

NEWS GRAM

Volume 25 No. 4 C.A. World Service Office, 3740 Overland Avenue, Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034 Fourth Quarter 2008

My First CAWS Conference

By Janice W.
CALA Alternate Delegate
Hawthorne, California, USA

I attended my first World Service Conference in 2008. Let me tell you, it's an experience I'd suggest everyone have, if at all possible. Even if you're not elected to that body as a Delegate or Alternate, it would still be great to go and participate. I was reminded that this is our Fellowship, that we all have a voice, and that no one's opinion is unimportant.

I'm an elected Alternate Delegate for CALA, so the Conference is held in my town and, in fact, is only a few miles from my home. However, one of our Delegates was unable to attend at the last minute, and I was able to go, stay at the hotel, and soak up every moment of the six days we were there. The hotel was pretty nice, the staff attentive and friendly, but the real treat was being able to meet and hang out with Delegates from all over the world! I was already excited to have the opportunity, but the chance to sit down and chat with addicts from New York, Wisconsin, Denver (site of the 2009 CAWS Convention), and even Holland and London (site of the first outside-North America CAWS Convention set for 2012, which I got to vote for!) was just incredible. I think I forget sometimes that cocaine is everywhere, that people all over the world are suffering from this devastating illness, and that thousands of others have found a solution in the same Fellowship that saved my life. I am awed and humbled!

The first day of the Conference, in the main room with 150 voting members, when it was time for roll call, we each went to the podium and gave our names, what Area we represented and how many votes, if any, we carried on the floor. There were lots of visitors who also went up to introduce themselves,

and many of them sat on committees with us, where they did have a vote, and helped address the referrals that C.A. members send to the Conference each year, issues they'd like a Conference committee to look at. CALA traditionally sits at the back table, so we brought lots of candy and fruit and snacks, and everyone was welcome to stop by, munch out with us, and chat. Maybe being the host city makes us want to make the rest of the world feel welcome.

The Regional Caucus was a good experience, since I wasn't aware of how many Areas were in my Region, or how far reaching it was. I'll get to see these people again at future Regional Caucuses and Assemblies. *[Continued on page 4]*

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Trustee Corner

**By Hayward H.
World Service Trustee and WSBT Chair
Compton, California, USA**

First, I would like to thank the World Service Board of Trustees for allowing me to serve as this year's Chairperson. It is truly an honor to get the opportunity to serve at this level, but with this current group of people, it makes it even better. We, as a Board, wish to again thank Bruce W. (Atlantic North Regional Trustee), Carl W. (Pacific South Regional Trustee), Bobbie H. (Trustee at Large) and Earl H. (World Service Office Trustee) for their leadership and service to this Board these past years; we will miss their presence and guidance.

We would like to welcome five new members to the WSBT: Robert L. (Atlantic North Regional Trustee), Joy H. (Pacific South Regional Trustee), Randy G. (Southwest Regional Trustee), Richard S. (Trustee at Large) and Willie B. (World Service Office Trustee). They all bring a new level of experience and a great work ethic. With their years of Conference experience and service to the Fellowship, we feel this year's Board will continue operating at a high level and not miss a beat.

We also want to thank the World Service Office Board and the entire World Service Office staff for all their hard work this past year.

Our concerns continue about the decline in the Seventh Tradition, which again was down slightly over \$12,000 dollars this past year. Please, whenever possible, put an extra dollar or more in the basket, and sign up for the Contribution Program (see page 13). If every member in our entire Fellowship would donate at least \$10.00 monthly to this worthy cause, it would do wonders in expanding our World Services.

We shall continue to work hard in serving the needs of our Fellowship through the support of our Regions. So, if you have questions for which you cannot find an answer, please send us a message via the website (http://www.ca.org/email_form.html) or call your Regional Trustee. Thank you all so very much for your support and for allowing us to be of service.

In love and service,

Your World Service Board of Trustees

Note from the WSO:

World Service Office Visits UK Area

It was an extraordinary expedition. C.A.'s UK Area, now in its 17th year, had invited and shared in the expense for members of the World Service Office Board to visit the Area to facilitate a series of workshops to raise awareness about CAWSO and its role and functions—but the invitation and the trip were so much more meaningful than that. On page one of the *Big Book*, Bill W. writes, “In time we sailed for ‘Over There,’” and in C.A.'s 26th year, our World Service Office Board was able to do the same. It was a thrill for me as Chairperson to be accompanied by the WSO Treasurer, Tom P., and Director of Resource and Project Development, Patty Flanagan. Upon arriving in London, we were greeted by one of our many hosts, UK Delegate Russell S., who immediately set about the business of coordinating the extensive itinerary that had been planned in advance. Districts and individual members contributed to the weeklong event by securing additional funds and facilities for the workshop events. The 10-day itinerary included visits to Luton, Liverpool, Brighton, Bournemouth, London, and Bristol, and in the truest spirit of being willing to go to any lengths, our group traveled more than 1,200 miles by automobile and train during our visit. At each stop, we were met and supported by current and past members of the Board of Trustees, including Nicholas L., Jackie S., and Jay F., as well as UK Delegates Paul M. and Ian Y.

At each event, in every city we visited, there was a wonderful mix of longstanding experienced members as well as the newest newcomers. Whether it was the event coordinator with multiple years or a member with 90 days selling memorabilia, the enthusiasm for C.A. and its message was palpable. You could just feel it—a genuine love and commitment to the Fellowship's well-being and future growth. The impact of recovery center outreach was also evident, with a number of recovery centers attending several of the events. Every opportunity to share about WSO activities, individual stories of service, and yes, even our recovery, was met with great interest and a comforting sense that somehow we were all a lot alike no matter how large or small our service commitments seemed. We shared about the Traditions and the Concepts for World Service. We shared about our special projects at the Office like the new meditation book (for which we are still accepting submissions and need your help—see page 9), and our activities at the Office in the area of literature translation and new products and services. We shared about our mutual challenges with finance and the spiritual basis and integration of being self-supporting. We presented an overview of the World Service Contribution Program that offers all members a safe and secure way to support our worldwide efforts by contributing directly to World Services (more about this on page 13).

At every event, Hope, Faith, and Courage were abundant. Members from other countries also made time to make their way to England and visit with us. I enjoyed my brief conversation with a member from Switzerland who was attending meetings there. I appreciated the extraordinary effort to reach out by members from Iran, with whom I had been corresponding by e-mail, who met with us to share their own unique and special journey in hopes of starting C.A. in their country. It was in the European Region that they first heard the C.A. message. They shared their challenges but they also shared their joy, and reminded me that support and prayer for their efforts would be most helpful at this exciting time, as they were petitioning to have C.A. officially recognized at home.

Cocaine Anonymous was seven years old when I became a member, and there were no C.A. meetings outside the United States at the time. When C.A. turned ten, my Area allowed me to serve as a Delegate and see the first members from the UK ask to be recognized by the World Service Conference as an Area. I witnessed the gift of the UK's growth in the later recognition of the European Region in 2005. In 2012, the European Region will host the World Service Convention.

On a remarkably clear and sunny day near the end of our journey, our friends Patric and Peter joined us for a special visit to Winchester. There, the words of the *Big Book* literally came alive for me: “We landed in England. I visited Winchester Cathedral. Much moved, I wandered outside. My attention was caught by a doggerel on an old tombstone.” As I reached out and actually touched the headstone Bill had so ominously written of on page one, I was filled with a renewed sense of faith. On this day, C.A. “had sailed for Over There.” The European Region was thriving. A significant and vital role in carrying the message across the globe was being served by a Higher Power through these amazing people. On this day, unlike Bill's story, we didn't ‘fail to heed’ the warning engraved on the Hampshire Grenadier's tombstone, for in Cocaine Anonymous we had found a solution. On this day, we had recovered.

My First CAWS Conference (continued from page 1):

We all picked a committee to work on. The committees are Finance, H & I, Structure and Bylaws, Literature, Chips, and Format, Conference, Convention, Unity, Archive, Public Information and Information Technology. I chose Structure & Bylaws—a previous Delegate told me that it's a great committee for new Delegates and that learning about our World Service Manual, being a part of effecting changes that our Fellowship deems necessary, would be invaluable. I also wanted to be of better service to my own Area's bylaws committee and needed to know how to address things. Nothing could have prepared me for the amount of work involved in this committee, or for how gratifying it would be. I was chosen to be Co-Secretary, even though I didn't have a laptop and had to use someone else's. Our committee had about 25 members, 9 of us new, a couple of us non-delegates – just there to be of service. We looked at 29 new referrals, plus several that were post-Conference from the year before, and a couple referred from other committees. We became a family in that room, knowing the questions that would come from the Conference floor when it came time to put our motions to the body. We worked through lunches and dinners, way into the night and early in the morning. We complained about how tired we were, but everyone was focused and driven. Amazingly, there was almost no argument in that room behind the bar – funny how trying to do the best thing possible for Cocaine Anonymous, collectively, made our committee tolerant of each other's opinions and patient with explaining things over and over to those of us who needed help understanding. It was an experience I will cherish for the rest of my life.

The Friday Unity picnic was at a park close by the hotel, and 130 of us attended, with the Trustees doing the serving. The outgoing Trustee-at-Large, Bobbie Harmon, was our speaker.

After a couple of days in committee breakout sessions, and a couple of rough drafts, we came out with motions we were making on 15 referrals. And back we went to the Conference floor. Because S&B typically takes longer than most committees' closing reports, we began our report on Saturday afternoon, with only Finance to follow (you know addicts like to talk about the money!). There were enough motions for each member to get the experience of going to the

podium and making a motion, even speaking to it if they chose. And while there was considerable argument on a couple of the motions (and one sent back to committee for work during the year), we were actually done in a couple of hours! Then Finance finished early, and we found ourselves done with the agenda for Saturday hours ahead of schedule. A motion was made to suspend the agenda so we could take care of Sunday morning's agenda, and by 11:45 p.m., we were done for good!!!

Unity brought a speaker in every morning, so Sunday morning they moved the speaker to 9:30 a.m. so we could sleep in a bit. He and his 21 years of experience were the perfect end to a perfect Conference, and there were hugs and kisses all around, but no tears. The Conference provides a list of attendees, with their phone numbers and e-mail addresses, and I fully expect to stay in touch with the many new friends I made this last week of August.

I can't tell you how much it meant to me to be a part of the World Service Conference, and how great it feels to be a part of something so big and so necessary. I can't wait to join my committee's e-mail group to discuss the motions we didn't complete, and to serve as Co-Secretary again next year. Someone told me, early on, to create the Fellowship I crave. Every time I think things are as good as they can get, the Fellowship grows into something even more, that I didn't even know I craved, and I am more for having had the experience.

ORDER YOUR ETERNITY COIN NOW!



Need a gift for a meaningful member? This elegant epoxy-finished coin is a perfect addition to any C.A. collection! The coin is gold-colored with the Eternally Grateful symbol in green on the front and the C.A. logo on the reverse. Price is \$20 (shipping & handling for all locations included; coins shipped to California subject to local taxes). Available to ship mid-January 2009. Order via the website at www.ca.org or contact the World Service Office at cawso@ca.org or 310-559-5833.

C.A. Welcomes Its Newest Area: South Carolina!

By Mike S.
South Carolina Delegate
Huger, South Carolina, USA

When I walked into my first C.A. meeting about two years ago, I never would have believed that someday I would be sitting at a C.A. World Service Conference. A guy was sharing his story, about the Steps and how they had led him to a Higher Power that he needed so desperately. He also shared about how being of service was a big part of his life. A year or so later, my sponsor suggested we start a C.A. meeting in our hometown of Charleston, South Carolina. It seemed like a hard thing to do, but he kept talking about it. Before we knew it, we were having our first meeting in Charleston. Not much longer after that, another meeting was started and we were having elections at a group level, and then at Area level. As a result, I was elected Delegate for South Carolina.

I had never been more than 500 miles from home, so to fly from Charleston to Los Angeles was a big deal for me.

On the first day of the Conference, I went to the microphone, stated my name, that I was the Delegate from South Carolina and that I carried no votes. Later on that night, South Carolina was recognized as an

Area, and the whole room went crazy. H&I even presented the Area with a blanket with signatures from people here and from treatment centers that this local California H&I has been going to. From then on, whenever I went to the microphone, I got to say that I had two votes.

Anne B. suggested I join the Convention Committee, so I did. As the Conference progressed, there was a lot of debate happening on the main floor. At first I thought everyone was being a little too analytical, but as time went on I saw the passion that these people have for their local groups and Areas, as well as for C.A. as a whole. All these people are sober, and that is a miracle. They are all involved in service, too—unselfish, constructive action. God speaks through our group conscience

The South Carolina Area and I are very proud to be a part of C.A. on a World Service level, and we will continue to reach out and start new meetings to help those in need of the message of C.A. My humble thanks to C.A. and the South Carolina Area for letting me be of service.

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Understanding the Process

By Trevor S.
Pacific North Regional Trustee
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

The World Service Board of Trustees stays active throughout the year serving the needs of the Fellowship. Along with our many other duties, the members of the WSBT are responsible for answering questions from the Fellowship. Whether you contact your Trustee directly or send an email through the “Contact the Trustees” link on the World website (http://www.ca.org/email_form.html), every inquiry is looked at and responded to accordingly. But what happens after you have asked your question?

There are two different ways the Trustees will compile an answer. The first is for a relatively simple question. If asked directly to a Trustee, or through the “Contact the Trustees” link, they can provide the answer, sometimes quite quickly. They may, however, need a few days to find the proper reference material. We do not like to answer questions without being able to back up our response, either through literature approved for use in C.A. or our own past responses.

On the other hand, if the question is complex or in an area that has not been addressed previously, the process is quite different. The WSBT Secretary will send out a reply letting the member know that we have received the question and that a response can be expected within 30 days. The Trustee for the Region where the question originated is assigned the lead. He or she will usually ask for assistance in formulating a response. Two or more Trustees will research the question, craft a response and present it to the entire WSBT. The response can then be approved or sent back to the subcommittee with some changes suggested.

As a Board, we try to always respond in a timely manner. There can, however, be delays in the process. In those cases, the sender of the letter or maker of the referral will be informed by email of the delay. In the case of an extremely complex matter, perhaps something that creates a new policy for Cocaine Anonymous, the WSBT can hold a question over to be discussed and decided at one of our quarterly meetings. This is beneficial in that it allows the full Board to lend experience to the matter at

hand. Ultimately, every piece of correspondence is addressed and responded to with the best interests of Cocaine Anonymous in mind.

We look forward to all future correspondence, so please keep those questions coming!

**Going ONCE!! Going TWICE!!
DONATED By YOU!!!!!!!**

WANTED: AUCTION ITEMS FOR CAWS 2009!

Calling ALL Areas!!!!

Here is **YOUR** chance for **you** and **your** Area to take part in the 2009 CA World Service Convention.

Your participation can greatly aid in the success of the auction and ultimately in helping to carry the message of recovery at the World level.

Do **you** or a friend ... or a friend of a friend know someone famous??? Are **YOU** famous???

Items, artwork, and autographed collectibles from well-known individuals make **great** auction goodies.

Can **you** get your hands on some cool stuff to either donate or sell (at a reasonable cost)?

Get **your** Area involved to help raise money for Cocaine Anonymous.

Put together a basket full of cool stuff unique to **your** Area and donate it to the AUCTION.

To be of service, contact Kristin G.,
CAWS 2009 Auction Chair, at
Auction2009@cawsconvention.org

Early Registration Is Now Open for the 25th C.A. World Service Convention – Register Today and Save



By Craig W.
Advanced Info/Newsletter Chair
CAWS 2009 Committee

The Colorado Convention Committee is pleased to announce that early registration is now available for CAWS 2009, being held May 21-25 in Denver, Colorado at the Four-Diamond Omni Interlocken Resort. Register before February 1st and save on the 25th World Convention. Basic packages start as low as \$40, and full registration (including meals and entertainment) is just \$175 per registrant.

Stunning mountain views, moving speakers, a thriving Fellowship and enlightening workshops await attendees of this year's convention. Nestled against Colorado's towering Rocky Mountains, CAWS '09 is the perfect backdrop for becoming one with the spirit of recovery.

Relaxing and Affordable Accommodations

The Omni Interlocken Resort offers modern luxury at an affordable price. Room rates are just \$122 per night during the convention. At the resort, you will wake each morning to find the spectacular peaks of Boulder's Flat Irons just outside your window. This year-round resort, situated just 30 minutes from Denver International Airport, offers quick access to the area's greatest pleasures—hiking, climbing, mountain biking, historical tours and shopping.

However, the resort's numerous on-site activities may prevent you from ever leaving the grounds. Golfers will enjoy the 27-hole, championship course with its challenging fairways and striking panoramic scenery. For those who prefer more relaxing activities, the resort also offers professional massage and treatments in the full-service spa, which overlooks two outdoor pools and a whirlpool.

Planned Activities

The Colorado Convention Committee has planned some exciting events for Fellowship members from around the globe this Memorial Day weekend. Whether you're looking forward to hiking among Colorado's world-famous scenery or visiting Denver's historic shopping district, this convention has it all.

Challenge yourself and your fellow golfers by playing in Friday's Golf Tournament. The Omni Interlocken Resort's championship golf course has

been ranked 3rd in the "Best Resort Courses of Colorado." With 400 feet in elevation changes throughout the 27-hole course, you'll be amazed at how far the ball travels at this altitude.

Take a trip to Denver's "LODO" (lower-downtown). The Mile High City is known for its cultural diversity and history. With the transportation offered, you can visit the Denver Mint or the Denver Art Museum, including the new Daniel Libeskind-designed Hamilton Building. You may also visit Colorado's premier shopping district on the 16th Street Mall or visit the home of the Unsinkable Molly Brown.

There will be plenty of chances to enjoy the beauty of splendor of Colorado's outdoors. Rise early Sunday and join us for a special sunrise meeting on the mountain. Coffee and a light breakfast will be served as you watch the eastern light bathe Denver's Front Range and hear a local speaker share his experience, strength and hope on this amazing spiritual journey.

You also may visit Echo Lake, which is hidden in the valleys and meadows of one of Colorado's most famous Fourteeners, Mount Evans. Enjoy the breathtaking majesty of the Rockies as you travel to this pristine lake, where you may spot some of Colorado's wildlife.

To Register

Pre-registration for the convention is now available at www.cawsconvention.org. Download and submit your registration today for the best pricing. Online registration is also available, or you can contact the Outreach Chair, Vicki R., via e-mail at Oureach2009@cawsconvention.org or by phone at 719-216-1941, to have registration forms mailed to you. Choose from three registration packages and save by registering before February 1, 2009. A la carte registration is also available.

The thriving Colorado Fellowship continues to plan and work toward May 21-25, 2009. The Colorado Area of Cocaine Anonymous is honored to welcome members from around the world to our beautiful state for the 25th C.A. World Service Convention next Memorial Day weekend.

Celebrate Around the World

By Rose J.

CATW Chair, WSC Unity Committee
Twin Falls, Idaho, USA

Artwork for Celebrate Around the World in 2009 is now available online at <http://www.ca.org/service/wscunity.htm>:



**Celebrate Around the World
2009**

We are now seeking artwork for CATW in 2010. The 2010 World Service Convention Committee has selected a theme for the convention to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin:

Farfrümusin'

Please show your talent and submit your artwork ideas for Celebrate Around the World in 2010. Submissions must be received by August 1, 2009 so that we can take them to the World Service Conference. Art must be submitted in either jpeg or jpg format, and artists must release all rights to their artwork to CAWS and CAWSO, Inc. (see the release form on page 11). For more info or to submit your artwork, please contact catw@ca.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

By Becki S., Newsletter Chair
CAWS 2010 Committee

The 26th Annual CA World Service Convention is coming to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on May 27-31, 2010.

- The theme for 2010 is **Farfrümusin'**
- Come and enjoy a spiritual, uplifting and rewarding adventure.
- Join in fellowship as you hear the recovery messages of Hope, Faith & Courage while attending workshops, marathon and speaker meetings.
- Meet fellow addicts from around the world!
- Come join in the fun and explore beautiful Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Make friendships that will last a lifetime as we learn together about this disease we call addiction.

The 2010 Speaker Committee is accepting submissions for speakers for meetings and workshops. If interested in sharing your story, please submit a CD or cassette to: Tony D., 2110 W. Shore Dr., Delafield, WI 53018.

For more information, please contact Quin B. (Convention Chair) at qbrunette@wi.rr.com.

Solution to Sudoku puzzle on page 16:

3	8	6	1	2	5	4	7	9
1	4	5	9	7	8	3	2	6
9	2	7	4	6	3	8	5	1
6	9	8	5	1	7	2	4	3
4	5	1	3	8	2	6	9	7
7	3	2	6	9	4	5	1	8
5	6	4	7	3	1	9	8	2
2	1	3	8	5	9	7	6	4
8	7	9	2	4	6	1	3	5

Help Write Our First Meditation Book

We need YOU to submit your spiritual experience, strength and hope!

Wouldn't it be great to have a C.A. meditation book to read out of each day? We need **YOU** to help make it a reality! Perhaps you're thinking that with a Fellowship as large as C.A., more than enough submissions must have been sent in by now. Here's the reality: **We've received less than 150 submissions in over 4 years. That means we still need hundreds more in order to complete the book.** Or maybe you're thinking that you don't write well enough; never fear, we have committee members and a professional editor to help 'polish' whatever you write; what we can't do is come up with YOUR experience. We have our wonderful *Hope, Faith & Courage* books because so many of our members were willing to take the time to share their story. Please, won't you take a few minutes to write a couple paragraphs for the meditation book? Personal experience should be your own original content, focus on a recovery topic, and be approximately 250 words or less. For a sample meditation and additional details, please see the flyer available for download at www.ca.org. Even if you're not sending in a submission, your help in distributing these flyers to your local Fellowship is much appreciated! Thank you.

H&I Corner:

My H&I Experience

By Karmen J.

Oakland, California, USA

Our local Fellowship is a small group of people who want to carry the message of recovery. We as a group decided to do an H&I meeting at a chemical dependency facility. I was voted in as the secretary of the meeting, which was to be once a week. I wanted to say no, for fear covered me. What was I going to say? What message could I possibly give to them? I opened my mouth to say "no," but "yes" came out.

I was accompanied by two other members; we formed a panel. There were about 20 to 30 people in the room. I was so glad we had a format to follow. I closed my eyes and said to myself, "Thy will be done." I opened my eyes and looked at the patients with a smile as I introduced myself and welcomed them to Cocaine Anonymous. We opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, and before I knew it, the meeting was over.

We were received in an amazing way. The reading of *Who is a Cocaine Addict?* touched a lot of people, for they identified with it, as well as our shares. I said something in my share about hearing an elder statesman in our Fellowship say, "A broke brain cannot fix a broke brain; get out of the me and into the we." They loved it. Every Monday they are there waiting for us to bring the message of recovery as well as our experience, strength and hope.

I came into Cocaine Anonymous with four years sober, but very little recovery. When I was introduced to this Fellowship I felt at home; I finally found out where I belong. People loved me until I could love myself. I got a sponsor and we began to work the Steps. My sponsor asked me to become the coffee person for that meeting, which helped me get comfortable with being there. Today I work the Steps on a regular basis to the best of my ability, and I have sponsees.

I stopped serving on the H&I panel to go to school, but I plan to get into it again real soon. Doing service in H&I allowed me to give back something that was so freely given to me. Thanks to Cocaine Anonymous, I am now seven years sober, one day at a time.

Why Don't More People Know About C.A., and What Can Be Done About It?

By Susan B.
CAWSC PI Committee

Knock, knock ... *Who's there?* ... Cocaine Anonymous ... *Who?* Cocaine Anonymous ... *What?* Sometimes it bothers me that after 26 years, people still don't know about Cocaine Anonymous and that there are those who have heard of us but still don't know what we're about...not **just** cocaine; **all** mind-altering substances.

As a whole, we are pretty good at PI activities that inform members with meeting directories, event flyers and web sites in our Areas and Districts, but this is not enough if we want to grow our Fellowships locally. So, I ask you, "Is your local C.A. service body doing enough to reach the addicts who still suffer?" I base this question on the fact that PI Chairs & Committees seem to be in short supply, while H&Is flourish. The fact is that they are both vital to our primary purpose.

Doing public information work is three-fold, as it encompasses carrying C.A.'s message not only to our local Fellowships, but also to the Public at Large and to the Professional Community.

The CAWSC PI Committee is committed to assisting Areas and Districts to do just a little more when it comes to PI. To this end, we are overhauling the *PI Handbook: Suggestions & Guidelines for PI*, formerly known as the PI Workbook, into the three above-mentioned categories and redesigning the PI web page on ca.org to make it more user-friendly and informative.

We hope that these efforts, among others, will inspire you to take Public Information to a new level in your Area and invite you to share your guidelines and successful PI strategies by emailing pubinfo@ca.org.

There is a lot YOU can do to attract the addict who still suffers who can't go to treatment or hasn't gone to jail, *yet*. Get involved! Help with a quarterly mailing of event flyers and C.A. literature to local sober living homes, or make yourself available to talk about our program of recovery at a school or health fair. The possibilities are endless, because "PI carries the message!"

HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!

The NewsGram is always looking for material that communicates a message of Hope, Faith and Courage. We welcome original articles from our members sharing their experience with recovery, unity and service in C.A. If you have such an article (or perhaps an idea, cartoon, poem, story or other material related to recovery in C.A.) that you would like considered for publication in a future issue of the NewsGram, please send it and the completed release form on the next page to: NewsGram Editor, c/o CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles CA 90034, or via e-mail to newsgram@ca.org. E-mail submissions are preferred. If you e-mail your submission, the form can be scanned and attached as a pdf or faxed to the WSO at 310-559-2554, Attn: NewsGram. This release form can also be used to submit material for literature projects and artwork for Celebrate Around the World.

**TRANSFER AND ASSIGNMENT OF ALL RIGHTS,
TITLE AND INTEREST IN ORIGINAL LITERARY WORK
AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ORIGINALITY**

(This form is intended for original material submitted to Cocaine Anonymous World Services, Inc. and Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc., and must accompany all submissions in order for such material to be published. All materials submitted become the property of Cocaine Anonymous World Services, Inc. and Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc.)

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:

I further acknowledge and agree that:

1. I possess full legal capacity to exercise this authorization and hereby release CAWS and CAWSO from any claims by myself, my successors, and/or my assigns regarding the attached material.
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3. I am the author of this work, i.e. this work is completely original and I have not used any third party source(s), in part or in whole, to create this work unless said third party source or sources are given full credit within the body of this work and further that said third party or parties have given written permission for said use, copies of which are attached hereto.
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.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name (please print): _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

7 th Tradition July-September 2008		
Category or Location	Donor Name/City	Total
Anonymous	Anonymous	\$63.37
CANADA		
Manitoba	Manitoba Area Convention	\$347.64
INTERNATIONAL		
World Contribution		\$5,314.00
UK	CAUK	\$21,826.95
UNITED STATES		
Arizona	Sun Valley Intergroup	\$900.00
Arkansas	Arkansas Area C.A.	\$100.00
Southern & Central California	A Whole Lot of Addicts ...	\$10.00
	Anonymous - Los Angeles	\$300.00
	C.A. of Santa Cruz	\$202.00
	CALA Convention Committee	\$28.48
	CALA Long Beach Compton District	\$428.32
	CALA South Central District H&I	\$9.85
	CALA Westside/Hollywood District	\$50.00
	Campvention '08	\$200.00
	Central California C.A.	\$225.00
	Come Alive Birthday Donation	\$98.00
	Eastside Early Bird Attitude Adjustment	\$25.00
	OCCA	\$1,000.00
	One Step At A Time	\$66.00
	Recovery in the Desert	\$39.00
	S.G.P.V.C.A.	\$436.12
	San Diego C.A.	\$700.00
	SFVCA	\$500.00
	Sunday Night Madness	\$25.00
	WIECA	\$50.00
	WSOB	\$50.00
Northern Cali. Colorado	Northbay Service Group	\$22.50
	C.A. Area of Colorado	\$525.00
	C.A. of Colorado - Southern District	\$26.00
	C.A. of Colorado Inc.	\$1,385.23
	Nirvana	\$150.35
	The Promises Meeting	\$90.00
Georgia	Monday Night Cocanuts	\$106.39
	Spiritual Awakenings Group	\$187.47

7 th Tradition July-September 2008		
Category or Location	Donor Name/City	Total
Illinois	Awareness Group	\$92.58
	Illinois Area of C.A.	\$3,900.00
	Illinois Fundraiser for CAWS 2010	\$1,000.00
	Northwest Suburban District	\$797.24
	South & West District	\$415.20
	Straight Grateful	\$187.52
Kansas	New Found Life C.A.	\$150.00
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Area	\$50.00
Michigan	Living in the Solution	\$30.00
	Saturday Morning Alive	\$17.56
Minnesota	Monday Night New Beginnings	\$30.00
Missouri	Courage to Change	\$14.92
	End of the Line	\$50.00
	It's All Good	\$5.00
Nebraska	Nebraska Area	\$263.23
Nevada	Northern Nevada Area	\$2,800.00
New York	Brooklyn C.A.	\$15.00
Ohio	District of Columbus	\$150.00
Oklahoma	Oklahoma C.A.	\$150.00
	Southern OK District	\$75.00
PA/NJ/DEL	PA/NJ/DE Area	\$75.00
Pennsylvania	Anonymous - Philadelphia	\$48.00
South Carolina	Common Solutions Group	\$105.00
Tennessee	Nashville District of C.A.	\$50.00
	Tennessee Area	\$700.00
Texas	South Central Texas Area	\$500.00
	Texas Area	\$17.29
Washington	Blade Runners	\$90.00
	Carpet Cruisers	\$40.00
	District 1	\$184.20
	Drop the Rock	\$45.00
	Keeping it Real	\$17.54
Wisconsin	Razor's Edge	\$111.00
	Fri Nite Uncolas	\$75.00
	Wisconsin Campvention	\$627.49
Total		\$48,366.44

Have questions about how to handle your group's 7th Tradition? See the 7th Tradition pamphlet and the Financial Guidelines for Groups, Districts and Areas (both of which are available at www.ca.org), or contact your Regional Trustee.

World Service Contribution Program

Cocaine Anonymous World Services depends on the financial support provided by individual members, groups, committees, Districts and Areas. We use your contributions as efficiently as possible, to maximize the services we are able to provide to addicts throughout the world. When you participate in the World Service Contribution Program, you ensure that we are able to serve the needs of those in our Fellowship, and reach even more with our message of Hope, Faith and Courage. And because your Contribution Program gifts are conveniently transferred by your bank from your checking account, savings account, debit card, or credit card account directly to the World Service Office, your contributions go farther than ever before. The C.A. World Service Contribution Program is safe, secure and confidential. You have complete control of the process, because you specify the amount of your contributions, and when they are made. You can always increase, decrease or suspend your participation at any time by writing the World Service Office. And your contributions may be tax deductible (consult your tax advisor). To help the C.A. World Service Office meet the needs of members, groups, areas and addicts still suffering, please fill out the authorization form on the next page, attach a voided check or deposit slip (if necessary), and mail everything to the address shown. Thank you for your support.

AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT (ACH DEBITS)

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

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

As part of my 7th Tradition contributions to Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, I authorize Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office (CAWSO), to initiate variable entries to my account described below:

Type of Account: Credit Card Debit Card Savings

Credit Card or Debit Card Name: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Financial Institution's Name: _____

Financial Institution's Address/Branch: _____

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 Annually One-time basis Effective date: ____/____/____ (MM/DD/YYYY)

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

Name: _____
(Please print name as it appears on the account)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City and State/Province: _____ Country: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____ Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone/Cell: _____

PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS COMPLETED FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS

(The complete World Service Contribution Program brochure, which includes this form, is available for download at www.ca.org/contribute.html)

From the Recipient of an Inmate Book

By Chaim G.

Clinton Correctional Facility
Dannemora, New York, USA

I awoke in the fetal position, wedged in the corner between my couch and the radiator. The place was trashed! Books, records, papers and food on the floor, furniture out of position, drawers open, pictures tilted. I left the room and found a similar scenario throughout the apartment. I searched for the phone by following the wire from the wall jack and called a guy I'd met in AA. I said, "I've been robbed, everything's been tossed!" He responded, "Calm down. I'll stay on the line. Get a pen and paper to make a list of what's missing." I checked the high-tech stuff first: TV, stereo, VCR, CD player, clock radio, cordless phone, answering machine. They were all still in place, give or take a few inches. All my musical instruments, even the microwave, crock pot and coffee machine were still there. I went back to the phone and said, "I can't find anything missing, although it's messy. Even my drug paraphernalia (pipes, torch, scraper, etc.) is here." "Check the door locks and windows," he suggested. I was on the sixth floor, with no fire escape. "The doors are locked, windows closed, shades down, drapes closed over the shades." "Sit down," he said. "You did it!" I was shocked. "What, are you nuts?" "Did you just wake up?" "Yeah." "What day is it?" "Tuesday." "No, it's Thursday. Man, you blacked out. Stay put. I'm coming to take you to a meeting."

Believe me, I've never been so scared or ready to go to a meeting. Yet, while I waited, I did 'carpet patrol' and looked for resin to scrape. Too quickly, my sober friend arrived, and we left. We went to a meeting on his list that he had not been to before. We parked and saw people standing outside smoking, coffee cups in hand, at the top of a basement staircase. "Looking for the meeting?" a man inquired. "Oh yeah." He introduced himself, welcomed us and walked us inside.

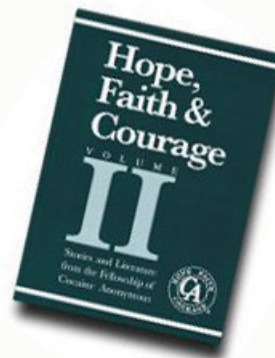
The meeting looked like it should: 12-Step posters, literature, coffee, but with younger people and when I re-read the sign it said C.A.! I asked someone what it stood for and they said "Cocaine Anonymous." I froze, looked up at the ceiling and said, "God, you've got a twisted sense of humor—I'm home!"

Since that day, I haven't copped, drank or watched porn. I had a sponsor who I actually called. I

made sure I had a dollar to donate at the meeting, even if I had to pick up 20 cans. It was one and a half years until my arrest; I'm here for three "straight & sober" and looking for a by-mail sponsor. I donated the green book [*Hope, Faith & Courage Volume II*] to the inmate library. Bless you!

[Editor's note: If you're interested in working with Chaim as his sponsor via mail, please contact newsgram@ca.org. For more information on how the World Service Office makes our literature available to inmates, see "It's All in a Day's Work" on page 1 of the 3rd quarter 2008 NewsGram, available online at <http://www.ca.org/newsgram.html>. To donate and help keep books going to inmates, see the World Service Contribution form on page 13 of this issue.]

HFC II Now in Hard Cover!



Hope, Faith & Courage Volume II includes 25 new stories from members throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe sharing their recovery from addiction to cocaine and a broad spectrum of other mind-altering substances. It also contains an updated selection of 12 pieces of literature and a complete meeting format. Order yours today!

Hard cover – single copy \$14.95

Soft cover – single copy \$9.95

Soft cover – case of 28 \$240.30

(Case price includes shipping within U.S.;
contact WSO for shipping cost outside U.S.)

Calendar of Events (continued on page 16)

January 16-18, 2009

22nd Cocaine Anonymous Quebec Area Bilingual Convention

Discover Your Universe

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn Montreal-Midtown
420, Sherbrooke St. West
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
(514) 527-0657

CONTACTS:

Francois D., Convention Chair (514) 253-6896
Yves W., Outreach (514) 252-5396
Real C., Treasurer/Registration (514) 249-0242

February 6-8, 2009

2009 Oregon & SW Washington Area Convention

Living Proof: We Can Recover

LOCATION:

Red Lion Hotel Vancouver At The Quay
100 Columbia Street
Vancouver, WA 98660
(360) 694-8341

CONTACTS:

Thor K., Convention Chair, convention@caorwa.org
Bill H., webservant@caorwa.org

February 6-8, 2009

13th Annual C.A. of Wisconsin Area Convention

Embrace The Journey

LOCATION:

Ambassador Inn At Marquette
2301 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53223
(414) 342-8400

CONTACTS:

Ann D., CAWAC Co-Chair (414) 315-0287
Sage S., Registration Chair (414) 526-0980
Kathy N., Outreach Chair (414) 313-5158

February 27-March 1, 2009

Illinois Area Unity Convention

Walk the Line in 2009

LOCATION:

The Westin Chicago North Shore
601 North Milwaukee Avenue
Wheeling, Illinois
(847) 777-6559

CONTACTS:

Charlene B., Convention Chair (708) 870-6154
Robert H., Registration Chair (847) 757-7188

March 20-22, 2009

19th Annual Tri-State Convention *Had To Have It! in OH-MICH-IANA*

Ohio, Michigan, Indiana

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn North
7007 North High St.
Worthington, Ohio 43085
1-800-HOLIDAY

CONTACTS:

Patrice F., Convention Chair (614) 886-5185
Chris M., Programming (614) 704-3379
Spencer B., Hotel Liaison (614) 203-7158

March 27-29, 2009

5th Annual Oklahoma State Convention *What We Could Never Do Alone*

LOCATION:

Hilton Garden Inn
801 S. Meridian
Oklahoma City, OK
(405) 942-1200

CONTACTS:

Barry H., Convention Chair (405) 209-4887
Cyd T., Registration (405) 326-9726
Cindy S., Hotel Liaison (405) 201-6125
Mike L., Outreach/ Information (405) 243-8412

March 27-29, 2009

2009 NNVCA Convention

Highroad to a New Freedom

Northern Nevada Area

LOCATION:

Horizon Casino Resort
50 Highway 50
Stateline, NV 89449
(800) 648-3322

CONTACTS:

Dan D., Treasurer (775) 232-5323
Virgle S., Convention Committee Chair (530) 314-3687
Miranda P., Hotel Liaison (530) 545-9618
Roy R., Program Chair (530) 314-3363

Get Your Local Event Listed! You can use the form at http://www.ca.org/event_form.html to get your event listed both on the web and in the NewsGram. You can also notify us by mail to NewsGram, c/o CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034, by e-mail to newsgram@ca.org, or by fax to 310-559-2554, Attn: NewsGram.

Calendar of Events (continued from page 15)

April 3-5, 2009

CAUK 17

Free at Last

LOCATION:

The Hilton Brighton Metropole
106 Kings Road, East Sussex, BN1 2FU
Brighton, England
+44 (0) 870 242 1303

Hotel Booking Times: Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm

CONTACTS:

Dawn M., Convention Chair +44 (0) 7843 376 684
Paul R., Convention Vice Chair +44 (0) 7515 968 742
Nick S., Registration +44 (0) 07771 932 812
Gavin C., Hotel Liaison +44 (0) 7802 707 364

April 3-5, 2009

Pacific North Regional Convention

Unity. We never stand alone.

Northern Alberta Area

LOCATION:

Four Points Sheraton Edmonton
7230 Argyll Road
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
(780) 465-7931

Special early bird price on convention package is \$100.00 (Canadian) until February 1, 2009.

CONTACTS:

Christine L., PNRC Chairperson (780) 757-6107
Lisa P., Hotel Liaison and Registration Chair (780) 993-4673
Mikel A., Outreach Chairperson (780) 722-0025
Keven M., Workshop Coordinator (780) 993-1808

April 17-19, 2009

Atlantic-South Regional Convention

A Vision For You in The Natural State

Arkansas Area

LOCATION:

Crowne Plaza
201 S. Shackelford
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211
(501) 223-3000

CONTACTS:

Sharon P., Chairperson (501) 519-1574
Kittie P., Co-Chair (501) 944-2219
Deborah M., Hotel Liaison (501) 350-1921
Bonnie S., Public Relations (870) 872-2530

April 23-26, 2009

17th Annual SGPVCA Convention

Keep On Trudging

San Gabriel Pomona Valley Area

LOCATION:

Northwoods Resort
40650 Village Drive
Big Bear, CA 92315
(800) 866-3121

CONTACTS:

Allison M., Convention Chair (626) 340-1793
Bob H., Vice-Chair (626) 848-4202
Brian G., Registration (626) 372-3591
Eric M., Hotel Liaison (323) 254-9225



SUDOKU

The objective of Sudoku is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow in this 9X9 square game:

1. Every row of nine squares must include all digits 1 through 9, in any order;
2. Every column of nine squares must include all digits 1 through 9, in any order;
3. Every 3X3 subsection of the 9X9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

For solution, see page 8.

3				2		4		
			9		8		2	
9								
		8			7	2		
4	5	1	3		2		9	7
		2	6			5		
								2
	1		8		9			
		9		4				5