

# Pipeline

Quarterly Newsletter  
*Serving All of South Central Texas Area*

***NOVEMBER 2008  
EDITION***



*South Central  
Texas Area  
Cocaine Anonymous*



## RECENT EVENTS:

**4<sup>th</sup> Dimension Group Birthday Bash, San Antonio**

### **Unity Event held in Blanco State Park October 24-26, 2008**

**Main Even took place Sunday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>**

Summary of Events by an attendee: "The weather was gorgeous. The brisket was to die for tender and very good. The chicken was okay, but the links were absolutely divine. Two cakes, both very good. The speaker was great, she gave a great message for H&I."

Dot T. Austin, TX

#### *Local Groups Please NOTE:*

- Change in literature and book prices – check with your local H & I representative or C.A website for the changes

- Change in Suggested Cocaine Anonymous Formats

- Change in Cocaine Anonymous Treasurer Position  
Suggested Requirements

Please contact Delegates or World Service Manual for Changes.  
(2008 World Service Manual is available online)

- New Design of the Traditional Cocaine Anonymous Medallion Chip.  
Preview the website for the new design

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**AREA MEETING NOVEMBER 1, 2008**

Held in Austin, TX Imperfect Journey Church 1:00 PM

Main agenda: AREA Nominations for the January ELECTIONS

Next AREA MEETING will be held in January 2009  
Location/ Time to be announced on website after November 2008 meeting

### *CELEBRATE AROUND THE WORLD CONVENTION*

Information to come- check back with the website for details



## **New Meetings in South Central Texas Area:**

Please contact the newsletter to publicize new meetings in your area.

*Newest Addition: The Acid Test Group  
St. Albans Episcopal Church  
11819 S. IH 35, Austin, TX  
SATURDAY , 8:00 AM*

## **Hospitals and Institutions Information:**

Contact your local H & I representative for *service work opportunities.*

*There is no other experience then carrying the message to the newcomer. The Big Book suggests that there is no better insurance from our addiction than practicing step 12.*

## **Public Information:**

In the works. Check with the website for new information.

If you have any news or requests, please contact the newsletter to spread the word of service opportunities in your area.

email [newsletter@ca-scta.org](mailto:newsletter@ca-scta.org)



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# LITERATURE WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The reaper was standing at my door  
As I was lying on the floor  
Death to me didn't seem so bad  
Now I am back from that foreign  
land

There was light I could finally see  
It said take the steps and walk with  
me  
I will save you from your war  
You won't have to suffer anymore

Finally there was a power greater  
than me  
It helped restore my sanity  
It reached down and kept me warm  
It was my shelter from the storm

**Kyle V. Austin, Tx**

*As looked into her eyes, I saw sadness, hope, despair, faith, uncertainty, and courage. Most of all, I saw willingness. Willingness to go to any length to stay sober. I can remember being in the state. I can remember saying those words, "I will go to any length to stay sober". Those words marked the beginning of my never-ending journey through sobriety. She has no idea what she is about to embark on. This journey will include: a new approach to life, a new thinking plane, and most importantly, a life changing experience without drugs and alcohol. That was my experience as well as my sponsors, and their sponsor's.*

*As I sit with my sponsee for hours, I see myself, my addiction, my soul, and a new found relationship. I will never allow myself to let go of this feeling—a new spiritual experience. Without her knowing, every time we talk and cry, I get closer to God. I experience a new spiritual connection with God. And I hope she does too. Until then, her level of faith has guided her to two months of sobriety. And I am grateful for another newcomer, especially another young woman recognizing her addiction and the solution.*

**Jessie B. Austin, TX**



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## **A BIG ENOUGH GOD**

*I have believed in God since I was probably about 12 or 13 years old. My mother used to take me to church a lot but she stopped when I was about ten and my actual belief came mostly on its own. The Big Book says that “deep down in every man, woman, and child is the fundamental idea of God ( pg. 55). My concept of God did not come from church or religion, but they must have had an effect. Looking back, it now seems that I just knew that there was a God, and that was all.*

*That God had some power, but I put God into a box in my consciousness and limited what it could in my life. It did not have enough power for me to put my trust in.*

*Today I am 25 years old. Through 5 treatment centers in as many years I thought I had the God part of the program figured out. I thought the chapter “We Agnostics” was for other people, people who had no God. I actually skipped over that chapter when I read the Big Book. Never mind that the God of my understanding was not big enough to handle my problems, to care for my will and my life like I could not.*

*I heard many speakers at meetings share that they came to the program with no God or spiritually in their lives at all and found both through AA/CA. I was resentful. How could they walk into the rooms with nothing and find so much when I , who believed in God from day one, could not find what I was searching for? Ironically, it was my old belief in God that was preventing me from having an open mind. “Some of us have tried to hold on to our old ideas and the result was nil until we let go absolutely.” My results were nil and I always got drunk or high until I let go of my old ways of thinking.*

*Several things happened next. I had a new bottom and a new place to start from. With help, I looked at the Big Book with an open mind. I read the book like I had never read it before, including Chapter 4. As a result of working the steps, I began to have an experience. A thought popped into my head that maybe “God” was just a small part of something much larger. I let down old defenses and allowed more presence and power in my life than I ever had before. My old ideas were basically shattered.*

*What I have in my life now is able to carry me through the 12 steps and even allows me to be of service to others today. It works through me. The Big Book told me on page 53 to make a choice whether God is everything or God is nothing. I came to AA/CA with a God of half measures. God was neither all or nothing to me then. Today what I choose to still God is everything and the promises are beginning to come true for me like never before.*

*I came to AA/CA full of fear. I needed courage to overcome my fears. The Big Book told me that “all men of faith have courage. They trust their God.” Today for me faith= courage. This could not have happened until my God was big enough and powerful enough to put my faith in.*

*I have not shared the specifics nature of the God of my understanding because that is personal. However, I did share what God can do in my life now that it could not do before. The points I wanted to stress were open-mindedness and trust. If my experience is of any use to you, then I am truly thankful.*

*Rob D. Austin, TX*

## Why do we do it?

We do the work that most won't do. Listening to discussions, counting votes, asking questions, figuring out how to stretch the money to help the newcomers in our meetings, it is easy to forget how we got here, why we are here and why it's important. When I first started going to meetings, I didn't really give much thought to where my dollar was going or who made that decision. I just did it because everybody else did. I started attending group consciences and realized that the coffee and meeting place did not just magically appear along with the pamphlets and my first Big Book, which I did not have to pay for. We sent money on to Area, but I did not know what that bought us or what those Area meetings had to do with my meeting. I thought it must consist of the political muckety-mucks who tell us how to do things and keep us in line, much like corporate retail. At 7 months sober I became a GSR and attended my first Area meeting. All I could figure out was that there were a bunch of committees that all needed money. For what, I wondered. Well, when I became a chair of one of those Area committees, I found out. Hotline needs money to keep the phone lines open so that when some terrified brother or sister has made the brave decision to put the straw, the pipe or the needle down and pick up the phone to ask for help instead, they can get a hold of a life-line - the voice of a recovered addict. Public Information needs money so that when a drug addict finds him or herself in court, they can see CA pamphlets instead of just a bunch of stuff about alcohol, which they stopped drinking a long time ago. Public Information also needs money so that the tweeker sitting on the couch alone at 4 am watching infomercials is greeted with a way out - a public service announcement. Hospitals and Institutions needs money so that the patient in a state funded facility who has only heard "just change your environment and avoid those triggers and you'll be just fine", can hear and read about a solution that has worked for millions. Internet needs money so that the lost can find their way back to us, no matter where they are, just by looking up a meeting in whatever town they're in. Newsletter doesn't need money, but something that's harder to come by - support, so that addicts can relate to each other across city limits. Chips and Literature needs money to be able to provide the newcomer with a keytag - something solid to hold onto for dear life. Unity needs money to throw events that show the newcomers that sobriety isn't boring and that the smile that's been missing for years can come back all at once on a camping trip with their fellows. The delegates need money so they can go to the World Service Conference where they sit in nonstop business meetings for days in order to represent our needs and show the world that we're recovering here in south central Texas too. Last, but most importantly, other groups need money so they can keep the lights on for the addicts who can't even afford to throw a quarter in the basket. Sitting in these, often boring and frustrating business meetings, I keep showing up and asking questions and participating, because I know that this is a part of the higher purpose to which I've been called. When I remember all the good we can do, it doesn't seem so boring or frustrating anymore. It feels like an honor and a privilege.

*Megan C-A. Austin, TX*

# **THANK YOU FOR READING THE NEWEST EDITION**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT YOUR WRITINGS OR EXPERIENCES WITH THE RECOVERY PROCESS, CONTACT THE NEWSLETTER CHAIR BY EMAIL**

**[NEWSLETTER@CA-SCTA.ORG](mailto:NEWSLETTER@CA-SCTA.ORG)**

**ALWAYS ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS**

*HAVE A BLESSED DAY!  
FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER CHAIR  
OCTOBER 31, 2008*



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