

NEWS GRAM

It's All in a Day's Work

By John B.
WSOB Chair

Los Angeles, California, USA

I live very close to the World Service Office and as a result, I have the opportunity to drop by often to visit with our fabulous Directors and staff. Last Friday was one such occasion; I happened to pop in for a quick visit concerning Conference business and was greeted by our cheery front office worker Susan, who was opening the day's mail just as I arrived. Kid- dingly, I asked if there was "anything for me," to which she replied, "No, but there is another inmate letter and they are always amazing." The person I had come to visit was in a meeting, so I suggested to Susan that she open the letter and read it aloud.

As she began to open the letter, we noted that it was from a female inmate. Also, that the envelope had been made by hand from a plain blank sheet of paper, as inmates often do not have access to expensive office supplies and have to create their own. It was handwritten, of course. Computers, internet, and e-mail are not readily available to the general population of penitentiaries. The point is ... I imagined a person, already in jail, that needed something so desperately that she researched our information, was willing to sit down and handwrite a letter, make her own envelope, scrape together postage instead of buying cigarettes, and risk the invasion of privacy that the letter would certainly be read by prison workers prior to it being mailed. The letter pleaded with us to help her, so that she would "not have to die at the hands of cocaine" and "so that my children don't have to see me die from cocaine."

I had a revelation at the miracle that this letter actually arrived at a World Service Office that had been created exactly for this purpose. I asked Susan,

"How do we handle letters like this?" She replied, "We will send the *individual a Hope, Faith & Courage* book (if permitted by the institution)* and a welcome packet of literature including contact information so that once they are released they can contact C.A. locally. We will also make the inmate's contact information available to a volunteer member so that they can correspond with another addict while still in prison." I then asked, "What happens to the letters?" She explained that they are kept on file by date, and that we receive several inmate letters a month. I imagined that we must have responded to thousands throughout our 25 years, and that maybe there was a story to tell from all those letters. *[Continued on page 2]*

Inside This Edition	Page(s)
Calendar of Events	19-20
CAWS Conventions – They're Addictive	5
CAWS 2008 – It's a Wrap!	4
CAWS 2009	18
Contribution Program	7
Money Matters!	14-15
PI Corner	13
Recovery in Compton	16-18
Seventh Tradition Donations	12
Submission Instructions and Release	5-6
Subscription Form	15
Sudoku	15
Trustee Corner	3
When Trust is Lost and Keeping What We Have	8-11

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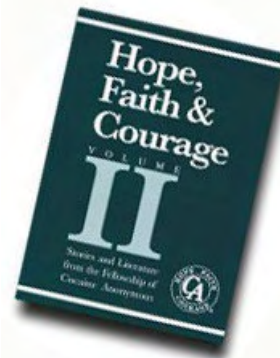
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All in a Day's Work (continued from page 1):

My point in this message is to share clearly how important C.A.'s ability to perform this service has been to thousands in jails and hospitals over the years. This effort is funded directly by your 7th Tradition contributions and continues to need your support. If you have ever been moved by a piece of C.A. literature or needed us so badly that you would have made your own envelope (if you had to), I urge you to consider participating in the World Service Contribution Program (see page 7 of this NewsGram). This secure and private method of contributing directly to World Services helps us maintain the ability to fund services like I described above. Your direct contribution helps fund the cost of literature and books, and to pay the salaries of the special workers who take the time to read each and every letter personally and respond ... for all of us. Thanks in advance for helping us help the addict who still suffers, and who was willing to go to any lengths to ask us for help.

*The WSO sends *HFC Volume II* unless specifically requested otherwise; 217 inmates were sent books in fiscal year 2007-2008.

HFC II Now in Hard Cover!



Hope, Faith & Courage Volume II includes 25 new stories from members throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe sharing their recovery from addiction to cocaine and a broad spectrum of other mind-altering substances. It also contains an updated selection of 12 pieces of literature and a complete meeting format. Order yours today!

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Trustee Corner

By Carl W.

**Pacific South Regional Trustee and WSBT Chair
Pomona, California, USA**

The Pacific South Region has faced some unique challenges over the past couple of years. One such challenge involved an individual member of the local C.A. Fellowship who brought legal action against an area service board claiming, among other things, that the board was not following its own procedures and bylaws. I want to first report that the lawsuit and all claims in the suit have been resolved such that the suit has been dismissed as of the date of this article. I would also like to clarify that C.A. World Services was never a party in this lawsuit.

I do not want to re-hash what each side of the suit was alleging or defending. Rather, I want to spend a little time sharing with each of you what was learned from this process and also what can be changed so that such legal actions do not affect the Fellowship at any time hereafter. The lessons include:

- Communication with others in service is necessary.
- Cooperation with others in service is necessary.
- If there are problems or disagreements, try to resolve them among the people involved. If that proves not to be possible, ask that a World Service Delegate (or, when applicable, a Regional Trustee) assist in facilitating the discussion and serve to decompress the incident and ensuing feelings.
- Always ask, "Where is God in this?"
-

Begin to fully understand the problem within the group and/or service structure and then create a wide variety of solutions for all members involved.

- Remain mindful of the Traditions and Concepts as guides to solutions.
- Avoid allowing differences to escalate to the point that the addict who still suffers might not be able to find us when needed.

We must continue to strive for unity at all levels of C.A.. This goal may take on different meanings in challenging situations, but it must always remain the cornerstone of our primary purpose to carry the message of recovery, hope, faith and courage.

There is an article that the Board of Trustees completed two years ago entitled "When Trust Is Lost and Keeping What We Have." This article had been in process for over two years at the time of its final Board approval. In it are a wide variety of suggestions of how to respond when problems do arise and also how to prevent problems in the first place. The article is included in this issue on pages 8-11, and arrangements are being made to have it posted on the ca.org website.

It is also my earnest hope that the resolution of this challenge will serve to strengthen our Fellowship in both service and recovery, and in how each of us individually and as a Fellowship carry the message. I want to thank you all for the love and support you have given to us all during these trying times.

Have questions about how to handle your group's 7th Tradition? See the 7th Tradition pamphlet and the Financial Guidelines for Groups, Districts and Areas (both of which are available at www.ca.org), or contact your Regional Trustee.

CAWS 2008 - It's a Wrap!

By Terry M., Chair, CAWS 2008 Committee
Utah Service Area

Greetings all from Salt Lake City!

First off, I would like to give many thanks to the members of C.A. of Utah and the Pacific North Region for hosting one of the most powerful weekends I have ever experienced in my recovery.

If you were not able to attend the 2008 World Service Convention, you missed a wonderful time (although as the Chair, I may be a little biased). We could not have pulled off this event without members from all around the globe and of course our Higher Powers. I heard many members say that they felt the warmth and strength of the Fellowship in Utah as soon as they walked into the hotel and that they had the time of their lives at the convention.

We started off on Thursday with marathons, workshops and a wonderful speaker. We had one of the best hospitality rooms ever, stocked all weekend with many snacks and treats for those attending.

Friday was great, with the golfers heading out to one of the most beautiful courses in the mountains of Utah and the toughest ones enduring the freezing rain (not me, I chickened out after the tenth hole). We had a day filled with workshops, speakers and a tour of Park City and the Olympic Village.

Saturday was just as awesome, with a Salt Lake City tour, more amazing speakers and workshops, and a great World Service Conference Unity Committee continental breakfast. We experienced a night of great entertainment with a comedy extravaganza featuring a hypnotist, a comedian and some live music that rocked the house down.

Sunday morning, some of our members got to experience a real Rocky Mountain high by taking

off in a hot air balloon. The day was once again filled with terrific workshops. The evening was highlighted by a silent auction, live auction, banquet and speaker, followed by a live band.

Monday was a great finale, with a brunch and closing speaker.

On a personal note, from the time I came into this Fellowship, to the coin toss at the 2004 Conference awarding this convention to the Utah Service Area, until now, the spiritual journey I have been on has been incredible. The spiritual experiences and the love I have for this Fellowship defy explanation. The pleasure of working with the WSO and the WSBT on this level was awesome. We had great communication and worked together without any real complications.

There is a statement in the foreword to the 2nd edition of the Big Book about unity that I would like to pass along: "... A.A.'s had to hang together or die separately. We had to unify our Fellowship or pass off the scene."* At CAWS 2008, I experienced unity and love to a degree I have never felt in my life.

Once again, I want to send love and thanks for all the hard work put in by the C.A. of Utah Fellowship, the Pacific North Region, the speakers, the workshop presenters, and the many volunteers and participants that made for one of the most powerful spiritual experiences I could have ever imagined.

Hope to see all of you in Colorado in 2009!

[For information on CAWS 2009, see page 18 of this NewsGram or www.cawsconvention.org.]

* *Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4th edition, p. xix.

CAWS Conventions – They’re Addictive! (But in a Good Way)

By Ginger L.
Lynnwood, Washington, USA

As of this writing, it has been less than 24 hours since I arrived home from the 2008 CAWS Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. As usual, I am totally exhausted! I am also extremely emotional; I am sad because I already miss my friends and I am excitedly looking forward to Colorado next year!

My first World Convention was in Irvine, California. I think that was in 1998. That was all it took—I was hooked! A convention junkie was born. The only one I’ve missed since Irvine was the CAWS Convention in Wisconsin. To my delight, I will be able to go there in 2010! I’ve made several lasting friendships with members around the world that attend the convention each year. I especially look forward to hanging out with my New York friends (you know who you are).

We arrived in Utah a day early and drove to Provo in search of a beautiful waterfall. We didn’t exactly get Niagara Falls, but we had such a blast on the way there. We laughed so hard that we almost killed our friend from Holland for lack of oxygen! We went to a local meeting that night in a treatment center and I want to thank everyone that was there for making us feel welcome. I love meetings that allow the chants. Rule 62—you know?

The convention itself rocked! I could not believe how awesome the committee did on hospitality. I was able to spend an incredible amount of money on C.A. memorabilia since I didn’t have to buy breakfast every morning. I was even able to miss a few lunches thanks to the great snacks.

As always, there were some great speakers and workshops. I have to say my favorite workshop EVER was the one on the Disease Concept. I have been to a lot of conventions in my time sober, so for me to say it was the best EVER really means something! It was fascinating to learn more about our disease and to see where science has basically proven that what the *Big Book* has told us all along is correct. Dr. Kevin showed us exactly where in the brain the disease is (the midbrain), and what was really bizarre was seeing the MRIs. They showed an addict’s mind when it’s in the craving and how the front part of the brain (the part that would remind us of the consequences if we use) goes completely dark. There is NO activity there! That is EXACTLY my experience when I was out there. When the craving was on it did not even enter my mind that I could lose everything. I really hope that next year’s CAWS Convention committee asks Dr. Kevin to do the workshop again.

So, I am on a spiritual high after such a fun convention and yet I am missing so many of my friends. I cannot tell you the gratitude I feel towards C.A. I am so very blessed. My life is AMAZING and it’s thanks to my Higher Power leading me to this awesome Fellowship. Don’t get me wrong; other 12-Step fellowships are fine, but my HOME—my LIFE—is in C.A. Thank you so much, Utah, for putting on such a great party! And thank you to all the members of Cocaine Anonymous for not only saving my life, but also for the effect you have had on my family’s lives!

HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!

The NewsGram is always looking for material that communicates a message of hope, faith and courage. We welcome original articles from our members sharing their experience with recovery, unity and service in C.A. If you have such an article (or perhaps an idea, cartoon, poem, story or other material related to recovery in C.A.) that you would like considered for publication in a future issue of the NewsGram, please send it and the completed release form on the next page to: NewsGram Editor, c/o CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles CA 90034, or via e-mail to newsgram@ca.org. E-mail submissions are preferred. If you e-mail your submission, the form can be scanned and attached as a pdf or faxed to the WSO at 310-559-2554, Attn: NewsGram. This release form can also be used to submit material for literature projects and artwork for Celebrate Around the World.

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Cocaine Anonymous World Services depends on the financial support provided by individual members, groups, committees, Districts and Areas. We use your contributions as efficiently as possible, to maximize the services we are able to provide to addicts throughout the world. When you participate in the World Service Contribution Program, you ensure that we are able to serve the needs of those in our Fellowship, and reach even more with our message of Hope, Faith and Courage. And because your Contribution Program gifts are conveniently transferred by your bank from your checking account, savings account, debit card, or credit card account directly to the World Service Office, your contributions go farther than ever before. The C.A. World Service Contribution Program is safe, secure and confidential. You have complete control of the process, because you specify the amount of your contributions, and when they are made. You can always increase, decrease or suspend your participation at any time by writing the World Service Office. And your contributions may be tax deductible (consult your tax advisor). To help the C.A. World Service Office meet the needs of members, groups, areas and addicts still suffering, please fill out the authorization form on the next page, attach a voided check or deposit slip (if necessary), and mail everything to the address shown. Thank you for your support.

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YES! As a member of C.A., I want to participate in the C.A. World Service Contribution Program to help keep C.A. World Services going strong!

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(The complete World Service Contribution Program brochure, which includes this form, is available for download at www.ca.org/contribute.html)

When Trust is Lost and Keeping What We Have

By the World Service Board of Trustees
Approved August 2006

The issue of the appropriate response of the CA fellowship and respective service boards (districts and/or areas) when trust in a member is lost due to some actions or inactions of the member who is in a service position unfortunately occurs upon occasion within our CA fellowship. Many times, this concern stems from issues around money, while less often the concern relates to issues around performance of service obligations, behavior issues, and even loss of sobriety.

A careful analysis of this broad issue leads to the conclusion that the matter really has two segments which each need to be explored. The first segment is preventative in nature and establishes some guidelines related to money handling and also service standards and behaviors. The second segment is a suggestion as to how a service body might respond after there is a breach of trust, theft, behavior issues, or an even a dispute between service members.

Preventative Measures and Guidelines

It is our collective experience that when certain preventative measures and guidelines are in place, there is less likelihood that problems might arise or perhaps remain within any level of the CA service structure

Preventative Measures Around Money Handling

Theft and problems around CA funds can be avoided by consistently and diligently following responsible financial practices and principles. The angst caused when one of our fellows steals from the fellowship or misuses funds, as well as the loss of those funds that might have gone to help the still-suffering addict, point clearly to our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent these types of problems in the first place.

Most of these challenges have occurred when preventative measures are not in place or are in place but not fully followed. Sometimes we have not wanted to use these preventative measures because we might know the treasurer or other servant personally, or we might believe we would insult that person by asking that the measures be followed, or that the measures may be too cumbersome or troublesome to fully implement. However, our experience is that the

very best preventative measure against any type of problem is to remove all chances to have a problem in the first place. Eliminating the opportunity to steal or misappropriate funds may be the best safeguard our fellowship has.

The preventative measures aspect of this matter has two parts, actually. The first deals with how we select trusted servants who are responsible for the management and handling of funds. The second part relates to the checks and balances necessary in these types of matters.

Concepts 9, 10 and 11 are related at some levels to responsible financial management by the respective service bodies at all service levels. In keeping with the spiritual principles of these concepts, guidelines related to money handling should be carefully developed and followed. These would comprise any of a number of appropriate checks and balances, which might include and or all of the following: two signatories on the bank account, not having the treasurer be a signatory, duplicate copies of all bank statements being sent to the treasurer and service body chair, yearly audit of all accounts, possibly only writing checks at business meetings with someone besides the treasurer holding the check book in the interim, monthly treasurer reports, and regular reconciliation of original bank statements. Note that many of these suggestions are further detailed in the CA World Service Manual - see 2006 Manual page 14. Further, the World Service Conference Finance Committee has developed Financial Guidelines for CA, which set forth additional preventative suggestions.

There is a wise saying which provides that an addict alone with fellowship money is in bad company. Hence, it is crucial that all money handling procedures at all levels be monitored by at least two people: two people count receipts; two people make the bank deposits (immediately if at all possible, not the next day); two people reconcile the original bank statements; and two people are always present when funds are disbursed and/or when cash proceeds are involved. Note please that other fellowship assets

such as convention merchandise, literature, memorabilia, or office equipment should be treated similarly.

At all levels of our service structure, we need to make sure that money handling guidelines are in place, preferably in writing or at least locatable in the service body's minutes. These guidelines should reference what is expected of the trusted servants in terms of money handling procedures, audit procedures, accounting expectations, checks and balances and the like. The service body might in fact include a statement that theft, misappropriation, or misuse of fellowship funds will not be tolerated at any level and might even consider the process that the service body might follow if such an event occurs. It follows that servants who are aware of these guidelines in their entirety are most likely to follow them and behave in a responsible manner.

Other Clearly Articulated Expectations of What the Service Body Expects of the Trusted Servant

It is often hard to judge the performance of a trusted servant where there are no clear guidelines of how the servant is expected to serve. Accordingly, it is suggested that the service body implement standards for performance by trusted servants. These could complement and supplement the service body's financial and money-handling guidelines.

These performance standards could include those referenced in the CA World Service Manual and those adopted as bylaws of the service body after participation and group conscience including all trusted servants to be affected by the standards. These standards might need to be updated from time to time as service positions change and evolve. Fortunately, there are now several service bodies within our fellowship that have such standards in place and are more than willing to share their experience, strength and hope if asked. Three very common standards relate to loss of sobriety, behavioral challenges and attendance (or the lack thereof) by the trusted servant at service body meetings.

Selection of Trusted Servants

Bill W. wrote an article which was published in the April 1959 edition of the Grapevine entitled "Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need." Other writings by Bill and others in 1961, 1966 and 1972 helped to further refine this initial writing. Bill's initial article is inserted directly into the Twelve Concepts for World Service in Concept 9 which provides in part: "Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety..." So first, we must describe what the trusted servant's duties and responsibilities will be; then we must develop a set of requirements both in terms of sobriety as well as applicable service and real life experiences that

match the duties and responsibilities. The writings seem to emphasize the needs of the service body which is tasked with making selections after being fully informed of the strengths and weaknesses of the respective candidates. At a minimum, a service resume should be created and circulated; additional specific questions can be asked as a supplement to the service resume or during an interview, if one is held.

In addition to the tangible qualifications of the possible trusted servant, there are some "intangibles" to consider. One is whether we can "trust" the trusted servant. Another is what kind of a service leader the person might be. As Bill stated:

"Good leadership originates plans, policies, and ideas for the improvement of our Fellowship and its services. But in new and important matters, it will nevertheless consult widely before taking decisions and actions. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better, and it will give credit to the source.... Good leadership never passes the buck. Once assured that it has, or can obtain, sufficient general backing, it freely takes decisions and puts them into action forthwith, provided of course that such actions be within the framework of its defined authority and responsibility."

Response When Trust is Lost

If the safeguards related to money are followed and/or the behavioral and other expectations of the trusted servant are spelled out and then followed, it makes it nearly impossible for problems to still occur. Occasionally, though, even if these safeguards and expectations are complied with, there may be situations which cause trust in a particular trusted servant to be lost. When these unfortunately occur, the service body and members of the fellowship are often faced with the dilemma of how to proceed. This is another reason why clear standards and guidelines are helpful, as they establish a standard to compare to when potentially harmful situations arise. Other factors to consider are: a sliding scale based upon the severity of the action; also the service body is encouraged to look at the levels/efforts of restitution and remorse by the person involved; another issue is whether the action is an isolated incident or part of a pattern.

In any event, when these types of problems occur, we must ask whether all financial guidelines and procedures were followed or, if applicable, whether the expectations which were set forth were reason-

able for the trusted servants and whether they were in fact met. If either answer is no, the service body should bear part of the responsibility for the problem and the existing procedures and safeguards should be reviewed and modified appropriately.

If, however, the service body can answer that its guidelines were followed completely and that everything possible was done to prevent a problem with money or that its expectations of the servant were clear, set forth and understood by the servant and the result is that there still are missing funds, theft, misbehavior, or breaches of the service body's guidelines, then great care must be taken as to how to proceed. When any or a combination of these actions occur there is often a mixture of reactions from the fellowship, ranging from 'forgive and forget, after all we are all addicts and this is how our disease manifests itself and we do not want to run the servant out of the rooms of recovery into a possible relapse,' to something like 'let's sue or prosecute.' Whatever the reaction is, we need to be mindful that we are charged with first finding out exactly what happened and why. We do not want to overreact, nor do we want to insufficiently react.

Our program of recovery affords all members of our fellowship the chance to behave responsibly in these types of difficult situations, to face our fellows and make amends. This process often starts the healing for the entire fellowship.

However, this is not to say that theft, misuse of funds, other problems with money, loss of sobriety, misbehavior, or failure to fully meet clearly articulated service commitments should be taken lightly or that the service body should sit idly by waiting for the servant to make amends, change and/or apologize. The service body should instead encourage a review process which is responsible, spiritual and fair to all involved. In any event, we are always mindful of our Tradition of placing principles before personalities, especially in these types of situations

If it becomes clear that funds are missing or that a servant has breached his or her duties as clearly set forth in the applicable service guidelines, the service body should make every effort to contact the individual to schedule a meeting where the servant is fully informed of the date, time and location of the meeting and that at such meeting, the servant will be provided the chance to present his or her version of the events. At such a meeting, it is recommended that the format allow adequate time for all involved to express their respective feelings, concerns and solutions. This allows all in attendance to provide their input and may afford a 'cooling off period' to occur. Thereafter, a short break is suggested to allow the participants the chance to connect with their own

Higher Powers, focusing on spiritual principles and solutions, before reconvening to conscience on the next course of action.

In these instances, the servant is encouraged to present his/her side of the matter and to find a solution for both the servant and the particular service body. Only if there is no solution should any of the other possible options be explored. Again, it might also depend on whether there are guidelines in place or detailed expectations which have not been followed to an acceptable level. If these items are in place by the service body, the inquiry and solution might be easier. If not, perhaps more difficult.

If the servant appears at such a meeting and admits to the theft, misuse of funds or failure to follow the financial guidelines of the service body and agrees to pay the funds back, a restitution agreement can be created which might include regular periodic payments in such amounts and in such intervals as acceptable to all involved. Most such agreements specify a weekly or monthly payment until all funds are repaid. Our experience indicates that such agreements need to be written, signed by both the member and a trusted servant of the service body, and perhaps drafted with the advice of counsel if possible. The restitution agreement should have a provision which states that if the agreement is not followed, the service body reserves the right to take whatever legal actions it may be entitled to both under the agreement as well as under the underlying theft statutes applicable to the jurisdiction where the service body is located. A periodic report about the status of the restitution agreement should be made to the service body until the agreement is paid or satisfied in full.

If the issues are around loss of sobriety, misbehavior, or failure to comply with the guidelines in place within the service body, then the inquiry turns to appropriate consequences. These might range from removal from that service position to something less than removal, depending on the circumstance and contriteness of the servant. We are mindful here of two of the warranties within the Twelfth Concept: that no action by the service body ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and that all actions of the service body should be democratic in thought and in action.

A sample provision to be placed in the service body's bylaws or guidelines might include the following:

Problems of Misbehavior, Loss of Sobriety, or Misuse of Fellowship Funds

Response by the service body when there are questions about the trusted servant's misbehavior, loss of sobriety, failure to follow other guidelines of

the service body, or where there are accusations of theft, misuse of fellowship funds, and/or mishandling of such funds.

The following actions will lead to an investigation and possible further sanctions as warranted by the service body.

A. Loss of Sobriety: Complete abstinence is a requirement! Anything other than complete abstinence constitutes an automatic resignation. Further requirements are stipulated under each position's description.

B. Misbehavior: It would be virtually impossible to contemplate all possible events of wrongful behavior by the trusted servants. Wrongful behavior would include, but not be limited to, verbal abuse or physical violence directed toward a fellow trusted servant or CA member. Incidents of wrongful behavior should be carefully considered on a case-by-case basis.

C. Misuse of Fellowship Funds: The Eleventh Concept establishes that the sole absolute priority for the use of CA funds is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. The 12 Concepts give the service body a mandate from the CA groups that calls for total fiscal accountability. With this in mind, any misuse of funds by trusted servants cannot be tolerated. Definition: "Misuse of funds" includes, but is not limited to, theft, embezzlement, or use of funds for any purpose not expressly authorized by the applicable service committee or subcommittee. This includes theft of cash, checks, any financial instrument (i.e., refunds from vendors to the CA. fellowship), or asset (i.e., equipment, supplies or inventory).

1. Interim Action - Suspension

a. Should any trusted servant be suspected to have misappropriated or misused fellowship funds, to have lost sobriety, or been accused of misbehavior, the members of the executive committee of the service body which initially put the trusted servant in place will contact each other, in person or by phone, to discuss and begin an investigation of the allegations made. Upon outcome of the initial investigation, the Executive Body may vote to immediately "suspend" the member(s) involved from their applicable service position(s). Suspension in this instance is not disciplinary action; it is a pause in active service to allow time for further investigation of the incident.

b. A suspended trusted servant may no longer represent him/herself to the fellowship or service body as the holder of that trusted servant position. Additionally, a member, upon notification of being suspended, may not be reimbursed for any service-related expenses incurred during the course of his/her suspension.

c. The presiding officer of the service body, immediately upon calling the next successive service

body meeting to order, must report all interim suspension decisions made by the Executive body, fully disclosing the alleged misappropriation or misuse of funds, misbehavior or other wrongful actions, and name the individual(s) involved. Any member suspected of misappropriation or misuse of funds, or of any other wrongful acts, may exercise their Fifth and Tenth Concept rights to redress at this time.

d. The service body may discuss continuing the investigation or moving to action.

e. Any other member who participates in or who had knowledge (without notifying the committee) of the suspected misappropriation or misuse of funds or other wrongful behavior, shall be subject to the same actions taken against the suspected person(s).

2. Action - Reinstatement/Removal

a. The service body may vote to reinstate the member(s). Upon reinstatement, said member's suspension will be lifted and he/she will resume his/her role as a full participant of the service body.

b. This matter can be brought to the applicable overseeing service body if the action occurred at a subcommittee level. If the service body votes to further investigate or to suspend a member, the subcommittee, if there is one, will report these actions to the applicable overseeing service body and ask for its guidance and recommendations. The suspected person may exercise their Fifth and Tenth Concept right to redress at this time at the overseeing body level. (Here, for example, if the action occurred at the Area H&I Committee, the Committee would have the right to bring the matter to the Area.) If the matter involved a trusted servant of the Area or District, the body which placed that servant in the service position shall have ultimate authority to act in such instance.

c. If the subcommittee or overseeing service body votes to remove the trusted servant with cause, said individual's participation within the service body is immediately terminated. Additionally, any member removed from office and/or committee by the service body for misappropriation or misuse of fellowship funds may not hold any District, Area or Regionally-elected position, or handle any fellowship funds of the Area, District or its subcommittees for a period of three (3) years.

3. Restitution

a. A member removed from a service position for the misappropriation or misuse of fellowship funds may be subject to other sanctions by the service committee.

b. Members removed from office for the misappropriation or misuse of fellowship funds may, at the discretion of the service body, be asked to sign a promissory note and make restitution in lieu of prosecution.

7 th Tradition April-June 2008			7 th Tradition April-June 2008		
Category or Location	Donor Name/City	Total	Category or Location	Donor Name/City	Total
CANADA			Illinois	Friday Night Faith, Hope, & Courage	\$15.00
Ontario	Southern Ontario C.A.	\$2,000.00		Illinois Area of C.A.	\$900.00
UK	Anonymous - London	\$1.09		Northwest Suburban District	\$520.69
Anonymous	Anonymous	\$123.94		South & West District	\$289.20
UNITED STATES			Indiana	Anonymous - Carmel	\$1.00
Arizona	Arizona Area	\$1,000.00	Iowa	AAOMAS	\$79.68
	Arizona Area donation to CAWS Convention	\$500.00	Kansas	New Found Life C.A.	\$20.00
Arkansas	Anonymous - Little Rock	\$10.00	Louisiana	Flying Higher	\$75.00
	Arkansas Area C.A.	\$225.00	Massachusetts	Massachusetts Area	\$90.00
	Primary Purpose	\$5.00	Michigan	Central Michigan Area	\$300.00
California	Anonymous - Los Angeles	\$356.49		Living in the Solution	\$20.00
	Anonymous - San Diego	\$0.05		Saturday Morning Alive	\$40.00
	Anonymous - Sunland	\$1.74	Minnesota	Wednesday Fairview C.A.	\$10.80
	Broken Pipe	\$5.00	Missouri	Come and Get It	\$19.00
	C.A. Northbay Service Group	\$15.00		Fried Pipers & Cocanuts	\$12.00
	C.A. Southbay Beach Cities	\$150.00		Kansas City District	\$40.00
	CALA Long Beach Compton District	\$262.50		Working With Others	\$20.00
	CALA Westside/Hollywood District	\$367.18	Nebraska	Anonymous - Omaha	\$5.00
	Central California C.A.	\$191.25		Nebraska Area	\$452.89
	Clean & Serene Surf Retreat	\$180.00	Nevada	Anonymous - Reno	\$170.00
	Come Alive Birthday Donation	\$51.00	New Jersey	Hope, Faith & Courage	\$75.00
	Life's Little Gifts	\$1.00	North Carolina	EC202	\$150.00
	Miracle Mile Group	\$5.00		Friday Paycheck Group	\$0.94
	Miracle of Women	\$100.00	Ohio	Early Morning Serenity	\$90.00
	Natural High Marathon	\$420.00		Getting Real People	\$34.00
	OCCA	\$1,000.00	Oklahoma	Freedom For All	\$138.00
	One Step At A Time	\$33.00		Oklahoma C.A.	\$100.00
	Recovery In The Desert	\$31.00		Southern Oklahoma Area	\$75.00
	Recovery In The Desert II	\$104.10		The Rock Stops Here	\$150.00
	S.G.P.V.C.A.	\$1,847.57	Pennsylvania	C.A. on Saturday	\$6.06
	Spirit of Studio 12	\$6.75	PA/NJ/DEL	PA/NJ/DE Area	\$75.00
	WIECA	\$100.00	South Carolina	Common Solutions Group	\$35.00
	WSOB	\$54.03	Tennessee	Tennessee Area	\$100.00
Colorado	Anonymous - Montrose	\$20.00		Natural High	\$0.08
	C.A. Area of Colorado	\$2,950.00	Texas	Anonymous - Houston	\$30.00
	C.A. of Colorado - Southern District	\$36.00		Common Bond	\$30.00
	Nirvana	\$221.33		Texas Area Service Committee	\$865.90
	The Promises Meeting	\$90.00		Unit C	\$200.00
Florida	Ft. Myers District	\$250.00	Utah	Anonymous - SLC	\$60.00
	South Florida	\$100.00		C.A. Central District	\$1,000.00
Georgia	Georgia Area	\$2,000.00	Virginia	Gimme Shelter From the Rock	\$2.30
	Monday Night Coconuts	\$105.00	Washington	Carpet Cruisers	\$95.00
	Spiritual Awakenings Group	\$208.22		C.A. District #3	\$0.56
	Today's Hope	\$170.00		Blade Runners	\$131.10
	Tucker Turtles	\$89.87	Wisconsin	Fri Nite Uncolas	\$95.00
				Razor's Edge	\$38.00
				Sunday Night Strength	\$477.80
			World Contribution Program	Anonymous	\$4,959.41
			Total		\$27,482.52

NADCP St Louis

By Russell S.
CAUK

Whilst most members were heading home after the fantastic CAWS Convention in Salt Lake City, two others and I made our way to a conference centre in St. Louis, Missouri to raise awareness for Cocaine Anonymous. The event we were attending was the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, a large conference providing the opportunity to introduce C.A. to around 3,000 professionals, many of whom are in an ideal position to carry the message of Cocaine Anonymous to their clients and communities.

The exhibition hall was large and our allocated booth space was well placed. CAWSO has a backdrop that we quickly put together and suddenly the ten-square-foot space took on C.A.'s identity; our logo and colours of white on green were easily recognisable. As we arranged the table with our literature, we realised the necessity to present ourselves in a (dare I say) professional manner. We may be the only example of C.A. these people ever meet and I'd like to believe they liked what they heard and saw.

The event started with a breakfast gathering and we split up and started to introduce ourselves to attendees, inviting them to visit our booth for more information. When the doors to the exhibition hall opened, we found ourselves with a steady flow of visitors, and this was the way it remained over the next three days. We met judges, probation officers, councillors, police, court officials and others working within our communities; some of them had heard of C.A. and some hadn't. We answered questions on how and where to access meetings (yes, *of course* we talked about online meetings as well) and explained the beautiful fact that we are a non-drug-specific Fellowship. We also had the opportunity to introduce C.A. to attendees from

Europe and New Zealand. The three of us seemed to work well together and, as with my home group, our strength was our diversity.

What I love about our service structure, at all levels, is our ability to do the best we can with what we've got, and this event was an example of such an attitude. At one stage we borrowed some literature from a local group as we'd run out, and a couple of visits to the local print shop got us through.

We also had the chance to meet up with local C.A. members and visited two groups in the area. We were collected and taken for dinner, then a meeting, and dropped back off at our hotels, and I got to answer what seems to be a regular question when I'm stateside,

Q: "Do people smoke crack in England?"

A: "Yes, some English people do smoke crack; we also have access to Cocaine Anonymous and recovery is then possible."

These public information events are very important and help us observe our 5th Tradition. In the UK, we have attended similar conferences for a number of years and I'd strongly suggest that local PI committees look out for such opportunities. Contact your Regional Trustee if you need some guidance. The CAWS PI Workbook offers some great suggestions on how to do this sort of stuff—it's not rocket science!

Before dismantling the booth, as I stood back and looked at the other two members interacting with the last of the attendees, a sense of gratitude and purpose came over me along with the realisation that we, as a worldwide Fellowship, have our place amongst these professionals in the spirit of cooperation. C.A. has come of age and the best is yet to come ...

MONEY MATTERS!

By Lawrence M.
Atlantic South Regional Trustee
Little Rock, Arkansas USA

The Financial Guidelines were written by the World Service Conference Finance Committee and approved by the World Service Conference for guidance for groups, districts and areas to avoid mismanagement of funds and financial misfortunes. Let us look at some hypothetical situations:

A district decides to put on a play for entertainment during Celebrate Around the World. The participants of the play want the district to rent equipment. Only one bid is presented to the district and the cost for the equipment is at or above \$500; however, the funds are not available to cover the cost. It is suggested that the committee sell tickets for the event, separate from the district, pay for the rental items, and return the remaining funds in to the district. This is decided without the district's group conscience.

The Financial Guidelines state, *"For any expenditure over \$500.00, there must be a three bid process."* This is an effort to insure that the service body gets the best deal available to them. It also suggested there be no expenditures without a group conscience.

At this point accusations of theft are now flying. As things develop, it is determined that there is no district bank account, leaving the service body to be informed that the Treasurer keeps the district's funds at his/her home.

Again, we refer to the Financial Guidelines; under district money handling procedures, they state: *"Maintains bank account(s) with checks requiring two signatures ... Submit monthly reconciled statements and report to the District Service Committee."*

Also, none of these hypothetical groups have service committees.

Here are some reasons why a group should have a service committee. Tradition Nine states, *"C.A., as*

such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve." In the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, under Tradition 9, page 174, it gives us the best reason why we should have service committees at all levels of service:

"Unless each A.A. member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve Steps of recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant. His drunkenness and dissolution are not penalties inflicted by people in authority; they result from personal disobedience to spiritual principles.

The same stern threat applies to the group itself. Unless there is approximate conformity to A.A.'s Twelve Traditions, the group, too, can deteriorate and die. So we of A.A. do obey spiritual principles, first because we must, and ultimately because we love the kind of life such obedience brings. Great suffering and great love are A.A.'s disciplinarians; we need no others.

It is clear now that we ought never name boards to govern us, but it is equally clear that we shall always need to authorize workers to serve us. It is the difference between the spirit of vested authority and the spirit of service, two concepts which are sometimes poles apart. It is in this spirit of service that we elect the A.A. group's informal rotating committee, the intergroup association for the area, and the General Service Conferences of Alcoholics Anonymous for A.A. as a whole."

In these matters, we are guided by the Steps, Traditions, Concepts, the writings in the *Twelve Steps*

and Twelve Traditions, C.A. World Service and the Financial Guidelines. The language, as cited, in the C.A. World Service Manual and the Financial Guidelines, is the clear conscience of our entire Fellowship (as passed by the C.A. World Service Conference) regardless of whether we, as a Board, or any member of the Fellowship or group, argues, decides, or interprets that they are suggestive versus required.

Referring to the C.A. Financial Guidelines, "If these guidelines are followed closely, our experience tells us that they will help avoid mismanagement of

funds, and lessen the chance of financial misfortunes. The hope is that this will help our fellowship achieve financial security. This will maximize our efforts to carry the message of recovery to the still suffering addict."

My hope is that individuals at group, district and area service committees may benefit from reading this article.

[The Financial Guidelines can be found at <http://www.ca.org/service/wscfinance.htm>.]



SUDOKU

The objective of Sudoku is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow in this 9X9 square game:

1. Every row of nine squares must include all digits 1 through 9, in any order;
2. Every column of nine squares must include all digits 1 through 9, in any order;
3. Every 3X3 subsection of the 9X9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

For solution, see page 18.

3			8	9				1
	8				1		3	5
	9				6			2
9		8		1	3		2	
	1		5	8		3		4
5			2				9	
8	2		1				4	
4				3	8			7

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City and State/Province: _____ Country: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____ Telephone Number: (____) _____

Recovery in Compton

By Hayward H.
Compton, California, USA

I was born in Los Angeles, raised in Compton, attended school in Watts and college in Long Beach. In short, this is my story:

What It Was Like:

I believe fantasy was my first escape because I could use it to make myself any person or character I wanted to be; it also took me to all the places I wanted to go. From there, I started drinking and drugging at an early age back in the mid-60s, with alcohol and pills swiftly moving to smoking weed, snorting cocaine and doing all sorts of uppers because it all did for me what I couldn't do for myself. It seemed at the beginning there was a lot of enjoyment and very little pain, like a hangover now and then, but in the end, it was all pain and no enjoyment.

Two months out of high school, in July 1970, I enlisted in the U.S. Army for three years, which I believe really disappointed my father because he wanted me to go to USC and play baseball. I felt deep inside at that time I wasn't USC (or any other college) material or ready for that type of commitment, and I didn't want to see my parents spend a lot of money for me to just flunk out. I had my own plans that after military service I would get a good job, attend college and purchase a home, all through the government, and I could live up to my own ideas and expectations.

Once in the Army, I did away with the mouthwash and eye drops because I didn't have to hide my drinking and using or be worried about being questioned about what I was doing.— After four months of basic and advance training, I received orders for a year tour of duty in Vietnam, Southeast Asia. So, in December 1970, at 18 years of age, I found myself in the middle of a war zone. This is where I was introduced to smoking heroin; I didn't want any tracks on my arms because that's the first place my father looked when I returned home. Many nights I drank and used anything and everything I could get my hands on, which helped me deal with fear and the long days ahead of me. I often came to not knowing where I was. I returned stateside from Vietnam around mid-December 1971, hooked on a wide variety of drugs as well as alcohol. I managed to miss the mandatory drug testing process that was

implemented by the Army shortly after my return because of all the veterans returning home addicted.

In July 1973, I returned to civilian life and started working full-time. Along with an apprenticeship program, I enrolled in college classes and bought my first house. All along, I drank and used drugs of all sorts on a very regular basis. In late 1978, my job sent me to Jacksonville, Florida; this trip allowed me to pocket a very nice sum of money.

One late evening after I had returned home to Compton, I went across town to West Los Angeles with a dealer I knew to drop off a package of cocaine. The street the delivery was on seemed to be dark that night except for the dimly lit house. When we pulled up in front, there was a person peeping out the windows. As we approached the front door, it opened wide and a very large guy was standing there sweating, eyes wide open, with the most horrible look on his face. Little did I know that after this night, I would have the same look on my face for the next six years.

Once inside the house and seated at a very small, filthy table covered with scratched plates, burnt glass pipes, used lighters, empty shaker and ether bottles, along with ashtrays filled with cigarette butts, the guy took the whole package he received and cooked it. This really amazed me and I thought, "What a waste." Before taking the first hit, he looked around and offered it to me. What I know now is that I should have jumped up and ran all the way back to Compton screaming and never ever looked back, but I didn't. What I felt after that first hit was what I had been searching for all my life; I had no idea that I would chase that hit for the next six years and never have that exact same feeling again.

What Happened:

That period from March 1979 to June 1985 was filled with tons of pain, heartache, much suffering, a failed marriage, neglected children, several lost properties, sad and confused families, disgusted and angry employers, countless thousands of dollars spent with nothing to show for it, and the most important thing of all: time wasted that I can never regain.

Sometime around 1983, I took a look at my life and what I had become through drinking and using

drugs—my experiences in and out of jail, always broke, burning bridges with friends, and seeing that the will to care was the first thing to leave. After a while, I began to see commercials on TV about cocaine addiction along with ways of getting help. Finally, I showed up to a weekly outpatient counseling session at a hospital program saying that I only had a cocaine problem, but after each session, I always had a drink of something and would smoke weed if I had it. I managed not to hit the pipe for a week each time, coming back to that counseling session lying about not drinking or using anything at all. After the third weekly session, I couldn't hold out any longer and I made up for the three weeks that I had white-knuckled it. This run was the beginning of the end that lasted close to two more years.

In early 1985, with depressed feelings at times of ending it all, I started seeing two co-workers that I knew were just as bad or worse than I was. One of them had a bumper sticker on his car that said "No Cain, No Pain." This caught my attention and made me ask him questions about his life, the main one being how do you do it? The other guy would visit my office only to offer help, answer questions about why, and listen to my lies. Neither guy ever preached, belittled or tried to make me see things any other way than I did; it was truly "attraction rather than promotion."

Eventually I got a phone number from one of them for the VA program he attended and made the call that helped start my life of change. On June 20, 1985, with my back against the wall and no place else to turn, I finally found myself standing in front of this VA facility drinking a very warm beer and feeling lost, alone, depressed, abandoned and totally disgusted with myself, wondering how in the world did I end up here. I stayed in that program for 90 days, always wanting to leave and complaining, but through God's grace and taking the action of listening and not leaving, I stayed.

Finally, on September 24, 1985, I was faced with the choice of what I was to do: either get involved with what I learned there or go back to the streets with the idea that I had a better handle on things now and try it all over again. Gripped with fear, I immediately started attending meetings in Long Beach with one of my co-workers.

After a short while, I started wondering where people in Compton and south central Los Angeles were going to C.A. meetings and talking about this thing called recovery, and I found a newly formed C.A. meeting called "More Will Be Revealed." Around July 1986 I wanted to start a meeting in Compton, but God lead me to another newly-formed C.A. meeting called

"There is a Solution." This meeting, in a very small, smoke-filled room, became my home group.

It was in these rooms and others like them that I've met people that have become life long friends. These meetings have moved several times but remain in Compton. At present, Compton has about eight C.A. meetings that are well established and offer strong support for addicts and alcoholics seeking help.

Around May 1987 I started to get restless and bored with just going to meetings because I hadn't gotten a sponsor and involved with the Twelve Steps or taken any action to start clearing up the wreckage of my past. One night at a marathon meeting, I heard Joe H. and a group of people from a workshop share about exactly what to do to get rid of these feelings I had. Eventually Joe became my sponsor and took me through the Twelve Steps, which strengthened my foundation, and gave me action items to deal with the trying times ahead of me.

What It's Like Now, in Recovery:

On February 28, 1992 my father passed, a few months short of my 7th sobriety birthday. I had made amends him in 1987 and continued to make ongoing amends to my family, letting them all know and see that I was back in their lives and I was finished with drinking and drugging for good and all.

In early 2003 I took a look at my life to see where I was with this three-part recovery program. I wasn't really happy with what I saw or what I had done for the Fellowship that helped save my life.

For personal recovery, I attend meetings, work with people when asked, and try to go through the Twelve Steps on a yearly basis. At the group level, I'd held some commitments like treasurer, chip person, secretary and committee positions for the Solution's yearly marathon but nothing that really got me involved with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts like a GSR position because that requires time. So, I started attending the Long Beach/Compton District meeting as an Alternate GSR for the Solution meeting and eventually was elected Vice Chairperson.

This commitment forced me to read and become familiar with standing committee positions, the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts. It also got me involved at the area service level and helped me to become more patient and tolerant of others. My first committee work at this level was a Love 'n' Service seminar, which helps orient members like me who are new to service work and also gets members from other areas and districts together. At the area service level I was eventually elected Delegate, allowing me to vote at the World Service Conference. This and work on the

2004 CALA convention have truly been highlights for me which help me deal with the low spots that continue to come and go in my life.

I will say that my life most of the time is really great, making it all worthwhile. Seeing a Fellowship grow up from a few weekly meetings to hundreds and when my life isn't all that, it's because of me getting in the way. I want to thank God for my life and I know that "much more WORK is required."

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE ARCHIVES NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Do you or someone you know have items from the early days of C.A.? The WSO Archives Committee is looking for World Service items such as Conference materials & Convention memorabilia. We are also looking for local items such as local charters, bylaws or memorabilia for donation. If you have any of these items and would like to help preserve the Fellowship's history, please let us know. Send an e-mail to WSOARCHIVES@ca.org or call the WSO at 310-559-5833.

Solution to Sudoku puzzle on page 15:

3	5	2	8	9	7	4	6	1
6	8	7	4	2	1	9	3	5
1	9	4	3	5	6	7	8	2
9	4	8	7	1	3	5	2	6
7	3	5	6	4	2	8	1	9
2	1	6	5	8	9	3	7	4
5	7	3	2	6	4	1	9	8
8	2	9	1	7	5	6	4	3
4	6	1	9	3	8	2	5	7



CAWS 2009 25th Annual Convention One With the Spirit of Recovery

CAWS '09—your 25th Annual Convention—is being held May 21-25, 2009 in Denver, Colorado at the Four-Diamond Omni Interlocken Resort. This convention will offer many speakers, workshops and marathon meetings throughout Memorial Day weekend. Planned events for CAWS '09 include an open-invitation golf tournament on the Omni Interlocken Resort's championship course (3rd best course in the Rocky Mountain region according to *Golf Magazine*) and a trip to Denver's cultural center. You will also have opportunities to attend a sunrise meeting on scenic Lookout Mountain and journey to the pristine beauty of Echo Lake. Make your reservations today to take advantage of the early bird registration packages by visiting the website at <http://www.cawsconvention.org/>.

Calendar of Events (continued on page 20)

September 4-7, 2008

2008 BIG SUR-enity Campout

Central California C.A.

LOCATION:

Fernwood Campground, Big Sur
Ventana Campground
Big Sur, CA
(805) 259-6940

CONTACTS:

Central California C.A., Hotline (805) 969-5178

September 5-7, 2008

4th Scottish Area Convention

The Fourth Dimension

C.A. Scotland

LOCATION:

The Beardmore Hotel & Conference Centre
Beardmore Avenue
Clydebank, Glasgow Scotland
0141 951 6000

Following the success of the Get Connected event in November 2007, we have secured the same venue at the same preferential convention rate and look forward to giving you a warm Scottish welcome.

CONTACTS:

Remmea M., Convention Chair +44 (0) 7805-069-478
Paul McL., Convention Vice-Chair +44 (0) 7824-873-696
Heidi R., Hotel Liaison +44 (0) 7706-770-303
Steph S., Registration Chair +44 (0) 7772-909-756

September 12-14, 2008

1st Annual BC Area Convention

Supernatural Serenity

British Columbia Area

LOCATION:

Executive Plaza Hotel
405 North Road
Coquitlam, BC, Canada
(888) 433-3932

CONTACTS:

Michael C., Convention Chair (778) 231-0007
Rand S., Convention Vice-Chair/Outreach (604) 619-1920
Kris J., Registration Chair (604) 725-5415
Kellie F., Hotel Liaison (604) 808-8496

September 19-21, 2008

2008 Florida Area Convention

Recovery Gone Wild

LOCATION:

Embassy Suites
1100 S.E. 17th Street
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33316
(954) 527-2700

All rooms are suites with cook to order breakfast included. Early registration ends 8/15/08.

CONTACTS:

Randy D., Convention Chair (954) 829-5623
Bob M., Vice-Chair (954) 649-0223
Karen D., Program Chair (954) 270-4032
Blake B., Hotel Liaison (772) 341-4472

September 26-28, 2008

2008 Nebraska Area Convention

A Design for Living

C.A. Nebraska

LOCATION:

Double Tree Hotel
1616 Dodge St.
Omaha, NE 68102
(402) 346-7600

CONTACTS:

Lori S., Registration Chair (402) 572-9067
Willie A., Hotel Liaison (402) 689-1722

September 26-28, 2008

Georgia Area 2008 Convention

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn Select Atlanta Capitol Conference Center
450 Capitol Avenue
Atlanta, GA
800-442-6011

Great speakers, awesome workshops, plenty of fun and fellowship. Come on down and join us.

CONTACTS:

Mike S., Registration Chair 678-398-9098
Todd S., Outreach Chair 404-819-2602

Get Your Local Event Listed! You can use the form at http://www.ca.org/event_form.html to get your event listed both on the web and in the NewsGram. You can also notify us by mail to NewsGram, c/o CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034, by e-mail to newsgram@ca.org, or by fax to 310-559-2554, Attn: NewsGram.

Calendar of Events (continued from page 19)

October 3-5, 2008

2008 Washington State Area Convention

Love & Tolerance Is Our Code

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn
3105 Pine Street
Everett, Washington
425-339-2000

CONTACTS:

Teresa A., Convention Chair (425) 444-9509
Cynthia C., Registration Chair (425) 985-4808
Scott B., Speakers/Workshops (253) 797-1491

October 4-5, 2008

Ohio 9th Annual C.A. Men's Conference

Recovery "Priceless"

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn Lakeside
1111 Lakeside Ave.
Cleveland Ohio
216-241-5100

Speakers, Workshops, Panels, Banquet, Spiritual Brunch

CONTACTS:

Mike H., Convention Co-Chair (216) 235-4793
Al G., Convention Co-Chair (216) 240-3774
Larry G., Convention Co-Chair (216) 231-2290
Frank B., Convention Co-Chair (216) 526-2591

October 9-12, 2008

3rd Annual Foothill District Convention

Remember it was agreed at the beginning we would go to any lengths for victory over our addiction

SGPVCA/Foothill District

LOCATION:

Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort
1650 S. Casino Drive
Laughlin, NV
800-227-3849

Reservation cut off date is September 9, 2008

Reservation code: C/SGPVC

Registration Deadlines:

EARLY BIRD - postmarked by July 15, 2008

REGULAR - after July 16, 2008 & On-Site

CONTACTS:

Jerome M., Convention Chair (626) 577-0450
Lonnie, Vice Chair (626) 689-0703
Linda R., Registration (626) 375-9063
Olivia S., Treasurer (626) 676-0617

October 10-12, 2008

Southwest Regional Convention

La Fiesta De Recovery

Arizona Area

LOCATION:

Hilton East
7600 E. Broadway
Tucson, AZ 85710
(520) 721-5600

CONTACTS:

Mitch C., Convention Chair (520) 808-4641
Pilar A., Convention Co-Chair (520) 358-2853
Kevin S., Outreach (520) 250-1706

October 10-12, 2008

2008 Midwest Regional Convention

When You Reach the End... There is a New Beginning

Greater Missouri Area

LOCATION:

Westport Sheraton
900 Westport Plaza
St. Louis, MO
314-878-1500

CONTACTS:

Joy L., Convention Chair (314) 448-2038
Abbie R., Registration (913) 424-5515
Allen B., Hotel Liaison (314) 578-0816

October 24-26, 2008

12th Annual Southern Ontario Area Convention

The Steps We Took

LOCATION:

The Ramada Hotel & Suites Downtown
300 Jarvis Street
Toronto, ON, Canada
(800) 567-2233

This fantastic 3-day event includes local & U.S. speakers, marathon meetings, workshops on a wide variety of recovery topics, hospitality suite with complimentary food, entertainment, banquet dinner & buffet brunch, live & silent auctions, sobriety countdown, memorabilia & so much more! Please come & see what Toronto recovery & hospitality look like. We look forward to seeing you there!

CONTACTS:

Nicole S. Chairperson (416) 516-8855
Mary A. Registration (416) 614-9356
Scott P. Programming (416) 889-2171