

Volume 29 No. 3 C.A. World Service Office, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304, Long Beach, CA 90810-1641 3rd Quarter 2012

WORKING THE TRADITIONS IN YOUR DAILY LIFE By: Teri K. Hiram, Georgia, USA

So you are at Step Twelve, "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs." So what's next? Through working with my sponsor, I learned the first part of the First Step tells me that I have to keep what I have by giving it away. The principle of Step 12; Service. That's reasonable and easy enough but aside from that how do I practice these other principles too; Honesty, Hope, Faith, Courage, Integrity, Willingness, Self-Discipline, Perseverance, Awareness of God? For me, my experience has led me to the answer. The answer is by working the Traditions in my daily life. For me to live life on life's terms, it isn't enough to work the Steps, I must apply the steps through the Traditions. They are not just for the C.A. Group but also for every individual in the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous.

TRADITION ONE: "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon C.A. unity."

I guess for me this Tradition speaks a great deal to how I maintain my personal recovery. That is, if I'm not involved, if I'm not an active member, then I can easily become isolated and that isolation could lead to relapse. By relapsing, I jeopardize the C.A. fellowship in that single action. For those that are not members of this fellowship but are aware that I am in recovery, my action (relapse) might be interrupted that C.A. doesn't work...not that I didn't work C.A. This negative message could affect someone else and how they might be viewed in the future.

If I am an active member...participating in the C.A. Fellowship; working with others and sharing my

experience, strength and hope, then I might be able to help someone else. By helping someone else, C.A. gains another member and then that new C.A. member, by working with others and sharing their experience, strength and hope, can help someone else and so on and so on. The Fellowship grows, more addicts that suffer have the opportunity to hear the message and more lives are saved.

In applying this Tradition in my daily life, I must remember that it is always about walking the walk and what I do through my own actions and personal recovery, affects those around me, which includes Cocaine Anonymous.

TRADITION TWO: "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern."

For me this Tradition is a reminder that it isn't about me and that it is all about a Higher Power, that the God of my understanding is always in charge. That every day, I can get up and I can plan my actions and activities for the day but I cannot plan the outcome.

In our every day life, there is always someone who is designated, in a sense, as a leader. It may be a parent, a supervisor, a teacher. I myself am a leader of people in the workplace. As a leader I am ever mindful that it is my role or the role of any other leader (parent, supervisor, teacher) to be a facilitator; a guide; a sponsor; an advisor only. Leaders are not dictators. I need also be mindful that as a "leader" that there is no pedestal that comes with the job. That I am a mere human being; not immune to errors, mistakes or other human frailties. That at the end of the day I am equal

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THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

BY: Brian O. Portland, Oregon, USA

- R = Realize I'm not God
- **E** = Earnestly believe that God exists
- **C** = Consciously chose to commit my life and will to God
- **O** = Openly examine and confess my faults.
- **V** = Voluntarily submit to every change God wants.
- **E** = Evaluate all my relationships.
- **R** = Reserve a daily time with God.
- **Y** = Yield myself to God.

From: The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions Page 18

Everywhere there arose threatening questions of membership, money, personal relations, public relations, management of groups, clubs and scores of other perplexities. It was out of this vast welter of explosive experience that A.A.'s Twelve Traditions took form and were first published in 1946 and later confirmed at A.A.s First International Convention, held at Cleveland in 1950. The Tradition section of this volume portrays in some detail the experience which finally produced the Twelve Traditions and so gave A.A. its present form, substance, and unity.

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with everyone else.

Tradition Two talks about bleeding deacon and elder statesman. For me, this is reminder that I have two choices when I am called to participate as a leader. If I am a bleeding deacon, then I am one that sits in the problem. I'm not open to change or other people's suggestion. I am a "it's my way or the highway" type. If I am an elder statesman, then I am one that sits in the solution. I am open-minded, willing to listen and accepting for change. For me the choice is simple but not always easy but to be an elder statesman, I have a better chance of staying away for selfishness and selfcenteredness...the root of my problem in the first place.

TRADITION THREE: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using cocaine and all other mind altering substances."

To work this Tradition in my life, I am reminded that diversity is the essence of life. That the differences between me and everyone else on the planet are something to be embraced; to be welcomed. That life is about inclusion not exclusion. Every day I should set aside prejudices that I learned in life before I got sober. I should treat all people that I encounter on a daily basis, the same with kindness, love and tolerance. It is not always an easy thing and sometimes I must make amends for the behavior but by working (practicing) acceptance I am able to grow and learn and to see people as they are. If someone is placed in my life, then they should not be turned away.

TRADITION FOUR: "Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting other groups or C.A. as a whole."

Tradition Four is often a misunderstood tradition. In my daily life, this Tradition is talking about my community; my neighborhood, my network of friends. It could be your classmates, your Sunday school class or softball team. All these "groups" are unto themselves. Working together, playing or studying together for a common goal, we are comforted by these similarities, these common actions and thoughts.

TRADITION FIVE: "Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the addict who still suffers."

With this Tradition, I am reminded that I may be the only "C.A." someone ever comes in contact with. Or, even in my work vs. everyday environment...I maybe the only contact the outside world has with my employer, do I want the outside world to have a good reaction or a negative reaction, depending on my behavior? My conduct is really about carrying the message to everyone, not just the suffering addict. When I cleaned up on the inside...becoming more reliable, honest, sincere then I was able to help those people around me that were suffering. I am able to be a better friend, sister, daughter, employee and citizen.

TRADITION SIX: "A C.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the C.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

It is important for us to be loyal, to have integrity both personally and professionally. My conduct in and out of the work place can be equated to not just my personal self but it also links me to my company and what others think about my company as well. If I am pleasant, courteous and confident in a business meeting and then demonstrate the same behavior at a business dinner, later in the week, then those clients will have a sense of ease and comfort in both my company and me. If on the other hand in that same situation, I am pleasant, courteous and confident in that business meeting and then I am rude, discourteous and insolent at that same business dinner later in the week, those same clients might think twice about both my company and me.

Our lives and our actions are connected to our communities, jobs, and friends. The way we conduct ourselves through thought, word and deed links us to those communities and can be either harmful or helpful to everything in which we are connected. Nothing should ever divert us from being good, loyal, and honest human beings in our every day lives.

* To Be Continued in the NewsGram, Volume 29, Number 4, 4th Quarter 2012 *

Last May, C.A. had its first international World Service Convention off the North-American continent! It was an experience not soon to be forgotten by all who attended and especially by all who participated in the countless hours of planning and implementing such a successful event.

The Convention, held in Birmingham, England, was full of excitement and recovery. There were open-share meetings, book study meetings, workshops, forums on translations and World Service, Regional Caucuses, WS Conference committee meetings, and speaker meetings. There were a variety of special events both on and offsite including a meet-and-greet dinner, banquet, brunch, and tours throughout England. And, if there weren't enough meetings and special events to keep you busy, there was plenty of casual fellowship in the lobby over coffee and refreshments.

As one can imagine, an event of this magnitude could not have been possible without the hard work of many volunteers. Dozens of C.A. members came together to make up the various committees necessary to implement this successful event. Members that put in countless hours in meetings, planning and organizing every aspect of the Convention so that we could all come together to carry the message and to celebrate our sobriety and the fellowship that has helped us achieve that sobriety.

This is a perfect example of Tradition Nine: "C.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

At every level of C.A.'s service structure, there are committees that serve: we have local committees (GSR's) that serve the members of the groups, Hospitals and Institutions committees that serve groups in treatment facilities and correctional institutions, Area committees that serve all the groups in there areas, Conference Delegates and committees, serving all groups, the WSO and Board and its committees, serving all groups and members everywhere. Likewise, the World Service Convention encompasses committees that serve the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous.

More than ten committees worked together in service to achieve the purpose of promoting enthusiasm and unity within the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous and financially support World Services' effort to carry the message to the addict that still suffers. Beginning with the World Service Conference Convention Committee, the Convention General Committee and the Steering Committee, there were committees for every aspect of the planning and implementation process. There were committees for spending, registration, programs, special events, hospitality, memorabilia, and information. It is thanks to all of the hardworking volunteers that served on these committees that the 2012 World Service Convention was such a success in so many ways.

Not only was this a very successful fundraiser, but it was an amazing display of unity - no language barriers, no international borders, nothing in the way – just the unity of our one common purpose: helping the addict that still suffers. I can think of little else that can foster enthusiasm within our fellowship more than being so united, and for that I would like to thank each and every one of those volunteer committee members!

* * *

QUOTE: HFC II, PAGE 154 From the Story: Out of the Streets and Into Sobriety

The First three Steps taught me how to give up. Four, Five and Six taught me how to own up. Seven, Eight and Nine taught me how to make up Ten, Eleven and Twelve taught me how to grow up

C.A. WE'RE HERE AND WE'RE FREE... BUT CAN YOU FIND US? BY: A Member

Our Tradition Five states, "Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry the message to the addict who still suffers." The lifeblood of the Fellowship is to reach out to the still suffering addict and our regular members so we may share the message of recovery. Communication is the issue. For an addict to find a meeting, or to speak with another addict the fellowship needs to be easily reached by a communication system that gives accurate information on a phone system and the internet. Let us take a look at what that means.

Phone System:

Does your fellowship have a phone line that answers with the correct information about who C.A. is, a person to talk to, and a correct meeting schedule? Is this meeting schedule and person updated on a regular basis? Does the World Service website have the correct number, and does your Area verify this information regularly. If the phone number is connected to a voice mail, is the information correct? If a C.A. person answers the phone, does the caller know whom they are reaching? If the phone is answered by an answering service does that company have all the correct Fellowship information, such as people to contact, meeting schedules, and directions to those meetings? Does the company have information about who C.A. is and what it does?

Helpline versus Hotline:

Helpline: A phone system that is answered by either voice mail, or answering service.

Hotline: A phone system answered by a member of C.A.

Internet:

It has been said that if you had a computer or cell phone you have not reached your bottom yet. In this day and age, almost the opposite is true. You now see homeless people with cell phones! The correct information on the Area Website is essential. Is the meeting schedule correct? Is there a phone number on the site to reach a fellow addict? And, as has already been said, does the World Service Office have the correct Area website? Is the website simple so it can be read easily and easy to navigate?

INFORMATION YOU MIGHT CONSIDER ON A HELPLINE/HOTLINE:

- What is C.A., or the C.A. preamble
- An emergency phone number
- That C.A. does not provide counselling
- A list of members to call
- C.A. has no dues or fees
- A list of meetings
- Area website address
- Is it possible to leave a message? If so, who picks up those messages?

SOME POSSIBLE DO'S AND DON'TS ON A HELPLINE/HOTLINE:

Don'ts:

- The C.A. person answering does not give out personal phone numbers, e-mails, or last names.
- The C.A. person does not offer to pick up the addict where they live.
- The C.A. person does not recommend specific treatment programs.

Do's:

- In an emergency, recommend a local emergency number.
- Try to encourage the person to get to a meeting.
- Do recommend to a family or friend Co-Anon (if in the area) or Al-Anon with a number to call.

Reaching a Still Suffering Addict MAY SAVE A LIFE!!

Trustee Corner:

MY THANKS TO THE FELLOWSHIP!

By: Randy G. Southwest Regional Trustee & Chair of the WSBT Chandler, Arizona, USA

Hi family,

While sitting down to pen something for the Newsgram, it struck me like a ton of bricks that this would be my last opportunity to address the Fellowship as a Trustee. Wow – four years can go by so quickly. To summarize what I've experienced, what I've learned, and to express the gratitude I have for the Fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous and the honor to be of service would take volumes. But my greatest revelation was easy to see.

As with all of our service commitments in the Fellowship, my time on the WSBT was filled with interacting with some of the most amazing people. The bond that comes from engaging with each other in our service to the Fellowship is indescribable. These soldiers taught me that I wasn't always right and the Fellowship always comes first. That the Traditions and Concepts are guidelines for our efforts and when applied with the spiritual principles of this program, are always closer to God's Will than mine.

The real experience for me personally was the recognition that the disagreements that exist from time to time in all of our service efforts were never disagreements regarding intent. I often thought in my journey through service that if you felt different than I did on any C.A. issue, that you didn't love C.A. as much as I did. Therefore, your intent was to weaken what I was trying to make stronger. That was the grand delusion of my ego's battle in service. It's the conflict that happens when my desire to "do good" is righteously considered to be greater than your desire to "do good" – only because we disagree. I was so wrong.

It is so clear to me today that our members participating in service to our Fellowship love Cocaine Anonymous as much as I do. The group conscience of all our actions, when practiced jointly inside the Twelve Concepts of our efforts is the true guidance for C.A. I have seen the WSBT and the Conference change their minds after a minority opinion was presented. I have seen the WSBT and Conference come to a collective decision through healthy debate and respect for each participant. I have seen C.A. become more mature before our very eyes and I have also personally grown because of this as well.

I have learned that no member is under qualified to be of service. There is always a place for our newcomers to greet other members at the door of our meetings, to help by picking up chairs and be a part of our Groups with a voice that needs to be heard. I have also learned that no member is over qualified to be of service either. Long term sobriety and previously held positions in C.A. should not somehow excuse us from picking up cigarette butts and helping our Groups carry the message on the real ground floor. It is the real responsibility of our elder statesmen to lead by example; to show that being active in our support and service to this fellowship is as important to us now as it was when we came in the doors.

So as my term as a member of the WSBT comes to a close at the 2012 World Service Conference, I know what I'm going to do next. I'm going to go back to Arizona at the end of the Conference and attend a meeting. I will participate in my home group. I will serve H&I with a jail meeting commitment. I will sponsor the men that have graced me with that privilege. I will be an active and visible member of the C.A. Fellowship that saved my life.

To Cocaine Anonymous for allowing me to be of service on the bottom of the triangle. To the Southwest Region for the responsibility to represent our great region in my efforts. To all of the prior and current WSBT board members for the experience of serving with you that I will never forget. To C.A.'s service structure for forcing me into the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts to find guidance in our efforts. To my sponsor and circle of "running dogs" for keeping me grounded and sane. To my wife and family for their understanding and support over the term of my service. To the Higher Power of my understanding and the path to that relationship provided by the 12 Steps of Cocaine Anonymous –

Thank You! And I'll see you all at a meeting very soon.

November is Jratitude Month

Our Primary Purpose is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers, and certainly there are suffering addicts in all corners of the world.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS was founded on November 18, 1982, which is why November is Gratitude Month. During November each year, we pass the gratitude can; where the money collected goes directly to the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office.

The Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office has a worldwide reach

- It helps to carry the message in various important ways:
- Publishing and translating books, literature and chips
- Access to drug court conferences

- Sponsorship of the national hotline
- Administrative support for new Districts, Areas and Regions
- Mailing free meeting starter kits
- Providing free books and literature to inmates.

So, when the Gratitude Can comes around in November, remember your unknown brother or sister trying to find their way into the rooms of Cocaine Anonymous, and help the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office carry the message worldwide.

CAWSO 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304 Long Beach, CA 90810 USA www.ca.org

MY STORY Brian O. Portland, Oregon, USA

My name is Brian O, and I am an addict. I have been drinking and using since my pre-teens. My clean date is August 13, 2009. This is the fourth time I've had a clean date. I started getting clean in my 30's in jail cells. At the age of 40 I got the opportunity to go to a six month Salvation Army rehab center. I was introduced to C.A. when some H&I speakers came into our center. I could relate to them. I got involved in C.A., staying in the middle of things. That was in 2004, and I did real well for 13 months. Never having worked the steps and without any surrender, my success was short lived. I graduated two more of these ARC programs, but just got clean long enough to rebuild my life. Things came back to me quickly and I thought I could handle anything. I was wrong. I never worked on the thing that kept destroying my life, me.

On August 13, 2009 I was ready to do anything to stay clean and sober. I even tried a different fellowship. I went to a men's step study and worked on the first step for 58 weeks. My sponsor was unavailable and I really wanted to progress forward in the Steps. I came back to C.A. in the summer of 2010. I went back to my home Group, it was good to come home. There was a guy celebrating 28 years named Bob L. He came with a message of Hope from the *Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous*. He had just moved here and I figured he would have time to sponsor me and really work the steps.

We met once a week for about 8 months. He was tough and wanted action from me. We processed through some rough stuff from my past. I knew I had to be fearless and thorough, two things I had not been in my past recovery. I have digested large chunks of truth about myself that I used over. I experienced a new freedom from shame, blame and animosity. There was nothing left to suppress with drugs and alcohol. My amends were made to my kids, their mother and my Dad. I even went back to an employer and made amends to him. No more wreckage, my side of the street has been cleaned. After the 12th step I was told to get a sponsee. I am now working the 10th Step with my sixth sponsee. My life has taken a turn towards the ministry with The Salvation Army. I am going to attend the College for Officer Training in August 2012. There is a three year sobriety requirement and on my report date of August 14, 2012 I will have three years and one day! That is how God has been working in my life. I thank God for Bob L, C.A. and The Salvation Army. It all only works if I am clean and sober. With God and sobriety anything is possible.

* * *

We need submissions <u>NOW</u>!

Share your experience, strength and hope for the first

C.A. Meditation Book

February 7

"What we failed to do alone, we can do together." (Tools of Recovery)

We share our experiences at meetings because it helps us to stay sober. By sharing, we express our love for others who might be having the same difficulties and joys we have had. It helps us all to understand we are not alone and that we have common situations we work through on a daily basis.

Thought for the Day

I will share my experience today so that others may take comfort in the knowledge that others have been there and done that. I will share my experience today in the hope that someone will help me. I will share today to bring us together.

Online submissions are preferred. **Each submission also requires a properly executed release** (please use the online submission form available at www.ca.org or the form on page 8). If you are unable to use the online form, you may send your submission(s) and release via e-mail to submissions@ca.org or by regular mail to: CAWSO, Inc., Attention: LCF Committee, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304, Long Beach, CA 90810-1641. For more information, please call 310-559-5833

WHAT'S NEW IN LCF? BY: Kellie F., Chair, LCF Committee Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

My name is Kellie; I am a recovered cocaine addict. I also have the honor of chairing the LCF Committee at the World Service Conference (WSC). The group of trusted servants I get to work with is phenomenal and amazing! The collective experience and passion exhibited by these dedicated members has me constantly in a state of awe and gratitude. A committee is only as good as its members and LCF, in my opinion, has the "crème de la crème." Our committee consists of two past LCF Chairpersons, multiple past trustees and our fabulous current WSBT and WSOB liaisons, as well as a handful of talented and enthusiastic members from the Canada, Europe and the USA.

The forward to the 4th edition of the *Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous* contains a very moving section regarding the importance of literature in its growth: "Literature has played a major role in A.A.'s growth, and a striking phenomenon of the past quarter-century has been the explosion of translations of our basic literature into many languages and dialects. In country after country where the A.A. seed was planted, it has taken root, slowly at first, then growing by leaps and bounds when literature has become available."* It is touching to me to read these words and they give me great hope that C.A. will have similar experiences with the expansion of our literature and intellectual properties. Very exciting things are happening in the LCF Committee. We have a lot of projects in the works and are very thrilled that our meditation book is near completion, thanks to the hard work of the Meditation Book Subcommittee

Does your meeting carry the most recent version of C.A. Literature?

I'd like to share some personal experiences I've had recently. While attending a meeting in my local Fellowship, I realized they were reading an old version of *Who is a C.A. Member?* Immediately I thought, "That's not the right version!" I waited until the break and asked the secretary if she knew there was a newer version of that reading. She admitted that she did not but that she would update it at the next meeting. I advised her that it had been revised in 2009 due to feedback from some of our international members. It had come to the attention of our committee through a referral that other regions of the world were not familiar with certain slang words contained in the original version ("calling ourselves stoners, tweakers, junkies or just plain dope fiends"). That wording actually made the reading nonsense to them and therefore it was not being used. This was very interesting news to hear and although she said at first that she could see nothing wrong with the old reading, she admitted after hearing why it had been changed that in the interest of Tradition One, she felt it was vital that the group use the newest version.

The next week I was at a meeting in which they used excerpts from the *Choosing Your Sponsor* pamphlet. Again I was surprised to note that the current version of the pamphlet, which was revised in 2008, was not being used. The secretary advised me that they didn't know there was a newer version. I shared with her that the new version should be available for purchase from the Chips and Literature person in our Area.

These experiences caused me to ask myself if I, as a member of C.A. and of the LFC Committee, had done everything I could to bring this information to our local Area and meetings. Taking my own inventory, I noted that I give reports each month about these items at our local Area meeting. I also try to inform and educate whenever opportunities arise for me to be useful to others regarding C.A. literature. Still, I wondered, what more could be done? The next week I was at a meeting in which they used excerpts from the Choosing Your Sponsor pamphlet. Again I was surprised to note that the current version of the pamphlet, which was revised in 2008, was not being used. The secretary advised me that they didn't know there was a newer version. I shared with her that the new version should be available for purchase from the Chips and Literature person in our Area.

As God would have it, an opportunity arose to write an article for the C.A. NewsGram! What a wonderful way to get the message out to our Fellowship regarding these updated pieces of literature. Of course, the idea for the article was not my own but rather came from my sponsor and the NewsGram Editor. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my experience as a member of C.A. and to inform the Fellowship of C.A. *(Cont. on page 10)* (Cont. from Page 9)

on behalf of the LCF Committee. Please check out the list below of recently updated pamphlets and literature:

- *C.A. is* Also *for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgender Addict* (approved in 2009);
- Choosing Your Sponsor (revised in 2008);
- Cocaine Anonymous Self-Test (revised and retitled in 2010);
- Do's & Don'ts for 12th-Step Calls for Addicts (approved in 2008);
- *Meeting in a Pocket* (revised in 2011 to include updated and additional readings);
- *Newcomer Booklet* (updated in 2012 to include current versions of literature and changed to a larger format); and
- *Yes,* You *Can Start A C.A. Meeting* (approved in 2007 and available for free).

There are many other publications available from C.A.: a complete list can be found at http://www.ca.org/pdf/Order20Forms/CA Order For m.pdf. You can also shop online for literature at http://store.ca.org/. If you're not sure whether you have the most recent version, check the copyright date at the bottom of the reading or on the back of the pamphlet. The current meeting format can be downloaded for free at http://www.ca.org/formats.html. If your pamphlet inventory is out of date and you can afford to do so, please consider purchasing the revised pamphlets so that your local Fellowship will be carrying the most current message of Cocaine Anonymous.

In closing, I'd just like to add that we welcome new members to the LCF Committee, as we are always in need of assistance with our various subcommittees. We stay quite active throughout the year, so it's not necessary to attend the WSC to participate. If you'd like to hear more about opportunities to be of service on LCF, please contact me via e-mail at <u>flowerz2@telus.net</u> or through the World Service Office.

* This excerpt from *Alcoholics Anonymous*, page xxiii, is reprinted with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. ("AAWS"). Permission to reprint this excerpt does not mean that AAWS has reviewed or approved the contents of this publication, or that AAWS necessarily agrees with the views expressed herein. A.A. is a program of recovery from alcoholism <u>only</u>—use of this excerpt in connection with programs and activities which are patterned after A.A., but which address other problems, or in any other non-A.A. context, does not imply otherwise



We went to meetings, read the Big Book and before we knew it we had ceased using Cocaine and all other mind-altering substances for...



The second in a conferenceapproved series of 8 commemorative C.A. chips. Circa 1985 – 1987 Comes with a keychain & protective cover

AVAILABLE NOW!

Limited Edition - 1000 Printed All proceeds benefit CAWSO \$10.00 each

Another piece of C.A. History brought to you by the WSC Archive Committee.

SAVE \$\$ BY ORDERING WITH YOUR AREA'S CHIPS & LITERATURE ORDER

NEW NEWSGRAM FEATURE

As a new feature of the NewsGram, the World Service Office will be giving us a quarterly snapshot of our Fellowships finances. Please note that figures are rounded off, and this may not be a fully reconciled or complete financial picture. It is a snapshot for general information only.

Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office Quarterly Snapshot to our Fellowship April through June 2012

	Apr-12	May-12	Jun-12	Total
INCOME:				
Income (Sales, Chip, Literture, Books including Shipping)	\$14,831.00	\$17,507.00	\$10,985.00	\$43,323.00
7th Tradition (Includes Gratitute Can, Birthday, WCP)	\$22,896.00	\$9,663.00	\$17,543.00	\$50,102.00
Misc Income:	\$12.00	\$767.00	\$150.00	\$929.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$37,739.00	\$27,937.00	\$28,678.00	\$94,354.00
EXPENSES:				
Purchases (Chips, Literture, Freight, Shipping Supplies, Starter Kits, etc.)	\$6,597.00	\$7,099.00	\$9,887.00	\$23,583.00
Office Expenses (Rent, Copy Machine, Postage Machine, Utilies, Outside Professionals, Insurance, Taxes, Bank Fees, etc.)	\$8,199.00	\$7,844.00	\$9.954.00	\$25,997.00
	. ,	. ,		
Employee Expenses (Salaries, Benefits, Payroll Taxes, Paychex, etc.)	\$9,145.00	\$13,275.00	\$9,293.00	\$31,713.00
Misc. Other Expenses: NADCP Travel	\$0.00 \$1,358.00	\$1,030.00 \$4,760.00	\$2,968.00 \$80.00	\$3,998.00 \$6,198.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$25,299.00	\$34,008.00	\$32,182.00	\$91,489.00
			INCOME/LOSS	\$2,865.00

THE SEVENTH TRADITION BY: Mike S. Atlanta, Georgia, USA

"Every C.A. group ought to be fully selfsupporting, declining outside contributions."

Although the seventh tradition in itself is a spiritual principle, the "one word" principle behind it is "Self-Support." The one constant thought I had besides getting more dope was that if I had enough money, everything would be okay. Money would solve my problems. It has been the C.A. Groups experience that the more money the Group has in its prudent reserve, the more problems the Group has on deciding how to spend it.

Just where does the money come from and where does it go? I won't lecture on this topic. I suggest you read the C.A. pamphlet called *The Seventh Tradition*. This pamphlet explains where it all goes. I have been treasurer for two different Groups and been on several finance committees. If the Group conscience is working and the recommend split of 70/30 is being followed, the Group supports its District and World. If the District does the same it supports the Area and World. The Area supports itself and World. There are quite a few expenses to keep the Fellowship alive. Ask your sponsor to explain some of them to you. Better yet, become self-supporting by getting involved with some level of C.A. service work. You can learn first hand.

We can also use Tradition Seven as a model for healthy relationships in many other groups – families, jobs, and community – just about anywhere. If we share the responsibility for the well being of C.A. we can rest assured that C.A. will be there for the addict that is still suffering. (Sound familiar)? Would you be here today if C.A. hadn't been here for you? Here are a few parting thoughts or questions to ask yourself:

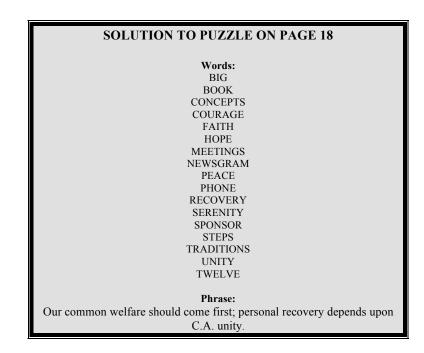
- What does fully self-supporting mean to me?
- How do I support my Group?
- What can I do this week to contribute to my own support and that of my Group?
- Do I consider costs and what my Group needs when I decide how much to contribute, or do I

just keep tossing a dollar in the basket? Can I put a little more in the basket to make up for the newcomer that can't?

- Do I encourage business meetings for my Group?
- What benefits have I received when I have volunteered?

In the last few years I have seen some good stuff happen and then I have seen some real bad stuff happen with the Seventh Tradition. When it's misused it can do a lot of damage. People stop trusting and quit giving. Groups disappear or stop meeting. Newcomers get discouraged and go back out.

My personal experience has been that the more I give, the more I get back. This statement has rung true in **EVERY** aspect of my life. My life is very full and pretty exciting today. Because of the Seventh Tradition I don't worry about much, because as long as I keep giving, I keep getting. Happy Trudging!



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HFC II is back to the original price!

The price of *Hope, Faith, and Courage II* has been returned to \$9.95 for SOFT COVER and \$14.95 for HARD COVER. Spread the word! The HFC II book in soft cover is available for sale in an unblemished (and no longer stickered) version both within and outside of the USA.

We also have available the HFC II in French! L'Espoir, laFoi ET le Courage, volume II So place your order online at http://www.ca.org/purchase.html or contact the World Service Office (310-559-5833/fax 310-559-2554) to reserve your copy today!!



World Service Contribution Program

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. Plus, 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 below, attach a voided check or deposit slip (if necessary), and mail everything to the address shown. Thank you for your support.

	AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT I	
YES! As a member of C.A., I want to par	ticipate in the C.A. World Service Contri	ibution Program to help keep C.A. World Services going strong!
Cocaine Anonymous World Service Offic 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304 Long Beach, CA 90810-1641 (310) 559-5833 cawso@ca.org	ce	
As part of my 7th Tradition contributions to initiate variable entries to my account		Office, I authorize Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office (CAWSO),
Type of Account: Credit Card Deb	oit Card □ Savings	
Credit Card or Debit Card Name:		
Card Number:		Expiration Date:
Financial Institution's Name:		
Financial Institution's Address/Branch:		
If using a savings account, please include a deposit slip.		
PAYMENT DETAILS:		
Amount in U.S. Dollars: \$ Date of first payment: □ 1 st of month □ 15 th of month		
PAYMENT FREQUENCY:		
□ Monthly □ Annually □ One-time bas	sis Effective date://	(MM/DD/YYYY)
This authority is to remain in full force an afford CAWSO a reasonable opportunity		ten notification from me of its termination in such time and manner as to
Name:		
(Please print name as	it appears on the account)	
Signature:		Date:
Address:		
		Country:
Zip/Postal Code:	Daytime Phone:	Evening Phone/Cell:
PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS COMPLETED FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS (The complete World Service Contribution Program brochure, which includes this form, is available for download at www.ca.org/contribute.html)		

A SPLASH OF SERENITY Randy D. Chairperson, CAWSC 2013 Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA

Hello everyone from sunny South Florida. The Atlantic South Region and the Florida Area are privileged to host the 2013 Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention. We are already working hard at planning an awesome party for you in Ft Lauderdale at the Westin Beach Resort and Spa on Memorial Day Weekend, May 23-27, 2013. Our goal is to provide you with a weekend of fun and recovery when you come here for "A Splash of Serenity".

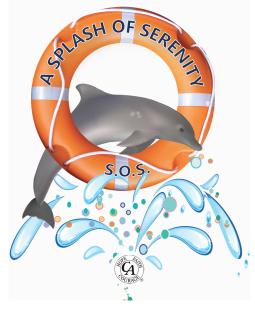
I got clean and sober in 1988 and attended my first C.A. World Service Convention in 1989. I've attended every one since then. The venues have been great. The schedules have been top notch. The speakers have been wonderful! The activities have been terrific. Each time I went to a World Service Convention I couldn't help thinking what an honor it would be to host one in Florida. We are a small Fellowship, but eager and willing to show you an unforgettable weekend.

We recently returned from the U.K., where we attended the CAWS Convention in Birmingham, England. To say it was awesome would be an understatement. The local Fellowship in the U.K. welcomed us with open arms and embracing hugs. They truly know how to throw a party and they showed us all a great time. The marathons, the workshops, the speakers - were all "spot on" and inspirational. The activities within the hotel, the "lobby recovery", and the camaraderie - were loads of fun. The extra-curricular activities before during and following the convention gave us an opportunity to see a great deal of the sights and countryside. We came back to Florida re-inspired and ready to show you all a wonderful time in May.

Our Committee members are hard at work putting together a list of fantastic speakers in the main room, as well as marathon meetings, workshops and other activities to carry the message of recovery to those who attend the convention. We hope to provide you with that experience while you're here. Outside of the hotel, the Committee has hit the ground running and is already making plans for you to enjoy the best Florida has to offer. I'm sure I don't have to tell you, that besides the lovely palm trees, two of our best assets are our warm weather and beautiful sandy beaches. When we tell you this convention will be on the beach, we mean it will REALLY be on the beach. A walking bridge will take you directly across the street from the hotel where your feet will touch down on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and miles of sand and waves.

Before, during and after the convention, activities for you and your families to enjoy could include airboat rides through Florida's famous Everglades, fishing trips, deep sea diving, shopping, sightseeing, or just tanning on the beach. South of Ft Lauderdale you might decide to venture down to Miami's famed South Beach or take in some of the many museums, malls, or golf courses in Miami, Ft Lauderdale, or West Palm Beach. If your plan is to make it a family vacation, Orlando, Universal Studios, and Disney World and the Florida Keys are all within a four-hour drive.

In the months to come we hope to provide you with additional information and incentive for you to "come on down" and enjoy "A Splash of Serenity" with us here in Ft Lauderdale.



Calendar of Events

August 23-26, 2012

28th Annual Convention

I Love "C.A."

Cocaine Anonymous Los Angeles

LOCATION:

Hyatt Grand Champions Resort, Villas, & Spa 44600 Indian Wells Lane Indian Wells, CA USA 92210 1-888-421-1442

CONTACTS:

Ronald Mc, Chair (310) 292-1242 Cliff H., Hotel Liaison (310) 488-7934 Duane B., Outreach (310) 903-3089 Gregory A., Outreach (562) 658-5089

August 24-26, 2012

16th Annual SOCA Convention

Faith With Works Cocaine Anonymous of Southern Ontario

LOCATION:

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel 123 Queen St. West Toronto 416-361-1000

CONTACTS:

Bob A., SOCA Chairperson 416-520-7797 Kenny S., Area Chair 416-400-7517

August 24-26, 2012

Georgia Area Convention

Georgia Area

LOCATION:

Marriott Atlanta Century Center 2000 Century Blvd., NE Atlanta, GA 30345 404-325-0000

CONTACTS:

Chris R., Chair, 770-882-9254 Anthony W., Outreach, 404-645-2820

September 6-9, 2012

Big SUR-enity 2012

Central California Area of CA

LOCATION:

Fernwood Campground, Big Sur, CA Hwy 1 Big Sur, CA 805-969-5178

CONTACTS:

Brendan L. Chair, 805-969-5178 Anna L., Vice chair, 805-969-5178 Tim P., Outreach, 805-969-5178

September 14-16, 2012

Arkansas Area Convention

Working the Twelve -N- Twenty Twelve

CA Arkansas

LOCATION:

Crowne Plaza Hotel 201 S. Shackleford Rd Little Rock, AR 72211 501-223-3000

CONTACTS:

<u>Romonda K.</u>, Chair 501-838-6482 Kim B., Co-Chair 501-716-7326 Fleetwood, Registration 501-398-9483

September 27-30, 2012

Utah Area Convention

23rd Annual Rockies Convention

LOCATION:

Prospector Square Lodge 2175 Sidewinder Dr. Park City, UT 84060 435-658-3030 (Ask for CA discount when booking reservations)

CONTACTS:

Rick P. 801-230-2642 Jason M. 801-867-5539

October 12-14, 2012

CA Rocks Convention

CA Scotland

LOCATION:

The Beardmore Hotel and Conference Centre Beardmore Street Glasgow, Scotland

CONTACTS:

<u>Stuart</u>, Convention Chair 07773887078 <u>Ian M</u>, Webmaster 07733394084

October 19-20, 2012

NNVCA Convention VII, Reno, Nevada High Road to A New Freedom

LOCATION

Ramada Reno Hotel 1000 East 6th St. Reno, NV 89512

CONTACTS:

Julie S., Chair, 530-577-4398 Dan S., Hotel Liaison, 775-232-5323

October 26-28, 2012

2012 Southwest Regional Convention

How Much Freedom Do You Want?

New Mexico

LOCATION:

Barcelona Suites Hotel 900 Louisiana Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM

CONTACTS:

<u>Anthony S.</u>, Chair (505) 319-3233 <u>Marc G.</u>, Registration (505) 453-1587 David V., Vice Chair (505) 256-3996

April 19-21, 2013

2013 Pacific North Regional Convention Have We Recovered?

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

LOCATION:

Executive Royal Inn Hotel & Conf. Ctr. 2828 – 23rd Street N.E. Calgary, AB, Canada T2E 8T4 888-388-EXEC(3932)

CONTACTS:

Cynthia S., Chair, 403-605-5099

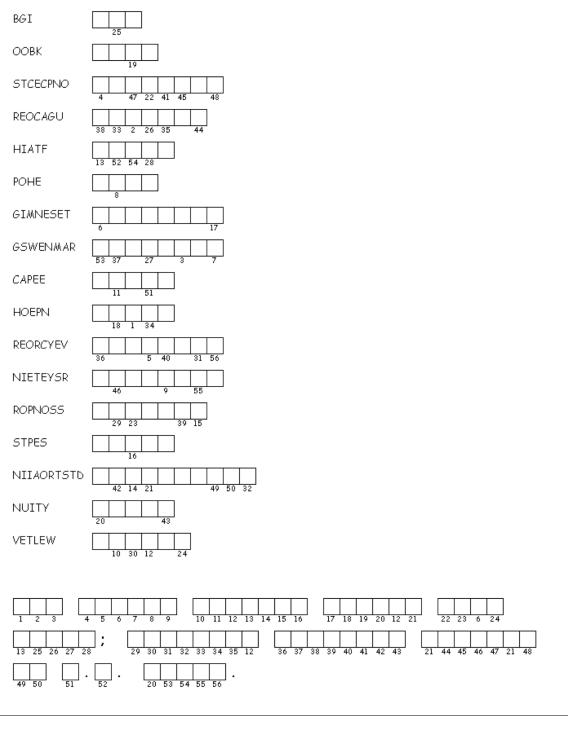
Get the word out about your local event! Use the form at www.ca.org/event_form.html to get your event listed both on the web and in the NewsGram, or notify us by mail to NewsGram, c/o CAWSO, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304, Long Beach, CA 90810

May 23-27, 2013



NEWSGRAM PUZZLE

Unscramble each of the clue words. <u>Copy the letters in the numbered cells on the lower line with the same</u> <u>number to unscramble a C.A. message.</u>



A NEW HIGH FROM H & I

H&I – the Lifeblood of the Fellowship

By: A Grateful Recovering Addict Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

H&I is the lifeblood of our fellowship and a wonderful part of my recovery. I would not be the person I am today without H&I.

I was introduced to C.A. when an H&I panel came into the treatment facility that I was in. At that time in my life I attended another fellowship due to the buddy system. I never felt at home in this other fellowship. So, I eventually quit going to meetings altogether. I was 10 months clean before I went to another meeting.

I knew I needed to do something or I was gong to use, so when I was invited to attend a C.A. meeting I went. I loved it! And, I fell in love with the C.A. Fellowship.

After attending several meetings the opportunity presented itself to return to the treatment facility I had been in, and carry the C.A. message. I jumped on the opportunity. This was the beginning for me. For the next two years I took every H&I commitment I could, I was in love with H&I. No matter how bad my day was I could go to an H&I panel and come out feeling like a million dollars.

After realizing that I had to find a healthy balance in my life, I pulled in the reins. I decided that I had to step away from some of my commitments, but I still maintained an H&I commitment. I am not me without a tie to H&I. That is what helps keep me sober and coming back. Besides, as a recovering addict I have a responsibility and duty to the fellowship and myself to give back what has been so freely given to me.

* * *

UNITY CORNER

Diversity: A Weakness or A Strength?

By: David B. Mission Viejo, California, USA

At every single gathering of people in recovery, there is some deep inner part of me that wants "sameness," "similarity," and "connectedness." On an intellectual level I am aware that everyone present is exactly like me, we are all recovering. However, when I look around my eyes move my heart to a slightly darker place! You are NOT like me at all! If I don't consciously force myself, the differences between many of you and me takes over. I do well for a while...until I hear what you have to say. Again, that dark place returns. The only solution for me is to retreat and to smile pleasantly! Worse, I gravitate to the very few people with whom I can identify.

At the World Service Conference (both in general session or in committee) I have recently experienced an epiphany of sorts. It has been slow in coming and not to pleasant to acknowledge the worst in some of you. Some of you actually have something to say that I must accept. Despite all my filters to the contrary, you move me to new insights, to truths that I embrace.

I now must question the core value I brought to the gathering in the first place. Looking for "sameness," "similarity," and "connectedness." I have come to realize my own growth depends on acceptance of your diversity.

Unity does not imply that I must agree, rather that I seek to accept that which makes you different from me!

7 th Tradition April - June 2012 Category or Group			
Location	Name/City	Total	
Anonymous	Anonymous	\$ 95.85	
CANADA			
Alberta	No. Alberta C.A.T.W.	\$ 75.83	
British Columbia	A New Freedom	\$ 50.00	
Quebec	Quebec Area	\$ 10,500.00	
EUROPE			
Holland	Holland District	\$ 10,292.80	
USA		-	
Alabama	Everything or Nothing	\$ 100.00	
Arkansas	AR Area	\$ 225.00	
Arizona		\$ 173.69	
Alizona	SNL Group EVMG	\$ 291.95	
		\$ 752.00	
0	Sun Valley Intergroup		
Southern	Wed. Night C.A. Group	\$ 57.48	
& Central	CALA W./Hollywood Dist.	\$ 105.00	
California	Inland Empire Area SC	\$ 15.89	
	Anonymous	\$ 226.34	
	CALA So. Bay Beach Cities	\$ 150.00	
	CALA Longbeach/Compton Dist.	\$ 457.84	
	WSOB	\$ 102.10	
	Central Cal. C.A.	\$ 150.00	
	Roxbury C.A. Meeting	\$ 56.00	
	One Step at a Time	\$ 33.00	
	Men on a Mission	\$ 134.00	
	Orange County Area	\$ 100.00	
	SGPVCA	\$ 472.91	
	Backbenders	\$ 30.00	
	Sisters in Sobriety	\$ 13.00	
	C.A. San Diego	\$ 107.75	
Northern Calif.	C.A.N.C.S.C.	\$ 200.00	
	C.A.Northbay Serv. Grp	\$ 22.50	
Colorado	Hope Not Dope	\$ 30.00	
	C.A. of Colorado	\$ 450.00	
	Promises	\$ 150.00	
	Dark Side of the Spoon	\$ 75.34	
	Depth and Weight	\$ 24.00	
	Meeting #1	\$ 35.00	
	Nirvana	\$ 132.42	
DC-MD-VA	Keeping it Real	\$ 119.15	
	New Way of C.A.	\$ 32.00	
Florida	District of Fort Myers	\$ 280.00	
riorida	So. Florida Dist.	\$ 136.12	
		\$ 36.55	
	Florida Area C.A.	\$ 2,500.00	
	Anonymous	+ _,000.00	

7 th Tradition April - June 2012			
1 4	Category or Group	T = 4 = 1	
Location	Name/City	Total	
Georgia	Spearheads	\$ 73.05 \$ 8.83	
	Spiritual Awakening	ە.ەs 89.27	
	Old Log Cabin	\$ 69.27 \$ 60.00	
	Solution Group		
Idaho	M.V.C.A. / P.N.R.C.	\$ 1,000.00	
Illinois	NW Suburban District	\$ 163.12	
	IACA, Inc.	\$ 5,900.00	
	Friday HFC	\$ 25.00	
Kansas	Wichita District	\$ 150.00	
Louisiana	Courage to Change	\$ 30.74	
Minnesota	Anonymous	\$ 5.00	
Missouri	Fried Pipers & Cocanuts	\$ 10.00	
	Courage to Change	\$ 50.00	
	Serenity on Saturday	\$ 20.00	
	Men Meeting	\$ 45.00	
	There is a Solution	\$ 10.00	
Michigan	Saturday Morning Alive	\$ 10.00	
Nevada	Muckers	\$ 7.50	
New Jersey	C.A.N.J.	\$ 100.00	
	New Freedom Group	\$ 25.00	
New York	Anonymous	\$ 150.00	
North Carolina	Wednesday C.A. Group	\$ 25.00	
Ohio	A.M. Sunday C.A.	\$ 100.00	
	N.E.O.D.C.C.A.	\$ 10.00	
Oregon	C.A. of Oregon & SW Wash.	\$ 1,000.00	
Pennsylvania	Cocaine Anonymous	\$ 200.00	
South Carolina	Steppin Out on Faith	\$ 25.00	
Tennessee	T.A.C.A.	\$ 600.00	
Texas	Spiritual Lines	\$ 40.00	
	S.C.T.A Convention	\$ 3,466.93	
	H&I Group	\$ 100.00	
	Georgetown Freedom in Solution	\$ 28.00	
	Anonymous	\$ 150.00	
Utah	C.A. of Utah Area	\$ 3,000.00	
Washington	Freedom Fighters	\$ 11.00	
Washington	Razors Edge	\$ 107.00	
WIGCONSII	Sun. Night Strength Group	\$ 100.00	
	Mon. Night Positive Action	\$ 30.00	
	Uncola's	\$ 15.00	
l	0110010 3	+ .0.00	
	Birthday Envelopes	\$ 193.00	
	Gratitude Can	\$ 20.00	
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World	(See form on page 10)	¢ 3 046 00	
Contribution	(See form on page 10)	\$ 3,946.00	
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Total		\$50,090.95	