



## CAWS 2012 – UNITED KINGDOM!!

By Jackie S.

London, England, United Kingdom

“*Keys of the United Kingdom*” the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Cocaine Anonymous World Service convention will be held between the 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May 2012 in Birmingham, United Kingdom.

The clock is ticking... in just over ten months this incredible event will burst into action. A quick visit to our website at [www.cawsconvention.org](http://www.cawsconvention.org) and you can check the countdown to see exactly how much longer you have to wait.

It’s great to have the convention website up and running, it’s full of fun and interesting information. Our hope is it contains all the info you need, if not you can always email the committee (details on the web site) who will be happy to help.

Registration couldn’t be easier. Visit the registration page on our website and you will find all you need, with even an option to pay in either British Pounds Sterling or U.S. Dollars. Alternatively pick up a registration form at your local meeting or area event. We have plenty printed, both sides of the pond, so these can be filled in and mailed to the WSO. You can also download these from our website.

Register as soon as you can. Not only does this help you to plan for this great convention, it also helps us to further expand the event and help maintain our enthusiasm.

The **convention begins on Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup> 2012** will run till Monday May 28<sup>th</sup> 2011. It’s going to be packed with fun and fellowship for all. In addition to the full five days of recovery workshops, speaker meetings, international marathons, hospitality, world class entertainment and recovery we also have arranged some fabulous special events.

On Thursday we have a nighttime ghost walk planned for you. Birmingham dates back to medieval Briton and beneath the surface of this modern and bustling city lays a long history of dark and terrible deeds. You will be taken on a walk through the city’s past; the tour will take you from the heart of the city in Victoria Square to the chilling catacombs in the famous Jewelry Quarter, retelling along the way stories of plague, public execution, haunting and murder most foul. Birmingham is known as the ‘Curry capital of Britain’ and the evening will finish with a visit to one of the local celebrated curry houses.

Friday you will have the chance to experience a day trip to Warwick Castle. Perched on a rocky cliff above the River

Avon in the town center, Warwick Castle is a stately 17th-century mansion. Surrounded by a magnificent 14th-century fortress, many believe it to be the finest medieval castle in England. Here you’ll experience a thousand years of jaw-dropping history; great battles, ancient myths, spellbinding tales, pampered princesses, heroic knights and of course the dark Castle Dungeon

Our special events committee has worked really hard to offer you something extra for each and every day of the convention with an amazing selection that ranges from a visit to Shakespeare Country, walking in the footsteps of William Shakespeare, to playing at the ultimate golfing venue, The Belfry, the spiritual home of the Ryder Cup.

Additionally – we know that many of you would like to see and experience London during your visit to the UK. Because of this we have extended the time frame of the event and are delighted to let you know that we are planning both pre and post convention tours.

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Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> we will be running a Grand Tour of London which will include the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, a cruise along the River Thames and a Cocaine Anonymous meeting on the London Eye.

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> we continue with a fantastic excursion to the world famous heritage stone circle site of Stonehenge, estimated to have been constructed in 3100BC this place brings new meaning to the word old. This will be followed by a C.A. meeting in Winchester Cathedral, home of the Hampshire Grenadiers tombstone as featured in Bills Story. We will then round off the day with an afternoon touring London's West End theatre land.

However, we need your help. If these additional events are to be successful, indeed if they are to happen at all, **we need you to pre-register for them.** At this time we simply need you to indicate your interest, then we can firm up the details. We believe that this is the first time that a World Convention has put on events both pre and post convention. We need to make sure we do not expose the fellowship to any financial risk. Therefore, once you have decided that you want to attend one or both of these additional dates we will ask for you to pay for them in advance to secure your place. Our London Special Events committee is working hard to make sure we can provide what you want – so please help us to help you.

For those of you flying into London – either Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted, or those living in the London area, the CAWS2012 committee are pleased to offer the opportunity for everyone to travel together for a discounted rate (compared to most other forms of transport). We have specially commissioned Coaches from London Victoria on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May departing 7 pm and arriving at the convention hotel in Birmingham at approximately 9 pm. The return journey will be on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> from the hotel to London Victoria departing 2 pm and arriving approximately 4 pm.

The Hilton Hotel in Birmingham is a fabulous hotel and we have a choice of packages available for you. There are three and four-day packages which include a full English buffet breakfast, and also include the Gala Banquet and Monday brunch. Our hotel rates include all local taxes – so what you pay is the agreed package rate and there are no extras. There are single budget rooms as well as the more luxurious Hilton standard rooms – so we hope that all will be able to come and participate in this event.

There are many things to tell you and our committee will continue to distribute information throughout the year. If you have a questions for our committee please contact us at [info2012@cawsconvention.org](mailto:info2012@cawsconvention.org)

I hope this article will answer some of those questions and I really do want you to know how much our committee looks forward to welcoming you to the UK.

### CAWS Board of Trustees:

- *Atlantic North Region:* Robert L., Pawtucket, Rhode Island, USA
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## Trustee Corner:

### By Kim S. Midwest Regional Trustee and WSBT Chair Des Plaines, Illinois, USA

On behalf of the World Service Board of Trustees, we thank the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous for the opportunity to serve. We continue to oversee and handle the business of C.A. with awe and appreciation of those we serve. This Quarter, similar to those past, we have been working through our agenda items with hope of completing them, and address new items that come to our attention. We have been focusing on French translations of our literature, developing "Emergency Guidelines for Petty Cash Account" (specific to CAWS 2012), and reviewing items for Literature, Chips, and Format (The 12 Principles Pamphlet; Meeting in a Pocket; Suggestions for Recovery and Relapse Prevention; and The First 30 Days). The WSBT ratified a new Director at Large, Bob C. He will be joining the Board as we move forward. Some of you may remember Bob as a former member of the WSBT, and former WSBT Chair, a former member of the WSOB, and a former WSOB Chair. We welcome his experience and desire to serve the fellowship. Items on our radar for our next Conference Call and our "at Conference Quarterly" are: CAWS Audit, Review Guidelines re: non-addict Trustee (Area/Region, Budget), Review of TAL 2 budget, and further research as to how to handle violations of our name, logo, and motto. In addition to the above, we continue to address email correspondence, craft responses to referrals, address Area and Regional situations, travel within our Regions, and deal with anything that affects C.A. as a whole.

This past May, the WSBT held a Quarterly meeting in Phoenix, the city host of the CAWS 2011 Convention. This Quarterly meeting presented several challenges for the Board. We did what was in front of us, and worked through many obstacles that provided spiritual growth for all. We wish to thank the Arizona Area for "throwing a WONDERFUL party." The event provided an array of marathon meetings, workshops, main speakers, and special events...not to mention the weather was perfect!!! The hotel property was wonderful, and above all the hospitality of the local Area was amazing! Thank you from the entire Board of Trustees.

As we head toward the final weeks before this year's Conference, I wish to bring the fellowship up to date as to the work accomplished this past year by the WSBT:

- *Developed the WSBT Guidelines as an internal piece that can and was distributed to the fellowship.*
- *Set policy for the WSOB regarding financial statements.*
- *Recommended office personnel changes at the WSO.*
- *Reviewed our internal guidelines for Roles and Responsibilities.*
- *Advised the WSO on executive search/recruitment for replacement of DOO.*
- *Reviewed and responded to correspondence from the fellowship throughout the year.*
- *Added changes to the TEC internal process, including a group inventory.*
- *Collectively reviewed and prepared responses to all referrals (in-conference and post-conference).*
- *Set policy with cooperation of the WSOB, changes regarding the stickering of HFC II domestically.*
- *Addressed WSBT internal policy and issues.*
- *Conducted an internal "workshop" regarding C.A. financial reports.*
- *Interviewed candidates and advised the WSOB Chair of the WSBT selection for Director of Operations.*
- *Announced with cooperation of the WSOB, the new Director of Operations, Linda Francisco*
- *Participated at the CAWS 2011 World Service Convention*
- *Ratified candidates for Director at Large*
- *Addressed trademark and copy write issues regarding coverage in the following countries: Austria, Benelux, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.*
- *Addressed issues regarding the placement of the "®" on our logo .*

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7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition April - May 2011		
Location	Category or Group Name/City	Total
<b>Anonymous</b>	Anonymous	\$72.95
	Birthday Envelopes	\$150.00
	27th CAWS Convention	\$890.43
<b>Canada</b>		
<b>Newfoundland</b>	Hope & Courage Group	\$100.00
<b>Alberta</b>	Calgary District	\$143.23
<b>Alberta</b>	Anonymous	\$16.00
<b>United Kingdom</b>	C.A. London Dist.	\$1,281.82
	Anonymous	\$28.00
<b>USA</b>		
Arizona	EVMG	\$137.33
	SNL Group	\$190.79
	Arizona Area of C.A.	\$3,000.00
Arkansas	AR Area C.A.	\$175.00
Southern & Central		
California	SGPVCA	\$1,726.73
	211 in Progress	\$125.00
	HFC Online Meeting	\$16.14
	WSOB	\$124.00
	Anonymous-Los Angeles	\$358.00
	LB/C District	\$120.70
	SCD H&I	\$2,000.00
	Clubhouse Step Study	\$26.10
	Cen Cal C.A.	\$150.00
	WS/H District	\$149.76
	Free From Self	\$4.00
	Back to Basic Orange County	\$15.00
	WIECA	\$50.00
	SBBC District	\$210.00
Northern California	Anonymous	\$20.00
	C.A.Northbay Serv. Grp	\$15.00
Colorado	Captain's Table	\$42.00
	Promises	\$90.00
	Dark Side Of The Spoon	\$162.19
	C.A. Colorado	\$463.76
DC-MD-VA	Keep it Real	\$113.15
Florida	South Florida Dist.	\$70.00
	Florida Area C.A. INC.	\$90.00

7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition April - May 2011		
Location	Category or Group Name/City	Total
Florida (Cont)	Ft.Myers,FL Dist of C.A.	\$29.00
	A Way of Life	\$5.00
Georgia	Atlanta Area	\$2,000.00
	Monday Night Cocanuts	\$81.00
	Spiritual Awakening	\$23.74
	Old Log Cabin	\$105.40
Illinois	NW Suburban District	\$142.30
	IACA	\$900.00
	Friday HFC	\$20.00
	South & West District	\$515.37
Indiana	Fort Wayne District	\$100.00
Missouri	Fried Pipers & Cocanuts	\$22.50
	Positive Attitudes	\$25.00
	Greater St.Louis District	\$50.00
	In The Light	\$10.00
New Jersey	New Jersey District	\$100.00
New York	Anonymous	\$100.00
	CANY	\$220.00
Ohio	Ohio	\$50.00
Oklahoma	C.A. Oklahoma Area	\$406.38
	Cocaine Anonymous	\$100.00
	Thursday Night Live	\$150.00
	Oklahoma City C.A.	\$100.00
PA/NJ/DEL	C.A. Philadelphia	\$200.00
	Anonymous	\$25.00
South Carolina	There is a Solution	\$60.00
Texas	Steppin Stones	\$50.00
	Bonnie Brae Group	\$500.00
	Anonymous	\$250.00
	Step Sisters	\$41.18
	The Truth The Light The Way II	\$200.00
	Free At Last	\$5.00
Utah	CA of Utah	\$1,350.00
Virginia	Gimme Shelter From The Rock	\$50.00
Washington	WSCA District 3	\$74.58
<b>World Contribution</b>	See form on page 5	\$3,743.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$24,131.53</b>

*Participating in the World Contribution Program? THANK YOU! To ensure the continuity of recurring donations, please be sure to update the World Service Office regarding any changes to your designated bank account or credit card (including new expiration dates).*

# TRUSTED SERVANTS, OUR LEADERS

By Bob L.

Gresham, Oregon, USA

**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.**

In Tradition Two we rely on God to be present in our group conscious decisions. As we carry out these decisions at all levels of the fellowship we rely on our trusted servants who have been given this responsibility. These trusted servants who have been elected by the group conscience as stated in the tradition are expected to be leaders. Leadership to the fellowship is imperative in order to carry out the Fifth Tradition, which states that we “*to carry the message to the addict who still suffers*”.

What then do we strive for as a leader in the fellowship?

Let us look at two different aspects.

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

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

What then are some of the qualities that the true Trusted Servant Leader should strive for?

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

**Responsibility**—Takes the position elected to seriously. Follows through on projects and does not let things go until the last minute. Shows up on time and does not let others wait. Gives an attitude that things

can get done, and carries out the task. Does not find a myriad of excuses for not completing their projects.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# 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. Plus, 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 below, 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  
21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304  
Long Beach, CA 90810-1641  
(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:  1<sup>st</sup> of month  15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.ca.org/contribute.html))

## Trustee Corner (Cont. from Page 3)

- Addressed concerns regarding French Translations
- Developed "CAWS 2012 Emergency Guidelines for Petty Cash Account"
- Addressed items for Literature, Chips, and Format, per the Point system: (*The 12 Principles Pamphlet; Meeting in a Pocket; Suggestions for Recovery and Relapse Prevention; and The First 30 Day*s)
- Addressed email correspondence: crafting responses, and responding.

Much thanks to the members of the World Service Office Board for their service, thank you for all that you do for fellowship. Special thanks to Sheila and Andrew for their hard work at the office. Another warm welcome to our new Director of Operations, Linda. Finally, an acknowledgement of gratitude and appreciation to John B. for assisting during the transition at the WSO following last year's Conference. Together with God's direction, we are trusted servants; we all love C.A.. A loving and caring God will reveal himself through mutual trust and faith of one another. Working together and the 12<sup>th</sup> tradition reminds me that in the end "*our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.*"

Our primary purpose combined with Tradition One reminds me that this is and will always be a "We" program. Portions of our Unity literature state:

*Unity is a common bond that transcends all differences...*

*...We admitted our lack of power and accepted that we could not recover alone. The strength and direction of our recovery is found in our unity....*

*...Through applying the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, we grow in love, tolerance, and respect for each other. This spiritual growth allows us to rise above prejudice, regardless of religion, ethnicity, economic status, age, gender, or sexual orientation, to carry the C.A. message. Though we are different, we are the same...*

This year, as I have said about previous years, has been everything I thought it would be, and nothing that I expected. The challenges, changes, and excitement continue. It has been an interesting and amazing year for the Board. Personally I am grateful for the past four years as the Midwest Regional Trustee, two years serving as the WSBT Secretary, and this last year serving as the WSBT Chair. I truly appreciate that I have had the opportunity to serve the fellowship that I have an overwhelming passion for and love deeply. I am grateful that our lives met, our paths have crossed, and our souls have touched...here in Cocaine Anonymous.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

**Kim. S**

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"I listen, He talks,"  
Chris G.

The snow's again fallen.  
Numbers go uncalled.  
My spirit is almost frozen.

My HP is beckoned!

The snow melts.  
I list my faults.  
I listen, He talks,

Through me,  
To friend, foe, family.

I'm recovering.  
Some shivering,  
Yet joy's hovering  
As I trust God, brothers,  
Clean house,  
Help others.

# **Gratitude Month**

**Our Primary Purpose is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers, and certainly there are suffering addicts in all corners of the world.**

**COCAINE ANONYMOUS was founded on November 18, 1982, which is why November is Gratitude Month. During November each year, we pass the gratitude can, where the money collected goes directly to the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office.**

**The Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office has a worldwide reach and helps to carry the message in important ways:**

- **Publishing and translating books, literature and chips**
- **Access to drug court conferences**
- **Sponsorship of the national hotline**
- **Administrative support for new Districts, Areas and Regions**
- **Mailing free meeting starter kits**
- **Providing free books and literature to inmates.**

**So, when the Gratitude Can comes around in November, remember your unknown brother or sister trying to find their way into the rooms of Cocaine Anonymous, and help the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office carry the message worldwide.**

**CAWSO  
21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304  
Long Beach, CA 90810  
USA  
[www.ca.org](http://www.ca.org)**

## AND THUS WE GROW...WORLDWIDE

By Russell S.

European Regional Trustee

London, England, UK

I walked through into arrivals at Tehran International Airport at 4.30am to be met by two members of C.A. Iran, who had smiling faces and a welcoming hug. We loaded the car and headed onto the highway towards the home of my host in the city of Karaj, 30 Miles north of the capital, in a style of driving unique to this part of the world! It gave me an early morning wake up call to the pace of the next six days!

On the drive to Karaj we discussed the plans for the next several days, a friendly chuckle from my host and the driver, Fariborz and Mo, and an explanation that I'll need to be somewhat flexible when it comes to Iranian time keeping especially when it involves travelling across the city.

Our first appointment was at the NAWSO in Tehran, where we were welcomed by the office staff and manager. We spent a very beneficial couple of hours talking about some of the challenges now facing our fledgling groups in Iran and how NA found solutions for those very same challenges. We talked about translations, literature supplies, chips, local manufacturing, movement of 7<sup>th</sup> tradition money and donations to C.A. World Services. We also discussed the issue of Public Information and the groups operating in such a differing political environment. NA has continued to demonstrate such loving cooperation and I believe their office in Tehran may continue to be a "port of call" when looking for service based solutions in this part of the world. I look forward to building on this healthy relationship of Cooperation not Affiliation.

Later that evening I found myself seated in the Thursday night meeting of Cocaine Anonymous in Tehran...the un-understandable yet recognizable format and readings made me feel right at home. The meeting was a speaker participation format. With the help of a friend Siavash who translated, I shared my experience, strength and hope whilst I watched the nods and smiles of identification as the group came together to offer our solution to the newcomers in the room. Why would I think it would be any different? Great suffering and great love have no geographical boundary. I was seated amongst my own and we shared the same purpose, to stay clean and sober and to help others achieve the same freedom.

Straight after the meeting we held the first of five workshops. Siavash had translated a workshop format to begin a four day study of *The Big book* and the 12 Steps. The workshops were wonderfully attended and the interaction and participation of the group helped focus me on the whole purpose of the visit. Our program of recovery, the 12 Steps of Cocaine Anonymous, is the principle offer to the newcomer from our fellowship; it is our reason for being. To see such a 'step focused' collective of C.A. members inspired me greatly. Our language and cultures differ enormously but the problem and solution are the same. Many of the members shared their joy at being part of C.A. and the freedom they have experienced as members, a healthy desire to belong was evident.

I was asked to attend a C.A. H&I meeting

*(Cont. Page 10)*

*(Cont. from Page 9)*

in a detox centre in the mountains just outside Karaj. Again to hear the familiar format and to see translated C.A. literature and keyrings allowed me to realize the effectiveness of our World Services and the various committees in place who worked to allow those patients to receive a chip and a *What is C.A.?* pamphlet. We left some copies of HFC2 to be put on the book shelves and to see the recognizable spine amongst the limited offer of books was warming.

The days seemed to roll from one meeting to the next; I spent a very peaceful few hours with the member who leads the local translation efforts, Siavash, in a lovely walled garden somewhere in the suburbs. Siavash is already liaising with CAWSO and the WSOB Translation Committee and has proven to be a wonderful asset to C.A. Since returning from my visit I'm aware that yet another pamphlet has been translated by the local committee and has been submitted to WSOB for the approval process.

We also visited a new detox centre who was interested in having a regular C.A. H&I panel meeting. Four of us drove out to a small village in the middle of nowhere and found ourselves in a very basic building with limited facilities and no medical supervision, within the compound were 35 men detoxing and trying to support each other any way they could. This particular visit touched my spirit and was a real wake up call as to the huge differences in my life to theirs. I thought back to my last detox centre and how I would have reacted to having to sleep on the floor, or having no access to medical services, no hot showers, no regular healthy meals...how would I have coped under such conditions? We held our meeting and chatted with the newcomers for some time

after, such a warm welcome from everyone, sticky sweet black tea and a hug. Whilst our differences were obvious our similarities were easily recognized and acknowledged. The people that ran the centre asked for C.A. to return and hold weekly meetings. I've recently heard that a panel has since held its second regular meeting there and C.A. will indeed be holding H&I meetings at that centre.

The fellowship we crave...the meeting after the meeting, is really a unique way to experience Iranian tradition and culture. We sat together in a café, or a restaurant, or just stood on the side of the road at the meeting after the meeting or workshops, talking about our lives in recovery and what we could do to carry the message. This really inspired me with feelings of gratitude for the endeavors of the local members as they passionately work together to help the addict who still suffers.

Since returning I've stayed in contact with many of the members and they have continued to work hard. Two new meetings have started, the city of Karaj now has a C.A. meeting for a total of four C.A. meetings a week and two weekly H&I meetings!! There was a meeting of interested members and GSR's and an Area Service Committee was formed. Plans for a 'pay as you go' mobile phone to be used for a helpline are in process. At that time, they can start putting out posters that C.A. is in Iran.

I met a man whilst I was in Iran, newly sober and admitting defeat. His name is Shahram and today as I write this he is in the recovery process and making amends around his hometown. He is 63 days sober. He is a member of Cocaine Anonymous and he knows you helped. Thus we grow...

In love and service

Russell S

# **Service as the Thread Giving Life to Miracles**

## **Tom P., WSOB Chair**

### **Dana Point, California, USA**

This past Saturday, as I was completing my morning meditation, I received a phone call from two friends in Arizona. They were sitting in their car outside the state prison in Florence, AZ., waiting for a third friend to show up. The purpose of their call was to inform me that they were about to spend the day with a group of inmates locked up in the facility, taking them through the steps of Cocaine Anonymous. As was their custom, they were participating in a regular C.A. hospitals and institutions panel. They were to experience the satisfaction of addict-to-addict service. Yet, Saturday's morning panel was not just a spur of the moment event. Its occurrence resulted from the cumulative efforts of many trusted servants over an extended period of time.

Relationships with facilities such as jails, prisons and hospitals result because dedicated trusted servants take time and effort to do what is necessary to satisfy the requirements of each particular facility. This takes place over long periods of time and with our spirit of rotation, sometimes multiple members are involved in achieving the working relationship. My friends were able to have the incredible experience of sharing the miracle of C.A. recovery on that Saturday morning, in large part, because of the selfless efforts, which others performed.

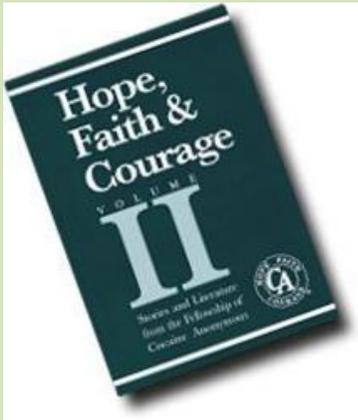
So it is with most Cocaine Anonymous service. Activities seemingly unrelated to each other are necessary to fulfill our primary purpose of carrying our message to the still-suffering addict. Members of a home group accept nominations and appointments to represent their groups at district or area meetings. Delegates are selected from areas and represent those areas at the World Service Conference. Trustees are elected by the conference to stand in the shoes of the conference during the year and to be principal

planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. Directors are selected by the trustees to operate and administer the World Service Office and to hire and manage its employees. These and many more interactions take place within a tradition of "least possible organization".

Everywhere and every time a C.A. member gets the incredible privilege of sharing their recovery story with a new friend to our fellowship, the sum of interactions which have taken place for almost 29 years is present. After completing the full day at the prison, one of my friends called me to describe the indescribable. Tears of joy were perhaps the only apt description for the experience.

So it is with renewed spirit that I approach this year's conference. Disagreements and disputes are necessary in order to continue moving our fellowship forward. We must painstakingly explore all methods to better serve carrying the message to the still-suffering addict. All the conference committee and related activities are integral to continuing our efforts. Every member who contributes service in any form participates in the whole process. We can never know which service piece can be left out. At the same time we can trust that if our motives are aligned with our primary purpose, all of our efforts will be utilized. Therefore, as you sit in a group business meeting and feel as if what you have to say is unimportant, make sure you speak up. Your perspective may be the piece, which is necessary in order to inform the group conscience allowing God as the ultimate authority to be expressed. Every service activity is the thread of a net of miracles which continues to be woven, one loving action at a time.

# *HFC II* is on SALE!



The price of *Hope, Faith, and Courage II* has been reduced to \$4.75 for soft cover and \$8.75 for hard cover. Spread the word! At these prices, every group should be able to purchase at least two books, and some members may also be able to buy one for a newcomer!

This is a temporary offer so place your order online at <http://www.ca.org/purchase.html> or contact the World Service Office (310-559-5833/fax 310-559-2554) to reserve your copy today!!

\*\*\*Copyright protections require copies of *HFC II* sold internationally include adhesive stickers with a disclaimer regarding *How It Works*. Domestic sales are exempt per the actions of the WSBT and WSOB on 12/4/10.

## NEW EDITOR OF THE NEWSGRAM

By Heidi J.,  
Gresham, Oregon, USA

“There’s no Gram like the NewsGram!”

I’d like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I’ve been a member of Cocaine Anonymous since June 1988. I love this fellowship, and have been an active member of C.A. since I got sober. Without C.A., I would not be here today. I’ve done many types of service work for our fellowship over the years, including many at the World Service level. When I saw the article in the last NewsGram about it needing a new editor, I thought to myself “Why not? You can do that job!” So I went to Cynthia C. and Tom P. while at the World Service Convention in Phoenix to see what the job entailed.

But, I can only do this job if you all help me! I need you to submit articles, poems, items you heard in meetings that helped you, anything that you think you’d like to see in an upcoming edition of the Newsgram. Don’t sit there and think to yourself, “I can’t write,” YES YOU CAN! We can help you with your submission! Just start writing what you need, and let us know if you need any help. Submit your articles by e-mail to: [newsgram@ca.org](mailto:newsgram@ca.org), or fax to the WS Office at 310-559-2554, or mail to: NewsGram, c/o CAWSO, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304; Long Beach, CA 90810-1641. Be sure and enclose one of the completed “Transfer and Assignment of all Rights, Title, and Interest in Original Literary Work and Acknowledgement of Originality” forms that you see in this edition. We cannot print anything that you have not released to us.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Cynthia C. for being the editor for the past four years. I hope I can do as good a job as she has done!

I hope to meet you all in the near future!

# TODAY IS MY 6<sup>TH</sup> MONTH BIRTHDAY

By Sarah D.

Portland, Oregon, USA

My name is Sarah D. and I am a grateful recovered alcoholic drug addict. Today is my six month birthday. When I walked into my homegroup tonight I had nothing in the way of The Solution to share. I was full of self pity and smack in the middle of relapse mode. I had been for two weeks. Everyone could see it. I am the girl who means it every time someone asks me how I am and I answer enthusiastically, "Fantastic," the girl who jumps at the chance to give out my phone number to the newcomer or share about how I've been rocketed into the fourth dimension of existence as a direct result of working these Twelve Steps! So when I was, "Just okay," or, "Not great," it was obvious something was wrong with me.

Looking at my program over the last few weeks it is not at all surprising that I found myself in tears several times a day, overeating, snapping at my family and friends, and not returning phone calls; I had tried to plan not just my own day but my own life again. I had forgotten Who was in charge. Slowly I began to think that this addict was capable of good ideas and didn't need Guidance anymore. I wasn't putting pen to paper most nights answering the questions on the top of page 86. I wasn't taking someone new through the work. I wasn't repeating, "Thy Will be done," over and over all

day long. Not only did this backfire for me, but I was no longer useful to anyone else in or out of these rooms!

Tonight I was asked to read the Twelve Steps in my homegroup and as I read that Third Step out loud, "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him," I was hit with The Solution all over again: this thing isn't about me. This thing is about making the universe right and beautiful. As an addict I don't know intuitively how to do that. But God does. This thing is unapologetically about God and how we can best serve Him today. It tells us that on page 63, page 68, and countless other pages of our *Big Book*. I felt the fire start burning in my belly again

Tomorrow I plan (God willing) to start on my third go-round through the steps over these six months. I have to do them again and again to stay on fire. I have to live them every day to feel rocketed. I have to work closely with my sponsees so I can tell them what I need to hear. I have to ask God to relieve me of the bondage of self that I may better do His will, and then I have to do It! I get to live this miraculous program for the rest of my life if I work it right. Thank You God!

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## MEET THE NEW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

By Linda L Francisco

North Hollywood, California, USA

Just a quick note to introduce myself, my name is Linda Francisco. I am thankful and honored to be the Director of Operations for Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc. My first day was March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and I was trained under the watchful eye of John Bodkin, Tom Phelan, as well as Sheila and Andrew at the office.

In Ohio, I owned a craft store and enjoyed working with both my Mother and Sister for over 9 years. I still enjoy many crafts in addition to cross stitching, scrap booking and creating cards. When I

had an opportunity to sell the business and relocate to Florida, I immediately jumped on this adventure. I packed up all my belongings and headed south. While in Florida, I lived in Hollywood (between Ft. Lauderdale and Miami) on the east coast only minutes from the beach! Yahoo!

I worked first at the Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and then at Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (then know as Leukemia Society of America). These were my first introduction into working with

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non-profits. Positions at both organizations were centered on fundraising. With the Leukemia Society I developed their first Team in Training program and was able to grow this fundraiser from \$30 K net their first year to \$750K net after only three years. During this time, I also trained and raised money for the Leukemia Society and completed 5 marathons (2-New York City Marathons, 1- Marine Corps Marathon, 1 Honolulu Marathon and 1- Anchorage Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon).

I was recruited to join the staff of the National AIDS Marathon Training Program (NAMTP). So once again, I packed up my belongings and moved to Washington DC. While working in DC – NAMTP decided to expand their program and I was asked to relocate to Los Angeles to open up the program in California. After four years, I was asked once again to relocate to San Francisco to open up the program in the SF area. While working with NAMTP – I was able to complete three more marathons (New York City (again), San Diego Rock n' Roll and the Los Angeles Marathon). Making my Marathon total to date 8 full marathons (26.2 miles) and two half marathons (13.1 miles).

In 2005, my 80 year old mother, Ruth Francisco, was diagnosed with colon cancer. Being alone, as my father had passed away in 2004 from a sudden heart attack, I decided to return to Ohio to become my Mother's caretaker. Moving back to Ohio was one of the best decisions I ever made – as it allowed me to

spend time with my Mom, reunite with my sister, nieces and nephews as well as work as Executive Director with the Firelands Habitat for Humanity.

My Mother was called to heaven and reunited with my Father in February of 2008. I miss her and my dad every day – but am comforted to know that they no longer suffer and are with God.

In May of 2008 – my former boss (from National AIDS Marathon Training Program) called to offer me a position with NAMTP back in Los Angeles. Because this was an opportunity to return to the west coast – I accepted. Unfortunately, due to the economy, in late 2009 I was laid off and a year later the company was dissolved. This left me unemployed, job searching and reevaluating my life.

I prayed to God daily to help me find a job that matched my talents with the needs of an organization. My prayers were answered when I was asked to begin the interview process with CAWSO. I want to thank God, the WSOB and WSBT for offering me the opportunity to be a part of Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office.

I had the great fortune to meet many of you in Phoenix for the CAWS 2011 Convention and hope to meet many more of you at the upcoming 2011 C.A. Conference and/or the CAWS 2012 Convention in the UK.

**Editors Note: I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome Linda as our new DOO!**

## Subscribe to the NewsGram

For the low price of \$10 U.S. per year, you can receive each copy of the NewsGram before your friends or your group. Complete this form and include your credit card information, or enclose a \$10 check or money order (U.S. dollars only) and send to: NewsGram, c/o CAWSO, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304, Long Beach, CA 90810-1641. A subscription form is also available for download at [www.ca.org](http://www.ca.org).

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# Calendar of Events

**August 19-21, 2011**

**2011 Arkansas Area Convention**  
***Gratitude in Action***

**LOCATION:**

Crowne Plaza  
201 South Shackleford Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72211  
(501) 223-3000

Derrick H., Convention Chair (501) 837-9402  
Uvonna "Luv" U., Hotel Liaison (501) 580-0786  
Robin J., Registration Chair (501) 618-0445  
Jonathan J., Registration Co-Chair (501) 912-9344  
Lorneza H., Area Chair (501) 772-6841

**August 19-21, 2011**

**2011 Great Canadian Convention of C.A.**  
***Simple, But Not Easy***

Southern Ontario Area

**LOCATION:**

Sheridan Centre Toronto Hotel  
123 Queen St. West  
Toronto, ON 1 (888) 627-7175

**CONTACTS:**

Scott P., Chair (416) 889-2171  
Kenny S., Area Chair (416) 400-7517

**August 26-28, 2011**

**2011 Nebraska Area Convention**  
***Keys to the Kingdom***

**LOCATION:**

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel  
333 S 13th St.  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 474-7474

Terry J., Convention Chair (402) 812-7013  
Travis S., Hotel Liaison (402) 570-3450  
Linda C., Registration Chair (913) 413-1821  
Othello B., Registration Co-Chair (402) 884-0302

**Get the word out about your local event! Use the form at [www.ca.org/event\\_form.html](http://www.ca.org/event_form.html) to get your event listed both on the web and in the NewsGram, or notify us by mail to NewsGram, c/o CAWSO, 21720 S. Wilmington Ave., Ste. 304, Long Beach, CA 90810**

**September 9-11, 2011**

**The Decade Of Growth**  
***7th Annual Convention***

C.A. Scotland

**LOCATION:**

The Beardmore Hotel  
Beardmore Street  
Clydbank, Glasgow G81 4SA  
+44 (0)141 951 6006

**CONTACTS:**

Ian M., Outreach +44 (0)773 339 4084  
Cathal, Chairperson +44 (0)755 401 2165  
Roger, Treasurer +44 (0)780 227 7093  
Steven L., Programming +44 (0)798 340 2707  
Stef S., Scottish Delegate +44 (0)777 290 9756

**September 16-18, 2011**

**Florida Area Convention**  
***Into Action***

**LOCATION:**

Plaza Resort and Spa  
600 N. Atlantic Ave  
Daytona Beach, FL 32118  
386-253-9935

**CONTACTS:**

Tonya V., Convention Chair 386-682-9550  
Jeannie B., Vice Chair 386-882-8347  
R. Omar M., Secretary 386-295-4084  
George B., Hotel Liaison 386-682-9340

**October 14-16, 2011**

**Building a Triumphant Arch**  
***SW Regional Convention***

Oklahoma

**LOCATION:**

Bricktown Hotel & Convention Center  
2001 E. Reno  
Oklahoma City, OK  
866-378-0966

**CONTACTS:**

[Barry H.](#), Chairperson 405-570-3168

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## Calendar of Events (Cont. from page 15)

**October 21-23, 2011**

### **Freedom from Bondage**

#### **Philadelphia Area Convention**

[PA/NJ/DE Area](#)

##### **LOCATION:**

Sheraton Bucks County Hotel  
400 Oxford Valley Road  
Langhorne, PA

##### **CONTACTS:**

[Bruce K.](#), Convention Chair 267-784-3335

[Eddie Q.](#), Convention Vice Chair 215-499-1383

[John B.](#), Website Chair 267-205-6205

**October 28-30 2011**

### **23rd Midwest Regional Convention**

#### **Stepping out of the Nightmare**

Indiana Area

##### **LOCATION:**

Wyndham West Hotel  
2544 Executive Dr.  
Indianapolis, IN  
317-248-2481

##### **CONTACTS:**

Daphne R., Chair 317-840-7965

Frank W., Vice Chair 317-501-9270

Rodney R., Hotel Liaison 317-332-2956

Gina F., Programming Chair 317-414-3319

Diane W., Treasurer 317-402-3663

Trissy H., Secretary 317-492-7738

**May 24-28, 2012**



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CAWS CONVENTION 2012**

**MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> IN BIRMINGHAM, UK**

**GET YOUR PASSPORT READY!**

*United*  
**KEYS OF THE KINGDOM**

**FOR MORE INFO**

**CONTACT:**

**JACKIE S @CHAIR2012@CAUK.ORG.UK**

## **UNITY CORNER**

### **Being a Part of!**

By Marjie M.

Monaca, Pennsylvania, USA

Every Year, our Area hosts a Unity Fun Day event. Each district has shared responsibilities to bring to the event. My district is 3 hours away from the Area event. When I was nominated as the DSR for my district I was excited about our fellowship being united with the other districts. Unfortunately, no other members from my own district attended except for me. I was very disappointed because I thought I would be all alone. But, I was greeted with warm hugs and introductions from all the other members. They told me not to be upset because I was one of them and they loved me. They truly made me very welcome. That is why

I continue to be of service and attend Unity events as often as I can so others can feel the spirit of Unity just like I felt on that day. I am truly blessed that my Higher Power has lead me to the fellowship of Cocaine

Anonymous!