

News Gram

It's Here... Conference 2004 "United in Love and Service"

**KIM S. – ILLINOIS AREA
VICE CHAIR – CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

The 2004 World Service Conference is here and although I am a little leery and very curious as to what "excitement" will be unveiled this year ...I am also looking forward to the Conference with much anticipation, desire and wonder.

I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones. There is a thrill to being part of something that is truly exhilarating and exhausting at the same time. I'm ready to direct my attention and energy to the business of C.A. and to the World Service Conference.

For those not familiar with the Conference, it reflects the group conscience of C.A. members from around the world. The Conference serves as the "voice of C.A." Members serving as delegates and trustees, members of the WSOB, those serving as non-delegate Conference Committee Chairs and concerned members come together for the betterment of CA, expressing the concerns, needs and desires of the membership. They address matters regarding policy, guidelines, conventions, literature and more.

Speaking on behalf of the fellowship, each participating servant conducts CA business, acting with sincerity and honesty. During the six days of the Conference, time is spent in meetings and working in committees, while the rest is spent in "general session," also known as "on the floor."

During the "general session," there are committee reports, motions, debates, cheers and jeers. It truly

is CA at its best.

The actions taken at the Conference perform services that the fellowship and or groups could not accomplish by themselves. Ultimately, a loving and caring God reveals Himself through mutual trust and faith in one another. With honesty, open mindedness and willingness, the true motives of each member are expressed with the desire to better C.A. as a whole.

The theme for this year's Conference is "United in Love and Service." If you are not currently a Conference member and are interested in observing the experience of being "United in Love and Service," I encourage you to stop by and check it out. I also strongly encourage you to review the CA World Service Manual (pages 3.2-3.9) to better understand the structure of the Conference. Pay close attention to the "Standing Rules" of the Conference.

Registration for members and attendees will be open Tuesday afternoon, Aug. 31, 2004. We will "kick off" the Conference Tuesday evening with a Delegate Orientation, which includes a workshop on Robert's Rules of Order and the 12 Concepts of World Service. The "official" business of the Conference will begin Wednesday morning. Roll call will be at 8:30 a.m. sharp. The Conference ends Sunday, September 5, at 1 p.m.

During the six days, there will be a "Unity lunch," hosted by the World Service Conference Unity Committee. This will be a welcome break from the work at

See WSC Page 5

Inside This Edition

WSO Report.....	page 2
Steps.....	page 3
Traditions.....	page 4

Trustee Corner.....	page 5
7th Tradition Donations...	page 6
Member Share.....	page 7

7th Tradition Donations...	page 7
Calendar of Events.....	page 8

CAWS Board Of Trustees

Jackie S., Atlantic North Region
London, England
Teri K., Atlantic South Region
Marietta, Ga.
Tony D., Midwest Region
Milwaukee, Wisc.
Jay F., Southwest Region
Denver, Colo.
Cynthia C., Pacific North Region
Redmond, Wash.
Ken C., Pacific South Region
Los Angeles, Calif.
Jahi B., Trustee at Large
Kansas City, Mo.
Elizabeth S., WSO Trustee
Pasadena, Calif.
John B., WS Trustee
Los Angeles, Calif.

CAWSO Board of Directors

Bob C., Chairperson
Los Angeles, Calif.
Earl H., Vice-Chair
Sunland, Calif.
Brian W., Treasurer
Burbank, Calif.
Mike G., Director
San Diego, Calif.
Patty F., Paid Director
Los Angeles, Calif.
Elizabeth S., Director/WSO Trustee
Pasadena, Calif.
John B., Director/WS Trustee
Los Angeles, Calif.
Judy W., Corporate Secretary
Encino, Calif.

CAWSO Personnel

Patty Flanagan, Office Manager
Leandra Caszatt, Customer Service
Karen Layns, Office Assistant
Daniel Jimenez, Shipping

NewsGram Staff

Milo Bloom, Editor

The NewsGram is a quarterly publication published by the World Service Office of Cocaine Anonymous. It is intended solely to provide information for the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. This publication and all its contents are copyrighted by Cocaine Anonymous. Any unauthorized duplication or publication is prohibited. Send all requests to: NewsGram, C/O CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034. E-Mail to: newsgram@ca.org or by Fax to: (310) 559-2554, Attention: NewsGram. You can call us by phone at (310) 559-5833.



Notes from the WSO

Hello to Cocaine Anonymous from the World Service Office.

This time of the year is very busy for us because, we have just finished the World Service Convention and we are still paying off the last of the bills so we can "close the books" in it and determine how successful it was. While we do not have the final numbers, I can say that it was one of the most financially successful conventions we have had in years, with approximately 1600 attendees. In addition to its financial success, I must say the 2004 Convention Committee put on quite a show. We are very grateful to them for all of the hard work.

As to the state of the business of C.A., over all, I can say that Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc. is doing quite well, including the fact that we will post our first "net gain," meaning we are bringing in more revenue than we are spending, in several years. This will enable us, among other things, to rebuild our woefully low prudent reserve. It's exciting to see how the fellowship has stepped up to support World Services in all areas, attendance at the Convention, 7th Tradition donations, sales of Chips & Literature, sales of the Story Book, and now the Contribution Program. Thank you all for your support.

Now we are going down the stretch for the World Service Conference. The delegate mailings have gone out and we are now finishing up the final details for the event itself, i.e. copy machines, computers, hotel services, etc. Between the WSO board members, WSBT members, the World Service Conference Committee members and our WSO office staff, there is a lot to do.

Lastly, as I always end my column, I would urge you to consider joining the many members who now contribute a certain sum of money, maybe just \$5.00 or \$10.00 per month, every month to CAWS. Believe me it adds up.

Respectfully,
Bob C.

The NewsGram is always looking for submissions. If you have ideas, cartoons, poems, stories or any other recovery related material send it and the release form below to: NewsGram Editor, C/O CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite. C, Los Angeles CA 90034. We cannot publish your submission without a release form.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I hereby give CAWSO and the NewsGram express permission to reprint my original work entitled: _____

Signature: _____

Submissions may be edited for publication. Submissions cannot be returned.

Cleaning Our Side of the Street

By KEVIN W.
PHOENIX, ARIZ.

**Step Nine:
Made direct amends to
such people wherever possible,
except when to do so
would injure them or others.**

The Ninth Step is often referred to in the program as “clearing off our side of the street.” It offers us an opportunity to make amends to people and institutions we have harmed while using and/or drinking. By doing so, we are able to move forward in our program with a greater sense of freedom and release from our past. It also gives us a chance to make things right with the people or institutions to whom we are making our amends.

Making amends is much more than just saying “I’m sorry.” Many of the people to whom we make amends have heard those words a thousand times, and they no longer carry any meaning. The term “I’m sorry” also implies that we are seeking some form of sympathy and that is definitely not what this step is about.

It is about admitting our wrong thoughts and actions in situations and what our part in those situa-

tions were. Were we selfish? Inconsiderate? Dishonest? Fearful? We need to let the other person know exactly what our part in it was. This is a crucial part of making amends, for it allows us to see the patterns of maladjusted behavior that resulted from our addiction.

For many of us, the very thought of making amends can be terrifying. It is important to remember that we do not go through this step alone. By the time we have reached this step, we have come into contact with a Higher Power. We have come to believe that this Power can restore us to sanity and have made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of this Power.

Now, once again, we can turn to our Higher Power and pray for the courage to make our amends. I found, in my experiences with this step, that praying before making my amends produced miraculous results. I asked God, my Higher Power, to grant me acceptance of His will for me and the courage and willingness to do what I needed to do. I asked Him to bless the person to whom I was making the amends with His love and to open their hearts to what I was going to say. Not once did my prayers go unanswered.

Having prayed about our amends, it is vital to set out to make them as soon as we possibly can. I found in my own experiences with this step that when delayed, the amends became increasingly difficult to make.

I also found that when I passed up an opportunity to make an amends, it would often be a long time before I got another chance to see the person I needed to see. Therefore, it is best to make our amends the first time the opportunity arises.

Often times our Higher Power will bring us into contact with those we need to see and it is important that we seize the opportunity.

Shortly after starting my ninth step, I was sitting in a meeting that I still attend regularly. About ten minutes before the meeting ended, a gentleman walked in and took a seat in the back of the room. I turned to see who it was and - to my utter amazement - it was my first sponsor, to whom I owed an amends.

I jumped on the opportunity and made my amends as soon as the meeting ended. I had never seen him there before and have not seen him since that day. I am convinced that God brought

See Steps Page 5

Where to write

CAWS
Board of Trustees
P.O. Box 492013
Los Angeles, CA 90049-8013

CAWSO
Board of Directors
3740 Overland Ave., Suite C
Los Angeles CA. 90034-6337

Want to help the World Service Office
during the World Service Conference?
We need members to help run copy machines.
You do not need to be a delegate to help serve
the fellowship as a whole

DATES OF EVENT: SEPTEMBER 1-5
TIME: DAILY FROM 9 A.M. TO 9 P.M.
CONTACT THE WSO @ 310- 559-5833.
or E-Mail: cawso@ca.org



Our Primary Purpose

JAY B.
GA. AREA

Tradition Five:
Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the addict who still suffers.

I love the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous! If it has done for you what it has done for me and countless others, then you know what I am talking about. Because of the intense feelings I have for the program that saved my life, sometimes I get concerned for its safety.

Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the addict that still suffers. I believe that we

as recovering addicts have been given an incredible gift. It would appear that those of us that have been to hell and returned are the only voices that those trying to escape can hear. Along with this gift comes an equally incredible responsibility.

I have to ensure that I carry *the* message and not *my* message. It is important that we remember as individuals, and in our home groups, that for the newcomer - we are Cocaine Anonymous.

To our families - we are Cocaine Anonymous. As we venture out into the world outside our meetings, to those in whom we confide - we are Co-

caine Anonymous.

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon CA unity." This unity includes the message that we carry. In order for the message to remain consistent we look to CA approved literature.

All our pamphlets, all the books we use and all the things we read in meetings have already been carefully examined to ensure that the message we carry is accurate.

I have found that I am not smart enough to add anything of substance to the program. If I break out a Bible or begin to quote some obscure philosopher in a meet-

ing, then I am polluting the message.

Please don't get me wrong. There are lots of great and wonderful messages out there. It's just that they are not the message of Cocaine Anonymous. *Better to do one thing supremely well than many things badly.*

I have a responsibility to the newcomer, to my home group and to the fellowship, to pass on the message exactly as it was given to me. I didn't want you to cut my dope before I got it, and I sure don't want you to cut my message. Give it to me straight, I can take it.



Subscribe to the NewsGram

Subscriptions are being accepted for the NewsGram. For the low price of \$10 per year, you can receive each copy of the NewsGram before your friends or your group. Simply complete the form below and enclose a \$10 check, money order or credit card number. Send to: NewsGram, C/O CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034

I have Enclosed:

Check/Money Order - Payable to CAWSO

Visa/Mastercard/Discover/American Express # _____

Signature: _____ Expiration date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip/postal code: _____



Telephone Number: (_____) _____ - _____ Country: _____

WSC

Continued from page 1

hand, and always provides a great message from the guest speaker. There also will be 12-Step meetings to give members an opportunity to reconnect and center themselves with their personal programs.

I would also like to enlist any former delegate, attending the conference, who has a desire to serve to come help out the Conference Committee in the "business office". If you are interested in helping in the business office, please contact Miss Patty at the WSO.

I expect great, exciting things to come out of this Conference ...petitions for new areas, committee prog-

ress reports, updates regarding CAWS 2005 in Memphis, Tenn., Trustee selections, new business and of course the "unknown."

All of the above ever reminds us to remain open-minded to the evolving needs and changes of our fellowship. As always, the Conference Officers and the Conference Committee wish to continue being of service to this fellowship to the best of our ability.

If you or your Area have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Kim S. - VC - "acting" Conference Committee Chair.



Steps

Continued from page 3

him into my life that day to give me the opportunity to make things right with him. I am very grateful for that opportunity and it stands in my mind as one of my first truly spiritual experiences.

The Ninth Step stands as a door through which we may pass toward greater freedom. We must remember as we approach this door that we agreed at the outset of our journey that we were willing to go to any lengths to achieve sobriety. We must also remember, "If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are halfway through."

At this point in our recovery, The Promises start to come true. It's not by chance that they are listed with the Ninth Step in the Big Book. For shortly after starting to work this step, we begin to realize that God truly is doing for us what we could never do for ourselves.



Trustee Corner

Hi everyone! First, I would like to again thank the CAWS 2004 committee for their efforts. The convention was outstanding! Thank you all for your love and service to Cocaine Anonymous.

The WSBT has been very active during the year. We have adopted a set of guidelines so that we can clearly and concisely conduct business by e-mail between quarterly meetings and conference calls.

The results of our work are reflected in a new report, "Record of Online Business," which was sent to your Area Delegates.

The WSBT has been able to address most of the referrals but some are to be referred to other committees for consideration.

The WSBT has been focused on improving communications and information to the Fellowship; to that end we are submitting several referrals to the Structure and Bylaws Committee for consideration as updates to the World Service Manual.

These include an improved explanation, including art work, of the appropriate use of the C.A. logo, a specific list of all C.A. approved literature and a more detailed description of the responsibilities and duties of the WSBT.

As you might be aware, the WSBT meets prior to every World Convention for our quarterly board meeting. Similar to any business meeting in C.A., this meeting includes reports, old and new business items, etc., we never know exactly what the outcome of the meeting will be or what decisions will be made by the collective group conscience.

This quarterly meeting was no different and there was no way to know in advance that the WSBT would be invoking their 10th Concept right. In the most recent Delegate mailing, the reasons for this very difficult decision were explained and will be further discussed at the 2004 Conference. More will be revealed as we participate in the process.

Please be certain to contact your Delegate for a full report once they return from the Conference.

In love and service,
Teri K.

Chair, World Service Board of Trustees



BE

OF

SERVICE



7th Tradition Donations

April - June 2004

Alabama

Anonymous - Mobile	\$35
ASRC - AL. Area	\$500

Arizona

Anonymous Individual - Flagstaff	\$50
CA of Arizona - Tucson District	\$503
No More Delusions	\$90
Saturday Night Live - Tempe	\$69
Sun Valley Intergroup	\$600

Arkansas

Arkansas Area	\$150
---------------	-------

California

Anonymous Individuals - Arleta	\$20
Anonymous Individuals - Los Angeles	\$271
Bagels By The Beach	\$30
CA Inland Empire - Riverside	\$250
CA Sonoma County Intergoup	\$15
CALA - Long Beach/Compton	\$528
CALA - South Central District	\$924
CALA - South Central District - H&I	\$600
Central California CA	\$663
Eastside Early Bird Attitude Adjustment - Long Beach	\$100
Friday Night - San Diego	\$105
Friday Night Candlelight - San Pedro	\$46
Funny Valentine Event - Los Angeles	\$387
Get High on Hope - La Crescenta	\$15
Grateful in Granada	\$25
Mainline Group CA - Stockton	\$3
New Life Meeting of CA - Carson	\$50
One Step At A Time	\$25
Orange County CA - Costa Mesa	\$200
San Fernando Valley CA - Mountain Jam	\$348
Who's Line Is It Anyways - Cameron Park	\$10
WSOB Meeting - Los Angeles	\$46

Colorado

CA of Colorado - Denver	\$500
Denver District	\$167
Denver District Meeting	\$18
Nirvana - Denver	\$251
Promises - Longmont	\$90
Relapse Prevention 101 - Denver	\$15

Florida

Dare, Broward, Palm Beach District	\$38
Florida Area CA Inc.	\$2,000
Ft. Meyers District	\$300

Georgia

CA Miracles - Macon	\$100
Cocanuts - Lawrenceville	\$44
Today's Hope - Eastpoint	\$178

Illinois

Anonymous - Morton Grove	\$100
Daytime Connections	\$20
Frosted Flakes - Wheaton	\$70
Illinois Area - Celebrate Around The World	\$648
Illinois Area - Chicago	\$900
Northwest Suburban District	\$443
South & West District - Hinsdale	\$585
Tuesday Night Forever Free - Bloomington	\$39

Indiana

CAST - Evansville	\$10
Ft. Wayne - H&I	\$24

Iowa

CA District 1 - Des Moines	\$50
----------------------------	------

Kansas

Kansas Area Cocaine Anonymous - Wichita	\$50
K.C. District - Kansas City	\$29
Working With Others - Kansas City	\$40

Massachusetts

CA Step Meeting - Cambridge	\$60
-----------------------------	------

Maryland

DC - MD - VA Area	\$25
-------------------	------

Michigan

Central Michigan Area CA	\$20
Saturday Morning Alive - Lansing	\$15

Minnesota

CA of Minnesota	\$20
-----------------	------

Missouri

St. Louis District	\$22
--------------------	------

Nevada

Liberty Mixed Bag - Reno	\$30
--------------------------	------

Nebraska

CA of Nebraska - Omaha	\$91
------------------------	------

New Mexico

CA of New Mexico - Albuquerque	\$150
--------------------------------	-------

New York

Anonymous - Syracuse	\$5
Return To Life - Queens, Flushing	\$50
Sober Toast	\$60



Continued on next page

7th Tradition Donations

April - June 2004

North Carolina

Wednesday Night Group - charlotte \$6

Ohio

CEODCCA - Cleveland \$200
 Early Morning Serenity - Canton \$81
 Men's Memories Plus Meeting - Akron \$35
 We Are Family - Cleveland By Ohio Area Convention \$70

Oklahoma

End of the Line - Tulsa \$110

Oregon

Oregon Area \$1,000
 Oregon - SW Washington H&I \$20

Tennessee

Tennessee Area Chapter CA - Memphis \$500

Texas

Step Sisters & Brothers - Austin \$100
 Step Sisters - Austin \$124
 Verdadera Libertad - Austin \$25

Utah

CA of Utah \$2,176
 Speedbumps \$32

Washington

Blade Runners - Mt. Vernon \$173
 WSCA - PNRC - Lynwood \$1,000

Wisconsin

A Vision For You - Milwaukee \$25
 Friday Uncolas - Milwaukee \$42
 Razors Edge - Big Bend \$143
 Wisconsin CA - Milwaukee \$27

International

CA Hong Kong \$100
 CA UK Area \$9,261
 Anonymous - Pinatan Lake BC, Canada \$7
 Friday Night Wow It Works \$100

Online

SIS \$47

Birthday

Anonymous - Santa Monica, Calif. \$50
 Anonymous - Reno, Nev. \$130
 Come Alive Group - Redondo Beach, Calif. \$173

World Contribution Program

World Contribution Program \$1,694

EDITOR'S NOTE: All amounts have been rounded off to the nearest dollar.

The Unity Armadillo

By JAY F.
 SOUTHWEST REGION TRUSTEE

A tradition began at the 1993 CAWS Convention in Houston, which is still in place today with some new twists.

The Houston host committee purchased a small stuffed plush toy armadillo. The committee named it "Unity" and brought it to each convention planning meeting.

When the meeting became tense or non-unified, the armadillo was referred to, pointed at or even tossed it at the person or people involved.

The reference to "Unity" had an immediate impact and often brought the committee back to focus on the matters at hand.

At the concluding banquet of each CAWS Convention, the tradition was continued, whereby the armadillo was given to the chair of the

next year's host committee by the outgoing host committee chair.

The different host committees utilized the spirit of the armadillo in different ways, mostly to be ever mindful of the unity aspect of convention planning.

During the past several years, the unity armadillo has been dressed up; first by the New York area with the rain coat, Chicago added some adornments, and most recently the 2004 Los Angeles committee added a surfboard to the armadillo.

One can only wonder what Memphis will do in 2005.

Sideburns and glitter come to mind, even some blue suede shoes ...the possibilities are endless.

So a thanks to Houston and each host area thereafter for honoring the spirit of unity as shown by the armadillo.

"The spiritual life is not a theory. We have to live it. Unless one's family expresses a desire to live upon spiritual principles we think we ought not to urge them. We should not talk incessantly to them about spiritual matters. They will change in time. Our behavior will convince them more than our words."

Page 83, Alcoholics Anonymous.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Big Sur–Enity 2004

September 9-12, 2004
Central California
Area Of CA
Ventana Campground
Big Sur, Calif.
Registration: Denis N.
(805) 969-5178
Chairperson: Mark K.
(805) 455-4546

Without Unity, the Heart of C.A. Would Cease to Beat

September 10-12, 2004
Akron District's 2nd Annual
Unity Convention
Holiday Inn — Hudson, Ohio
Chairperson: Charlotte R.
(330) 256-6725
Vice Chairperson: Eddie J.
(330) 329-7844

The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with the First Step

September 10-12, 2004
Nebraska State Convention
Holiday Inn Select
Little Rock, Ark.
Chairperson: Shirley B.
(501) 217-9122
Treasurer: Terry C.
(501) 612-1021

Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now

September 24-26, 2004
Second Annual Texas
Valley Area Convention
Omaha Marriott – Regency
Omaha, Neb
Chairperson: Harry C.
(402) 455-7921
Hotel Liaison: LaTaunya H.
(402) 884-4317

The Recreation “We Were Reborn.” – Big Book P. 64

September 24-26, 2004
Bahia Mar Resort
South Padre Island, Texas
Chairperson: Hal K.
(956) 566-0400
Vice Chairperson: Dan F.
(956) 491-2237

We Came to Believe

October 29-31, 2004
Red Lion — Sacramento, Calif.
Chairperson: Ernest M.
(209) 601-7034
Hotel Liaison: Mark T.
(916) 383-9447

The Door is Open La Porte Est Ouverte Quebec Area Bilingual Convention

November 5-7, 2004
Delta Hotel
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Outreach: Marie–Pascale P.
(514) 937-7284
Chairperson: Jean–Paul B.
(514) 440-2463

The Keys to the Kingdom 16th Annual Midwest Regional Convention

November 5-7, 2004
Hilton Northfield — Troy, Mich.
Chairperson: Ezell G.
(810) 394-2029
Registration: Paula H.
(517) 694-1023

A Spiritual High

TORCA VIII
November 5-7, 2004
Ramada Inn & Suites.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Chairperson: Raymond W.
(416) 488-6467
Hotel Liaison: Jim W.
(905) 789-9400

Serenity in the Southwest New Mexico Area

November 12-14 2004
Southwest CA
Regional Convention
Wyndham Garden Hotel
Albuquerque, N.M.
Chairperson: Shane M.
(505) 266-2883
Registration: Norma F.
(505) 505 265-0441

“Miracles Among Us” 9th Annual CA of Wisconsin Area

February 4-6, 2005
Radisson Milwaukee
Hotel Airport
Milwaukee Wis.
Registration: Rick D.
(414) 350-5146
Outreach: Ken W.
(414) 934-0002

“Thus We Grow” 13th Annual CA UK Convention

April 1-3, 2005
The Hilton Brighton Metropole
Brighton, UK
Chairperson: Ian Y.
+44 (0) 7799143431
Vice Chairperson:
Richard K.
+44(0) 7836203120

Rendezvous On The River 21st Annual World Ser- vice Convention

May 26-30, 2005
Memphis Marriott.
Memphis, Tenn.
Chairperson: Eddie H.
(901) 332-7874
Registration: Ricky J.
(901) 569-4572

