



THE MAINLINE

APRIL 2019

Greetings,

We write you as representatives of Heroin Anonymous World Services (HAWWS). This informational bulletin's purpose is to increase communication between the groups of Heroin Anonymous throughout the world.

THE DATE IS SET

2020 World Convention Update

The date is set, everyone! The 2020 Heroin Anonymous World Convention in Atlanta, Georgia will take place August 28-30, 2020.

The convention committee from Atlanta would like this event to be a reflection of the whole fellowship, so they are imploring HA members from all over the world to get involved. They have posed some questions to help get a true group conscience, so please answer them and email the committee.

Do you have suggestions for:

- Panel Topics?
- Workshops?
- Speakers?
- Theme?

A few suggestions for the theme have been:

- Cleaning Up The Dirty South
- Southern IV League
- The Comeback
- Atlanta Tar Wars
- Fixin' To Get Sober
- Southern Hospitality
- Pretty Girls Love HA Meetings

Would you like to be of service to the convention?

Contact HAWWS Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.

We can also be contacted through our web site at: www.heroinanonymous.org.

Would your area be willing to throw fundraiser to benefit the convention? I.e. 50/50 raffles, events, merchandise sales, etc.?

Please submit your responses and other suggestions to: convention@geogiaha.org

FOLLOWING IN PROVEN FOOTSTEPS

Area Spotlight: Jonathan - Atlanta, GA

Heroin Anonymous in Atlanta saw a tumultuous beginning, with multiple vain attempts to form a cohesive group. After trial and error, this young community has blossomed into a strong, growing area.

At the start, veteran members of HA in Georgia met with the intention of bringing together the Atlanta area groups. Traditions were misunderstood, primarily the fourth tradition, which states that each group should be autonomous. This singleness-of-purpose debate destroyed the area. Instead of trusted servants following the group's direction, the area dictated bylaws to the autonomous groups, wholly forgetting the upside-down pyramid service structure.

When I joined HA in Georgia, meetings popped up left and right. Comically, some Hospitals & Institutions meetings were older than most of the discussion meetings in the area. My home-group was an open H&I meeting that was hosted in the Cobb County Drug Court basement. At minimum, it was a place to get my meeting sheet signed.

The meeting itself struggled as much as HA in Georgia. The person who started my home-group meeting, a friend of mine's sponsee, had passed. Then, a women's HA meeting took over in its place, only to have

their facilitator relapse. With these roadblocks, I switched gears and began attending Alcoholics Anonymous.

I began to see what people who were staying sober in AA were doing. They were involved in service work at intergroup, district, and area levels. I had no idea what any of that was, and I was told that it did not work in HA here before. Unaffected by their pessimistic sentiments, I gravitated towards Old Timers and service junkies within the program. I went to workshops three times a year in the AA Area. Eventually, almost every HA group in Atlanta became my home-group. Bylaws and formats were written for group consciences. More H&I and Public Information opportunities arose, as well as new meetings seeking direction.

Taking the advice of the strong and stable Alabama HA area, our area mimicked their sentiments and started small, meeting over dinner once a month. Our meetings had a few agenda items: host a unity event, print a meeting list pamphlet for public disbursement, and help centralize support for the group's H&I commitments. As we saw growing support, unification became the agenda. Many questions ran through our minds. How would each group write bylaws, manage to host events, or get connected to

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general service? Clearly, there was work to be done.

Following the mainline publication, I registered as an Area over email to the conference chair. Later, I attended the second HA Arizona State Convention along with our neighboring area. The conference calls ensuing up to the 2018 HA World Conference were very informative and helped facilitate the beginning of a new era for our area.

We started meeting for monthly business meetings and expanding our area by filling positions for each service task. Under these positions, committees worked directly with the groups for membership and a greater group conscience, which reported back to the area.

Since then, we have seen tremendous growth within our community. We now have new General Service Representatives and new meetings filled with more experienced, trusted servants, who are eager to take on new positions and lead those new to service.

We host frequent traditions workshops and are working on a concepts workshop. At the same time, the convention planning committee is growing exponentially.

I am humbled at the opportunities available today! Not only has this been a great learning experience for me, but for our area as a whole. The greatest reward has been seeing the light turn on for those excited to get involved in a place of service to the fellowship and the newcomer. The opportunities have become endless, and we can now honestly say we can go down this new path together.

Jonathan
Atlanta, GA

WORLD SERVICE MANUAL DRAFTED & APPROVED

World Conference Update – Structures & Bylaws Committee

Greetings members,

We, the Heroin Anonymous World Conference Structures and Bylaws Committee, are excited to announce that the first H.A. World Service Manual was approved at the 2018 World Conference in Portland, Oregon.

The H.A. Service Manual outlines the service principles and structure, and ultimately enables us to carry the message to the still-suffering heroin addict. This manual contains a wealth of

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information intended to inform and assist our service bodies from the group level up to World Services and the Conference.

The Structures and Bylaws Committee is responsible for maintaining the World Service Manual while working to update and improve it to better serve our fellowship. The Structures and Bylaws Committee is here to serve the groups and individual members of Heroin Anonymous.

If you have any input or suggestions, we'd love to hear them.

If you have an idea on something that can be improved, please reach out to us! We are here to serve you and your participation is *essential* in helping us to improve the Service Manual.

You can find the conference-approved H.A. World Service Manual at <http://heroinanonymous.org/conference>.

Please contact us at: HAWSStructureandBylaws@gmail.com

If you would like your meeting featured in our meeting spotlight or have any other content you would like to submit, please feel free to contact us at the email listed.

Thank you!

- Heroin Anonymous World Services Board

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