



NewsGram

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C.A. World Services, Inc. P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232

July-August, 1988

Delegates Meet for 5th Annual WSC

by Susie S.
Staff Writer

Some 75 delegates representing 850 meetings of Cocaine Anonymous across the nation will convene at Stouffer Concourse Hotel in Los Angeles, CA for the Fifth Annual Cocaine Anonymous World Services Conference (WSC), August 11-14. The conference is hailed as the single most important informational exchange event of the year for C.A., where the group conscience of the fellowship is voiced through its representatives in order to sponsor unity and to develop ideas and direction for the future of the fellowship worldwide, said Fenn P., trustee from San Francisco and four-time veteran of the WSC.

Committees, both newly formed and

ongoing, will focus on issues such as finances, structure and by-laws, hospitals and institutions, conventions, conferences, literature and chips, and public information, said Fenn.

Participating in the committees are meeting delegates, World Services Board of Trustees, and World Services Office (WSO) Board of Directors.

Delegates, selected from their regions, are responsible for representing the opinions of their local meetings on the issues at hand. Equally important, delegates will carry the group conscience of worldwide C.A. back to the various regions. There are currently 85 delegate slots, but a single delegate may represent more than one delegate slot; hence, have more than one vote.

The eight trustees are nominated at the

conference level. The 5 directors who run the World Service Office select their own replacements as openings arise.

These participants will sit on the committees, exchange ideas, develop motions and outline ongoing work to be done to form a structurally sound fellowship.

In all, "it's lots of hard work," says Fenn, "actually a 365-day-a-year job because the committees are ongoing."

Fenn points to the progress made by Cocaine Anonymous in the past years as testimony that the work done in the WSC is paying off.

"We are growing; we are changing; we are getting things done. For addicts or for any group, that's what it's all about!"

700 Addicts Gather in Chicago

by Reginald L.
Trustee

"Chi-town-the windy city" hosted the Fourth Annual Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention over the Fourth of July weekend. Unlike the drought condition of most of the mid-west, Chicago, at least for the duration of the convention, surprised visiting addicts with mild, pleasant weather. Nearly 700 registered participants enjoyed a spiritual, fun-filled holiday weekend that included the flavor of Chicago and the unity of fellowship.

The Chicago setting was the first convention held outside California and the first world service function hosted by non-Californians. As the convention progressed, participants began arriving from Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana, an other areas traditionally under-represented at previous conventions. It became clear that Chicago not only was a pleasant setting but also a terminus that built unity and carried the message.

The Chicago Hilton and Towers was

the location of the event. A palatial hotel pressed against the shores of Lake Michigan, the Hilton provided ample space for hundreds who attended. The opening meeting definitely exhibited the C.A. spirit. Amid a cheering crowd, anticipating the excitement of the subsequent three days, the opening meeting was infused with feelings of energy and excitement.

As the meeting ended, there was yet another ceremony that was the most unique event ever recorded in the history of Cocaine Anonymous. Seven local Chicago members called "The Recovery Rapper and the Rappettes" pounded out a rap-style message to the gathering that was as poetic and telling as it was synoptic.

The rapping style set the tone for a number of events that followed opening day -- a tone that introduced different media to express the magic of recovery and the process to achieve it. Improvisational skits were held that focused on themes common in sobriety. Workshops on relationships and spirituality became a stage that

presented spontaneous dialogue among members of the C.A. improvisational group called the Messengers.

At every turn the World Service Convention Chicago subcommittee added something different and inventive to the message carried. But throughout it all the message remained the same: recovery is hinged upon the willingness to stay clean and sober today.

REGIONS PLANNED

by Sheri E.
Special Correspondent

Regional representation may be stronger following the WSC, August 11-14, according to a member of the WSBT. Bob L. of San Francisco, trustee for Structure and By-Laws, will present the convention delegates with a plan to have trustees from each region of the U.S. and Canada.

A regional trustee would act an intermediary between local and world levels. He or she will listen to local concerns and needs and help find solutions that could strengthen C.A. as a whole.

Meeting count

SEE HOW WE'VE GROWN:

	1988	1987	1986	1985
Alabama	10	8	3	--
Alaska	3	3	3	--
Arizona	40	38	19	4
California	374	326	221	108
Colorado	17	8	3	--
Connecticut	29	25	17	4
Dist. Columbia	10	10	1	1
Delaware	2	2	--	--
Florida	23	23	8	--
Georgia	31	31	7	7
Hawaii	6	4	4	1
Idaho	4	--	--	--
Illinois	58	56	28	13
Indiana	3	2	--	--
Kansas	7	7	2	--
Louisiana	4	3	--	--
Maine	4	1	--	--
Maryland	9	--	--	--
Massachusetts	8	8	3	--
Michigan	28	28	10	--
Minnesota	14	--	--	--
Missouri	4	4	--	--
Nebraska	3	1	--	--
Nevada	6	6	2	2
New Hampshire	2	2	1	--
New Jersey	6	6	3	3
New Mexico	4	4	4	2
New York	36	33	15	8
Ohio	9	8	7	1
Oklahoma	7	--	--	--
Oregon	16	8	5	--
Pennsylvania	17	5	--	--
Tennessee	13	13	9	2
Texas	42	38	20	5
Utah	10	5	--	--
Virginia	4	2	2	1
Washington	31	31	10	3
Wisconsin	18	18	13	4
Canada	13	11	7	--
TOTAL	853	776	427	169

These figures are the best available. If you have corrections, please send them to the C.A. World Services Office, P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232.



NewsGram

C.A. World Services, Inc.

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New Directory Debuts at WSC

by Ilane M.
Special Correspondent

The new World Directory is available now and will be initially distributed at the World Service Conference to each delegate free of charge in an information packet. Additional directories are available through WSO at two dollars apiece.

The directory has a new streamlined format according to Steve M. committee chairman from Canoga Park, Ca. All Information Number lines are listed in the front for easy access for the addict who is traveling or planning a trip. The other major change in format is the listing of meetings.

"Previously the meetings were listed in central office or regional order," Steve

said. "Now all the meetings are listed by state, then alphabetically by city so that a person does not necessarily have to know the area to find the meeting. If someone is traveling, he will be able to go into a city and find a meeting or Information Number easily.

The revised directory has been in the works since June 1987. Steve is inputting the information into his computer which will be easily transferred to the computer at WSO.

Response for requests for information has been good, Steve said. With the computerized system, updating the directory could be done on a weekly basis.

The next updated printing is projected for January 1989.

Calendar of Events

California

Los Angeles Fourth Annual Convention, August 26 - 28, Wyndham Palm Springs Trammell Crow Hotel, Palm Springs, CA. For further information call (213)839-1141.

Orange County C.A. Second Annual Convention, October 28 - 30, San Diego Double Tree Hotel. For more information call (714)650-1011.

New York

1989 World Services Convention, "Steps to Liberty," July 4th weekend 1989, Grand Hyatt, Grand Central Station, New York, NY. Further details to be announced at a later date.

Texas

Texas State Third Annual Convention, October 28 - 30, Brookhallow Marriot, Houston, TX. For further information, call (713)796-8127.

Information Numbers

Canada	(416)445-3896	Hawaii	(808)942-0606
Alabama	(205)869-0779	Illinois	(312)278-7444
Arizona		Kansas	(316)264-3066
Phoenix	(602)279-3838	Massachusetts	(617)581-5600
Tucson	(602)326-2211	Nebraska	(402)556-2126
Northern California		New Hampshire	(603)889-6681
San Francisco	(415)474-7133	New Mexico	(505)984-9207
East Bay	(415)654-8885	New York	
South Bay	(408)274-6015	Manhattan	(212)496-4266
Mid-Peninsula	(415)592-9499	Peekskill	(914)739-8105
Marin County	(415)453-8439	Westchester	(914)941-7590
Sonoma County	(707)578-4160	Oklahoma	(918)660-8665
Monterey	(408)372-4190	Oregon	(503)256-1666
Santa Cruz	(408)462-1926	Pennsylvania	(215)270-3036
Southern California		Tennessee	(615)327-8990
Los Angeles	(213)839-1141	Texas	
San Fernando Valley	(818)988-1777	Houston	(713)668-6822
San Gabriel Valley	(818)447-2887	Austin	(512)397-6700
Inland Empire	(714)359-3895	Utah	(801)266-1793
Orange County	(714)650-1011	Washington	(206)722-6117
San Diego	(619)268-9109	Wisconsin	(414)257-1510
Santa Barbara	(805)969-5178	(Please submit any updates on new meetings or information numbers to the CAWSO, P.O. Box 1367, Culver City, CA 90232.)	
Colorado	(303)650-8989		
Connecticut	(203)358-8833		
Georgia	(404)255-7787		

WSBT Meetings Structure C.A.

by Margie G.
Editor

Outside the window of the hotel, jets continually take off and land. Busy L.A. traffic swarms Century Boulevard. Inside the conference room, the atmosphere is warm and friendly; eight recovering addicts are laughing and joking, keeping the mood light until the last possible minute when the work will begin.

These eight people have an awesome responsibility. They are the World Service Board of Trustees (WSBT) of Cocaine Anonymous, and they meet quarterly to do a variety of administrative, structural and legal work.

According to Ray G. of Riverside, chairman of the board of trustees, the board's primary purpose is "to deal with all things inside and outside of the fellowship that affect the continuation and growth of C.A. as a whole."

Secondary to this, the trustees are

guardians of the 12 Traditions. Their third function is "to actively seek and encourage ways to carry the message to the addict who still suffers," Ray said.

The WSBT is two years old. All members have served from the beginning, except for Jack P, trustee from Connecticut, who was approved by the World Service Conference (WSC) last November.

The WSBT by necessity became directors of the corporation, CAWS, Inc., in March 1987, upon the walkout at the WSC of the board of directors of WSO. Up until this point, the trustees' primary function had been guardians of the traditions. Now their role has drastically changed.

"Now because of the walkout and restructure of the corporation, we became actual administrators of the fellowship," Ray said.

This is the point when the quarterly meetings began and the trustees had to

roll up their collective sleeves to structure a fellowship that could endure.

"The job is getting very demanding," Ray said. "All the trustees make between 100 and 200 phone calls per quarter in between board meetings."

What do the trustees do in their meetings? One important structural issue that was initiated there was the adoption of The 12 Concepts for World Service.

"The concepts give us checks and balances. While we brought the concepts in, the concepts themselves ensure that the conference can throw us out if we're not doing our jobs."

Other issues of import include ways to raise funds; such as, should literature be sold to Hazelden? The trustees also handle all legalities and disputes dealing with the trademark and questions on the use of the logo. The list could go on ad infinitum.

Fourth Concept: 'Right of Participation'

The following is a discussion of Concept Four with trustee Reginald L. from Los Angeles. The views expressed in this article are his own and in no way represent an official view of the WSO, WSC or WSBT.

Concept Four: Throughout our conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

NewsGram: What does Concept Four mean to you?

R.L.: Concept Four goes to the center of what the C.A. WSC is all about. It is the heart of our democratic process. It threads together three parts of our world service structure (delegates, WSO, WSBT), and lays out a pattern that protects the "Right of Participation."

NewsGram: Since the Twelve Concepts were adopted as part of the C.A. service structure, how has Concept Four been used in practical application?

R.L.: Slowly. Since their adoption, full implementation of Concept Four has yet to be realized. We have yet to structurally include any classification of world service paid workers (currently there is only one) and/or volunteers. But I believe this will happen very soon.

NewsGram: How does Concept Four

work?

R.L.: Some of us believe that the absence of 'organization' in C.A. should allow any sober member to participate in the conference whether or not he is serving at a world service level. This school of thought stems from the belief that willingness to stay clean and sober is enough eligibility to participate.

Another school of thought suggests that only a selected few, chosen for their popularity or 'correct opinions' should be the only ones empowered to legislate for the entire fellowship.

Both opinions represent extreme views. Although they are rarely voiced in public, both opinions lay just beneath the surface of our most sincere expressions of innocence. And it's o.k. We are not perfect or somehow endowed with the wisdom of the universe, especially when it comes to relating to one another.

Concept Four is an opportunity to guide us through mistakes of anarchy and tyranny of self will. We can all relate to the unbridled compulsion to control events or manipulate others. Concept Four short circuits these tendencies because it is based upon the democratic principle that allows all classification of world servants to participate.

NewsGram: What kind of benefits will C.A. realize through Concept Four?

R.L.: C.A.'s growth depends upon the richness of our diversity. Concept Four

allows a vital part of our fellowship to provide valuable input. I see this concept not so much in terms of a reward system for trusted servants, but as a means for them to share their experience, strength and hope during the conference. This alone ensures a broad spectrum of views being constantly introduced.

Concept Four is the closest principle in C.A. that explains who may participate at the conference level. At the same time, it demonstrates how far C.A. has come and how far it has to go.

NewsGram: What do you mean?

R.L.: Since the conference represents the closest thing we have to a governing body, who may participate becomes crucial. Prior to the adoption of the concepts, the WSC was conducted under little more than a rough interpretation of Roberts Rules of Order.

As I view it, Concept Four presents us with an opportunity to grow as a fellowship. It lays the ground work for the "Right of Participation based upon the discharge of responsibilities" as a trusted servant. Currently delegates, WSO Board of Directors, and WSBT are given not only a voice but a vote. This does not suggest that their discharge of responsibilities is supremely more important and therefore warrants special privileges; rather, it represents a beginning.

A Statement from the Editor

As the seasons change, we of Cocaine Anonymous are enjoying another sober summer. Just as none of us is the same as we were last summer, so will the "NewsGram" be growing and expanding its reporting vistas this year.

As the new editor, I would like to see the "Gram" become a more comprehensive communication for the ever-expanding, complex area of world services.

Many areas of the service structure have been vague, and through time, practice, trial -- and yes, even error -- these areas and positions within the WSO, WSC, and WSBT are becoming more narrowly defined and focused. This is also the process of growth. With growth, however paradoxically, often comes the fear of change and discomfort.

It is the intent of the "NewsGram" and its staff of trusted servants to report on issues, concepts, and events as they relate on a world service level, even if the area of coverage is perceived as sensitive. It is my belief that the only way to grow up into a healthy, stable fellowship is by open, straightforward communication.

In presenting sensitive issues, it is not the intent of this publication to editorialize but to present all sides of a problem in the most clear, concise manner possible, using as our sources of informa-

tion the trusted servants who have the most intimate knowledge of the issue involved.

The "NewsGram" and its staff will always attempt the most accurate, balanced, and unbiased reporting of each issue that involves C.A. on a world level.

All correspondence is most avidly welcomed, and letters to the editor that relate to WSO and its interrelated issues will be read and considered for publication.

Another area of change I would like to institute is to devote a section of each issue to reports from regional correspondents in which our fellowship can exchange news and ideas relating to service.

This is an exciting time for C.A. Our fellowship has grown more than 450% since its inception in 1985. We are sober in a time when C.A. is being molded and shaped daily. We are making history and setting precedents with each WSO meeting and WSC. So be a part of this exciting time by getting involved in the communication aspect of world services. You who are being of service across the country have valuable experience to relate. The "NewsGram" would like to provide a format for you to share your experiences to help create a new unity for C.A. worldwide.

First Issue of Connection

Big Success

by Margie G.
Editor

The first re-issuance of "The Connection," C.A.'s literary magazine is here. Among the flurries and flutters, excitement and accolades, some very real problems beset the publication.

"There are still 3,000 copies of the summer edition of C.A.'s literary magazine just sitting at the WSO," said

There are still 3,000 copies. . . . just sitting at the WSO

-- Susie S., Acting Editor

Susie S. of Arcadia, CA, acting editor, "despite our best efforts to circulate copies at the Chicago convention to promote ordering of copies regionally."

"The Connection" is not sitting there for lack of popularity, according to Susie, addicts at meetings are eager to read it and willing to pay the price of one dollar.

"I personally watched an entire order sell out in the course of one meeting. The fellowship is hungry for them. It is up to our service people to be sure the copies are ordered for the meetings and announced as being there. They should be treated like any other form literature, after all it *is* C.A. literature."

Susie is asking all delegates at the WSC this August to go back to their regions and make sure "The Connection" order forms get used.

This is the only method for distribution at present because new subscriptions are not currently being accepted.

"We simply don't have the record-keeping staff necessary to keep up with an extensive subscriber list, although old subscriptions are being honored," Susie explained.

"Addicts are pretty good at passing the word, though, so pass it on, 'The Connection' is back!"

WSO needs YOU!



Be of Service!

WSO Board of Directors' Minutes

The World Service Office has been very busy preparing for the upcoming WSC, in addition to handling the day to day office work for our growing fellowship.

The day to day office work included the receipt of the federal tax I.D number and the state Board of Equalization resale number, which puts WSO, Inc., on a non-profit status.

A copier was rented to cover the anticipated work load of the trustees quarterly meeting and the WSC. Helene H., chairperson of the board from Van Nuys, CA, negotiated the deal. The rental of the copier will cost \$20.00 per day and 2 cents per copy.

The treasury report for July showed \$8,279.48 in the operating account as of

7/28 and \$14,237.86 in the trust account as of 7/29.

Steve P., vice-chair from Monrovia, CA, delivered the conference-approved public service announcement, "The Last Straw," which is now available for purchase by local areas at \$75 for the first copy and \$25 for additional copies. There is a space for local Information Numbers to be added.

C.A. World Service office has had a 60% increase in chips and literatures orders since last January, keeping David C., the new office employee, busy.

In June it was decided to ask Margie G. of Pasadena to be editor of the "NewsGram" and in July she has accepted and is editor.