

THE TWELVE CONCEPTS OF SERVICE



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THE TWELVE CONCEPTS

By Norma Jean L.
Chicago Heights, Illinois, USA

When I arrived in the rooms of C.A., I had been holding my breath waiting for the other shoe to drop. I was finally able to exhale and felt immediate relief. I was home at last. I devoured the suggestions like a newborn hungrily drinks its mother's milk. I got a sponsor and began working the steps. I was told the steps were designed to save me from me. I started learning about the traditions and how they were in place to save the group from me. Thank God for the traditions, because left to my own devices, I had quite a few bright ideas that the group could certainly benefit from if not for the traditions.

As I continued to grow in my recovery my love and thirst for service was growing as well. I learned there were 12 concepts and wanted to study them. I had taken on numerous service responsibilities at the group level, the district level, and the area level. I was now ready for the world. I wanted to see how things worked at conference. No amount of study could have prepared me for what I experienced at my first World Service Conference as a delegate. It was a spiritual experience. I had a birds-eye view on how the concepts really worked. I saw how important group conscious of the entire Fellowship was. I learned how important my role of delegate really was. I was the voice of the group and I had to represent effectively and accordingly with the group in mind. I learned about the right of participation firsthand from members who had no vote but still had a voice. I witnessed the right of appeal whereas the minority opinion was heard and was changed to the majority just by hearing their opinion. I also learned the important

responsibilities of the trustees and their effect on the WSC and WSBT. Trust and transparency are key to ensure that C.A. continues to grow. The concepts ensure that the traditions are followed and WSC should not become wealthy or drunk with power. Our 7th saves us from that happening. We take no outside contributions as well as limit the amount members can donate. Our leaders are but trusted servants and they do not govern anywhere or at any time in this fellowship. No member should ever be in unqualified authority of others. All important decisions should always be discussed first then voted on and hopefully by unanimity if possible. We will remain democratic in all we do but we should never perform acts of government. We also have non-trustee members that serve on trustee committees. In my last year as a world service delegate, I was honored to serve on the Trustee Election Committee which was an experience that I will cherish always. I am grateful for the 12 Steps, the 12 Traditions and the 12 Concepts. I have an undying love for the Fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. Without C.A. there would be no me, of that I am certain. I remain in awe of how this fellowship operates as a society with no leaders and stays on track with peace and harmony. I love the workings of the Concepts and hope they never change. I know there are a lot of addicts out there with some bright ideas on how they could make them better doing them their way. They have been working all this time.... if it isn't broke don't fix it.

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WSO NEEDS YOU MAINTAINING YOUR MEETINGS ON CA.ORG

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.

Attn: Lolita at doo@ca.org

(The A.A. Book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, the books *Hope Faith & Courage Volume I*, *Hope Faith & Courage Volume II* and *A Quiet Peace* are used with permission.)

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SERVICE—SANE AND SOBER

Albina K.

Kew Gardens, New York, USA

I have been a NY delegate since 2017 and I remember my first WS Conference like it was yesterday; it was amazing! I was on FIRE for service and I knew what committee I wanted to be on, the convention committee. I joined a great group at that time and I have been with the convention committee ever since. When we would go out to our breakout sessions, I always looked forward to being with them and doing convention committee business and getting our referrals and working on them and making administrative updates to the handbook too. This was the highlight of my time - hanging out with like-minded individuals and being passionate about the business of Cocaine Anonymous.

2020 was supposed to be my last year as a delegate and then something happened in the world (smile) so they asked that all delegates remain on for 1 more year. The first thought that went through my head was "I get to hang out with the convention committee for another year!". We've been meeting monthly (the 3rd Sunday of the month) and every time I show up I'm happy to see my cohorts and do the business at hand for the convention committee.

For understandable reasons last year's conference was cancelled but the world events

hasn't slowed us down, we continue to discuss the WS conventions that will be happening in the upcoming years and we continue to work on administrative work though-out our calls. In case anyone is wondering: Austin, TX 2022, Atlanta, GA 2023 and Holland 2024. Monthly our trustee and each convention chair shows up for the meeting along with our two chairs and two secretaries (I have been a Co-secretary on the committee for the last two years and it's been very rewarding).

As the new year began we wondered if the conference would be held this year. And as the world gets back to some sort of "normalcy" with travel being allowed in the US - we received notice that the WS Conference would be taking place this year in Los Angeles, CA. I made my flight reservation and registered and now I can't wait to see everyone in September for conference.

This has been the best commitment I have taken in a long time. I would love to re-run for delegate in my area in the hopes to continue to do service work at this level because for this addict, service keeps me sane and sober.

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DEAR SEAN

By SeanY.
Mesa, Arizona, USA

I am writing this letter to say farewell, not farewell till next time but farewell forever. I've made some life changing decisions over the last couple years that have made me realize that your ways of thinking and attitudes are no longer needed here in my new life. I do not hate you or despise you or resent you. Your ways of thinking helped me survive in some of the places we've been. Your services helped me get by and push through another day in some of my darkest moments. At times you kept me safe and made me feel superior. Your willingness to push forward helped me do things I did not want to do but had to be done in pure survival mode. You're a warrior and survivor in the world of chaos and crime. But today I am proud to say your services are no longer needed because I have found a new way of life and this new way of life does not include prisons, gangs, drugs, crime, etc..

The 12 steps have introduced me to a design for living that really works. My new life is so wonderful! In Cocaine Anonymous I've found a new freedom and a new happiness I never knew existed. I am a little over 2 years sober, I have been out of prison since June

16, 2016 and I am completely free. Not just free from the prison walls but free from the misery and pain of drug addiction.

Soon I get to marry a beautiful woman that I love with all my heart. I get to finally be the son and brother that my family always knew I was capable of being. I get to have an array of friends around me that only want what is best for me. With that being said, I do not have any room in my life for your ways of hate, anger and resentment. It's not cool to be the tough guy in my new life, I do not always have to be down or act out when disrespected. I've learned that sometimes the smartest thing is to know when not to say something. At one point I thought the ways of my new life made me look weak, but I know today it is strength and I am stronger than I have ever been with a loving God by my side. I will never forget the things you did for me; I will never forget the struggles you helped me through, but it is time to fully move on. I like this new Sean a lot better than the old one and can say with honesty, I love myself today, so this is Good Bye.

THE SPIRIT OF ROTATION

By Charles L.
Everett, Washington, USA

Our desire to stop using cocaine was the driving force for most of us in our early recovery. When we were told to make meetings, get a sponsor, get a home group, or any other of the many suggestions, we followed that direction looking for any ray of hope. How we could stop using and stay stopped?

For some of us, being of service was a key. We took on any new job as if our lives depended on it. For some of us, it did. We found that the best way to show our gratitude and add to our recovery was to be of service to the Fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. We also discovered that the best way to serve God was to serve our fellow man. For some that feeling of belonging which was missing in our lives was now filled. For others it was the start of replacing the self-centered behavior with that of humility. Whatever was the reason, service became a large part of our lives and our recovery. The promise of our uselessness and self-pity disappearing started to take hold. We wanted to give back. To help our fellows.

The idea of doing something new might have been scary. Sharing their experience, the preceding member who had completed the same commitment had a profound effect on us. Yes, we could do this. We started on this new path. Our self-centered behavior

was replaced with an "attitude of service." What a feeling. Now comes the time to rotate out, to give the next person a chance to grow as we did, to feel the power of recovery as we did, to be of service. Jobs, like almost everything else in CA gets passed around for all to share. To step out of a CA position you love can be hard for you, just as it might have been for the person before you. By them doing so, you had your chance at growth and involvement. So should those who come after you. If you have been doing a good job, or you don't see anyone willing, qualified or with the time to do it, it is especially tough. But it's at this time you could take a real step forward in growth, a real spiritual step.

Rotation helps bring us spiritual rewards far more enduring than a job well done. Another promise will take hold and we will see how our experience can benefit others. With no "status" at stake, we have more freedom to serve as we are needed, we can always step into another CA chore or always be a dependable twelfth stepper. Rotation will allow us to show the foundation of our kind of recovery, under God's will as we understand it.

Service to Others!

ALWAYS GRATEFUL TO BE OF SERVICE

By: Kini F.
Lake Stevens, Washington, USA

It's wild how ego-centric it was when I first started to respond "always grateful to be of service" if I was asked to take on a responsibility. I heard others say it, I felt it made them look good; I wanted to look good too.

I think it evolved, though, into a reminder to myself: Always [be] grateful to be of service.

It's like I kept saying it because I believed it to be the most **appealing** response, and was shown that the sincere perspective is honestly one that brings a different sense of security and worth, alongside the continual opportunity to give back, pay forward and grow myself.

Working to expand my spiritual disposition; I repeat

these mantras, pray, meditate, contemplate... and, it's like: the things I see in others that I want, before I even understand them, ring true in ways that prompt me to emulate, practice, observe and grow myself.

It's that willingness, maybe? Even if I don't understand right away (I almost never do, I've found).

There is willingness to do better, be better - seeking spiritual growth and the removal of that initial ego-drive... things are discovered that make common sense seem like uncommon sense.

It's just kind of cool.

LOVED TODAY'S READING.

By: John R..
Glendale, New York, USA

My response to today's reading: "This is the reason why I do so much service. This is the reason why I am a part of Area and why I chose to become a delegate. This is the reason why I sponsor so many people. This thing is bigger than me. This program, this movement, this whatever you want to call it, is bigger and more powerful than me. We live in a world that's infested with drugs, alcohol and addictions. How dare we receive such a wonderful gift of freedom and not want to share it with the world. By sharing my hope, faith, and courage, I have found a new and renewed strength.

gratitude of others who were once themselves sick and suffering. No matter what I will never separate myself from the rooms of recovery. My dependence on myself and the notion that I can do this alone without the help and support of others is an illusion. I can only help myself partially, for multiple periods of time but then I must come and replenish. I need to know I'm not alone and although many may think I got it all together, rest assure I don't. I need you all, just as much as you need me. So, let's not forget those still sick and suffering in and out of these rooms".

A motivation for living that can only come from the

**NEWSGRAM THEME
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ONE DAY AT A TIME

DEADLINE:

JANUARY 22ND 2022

**Articles in the NewsGram express the individual
opinions of C.A. members
and not necessarily Cocaine Anonymous.**

CONCEPTS: WHAT A REALITY!

By Susan B
St George, Utah, USA

I was never taught or knew anything about the 12 Concepts of Service until I became a C.A. World Service Delegate. Even then, I was left to my own devices to figure out their importance and place within my recovery, both personally and in service, aside from being a Delegate.

At first look, the 12 Concepts seemed to be concerned with the Conference and the Trustees. I'm sorry to say that their weight, depth, and application outside of that were lost on me.

I had attended and participated in 12 Tradition workshops and discussions but was aware of no meetings or workshops that discussed the 12 Concepts.

Hindsight is always 20/20. I could have taken action to educate myself and others about the 12 Concepts, but admittedly, I did not. Then, when I was ready, a teacher appeared!

I will always be grateful to the Trustee who spoke to me openly about the Concepts and gave me moments of clarity. I know now and believe that the 12 Concepts are as meaningful to our Fellowship and personal recovery as the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, 12 Principles, and the 12 Promises.

The Twelve Concepts for World Service were written by A.A.'s co-founder Bill W. and adopted by the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. Copyright © 1962 Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. All rights reserved

The text of the complete Concepts is printed in The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service.

Cocaine Anonymous adopted the 12 Steps, 2 Traditions, and 12 Concepts of Service at the 1987 C.A. World Service Convention in Woodland Hills, CA. (museum.ca.org)

There is excellent information and valuable insight which can be easily interpreted and applied to Area and meeting business. I will be using the short form of the Concepts for illustration.

1. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

The group conscience guides us when we apply Concept 1 to changes in readings, meeting formats, disclaimers, literature, and the like. It is the content of our ever-changing World Service Manual, which represents the work of the Conference, the collective conscience of our Fellowship.

2. The General Service Conference of A.A. (aka C.A. World Service Conference) has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.

3. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Group members have the Right of Decision when electing or appointing trusted servants to Area Boards or service positions at meetings.

4. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

There is continuing discussion about adjusting the number of voting Delegates each Area is entitled to at the Conference. An example of this discussion poses the question, "Should an Area with ten meetings carry the same number of votes as an Area with forty meetings?"

5. Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail so that minority opinion will be heard, and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

There are times when new information revealed in a Fifth Concept statement results in reconsideration of a vote.

6. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

At the Area level, this is applied to the elected Board of Directors, who, according to most Area bylaws, have the authority to make decisions for the Area's good.

7. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are legal documents of an Area, whereas an Area Service Manual is not legally binding.

8. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

9. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

Group members must be mindful of electing the best people for service positions at every level.

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CONCEPTS: WHAT A REALITY!

By Susan B
St George, Utah, USA

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10. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

11. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

Guidelines, duties, and responsibilities are necessary considerations when selecting qualified service representatives. Are we selecting the best people for service commitments?

12. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.
It's a WE thing!

UNBRIDLED UNCERTAINTY

By Dylan K..
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

I jump into this thing, not knowing the depth, while maintaining the false perception that I'm ok, when on the inside..... I'm screaming.

I go to my happy place, the place where I feel most comfortable, but as I continue to revisit it over and over and over, the farther away it seems to be.

I'm walking along this path in life, just wanting to be my authentic self, while being the one who is best for me, yet every time I try, I disappoint myself, I tell myself that it hasn't changed, that this time, even though it's different, with all new pieces in play...

It's still the same game.

I tell myself that this time, I won't be in my own way, but as I march on, I see the roadblocks and they are made up of my insecurities and my fears. My fears that drive me, and have starved me, starved me of the fact that I can do this, but when I begin, I get absolutely lost and bogged.

The things I have gone through, I have survived and I have come out the other side.

But in my mind I can still be in that old space, and in my heart I haven't moved on.... because I still have fears.

These fears are sometimes real or sometimes fancied, but often it's a combination of both.

The fears are learned from past mistakes or past experiences, and often both.

The fears I have helped me stay alive and stay somewhat strong.... that's at least what I tell myself. But in reality, a lot of those fears have hindered my growth and my ability to heal,

While hurting those around me that care.

I was blinded by my abuses, deafened by my ego and emotionless because of my pride.

I let others control me because I wanted to be loved, yet I could not love myself.

I couldn't love myself because I was made to believe, growing up by my peers, that I would never amount to anything, that I wasn't good at anything,

And that no one would be want to be with me because I wasn't the best looking guy on the playground.

These words haunted me, and they sometimes still do,

But I'm learning to ignore them.

I ignore them because the love that is shown to me now is more than I ever could have asked for,

It is shouted from across the rooms, and it is shown in their actions.

Sure, there are still those who do not show or express it, but I still love them regardless,

Because love, just like respect and anything worthwhile in life, must be shown first before it is received.

If you want to know my pain and joy, sit with me, and listen to the whirlwind of thoughts and emotions that circle my being at all moments in life.

Sit with me and watch as my face describes my emotions while I speak, better than all the languages of the earth could do combined.

Watch my passion, watch my pain, watch as I try not to do the bad again.... while trying to do more good.

CONCEPT NINE: GOOD LEADERSHIP

By Cameron F.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Concept Nine: Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety.

The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated p. 18

Good leadership cannot function well in a poorly designed structure...Weak leadership can hardly function at all, even in the best of structures. Due to A.A.'s principle of rotation, furnishing our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous effort. The base of the service structure—and the source of our leadership is the General Service Representative. The G.S.R. is the service leader for their group, the indispensable link between the group and A.A. as-a-whole. Together the G.S.R.s are A.A.'s group conscience—and together, in their areas, they elect the area committee members and ultimately the delegates and the area's candidates for trustee.

CA NewsGram, Third Quarter 2011, Vol. 28 No. 3 “Trusted Servants, Our Leaders”

In Tradition Two we rely on God to be present in our group conscious decisions. As we carry out these decisions at all levels of the fellowship we rely on our trusted servants who have been given this responsibility. These trusted servants who have been elected by the group conscience as stated in the tradition are expected to be leaders. Leadership to the fellowship is imperative in order to carry out the Fifth Tradition, which states that we “to carry the message to the addict who still suffers”. What then do we strive for as a leader in the fellowship? Let us look at two different aspects.

1) The Bleeding Deacon. This is a person who because they have a number of years in sobriety believe they have all the answers. They are, for the most part, very self-centered. They do not listen to others nor do they feel anyone else may have a credible idea. They manipulate situations for their own benefit and intimidate others around them until they get their own way—truly not a Trusted Servant Leader.

2) The Elder Statesman. This person would be the true leader. They are people who respect others opinions and with gentle input with their time experience and expertise advise the fellowship without expecting any reward. This person acts with no benefit of personal prestige. The true Elder Statesman acts with a God Conscious mind respecting the group conscious.

What then are some of the qualities that the true

Trusted Servant Leader should strive for?

Spiritually fit—a person who practices in their daily life the 12 Steps of the program. A person who is not perfect, who strives to correct mistakes and move on with a positive attitude of helping others to achieve sobriety.

Responsibility—Takes the position elected to seriously. Follows through on projects and does not let things go until the last minute. Shows up on time and does not let others wait. Gives an attitude that things can get done, and carries out the task. Does not find a myriad of excuses for not completing their projects.

Knowledgeable—Educates oneself as much as possible on how to accomplish the task. Listens and learns from others who have done the job before. They do not act in any arrogant way that they have all the answers.

Mediator—Works well with others in order to settle disputes which may affect the fellowship as a whole. Listens to both sides of the question and with wisdom and spiritual help, comes to a decision

Negotiator—Many tasks in the fellowship require negotiating with outside organizations in order to do business. This is a special talent. Background, education, and experience are a priority here so that the fellowship can get the greatest benefit. This is a hard task and a Trusted Servant Leader needs to rely on patience, perseverance, tolerance and integrity

Educator and Teacher—This Trusted Servant Leader should be able to pass along their knowledge and experience to the upcoming. We need leaders in the future and education for these futures leaders must come from those who have come before.

Capability—It does not benefit the fellowship in any way to have a person elected to a position who does not have the practical knowledge to accomplish the task. On many levels of service certain capabilities may be needed and it is unfair to the person and the fellowship if these requirements are not met. The fellowship needs to be truly honest with themselves in electing people who can accomplish the task.

Firm and not dictatorial—A true Trusted Servant Leader needs to present a positive capable attitude, presenting to the group with all the information at hand. But, they cannot dictate in any authoritarian way. After presenting all of the information to the fellowship a decision is made by the God driven group conscience.

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CONCEPT NINE: GOOD LEADERSHIP

By Cameron F.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

(Continued from page 8)

Finally, a true Trusted Servant Leader needs to follow the principles of the program to the best of their ability. The true Trusted Servant Leader is one who through example guides the fellowship to benefit the action of the Fifth Tradition “to carry the message to the addict who still suffers”.

Clarifying Questions and Answers:

Q: What is the source of all C.A. leadership? **A:** The Group Service Representative (G.S.R.)

Q: Why are G.S.R.s so important to overall C.A. leadership? **A:** The G.S.R. is the service leader for their group, the indispensable link between the group and C.A. as a whole. G.S.R.s are C.A.’s group conscience.

Q: How do the G.S.R.s affect C.A. at all levels of service? **A:** Elected by the members of their Group, the G.S.R.s play an important role in electing the area committee members and ultimately the delegates and the area’s candidates for trustee.

Q: What ongoing need comes out of C.A.’s principle of rotation? **A:** To furnish our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous effort.

Q: Why is leadership so imperative to our fellowship? **A:** To carry out the Fifth Tradition—”to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.”

UNFORGETTABLE H&I

By Norma Jean L.
Chicago Heights, Illinois, USA

I remember my first experience with H&I very vividly. It is ingrained in my brain like my own name. I remember so well because I was bankrupt. I was financially, physically, mentally, emotionally as well as spiritually at an all-time low. I was torn up from the floor up, looking in the mirror I wanted to throw up. I was 95 pounds soaking wet. I had on layers upon layers of clothes to appear that I had some weight on my bones. Unfortunately, I could do nothing about my face which looked like a chocolate covered skeleton with make-up on. I was NOT a Vision for You! Being at a fork in the road not knowing which road to take, surprisingly I somehow ended up in treatment. I had no idea what to expect or what was expected of me.

One evening they told us it was time for an H&I meeting. Duh? What is that I wondered? Upon entering the meeting room there sat a guy who was looking good and smelling good dressed to the nines. Oh my God it was one of my co-workers, Renay who I knew very well. I knew he once was a user but had started looking better and better everyday at work. He was no longer missing from his assignment; you know going on his 15-minute break for 3 hours or taking his 30-minute lunch and never coming back. He had started hinting around that I needed help for my “drug

problem”. Right. Now here he is stalking me in treatment. How dare he! Little did I know he was doing H&I service work. Okay, so he was not stalking me after all. I lived far south in the city and the hospital was far west, what a coincidence. So, I listened to his message intently.

With time, numerous mistakes, and setbacks I realized it was Divine Intervention that I ended up in that treatment facility. My co-worker planted a seed in me that even though I didn’t water it, despite my neglect it continued to grow. After a while I could no longer ignore it. I would always think of Renay and that treatment center every time I was getting high, or should I say every time I was getting low. H&I plays a big part on why I am here today. It’s people like Renay E. (may he rest in peace) who give so freely of their time, experience, strengths and hope that help save lost souls like me. I don’t know where I would be without that seed getting planted. I imagine I would still be out there chasing Jason, experiencing some of those yets I said I’d never do or in the cemetery taking a dirt nap. I am truly grateful to H&I for sending me a lifeline.

NewsGram Editorial Policy

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

TRUSTEE CORNER

As my term has ended as Chair of your WSBT I would like to share with the Fellowship some of the how and whys of our actions during the past 18 months.

It was to say the least a trying time for all, not just the Board but the Fellowship and the entire world.

We suffered the loss of two of our members Vanessa-M-J TAL2 and Chris R ASRT to Covid-19. They are truly missed. Our fellow Trustee Yvette-H after completing her full term of 4 years, due to personal responsibilities she could not fulfil her duties as WST for an additional year and was obliged to resign. We thank her for her service.

Being the principal financial planners for the fellowship we are tasked to review expenditures and revenue. In fulfillment of this duty the board had to make some very difficult decisions all related to effects of the pandemic; the temporary closure of the World Service Office and furloughing the staff. The cancellation of CAWS 2021 convention in New York. There were unavoidable circumstances driving these decisions, the office due to state mandates and New York due to uncertainty on an actual date for not only the reopening of the hotel but NYC in general. We did have ongoing negotiations with the hotel but as time passed it became increasingly apparent to the WSBT and Hyatt management that the best option was to cancel. In doing so C.A. did NOT incur any penalties and our deposit was refunded.

We as a Board and during this period we were a board of eight as opposed to eleven, but I can tell you we stood as one. It is truly understandable that some our decisions didn't sit well with some of the Fellowship, but the Board during this period endeavored to work within the dictates of the WSM. The WSM states that it is the responsibility of your WSBT to help deal with anything that affects C.A. either internally or externally. This was exceedingly challenging over the past 18 months.

I would like to thank the entire Fellowship on behalf of the Board for their support and love shown at the conference this past September.

The WSBT is now at full strength, and I am confident that this Board will show the humility, enthusiasm, and the courage to continue the guardianship of the Fellowship we love.

George M.
Former WSBT Chair
ANRT

ARCHIVES

NOVEMBER IS GRATITUDE MONTH CA INCEPTION - NOVEMBER 18, 1982

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."

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).

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." Within 30 days, five more C.A. meetings were established.

Sunday, 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.

Sources:

- (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.
- (Daltry, Laura, Dec. 26, 1982, LA Times, Calendar p. 26)

C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

UNITY

CELEBRATE AROUND THE WORLD

Your WS Unity Committee would like to invite you to become a part of a growing number of our great fellowship who have decided to join us. By submitting dynamic artwork that will be global and unifying and will represent Cocaine Anonymous on a global scale. We are seeking Artwork submissions for the *2023 Celebrate Around the World* Logo!! The theme for the 2023 World Convention is "A New Freedom". Please use the logo from last year as a reference. Please submit all artwork jpeg and / or jpg unsigned submissions, and release forms to:

unity@ca.org, doo@ca.org, silver.bradsilver@gmail.com, pamelagriffith2002@yahoo.com



What are you doing to Celebrate Cocaine Anonymous? Every year addicts around the world celebrate C.A. on the first Saturday in March, in 2022 that falls on March 5th. This may be done in many different ways. Some Areas have barbecues, some have talent shows, and some have dances. Your Area can create whatever you want that celebration to look like.

The purpose of Celebrate Around the World is to promote enthusiasm and unity within the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous as well as financially support the fellowship's effort to carry the message of recovery. Unity is a common bond that transcends all differences. We are people who might never have mixed.

Addiction and recovery are the threads that bind us.

Through applying the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, we grow in love, tolerance, and respect for each other. This spiritual growth allows us to rise above prejudice, regardless of religion, ethnicity, economic status, age, gender, or sexual orientation, to carry the C.A. message. Though we are different, we are the same. Regardless of the author, we share the same story. Recovery is possible—together. Unity preserves our C.A. Fellowship. Unity preserves our legacy of Hope, Faith, and Courage. Unity safeguards our personal recovery, our reunited families, and our rediscovered dreams. Why wouldn't we want to celebrate?

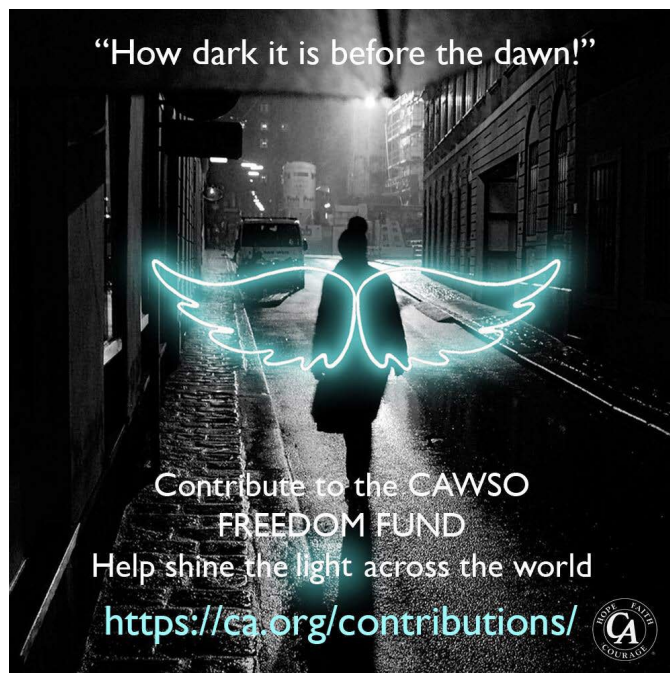
It is suggested that any proceeds retained by the area be used towards sending their delegates to the WSC. It is suggested that each areas event be held on the 1st Saturday in March to promote CA unity. We would love to hear about your plans to Celebrate Around the World! Send us your ideas unity@ca.org

C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

LITERATURE, CHIPS & FORMATS

Artists and Illustrators... The LCF Committee needs you!

LCF is currently seeking members to contribute artwork for the project,
"Twelve Traditions & Twelve Concepts Illustrated"
No professional experience necessary. Email: lcf@ca.org for info



GET \$.M.A.R.T.

SAVE MY A\$\$ RECOVERY TRANSFER

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With this document, I, the undersigned Cocaine Anonymous (hereinafter referred to as "C.A.") member, hereby grant permission to COCAINE ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES, INC., a California corporation (hereafter referred to as "CAWS") and COCAINE ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC., a California corporation (hereafter referred to as "CAWSO"), their successors, assigns, and those acting on their authority, to publish the attached material entitled or described as follows:

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4. CAWS and/or CAWSO may change, modify or revise this work to whatever extent either or both deem 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 CAWS and CAWSO 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 CAWS or CAWSO publication.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUSTIN, TEXAS



Caws2022.org

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YOU TO REGISTER
FOR THE CONVENTION.
HAVE YOU BEEN A GOOD BOY/GIRL?

THURSDAY MAY 26 - MONDAY 30, 2022

March 4-6, 2022

2022 Illinois Area Unity Convention

LOCATION:

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Lisle, IL, USA

March 25-27, 2022

2022 Atlantic South Convention

LOCATION:

TBD

April 15-17, 2022

2022 European Regional Convention

LOCATION:

Birmingham Hilton Metropole

Birmingham, United Kingdom

May 26-30, 2022

C.A. WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION

LOCATION:

Hyatt Hotel in Austin

Austin, Texas, USA

July 1-4, 2022

Atlantic North Regional Convention

LOCATION:

New York Hilton Midtown

New York City, New York, USA

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

Please send submissions to Pamelagriffith2002@yahoo.com, doo@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

7th Tradition April-June 2021 Category or Group

LOCATION	NAME/CITY	TOTAL
CANADA		
Alberta	Southern Alberta Area CA	\$3,100.00
British Columbia	CA BC Area	\$160.00
Massachusetts	CA - Mass of CA	\$60.00
UNITED KINGDOM		
England	CA Daily Reprieve Meeting	\$70.00
	CA London Area	\$15,322.91
	CA North London District	\$915.00
	CA South Central	\$508.05
	CA The Daily Reprieve Meeting	\$51.00
	CA Three Counties District	\$550.00
	CA UK - Hants & Berks District CA	\$290.36
	CA UK Kent District	\$608.50
	Sunlight of the Spirit & Both Sides of the Pond	\$20.00
Philippines	CA Wednesday Night Pa Klok (No Phuket) Meeting	\$25.00
Wales	CA - Wales Area of CA	\$461.00
MAINLAND EUROPE		
Holland	CA District North Holland Area	\$307.40
	CA Holland	\$864.63
Hong Kong	CA Hong Kong	\$460.00
Netherlands	CA Back to Basic Men's Group Haarlem	\$438.36
Sweden	CA Spiritual Fit Group - Stockholm Sweden	\$176.00
USA		
Arizona	CA Arizona Area c/o Sun Valley Intergroup	\$16,000.00
	CA-EVMG East Valley Men's Group	\$1,160.00
California	CA - OCCA Recovery Workshop	\$524.00
	CA - Richmond CA	\$300.00
	CA Big Book Study Wednesday	\$5.00
	CA IEACA L	\$125.00
	CA Northbay Service Group	\$500.00
	CA The Hole In The Wall Inc.	\$10.00
	CALA Convention Account	\$200.00
	CALA LB/Compton, Barb W.	\$100.00
	Hope, Faith & Courage Alameda CA	\$200.00
	One Puff, Too Tough	\$500.00
	Roxbury Ancient Masters	\$300.00
	Spiritual Lines Gp Laguna Hills, CA	\$2,227.08
Colorado	CA Colorado - Meeting Nirvana	\$84.00
	CA Group - What Would Bill Do	\$200.00
Missouri	Get to Stepping St Louis	\$50.00
Nebraska	Monday Night Miracles	\$273.00
New Mexico	CA New Mexico	\$287.34
Oregon	CA of Oregon	\$100.00
Pennsylvania	CA PA/NJ/DE	\$100.00
South Carolina	CA - There is a Solution	\$19.27
Texas	CA Texas	\$100.00
Washington	CA - Washington State	\$3,561.69
Anonymous	Anonymous	\$6,974.82
Freedom Fund	Freedom Fund	\$8,415.39
Birthday		
S.M.A.R.T.	Smart Program	\$275.00
Total 7th Tradition		\$66,979.80

7th Tradition July-September 2021 Category or Group

LOCATION	NAME/CITY	TOTAL
CANADA		
Ontario	CA Southern Ontario CA -	\$3,787.88
	CA Vision Group - Ontario	\$56.55
Europe		
England	CA- Daily Reprieve Meeting	\$111.00
	CA London (includes CAUK replacement check)	\$16,488.76
	CA- South Central District UK	\$841.03
	CAUK	\$80.55
	CAUK - Kent District	\$2,815.00
	CAUK North District	\$855.00
	CAUK Returned Ck - Check to be replaced	-\$10,989.82
Scotland	CA Scotland 1,313.73	\$1,735.44
Thailand	CA- PaKlok Thailand	\$75.00
Wales	CA Wales Area	\$269.21
MAINLAND EUROPE		
Holland	CA-Holland District Oost - Tijmen Knevel	\$1,041.97
USA		
Arizona	CA - Birds of a Feather LLC	\$75.73
California	CA - Full Flight from Reality Marathon	\$605.50
	CA - Long Beach Compton CA	\$20.00
	CA - WIECA	\$561.88
	CA LBC	\$75.00
	CA Northbay Service Group	\$300.00
	CA Roxbury SAT	\$540.00
	CA Saturday Book Study c/o John Elder	\$12.54
	CA- The Hole In The Wall	\$20.00
	OCCA	\$1,100.00
Colorado	Coconuts Denver Group	\$117.00
Florida	CA - Florida Area CA Inc SWFL	\$390.00
	CA - No Snow Dhow Group-Clearwater FL	\$50.00
Georgia	CA - Log Cabin Group	\$132.00
Illinois	CA - Forever Free Meeting of CA	\$45.00
	IACA South/West District	\$55.25
Indiana	CA - Fort Wayne District	\$300.00
Kansas	CA - Kansas Area Ca Inc	\$500.00
Maryland	CA Area Service - Laurel, Maryland	\$50.00
Missouri	CA Missouri Area	\$21.09
Nebraska	CA Monday Miracles	\$362.00
Oregon	CA of Oregon	\$200.00
Pennsylvania	CA Warrington	\$1,450.00
South Carolina	CA - There is a Solution	\$35.72
Texas	CA - SCTA of CA	\$140.00
	CA Texas Area Service Gulf Coast	\$5,571.94
Anonymous	Anonymous	\$4,561.89
Freedom Fund	Freedom Fund	\$12,774.08
Birthday		
S.M.A.R.T.	Smart Program	\$345.00
Total 7th Tradition		\$47,579.19