2	--
Louisiana	3	--	--
Maine	1	--	--
Massachusetts	8	3	--
Michigan	28	10	--
Missouri	4	--	--
Nebraska	1	--	--
Nevada	6	2	2
New Hampshire	2	1	--
New Jersey	6	3	3
New Mexico	4	2	--
New York	33	15	8
Ohio	8	7	1
Oregon	8	5	--
Pennsylvania	5	--	--
Tennessee	13	9	2
Texas	38	20	5
Utah	5	--	--
Virginia	2	2	1
Washington	31	10	3
Wisconsin	18	13	4
Canada	11	7	--
TOTAL	776	425	167

These figures are the best available. If you have corrections, please send them to the C.A. World Services Office, P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232.

Calendar of Events

California

Fifth World Service Conference, Aug. 11-14, 1988, within 50 miles of World Service Office. Details will be announced at a later date.

Illinois

Fourth Annual World Service Convention, July 1-4, 1988, Chicago Hilton and Towers, Chicago, IL. For further information, call Debbie B. (312/334-5620) or Steve B. (312/541-3212) or write C.A. World Service Convention, P.O. Box 14518, Chicago, IL 60614.