

## CoDA QUARTERLY SERVICE REPORT

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3rd Quarter 2006

### **CoDA, Inc. Board of Trustees Report**

At this time I would like to share with this conference some of the highlights of this past year and make a couple of suggestions to the new Board.

This Board was instrumental in implementing the new CoDA website. Some are finding the new site harder to navigate than the old one. This is not surprising; the old site is at least ten years old and everyone is familiar with it. The new site is only three months old, I am confident we will find things quicker once we become more used to it. The Board has decided to keep Dave, the web site designer, on retainer and have him make changes and updates as needed. We have asked the web team to continue their service to the fellowship and assist in this process.

One of the more serious problems we encountered this year involved updates to the meeting database. Around the middle of February the update function stopped working. The Fellowship contract worker was unable to make changes or add new meetings to the database for months. It was near the end of June before updates could be made again. The update function worked for approximately two weeks then stopped working once more. By the third week in July we were on the new web site using a different server and updates could again be made. We believe all the problems have been resolved and the meeting database is up-to-date. We are in the process of combining the two separate meeting databases. I have asked Roy, who for several years has done the updates on all meetings outside the USA, to discuss the consolidation of the two databases.

This Board has helped CoDA Inc. move from a National fellowship to a true World organization. At the end of March 2006 the Fellowship had 385 meetings in 51 other countries.

We have been working on a template for a license to use when we receive new requests from other countries to print CoDA literature. Doug P. will explain the process and talk about some other countries that have approached us about printing our literature.

We finalized the license with CDRS (CoDA of Canada) and sent them a check for \$3000.00, half of the \$6000.00, we voted to give them for start up costs to publish, print and distribute CoDA Literature in English in Canada. We are in the process of replacing

a license Germany was given several years ago with a new license reflecting the current CoDA organization.

We signed the contract with Optimal Translation & Transportation to translate CoDA Literature into Spanish.

We have seen the creation of a Translation Management Committee to establish guidelines for countries that want to translate CoDA material into other languages and to manage this process. We also created a World Literature Process Task force for the purpose of creating a procedure to distribute CoDA Literature world wide.

We have been working for months to determine which items of CoDA literature have registered copyrights. At long last, we determined which pieces of literature need registered copyrights and those items have been sent to the attorney. Now we await the results. We will be putting in place, with the help of CoRe, a process to have new literature registered as soon as it is printed.

I am very pleased to announce the Board completed the task of the CoRe audit as mandated by the CSC (motion passed at conference by 2/3 majority). We did not do a formal audit instead we had a Special Procedure performed by a CPA. David will explain this process and the results.

Some of the things your current Board has discovered: CoDA has been remiss in sending Conference minutes and motions to our attorney for safe keeping; we are in the process of correcting this oversight. As CoDA progresses in world wide growth we need a place for permanent storage. Because we no longer have an office with files, many of our records are difficult to locate. The attorney agreed to store all documents that may be required for reference if a legal question should arise.

The consistent growth of CoDA is due to strong committee work that continues long after the conference is over. You are the people we thank and urge your continued service to CoDA.

Two suggestions for the incoming Board, create a new officer, a title for the position could be Officer of Legal Affairs. The CoDA Inc. Bylaws authorize this action in Article VIII, Section 1. (Mid-paragraph) The new officer would be responsible for interfacing with the lawyers, negotiating licenses, and ensuring all legal documents are sent to the proper lawyers for safe keeping.

My other suggestion is that all Board members study the CoDA Bylaws and the CoDA Services Manual (formerly Fellowship Services Manual.) These documents contain most of the answers to question you will have and any questions directed to you.

I am retiring from the CoDA Board after serving my three years. Also retiring are: David L. (TX) and Doug P. (FL). We have a lot of experience running the CoDA Corporation and are willing, if asked, to assist the new Board any way we can.

As I end my final year on the CoDA Board, I want to express my gratitude to the CoDA Fellowship for allowing me to serve as a member of the CoDA Board of Trustees. Also I want to thank my fellow Board members, Vice Chair: Doug P. from FL.; Secretary: Leo C. from CA. Acting Secretary: David L. from TX. Who graciously filled in for Leo during

his leave of absence. Treasurer: Jay F. from CA; and Trustee: Roy L. from GA. plus Ernie F. from Canada who resigned in July. The two Alternate Trustees are Geri M. from WA. and Dale van D. from Canada.

Ramona P. Chair CoDA Board of Trustees

## **Board of Trustees Addendum**

I am pleased to announce the new board members and the mew liaison positions. They are as follows:

New Board: Chair: Leo C

Vice chair: Thom F Treasurer: Jay F. Secretary: Michelle E. Legal Officer: Dave S. Trustees: Roy L. Diane O.

#### Liaison division -

Liaison division –		
Trustee	Liaison to	Back up
Leo C. – CA Chair person VE – SoCal, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, France, Israel, Mexico, Philippines. (14)	SSC	Dave S.
Thomas F. – CA Vice President VE – Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Chili, El Salvador, Guatemala, Iceland, Malaysia, Netherlands, United Kingdom (14)	Literature	Leo C.
	Translation Mgmt	Michelle E.
Jay F. – CA Treasurer VE – NoCal, Alaska, Arizona, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Australia, Finland, South Africa, Switzerland. (14)	Finance	Diane O.
	Core	Michelle E.
Michelle E. – CO Secretary VE – Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Brazil, Ghana, Guam, Jamaica, New Zealand.(14)	CoDA Teen	Leo C.
	CoDA Srv	Jay F.

	Conference	
	CoDA Convention	Jay F.
	Co-nnections	Dave S.
Dave S. – PA Legal VE – Florida, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominican Republic, Germany, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand. (14)	Legal	Diane O.
	CDRS	Diane O.
	WLP Task Force	Diane O.
	Hospitals & Institutions	Tom F.
Roy L. – GE Trustee VE – Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Austria, Bermuda, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, Portugal, Russia.(15)	WSAG	Tom F.
	FSC	Tom F.
Diane O. – MD Trustee VE – Alabama, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Columbia, Cuba, Ecuador, Panama, Puerto Rico, Spain, US Virgin Islands, Venezuela. (14)	QSR	Dave S.
	Outreach	Tom F.
	Issues Mediation	Tom F.

## **CoRe Report**

Conference was a resounding success, in our view! Thanks to all in attendance! It was a great recovery experience. An alternate member of the board was elected; Anita F is our newest alternate Board member. She joins Mary I, Jeff T, and Beverly M.

After the final edit, CoRe will be publishing the new book, "IN THIS MOMENT DAILY MEDITATION BOOK", containing a meditation for every day of the year. It should be available November 1, price will be \$12.50. We are very excited about this new piece of literature, as well as another piece coming out in the next few months titled "PEELING THE ONION". This piece is experience, strength and hope concerning the recovery process. We will put notices on the website when these pieces are available to order.

Also coming is professionally published <u>Spanish literature</u>. We are currently waiting for the working file for the Newcomers Handbook and then CoRe will begin our publishing process. We expect it to be available shortly after the first of the year. Again, notices will be put on the website when it's available to order.

It has been 10 years since CoDA's literatures's last price increase. Due to increasing costs, prices will be going up beginning January 1, 2007. We will have the new prices posted before the end of the year.

The CoRe Board and the CoDA Board met twice during the conference, to discuss the challenges we face as we grow. The meetings brought forth ideas and solutions, and we are very excited that everyone is participating in the process.

The CoRe Board is planning a face to face meeting in January, and will continue to have monthly conference calls.

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to our service workers in both Alabama and Texas. Their hard work and dedication allows everyone to get their order in a timely manner.

In service and recovery, The CoRe Board

### **Translation Management Committee**

Based on the report given at Conference.

TMC received a copy of the professionally translated Spanish Newcomers Handbook and it was reviewed by two Spanish speaking CoDA members. No problems were found with the translation. They did report that there are some more precise words used than are encountered in "Spanglish". The following items have been translated into Spanish at a cost of \$16,250:

Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA Book) The Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions Workbook Newcomers Handbook Twelve Steps Handbook Experiences with Crosstalk Handbook Making Choices Booklet Common Thread of Codependency Booklet Carrying the Message Booklet Sponsorship Booklet Being of Service in CoDA Booklet What is CoDA? Brochure Am I Codependent? Brochure Welcome to Co-dependents Anonymous Brochure Establishing Boundaries in Recovery Brochure Using the Twelve Traditions Brochure Why is CoDA Conference endorsed Literature Vital? Brochure Sponsorship in CoDA Brochure

The following items were not included in the initial materials sent for the purpose of obtaining the estimate and are not yet translated. Some have been sent to the

translator. The translator will start after they are paid the balance owed for the items already translated. These items will require negotiation of a new contract. Since Conferece the TMC has decided to evaluate proceeding with plans to translate the current versions of the By Laws, Fellowship Service Manual, and Meeting Starter packet or waiting for next years versions that are anticipated because of identified areas that may need revision.

CoDA By Laws
CoDA Fellowship Service Manual
CoDA Meeting Starter Packet
CoDA Teen Starter Packet
In This Moment book
Starting a New CoDA Meeting Pamphlet
Tools for Recovery

The point was made on the Conference floor about considering the economic wisdom of translating items to another language if CoDA can not expect to recover the costs of translation and publication in a reasonable amount of time. This concept will be incorporated into the decision making process.

Our budget was approved for \$20,040.00 to proceed with the translation of the additional materials.

### TMC POLICIES

Legalese: Permission of the copyright owner, Co-Dependents Anonymous, Inc., is required prior to undertaking the translation of any CoDA copyrighted materials. A translation of copyrighted text constitutes a "derivative work" and ownership remains with the original copyright holder.

# When CoDA Receives a Request For Permission To Translate CoDA Conference approved materials:

- When CoDA receives a request for permission to translate CoDA service items or literature, the Board of CoDA Inc. and the Translation Management Committee will both be notified of the request.
- 2. The Translation Management Committee will consult with the CoDA Inc. Board to determine if there is an existing, authorized translation.
  - A) If such a translation exists, the request will be denied.
  - B) If a translation does not exist, the requesting party will
  - 1) Be asked to sign an agreement acknowledging that the copyright and ownership of the translation is retained by CoDA, Inc.

- 2) Be tasked to translate specific, representative portions of the work, so that the translation can be reviewed by the TMC for consistency and faithfulness to the Conference approved text.
- 3. Once the translated material is reviewed by TMC,, the sample will be returned to the requesting party with either permission to proceed with the translation, or with recommendations for changes. Permission to proceed will also be conditional on a signed agreement acknowledging ownership of the copyright by CoDA Inc. If changes are requested, the party will be requested to make further submissions until a satisfactory translation is achieved.

**NEED TO REVIEW AND DETERMINE**: Upon receipt of an acceptable version of the translation, the general policies regarding possible licensing, publication, and distribution of the translation, will apply, including a determination regarding the applicability of overseas literature publication assistance.

4. If, after several submissions, the translator is unable to provide a translation acceptable to TMC, then the TMC and Board, in a joint group conscience, will determine whether or not to recommend professional translation assistance at the next CoDA Service Conference.

# If CoDA Inc. Gets a Request that CoDA do a Translation of Conference approved materials:

- If CoDA Inc. receives a request to translate CoDA Service Conference approved materials, usually including a request to publish, the TMC and CoDA Board will both be notified. The TMC and CoDA Board shall jointly discuss if there is a need for the translation. They shall consider the cost, publication, pricing, distribution and any relevant factors. If a compelling need is identified and it is financially prudent, TMC will estimate a budget for the requested translation and bring the recommendation to the Service Conference.
- 2. If the TMC and CoDA Board receive a request to create a translation where the need is readily apparent, and when the expense involved can be absorbed by the TMC or translation budget, and when the expense would not meaningfully impact the overall budget of the Fellowship, then the TMC and CoDA Board can, by a joint group conscience, begin development of the requested translation.

#### <u>If Translations Have Been Completed Without Prior Permission:</u>

 If CoDA Inc. receives a translation of CoDA Service Conference approved literature that was developed without prior permission, the CoDA Board and TMC will both be notified of the request. TMC will consult with the CoDA Board to determine if an approved translation already exists.

- 2. If such a translation exists, the party submitting the translation will be asked to refrain from any further activity regarding the translation.
- 3. If a translation does not exist, the party submitting the translation will A) Be advised that the translation will be reviewed by TMC, and perhaps a professional translation service, for consistency and faithfulness to the original text; B) Be asked to defer further activity until it has been checked; C) Be advised that the copyright belongs to CoDependents Anonymous, Inc.
- 4. Once reviewed by TMC, the translation will be returned to the submitter with either permission to proceed with the translation, or with recommendations for changes. Permission to proceed will also be conditional on a signed agreement acknowledging ownership of the copyright by CoDA Inc. If changes are requested, the party will be requested to make further submissions until a satisfactory translation is achieved.
- 5. If, after several submissions, the translator is unable to provide a translation acceptable to TMC, then the TMC and Board, in a joint group conscience, will determine whether or not to recommend professional translation assistance at the next CoDA Service Conference.

**NEED TO DETERMINE**: Upon receipt of an acceptable version of the translation, the general policies regarding possible licensing, publication, and distribution of the translation, will apply, including a determination regarding the applicability of overseas literature publication assistance.

## **LITERATURE**

Members of the 2006-2007 CoDA Literature Committee are: Laurel H. (TN), Anita F. (UT), Judi T. (MA), Janet C. (MA), Tony H. (NY), Roger P. (NV), Kay B. (FL), Salle H. (CA), Nancy H. (WI), Bette Jo G. (CA), Jeri S. (CA), David Mc. (TX), Rusty M. (AZ), Sharon R. (CT), Lisa W. (NH), Terry d. (NY), Joan O'C. (AZ), Barbara L. (CA), Maggie N. (MI), Tracey R. (IL), Mary I. (NC), Dianne C. (Canada).

Long-awaited new literature, the *In This Moment Daily Meditation Book*, is in the final pre-press stage and should be available for purchase from CoRe in late October 2006. This is a collection of 366 meditations written by members of the CoDA Fellowship. CLC is grateful to all who submitted meditations and gave service to this project.

Three projects worked on by CLC over the past year were approved at the 2006 CoDA Service Conference (CSC) in Phoenix. They will be made available to the CoDA Fellowship, through CoRe, as soon as possible:

1) Peeling the Onion: Characteristics of Codependents Revisited. Codependents look at Love, Sex, and Relationship Addiction and Avoidance.

- 2) The Affirmations Booklet, revised edition.
- 3) A new audio recording, "From Running to Recovery" by Anita F.

A New England Intergroup issue was assigned to CLC requesting that a new handbook be written on the topic of "Healthy Meetings." This project was approved by a group conscience vote of CLC and work will begin on creating this new literature over the coming year.

A Texas state issue requested that material removed from the CoDA book, soft cover, third printing, 1996, pages 102-110, be included in future printings of all editions of the CoDA book. The relevant material will be reviewed by CLC over the coming months.

The Washington State Intergroup requested a revision of the CoDA book to remove reference to outside literature being prohibited at meetings. This change has already been made in the *Newcomers Handbook* and will be incorporated into the CoDA book.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel H. Chair, CoDA Literature Committee

### SERVICE STRUCTURE COMMITTEE

SSC reviewed 3 CoDA bylaw proposals and all of the Issues assigned to us at the beginning of the 2006 Service Conference. In our initial meeting, we prioritized our schedule. We then spent many, many hours discussing the issues brought to us by the Fellowship. Not only did we meet during the regular committee work time, but also we met late into the night. We spent much time studying the issues in terms of the 12 Traditions, giving each item as much time as we needed to reach a group conscience consensus.

We had a thorough and lively discussion about the **OSC bylaw proposal** which asked that CoDA establish a "single voting entity to represent all alternate format meetings..." SSC discussed this at length, and decided to recommend passage of this amendment to the Conference. The bylaw was subsequently approved by Conference.

SSC also discussed the **AZ bylaw proposal to change the 1<sup>st</sup> Step** to read that "We are powerless over codependency" instead of powerless over others. The group conscience of SSC did not support this proposed change. The proposal engendered much Conference discussion, and was not approved by the Conference.

Another **AZ bylaw proposal**, was to **change the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tradition** by adding to the end: "...healthy and loving relationships with ourselves and then others." The group conscience of SSC did not support this change. While we understood Arizona's desire to emphasize that the relationship with self comes first, we believe that other documents/literature offer other avenues for refinement. We are not inclined to change the Steps or Traditions, which are the time tested foundation of our Fellowship. The proposal was not approved by Conference.

# FL Issue #3 asked that CoDA officially adapt an alternate version of the Serenity Prayer

The group conscience of SSC did not support this change. Adding another "official" prayer would not foster CoDA unity. We accept a group's choice to use an alternate prayer, but we don't support Conference. Endorsed.

**TX Issue # 2 requested a change to the Service Manual:** to add a sentence after the **3**<sup>rd</sup> **Step:** "A home group may allow a member to substitute Higher Power." SSC did not support this proposed change. A CoDA meeting is required to read the CoDA Steps as written. This proposal essentially would amend the Step at the will of any group.

# TX issue # 5 asked that "literature profits be shared with state and regional entities..."

SSC did not support this issue. Tradition 7 says that "every CoDA group should remain fully self-supporting." If an entity is not financially self-supporting, SSC believes that there are other ways for groups/entities to become financially functional. Also, how would CoDA decide which entities got funding, and how much? It would set up a competition for funds. The question stands on its head the normal flow of money in a 12 Step Fellowship---that meetings support intergroups/VEs/CoDA Inc.

# TX Issue # 4, requested that if a "state disagrees with a committee's response, the state may submit the issue to the floor...."

SSC did not support this request. We feel that this is a boundary issue, and shows a lack of respect for the serious attention that committees give to issues. Committees are the place where issues can be examined in detail. Experience has taught us that Conference gets bogged down if committee work is done on the floor. Practically—there's not enough time for every issue to go to the Conference for a full vote.

**Missouri Issue # 2** raised the point of inconsistent definitions of "open," "closed" and "restricted" meetings in the Newcomer's Handbook and Service Manual. SSC decided to review the FSM this year regarding the language about open, closed and restricted meetings. We will then ask the Literature Committee to align the language in the Newcomer's Handbook, if needed, so that we have consistent definitions and language.

**FL Issues # 1 and #2** asked that "funds be allotted for scholarships to qualified North American entities..." and that "unused funds from non-North American scholarships be made available to ...North America...."

SSC does not support these requests. The scholarship policy was instituted by the Board, which was approved one year at a time, for two years. SSC believes that establishment of a permanent plan for scholarships is not in harmony with the Traditions. It could discourage Voting Entities from being self-supporting. (Tradition 7) SSC believes in the autonomy of groups and entities. (Tradition 4) Issues of administering the scholarship funds could divert us from our primary spiritual aim.

SSC voted to support the **Outreach Committee's** request to amended its description of itself in the Fellowship Service Manual. The description was approved by the Conference. SSC revised the **Welcome letter** in the new Meeting Starter Packet so that it is aligned with the language in the Service Manual; Conference approved our revisions.

#### **SSC Goals**

SSC spent a great deal of time discussing how to maintain the official, accurate, master of the foundation documents: Service Manual, bylaws, etc. Technology creates options, and dangerous opportunities, to save multiple, working versions, plus our website pages. We need to find the most financially and technologically feasible way to maintain one accurate master document. In order to do this, we discussed using footers to date each document and label it a working document. We discussed using word documents for works in process and then converting to PDF for the master. With CoDA becoming an international Fellowship, there is the related issue of tracking all changes, as they are approved by Conference, so that we can send changes to be translated into languages other than English.

If anybody has library or archival skills or experience in this matter, please email us: ssc@coda.org

SSC plans to review the **committee descriptions** in the Service Manual this year. Our intent is to have one for every committee, in which the committee states its purpose. We want the basics of the Service Manual to remain stable.

The Service Structure Committee had 7 members in Phoenix: Dave, vice-chair (PA); Curtis (MO); Diane (MD); Terri (TX); George (MD) Jim (CT); Judi, chair (MA). We lost two members after our SSC meetings, when Dave and Diane were elected to the CoDA Inc. Board.

I am grateful for the experience of serving as committee chair at the Conference this year. We are all grateful to Curtis F. who is the new chair of SSC.

## **CoDA Teen QSR**

This past year there was no activity with the CoDA Teens growth. Volunteers are still needed to help get the program going on a local and national level.

Geri S. for Washington stepped down after her five years of Chairing the CoDA Teens and Barbara B. of Arizona has stepped up to take over the reins of the CoDA Teen program. Please send any inquiries as well as wished to help with volunteering in your are area on a national level to teens @ coda.org.

Sincerely your in service Geri S.

### **HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS**

#### Updates are as follows:

- 1) Close to 150 letters have been responded to that came from inmates since March of this year.
- 2) Regarding the "Books for Inmates" Project: About 30 CoDA Books have been shipped to inmates and 3 to other Program Managers at different facilities to be placed in the Library (one at an Indian Reservation Jail in Olympia, WA., one in Chehalis, WA., and one in Tennessee. Each \$10-7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Donation sent in provides an inmate with a personal copy of the CoDA Book. In addition, one book is also sent to the Prison Library as a type of "double effort". This year the donations began in June at \$50 and increased to \$365 by the end of August. A special THANK YOU to all those that have given to this cause. It is greatly appreciated. These donations may be made by Inter-groups, Meetings or Individuals. Form # 5-2006 is to be submitted along with the donation. This form may be sent to you by email by contacting H&I at: hosp@coda.org or h i committee@excite.com
- 3) A Care Package was sent to ORW-Ohio Reformatory for Women with a variety of literature and tapes in support of their library needs and wants list. It was acknowledged with gratefulness for our support. Two inmate's comments are: "You give us hope in a hopeless situation", "Your support strengthens me in my determination to continue my recovery work when I get out".
- 4) All goals that were set at CSC 2005 have been met.
- 5) "Pen-Pal" Sponsors are continually asked for. If you sense a desire to serve in this area, please email hosp@coda.org. We can figure out a way to maintain anonymity, just Step UP!
- 6) Many requests for workbooks inspired me to ask for a budget at CSC 2006 to meet this need. It was graciously granted.

Respectfully submitted by: Sandra C./ H&I Chair hosp@coda.org h\_i\_committee@excite.com

## **ISSUES MEDIATION COMMITTEE**

During the Conference in September, the 2005-2006 IMC Committee resolved a request to split the Voting Entity of California. Representatives from California were prepared to relinquish their two VE rights, then after presenting the IMC with financial information and agreed upon geographic boundaries as per approved changes to the Fellowship Service Manual at the 2005 Service Conference; both Northern California and Southern California were granted two voting entity rights each. Salle, IMC Chair made the announcement to the conference.

Newly elected members of the 2006-2007 IMC are Curtis F., David Mc., George R., Kathleen O., Ramona P., Salle, and Terri S. Chair.

The IMC met several times during Conference in Arizona and discussed the following items to focus on in 2006-2007:

- 1) Develop a suggested process map of how a VE split issue comes into the committee and is handled. Use the No-Cal/So-Cal split request as a guideline for future VE split requests.
  - 2) Develop a suggested process of how other issues would be handled by the IMC.
- 3) Issues Tracking and Reporting We started looking into this request from the 2006 Board of Trustees and will keep it on our agenda for future discussions. Ramona volunteered to head up this task. We also discussed announcing outstanding issues at the close of each conference and then at the beginning of the next conference. Outstanding issues were noted from the floor at the end of conference in Arizona by Ramona.

### **WEB COORDINATOR REPORT**

Hi! I am Roy L. One of your trustees. You may have noticed that CoDA, Inc. has a new website. With the new website comes other changes as well. Several people at the 2006 CoDA Conference stated that they no longer knew where to send their requests for updates/changes to the website. And I was the one that stood up and said, "Email web Coordinator."

Guess what? After conference, I was assigned to be the liaison for the new Web Support Advisory Group and then the fellowship worker that updates the meeting information on the web site. As that was not enough, the web contractor then requested only one person forward directions for him to update the site. Doesn't this sound like a coordinator? I am now the web coordinator.

So what do I do? I coordinate all of the work on the web. Requests sent to web coordinator come to me and are automatically forwarded to Web Support Advisory Group. This group, which replaces the old web team, reviews, group consciences the requests and forwards them as appropriate. Once they decide that the requested item needs to be changed on the website, they forward it to me. I forward it to the web contractor that makes the actual change. While this process may seem cumbersome, the board felt it was their fiduciary duty to maintain the website with professional assistance.

I also provide support to the fellowship worker who updates the US meeting list. She reports that she has updated over 1150 meetings this year to date. She has also forwarded over 100 pieces of snail mail sent to the Phoenix address. There are three main ways you can get your meeting info updated:

- (1) email meeting@coda.org
- (2) fillout the new/update meeting form on the new website at: http://www.coda.org/form-online-group-request.php
- (3) Print a form out at: http://www.coda.org/pdf-forms/form-group\_registration.pdf and mail it to the address on the form.

The first two ways are faster than the third and are highly recommended. Please note that when you update a meeting online, the information is emailed to the fellowship worker for her to review before importing into the database. *Your information is not automatically put into the database by your actions.* This helps prevents someone from sabotaging the meeting info.

Our fellowship worker is going to school and usually does the updates every weekend. So, if you put in a request on Monday, be patience and she should get to it that weekend. Our fellowship worker was very upset with the problems with the website that prevented her from updating your meetings. These problems have been fixed and she has caught up with all of the updates. She is doing a remarkable job and I would like to recognize her for her hard work. *Thanks!* 

Since meetings are so important, there is a link on the first page to search for a meeting. There is also a dropdown menu for "Meeting Resources" This dropdown carries you to a page that you can choose all actions available concerning meetings. Did you know that there are other resources for finding a meeting? You can go to Community Links at <a href="http://www.coda.org/communities.php">http://www.coda.org/communities.php</a>. This page provides links to intergroup and Voting Entity websites. You can go to Community Contact List at <a href="http://www.coda.org/contacts-us.php">http://www.coda.org/contacts-us.php</a>. This page contains Point of Contacts for Voting Entities that are willing to help you locate a meeting. You can also go to Intergroup Contacts at <a href="http://www.coda.org/intergroup-contacts.php">http://www.coda.org/intergroup-contacts.php</a>. This page lists Point of Contacts for intergroups. The websites and individuals usually have the most up-to-date information on what meetings are active.

I have been involved with maintaining the world meeting database since 2000. It was the intent to merge the two meeting databases during the release of the new site. Time constraints and other issues prevented this. The web contractor is presenting a proposal to the board of Trustees to accomplish this merge. During the transition period between the old and new sites, the world meetings were not updated. I will also be updating these meetings in the old web pages until the database merge is complete. I have updated over 60 meetings before the new site was instituted. Currently there are nearly 50 updates to be accomplished. These should be updated by the time you read this.

I will be providing support to the Web Support Advisory Group between now and February as they group conscience all comments made during the test period of the new site. If you provided a comment during this test period, thanks! Some of these comments were immediately incorporated and some are still in the works. Others will not be incorporated. The Web Support Advisory Group will re-address these comments now that the pressure of getting the site up and running is over. Your comments count and we appreciate them. Unfortunately, some of the comments conflict with the board's contract with the web contractor and other board concerns. The group will provide a second group conscience of these ideas, review what was requested, what was done, what still needs to be done and what can't be done.

With the new website comes a new method of searching for meetings. You can type in a 5 digit zip code and a certain distance from 1 to 100 miles or KM and the search will show you all meetings in the distance you indicated from the zip code. Unfortunately, new features present new challenges. As soon as the zip code search was being implemented, it was found that it did not function with 9 digit zip codes. We also found that some of the US meetings did not have zip codes and others zip codes were missformatted when imported to the new site. All of the zip codes have been fixed in the database by the fellowship worker. The zip code search was then thought to be working great; until, it was found that it returns active and non-active meetings without indicating whether they are active or non-active. The web contractor is working to fix this problem and hopefully will have it fixed by the time you read this.

Your Web Coordinator Roy L.

### **WEB SUPPORT ADVISORY GROUP (WSAG)**

In the first week of organization WSAG received over 80 items regarding: suggested changes, wrong content, outdated content, missing content, un-acceptable formatting of content, malfunctioning features, and approved changes not implemented appropriately on the new web site. WSAG members strained to keep up but order was maintained and productive consensus building and Group Conscience decisions made.

The goals for WSAG are essentially the same as the goals were for the Web Team:

- Handle incoming e-mails and web site change requests: appropriately, quickly, and transparently. This will be done in accordance with:
  - CoDA program principles
  - CoDA 12 Steps and 12 Traditions
  - CoDA Conference Approved web site guidelines
- Web Support Advisory Group group conscience for grey areas not covered elsewhere. Significant or controversial items will be referred to appropriate group.
- Be a resource for technical information, policies, procedures, and implementation for the CoDA Fellowship.

In attempting to complete updates requested by the Fellowship, we are constrained by the restrictive limitations imposed by the board and current contractor. Unfortunately, this is leading to a substantial delay in completing some types of updates. We are sorry about that and are working with the Board to find a less restrictive environment for completing this work. In a nutshell, we are very busy resolving the items mentioned above on the Conference approved web site

WSAG members

Judi T.

Garv R.

Allan B.

Sheila H.

Florence

Curtis F.

### **CO-NNECTIONS**

Apparently, Co-NNections has not been active over the past year. With that in mind, I volunteered to chair the Co-Connections Committee at CSC 2006. Delegates at the convention were informed that the committee's goals for the coming year would be to increase the number of people on the committee, and increase the number of submissions offered to Co-NNections for sharing with interested codependence.

As chairperson, I am currently:

- contacting and inviting interested CoDA members to join the committee.
- gathering submissions and correspondence which were submitted prior to CSC.
- responding to messages sent to the committee via CoNNections@CoDA.org.
- learning what is necessary to post submissions to CoDA.org and to publish a yearly collection of submissions in a printed format.

The Co-NNections Committee, has received its first submission since CSC and is looking forward to more.

Gary R. Chairperson

## CoDA Quarterly Service Report (QSR) 4th quarter 2006

To CoDA's Trusted Servants.

The purpose of the QSR is "serving our CoDA Fellowship" by providing a bulletin "in which committees can report their activities." (Quoted from CoDA by-laws)

It's a vital link between CoDA Inc. Committees, Delegates and members. The QSR and **coda.org** website provide the most complete and up-to-date sources of information about our Fellowship. Please share this information with your meetings and service entities.

Any interested CoDA member can receive the QSR by email. Just contact **QSR@coda.org** to be added to the distribution list.

If you plan to have something in the first quarter of 2007 QSR, please email it to QSR@coda.org, by the first of June, 2006.

#### Use email! Help cut mailing costs!

Update Form October, 2006

In order to distribute the QSR in the most cost effective manner, we want to send QSRs by e-mail whenever possible.

If you have e-mail, please send your name and address: qsr@coda.org

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