



C.A. SPIRIT

COCAINE ANONYMOUS OF WISCONSIN AREA, INC.

C.A. SPIRIT, ISSUE 34

MARCH 2004

HELP LINE 414-445-LIFE (5433) <http://my.execpc.com/~cocaine/> www.ca.org

Inside this issue:

Third Step	1
Submitted by Tom W.	
Tradition Three	2
Submitted by Anonymous	
Celebrate Around	2
The World Event	
Spring Retreat	2
It's In The Book	2
Ask A Member	
Live and Let Live	3
Submitted by Lori C.	
Spring Retreat	3
Illinois Area Unity	3
Convention	
Humor Corner	3
March Calendar	4
Sobriety Birthdays	
Service Meetings	
Message Board	4
Events & Announcements	

Share Your Happiness

THIRD STEP

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

When I try to do the next right thing, with what I know, right in front of me right now, and try not to figure out the, "What if I do this or what if I do that," things seem to go so much simpler.

I used to think that the result of right thing to do meant that everything had to turn out rosy for everyone. I tried to then find this perfect answer to everything. So many times I couldn't see the perfect answer. I was still trying with good intentions to control the outcome rather than letting HP take care of

me and everyone else.

I had to learn to trust my



HP. Really trust that whatever happens is going to be exactly what HP thinks it should be and for His good

reasons. Once I learned to trust HP and when I leave the results up to Him, I find almost always it turns out better than I ever thought it could.

My sponsor told me when I first came into the program that I needed to learn to live without using the words "yah but". And in reference to Step Three he told me I now have to learn to live without using the words "what if". I needed to learn to *Let Go and Let God*.

-Tom W.

This is the how and why of it. First of all, we had to quit playing God. It didn't work. Next, we decided that hereafter in this drama of life, God was going to be our Director. He is the Principal; we are His agents. He is the Father, and we are His children. Most good ideas are simple, and this concept was the keystone of the new triumphant arch through which we passed to freedom.

-Big Book p. 62

C.A. SPIRIT—is always looking for submissions. If you have ideas, poems, stories, recovery humor or any special group related information that you would like to see in this publication, please send to: C.A. SPIRIT, c/o C.A.W.A. Central Office, 3060 N. 68th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210, or e-mail the editor at: xrebellion@wi.rr.com

Submission deadline: 2nd Tuesday of each month—6:30 PM, for the following month's publication.

Interested in putting together this newsletter? Please attend the Delegate Committee service meeting.

TRADITION THREE

The only requirement for C.A. membership is a desire to stop using cocaine and all other mind-altering substances.

No matter who you are, no matter what you have done, no matter how grave your emotional complications – we still accept you in C.A. Do not let anything you might have done or any other circumstances keep you out. We just want to be sure that you get the same great chance for sobriety that we've had. So you're a C.A.

member the minute you declare yourself and join us.

I had to witness this in action for myself and others to truly appreciate the extent this includes rather than excludes us from each other. I was reminded of this every time I watched newcomers being welcomed when they came in through the doors

of C.A. meetings regardless of what may have occurred in their lives. Regardless of personal beliefs or any other differences, which often times keep people alienated from each other. We have a common purpose and that is what binds us.

-Grateful Anonymous Member.

Celebrate Around The World Saturday March 13, 2004

Serenity Club Speaker Meeting, 7:30 PM
3677 E. Pulaski Kim S. / Des Plaines, IL
Cudahy, WI 53110

DJ-Dance to follow Guest Speaker
\$6.00 / \$3.00

Limited Special Memorabilia Available

Contact: Diane W. 414-915-8913

C.A.W.A. Delegate Committee

Spring Retreat

"I Am, I Can, I Will, I Believe"

March 26, 27, 28, 2004

Registration Required.

Spots Filled!

*Call for availability
in case of cancellations.*

Gary C. 414-758-0445
Scott W. 414-405-4621

*Plan ahead for the 2004 Fall Retreat!
Join us for a spiritual, relaxing, recovery weekend.*

C.A.W.A. Retreat Committee



Timber-Lee
Retreat Center
East Troy, WI



IT'S IN THE BOOK

Ask A Member

The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous is the basic text of Cocaine Anonymous.

Q: Dear Member, I often hear members, newcomers and old-timers alike, talking and taking other members inventory when those people are not present. It seems very wrong to talk about other members. What does the Big Book say about this subject, if anything?

-Anonymous

A: Dear Anonymous, Big Book, p. 125; "Another principle we observe carefully is that we do not relate intimate experience of another member unless we are sure he would approve. We find it better, when possible, to stick to our own stories. A man may criticize or laugh at himself and it will affect others favorably, but criticism or ridicule aimed at someone else often produces the contrary effect." "We alcoholics (addicts) are sensitive people. It takes some of us a long time to outgrow that serious handicap."

Send your questions to: It's In The Book, Ask A Member, c/o C.A. SPIRIT, mail to C.A.W.A. Central Office or e-mail to the editor at: xrebellion@wi.rr.com

Live and Let Live!

Am I truly being who I am or trying to be accepted by others today in recovery? NO, I think not! I am being who I am regardless of anyone else's acceptance and judgments on me.

I am a child of my Creator. He has made me who I am today. Today I know I have been created by a loving, forgiving and talented spirit whose forces give me guidance and the power to be good to myself and others around me. I am beautiful inside and out. I can love and be loved UNCONDITIONALLY!

I am building my character upon the positive traits in my personality. I have goals today that can be reached if I put the action behind it. Action is the magic word! I can be honest with others if I am honest with myself. Honesty is the best policy! I have the capabilities to recover from self-destructive thinking and behavior. I will accept those things like people and situations that are not in my control. I am given the courage to change the only thing I can, and that is myself. That is wisdom to know the difference. Life is worth living today and thoughts of suicide was the easier softer way. I can handle any situation that comes my way with my Creator by my side. Principles before personalities! Take what you need and leave whatever doesn't work alone. Be honest with your inner most self and confront your disease.

What can I do each day for the addict who is still sick? I can share about the things I see in them that I have seen in me and leave the rest up to them. When I do my best my Creator does the rest!

Keep trudging the road of happy destiny. May your God bless you and keep you until then.

-Lori C.

Road Trip!



Illinois Area Unity Convention

The Illinois Area of Cocaine Anonymous
welcomes you to attend the
"Spirit Among Us"
21 years of Unity Convention

April 30th, May 2nd & 3rd, 2004

Wyndham Hotel
400 Park Blvd.
Itasca, IL 60143
630-773-4000

Make hotel reservations before March 28th to receive CA rate. Early convention registration ends March 28, 2004. Pre-event memorabilia is available on registration forms.

For more information...

Anna C. (Convention Chair) 630-250-8347
Brian T. (Vice Chair) 847-614-1805

Humor Corner



*Have some a good recovery humor?
Send it in!*

TOP TEN List: *Why we go to meetings...*

- #10... When we start to skip, we start to slip.
- #9... A meeting a day keeps a detox away.
- #8... Our sponsor has us on a 90/90 commitment.
- #7... Need to get our rehab papers signed.
- #6... Our probation officer said we had to.
- #5... Seven days without a meeting makes one weak.
- #4... To hear voices other than our own.
- #3... Looking for Mr. Or Miss right... or Mr. or Miss right now.
- #2... Hey, where else can you get free hot coffee and donuts.

And finally ...The #1 reason why we go to meetings...

Because a meeting is like an orgy—when it is over, you feel better, but you're not sure who to thank.

C.A. SPIRIT, is a monthly publication of Cocaine Anonymous of Wisconsin Area. It is intended solely for information to the members of Cocaine Anonymous. We hope to communicate the experience, strength, and hope of C.A. members reflecting recovery, unity, and service, within the bounds of friendliness and good taste. C.A. SPIRIT Newsletter presents experiences and opinions of Cocaine Anonymous members. Those opinions expressed herein are of the individual contributors and are not to be attributed nor taken as an endorsement by either Cocaine Anonymous or C.A. SPIRIT. The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions in adherence to the Twelve Traditions of Cocaine Anonymous. If you would like to know more about Cocaine Anonymous, the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, please write and ask for C.A. World Service Conference approved literature. C.A.W.A., 3060 N. 68th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210, C.A. World Service Office web page: www.ca.org

MARCH 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
To belittle is to be little.						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Celebrate Around The World Event						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Convention Meeting		(ASC) Area Service Committee Meeting				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Coincidences are God's way of staying anonymous.						
28	29	30	31			
Alibis, Lies & Excuses—A killer before and after sobriety.						

Service Committee meetings held at C.A.W.A. Central Office
3060 N. 68th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210
All C.A. members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

March Sobriety Clean Time Birthdays



March 2nd	Sharon S.	13
years		
March 4th	Danny W.	2 years
March 4th	Jan S.	2 years
March 6th	Jill E.	12 years
March 6th	Audrey W.	3 years
March 10th	Todd R.	1 year
March 11th	Lynn G.	18 months
March 12th	Stacy E.	18 months
March 15th	Daniel T.	5 years
March 16th	Renuka V.	2 years
March 19th	Robert D.	8 years
March 28th	Masud K.	2 years
March 28th	Merrill K.	2 years

March 8th	7:00 PM	Public Information Committee / 2nd Monday
March 9th	6:30 PM	Delegate Committee / 2nd Tuesday
March 14th	5:00 PM	WI Area Convention Committee / 2nd Sunday
March 16th	6:00 PM	Treasurer Committee / 3rd Tuesday
March 16th	6:00 PM	Finance Committee / 3rd Tuesday
March 16th	6:30 PM	Internet Committee / 3rd Tuesday
March 28th	12:00 PM	Hospitals & Institutions Committee / Last Sunday
Call 414-771-8860, Billy B. For next Unity Committee Meeting		
Call 414-769-9550, Peter J. For next Structures & Bylaws Committee Meeting		
Contact your G.S.R. for information regarding Area service opportunities.		

Message Board

WI Area "Celebrate Around The World" Event, March 13, 2004, Speaker 7:30 PM, Kim S. from Des Plaines, IL, DJ-Dance to follow speaker. \$6.00/ \$3.00. Serenity Club, 3677 E. Pulaski, Cudahy, WI., 53110. Special Limited T-shirts and Coffee Cups available, Contact Diane W. 414-915-8913, for more information or to be of service. **FYI: The Midwest Region Service Assembly will also be on the same day.**

Annual C.A. of Wisconsin Area Convention Committee Meeting, March 14th, Will be meeting to close out the 2004 Convention Committee and to start the formation of the 2005 9th Annual C.A.W.W. Convention Planning Committee. We'll meet at Central Office, Sunday March 14th at 5:00 PM. All members are encouraged to be of service.

Spring Retreat 2004 "I Am, I Can, I Will, I Believe", March 26, 27, 28, 2004, Timber-Lee Retreat Center, N8705 Scout Road, East Troy, WI, 53120, \$95.00 / \$20 deposit, Call First for info: Gary C. 414-758-0445 or Scott W. 414-405-4621. Look for registration flyer at your group meeting.

Illinois Area Unity Convention "Spirit Among Us", April 30—May 2, 2004, Wyndham Northwest Hotel, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca, IL., (630) 773-4000. Hotel room block rate deadline is March 28, 2004. Early-bird convention registration is March 28, 2004. Interested in a road trip?... Contact Convention Chair: Anna C. @ 630-250-8347 or Vice Chair Brian T. @ 847-614-1805.

20th Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention, "Spotlight on Recovery", May 27th-31st, 2004, Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City, 555 Universal Hollywood Drive, Universal City, CA, 91608, (818-506-2500), \$149.00 King or Double Bed, Please ask for the CAWS 2004 room rate when making your reservations. Additional \$35.00 room fee for more than two quest, except for persons 18 or under. Contact Ralph W.-Outreach Chair at: ralphawhite@yahoo.com or the CAWS 2004 web site for more information: www.caws2004.org

-Give a message of HOPE to the newcomer. Submit your sobriety/clean time anniversary to our Area's newsletter calendar-
Write to: C.A. SPIRIT, c/o C.A.W.A. Central Office, 3060 N. 68th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210 or e-mail the editor: xrebellion@wi.rr.com