



NewsGram

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

July-August 1989

“STEPS TO LIBERTY”

World Service Convention, June 30 - July 3, 1989

by Nancy T., Assistant Editor

Bags are packed, flights are booked, hotel reservations confirmed. C.A. Fellowship members across the country are making final preparations for the trip to New York. The 5th annual C.A. World Service Convention will open on July 1st at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in midtown Manhattan.

“Registration is very high,” said Stan W., Program Committee Chairperson. “As of June 2nd the count topped 300. This is way ahead of previous events.” Registration Committee estimates that attendance could range from 800-1000 participants.

Painstaking preparations have been underway for several months to create a diverse, exciting and well-organized atmosphere for the first “truly international” W.S. Convention. 1989 marks the first year of participation by the newly-established Canadian fellowship of C.A.

Friday night’s dazzling kickoff event: An “Early Bird” cruise around Manhattan Harbor. Set against the twinkling lights of The Big Apple’s spectacular skyline, the Circle Line yacht will provide C.A. conventioners with 3 hours of dancing, dining and shmoozing.

Tickets for this special fundraising event cost \$20. Proceeds will go toward financing the CAWS Conference in July.

Featured at Saturday night’s highlight event will be surprise celebrity entertainment in addition to the traditional dance. Peter L., Entertainment Committee Chairman, reports that a “sizzling” R & B band will keep toes tapping until dawn.

Three dynamic keynote speakers

have been selected for main events: Thomas “Hollywood” H. for the opening meeting; Bobby E. as main speaker for the Saturday night banquet. The closing brunch on Monday will feature Johnny S.

“Steps to Liberty” will host over 70 marathon meetings. Attendees will be able to choose from two simultaneous marathons during the daytime.

Many topic meetings have been created by the program committee, headed by Shari of N.Y. They include: “Relapse in Recovery”; “Living H.I.V. Positive”; a French Speaking meeting; “Gay & Lesbian” meeting; “Young People’s Meeting”; “Footprints”; “Dating 101”; Newcomer’s meeting; and “Roll-Your-Own”, or “pick as you see fit” topic meeting. Two Men’s and Women’s meetings are also scheduled.

A variety of dynamic workshops will be available to registrants. Included in the roster are the A.C.A. Workshop, Nutrition Workshop, 8th & 9th Step Workshop, Multi-Media Workshop, Sponsorship Workshop, Meditation Workshop, Trustees: The Fellowship Talks Back, 4th & 5th Step Workshop, Chemical Dependency & Sexuality Workshop (includes the AIDS issue), Big Book Workshop, Parenting Workshop and a Relationships Workshop.

Convention hosts are extremely enthusiastic about the venue. “It’s a beautiful hotel. They’re very hospitable and have gone out of their way to accommodate this convention,” reports Stan W. “We have booked the hotel at an advantageous time. July is off-season for New York, so the management is being especially helpful and cooperative.”

International fellowship is clearly the theme of “Steps to Liberty”. Stan W. states, “We’ve put a lot of effort into making this a success and not just an event...one that people will NOT forget. That, basically, has been our goal from the beginning - to try and spread the message in the best way possible. We feel it’s an experience that no one should miss.”

“ENFORCE IT OR LOSE IT”

C.A. Battles to Protect Copyright Privileges

by Jack P., Trustee

World Services is currently fighting to protect the name of Cocaine Anonymous. Considerable sums of money have been spent to protect the name “Cocaine Anonymous” from use by outsiders who would use the name in drug treatment and other ventures for their own profit.

Our current litigation is with a treatment program in Houston which goes by the name “C.A. Aftercare.” After extended negotiations and threat of a lawsuit, the company agreed to give up all use of the letters C.A. We have also applied for registration of our Cocaine Anonymous Logo (“C.A....Faith, Hope, Courage”).

As you know, the Cocaine Anonymous recovery program consists solely of our Twelve Steps. As we are the fastest growing substance abuse fellowship, it has become evident that certain individuals would profit by using our name, block letters or logo in its attempt to attract patients. If we allow this to

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NewsGram

C.A. World Services, Inc.

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MEETING COUNT

SEE HOW WE'VE GROWN:

	1989	1988	1987	1986
Alabama	12	10	8	3
Alaska	16	16	3	3
Arizona	42	41	38	19
Arkansas	-	1	-	-
California	278	387	326	221
Colorado	9	24	8	3
Connecticut	28	35	25	17
Dist. Columbia	13	10	10	1
Delaware	-	2	2	-
Florida	14	23	23	8
Georgia	30	31	31	7
Hawaii	6	6	4	4
Idaho	3	4	-	-
Iowa	1	-	-	-
Illinois	54	70	56	28
Indiana	3	3	2	-
Kansas	6	7	7	2
Louisiana	6	7	3	-
Maine	7	4	1	-
Maryland	1	9	-	-
Massachusetts	12	8	8	3
Michigan	22	28	28	10
Minnesota	8	14	-	-
Missouri	7	4	4	-
Nebraska	6	3	1	-
Nevada	6	6	6	2
New Hampshire	3	2	2	1
New Jersey	9	10	6	3
New Mexico	6	11	4	4
New York	47	39	33	15
North Carolina	3	-	-	-
Ohio	32	18	8	7
Oklahoma	24	16	-	-
Oregon	14	17	8	5
Pennsylvania	26	17	5	-
Rhode Island	6	-	-	-
S. Dakota	-	1	-	-
Tennessee	17	13	13	9
Texas	47	46	38	20
Utah	11	10	5	-
Virginia	3	7	2	2
Washington	28	36	31	10
Wisconsin	15	18	18	13
Canada	35	31	11	7
TOTAL	1104	1043	776	427

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE COMES OF AGE

by Melanie C., Staff Writer

What used to be an office run on "good intentions" has been transformed into a professional business-like operation. Our new WSO is managed by a volunteer office manager, Mary C., and a paid office coordinator, David C. Over the past few months, policies and procedures have been written and implemented to better service the fellowship.

"The office is now run like a business. We can account for money going in and going out," Mary said. Accounts payable and accounts receivable procedures have been implemented. A list can now be provided to the fellowship, upon request, of financial donations by state.

Part of the new WSO procedures include purchasing, on-line inventory, sales orders and back order policies on chips and literature. Sales and orders that used to take two to three weeks can now be turned around in one to three days. The new office also has storage space to stock sufficient amounts of inventory which will eliminate past problems of back orders.

Another major benefit of the new WSO is the board room. The old office had no place for World Service officers to meet or for conference committees to hold meetings. Several meetings per week are now being accommodated in the facility.

The office is located at 3740 Overland Avenue, Suite G, L.A., CA, 90034. An open house is being planned in conjunction with the W.S. Conference in mid-August.

"Personally, I'd like to thank the fellowship for suggestions on the function of the WSO, and how it can better serve the needs of its members," Mary said. "We want everyone to be a part-of. This office serves everyone. Please write us with your comments and suggestions."

WSO is a vital part of our fellowship. It is a channel to funnel any conference changes to delegates who pass the information on to individual groups. WSO has done and is doing its part to be a professional operation; now the fellowship must do its part and contribute suggestions and assistance so that C.A. as a whole can "come of age".

INFORMATION NUMBERS

Canada		Colorado	(303)650-8989
Montreal, Quebec	(514) 481-8511	Connecticut	(203)358-8833
Ottawa	(613) 776-1088	Florida	(305)357-LAST
Alabama	(205)320-9998	Georgia	(404)255-7787
Arizona		Illinois	(312)278-7444
Phoenix	(602)279-3838	Missouri	(314)768-2544
Tucson	(602)326-2211	New Hampshire	(603)889-6681
Northern California		New Mexico	
San Francisco	(415)474-7133	Santa Fe	(505)984-7207
East Bay	(415)568-6809	Albuquerque	(505)836-8449
South Bay	(408)274-6015	New York	(212)496-4266
Mid-Peninsula	(415)364-4439	Ohio	(216)783-1833
Marin County	(415)453-8439	Oklahoma (state)	(918)660-8665
Sonoma County	(707)578-4160	Oklahoma City	(405)799-3707
Monterey	(408)372-4190	Pennsylvania	(215)270-3036
Southern California		Tennessee	(615)327-8990
Los Angeles	(213)839-1141	Texas	
San Fernando Valley	(818)988-1777	Houston	(713)668-6822
San Gabriel Valley	(818)447-2887	Austin	(512)397-6700
Inland Empire	(714)359-3895	Utah	(801)488-2151
Long Beach	(213)599-7810	Washington	(206)722-6117
Orange County	(714)650-1011	Wisconsin	(414)771-8898
San Diego	(619)268-9109		
Santa Barbara	(805)969-5178		

LETTERS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP:

(Please note that the opinions expressed in this letter are not necessarily those of Cocaine Anonymous, the CAWSO or any official C.A. affiliate organization or office. They are the personal opinions of a C.A. fellowship member and should be regarded as such. We print this in acknowledgment of its contents as a valid issue which has arisen throughout the fellowship with considerable regularity. We welcome any responses.)

“What’s The Point?”

Dear Editor:

As a member of C.A. in Chicago, I felt compelled to write this letter. It isn’t meant to be negative or a put-down of Bob E. or New York’s World Service Convention Committee. This is my statement of love for C.A. and my opportunity to share my belief that C.A. has come way too far to have to go outside our fellowship for a speaker.

When I go to C.A. meetings, it’s to hear about recovery within a fellowship I belong to. That’s part of what keeps me coming back; that ability to relate to people sitting beside me. If I go somewhere where the information is good, but the people aren’t like me, then the message can be “well, it works for them, but they aren’t like me.” If I go to a real estate convention I don’t want to hear from a guy that sells furniture for a living. He may be a great speaker with some good tips, but he’s not succeeding in the same field that I’m in.

Tradition Five tells me that “our group’s primary purpose is to carry it’s message to the addict who still suffers.” Well, New York, which message will it be? Is it going to be recovery in A.A. or N.A.? Shouldn’t it be recovery in C.A.? It is, after all, a C.A. Convention!

What’s the point of people working so hard for so long to showcase the miracle of C.A. and then going outside the fellowship for a speaker? For me it’s a lack of faith in our members, and I’m not only angry about it but very embarrassed! Whether you realize it or not, the state-

ment you’re making is that C.A. members can carry the message at some of the less visible meetings but at the main meeting where all of our members and hopefully many not in the fellowship will be brought together for one night, C.A. isn’t ready to meet the challenge! C’mon New York, get with it! What about GOD? And what about the newcomer? Why do you think he’s come to us looking for help instead of one of the other fellowships? In spite of their fears and that feeling of hopelessness, GOD has given them the courage to seek us out because we’ve joined together to overcome the same problem that they have. We don’t have the right to let them down! It is our responsibility to let them know that we achieved sobriety in C.A.! To do that we must be given the opportunities to speak whenever GOD gives us these opportunities!

I was given the gift of being able to speak at our banquet at the convention last year in Chicago. It’s not for me to judge the quality of the talk, but I can tell you how I felt afterwards. I felt closer to the fellowship of C.A. than ever before. In talking to people afterwards I understood in my heart how we really were all in this together. This wasn’t new information, I just understood it in a different way. I felt accepted, loved, and understood! And the growth in it for me was that it was something I hadn’t experienced before. It strengthened my faith and brought me closer to GOD because I knew He had carried me through it! How can you make a decision to take that kind of growth away from one of our members

and still claim to love C.A.?

My understanding, and I want to emphasize that I don’t know if this is true or not, is that you hope to draw people from A.A. by having Bob E. speak at the banquet. You know that C.A. members will come anyway. If this is true, I can only tell you that my recovery is based on honesty. I try very hard not to con or manipulate people to get them to do my will!

When asked if I was going to the convention, I said if I could find the time and could afford it, I would go but not to the banquet. This person said that they were going anyway, and that I was being a baby! But, I know that’s not true. I never believed in anything before I got sober, and I certainly never had any principles! What I believe in is who I am today. If I sacrifice my beliefs to do what I want to do, then I start giving away part of me all over again!

I would have liked to see New York make a wiser choice, but you didn’t! I would have respected and appreciated Bob E. declining to speak, but he didn’t! So we’ll all go on and do what we have to do in order to stay sober “ONE DAY AT A TIME.” And on that evening this C.A. member will be in a C.A. meeting with other C.A. members, sharing our experience, strength, and hope with each other about recovery in C.A. After all, New York, isn’t that why GOD gave us C.A.?

Michael K.
Chicago, Il.

ENFORCE IT

happen, there would be two deleterious effects:

- The public would be misled into believing that they were becoming involved in our 12-step Cocaine Anonymous Program. Instead of “no dues or fees”, the charges might be prohibitive.

- If we do not continue to enforce the exclusive rights to our name, block letters and logo, federal law provides that

we will lose those rights. This is the doctrine of “enforce it or lose it.” I had a long conversation with a former A.A. Trustee, and the position of that fellowship with respect to its name, block letters and logo is identical to ours.

I am bringing this matter to your attention so that you will be aware of unauthorized uses of our registered materials. This includes retail stores selling 12-step materials such as T-shirts with

our logo on it.

Any and all such infringements should be reported to the C.A. World Service Office, and appropriate action will be taken by the Board of Trustees.

The next time someone wonders what World Services does with your contributions, mention the high cost of legal fees in protecting and defending our rights.

CHAIR'S CORNER

NEW LITERATURE UPDATE

It has come to my attention that some difficulties have arisen in the timely receipt of chips and literature orders. I believe this is a matter of the utmost importance and should not be overlooked by the WSO Board of Directors.

The problem has been addressed and, hopefully, solved by our staff at the new WSO facility. Please refer to the article "WSO Comes of Age" for details.

Since the World Service Conference in August of 1988, our newly formed WSO Literature & Publications Committee has been working diligently to produce the conference-approved literature.

They have met with many obstacles along the way. The "committee" shrank to one person. Carla A., to whom we are extremely grateful, prepared all the publication material without assistance. Despite the long hours and hard work, problems continued to mount. Mitch G. came to the rescue with graphics support. His professional experience and willingness to work have solved many problems.

Despite the many long months of frustration, the pieces are going to print this month. The new literature should be available by early July - in time for the WSO Convention in New York.

To those areas who "special" purchased this literature, we apologize for the long delay. In just a few short weeks you'll be receiving your orders. We believe the wait will be worthwhile.

Again, many thanks to Carla A. and Mitch G. for all your hard work. And welcome aboard to Mitch, our newly appointed Literature Publications Committee Chairperson.

Our next Newsgram will see some changes. Future issues will contain condensed versions of WSO minutes and financial statements.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the World Service Convention in New York.

Helene H.
WSO Chairperson

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS: *C.A. World Service Conference*

by Fenn P., *Trustee*

The World Service Conference will be held this year from August 16-20 at Stouffer's Concourse Hotel in Los Angeles. Structured similar to a business meeting, it is a gathering of Delegates, W.S. Office Directors, W.S. Board of Trustees, Officers of the Conference and interested fellowship members.

Pre-conference orientation begins at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday for new delegates. The WSC officially opens at 1:00 p.m. with roll call. Voting and policy procedures will be explained. New areas will be introduced and approved by vote. Reports will be given from all of the seven committees, the WSO Board, the Connection, the NewsGram and the W.S. Board of Trustees. Wednesday's session ends at 9:00 p.m.

Thursday's agenda begins at 9:00 a.m. with roll call. A vote will be called for approval of the 1988 WSC minutes. Items will then be referred to committees from conference participants representing the U.S. and Canada. Nominations will be opened for Trustees at Large and Midwest Regional Trustee. The evening session is reserved for committee work. The committees are: Hospitals & Institutions, Convention, Public Information, Conference, Literature, Chips & Format, Finance and Structure & By-laws.

The conference resumes Friday at 9:00 a.m. with the continuation of committee work through 5:00 p.m. At 6:30 the main body of the WSC re-convenes at which time the committees will submit their motions. The session concludes at 9:00 p.m.

On Saturday consideration of motions from the committees will resume. Conference participants will lunch together at their own expense. The afternoon session continues with motions from the committees until 5:00 p.m. The evening session will convene at 6:30 in Grand Ballroom "A" to discuss "New Business" until closing at 9:00.

On Sunday morning the WSC will hold elections as needed. Summaries and agendas from the committees will be reported for 1988-1989. At 1:00 p.m. the conference will conclude.

The 1989 WSC has been planned to accommodate several improvements over previous years. More time has been allotted for committee workshops as well as greater organizational structure to allow for C.A.'s expanded fellowship. At least two new states are anticipated to join the conference this session.

World Services welcomes the participation of any interested C.A. members in this event. For registration forms or further information, contact the WSO at (213) 559-5833.

LIABILITY INSURANCE: *An Ounce of Prevention...*

by Jack P., *Trustee*

At the February meeting of the CAWS Board of Trustees, the issue of liability insurance was discussed.

Suppose your area sponsors a C.A. Convention at a local hotel, and a member of the fellowship is injured when he or she slips on a wet floor. Who gets sued?

Every first year law student knows the general rule that you sue everyone in sight...the hotel, the hotel's manager, and, yes...Cocaine Anonymous.

If the Convention Chairperson had

spoken to C.A.'s lawyer (or read this column), there would have been an insurance liability policy in effect during the convention and legal hassles would be avoided.

The problem becomes compounded if the C.A. area is not incorporated and there is no liability policy. In this case, the injured party might possibly bring suit against individual members of Cocaine Anonymous.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS COLUMN DOES NOT GIVE LEGAL ADVICE AND MY OPINION SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS SUCH. However, it does raise serious issues that should be addressed with your attorney and insurance agent. Let's close the barn door before the cow escapes!