



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

Heroin Anonymous World Services  
Monthly Bulletin

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



# OCTOBER **2023** ISSUE



*Photo by: [StoryTaler](#)*

**Happy Halloween from Heroin Anonymous!**

Here is some information to help you stay up to date with all things Heroin Anonymous. For those of you Mainline subscribers that are new, the HAWS board is compiled primarily of H.A. members who meet monthly to tend to H.A. business throughout the year.

**2023 HAWS Conference:** The official 2023 Heroin Anonymous World Service Conference was held in July in Phoenix, AZ and was a beautiful collection of H.A. members representing 23 areas in 20 states. World Service Conferences are a time for H.A. members with different experiences and perspectives to come together to make changes to H.A. at the world level with the goal of improving H.A. as a fellowship.

For highlights of the conference, checkout our previous mainline issues or email [HawsOutreach@HeroinAnonymous.org](mailto:HawsOutreach@HeroinAnonymous.org) to learn more. Make sure that your area is represented at the next world conference in Buffalo, NY July 2024! Speaking of...

**2024 HAWS Conference and Convention:** Want to celebrate Heroin Anonymous's 20th birthday? Want to get in on the action at the next conference or attend the huge H.A. World Party (Convention) in July of 2024? Head to [heroinanonymous.org/convention/](https://heroinanonymous.org/convention/) for more info and begin to book travel to Buffalo, NY. Woohoo!

**Bookmarks/Merchandise/Art Request:** H.A. World Services has produced its first ever H.A. World merchandise... bookmarks! These limited edition designs are available now at \$3 per bookmark. Head to [www.HeroinAnonymous.org/Order](https://www.HeroinAnonymous.org/Order) to snag some! We have a request from creative or artistic H.A. Members: please send any merchandise ideas or designs to [Merchandise@HeroinAnonymous.org](mailto:Merchandise@HeroinAnonymous.org)

**Virtual Meetings:** *Do you want to attend an H.A. meeting 1,000 miles away from your very own couch? Do you find it interesting to hear heroin addicts from another region share their experience, strength, and hope?* We have close to 30 active zoom meetings in 10 different states! Go to our world website, click meetings, and click the link for online meetings. Make sure to convert the time zone! Email [HawsWebmaster@HeroinAnonymous.org](mailto:HawsWebmaster@HeroinAnonymous.org) if you notice any inaccuracies or want to add a meeting.

**HAWS Positions:** Looking for more involvement with H.A.? Then service with the HAWS board may be right for YOU! Our nominations committee is continuing to screen applications, interview, and recommend candidates to join the board. If you are interested in the following positions, please send service resumes, references, and inquiries to: [HawsSecretary@HeroinAnonymous.org](mailto:HawsSecretary@HeroinAnonymous.org)

- Vice-Treasurer: This position serves to support the Treasurer in all HAWS financial matters including budgeting, tax filing, supervising bank accounts, and assessing the financial status of this fellowship.
- Non-Addict Advisor: This is someone who is not a member of H.A. They may be an expert in recovery fellowships, non-profits, or possess various business skills that they wish to volunteer for the good of H.A.
- Heroin Addict Advisor: This is someone who is a member of H.A. This person will utilize their experience with H.A. and 12 step service to advise the board.
- Public Information Chair: This position is for a member of H.A. who will work with public information at the world level. The efforts of Public Information can be best summarized as taking actions to increase the general population's awareness and accessibility of Heroin Anonymous.
- 3x At-large Voting Members: This position is for new members to the board, its sole function is to show up and help us to discuss and vote on decisions, eventually these members join other committees and may be asked to fill other roles. For example, for one of these spots we are looking for someone with experience in intellectual property or literature writing.

In loving service,  
Anna A., HAWS Outreach Chair  
[HawsOutreach@HeroinAnonymous.org](mailto:HawsOutreach@HeroinAnonymous.org)

Contact The Mainline Bulletin:

All correspondence will be filtered by our H.A. bulletin committee at: [haworldbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:haworldbulletin@gmail.com).  
We can also be contacted through our website at: [www.heroinanonymous.org](http://www.heroinanonymous.org)

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## FOREVER CHANGED

### Personal Story: McKenzie C. Green Bay, WI

Growing up I had to watch my father struggle with addiction. I thought he was a monster. Through my adolescent years, I seen how drugs and alcohol affected people's lives and how addicts choose them above all. I hated it but I also took after my dad and followed in his footsteps.

From the young age of 13 I became addicted to opiates, and that went on for 16 years on and off the wagon. At the age of 16, I tried heroin and the feeling was euphoric, like fireworks in my body. Until I got dopesick for the first time. Then I prayed to God to relieve me from my drug addiction. From the endless battle of despair and misconception, of making broken promises to my kids, I needed something to save me.

From there I found Heroin Anonymous and the 12 Steps. My life was forever changed for the good. I put my hand on the hot stove over and

over again knowing it would burn me every time, but that was the insanity of my addiction. I finally admitted I was powerless over drugs and alcohol, that my life was unmanageable, and from there on out God was on my side and I lived on his will and not my own selfish will run riot. All the 12 Steps have changed my life and for that I am forever grateful.

I am going on two years sober and with this program and a spiritual foundation I will never go back. I am recovered. I now sponsor many women and spread the message as much as I can. I on the daily live in Steps 10, 11, and 12 and recommend this to anyone. I hope my works encourage many people to give this program a chance.

-McKenzie C.

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# A TOTAL TRANSFORMATION

## Personal Story: Ben S. The Psychic Transformation Group, Akron, OH.

My name is Ben S. I'm 35 years old, I have an amazing sponsor, and some great sponsees. I live in Akron, Ohio, the birthplace of A.A. and the 12 Steps! These Steps and the Fellowship have made my life worth living. They've given me purpose, freedom, and my sanity back.

My story isn't unique. I, like many of you, sacrificed my beliefs and morals to stay loaded around the clock. I've been to a lot of jails, prisons, rehabs, detoxes, and the psych ward. I always wanted so badly to stay sober when I left these places but I had no foundation of recovery to stand on. I've spent more than half of my life self-medicating to numb the emotional and physical pain I felt.

I wasn't content living that way. I tried to end my life on multiple occasions, but God had other plans. Because I wasn't treating my disease, the mental obsession always got the best of me. Every time I put a substance in my body, I couldn't stop, telling myself over and over again I'll just do one. One was never enough for me. My spiritual malady had to be overcome. I've found heartfelt prayer to be extremely helpful.

The only reason I'm even willing to write this story is because my

Higher Power did for me what I could never do for myself. He has restored

my sanity and removed the desire to use. That was a miracle for me! I had tried every method except the 12 Steps to no avail. When I sincerely applied myself to completing the Steps, my life began to show immediate improvement. If you're reading this today and you haven't finished your Steps, you should find a solid sponsor and get it done.

Your life will never be the same for the most wonderful reasons.

I'm no longer crippled by fear. I get to spend time with the people I love. My family and friends actually enjoy having me around, it's such a blessing. I've given them so many reasons to write me off or disown me throughout my addiction. It took a lot of time, patience, and effort to get here.

Since I've been through my Steps, I now get to help others get through their Steps. I'm involved on every level of service from local meetings all the way to the world service. I do these things because this program literally saved my life! If we don't put forth the effort to do service work, there will be no Heroin Anonymous. I could never repay this wonderful gift I have been given. I will do my best to help the next person complete these Steps so that they may help others because that's what the 12th Step tells us to do. The most wonderful moment of my recovery was when my sponsee made it through his Steps.

Then he told his story and brought his own sponsee with him to the meeting. I've never experienced such hope and gratitude as I did in that moment. It is truly a moment I will cherish until my last breath. God willing I have more of those to come.

If you ever get the opportunity to attend a convention or a spiritual retreat, don't pass it up. It's taught me that the disease is the same no matter where you live and the solution is the same no matter what demons you're fighting. None of us are alone. I've met so many beautiful souls from all over to share this journey with. Material things don't hold as much value as the true friends I've found and the

relationships we've developed in these rooms. As long as you trust God and clean house, your life will improve. Live one day at a time and if it gets tough, live one moment at a time. All the corny cliches will make sense later.

If you're ever in Akron, OH on Wednesday night at 7:30 pm, come check out our meeting Psychic Transformation. All are welcome, and we'd love to meet you!

-Ben S.

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Upstate New York Area of Heroin Anonymous Presents



A SCORE OF HA

H.A.W.S. Convention  
Buffalo, NY  
2024

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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 [haworldbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:haworldbulletin@gmail.com).

Thank you!  
The Folks at The HAWS Mainline

