

# News Gram

Volume 23 No. 1

C.A. World Service Office, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA. 90034

First Quarter 2006

## Global Awakening in the Heart of Texas

**WALTER J.  
TEXAS**

Greetings, I am an addict in Texas, once removed from Louisiana – go figure! I often see bumper stickers saying, “I wasn’t born in Texas, but I got here as soon as I could.” Hold on for a minute — help me paint this picture. We have a committee made up of addicts from Texas Area Service, chaired by a Louisianan addict, assisted by South Central Texas Area addicts and flanked by North Texas and The Valley, propped up by the Southwest Region, with the backing of 43 states, countries in Europe, Asia, and South Africa, all united into one world-wide fellowship — we are talking about a serious Global Awakening!

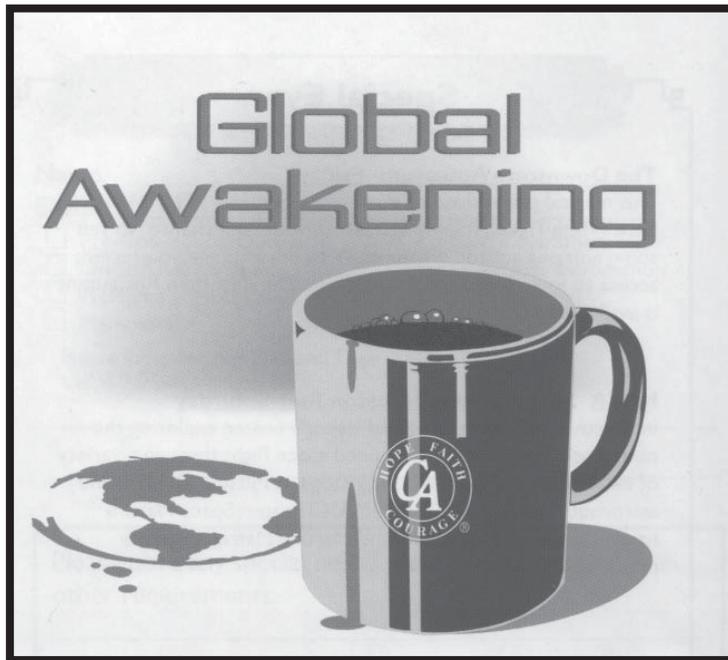
Well the gang’s all here and inviting you to join us for the 2006 Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention. Yes, all

the gang is here putting the finishing touches on what is guaranteed to be a Texas-sized party as the saying goes, “everything’s

we’ve got a party planned for you, we are talking everything from art and entertainment to food, fun, and fellowship. We have

in the beautifully-appointed Hilton Americas, just across the street from the Toyota Center, home of the Rockets, Comets, and Aeros, two blocks from Minute Maid Park, home of the 2005 NL Champion Astros, and only minutes from Houston’s renowned Theater District and Cultural Museum Corridor.

Maybe the Theatre District is your special thing. The second largest theatre district in the country features eight world class performing arts organizations and Houston enjoys the distinction of being one of only five cities in the U.S. with permanent companies in each of the performing arts disciplines - opera, ballet, music and theatre. We also offer some distinction in our 16 widely acclaimed museums in the fourth largest museum district in the country, including the Buffalo Soldiers Nation-



big in Texas.” So you will find very big, Texas-sized dedication among all of the service junkies in this state to make a convention to remember happen in this town.

Now, when we say

planned an extensive array of attractions, special events, entertainment, local-flavored cuisine, and of course great speakers, workshops, and marathon meetings. We will be at the epicenter of Houston,

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# Notes from the WSO

Hello Folks! John B. here with a quick word of introduction and many thanks for the opportunity to once again work side by side with the members of the World Service Office Board (WSOB). During my time with the Board of Trustees, one of the unique aspects of my job as World Service Trustee was to also serve on the WSOB. In many ways this new opportunity to serve as WSOB Chairperson is like returning home, and I am so pleased to be among my friends and colleagues once again.

Much love and many thanks to Bob C. for his dedication and commitment to Cocaine Anonymous not only as WSOB Chairperson, and past Trustee, but also as a long standing C.A. member who continues to re-dedicate himself over and over to our beloved fellowship. We love you Bob.

Also, to outgoing Director and incredibly talented "Web Servant" Jon F., please accept our most sincere thanks. We have been most fortunate to have you be a part of our world, and your work has been most helpful to so many ...you may never know.

Walter J. and the entire CAWS 2006 committee and I are looking forward to spending time with each of you that are planning to attend the upcoming World Service Convention in Houston, Texas this Memorial Day weekend. They continue to work at a breakneck pace to pull this event off and we can't wait to get there! Most likely you will find me at registration and working on one of our favorite projects, the World Service Contribution Program. I have invited the Trustees to once again be with us this year, as they did last year, and we all look forward to that special time of fellowshiping and the opportunity to talk with each of you about ways to nurture and develop our beloved C.A. This will be a world class event, and I invite you to join us. It's not too late to make that commitment to be with us in Houston for CAWS 2006. Do it today!

For those of you in Los Angeles and surrounding areas, the office management, staff and Board invite you to visit us whenever you are in the area and would welcome your participation every first and third Thursday of the month, at the World Service Office, for our regularly scheduled board meetings. We want your help and support... besides "Brother" Earl brings great cookies!

On that note, I would like to advise you all that the WSOB is seeking to fill a Director position at this time. The qualification for a WSOB Director may be found in the World Service Manual and on our web site at [www.ca.org/service.html](http://www.ca.org/service.html). Additionally, the position of Web Servant shall be vacant soon and the WSOB would appreciate anybody that is interested in being of service at that level to contact us directly for further details.

Houston... We have a Party... See you there!

# Who is in charge

By SUSAN C.  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

**Concept One: The final responsibility and ultimate authority for C.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.**

Concept One states that the “final responsibility and the ultimate authority should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.” C.A., like A.A., is run from the bottom up. Simply stated the final responsibility and ultimate authority resides with groups. It was, however, determined early on that a service board was needed to help reach the newcomer, be responsible for uniform publications and helping new groups get started. Concept One is rooted in Tradition Two: “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.” The trusted servants selected to serve must always remember that they are entrusted with delegated responsibilities only. They should not work under their own personal agenda. This can be tricky at times, but if we pray for spiritual guidance and seek the trust of the groups we serve, there should be no issues. This is why it is important to choose trusted servants who will represent their groups and C.A. as a whole and not their own egos. Whatever service position in

which we serve, there must be but one ultimate authority. Our collective conscience must be heard.

This also brings me to Tradition Twelve, which reminds me to place principles before personalities. Just because we are recovered and we strive for “progress not perfection”, we sometimes forget that our Higher Power is still the final word on all issues, especially in selection of trusted servants. We may want to “arrange” for someone to serve in a particular position because we like them or they are our friend. But, we must ask ourselves if they are the most qualified person to fill the position? Will their election serve the greater good of C.A. as a whole? Concept One prepares us for this decision.

This way of electing trusted servants allows us to walk hand-in-hand with our Higher Power and in this arena, we stand apart from other organizations.

Therefore, the responsibility of the groups is to ensure that their group conscience is being followed. This is best done by selecting trusted servants characterized by “enough enlightenment, enough responsibility, and enough love of man and of God to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions.” We must trust in a God of our understanding, trust the process and trust our representatives.



## Through the Dark my Original Beauty Restored

KARA M.

Dark soul killed by addiction.  
Living for a fix and dying without it.

Destruction of family.

Throwing away those who care.

Come in!

Everyone is welcome in The House of Horrors.

I call on death as my way out.

I can no longer live with the wicked pain of this demon's bondage.

I slash my wrist for relief.

I cry out to a God that I've never known.

An angel holds a candle next to a heavy wooden door.

Beautiful child we have cried tears to restore your created beauty.

I push the door and a cleansing breeze blows through me.

God's grace has not been spared, and now my soul has been illuminated.

My journey here is now becoming the portrait that God had painted.

I lift my head up; I've become a blessed child of God.

My destiny is intertwined with this journey of new-found grace.

Now I pray for those that cry out from the darkness.

May illumination restore their souls to their original beauty.



# Trustee Corner

**Tradition Seven: Every C.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many generous individuals, Groups, Districts and Areas for their continued financial support of C.A. World Services.

Concept Eight states that with respect to the larger matters of overall policy and finance, the Trustees are the principal planners and administrators. We take this oversight responsibility very seriously. This is where spirituality and money do have to mix. Every dollar placed in the basket that finds its way to World Service Office is respected and spent judiciously.

Every year the World Service Conference approves a budget for World Services. The members of the World Service Conference Finance Committee work very hard to create an overall budget for our World Services to operate by every year.

Every budget consists of income and expenses. Our expenses often exceed our projected income and difficult cuts have to be made as we progress through the year.

Some of the program services the WSO provides are producing, stocking and filling orders for C.A. literature. They provide C.A. materials and information to new meetings and the media. We also supply copies of our Hope, Faith and Courage and other C.A. materials to inmates. The World Service Office also provides administrative support for World Service Conventions and our World Service Conference. The WSO staff and volunteers work to serve the needs of

C.A. The World Service Conference has directed the WSBT to serve and

support the Fellowship of C.A. throughout the year. This requires that we regularly meet as Board and that our Regional Trustees travel on a regular basis to help solve Area problems. As our Fellowship grows globally, so do our expenses. We have witnessed tremendous growth during the past few years and with that, a need for more funds.

So what makes up the difference? Let's look at our sources of income. We rely on sales of chips and literature, which are very hard to predict. We also look each year to the hard-working and dedicated host cities of our World Service Conventions to provide a source of income, but that amount can fluctuate each year as well.

This leaves us with the 7th Tradition donations that come from Areas, Districts, Groups and individuals. This income is also very hard to predict for a number of reasons, for example, each Group is autonomous in deciding how much to give and how much to hold onto.

Our piece of literature entitled *The 7th Tradition* suggests that each Group should hold a prudent reserve of two months' worth of expenses. It goes on to suggest that the 70/30 plan be used for the excess funds. This would allow for 70% of the excess to be forwarded to the District or Area and 30% to be sent directly to WSO. This is not happening in most Groups. Most Groups forward all of their excess funds to the District or Area. This has created a funding shortfall problem at the World level and we need your help.

The World Service Conference in 2004 approved Financial Guidelines for Groups, Districts & Areas of Cocaine Anonymous. This publication can be downloaded free from the WSC Finance Committee page of our web site ([www.ca.org/](http://www.ca.org/)

[service/wscfinance.htm](http://www.ca.org/service/wscfinance.htm)). On page 10, it suggests Districts hold a 3-month prudent reserve and forward excess funds to the next level and the WSO via the 70/30 plan. On page 13 it suggests that an Area keep a 3-month prudent reserve and that at the discretion of the Area, all funds in excess of the prudent reserve should be forwarded on to the WSO. This is the recommendation of the WSC. We realize that these are guidelines and respect that each Group, District and Area is autonomous and will make its decisions to give based on an informed group conscience.

We are requesting that our trusted servants at every level provide knowledge, leadership and sound judgment in these matters. We have found that nothing diverts us from our primary purpose like problems of money, property, and prestige. The WSO needs these excess funds to do the job you have asked us to do. Please help us get this message out there.

What can you do on a personal level to help C.A. financially? Make sure to attend the Global Awakening World Service Convention in Houston this May to celebrate recovery and the Fellowship. You can also participate in the World Service Contribution Program using the sign-up form available for download at the address given above or you can complete the form on page 7. The Contribution Program is an easy way to make sure the WSO has a predictable source of income to provide program services to help carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

We thank you for your continued support.

The World Service  
Board of Trustees



# Step One: Admitted I Was Powerless

DAVID O.

**Step One: We admitted we were powerless over cocaine and all other mind altering substances — that our lives had become unmanageable.**

As I lie on the porcelain tile, my dazed mind lazily wanders. Alcohol in any form never really tasted good to me at all. Although, I had always been a fairly clean and meticulous person, the grungy and germ ridden floor didn't concern me too much. Last time I had looked at the clock it had read eleven after four. That was seconds, minutes, maybe hours ago . . . it really didn't matter. The light coming through the small window was starting to blind me.

Almost as if Apollo himself was trying his damndest to tell me something or purify my body of the poison I had been feeding it. After all my worship to the porcelain goddess was productive. The only thing that didn't make the familiar experience enjoyable was the intensity and strain on my young body, the teary eyes, the purging of the liquids and sustenance out of holes that are usually taking in only.

Now that it was over, it was time to replace those fluids with more toxins and make up for the loss. I didn't even remember reaching for the cup. It was empty. There was nothing left. Completely void of the only thing seeming to keep my life together. The taste of bitter sweet box wine confused my senses into such a state of expected and welcomed oblivion.

I knew I wouldn't be able to make it off the floor, out of the bathroom,

down the hall, descending the stairs through the living room and dining room of my parent's sumptuous home, to the kitchen to quench my thirst again. The thought of going through that process seemed like a gauntlet. I could barely brace myself on the floor to stand up much less walk, so I decided to lay there for a while, until I really felt like getting up.

My body lay motionless, but my mind lethargically ran from one scenario and sick fantasy to another. Gratitude came gradually on the idea that, "at least I wasn't a junky, having my family find me in this state only to be dead by overdose."

I traced back my life over the last couple of months. Trying, in a vague way, to piece together how I had come into such a sorry state of existence. Although I had not smoked any weed in the last . . . well, last time was in December, and prior to that was October, just before I had gone into an intensive outpatient treatment center. The entire cause behind going in for drug treatment was due to probation. That probation officer I had this time was the same as

last. She never looked too pleased to see me whenever I walked into her office. She sure wouldn't be pleased to learn that I had missed an "excessive" amount of school this term, and it was only January

The treatment center wasn't all that impressive. Almost as if, having an extra set of classes 4 nights a week. The staff and other patients seemed alright. My main pastime was talking about drugs and chemicals recreationally, with other peers. Why not now in a sober environment? Sobriety was alien to me, that's why. Practical and

Please see Step 1 page 10

## Where to write

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CAWSO

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Los Angeles CA. 90034-6337

The NewsGram is always looking for submissions. If you have ideas, cartoons, poems, stories or any other recovery related material send it and the completed 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.

# Texas

Continued from page 1

al Museum, Children's Museum, Holocaust Museum, Museum of Natural Science, Museum of Fine Arts, Contemporary Arts Museum, and John P. McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science.

We want you to feel the magic of Houston's Downtown Aquarium, which features a Ferris Wheel, rare White Tigers, sharks, a train ride, carousel and the chance to see many more aquatic creatures. The kids and all the family will love it!

Then we will show you to the one-of-a-kind NASA Space Center Houston, one of the most interactive experiences on the planet, which allows you to explore the past, present and future of space exploration through a variety of

exhibits and a tram tour, including stops at Mission Control and the astronaut training facilities; an IMAX Theater, Space Place, Martian Matrix and a four-story play area.

Then move on to experience Texas Houston-style! Go see The Galleria, renowned for its world-class shopping such as Neiman-Marcus, Saks, Chanel, Versace, Emporio Armani, Kenneth Cole, Fendi, Dunhill, Bally, Tiffany's, and Cartier to name a few. You can also get out of the Texas heat by taking a whirl on the Galleria's famous ice-skating rink.

By the way, we also have some Convention-related stuff going on too! You'll be treated to one of the most diverse slates of speakers from around the globe coming to

share their hope, faith and courage. In addition, we'll have some challenging yet informative workshops, along with marathon meetings that are sure to stimulate some growth experiences. And be sure to check out the entertainment we'll be offering, from golf and a fun run/walk, to a comedy show, jazz concert, karaoke, a play, game shows and dances. We'll even take some time to take care of a little business with the Regional Caucuses and World Service Conference Committee meetings.

With all that said, you have a full schedule waiting for you so Laissez Les Bontemps Roulez! Oh, I forgot I was in Texas.

Y'all come down now!



## Subscribe to the NewsGram

Subscriptions are being accepted for the NewsGram. For the low price of \$10 per year, U.S. dollars only, 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, U.S. dollars only, or credit card number. Send to: NewsGram, C/O CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/postal code: \_\_\_\_\_



Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

# Spotlight on Unity

GLENN T.  
WICHITA, KS

What is Unity? Ask ten people, you may get ten different opinions. I was raised in a large close-knit family, before addiction, where we all looked out for each other. I could feel the love and unity, it was something tangible. Somewhere along the road into young adulthood, I pulled away from that love and the unity of my family into addiction. As my sickness grew, I grew farther and farther away into myself, into isolation and loneliness, despair, self pity and all the other emotions we addicts experience when using.

After many bottoms emotionally and spiritually through God's grace and mercy, I found the Fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous. Skeptical at first I kept coming back. I was somewhat amazed at this seem-

ingly odd group of people who had found a solution, and who would welcome me back even after many relapses. I can't remember how or when I finally started to feel a part of the Fellowship rather than apart from it. As I worked the steps of recovery and got involved in service, I realized how important it is that we stick together. By myself I was not able to quit using cocaine. It was through the unity of other addicts like myself that I was able to find the solution and through the steps to finally be at peace with God, self and others.

To go on as I was meant a sure slow death. Though the Fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous I found life. For me unity is best described in the old saying "together we stand, divided we fall." Thanks C.A.



## AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT (ACH DEBITS)

YES, as a member of C.A., I want to participate in the C.A. World Services Contribution Program to help keep C.A. World Services going strong!

Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc.  
3740 Overland Avenue, Suite C  
Los Angeles, CA 90034  
1-310-559-5833  
cawso@ca.org

In consideration of the 7th Tradition, donations to Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc. as listed above, I authorize Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc. (CAWSO, Inc.) to initiate variable entries to my account described below:

Type of Account:  Checking  Savings  Credit Card  Debit Card

Credit Card or Debit Card Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number/Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Institution's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

If using a checking account, please include a voided check; if using a savings account, please include a deposit slip.

### PAYMENT DETAILS:

Amount in U.S. Dollars: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of first payment:  1st of month  15th of month

PAYMENT FREQUENCY:  Monthly  Weekly  Annually  One Time Basis

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until CAWSO, Inc. has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and manner as to afford CAWSO, Inc. a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

# H&I: Carrying the Message to Those that Still Suffer

By MATT T.  
COLORADO

It was late August in Colorado: children were getting ready for school, Forest Gump was tops at the box office, the Grateful Dead was on a summer tour, it was the 25th anniversary of Woodstock, and I was slowly killing myself with Cocaine and Alcohol. The last 10 years of drug and alcohol abuse had worn me down to a suicidal and psychotic shell of man. I was empty inside and welcomed the thought of death. After a time in a local psych-ward I was admitted to a treatment center in Denver where I learned about my disease. After a few weeks of working with several psychiatrists and counselors, I felt I would never be able to go without using. I couldn't fathom the idea of living my life without drinking or using Cocaine. Who would I hang out with? What was I going to do about my friends? Everyone I knew or cared to be around drank and used something. All I could think about was ending my life.

Then there was the secret I had been hiding my whole life and thought I would take to my

grave. I had never told anyone that I was gay. All my thoughts were of how the world would judge and persecute me for who and what I was. I hated myself.

One day I was out smoking a cigarette trying not to think of how I had destroyed my life when one of the counselors came over and sat down to talk with me. He didn't say anything at first; he just kept me company for a while. The back porch of the recovery unit was shaded and had a rolling hill that went down to the woods on the property. It was a nice view, very peaceful and it also looked like the best way to escape if I needed to.

Funny how thoughts like that would creep into my head.

We began to talk about this and that and he asked me about my experiences drinking and using. I began to share some stories about my how I ended up locked in there. I'm not even sure about what I said I just know that it felt good talking to someone.

He asked me if I had ever had a DUI, I replied, "yes" and told him the story of my arrest. Then he did something that shocked me, Jack told a story of his first DUI in which he was chased by the po-

lice and rolled his truck. This had a huge affect on me. I was opening up and wanted to hear more of his stories. I was still a little in doubt because of his appearance. He was well dressed, good mannered, and obviously educated, but I could tell somehow he was speaking the truth. I could feel myself smiling as he talked, even when he told me that he had been a member of AA for the past 15 years and had been sober the whole time. My recovery changed at that moment, I began to have something that I had been searching for in empty bottles and hollow pipes. I began to have hope.

That was the beginning of my own recovery! I have been sober since 1994 when I arrived at the treatment center.

I have recovered from a hopeless state of mind and body to find that I love myself and am proud of whom and what I have become. I am out of the closet now and my family and friends have accepted me as a recovering addict, gay man and most important a child of God. I met with Jack for several years once a month to discuss how things were going for me and how my recovery was progress-

ing. He has become a good friend and mentor. I still see him occasionally at the treatment center as I now go into speak to new patients just getting sober.

After all that I have learned from C.A., meeting with my sponsor, and working the 12 steps of recovery, I have found that going to Hospitals & Institutions working one on one with another addict or alcoholic is definitely the most rewarding part of my recovery. I have sat on the other side of my conversation with Jack and watched another person get that amazing glint of hope in their eyes. There is nothing greater. My wish is that every addict will get to have that experience and have a chance for recovery.

Support your local H&I and share your message of hope.



THE WSO  
NEEDS  
YOU

Contact the  
WSO at  
(310) 559-5833

# Radio CAWS Rocks Jailhouse

ANONYMOUS IN ARIZONA

**H** & I is alive and well in the Southwest, and we've found a new way using some old tools to carry the message in Arizona. One of the local jails has instituted an in-house radio program for the inmates. Cocaine Anonymous was invited to participate by filling a half-hour time slot, using that time to carry whatever message we choose.

One of our long-standing members, who is very familiar with the meetings in that particular jail, had an idea. He remembered bringing our Hope, Faith and Courage book into the meetings and reading the stories to the inmates. Those meetings were usually about 20 to 30 minutes in length. After a little thought, he came up with the idea of putting some tracks down for the in-house radio program from the audio version of our book, which conveniently is already C.A. approved. A concise format was drafted which begins with an introductory statement and a simple explanation of our anonymity and non-affiliation. Included was the hotline phone number for C.A. in the valley and the CAWS website address. Short and sweet and to the point.

After combining a story from our book along with the information of who we are and how to reach us, the program was still a little short on time. Once again, being the creative addict, he picked a few readings from our book and some more from our C.A. approved pamphlets.

We alternated the Arizona C.A. information, the story and the readings. The end result was a 27 minute CA message for the half-hour in-house radio timeslot.

We do our best to carry our message of recovery inside the jail. We also look to help those that are incarcerated understand that they have a place to go once they are on the outside. The local and world contact information is repeated at least four times in the recording, because as due process, some of the inmates will eventually be released. We have the 26 stories from our C.A. book as a resource for the main portion of the time slot, already in a digital format. There are nine appendices along with the preface and introduction portions of our book. There is an abundance of information from our pamphlets to give the inmates a well rounded view of recovery and C.A.... all C.A. approved.

We would be interested in hearing from other Areas to see if they might have a need for

time slots such as these, possibly customized to have their contact information included.



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## Outside Issues, No Way

ERIN MC.  
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

**“Cocaine Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the CA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.”**

Tradition Ten, to me, is one of the most important traditions to allow the message of C.A. to be heard. When I first came to C.A., if there had been some belief or value that was endorsed by C.A., and it was different than my belief system, then how could I ever have heard the message that there was a way for me to live free from the bondage the my addiction had over me? We come to C.A. looking for a solution, believing that there isn't one, but nevertheless blindly hoping that someone will be able to prove us wrong so that we can survive. The Fifth Tradition states that “our primary purpose is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.” If we cloud our message with outside issues, we are cutting the number of addicts we can reach by the number of addicts who believe differently about those issues, and that will kill us.

Before Cocaine Anonymous, there was Alcoholics Anonymous. Before A.A., there was the Washington Movement. This was a very successful organization about 100 years before A.A. Their membership was large and recovery successful, until they started supporting outside issues, such as abolition and the temperance movement. With these endorsements came the end of the Movement. The singleness of purpose was gone; they had “completely lost their effectiveness in helping alcoholics, and the society collapsed.” (A.A. Comes of Age, page 125)

I am so grateful for the 10th Tradition. Without it, I would probably be dead.



# Step 1

Continued from page 1

erstwhile were their attempts to persuade me to live a sober lifestyle. The only impressive good it seemed to do me, was digesting the cold hard fact that I was a drug addict. That whatever substance I put into my body would ultimately leave me in a depressive and violent state of mind. I was not an alcoholic, even though it was a substance that altered my thought pattern, it was different. I'm not exactly sure how.

Somehow they seemed to be living a carefree life and I was on a bathroom floor wondering how I was to live life without struggling through each day. I couldn't fathom how people could wake up in the morning, go to work/school, come home do something for relaxation or recreation and then go to sleep and begin again once they awoke. That did not seem normal. My life was rebellious of that very way of living, but how was I to live? Completely inebriated and incoherent for the rest of my days? Unable to be fiscally responsible and a real man, always leeching off my family for handouts and care?

Something happened next that was too strange to even attempt to put into words. Pity and sympathy were in its presence. A powerful voice or through rang through my mind with amazing weight.

"David, why are you doing this to yourself? This isn't really what you yearn for your life to be. You have the power to make choices to change your life for the better."

Like a wind it was over. It somehow carried the flash of some form of divinity. That thought also scared me, but was slightly more comfortable than being a wino. The thing that was even stranger, was that my mental state was not as drunk as it was a couple of minutes before. I was coming down. Somehow I was able to stand. I was to go retire and sleep it off. Before my mind was laid to rest, I surrendered to the absolute truth, "I am a drug addict and an alcoholic."

I have been sober ever since.

# Concept Challenge

How well do you know the concepts? Takes this little Concept challenge, provided by Hayward H. of CALA. Simply match each Concept from Column A with a meaning from Column B.

Column A	Column B
Concept 1 _____	A. Status of Executives and Paid Special Workers
Concept 2 _____	B. Responsibility and Authority
Concept 3 _____	C. Establishment of the WSC
Concept 4 _____	D. General Warranties of the WSC
Concept 5 _____	E. Authority and Responsibility of Trusted Servants
Concept 6 _____	F. Right of Participation
Concept 7 _____	G. General Principles of C.A. Leadership
Concept 8 _____	H. Right of Appeal
Concept 9 _____	I. Establishment of the WSBT
Concept 10 _____	J. Basic Responsibilities of the WSBT and relationship with WSO
Concept 11 _____	K. Right of Decision
Concept 12 _____	L. Relationship of the WSC to the WSBT

"THERE IS A SOLUTION. Almost none of us liked the self-searching, the leveling of our pride, the confession of shortcomings which the process requires for its successful consummation. But we saw that it really worked in others, and we had come to believe in the hopelessness and futility of life as we had been living it. When, therefore, we were approached by those in whom the problem had been solved, there was nothing left for us but to pick up the simple kit of spiritual tools laid at our feet. We have found much of heaven and we have been rocketed into a fourth dimension of existence of which we had not even dreamed.."

— Alcoholics Anonymous page 25



# 7th Tradition Donations

## July - December 2005

GROUP NAME / CITY	TOTAL
<b>ALABAMA</b>	
First Freedom Group - Birmingham	\$622.94
<b>ARIZONA</b>	
Anonymous - Gilbert	\$500.00
Arizona Area Convention Committee	\$6,088.35
CA of Arizona - Tucson	\$1,021.91
No More Delusions - Phoenix	\$90.00
Saturday Night Live - Tempe	\$420.60
Sun Valley Intergroup - Phoenix	\$2,602.49
<b>ARKANSAS</b>	
Arkansas Area C.A.	\$300.00
<b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>	
3801 Labor Day Marathon - Inglewood	\$51.00
4th Dimension - Los Angeles	\$175.00
Anonymous - Compton	\$20.00
Anonymous - Los Angeles	\$643.00
Anonymous - San Diego	\$50.00
Anonymous - San Jose	\$100.00
Anonymous - Riverside	\$20.00
Anonymous - Van Nuys	\$30.00
Bagels by the Beach - Malibu	\$121.00
CA Los Angeles	\$5,000.00
CA Inland Empire	\$298.01
CALA Long Beach/Compton District	\$1,035.77
CALA South Central District - Los Angeles	\$6,581.43
CALA Westside Hollywood District	\$979.85
Campvention - Los Angeles	\$521.30
Central California C.A.	\$1,149.09
End of the Line - Ventura	\$80.00
Fire In My Brain - Culver City	\$20.00
Foothill District	\$126.79
Grateful in Granada - Granada Hills	\$45.00
Miracle Mile - Los Angeles	\$10.00
One Step At A Time CALA	\$63.33
Orange County CA	\$300.00
WSOB Meeting- Los Angeles	\$67.30
SGPVCA	\$324.19
S'More Recovery - Ocean Beach	\$32.00
Thursday We Will Rock You	\$55.00
Tuesday Night Living HIV/AIDS CA Meeting - Los Angeles	\$50.00
<b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>	
CA of Sacramento	\$26.00
Northbay Service Group - San Rafael	\$75.00
Northern California Area	\$50.00
South Lake Tahoe District	\$50.00
<b>COLORADO</b>	
Cocanuls - Denver	\$56.72
Colorado Area	\$704.11
Denver District	\$752.74
Denver District Meeting	\$60.00
Nirvana	\$354.24
Relapse Prevention - Denver	\$5.00
Anonymous - Golden	\$18.00
<b>FLORIDA</b>	
Changed Attitudes - Stuart	\$84.05
Ft. Myers District	\$350.00
S.E. Florida CA	\$61.00
Florida Area CA	\$1,883.00
Southeast Florida	\$28.35
<b>GEORGIA</b>	
Coconut's Monday Night	\$259.00
End of the Line Group	\$150.00
The Last Straw - Lawrenceville	\$140.00
Today's Hope - East Point	\$77.99

GROUP NAME / CITY	TOTAL
<b>GEORGIA (continued)</b>	
New Life - Woodstock	\$15.00
Now is the Time - Rome	\$10.00
Tucker Turtles	\$393.18
<b>IDAHO</b>	
Magic Valley CA District	\$200.00
Wednesday CA Nostrils - Twin Falls	\$10.00
<b>ILLINOIS</b>	
Bloomington Normal District	\$50.00
Daytime Connection	\$24.00
Forever Free Meeting of CA - Bloomington	\$30.00
Hope, Faith & Courage - Normal	\$45.00
Illinois Area	\$6,100.00
Northwest Suburban District	\$662.64
South & West District	\$744.19
Fresh Start	\$117.54
<b>INDIANA</b>	
Ft. Wayne District	\$181.30
Iowa	
Cocaine Anonymous - District 1	\$60.00
<b>KANSAS</b>	
New Found Life CA - Wichita	\$170.00
Kansas Area	\$50.00
<b>LOUISIANA</b>	
Baton Rouge District CA	\$95.66
Recover Or Die - Opelousas	\$100.00
<b>MARYLAND</b>	
DC/MD/VA Area	\$25.00
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>	
Massachusetts Area of CA	\$133.00
CAMI	\$96.00
<b>MICHIGAN</b>	
Lansing District CA	\$100.00
Saturday Morning Alive - Lansing	\$70.00
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>	
Mustard Seed - Jackson	\$21.00
<b>MISSOURI</b>	
End of the Line - St. Louis	\$40.00
Working With Others - Kansas City	\$80.00
Bridging the Gap - St. Charles	\$50.40
Fried Pipers & Cocanuls	\$5.00
Message of Hope	\$10.00
St. Louis District	\$13.22
<b>NEBRASKA</b>	
C.A. of Nebraska	\$369.10
<b>NEVADA</b>	
Northern Nevada Area	\$2,000.00
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>	
Hope Faith & Courage Group - Keyport	\$50.00
New Freedom Group - South Amboy	\$260.00
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>	
NM Area of CA	\$150.00
<b>NEW YORK</b>	
60 Minutes - New York	\$45.00
CA New York	\$625.00
New Life at the Oaks	\$100.00
Anonymous - Flushing	\$50.00
Circles Of Life	\$35.20
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>	
Journey Into Hope	\$21.25
<b>OHIO</b>	
Early Morning Serenity - Canton	\$60.00
New Beginnings Tuesday Nite - Canton	\$30.00
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>	
End of the Line - Tulsa	\$79.68
Freedom for All - Tulsa	\$61.11

GROUP NAME / CITY	TOTAL
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	
CA PA/NJ/DE - Philadelphia	\$79.50
Moon Friday Night	\$25.64
<b>S. CAROLINA</b>	
The Foundation Group - Darlington	\$197.74
<b>TENNESSEE</b>	
Natural High Group	\$50.00
Hope Not Dope	\$25.00
<b>TEXAS</b>	
Texas Valley Area	\$500.00
Eastern District/Texas Area	\$1,000.00
South Central Texas Area of CA	\$287.02
SWR Convention Committee	\$3,226.45
There's Hope With Out Dope - Abilene	\$50.00
<b>UTAH</b>	
Speed Bumps	\$41.15
Utah Central District	\$500.00
CA Central District	\$757.74
CA of Utah	\$1,500.00
IRIS - Salt Lake City	\$49.95
<b>VIRGINIA</b>	
New Life	\$20.00
<b>WASHINGTON</b>	
Blade Runners - Mt. Vernon	\$140.00
District IV Oregon/SW Washington CA	\$65.00
<b>WISCONSIN</b>	
Anonymous - Milwaukee	\$10.00
Coke Busters - Milwaukee	\$42.00
End Of The Line - Milwaukee	\$90.00
Positive Action	\$79.50
Razor's Edge - Big Bend	\$132.00
Sunday Night Strength - Milwaukee	\$65.00
Vision For You - Milwaukee	\$124.00
First Things First - Milwaukee	\$70.00
Inner Peace - Kewaskum	\$30.00
Lets Stay Together - Milwaukee	\$30.00
Mon. Night Tool Kit - Milwaukee	\$24.51
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>	
<b>CANADA</b>	
<u>Alberta</u>	
Anonymous- Alberta	\$1.65
Northern Alberta Area	\$500.00
<u>British Columbia</u>	
A Better Shack - British Columbia	\$8.60
<u>Manitoba</u>	
Winnipeg Manitoba Convention	\$663.00
<u>Quebec</u>	
Wow it Works - Montreal	\$80.00
<u>Ontario</u>	
4th Dimension - Southern Ontario Area	\$50.00
<b>HONG KONG</b>	
CA Hong Kong	\$100.00
<b>UK</b>	
CA UK Area	\$9,100.47
<b>BIRTHDAY</b>	
Come Alive Group - Redondo Beach	\$365.00
<b>H&amp;I</b>	
CALA South Central District	\$1,300.00
<b>WORLD CONTRIBUTION</b>	
Various monthly contributors from around the World	\$9,077.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$78,876.94</b>

# Calendar of Events

## Ohio Area Convention

April 28-30, 2006

Breaking Down the Walls  
that Binds Us

Holiday Inn Sandusky  
5513 Milan Road  
Sandusky, Ohio 44870  
419-626-6671

Pierre R., Convention Chair  
614-270-5936

Ray D., Vice Chair  
330-782-4146

Debbie D., Registration  
330-283-7260

## North Nevada Area Convention

April 28-30, 2006

Highroad to a New Freedom  
Northern Nevada Area

Super 8 Convention Center  
3600 Lake Tahoe Blvd. (Hwy 50)  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150  
800-237-8882 / 530-544-3476

Roy R., Convention Chair  
530-541-1063

Pilar, Registration  
530-544-5725

Cimmaron, Hotel Liaison  
530-545-2094

Jim S., Outreach  
775-781-2730

## CA Spain's 1st Convention

May 19-21, 2006

Come to the Spirit of the Sun  
CA Spain / European Region  
Caledonia Golf Hotel & Spa

Marbella, Spain  
+34 952 889 991

Lisa, Convention Chair  
+34 676 935 768

David, Registration  
+34 951 275 233

Duncan, Hotel Liaison  
+34 670 232 361

## 22nd Annual CA World Service Convention

May 25-29, 2006

Global Awakening  
Texas Area Service Com-  
mittee / Southwest Region  
Hilton Americas - Houston  
1600 Lamar

Houston, Texas 77010  
800-236-2905 / 713-739-8000

Walter J., Convention Chair  
713-553-5811

Susan C., Vice-Chair  
512-699-8002

Roy B., Hotel Liaison  
713-829-8409

Linda R. Registration Chair  
713-729-6254

## Arizona Area Convention

June 30 - July 2, 2006

The Wisdom to Know the Difference

Arizona Area  
Doubletree Hotel  
445 South Alvernon Way

Tucson, Arizona  
520-881-4200

Steve S., Convention Chair  
520-982-8679

Jojo S., Registration  
520-808-6636

## 16th Annual

Tri-State Convention

July 21-23, 2006

"Many Come... Few Are Chosen"

Ohio Area

Holiday Inn - Boardman  
7410 South Avenue

Youngstown, Ohio 44512  
330-726-1611 / 888-465-4329

Ted C., Convention Chair  
330-797-0272

Ray D., Registration  
330-782-4146

Patrice M., Hotel Liaison /  
Vice Chair 330-746-8408

Louis J., Treasurer  
330-559-1812

## C.A. New Mexico Area Convention 2006 (CANMAC 06)

August 4-6, 2006

Together We Grow... In the  
Sunlight of the Spirit  
New Mexico Area

Leisure Inn  
2700 W. 2nd Street

Roswell, New Mexico 88201  
505-622-2575

Sashua P., Convention Chair  
505-626-7820

## Southern Alberta Area Convention

August 18-19, 2006

Stampede Into Recovery  
Southern Alberta Area

Acadia Recreation Center  
240 - 90th Avenue SE

Calgary, Alberta T2P2M5  
405-255-1252

Keith W., Convention Chair  
403-203-1052

Trevor S., Convention Vice-  
Chair 403-203-1052

Caryl F., Registration  
403-313-1108

## Arkansas Area Convention

September 8-10, 2006

A New Freedom and a New Happiness

Arkansas Area

Clarion Hotel

617 South Broadway

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201  
501-374-9000

Hugh W., Chair 501-584-1074  
Vicki J., Co-Chair 501-247-5472  
Al C., Treasurer 501-831-2577

## 18th Annual Midwest Regional Convention

September 29-30, 2006

"Steps" Into the Light

Midwest Region / Ohio Area  
The Midwest - Hotel and  
Conference Center

4900 Sinclair Road

Columbus, Ohio 43229

877-609-6086 / 614-846-0300

Jeffrey U., Convention Chair  
614-239-9818

Dan D., Registration  
614-206-2498

