

**CoDA Literature Committee Report to the
CoDA Service Conference
9/7/2017**

Committee Purpose:

The CoDA Literature Committee's function is to create and facilitate the development of new literature and service items written by and for the Fellowship of Co-Dependents Anonymous. We update and edit existing pieces as endorsed by CSC. We also proofread items before CoRe publishes or reprints them. The CLC encourages members and groups to contribute ideas and written material for consideration.

We welcome new members for this important work. Good writing and editing skills are necessary. Service on CLC requires two years in the CoDA Fellowship. If you want to join our committee, please email us: lit@coda.org

Current projects:

Story Gatherers: Members share their Experience, Strength & Hope. Write your story, 3-10 pages.

Growing Up In CoDA: The purpose of this project is to describe the process of maturing emotionally and spiritually (inner child work) by working the CoDA Steps and following the suggestions of the program.

Traditionally Speaking: How the principles of the CoDA Twelve Traditions can help us in all aspects of our lives.

2017 Report to the CoDA Service Conference:

The CLC has been meeting by regular monthly teleconferences. How are we operating? We don't have a chair. However, we have divided the chair's duties and responsibilities among several of our members. Alyse is attending CSC this year, on our behalf. She also guides the Story Gatherer's project. She and Joan write QSRs. Judi T. is the liaison to

CoRe and chairs the teleconferences. Joan handles our external correspondence. We rotate preparing the minutes.

We lack a representative to attend the Chairs Forum. Nobody has been willing & able to participate. The reasons are an inconvenient meeting day, (Friday night) and the extra demand on our time, in addition to other service duties.

This created a stumbling block when the Chairs Forum and Finance Comm. established a plan to rotate funding for F2F meetings without a CLC representative being present. After seeing the plan in the Forum's minutes, we contacted the Finance chair and were able to hold a teleconference to discuss CLC's need for funding F2F meetings in order to write and edit literature.

Writing for the Fellowship is challenging! Our work cannot be done by phone and email alone. We use the group conscience to decide what to say and how to say it. It is necessary for us to get together in person, sit around a table, talk, propose text, edit, edit some more, and revise by computer.

Project Report for Traditionally Speaking: How the principles of the CoDA Twelve Traditions help us in all aspects of our lives.

A working group of 5 members of the CoDA Literature Committee is writing a booklet which we hope will broaden the understanding of the CoDA Traditions, foster spiritual growth in our daily lives, and provide practical tools for improving all of our relationships.

We had money in this year's budget for a F2F; 5 members on our Traditionally Speaking project met to work for 3 days in August. We worked from 9 am to 5:30 pm for 3 work days. We started with substantial notes, and worked to write and edit several chapters. It needs more writing and editing.

Our plan is for each project member to write 2 chapters on our own, then share by email and teleconferences. We are requesting money in our

budget to hold another F2F meeting in 1st quarter 2018. Our goal is to present Traditionally Speaking to CSC 2018.

Growing Up In CoDA is another CoDA literature project, which will address the issues of healing from childhood abuse and abandonment. The project was prompted by requests from members and groups. As children, we became so good at adapting survival strategies in order to be OK, we never grew up or never had a childhood. We will focus on how we use tools of the CoDA program to grow ourselves up mentally and spiritually. We see *Growing Up In CoDA* as a tool to be used by individuals and for sponsor/sponsee work. A group of three members of the literature committee is currently working on getting this off the ground. We have met by teleconference thus far and have an introduction and a working outline. We would love for a few more members of the CoDA Fellowship to join us on this project.

The Storygatherers Project continued this year and we hope will continue for several more. A workshop, designed by CLC and first presented at CoDA's 2016 Convention, is designed to elicit more stories from the Fellowship. It was repeated in at least two regional conventions, in Hilton Head, SC and again in California.

The CLC continues to strongly encourage members of the Fellowship to write their recovery stories and to submit them for publication at literature@codas.org. We are willing to mentor you as you work through the process of writing your own recovery story, if you need support.

The CLC does not support the Board's motion(s) about literature, as submitted. We plan to propose amendments to those motions at CSC.

Submitted with Gratitude,
CoDA Literature Committee
Alyse; Barbara L; Joan O.; Judi T.; Leslie C.; Scott; Terry D.; Teresa;