



H.A.W.S. **MAINLINE**

Heroin Anonymous World Services
Monthly Bulletin

- - -

This informational bulletin's purpose is to
increase communication between the groups of
Heroin Anonymous throughout the world.



AUGUST **2020** ISSUE



Photo by [Jr Korpa](#)

MEETING **CHANGES**

Check meeting changes on the HAWS website

Dear Heroin Anonymous,

Many HA meetings have made changes to their meetings recently. To ensure the newcomer makes it to the meetings they intend to, we ask that you please check your meeting information on the HA World Services web site to ensure it is up to date both in the standard

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org

meetings section heroinanonymous.org/meetings/ and the online meeting list in the COVID-19 section heroinanonymous.org/covid-19/.

In loving service,

The HA World Services Webmaster Committee

- - - - X

2021 CONVENTION UPDATES

Information about the World Convention

Hello Heroin Anonymous!

We're super excited about the 2020 HA World Convention and we're going to do everything we can to make certain that this is the best one yet! Right now we are interested in getting HA members to help with both public information and outreach. You DO NOT have to live in the Atlanta area to be involved.

- For **Public Information**, we're contacting various media outlets and other public institutions to let them know that about the World Convention. We'd love to have your help, especially if you're familiar with communicating with the media.
- For **Outreach**, we're contacting Areas, Intergroups, and individual HA meetings throughout the country about the convention. If you think you'd be good at spreading the message of the convention within the fellowship, please let us know.

In either case, you can contact us hawcoutreach@gmail.com.

Sincerely, the 2020 HA World Convention PI and Outreach Committees

- - - - X

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org

SERVING THE 2021 CONVENTION

Shoot the Breeze with Brent B., 2021 Atlanta World Convention Vice Chair

Carolyn: What led you to want to be the Vice Chair on the Convention?

Brent: I used to be in the Outreach Position, then the Vice Chair position opened up when the previous person stepped down, the fit was a good one. I've been the first Public Relations chair for Heroin Anonymous. I've been working in this for nearly 8 years... deciding what to publish in the Mainline.

My goal is, was, and probably always will be, to reach the still sick and suffering heroin addict. The rehab facilities in my state are lacking, to say the least. Sometimes, Heroin Anonymous is the only "house on the block" for recovery.

Carolyn: Building on this, Brent, what strengths are you bringing to your position?

Brent: I've spent my working life working with the public, in customer service. The concepts of communication with others, as well as how to encourage and motivate others around me is something that I have strengths in. I have a passion for spreading the word of Heroin Anonymous through the News outlets, treatment centers, health professionals, as well as correctional facilities.

Carolyn: In what ways have you grown in sobriety with this commitment?

Brent: I've only been in this position for a couple months now. Given that, I believe I have furthered my abilities to manage teams/committees on a more professional level. I've found that as I allow others to do things differently than I would have, it is having me grow in humility.

Carolyn: What else would you like the fellowship to know about Brent?

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org

Brent: I believe service to the program has given me grace and time to get through the steps. It helps keep me out of myself. Humility is the key to happiness.

Keep on the lookout for more information on the 2021 Atlanta World Convention! Thanks for being a part of our recovery.

- - - - X

THE GIFT OF DESPERATION

Personal Story: Lee M. – Birmingham, AL

When I was asked to write something for the Mainline, I felt like I was back in my online college course drafting an assignment. I have not written an essay for some time until now, but I do have fond memories of typing essays, discussion posts, and research papers for my social work degree. I pursued this degree, in part, to share my experience, strength and hope to individuals who suffer from untreated drug and heroin addiction. I am honored to submit a bit of my limited knowledge on this topic.

In my early teens, I liked to rebel against authority and hang with the outcast crowds. That meant smoking joints and drinking beers until we hallucinated and regurgitated orange goop. This less than pleasurable expulsion of fluids was accompanied by a sense of elation, escape, and relief. It was something I enjoyed so much I would continue to chase the feeling for years and years. I eventually needed harder, more

potent substances to achieve that state of being. This included stimulants, opiates, depressants, and anything else you could eat, snort, or shoot. My life became a train wreck, and unfortunately, I was not the only passenger.

It took many damaged relationships, numerous wrecked vehicles, overdosing, failed treatment attempts, and a career as a criminal before I was given the gift of desperation to change, for which I am extremely grateful. Many heroin addicts never get the opportunity to experience this gift. Unfortunately, this disease takes lives before the gift presents itself. That is why it is important that I spread the message: to reach the lives of the sick and suffering, to educate men and women, and to allow them to experience the same liberties I have. I have been fortunate to stay sober every day since March 20, 2014. I decided on that day and

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org

every day afterwards that the "Lee" who once existed is no more. That day was my final arrest for the possession of a controlled substance. I was certain that I was going to prison, due to my numerous drug offenses. Luckily, I was granted the opportunity to enter a year-long faith-based facility and complete three years of probation. That was one of the hardest years of my life. I had some knowledge of the 12 steps but was unable to practice them in this setting. One could say I went through the motions and white-knuckled it for a year. Upon completion of the treatment program, I still felt I was missing

something, and I knew drugs were not the answer. I rushed back into the rooms of Heroin Anonymous and quickly obtained a sponsor. Although it is odd that I did not work the steps until after nearly 2 years of sobriety, I know that it was part of my plan of spiritual growth. Today is much different. I work a thorough program. I have a sponsor, and I try to live selflessly. I choose life today, and it is because I have chosen the program of Heroin Anonymous. Thank you for this opportunity.

- Lee M.

- - - - X

FROM A HOPELESS STATE

Personal Story: Dalyss K. – Birmingham, AL

My name is Dalyss, and I am a heroin addict. My sobriety date is September 10, 2014. My homegroup is Breaking Point. I never thought I'd end up here sober, and frankly, for a long time I didn't want to. The first time I shot dope, I felt like I had arrived. This initial use was followed by seven years struggling through all the trials we experience. I had gotten to the place where I was screwed if recovery worked, and I was screwed if it didn't. If it worked, I'd never get to use heroin again; if it

didn't, I was going to use again. I guess that was my jumping off point.

When I first entered the rooms, I had a severe junkie complex. If you didn't shoot dope like I did (and in my opinion no one had), then you couldn't help me. I asked my sponsor if I could edit out every mention of alcohol in the Big Book and replace it with heroin. Instead, she encouraged me to spend my time doing something more productive.

When I was able to really listen and be present with the fellowship of

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org

Heroin Anonymous, a miraculous thing happened. I started seeing the effects of recovery on other people. They were laughing, they were sharing, they were being open with each other. Like the good addict I was, I jumped full force into the fellowship. I took on service positions, worked through the steps, attended meetings and business meetings, and started working with other women.

In sobriety I have married the love of my life (also a member of Heroin Anonymous), had two babies, and now I am a managing partner at a women's sober living facility. I could never have imagined my life would be as fulfilling as it is today. I have a

relationship with a Higher Power. I have real friends in the fellowship. I have a relationship with my family today. None of this would be possible without Heroin Anonymous.

If you're on the fence as to whether or not you should embrace the fellowship and work the steps, hopefully my experience can demonstrate what will happen if one takes the action. The events that followed when I took the action were more than I could have ever wished for. I love myself and my life today, and I love you guys for being there with me in the fellowship.

-Dalyss K

X X X

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 haworldbulletin@gmail.com.

Thank you!

The Folks at The HAWS Mainline



Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: haworldbulletin@gmail.com.
We can also be contacted through our website at: www.heroinanonymous.org