



The Pipeline

A South Central Texas Area Quarterly

<http://www.ca-scta.org/>

September 2005

What's New!

- *New Website*
- *CAWS 2005 article*
- *In the heart of Texas!*
- *Co-Anon announcements*
- *Campvention*
- *Global Awakening*
- *Step-One in the heart of Texas.*
- *To Be of Service...*
- *New meetings*

This newsletter is published quarterly and we are in dire need of articles, stories, poems or anything that is recovery related.

If you have anything you want published, please email them to me at
asanti@gmail.com

CA Birthday Night

One Year:

Kim L
Tracy

18 Months:

Ami D
Jut
Kiersten

Two Years:

Don M
Linda M
Revette
Tina A.

Three Years:

Debbie (Princess)
Hector
Kathy
Lora M.
Robert B.

Five Years:

Sheldon G
Jane
John N

Six Years:

Susan

Twenty Years:

Amy D.
Dot T.

Please Join us for the next birthday night this Sept 25 at 7:30pm at Stepping Stones. (Southwest Christian Center). Pls. Contact Rudy V or Norma A if you are a celebrant.

Step One: In the heart of Texas

Sheldon G.

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

In My view, Step One is a completely personal step that requires self-examination and is best taken with one's sponsor. The sponsor will guide us through the

Big Book pointing out what this step means.

We need to understand what we mean, when we say "We admitted we were powerless over cocaine and all other mind altering substance – that our lives had become unmanageable". The Big Book uses more pages for Step One than for any other step, which makes it clear to me that this is a very important step.

I believe that Step One is the foundation of the arch to freedom described in Step Three. We hear in meetings sometimes "that I did my Step One work while I was out there using". My view is that our history is invaluable when it comes to looking at ourselves and answering some of the questions.

However, that history falls way short of a "heartfelt" admission of powerlessness and acceptance of unmanageable life – when using or clean.

The Big Book states, "that the idea that somehow, someday we will control and enjoy our use is the great obsession of every abnormal [addict]" and "we learned that we must fully concede to the innermost selves we were [addicts]". That is the first step in recovery. "The delusion that we are like other people, or presently may be, must be smashed".

The Big Book provides us with questions to help us determine if we have a problem. The answers, however, are left to us and only us, as no one can determine for another if he/she is an addict.

In our CA 12 Step Guide the pamphlet is says, "Barring divine intervention of a Higher Power, we will use over and over again, no matter how much we want to stay clean".

For me personally, Step One has convinced me that when it comes to cocaine and managing my life, I'm hopeless on my own power. I believe the hopelessness of this step is what helps me do the things that are required for me to stay clean and sober and connected to a power greater than myself. So, if it has been awhile since you last connected with Step One, find an addict who is desperately searching for the solution and see how, "no matter what our history is", Step one is the same for all of us addicts in Cocaine Anonymous.

Interesting little fact of why the Big Book never uses the term disease, yet we hear that term thrown around all the time at meetings.

Bill W. said when he addressed the National Clergy Conference on Alcoholism in 1960:

"We (AA) have never called alcoholism a disease because, technically speaking, it is a not a disease entity. For example, there is no such thing as heart disease. Instead there are many separate heart ailments or combinations of them. It is something like that with alcoholism. Hence, we did not wish to get in wrong with the medical profession by pronouncing alcoholism as a disease entity. Therefore, we call it an illness, or a malady—a far safer term for us to use."

CAWS 2005: Memphis

I recently returned from the 2005 Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention held in Memphis, TN over Memorial Day Weekend. I have been fortunate enough in my recovery that I have been able to attend the last three such events; and they do nothing but get better each time. I was joined by several members from our local fellowship, many attending their first World Convention.

There is something truly special about a Convention of this magnitude. I have been to marathon and speaker meetings; I have been to workshops, eaten at banquets, participated in a sobriety countdown, etc., etc., etc. However, there is something special about doing them in a different city, outside of my little comfort box, and meeting people that live the same way I do from all over the world. I have met some of the founding members of our fellowship; I have met people who have been carrying the torch of recovery for decades; and I have met people who are trying to get fellowships started in Hong Kong and South Africa.

The sheer exhilaration from hearing hundreds of people recite the serenity prayer causes a feeling in me that cannot be matched. To see so many people living a new existence due to the twelve steps of recovery is undeniable proof that God is all around us.

Memphis was a beautiful city with a lot of history. I moved to Texas several years ago from South Carolina, so in a way, it was a small homecoming for me back to the Deep South. I gorged myself many times on the excellent BBQ. There is a certain member of our fellowship who will remain nameless (though he knows who he is), that could take some pointers on cooking ribs. We spent a wonderful afternoon at Graceland (Elvis Presley's House). There was even a side trip to the "casino", wink, wink. All in all, it was an amazing trip, to an amazing city, for an amazing reason.

What I am trying to get at is the point that there is a whole world of recovery out there. I tend to focus on the small, synthetic existence around me; unconcerned about what is going on in the rest of the world. The moment I come out of that box; a whole new world is opened up; that is what a "Fourth Dimension of Existence" means to me.

We have a great opportunity in the upcoming year. The 2006 CAWS convention will be held in Houston, TX from 25 May through 29 May. If you would like to be privy to the innuendo that is included in this document; then I urge you to mark your calendars and join us in Houston. It will definitely be an event you won't want to miss. If you are feeling especially spry; there are several service positions that still need to be filled; all you have to do is ask.

ILAS,
Robert B.

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

Yes! Our new website is finally online and fully functioning.

The new website is <http://www.ca-scta.org/> and its already linked from the CA world website as well as the Texas area site.

The new site has links to current meetings, H&I meetings, CA Online, Events, Documents and the Texas area.

If you would like to add a new meeting or have something updated, please email webmaster@ca-scta.org

New Meeting!

In All Our Affairs

Club 101
5555 N. Lamar
Austin TX, 78751
Mondays 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Heart & Soul Sisters

Southwest Christian Church
6523 Emerald Forest Dr.
Austin TX, 78745
Wednesday 6:15 - 7:15pm
(WM / BBT)
New Meeting
Bethany United Methodist Church
10010 Anderson Mill Rd.
Austin TX, 78750
Sunday 7:00pm - 8:00pm
(Open Discussion)

To be of service...

When i first "crawled" into this fellowship, i didnt know what would happen, where it would take me, what will happen with me or if i would even stay sober for long...Most of the time, i was so confused the only thing that was easy for me to do was to "go with the flow" of being of service. For months, all i could do was manage the "pub", shake people's hands (which helped me get a little comfortable in the goupes), and chair meetings. I remember chairing my first meeting even though i barely had 30 days! All i wanted to do at that point was to be outside of myself because inside was too hot and i couldn't stand being me!

The first person i ever saw do service work was this man who came to my treatment facility. I barely remember what he talked about but what i do remember was that he really seemed happy and content and he used the same way i did! I said to myself "Man! This guy is on fire or something and the most important part that he told me is that he's there for his own sobriety as well. That his old curse is now a gift and that to keep it, we must freely give it away.

Early on, my sponsor told me that service work is very important. In fact he didn't waste any time to get me through the 12 steps so i can be of maximum service to my fellow addicts and to my God. Looking back, i clearly remember him "psyching" me up in doing the steps, get a spiritual experience, and lose the obsession to drink or drug so I can be of service.

The Big Book tells us that "we cannot transmit something we haven't got, See to it that our relationship with him is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. This is the great fact for us"! Don't you love it when people say "This is the great fact for us!"
What a great promise!

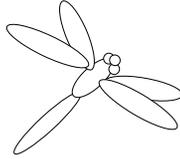
The real reason why i need to do the 12steps is to get a spiritual connection that is far stronger than the drugs or alcohol, that will take away my obsession SO i can help another addict. Nothing more, nothing less. The 3rd step clearly says that He will provide everything i need as long as i do his work well. So far, He has given everything i need (and so much more!) and i don't think i even did His work well! I just did some work put myself out there. What im trying to say here is this: Even though the service work i did was far from perfect (some of them were less than half-measure!), My God has met me where i was and STILL provided for my needs. This is really the greatest deal i ever got! I dont know what would have happened to me if i only got his grace if i did the work perfectly.

Most of the service opportunities i did, i did with a lot of fear. With my sponsor's help i learned to accept it and just leave it to God. Im slowly learning the process and im slowly loving being of service. In fact, it took me several months to even accept the fact that i will have to write something for the newsletter someday! My fear really has taken such a strong hold and i struggle so much but in fact, all i have to do is take some kind of action. Sometimes, i get so egotistical i forgot where i was 2 years ago!

Being of service is very important in my sobriety and its very important in our fellowship. I have met good friends, i have learned a lot, i've stayed sober and most importantly i am able to give back to the fellowship that has saved my life.

Cocaine Anonymous really showed me love and tolerance long before i could. For that im truly grateful!

Ali S.



Co-Anon

Co-Anon family groups are a fellowship of men and women who are husbands, wives, relatives, or close friends of someone who is chemically dependent. If you are seeking a solution to the problems that come from living with a practicing or recovering addict, we at Co-Anon can help you.”
(From the Austin Area Co-Anon Family Groups pamphlet)

C.A meetings are often occurring at the same or (close to the same time) as the Co-Anon meetings, in a nearby room. Babysitting for Co-Anon is provided at some meetings as well. For more information, or for directions to a meeting, please call the following Co-Anon members:

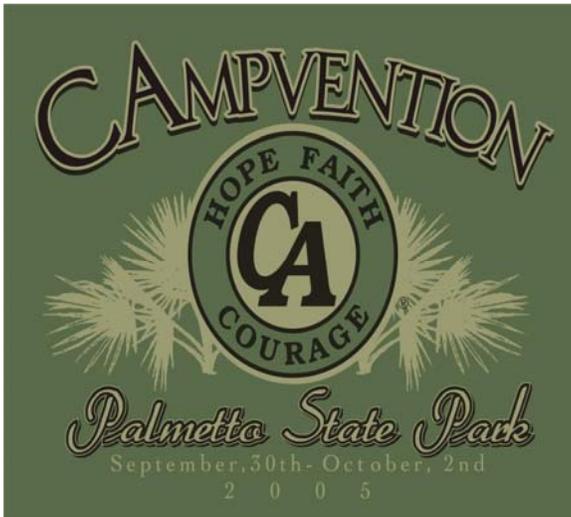
Marie V. 796-5496
Cindy G. 689-2668
Kelli M. 203-5564
Mary L. 246-7949

Co-Anon’s Relationship to C.A.

By Chris P.

For the CAWS Board of Trustees

As a Fellowship we cannot deny the impact that we in our disease have had on others. Neither can we deny the assistance that some of us have received in finding recovery and the subsequent growth. We believe that this is the foundation of the principle of *willingness*. In Tradition Six, we in Cocaine Anonymous are guided to willingly cooperate with Co-Anon in thought, action and spirit without outright affiliation. We feel that as we attempt to sew the seam between cooperation and outright affiliation, constantly guarding against inhibiting either fellowship’s growth, both may prosper.



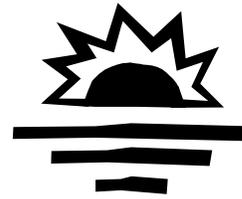
**SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS
AREA OF COCAINE
ANONYMOUS**

**SEPT. 30TH – OCT 2ND
2005**

**CAMPVENTION
2005**

CHAIR: CINDY C. (512) 689-2302
PROGRAM CHAIR: CLIFF W. (512) 372-9526
FOOD COORDINATOR: GONZALO C. (210) 320-1914
TREASURER: HECTOR R. (512) 554-9263
PARK LIAISON: ROBERT B. (512) 296-6690
AREA WATCHDOG: SUSAN C. (512) 699-8002

CONVENTION MAILING ADDRESS:
CAMPVENTION 2005
P.O. Box 80768
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78758



The is Global Awakening coming !!

Plans for a world-wide meeting of the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous are in full swing, deep in the Heart of Texas, y'all!! Come have coffee with fellow travelers from every continent as we Carry the Vision to all corners of the planet through inspiring speakers, enlightening workshops, and almost unlimited opportunities for fun and frolic.

Housed in the exceptional Hilton Americas Convention Hotel, there's plenty of wide open spaces, Texas style, for all the events you don't want to miss!! Marathan meetings gives everyone the opportunity to take part in the camaraderie of recovery at any given time of the day or night, but if you feel like stepping out, we've provided enough friendly diversions to satisfy, well, the whole wide world!

From the Gong Show to Golf and Comedy to Karoke, we prove we're not a glum lot!! *And for those with an interest in culture, the Houston Experience gives an overview of the city opera, ballet, and theatre, 16 acclaimed museums, and yes, Houston is a great place to go shopping, Stroll down to the famous malls and stores, that Houston is best known for. But, hold your horses, folks, that's not all!! You can't leave Houston without going on the NASA Space Center Tour, or to the Downtown Aquarium! And if you're willing to go to any lengths, for fun, that is, don't forget to come to the Dance, the Fashion Show, the Jazz Show, the Fun Run, and the Pool Party.*

Yes, and there's more!! The Global Awakening is coming round the corner!! And while we've laid our very best plans, what God has planned for all of us, is going to be better than everything we've come up with So, join us for the biggest family reunion ever!! Til next time, Adios!!.

Norma A.
 Outreach Chair for the CAWS

22nd Annual
 World Service Convention
 Houston, Texas

May
 25-29, 2006

**Global
 Awakening**



For details and
 registration, go to
www.ca.tx.org