

## "Humbly Asked Him..."

### C. A. World Service Convention 1992 Montreal, Quebec, Canada

**By K. D. McCann Miller  
Los Angeles, CA**

The 8th Annual Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention will be held this year in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, Memorial Day weekend May 22, 23 and 24, 1992. This will be the first "international" World Service Convention!

The Convention will take place at the Le Meridien Hotel in Montreal. The Le Meridien is located in the heart of downtown Montreal, within walking distance of shopping, restaurants, discotheques, parks, and tourist attractions. The Hotel is just a short taxi ride from the Montreal airport. The Le Meridien is a four star hotel that offers three restaurants, 24 hour room service, an indoor swimming pool, and a golf course! But you will hardly have time for any of *that...*

Numerous events have been planned by the Convention Committee. The Convention Committee is comprised of C. A. members from the Montreal Intergroup. Friday afternoon, there will be a bus tour which includes downtown Montreal, Chinatown, Old Montreal and Mount Royal. Saturday morning, there will be a complete guided tour of the Botanical Gardens, with greenhouses and an Insectarium as well as a visit to the "Big O" Olympic Baseball Stadium. Other events planned include a Friday night opening meeting, a Friday night theater, Saturday night talent showcase, Saturday night banquet, speaker and D. J. dance, Sunday morning spiritual brunch, a Sunday afternoon closing meeting and a Sunday night cruise aboard the MV Concordia, which includes dinner and entertainment. If that is not enough, daily 5K runs, marathon meetings, 12 different workshops and many other

activities, as well as some surprises! Co-Anon will hold meetings at the convention, so bring your loved ones! All events will be bi-lingual in English and French.

Cocaine Anonymous began in Montreal about six years ago. They have grown into the active intergroup that exists today. The Montreal Groups first attended the World Service Conference in 1990, and are now full participants in Cocaine Anonymous. The Montreal Convention Committee is working hard on making this 8th Annual Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention a success.

This Convention is the main fund raiser for Cocaine Anonymous World Services. Proceeds will help fund the World Service Conference in September, C. A.'s annual business meeting. Delegates from across the United States and Canada come to represent their groups to make decisions and changes for C. A. as a whole at the Conference each year.

If you are traveling to the convention from the United States, the hotel will convert your dollars into Canadian funds for a nominal fee. If you arrive in Montreal early on Friday, you can have your dollars converted at a nearby bank for a better exchange rate. Memorabilia and registration will accept U. S. dollars, but there will be no conversion done. The U. S. dollar is now slightly higher than the Canadian, and changes daily.

The Le Meridien Hotel is offering a special discounted room rate of \$125.00 per day, single or double occupancy, Canadian dollars. Rates are in effect Tuesday, May 19 until Wednesday, May 27. Parking fees are \$6.00 per day. Facilities for bus parking will be made available by request. Registration forms

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### CAWSO Reorganizes (continued)

**By Bill Z., WSO Trustee  
San Diego, CA**

In the last issue of the NewsGram, I highlighted the reorganization of the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, and the structure of the World Service Office Committees. I would like to follow up by letting the fellowship know exactly what CAWSO, Inc. does on a day to day basis, and what our goals are for the future.

The CA World Service Office "carries the message" by being the communication hub for the fellowship around the Globe. It seems that the phone is ringing constantly. The information requests range from "when are the convention dates?" to "how does an area incorporate?". The request may be for a meeting starter kit, or a new Area Literature Chairperson trying to find out what the procedure is for ordering literature. The list of types of questions is endless when you consider that addicts are calling from all over the United States, Canada and sometimes other parts of the world. Because of the limited budget and the myriad of other jobs that the CAWSO staff must perform, we will be experimenting over the next few months with volunteer workers and a phone mail system to help route the calls.

The CA World Service Office is in charge of the manufacture, purchase and distribution of chips and literature, banners, meeting signs, video PSA's and other items. CAWSO maintains lists of names and addresses of delegates, areas, area chairpersons and chip and literature contacts (to improve communications in general); assembles, prints and mails the quarterly delegate mailing; publishes the NewsGram; pays the bills; acts as a liaison between the

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## CAWSO (Continued from Page 1)

CAWSO Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees and the fellowship; and operates a business that adheres to the Laws of the countries, states, counties, cities and municipalities that we serve.

CAWSO, Inc. is operated like any other business in the State of California. Federal Income Tax, State Income Tax, and Quarterly Federal and State Payroll Tax and State Sales Tax returns must be filed in a timely manner, legal employee files must be kept, licenses must be current, bills must be paid, bookkeeping records must be correct, etc.

We are recognized by the State of California as a non-profit corporation. The CAWSO Board of Directors (which is a volunteer Board) act as Officers of this corporation. They are responsible to the fellowship to make sure that the proper reports are filed to maintain non-profit status. They make decisions about the day to day business operations of the fellowship based on informed discussions and a group conscience. They get their direction from the World Service Conference, as interpreted by the Board of Trustees.

The eighth Tradition states that "Cocaine Anonymous should remain forever non-professional but our service centers may employ special workers." The "Special Workers" in our case consist of a full time Office Manager, a part time Shipping and Receiving clerk, and a part time Office Assistant. These three people are paid employees. The operations at the WSO cannot be left to volunteers. Our past experience has shown that this method is not advisable. It is stated in the 11th Concept of AA's Twelve Concepts for World Services, "We believe that each paid executive, staff member, or consultant should be recompensed in reasonable relation to the value of his or her similar services or abilities in the commercial world... this is to ensure our workers are not inefficient or insecure."

CAWSO, Inc. is supported financially by the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. The seventh Tradition states that we must be fully self-supporting through our own contributions. We decline any outside donations. Our expenses include, among other things, office rent, utilities, telephone, office equipment, postage, typesetting, printing, accounting and legal fees and employee salaries. Each time we print a NewsGram, do a Delegate mailing, make photocopies, or even answer the phone, there is cost involved.

The CAWSO has made many changes and improvements in the past nine months. We hired a full time Manager to facilitate the services to the fellowship. We set up efficient bookkeeping procedures, as well as a reliable inventory and shipping system. With the new systems that are being used, delegates are getting a detailed account of our income and expenses, chips and literature orders are sent out in a timely manner, the NewsGram is being published regularly, several new pieces of literature have been published, and many, many more goals have been achieved.

Our goals for the WSO are to run as smoothly and efficiently as possible. In order to achieve this goal, we need your help. If you have a suggestion or complaint please communicate it to us through your Delegate, a Trustee, or the World Services Office Board of Directors. We sincerely want your input so we can better serve your needs. We are here to be of service to the fellowship, in whatever capacity is needed that aligns with the 12 Steps (Recovery), the Twelve Traditions (Unity) and the 12 Concepts (Service).

The group conscience of the World Service Conference, which is comprised of over 125 Delegates representing C. A. Groups across the United States and Canada, as interpreted by the World Service Board of Trustees, direct us. The World Service Office carries out the group conscience of the Conference; God expresses himself through our group conscience, therefore, we are again relying on God as our Director.



## 1992 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

September 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, 1992  
Deadline for delegate  
registration is May 1, 1992

## Food For Thought

*If sobriety doesn't come first,  
we can't have it;  
if sobriety doesn't stay first,  
we can't keep it.*

-Chuck C.



## Convention (Continued from Page 1)

are now being accepted. Deadline for early registration is April 17th, 1992 (must be postmarked by April 17th). Regular registration will be accepted at the Convention. If your area does not have registration forms, please contact either the World Service Office at (310) 559-5833 for U. S. forms, or Jean P. at (514) 276-3184 for Canadian registration forms.

We need your support at the Convention, and not only will you support Cocaine Anonymous, you will have a great time! If you have never been to a convention, you don't know what you're missing. Old timers and newcomers alike, don't miss this one! It will go down in the history of C. A. as the first *international* convention. How can you resist being in a city where no one knows you, in a hotel, with a group of addicts. Isn't this what we used to call fun? Wait until you do it sober! *See you there!*



# Free Gifts

By Lee A.

Pacific South Regional Trustee

There were only two things I wanted when I started attending Cocaine Anonymous meetings. The first was to stop using cocaine. In the last ten years, freebasing and snorting had completely taken over my life. It had gotten to the point that when I wasn't using, I was thinking about using. This was the second thing I wanted - to stop the constant obsession to use.

I knew the powerfulness of the addiction. I was told if I didn't stop, I would lose everything-- family, house, business. I really wanted to quit but couldn't. I didn't care anymore. The risk of death by overdose didn't matter. I had already lost all I held dear and "knew" I was a moral degenerate-- dirt.

When I came to the program, the phrase from the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous "rarely have we seen a person fail" struck me. I tried everything I knew to quit in the last four years, but couldn't. I really didn't know if CA would work for me. I thought with my luck, I would be the "rarely" they were talking about. But I made up my mind to

try as I had nothing more to lose.

I was willing to try anything and this program was already mapped out. I didn't have to guess or experiment. There was a book, pamphlets and meetings where people talked my language. I could relate to the experiences they shared about, the horrors of using that turned into runaway abuse. They said they didn't have to live like that anymore and had found a new strength to resist cocaine by taking 12 steps.

I had to have this freedom and new life I was hearing about, and was willing to die to get it. I had nothing to lose - as far as I was concerned my present life was worse than death, it was "Hell on Earth".

Every suggestion I heard from those that had the type of life I wanted, I took. I heard someone say if you got into service and took a commitment, you had a better chance of making it, so that is what I did. I held a coffee commitment for the first 10 months of my sobriety. I was told a Hospital and Institution panel was an excellent means of staying sober. When the opportunity opened up for one, I grabbed it. I have had one or more panels for the last 5 years.

The same went for a GSR commitment. I knew the GSR commitment was for a year. At 6 months of sobriety, I had an opportunity to be either a secretary of a meeting or a GSR. Secretary was only a 6 month commitment, so I opted for the GSR.

The commitment meant going to one meeting a month to discuss the "business" of CA. I had no idea what that was, but this was an opportunity for me to find out. It also meant I didn't have to worry about another commitment for a year!

I eventually became a delegate to the World Service Conference and have been of service at a World level for four years. I believe in the results I have been given by just taking the steps. I have gotten out of the driver's seat but not out of the car. I have new direction and meaning in my life.

I took direction willingly when I came into CA because I wanted to stop and couldn't, I didn't know how. By taking direction while my mind was in a fog and capable of little else, I received much more than I bargained for. If you would have tried to explain the benefits of my actions I probably wouldn't - or couldn't - have understood. I might have gotten confused and sidetracked.

"Do it or Die" was clear enough and all the direction I needed. My sponsor told me I better work all 12 steps or I wasn't going to make it. I believed him, and I did it. Much to my joy, I have

found that for the past five years I have not drank or used and I don't feel I ever have to, either. I don't think of getting high. The obsession has been lifted.

In my sixth year of sobriety, I see how all the service commitments got me out of myself. They exposed me to the dedicated members of CA.

Coincidentally, these members have what I now want; a feeling of usefulness, happiness and freedom. An attitude of gratitude that has been engendered and magnified by the constant working of the steps and associating with people that work to practice these principles in all their affairs at the highest levels.

Service keeps my mind off me and provides the opportunity to learn by doing and seeing how others achieve the elusive dream of contented sobriety.

I have made a host of rewarding friendships by getting into action. I have not been a sponge, sitting in the back trying to soak up the program without giving. That was always my problem as a user; that attitude for "What's in it for me?" Now I know the answer is that if we use, we get a miserably slow death of loneliness and despair.

I thank the fellowship for the direction and the opportunity to participate in life at a level I never dreamed of. The satisfaction and ability to accept life by focusing on its great gifts rather than imagined deficits has made my life wonderful.

I now have the feelings of serenity and joy that I never attained while using. These are now deep, lasting and at times overwhelming, instead of fleeting (disappearing 5 minutes after the last hit on the pipe).

Today if my mood swings to melancholy or feelings of calamity surface, I know from my experience it's one of my character defects resurfacing. All I need to do is pick up the tools you have taught me to use and the solution is near.

Today I have the ability to match calamity with serenity because of the conscious contact with a Higher Power I have been able to attain by working the 12 steps and the actions I have taken. Repeated action resulting in repeated satisfaction has ingrained a knowledge that beneficial results come from--turning my will over to my concept of a Higher Power and taking the action that Higher Power would approve.

Habits have changed from detrimental reliance on drugs to beneficial application of the steps. Take action enough times until it becomes a habit-- then it is easy and automatic. I'm happy, joyous and free, thanks to God.





## A Note From the WSO

The World Service Office has moved! We are now in Suite H of the same building. The square footage of the office, as well as the rent, are the same. Some construction was done to make the office more functional. Our conference room is larger, and we've added a storage room for the C. A. archives. God made this move possible with virtually no cost to the fellowship!

The World Service Office is now selling Public Information and Hospitals and Institutions literature at a temporary 50% discount! This is for literature only! Chips and medallions are regular price, and no other discounts will apply.

A new Chip and Literature Order Form is out. Look for it in your orders, or contact the World Service Office.

A meeting recently started in London, England! The first meeting was held on Hind Street, January 8th, 1992 with 27 people in attendance! Starter Kits were sent to Paris, France, and to Trinidad, West Indies! Welcome to Cocaine Anonymous!

## Donations

The 7th Tradition states that "Every C. A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions". This includes the World Service Office. We rely on your donations to enable us to continue to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

The following list consists of fellowship donations by state. We would like to thank the following contributors. We need the support of the fellowship to ensure the WSO will run smoothly, and your needs will be met! If you have questions or need guidelines, pick up the "70/30 Plan" pamphlet at a meeting. If you have any further questions, contact us here at the WSO. We are here to be of service to the fellowship! And thank you

## 1991 Year End Report Donations

Alabama.....\$	249.48	Minnesota.....	300.00
Alaska.....	00	Mississippi.....	00
Arizona.....	1,232.80	Missouri.....	00
Arkansas.....	00	Montana.....	00
California.....	15,389.59	Nebraska.....	71.78
Central.....	400.00	Nevada.....	00
Inland Empire.....	00	New Hampshire.....	00
Los Angeles.....	11,461.30	New Jersey.....	25.00
Northern.....	1,649.35	New Mexico.....	00
Orange County.....	400.00	New York.....	1,254.30
San Diego.....	271.00	North Carolina.....	135.71
San Fernando Vly.....	907.94	North Dakota.....	00
San Gabriel/Pmona.....	300.00	Ohio.....	270.14
Canada.....	63.48	Oklahoma.....	836.59
Colorado.....	240.00	Oregon.....	92.54
Connecticut.....	1,261.44	Pennsylvania.....	00
Delaware.....	00	Rhode Island.....	40.00
Florida.....	251.73	South Carolina.....	140.00
Georgia.....	850.38	South Dakota.....	00
Hawaii.....	00	Tennessee.....	314.34
Idaho.....	60.00	Texas.....	1,198.00
Illinois.....	3,255.11	Utah.....	1,054.87
Indiana.....	00	Vermont.....	00
Iowa.....	00	Virginia.....	300.00
Kansas.....	53.06	Washington D.C.....	00
Kentucky.....	00	Washington State.....	882.44
Louisiana.....	00	West Virginia.....	00
Maine.....	75.00	Wisconsin.....	17.70
Maryland.....	00	Wyoming.....	00
Massachusetts.....	146.00	TOTAL.....	\$30,276.48
Michigan.....	215.00		

## 1st Quarter 1992 Donations

<b>Alabama</b>	
End of the Line Group.....	20.60
<b>Arizona</b>	
Sun Valley Intergroup.....	100.00
Sun Valley Intergroup.....	100.00
Sun Valley Intergroup.....	100.00
<b>California</b>	
Central California.....	100.00
<b>Los Angeles</b>	
Los Angeles Area.....	4,266.00
Beyond Horizon Group.....	4.00
Razor's Edge Group.....	7.00
Long Beach/Compton.....	97.74
Long Beach/Compton.....	55.29
<b>Northern California</b>	
South Bay Service Comm.....	34.60
James H.....	25.00
Northern Cal Service Comm.....	70.00
Northern Cal Service Comm.....	70.00
Northern Cal Service Comm.....	70.00
<b>San Gabriel/Pomona Valley</b> .....	48.49
<b>San Gabriel/Pomona Valley</b> .....	49.35
<b>Anonymous</b> .....	10.00
<b>Del Mar/Anonymous</b> .....	250.00
<b>Connecticut</b>	
District 3.....	37.00
District 3.....	91.35
District 3.....	53.25
New Beginnings Group.....	13.00
New Beginnings Group.....	28.00

<b>Florida</b>	
Central Service Board.....	32.66
<b>Georgia</b>	
M. A. C. A. I.....	5,000.00
End of the Line Group.....	17.38
<b>Illinois</b>	
Chicago.....	100.00
Chicago.....	100.00
Chicago.....	100.00
Chicago.....	5,000.00
Coconuts Group.....	15.00
Coconuts Group.....	45.00
End of the Line Group.....	10.00
End of the Line Group.....	10.00
End of the Line Group.....	22.00
Freedom to Live Group.....	48.00
The Winner's Group.....	20.00
The Winner's Group.....	20.00
<b>Louisiana</b>	
Baton Rouge Area.....	25.00
<b>Massachusetts</b>	
Freedom to Choose Group.....	20.00
<b>Minnesota</b>	
C. A. of Minnesota.....	200.00
<b>Missouri</b>	
St. Louis.....	100.00
<b>New York</b>	
C. A. N. Y. N. Y.....	100.00
C. A. N. Y. N. Y.....	100.00
C. A. N. Y. N. Y.....	100.00
Long Island.....	45.00
Saturday Nite Live Group.....	27.00

<b>North Carolina</b>	
First Step Group.....	75.00
Paycheck Group.....	30.00
<b>Ohio</b>	
Keep It Simple Saturday Group.....	45.00
Toledo Area Intergroup.....	11.82
Toledo Area Intergroup.....	3.06
<b>Rhode Island</b>	
Monday Night Group.....	6.00
Saturday Night Group.....	7.40
Coconuts Recovery Team Group.....	15.00
<b>Tennessee</b>	
Cokebuster's Group.....	11.22
WTCCA.....	50.00
WTCCA.....	54.19
<b>Utah</b>	
Utah Service Area.....	144.12
<b>Washington</b>	
Bladerunner's Group.....	8.22
Bladerunner's Group.....	11.21
District 1.....	41.29
District 1.....	23.37
Freedom Fighters Group.....	23.45
Freedom Fighters Group.....	47.29
<b>Wisconsin</b>	
C. A. Wisconsin	
Convention Committee.....	1,000.00
<b>CANADA</b>	
British Columbia/	
Friday Step Study.....	50.00
Quebec Region.....	300.00
Quebec Region.....	330.00
Anonymous.....	5.00

**TOTAL DONATIONS.....\$19,250.35**

