



# THE MAINLINE

JUNE 2017

*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.*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HAWWS CONVENTION LIAISON

Attention, 12 step connoisseurs and tradition aficionados (or as they shall henceforth be called, "traditionados")! The workshops committee for the Heroin Anonymous World Convention is looking for your input and recommendations. Existing potential discussion topics for workshops are Back to Basics, Technology and Social Media in Recovery, Hospitals and Institutions, Tradition 7, Anonymity, and two morning Meditation workshops. We are looking for well-versed candidates to lead these workshops as well as suggestions regarding other topics meriting a focused discussion. Your perspective is welcome, wanted, and needed, as we are looking to draw from all over the country to make the 2018 Convention engaging and rewarding for the entire fellowship.

Please direct any related content to [haworldbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:haworldbulletin@gmail.com) with the subject line "Re: World Convention Workshops" for review, and thank you in advance for your service!

## MEETING SPOTLIGHT

Give Yourself A Shot – Eugene, OR

In 2016, the majority of addicts in the Lane county area had settled with well-established fellowships for their main dose of 12-step-based recovery. This was out of necessity and convenience. As heroin addicts, there were plenty of drawbacks

when attending alcohol specific meetings that harbored an unspoken disapproval when talking about opiates, which were deemed as "outside issues," in these fellowships. There's no way to quantify exactly how many people, young and old,

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were attending other fellowships while seeking help for heroin and opiate addiction.

On May 27th, 2016, a group of ragtag junkies from all over Oregon banded together and started the first ever meeting of Heroin Anonymous in Eugene, OR. We never underestimated its importance to our community, but we remained conservatively wary of its potential. Our first meeting was attended by maybe 10 people, in the basement of St. Mary's church on 13th and Olive. The 8pm start time placed us in competition with a much larger meeting that had become a conclave for addicts of all types. Through word of mouth, and the occasional shameless Facebook post, our meeting grew in size and became the fastest growing HA group in Eugene history. That's mostly because it was the first in our city's history, but that's beside the point. The presence of Heroin Anonymous in Eugene has created a safe place and starting point

for many addicts who felt uncomfortable and limited in the dominant twelve step programs in our community. "Give Yourself A Shot" feels like home to a great deal of addicts. The magnitude of its impact is only now being realized, with home group members forming an H&I committee dedicated to bringing the HA message to detox centers, methadone clinics, and inpatient treatment centers. Portland HA has remained instrumental in Eugene's success within the HA community.

Within the soft glow of the candles, a new light becomes visible at the end of the tunnel. An eclectic group of hypes, junkies, dealers and healers become family at this meeting that keeps growing, and where many people find a new start and a new way to live. We are so thankful for this wonderful opportunity to be of service and for all the help and life long friends that we have received in this journey.

- Donny, Eugene Oregon

## FIRST EVER HEROIN ANONYMOUS WORLD CONFERENCE

Dear members of Heroin Anonymous,

We are happy to announce the first ever Heroin Anonymous World Conference, to be held in Phoenix, AZ at the annual Heroin Anonymous Area Convention, August 11-13. In contrast with a convention, where the main purpose is to raise funds and create unity within the fellowship, the goal will be getting a true group conscience from the fellowship as a whole.

The conferences in other fellowships have focused on topics such as the creation of new literature, upcoming conventions, PSAs available to the fellowship as a whole, recognizing new areas/districts, readings and traditions. The new Heroin Anonymous World Service Manual, guidelines for recognizing Areas, and singleness of purpose are

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but a few examples of potential topics of discussion at the H.A. Conference. In addition to the vast wealth of information to be disseminated, this conference will serve as a platform to set up for the first face-to-face conference in Portland in 2018.

This is the first time Heroin Anonymous will gather the necessary input from groups around the world to form a true group conscience. We are calling on all Areas to participate in this important event. We will be recognizing individual states as areas, whether they have hundreds of meetings or just one, so any members of the fellowship are encouraged to call in regardless of what state you are from. A designated representative is not required for each to state to be recognized as an area, though your participation is desired if your state has the structure in place to do so. Without you, a true group conscience may not be possible. Come be a part of securing the integrity and stability of Heroin Anonymous for years to come so we may continue to grow and carry the message to the still suffering heroin addict.

If you would like more details please email Sharmyn T. at [hawsconferencechair@gmail.com](mailto:hawsconferencechair@gmail.com).

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

In Love and Service,

Sharmyn T.

## H.A. CHIP COST INCREASE

Attention, fellow heroin addicts! We have some good news, and some (relatively) bad news. We'll spare you the decision-making process and lead with the good news: Heroin Anonymous is experiencing a renaissance, and growing exponentially. One meeting starts in a city, and the recovery is just so good, it spreads from the city to the

suburbs to rural areas, and a single star becomes a constellation. Visitors from other cities like it so much, they bring our brand of recovery home with them, and these constellations begin to make up a whole solar system. Beautiful, no?

H.A. World Services plays a pivotal role in this growth, sending out start-up packets to any new meeting that

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makes a request, free of charge. These packets include key tags and IPs, which provide newcomers with motivation to keep coming back, as well as the information that will help them stay. Heroin Anonymous has been growing so fast, however, and our night sky is lighting up so quickly, that it can be difficult to keep supply on par with demand.

This is where the (relatively) bad news comes in. As of April 2, 2017, our **chip**

**cost is increasing from \$.30 per chip to \$.40 apiece.** With the additional funds generated, we can continue to reach the suffering addict in ever-darker corners of the universe. For less than the price of a cup of coffee, just pennies a day, we can improve the lives of heroin addicts all over the world. Cue up the Sarah McLachlan, buy a key tag, and you too can sponsor someone's recovery.

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*Donations from groups directly to HAWS are vital to the growth of H.A. With your contribution, HAWS can continue providing startup kits to new meetings all over the world completely free of charge. If you're reading this bulletin on an electronic device, click <http://heroinanonymous.org/donate-and-finances/> to be directed to the donation portal. No contribution is too small! Heroin Anonymous World Services Board.*

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*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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