

# The KANSAS CITY PIPELINE

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT OF COCAINE ANONYMOUS  
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER  
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## UNITY PURPOSE:

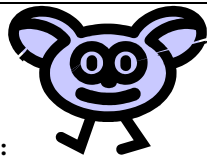
To enhance communication and outreach among diverse elements within the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous in the interest of carrying the message to the addict who still suffers and promote unity.



### From The Editor

I would like to share my experience with service work. I attended the very 1<sup>st</sup> Area meeting of the Greater Missouri Area way back in 1994, or it may have been January 1995 and position chairs were being nominated. I raised my hand and was voted in as the area's first Unity Chair. Not knowing what the heck this was all about, I followed the path of the rest of the nominees did and we ventured out to form Area meetings. That was 15 years ago I have never left the Area meetings. Even when my boyfriend who at that time was active in the fellowship left me for another woman, I thought that I was through with The Area. But through good sponsorship, I trudged along and served as the Area Chair, the Archives Chair, the Convention Chair. And just last year, I was nominated as a Delegate for the Area. Service work is exciting, rewarding and meaningful to me and my sobriety. I want to thank every addict who shared a dollar in the baskets to make it possible for me to have attended the World Service Conference in Los Angeles this past September. If any one or any committee wants information about that committee from the World's viewpoint, please see e.

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### Overheard at meetings:

"I have some problem-solving skills today."

"The truth will set me free but first it's going to really piss me off."

"Sometimes waiting takes too long"

"I really don't want to be here with ya'll, but this is where I need to be."

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**Step This Way:** Step 2: Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.



**First of all, I had to believe or recognize that there was some insanity going on in my life and behavior. Looking back over my life I was pretty much insane in quite a few areas. As a matter of fact I truly thought I was losing my mental facilities. For the life of me I could not understand why it was I couldn't stay stopped using. I, like a lot of drug addicts and alcoholics, was confused and baffled. Why was it that my vehicle at times would somehow mysteriously end up at the dope house or liquor store when I would swear I had enough of using and drinking? I can remember many times after using when all my money was depleted and my resources dried up, I would look in the mirror and tell myself 'you dam fool you have done it again.' Looking back, it's funny how I remember how I would get a moment of clarity; I would see what using was doing to me. But I still didn't have the power to stay stopped. God knows I wanted to. I believe the Big Book says that a person may have to be hospitalized and then he may have a better chance to understand what the twelve step program have to offer. For me, thank God for the treatment centers. There I was able to have a real moment of clarity. There I was introduced to CA. I knew for a long time I could not stay stopped The fellowship referred to it as powerlessness. I agreed I was powerless over the first hit or drink. Definitely**

**News to Use**

Area meeting and convention meeting in Columbia on Nov 17 at 9 a.m.

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**The Glum Lot**

On their first date, a man asked his companion if she'd like a drink. "Oh, no, what would I tell my Sunday school class?" she said. Later he offered her a joint "Oh, no, what would I tell my Sunday school class?" she said again.

On the drive home, he saw a motel. Figuring he had nothing to lose, he asked if she wanted to stop in there. "Okay," she replied.

"What will you tell your Sunday school class?" he asked, shocked.

"The same thing I always tell them: 'You do not have to drink or smoke to have a good time.'"

And your cry baby whiny-assed opinion would be...?

I'm not crazy, I've just been in a very bad mood for 30 years.



Laughter a day keeps the doctor away. Why frown when you can have a daily dose of smile.

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**Help keep this Pipeline moving**  
Get Involved. Send news that we can use.

**Convention News**



Let's go to Memphis again  
When

**Step 2 con't...**

my life was out of control. The Fellowship helped me see. That's what a lot of them referred to as unmanageability. To newcomers it may seem strange but listening in 12 step CA meetings can help the newcomer identify with the insane behavior of an addict or alcoholic. I would listen intensely especially early in meetings. The old-timers were telling stories a lot similar to mine. I believe that without realizing it recovering addicts do use groups as a higher power. For the mere fact we have asked God to remove the mania of drugs and alcohol from our lives and yet lot of us kept on using. I know now that being restored to sanity is truly a process. My recovery began like this: admitting there was a problem, surrendering, and accepting there was a problem. Understand the problem: OBSESSION of the mind ALLERGY of the body and becoming spiritually bankrupt as a result of the two. But I like to also share this information: knowing the problem is still not enough to keep me sane and sober. I have to go on with the rest of the steps, if I am to be freed from the nightmare of addiction and become happy joyous and free one day at a time.

Thomas W.

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**Who has recovered??**



KIH

CA on the Pkwy  
Lisa W 9 yrs  
Darlene R 5 yrs

Nrthlnd  
Rick H 2yrs

Minn Ave  
Damon G  
Barbara S

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**Traditions Corner**

**Every C.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.**

There they go...talking about money, again! Well, it is a fact, that here in the earthly realm, we are going to need money to survive. We have those three basic instincts: social, security, and sex. Many times, when we think of the security instinct, we think of financial security, so yes, they do mention money.

The fact is that a group will need money to survive. There are basic needs that need to be provided for: coffee and supplies, literature, chips, rent, maybe birthday cakes, and donations to the other 'arms' of our Fellowship: District, Area, and World Services. CA has printed an excellent pamphlet that is often overlooked - "The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: Where Does the Money Go?" which will answer questions for both newcomers and old-timers and give some great suggestions, and explains the 70/30 plan.

The tradition also mentions declining outside contributions, which also tells me not only do I need to be supporting the group, I need to not take anything from anyone else. There are a number of reasons for this: it again teaches more responsibility, and also ensures that people outside the fellowship are not telling us what to do...lord knows an addict wouldn't want that!! ☺

If you are anything like I was, I was good at taking things in my addiction, but didn't know anything about giving, at least not without motive. Putting money in the basket taught me a little bit about being a 'productive member of society', and gave me some lessons in trusting God. It never failed, when I balked at putting my last dollar in the basket and not knowing for sure where my next meal would be coming from, someone always just happened to invite me out to eat or something, God always provided!

Many of the traditions that are in place often build on each other, just as the steps build on each other. Tradition One talks about how Unity is vital for the group to survive, Tradition Five talks about our primary purpose, and Tradition Seven is a way to see that both the unity of the group and our primary purpose are carried out. It does my

heart good when I see a new person come in the door, and know that the money I put in the basket helped in a small way to make it possible for that person to come into a meeting hall, and begin their journey into a new way of life.

I know times are tough right now, but I still have to ask myself, how much is my sobriety worth? I still can't begin to put a price on it. God always took care of me in my madness, and I don't think He brought me this far to leave me now!

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*The Kansas City Pipeline is a quarterly publication published by Cocaine Anonymous of Kansas City District. It is intended solely to provide information for the fellowship 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. This 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 Cocaine Anonymous, Cocaine Anonymous World Services, Cocaine Anonymous World Service Office, Inc., Cocaine Anonymous of Kansas City District of CA or The Kansas City Pipeline. 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 at CAWSO, 3740 Overland Ave., Suite C, Los Angeles, CA 90034. E-Mail to: [info@CA.org](mailto:info@CA.org) or by Fax to: (310) 559- 2554, Contact CA by phone at (310) 559-5833. Also note that the C.A. World Service Office web page is: [www.ca.org](http://www.ca.org). Please also note this publication and all its contents are copyrighted by Cocaine Anonymous of District of Kansas City. Any unauthorized duplication or publication is prohibited.*