

BEING OF SERVICE

NEWS



GRAM

Vol. 39 No. 2 C.A. World Service Office, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304, Long Beach, C.A. 90810-1641 2nd Quarter 2021

TRICKED INTO BEING OF SERVICE

By Ginger L.
Alhambra, California,

I am one of the lucky ones because the first Cocaine Anonymous meeting I ever went to was full of service junkies who tricked me into being of service. I was incredibly introverted and afraid of everyone. I would get to the meeting as it started and would leave the second it was over and then would be upset that no one talked to me. They kept encouraging people to join the homegroup and I figured if I made an appearance there that maybe it would help me come out of my shell. Little did I know that I would be elected to chair the daily meetings for the next month. What?! I had no idea how to chair a meeting and I was terrified to get up in front of everyone. Thankfully, I could hide behind the meeting format and all I had to do was read. Because I was chairing the meeting, I had to get there early and I had to talk to people to ask them to read. Something magical happened...people started recognizing me and including me in their conversations. The pressure was no longer on me to initiate conversations, they just started happening naturally with other members.

One day after the meeting another member mentioned they were heading to the Entertainment Committee meeting and did I want to tag along for the heck of it. I was desperate to fit in and loved that I was making new sober friends, so I agreed. I had no idea that I would leave with a service commitment as their new secretary. Back in the day the committee used to host dances every month, so I was also given the commitment of taking money at the door. Again, something magical happened...I started meeting people from all over the city instead of just at my homegroup and my world got just a little bit bigger. I felt I was becoming part of something big. I started getting hooked on service work.

Things only continued to blossom from there. Over the years my service work grew from GSR, to Delegate, to World Service Committee Chair. My world expanded in ways I could have never imagined. I went from a shy introverted girl with fair weather friends to a woman who has more friends around the world than she can count. One of my favorite quotes in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous is on page 77, "Our real purpose is to fit

ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us." This doesn't say to the people of A.A. or the people of C.A. It says, "the people about us." If I am only of service to Cocaine Anonymous than I have missed the point.

After a couple of decades of service within the Fellowship I really began to embrace Concept XII and the "spirit of rotation." I backed away to allow others the opportunity. I continue to sponsor, of course, and encourage my girls to embrace service work. The bulk of my service work now is geared toward making a difference in my country by talking to voters, leading trainings, and meeting with state legislators or members of Congress.

Cocaine Anonymous taught me how to make a difference, to have confidence and to be a leader in my community. But it also taught me more subtle ways of being of service, like truly being present with other human beings. For example, if I am checking out at the grocery store, I try to be present with the person ringing me up. I smile, I call them by name and act in a way that will leave them feeling seen instead of just a means to an end. I know it is a small act, but I believe the actions we take ripple out into the world and I would much rather send out positive ones than negative.

In the early days of the pandemic the lessons I learned being of service in my community came full circle and I was able to apply them to helping out my local C.A. Fellowship. I immediately set up online meetings for my homegroup, I led trainings on how to facilitate virtual meetings and was able to act as virtual security for our Area Convention that had to move to an online format. I even hosted a Roberts Rules of Order workshop! It was wonderful to be of service again in the Fellowship that I love and in a whole new capacity. Cocaine Anonymous has made my life full and rewarding and it has only been made sweeter by service work. I could literally be of service to our Fellowship every minute of every day for the rest of my life and it would never fully repay Cocaine Anonymous for the life it has given me.

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When was the last time you reviewed your Area contact info on the ca.org website?

Is the phone number on the Telephone Directory page correct for your Area?

Is the website address for your Area correct?

<https://ca.org/meetings/>

If you see any discrepancies, please ask your Area Delegate to provide the updated information to WSO.

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ΜΙΑ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑΣ / A SERVICE STORY

Christos F..
Cardiff, UK

Το βασικό θέμα αυτής της ιστορίας είναι η υπηρεσία. Η υπηρεσία τριών μελών που παρόλο που διαμένουν σε διαφορετικές χώρες και είναι σε διαφορετικά στάδια της ανάρρωσης τους, όλοι είχαμε ένα κοινό όραμα, τους Κοκαΐνομανείς Ανώνυμους Ελλάδος.

Το προσωπικό μου ταξίδι ξεκίνησε στο πρώτο lockdown, όταν κάποιος από τους CA του Εδιμβούργου με προσκάλεσε στην πρώτη διαδικτυακή συνάντησή τους. Πήγα σε αυτή την ομάδα επειδή ένιωθα απελπισμένος και δεν μπορούσα να βρω διέξοδο από τη χρήση αν και είχα τόσα πολλά όμορφα πράγματα στη ζωή μου.

Δέχτηκα ένα θερμό καλωσόρισμα από όλους, όμως το πρώτο μέλος που μου μίλησε ήταν κάποιος που ποτέ δεν έπαυε να πιστεύει σε μένα. Μόλις τελείωσε η ομάδα του ζήτησα να γίνει ο υποστηρικτής μου.

Μου είπε ότι αυτή η αρρώστια είναι πολύ δυνατή, ότι ο χρόνος δεν είναι με το μέρος μου και ότι χρειάζομαι άμεσα τη δύναμη η οποία μπορούσε να με βοηθήσει. Για αυτό το λόγο δουλέψαμε τα 12 βήματα όσο πιο γρήγορα γίνονταν. Κάτι άλλο που επίσης συζητήσαμε είναι ότι δεν υπήρχε CA στην Ελλάδα και ότι χρειάζομαι την «οικογένειά» μου κοντά μου.

Έτσι με τη βοήθεια του υποστηρικτή μου, και του δικού του υποστηρικτή, ξεκίνησα την πρώτη ελληνική CA διαδικτυακή ομάδα. Αρχικά δεν ήρθε κανένας Έλληνας αν και ήξερα άλλους Έλληνες που ήταν αλκοολικοί ή εθισμένοι οι οποίοι όμως ήταν σκεπτικοί.

Με τη βοήθεια της επιτροπής της Δημόσιας Πληροφόρησης και της Ευρωπαϊκής επιτροπής

φτιάξαμε το πρώτο ιστότοπο μας. Λίγο αργότερα ήρθε η άφιξη ενός Έλληνα μέλους που διαμένει στο Ηνωμένο Βασίλειο και είναι αφοσιωμένος στην υπηρεσία. Εκείνος μας βοήθησε να μεταφράσουμε στα ελληνικά τον ιστότοπο και κείμενα της λογοτεχνίας μας. Αργότερα επίσης έγινε γραμματέας σε μια από τις ομάδες μας.

Κάποιο άλλο μέλος μου πρότεινε έναν Έλληνα που ζει και αυτός στο Ηνωμένο Βασίλειο για να μοιραστεί σε μία από τις ομάδες μας. Το μοίρασμα του μου έφερε δάκρυα, δάκρυα για τον πόνο που έχει περάσει, την γενναιότητα του αλλά και δάκρυα χαράς και ελπίδας.

Αυτοί οι δύο Έλληνες που ζουν στο Ηνωμένο Βασίλειο με βοήθησαν να ξεκινήσουμε την πρώτη ελληνόφωνη ομάδα των CA στην Ελλάδα. Το μέλος το οποίο με συγκίνησε με το μοίρασμα του, μας βοήθησε ιδιαίτερα στο να διαδώσουμε το μήνυμα των CA και σε άλλους Έλληνες εθισμένους. Χωρίς την δικιά του συμβολή δεν θα μπορούσαμε να έχουμε τόσο πολλά Έλληνες μέλη να παρακολουθούν τις συγκεντρώσεις μας.

Έχοντας ξανακάνει τα Βήματα πρόσφατα και δουλεύοντας αυτή τη περίοδο το Δέκατο Βήμα, που με βοήθησε να μπω στον κόσμο του Πνεύματος, συνειδητοποίησα ότι μόνο ο Θεός θα μπορούσε να φέρει μαζί 3 εθισμένους για να ξεκινήσει τους Κοκαΐνομανείς Ανώνυμους στην Ελλάδα. Ελπίζουμε να δούμε την αδελφότητα μας να μεγαλώνει και τα μέλη μας να δίνουν ελεύθερα αυτό που τους δόθηκε.

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WHAT WILL THE NEW NORMAL BE?

By Tom T.
Gothenburg, Sweden

Another C.A. member asked me that question after a lovely and spiritual C.A. meeting online. The question came up in a "virtual parking lot" discussion about the people who have found our Fellowship during the pandemic.

No one could have missed the frantic rush over a year ago to create virtual meeting rooms and find the best ways to run meetings online while upholding the spirit of the Traditions. These new ways of fulfilling our primary purpose and being of service were brought and refined by the new pioneers - the people who started online meetings to save the guy on the street without a physical meeting room to use. My gratitude to these people is endless. They saved lives in a time when our opportunity to do so seemed to be halted.

These online pioneers became sponsors to a new bunch of C.A. members while pandemic lockdowns and regulations were shutting down the physical meetings. New members had no place to go. They had no other option but to find C.A. recovery, get a sponsor, and learn to be of service online. That sounds pretty grim, but to most people who have recovered in the past year, this is the normal way to work the program.

Everyone I know who got clean and sober before the pandemic is looking forward to starting the physical meetings again, finding new sponsee in face-to-face meetings, *and finally be able to hug each other again!*

This is not the case with the alcoholics and addicts who came into the online rooms during the pandemic. These people are used to attending meetings, sponsoring, and being sponsored online only. The physical meetings have never been part of their journey.

Many are in younger generations, well at home with technology, and not very social in face-to-face events. It was in this context that the following questions were formulated. What will happen when the pandemic is defeated? Will my online homegroup remain, or will it be dissolved? Will I have to travel to get to a meeting? We agreed that the online meetings are here to stay as so many are dependent upon them for a chance to do service and meet sponsee.

Many questions came up, and while we discussed them, I sensed unrest among the members. Then the final question came - What will the new normal be? Will it be online meetings, physical meetings, or maybe both?

I left the meeting with a new thought unanswered in my head. Ladies, gentlemen, and non-binaries, this is your Fellowship. So, tell me.

Tell me, what should the new normal be?

BECOMING ENGAGED IN SERVICE

By Sydney P.
Everett, Washington, USA

When I came into Cocaine Anonymous, I was miserable, broken and freshly sober. I noticed something about the people that were in meetings though: that the people that were making announcements about events and meetings also seemed like the happy people. They also were the ones who shared about working the Steps, and who often raised their hand to sponsor. I took my time to get involved in Cocaine Anonymous.

When I approached a woman about sponsorship, I asked her to "answer my questions about sponsorship." Over the course of the next month, I asked her 250 questions about sponsorship and started to get involved in service. I went to my first area business meeting,

joined a committee and haven't stopped showing up since. Through service work, I have met people, connected with people and learned a greater appreciation for the Fellowship that saved my life.

When I start to feel a little stagnant in my recovery, I try to find something that challenges me. Sometimes that includes new meetings, and often that includes a different area of service. Surrounding myself with those who have more experience in service than I do reminds me that I don't know everything and helps to keep my ego in check.

A SERVICE STORY / ΜΙΑ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑΣ

By: Christos F.
Cardiff, UK

The central theme of this story is service. The service of three members who, although they live in different countries and are in different stages of their recovery, we all had a common vision, the Cocaine Anonymous of Greece.

My personal journey began in the first lockdown when one of the Edinburgh C.A.s invited me to their first online meeting. I joined as I was desperate and couldn't find a way out even though I had so much to live for and be present in the moment.

I received a warm welcome from everyone, but the first member who spoke to me was someone who never stopped believing in me. As soon as his meeting was over, I asked him to become my sponsor.

He said that I had a very small window and needed power, so he took me through the Steps fast. Another thing we also discussed is that there was no C.A. in Greece and that I need my "family" near me.

So, with the help of my sponsor and of the lineage that I am blessed to be part of, I started the first Greek C.A. online meeting. At first no Greek came, although I knew other Greeks who were alcoholics or addicts but who were skeptical.

With the help of the Public Information Committee and the European Caucus we created our first website. A little later came

the arrival of a Greek member who lives in the United Kingdom and is dedicated to the service. He helped us to translate our website and texts of our literature into Greek. Later he became the secretary in one of our groups.

Another member suggested a Greek fellow living also in the United Kingdom to do a share for our Tuesday meeting. His sharing brought me tears, tears for the pain he has gone through, his bravery but also tears of joy and optimism.

These two Greeks living in the United Kingdom helped me start the first Greek-speaking C.A. group in Greece. The member who moved me with his share, helped us a lot in carrying the message of C.A. to other Greek addicts. He brought open minded locals to our meeting and has managed to even get them to join our English-speaking meetings.

I had the opportunity to go through another round of the Steps. I am currently on Step Ten and having entered the world of the Spirit it is evident to me that only God could have brought us three addicts together to start C.A. in Greece. We hope to see it grow and our fellows to give away freely what was given to them.

I FOUND THE SUNLIGHT OF THE SPIRIT ONLINE

By: Natasha H.
Southampton, UK

I grew up in a Nomadic Hippy family, life was exciting growing up, and we were a remarkably close family. There were a lot of psychedelics around and I experimented with my first high when I was eight and then from the age of 11 it was a recreational thing to do in my family, have parties and get high. So, it started with alcohol and weed, 13, 14 went on to coke and L.S.D. Then through to my 20's speed, MDMA and ecstasy.

I experienced a lot of drinking and drugging in my time, I lost my Mum to alcohol at the age of

17. It was a massive blow to our family, it kind of put a halt on our travelling and my family started deteriorating on drugs. I settled down, had two children and started a career in Holistic Therapy. I worked for seven years and loved it but drugs were still there i was very involved in taking on and off drugging. My relationship deteriorated. There were a lot of drugs involved.

My kids were growing up, I started deteriorating and getting involved in more toxic relationships. Then crack and heroin hit me and that was it my life deteriorated even more and rapidly. I left my job and my house started getting into massive rent arrears. I was getting arrested; the house was getting raided. It was all too much, I had to let my children go and live with their Dad.

I was off and running. I could not stop taking drugs day and night. I lost my house, I was homeless running around the streets, robbing, stealing, thieving, manipulating sex. I was in a desperate situation with a crack and heroin addiction and didn't know what to do. I didn't even have

time to try and work out what to do before the next fix was needed. I was skinny and hadn't seen my kids in eight years living in a shed with water pouring in through the roof - a freezing cold Winter. I got an emergency room in a hostel with a load of addicts. I was there for a month, when my Brother had found recovery six weeks before came and found me, brought me a bag with a Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous in it and brought me to my first meeting.

From that moment the miracle of recovery had begun, from there I stabilized on a methadone prescription. I attended a few more meetings, with the light in people's eyes and the golden nuggets of recovery. I went to rehab, detoxed off methadone. It was like the evil spirit was seeping out of every cell of my body. I came out the other side and we were in a pandemic and the country was in lockdown.

I was housed in a dry house with my Brother and recovery CA meetings were all on zoom. I got a CA sponsor and went through the 12 Steps all on zoom. It was suggested to do 90 meetings in 90 days. I continued to do that four times. I just completed 365 meetings in 365 days. I am now in my second year of total abstinence. I feel I have a new freedom. I am in contact with my children. I have peace of mind and body, and soul. Thanks to this beautiful 12 Step Fellowship of recovery, it's a We program. I could not have done this alone. I am now living my life one day at a time in The Sunlight of the Spirit.

A PRAYER PLEASE FOR THE FELLOW TRAVELLER IN THE TURQUOISE HOODIE

By Elisabeth S.
Alhambra, California, USA

On my daily walk a young man approached me. He could have walked up to the half dozen others on the street, but he choose me. I said, "Hi, my friend, are you doing ok?" He clearly was high - darting eyes, shaking hands, stories of his sister being stuck in this book he pulled out of his pocket (pointing to a white fairy on the cover) and needing to look for her in the houses surrounding us.

We talked for a bit. I was focused on asking God to stand with me in this moment to help him. He reached into his pocket and pulled out this torch lighter. He said to me you are light and you can take this darkness away from me. I said of course my friend. He handed me his torch lighter. I continue to stand with him, trusting God had a purpose for me to connect with the man on the street. I suggested that he is loved and possibly places where he could look for help before he turned away. My heart sank a bit as I understood that is me, us, someone's son, brother, friend.

As I returned home my mind was asking could I have done more? I sat quietly in reflection and meditated upon my return from my walk. One of my favorite readings by Sam Shoemaker (An early recovery friend of the Twelve Step Programs) came to mind. I then felt complete in that moment.

"I stand by the door.

I neither go too far in, nor stay too far out.
The door is the most important door in the world –
It is the door through which men walk when they find God.
There is no use my going way inside and staying there,
When so many are still outside and they, as much as I,
Crave to know where the door is.
And all that so many ever find
Is only the wall where the door ought to be.
They creep along the wall like blind men,
With outstretched, groping hands,
Feeling for a door, knowing there must be a door,
Yet they never find it.
So I stand by the door.
The most tremendous thing in the world
Is for men to find that door – the door to God.
The most important thing that any man can do
Is to take hold of one of those blind, groping hands
And put it on the latch – the latch that only clicks
And opens to the man's own touch.
Men die outside the door, as starving beggars die
On cold nights in cruel cities in the dead of winter.
Die for want of what is within their grasp.
They live on the other side of it – live because they have
not found it.
Nothing else matters compared to helping them find it,
And open it, and walk in, and find Him.
So I stand by the door.
Go in great saints; go all the way in –
Go way down into the cavernous cellars,

And way up into the spacious attics.
It is a vast, roomy house, this house where God is.
Go into the deepest of hidden casements,
Of withdrawal, of silence, of sainthood.
Some must inhabit those inner rooms
And know the depths and heights of God,
And call outside to the rest of us how wonderful it is.
Sometimes I take a deeper look in.
Sometimes venture in a little farther,
But my place seems closer to the opening.
So I stand by the door.
There is another reason why I stand there.
Some people get part way in and become afraid
Lest God and the zeal of His house devour them;
For God is so very great and asks all of us.
And these people feel a cosmic claustrophobia
And want to get out. 'Let me out!' they cry.
And the people way inside only terrify them more.
Somebody must be by the door to tell them that they are
spoiled.
For the old life, they have seen too much:
One taste of God and nothing but God will do any more.
Somebody must be watching for the frightened
Who seek to sneak out just where they came in,
To tell them how much better it is inside.
The people too far in do not see how near these are
To leaving – preoccupied with the wonder of it all.
Somebody must watch for those who have entered the
door
But would like to run away. So for them too,
I stand by the door.
I admire the people who go way in.
But I wish they would not forget how it was
Before they got in. Then they would be able to help
The people who have not yet even found the door.
Or the people who want to run away again from God.
You can go in too deeply and stay in too long
And forget the people outside the door.
As for me, I shall take my old accustomed place,
Near enough to God to hear Him and know He is
there,
But not so far from men as not to hear them,
And remember they are there too.
Where? Outside the door –
Thousands of them. Millions of them.
But – more important for me –
One of them, two of them, ten of them.
Whose hands I am intended to put on the latch.
So I shall stand by the door and wait
For those who seek it.
'I had rather be a door-keeper
So I stand by the door.'

BEING SPONSORED VERSUS SPONSORING

By Cameron F..
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

It's not about being sponsored—it's about sponsoring others that is a predictor for permanent recovery

A Baltimore, Maryland study of 500 former and current heroin and cocaine injection drug users over the course of one year indicated having an AA/NA sponsor was not correlated with any improvement in sustained abstinence rates than a non-sponsored group (Crape 2001:291). However, being a sponsor was found to be highly correlated with sustained abstinence. In fact, 75% of the sponsors group maintained abstinence over the one year period and showed the most improved lifestyle changes (Crape 2001:298).

The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous claimed similar statistics:

“Of alcoholics who came to A.A. and really tried, 50% got sober at once and remained that way; 25% sobered up after some relapses, and among the remainder, those who stayed on with A.A. showed improvement. Other thousands came to a few A.A. meetings and at first decided they didn't want the program. But great numbers of these—about two out of three—began to return as time passed” (Alcoholics Anonymous 2001:xx).

Moreover, “This seemed to prove that one alcoholic could affect another as no nonalcoholic could. It also indicated that strenuous work, one alcoholic with another, was vital to permanent recovery” (Alcoholics Anonymous 2001:xvi – xvii).

How does sponsoring others contribute to the addict's ability to maintain continuous abstinence successfully over long periods of time? First, the act of

providing direction to the alcoholic/addict who still suffers is a predictor of improved psychosocial adjustment. Furthermore, sponsoring others in addiction improves feelings of self-value and social usefulness. The sponsorship model also reinforces successful behaviours, public commitment to behaviour change, and improves relationships and strengthens new social networks. Lastly, the act of sponsoring others is valued within the community and to maintain their valued role, sponsors seem highly motivated to stay abstinent. All of these factors seem to reinforce the sponsor's resolve to continue working with other suffering addicts and improve their chances of remaining abstinent (Crape 2001:297).

Thus, the conclusion of the study suggests that sponsoring other addicts in a 12 Step program is highly associated with continuous abstinence, but for those being sponsored, there was little indication of improved rates of alcohol or drug abstinence.

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and not necessarily Cocaine Anonymous.

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The NewsGram publishes articles that reflect the full diversity of experience and opinion found within the Fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. No one viewpoint or philosophy dominates its pages, and in determining the editorial content, the editors rely on the principles of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts. The heart of The NewsGram is in the shared experience of individual C.A. members working the C.A. program and applying the spiritual principles of the Twelve Steps. Yet what works for one individual or C.A. group may not always work for another. For this reason, from month to month, articles may be published that appear to contradict one another. Seeking neither to gloss over difficult issues, nor to present such issues in a harmful or contentious manner, The NewsGram tries to embody the widest possible view of the C.A. Fellowship.

The Charter of the World Service Conference guarantees The NewsGram editor the right to accept or reject material for publication. The NewsGram staff members evaluate articles and, while some editing is done for purposes of clarity, styling, length and content, the editors encourage all writers to express their own experience in their own unique way.

Articles are not intended to be statements of C.A. policy, nor does publication of any article constitute endorsement by either Cocaine Anonymous or The NewsGram. Articles are invited, although no payment can be made nor can material be returned.



PUT YOUR SERVICE SHOES ON!

The WSCIT COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!!!

Exciting news C.A. is continuing work on an app for our Fellowship! We are looking for your ideas and input to find out what the Fellowship would like to see. We have a list of ideas from referrals and committee work for possible content:

- *Sobriety Calculator (referral)*
- *Find a meeting (referral)*
- *Pre-amble*
- *Who is a Cocaine Addict?*
- *We Can Recover*
- *Serenity Prayer*
- *Link to CA.org*
- *12 Steps*
- *12 Traditions*
- *Vision for you*
- *Reaching Out*
- *Meeting Formats*
- *Find events: district, area, or international*

Let us know what you would like to see, send an email to itcommittee@ca.org

Join us!!!

Do you have a passion for emerging technologies, would you like to get involved send us an email to join the committee.

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C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

ARCHIVES

1982 to 1986 Historical Highlights of Cocaine Anonymous®

Compiled from the WS Conference, WSBT, and WSOB Minutes and other archival documents by C.A. World Services Archive Committee.

1982 – Inception

In November 1982, Johnny S. receives a call from Tom K. from the Motion Picture Health & Welfare Fund in Hollywood, California, who plans to start an AA Meeting for drug addicts, especially cocaine addicts. “In those days, you could go to AA meetings and if you talked about drugs, they asked you to leave.” (1990). History of C.A. with Johnny S. & Ray G. 5-26-90 6th C.A. World Service Convention—Phoenix, AZ (Cassette Recording No. 10525). Phoenix, Arizona: Coast to Coast.

Tuesday, November 16, 1982, about 20 people show up at a new meeting Tuesday evening call the “Whatever” meeting at the Motion Picture Health and Welfare Fund building. Someone suggests a vote be taken to change this A.A. meeting to a Cocaine Anonymous meeting, but the suggestion is voted down. Johnny S. and several other attendees at the meeting decide to start a Thursday night and to call it Cocaine Anonymous. (1990). History of C.A. with Johnny S. & Ray G. 5-26-90 6th C.A. World Service Convention—Phoenix, AZ (Cassette Recording No. 10525). Phoenix, Arizona: Coast to Coast.

Thursday, November 18, 1982, The first meeting of C.A. is held on Thursday, November 18, 1982, at the Motion Picture Health and Welfare Fund building at 335 North La Brea in Hollywood (North of Beverly Blvd.), California. Veronica Jo K. is the secretary and calls the meeting to order with a gavel and announces: “Welcome to the first meeting of Cocaine Anonymous, a Fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other and help others recover from their addiction.” (1990). History of C.A. with Johnny S. & Ray G. 5-26-90 6th C.A. World Service Convention—Phoenix, AZ (Cassette Recording No. 10525). Phoenix, Arizona: Coast to Coast. Within 30 days, five more C.A. meetings were established.

December 26, 1982, LA Times publishes a full page article: “The New Hollywood Connection: ‘Cocaine Anonymous.’ The article interviews Tom K. (the man who called Johnny S. about the “Whatever” meeting), and early supporter of Cocaine Anonymous. (Daltry, Laura, Dec. 26, 1982, LA Times, Calendar p. 26)

1983 – Early Beginnings

February 1983,— The secretaries of the six C.A. meetings got together and formed what eventually became the first General Services Organization. (CAWS NewsGram, Vol. 1, No.2., pg 4. July/August 1987)

April 1983, the Los Angeles Central Office was formed. (CAWS NewsGram, Vol. 1, No.2., pg. 4 July/August 1987)

April 11, 1983, Time Magazine Cover features a story on fighting cocaine’s grip on millions of users. The article references Cocaine Anonymous...”In Los Angeles, new Cocaine Anonymous groups draw 700 people to weekly meetings.” (Time Magazine, April 11, 1983. pg 27)

Ray G. is in charge of the Cocaine Anonymous phone number. It rings on an answering machine in a small Beverly Glen Hospital room and Ray G. returns most of the calls. The room and phone machine are provided by Beverly Glen Hospital. C.A. sets up a hotline phone number during the first year. Ray G. manages the hotline for the first year. “If any of you called in the first year of existence of Cocaine Anonymous and talked to the man on the telephone, that was Ray G. — who took all the calls for the first year of Cocaine Anonymous.” (1990). History of C.A. with Johnny S. & Ray G. 5-26-90 6th C.A. World Service Convention—Phoenix, AZ (Cassette Recording No. 10525). Phoenix, Arizona: Coast to Coast.

May 5, 1983, – Inception date for Chicago C.A. (WSBT Minutes, Sept. 27-28, 1986) “One day we (CALA) received a package from Chicago – a piece of literature called, To the Newcomer, that they wanted to suggest that we adopt...it was magnificent.” This is C.A.’s first piece of literature.

May 8, 1983, Los Angeles Herald Examiner publishes a large article on cocaine abuse in the canyons of Beverly Hills and the streets of South Central L.A. The article highlights the good works of Cocaine Anonymous. (Warren, Elaine, May 8, 1983, The high that unleashed the depths. Los Angeles Herald Examiner, STYLE: Section E / Page 1)

(Continued on page 12)

C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

ARCHIVES

(Continued from page 11)

July 25, 1983, – Inception date for San Francisco Bay Area of C.A. (WSBT Minutes, Sept. 27-28, 1986)

August 1, 1983 – First Atlanta Area meeting of Cocaine Anonymous. (The Atlanta Constitution, Thu, Jul 28, 1983 – Main Edition, p. 120)

November 11, 1983, – Inception date for New York C.A. (WSBT Minutes, Sept. 27-28, 1986)

November 23, 1983, – Gil M. orders 1500 chips. They will be available through the General Services Office for \$2.50 per chip. Gil will be responsible for sales. (Minutes C.A. General Services Meeting, November 23, 1983)

1983-1984, C.A. chips were square in shape, with the letters “CA” printed on them. It was found that people were using these square chips to chop up cocaine. At this same time, some others Areas of C.A. (of course none of them had met together yet) had also created chips. Atlanta had chips, Chicago had chips, and Northern California had chips. The words Hope, Faith and Courage were not the original words for the logo. Originally, the words were going to be “Hope, Faith and Willingness.” They wanted to put these words into the circle around C.A., but the word Willingness wouldn’t fit. Johnny Segal, a founding member, was listening to a speech by John F. Kennedy about having courage to do difficult things in your life. Johnny felt the word Courage would fit in the circle, and would be appropriate. The members at the time voted for this logo.

1984 – Crystallization

January 3, 1984, – Santa Cruz Sentinel publishes Cocaine Anonymous just like Alcoholics Anonymous. One year after inception, C.A. in Southern California has more than 2000 members. (AP) article on January 3, 1984. (Cocaine Anonymous just like Alcoholics Anonymous. 1984, January 3. Santa Cruz Sentinel, p. 11.)

February 1984, – Inception date for Texas Area of C.A. (WSBT Minutes, Sept. 27-28, 1986)

June 4, 1984, – Six pages Newsweek Article, mentions Cocaine Anonymous. (Newsweek, Getting Straight: How Americans Are Breaking The Grip of Drugs and Alcohol. p. 63)

June 18, 1984, Incorporation of Cocaine Anonymous World Services. Appointed Directors are: Gilbert Mosko, Jonathan Segal, and Ray Grossa. (1984 Incorporation Papers)

July 25, 1984, 1st World Services Board Meeting. Attending: Johnny S., Laurence B., Ray G., Mitch S., Robin W., Willie O., Nolan. (Minutes C.A. General Service Board Meeting, July 25, 1984)

1985 – Growth

May 3,4,5, 1985, 1st World Convention: Seaside Unity & Acceptance, Santa Barbara, C.A. In 1985 it was decided to have the first convention of C.A. Fellowship to be held in Santa Barbara California. Members from C.A. meetings from across the United States attended. It was an incredibly exciting event. During the convention, a three-hour business meeting was held to let the Fellowship know what the fledgling World Service organization was doing. It was decided the next year to have the first World Service Conference. (Bob Lemon – C.A. History)

June 27, 1985, The official Cocaine Anonymous World Services Board of Directors meeting of June 27th, 1985, was called to order by Willie O. at 8:12. Board members in attendance were: Willie, Ray, Laurence, Neil, Robert, Richard, Jennifer and Michael. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Micheal. (CAWS Inc., June 27, 1985. WS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. C.A. World Services Inc. 1-2 pp.)

August 20, 1985, the words, “Cocaine Anonymous” are formally registered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office to Attorney L.S. Van Landingham, Jr., Cocaine Anonymous, Inc. Corporation, Texas Post Office Box 5487, Pasadena, Texas, 77505. (United States Patent and Trademark Office. (August 20, 1985). Typed Drawing Trademark Form. (Registration No. 1355926).

1986 – World Services

February 8, 9, 1986, – 1st World Services Conference, San Diego, California. The first World Service Conference was held in San Diego in February 1986, adjacent to a World Service Convention. The Conference lasted two days.

(Continued on page 13)

C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

ARCHIVES

(Continued from page 12)

The original Area's in that first conference were:

1. Los Angeles
2. San Gabriel Valley
3. San Diego
4. San Fernando Valley
5. Antelope Valley
6. Orange County
7. New Mexico
8. Texas
9. Washington
10. New York
11. Illinois
12. Georgia
13. Michigan
14. Arizona
15. Northern California

(First World Services Conference Minutes)

When Northern California came down to this original conference, they sent six representatives and all wearing T-shirts with the C.A. logo that they had created. Later at the 3rd World Conference in March 1987, there was vote between the logo that CALA had created, and the logo that Northern California created. The CALA (C.A. Los Angeles) logo with HOPE, FAITH AND COURAGE won and is the official logo we have today. The logo was to be put on the new key tag round chips. In Northern California created the first metal chip, with their logo, with the serenity prayer (with Cocaine Anonymous around the number) on the back, and ca and HOPE FAITH AND COURAGE on the front. It was an error that the words Cocaine Anonymous were on the back! Since Northern California had the first metal chip, the chip company would not make chips for CA World Service. So, at the 3rd World Conference in March 1987, Northern California deeded to World Service the right to make metal chips. (Bob L. one of the original six from Northern California)

July 2, 3, 1986, – 2nd World Services Conference, San Diego, California.

New C.A. Areas represented July 2, 1986 – 2nd World Services Conference included: Connecticut, Missouri, Wisconsin, Michigan and Tennessee.

July 3, 1986, 1st World Services Board of Trustees. New Trustees: Reggie L. (Los Angeles), Bob L. (Northern California), Fenn P. (Northern California), H. Lee (Texas), Greg D. (Chicago), Jennifer R. (New York). Current Trustees: Johnny S. (Southern California) and Ray G. (Southern California). (Minutes from the July 2,3, 1986 Business Conference).

This first Board Trustees were voted on by Ray G. and Johnny S. (The Original Trustees who comprised a self-perpetuating board.)

July 4, 5, 6, 1986, 2nd World Convention: Celebration of Freedom, San Diego, California.

August 21, 1986, – On a Thursday night, August 21, 1986, the first C.A. meeting outside the United States was held in Montreal, Quebec. About 20 people attended. Dave S. was the speaker and Robert F. was the secretary.

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With this document, I, the undersigned member of Cocaine Anonymous (hereinafter referred to as "C.A."), hereby grant permission to Cocaine Anonymous World Services, Inc., a California corporation (hereafter referred to as "CAWS") its successors, assigns, and those acting on its authority, all rights, title, and interest in and to the attached material entitled and described as follows:

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4. CAWS may change, modify or revise this work to whatever extent deemed necessary. I understand that, if selected for publication, this material will be edited in keeping with C.A.'s understanding of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Submissions will also be copyedited to ensure ease of comprehension and adherence to standard rules of grammar and punctuation as well as current style guidelines. In addition, editorial staff may also substitute different words and/or revise sentence structure for clarification. I further understand that this material may be retitled and/or reprinted in more than one publication.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



October 1-3, 2021
2ND Annual Kansas Area State Convention
LOCATION:
October 29-31, 2021
2021 Midwest Regional Convention
LOCATION:
Renaissance Saint Louis Airport Hotel 9801 Natural Bridge, Saint Louis, Missouri, USA
May 26-30, 2022
C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION
LOCATION:
Hyatt Hotel in Austin Austin, Texas, USA

**THURSDAY MAY 26 - MONDAY 30, 2022
MORE WILL COME, STAY TUNED!**

CELEBRATE AROUND THE WORLD

Are you talented? Are you creative? Your Fellowship needs you!

CAWSC Unity Committee is looking for artwork and logo for its **Celebrate Around the World 2022**.

Artwork must contain:

- The C.A. logo, it cannot touch any of the lines throughout the artwork, whether inside or outside
- It must contain the "Celebrate Around the World 2022"
- Plus a theme. Since this year's theme was connected to the Texas CAWS Convention we are asking you create one of your own, thoughtful and creative. Can be reflective of this past year
- Deadline Friday September 3rd, 2021

Please send submissions to Pamelagriffith2002@yahoo.com, dooc@ca.org, and Unity@ca.org

We will send you a release form once we receive your submission and every submission will go into archives

CAWSO
c/o CAWSC UNITY COMMITTEE
21720 S. Wilmington Ave. Suite 304
Long Beach, CA 90810 USA

7th Tradition January-March 2021 Category or Group

LOCATION	NAME/CITY	TOTAL
CANADA		
Quebec	CA Quebec Area	\$3,000.00
	CA Women's "She Came to Believe"	\$30.80
British Columbia	CA Langley BC- Pipe Down Group	\$80.00
UNITED KINGDOM		
England	CA UK, E & W London	\$13,754.58
	CA Harts & Berks District of CAUK	\$125.31
	CA Kent District	\$269.00
	CA South Central London District	\$1,131.98
	CA The Peak - London	\$1,654.75
MAINLAND EUROPE		
Denmark	CA Danmark A Quiet Peace	\$156.81
Germany	CA German Area	\$1,233.39
Greece	CA Greece There is a Solution Meeting	\$113.00
Holland	CA District Holland Online	\$85.00
Netherlands	CA Netherlands	\$10,824.50
Portugal	CA Area Portugal	\$350.00
USA		
California	CA - Spiritual Lines Group OCCA	\$131.00
	CA Mainline Group	\$200.00
	CA Northbay Service Group (District)	\$1,900.00
	CA Online Service Area, Inc.	\$42.91
	CA Sat Roxbury Ancient Masters	\$350.00
	CA Young Gunz in Recovery	\$199.00
	OCCA	\$1,813.00
	One Puff, Too Tough	\$500.00
	The Hole in Wall Inc	\$10.00
	Georgia	CA Group-The Awesome Group, Athens
CA Log Cabin Group		\$21.00
CA, Inc. MACAI, Suwanee		\$441.96
Illinois	CA - IACA South & West District	\$98.06
	Forever Free Meeting of CA	\$15.00
Missouri	CA - Greater Saint Louis District of CA	\$100.00
Oregon	CA of Oregon	\$100.00
Pennsylvania	CA PA/NJ/DE	\$1,100.00
South Carolina	CA - There is a Solution	\$17.60
	CA Conway	\$106.00
Anonymous	Anonymous	\$6,456.78
Freedom Fund	Freedom Fund	\$6,697.00
Birthday		\$134.00
S.M.A.R.T.	Smart Program	\$271.00
Total 7th Tradition		\$53,813.43

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