

Winter 2025 December, January, February

PIPELINE

COVERING NEWS FOR SCTA OF COCAINE ANONYMOUS

San Antonio Austin Laredo Rio Grande Valley Kerrville Cedar Park Corpus Christi



PREAMBLE

Cocaine Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from their addiction. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using cocaine and all other mind-altering substances. There are no dues or fees for membership; we are fully self-supporting through our own contributions. We are not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution. We do not wish to engage in any controversy and we neither endorse nor oppose any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay free from cocaine and all other mind-altering substances, and to help others achieve the same freedom.

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HOTLINE INFO



These phone numbers are available to anyone with questions about recovery. If you would like to be added to the hotline phone list, please contact: **hotline@ca-scta.org**

San Antonio – (210) 232-6382

Kerrville – (830) 719-4889

Austin (512) 339-4357

The Valley (956) 255-2576

Laredo (956) 413-6588

Corpus Christi (361) 364-7001

Español (210) 739-0588

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GROUP DONATIONS

Area Donations:

- **Primary Purpose, SA: \$155 donation**
- **Properly Armed, SA: \$160**
- **Downtown CA, SA: \$100**
- **Age of Miracles, Round Rock: \$140**
- **Heart & Soul Sisters, Austin: \$150**
- **Spiritual Lines, CC: \$100**
- **Cornerstone, CC: \$100**

H&I Donations:

- **Downtown CA, SA: \$100**
- **Bottom Line, Austin: \$60**
- **Happy Hour, SA: \$300**

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AREA ELECTIONS

Nominations:

- **Chair:** Larry, Noe, Kiersten, Matt
- **Secretary:** Macy, Paloma
- **Newsletter:** Roger H, Eloy, Macy
- **Public Information:** Nando
- **Alternate Delegate:** Nando, Susan, Kiersten

Please visit www.ca-scta.org to view the Structure requirements.

We hope this is helpful and please consider stepping up for our Area.

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EVENTS

South Central Texas Area Celebrate Around the World

Fundraiser

Saturday, March 7, 2026

Save the Date



**Food, Fun, Fellowship,
50/50, Raffles, Auction items
Location to be announced**

SCTA 2026 Olympic Games

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SUBMISSIONS

Experience, Strength & Hope

Dear readers,

I am grateful to have the opportunity to serve CA for the South Central Texas Area! The theme of this Newsletter is "Faith." During Thanksgiving of 2011 my father went to the doctor and was diagnosed with cirrhosis. My hero, who I believed was superman, was all of sudden struck down with a terminal diagnosis of stage 4 liver cancer. It was what opened my eyes to the fact that alcohol was "injurious." I knew I was following in his foot steps with the alcohol, but I was doing a lot of drugs too. I knew that I needed to get sober so I went into treatment that New Years. I came out and went to meetings and got a sponsor and started working the steps. I believed that they would work for me. I see it now that I "failed to enlarge my spiritual life" because I didn't understand the connection and reliance upon a higher power that was needed for the program to work because I was working the program more for my dying father and also the woman in my life who was pregnant with my child. In the week leading up to the death of my father, on Valentines Day just 4 months after his diagnosis, I was not reaching out to people in the program or my sponsor and I was not praying. The pain within me got bad enough that I reached for something that I knew would help me feel better, and that was the drugs. I was in AA at the time and had relapsed on drugs so I was too ashamed to admit what happened, so I slowly faded out of the program and that relapse lasted for 10 years. When I hit rock bottom in 2022, I still had the belief that the 12 steps would work for me. The difference this time was my absolute surrender and the total introduction and reliance upon my higher power, which I chose to call God. I did what I did the first time, which was to get a sponsor and start working the steps. The *In the spirit of Tradition 6, C.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, or institution.*

difference this time was that I prayed to God every morning, every night, and all throughout the days. As I began to have a spiritual experience, my belief in the program turned into faith in the program. I have not lost that faith yet and continue to grow in my recovery and that has been almost 4 years now. Thank you God!

-Roger H

Some say they can't see it so it can't be real. Once I started to be even willing to believe, I was able to see that there is something bigger than me living and working in my life today. When I was asked if I was willing to believe in a power greater than myself that would restore me to sanity, I wasn't quite sure what would happen, but I had faith it would work. I saw it was working in others and today, through faith, I see it working in me. Through prayer, meditation, and constantly working on staying connected to God through faith, I have developed a relationship with the God of my understanding who wants nothing but the best for me. I've also began to learn that when I focus on others instead of myself, He provides what I need. Being willing to believe was all I needed to make my new beginning and through faith I am able to continue to grow today and share with others about how this can work in their lives as well.

Faith has to work twenty-four hours a day in and through us, or we perish. This is a sentence my sponsor showed me when I became willing. As long as I live by faith and not by sight, and do the will of God and not my will, I believe God will keep me unharmed and returned to sanity. Today I diligently seek God, strive to do his will, help others , and live by faith, the evidence of things unseen.

-Clarence J

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In the “Big Book” of AA, Faith is defined as a belief in and trust in a power greater than oneself, which allows an alcoholic or an addict to achieve sobriety and restore one to sanity. It is not a specific religious belief but rather a willingness to believe in the possibility of a solution beyond one’s own power. Faith is an active principle that grows through actions, such as following the CA Program’s suggestions and seeing the evidence of His power in other’s lives. With that being said, faith didn’t come easy for me. Even believing in God was hard. I knew my mom believed in God, but I couldn’t. Life was always hard for me. In those last days my mom had passed, my dad had been passed and my family wanted nothing to do with me. I was homeless and alone. Everyday I wished for the end. It wasn’t until I came into this program and found I didn’t have to believe in my mom’s conception of God. My own conception, however inadequate, was sufficient to make the approach. Wow, a God of my own understanding was all I needed. I started to work my steps with my sponsor and began to see the miracles He performed in my life everyday. Not a day goes by that I don’t give my will and my life over to Him. I may not have the best job, or the best things in life, but what I do have is far greater. I have peace in my heart, I have a beautiful wife that love me, and I’m part of a great fellowship in CA.

-Leo L

True faith is not passive. It involves believing in the oneness of something unseen and affirming its truth by action from a deep-seated confidence and assurance from within one’s heart and spirit. Belief in a promise bringing about conviction, submission and action regardless of feelings or circumstances.

-Michael D

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For me, faith has often felt like something more or less like Santa Claus — a hope that if I do what I think I'm supposed to, I'll be okay. As a child, I believed I had faith before I was even aware of substances, during my times of hopelessness, and even now, in this phase of my life. But I've come to realize that what I once thought was faith was often just fear, self-destructive patterns, and an urge to control everything and everyone around me. That was my true motivation, not genuine faith. I've been fortunate to work with sponsors and mentors who guided me through the steps, yet I now see that during those times, my understanding of faith was limited. I thought I had faith, but really, I was holding onto fear and ego, not trust in something greater. It was only when I took a leap of blind faith — a step I didn't fully understand at the time — that I was confronted with my own sickness and faithlessness. It was a moment that nearly broke me mentally, but also opened the door to something deeper. I've read that early on, many believe that personality changes or spiritual experiences must be sudden and dramatic. Thankfully, that's not true. My ongoing spiritual awakening is a process, a journey I continue to explore every day. Faith in action isn't always easy — it's something I often avoid because it feels uncomfortable or frightening. Some people are sicker than others, and I know I am one of them. This path to understanding my Higher Power and trusting in something greater than myself is always evolving. The more I seek, the more I realize I don't need to hold onto rigid ideas or dogmas. Instead, I try to stay humble and open, knowing that true faith is a continuous, unfolding process.

-Brittani H.

My journey to finding my faith began when I was at a new low and wishing for the end, accepting complete failure. That's what it took for me to be willing to open the door to God. I wanted what the others had found through the steps and a

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common thread of their stories was that God was the driving force of their recovery. My sponsor and others who had worked the steps in my CA home group found something that was peculiar, and I couldn't put my finger on it. But it was righteous, powerful and compelling. It was scary turning everything over and accepting whatever came from it in the beginning. I practiced my prayer and turning things over to Him. I grew to learn that He does much better with my life than I do. Today this trust has turned to reliance. I am now far less concerned with myself and my own problems. I know God will take care of me if I strive to do his work well and get closer to Him. Over time this has been proven which in turn waters the seed. Today my life is beautiful and I know if I continue to grow my connection with Him, I am protected from self-destruction and can remain helpful to others. I now see my last 15 years of suffering as a blessing because it was necessary for me to find God. He has rebuilt me over the last 13 months and has given me a peace and purpose today that I wouldn't trade for anything.

-Jordan W

I come from a very religious Catholic family and while growing up I now see that my faith was more towards religion not God. As I went through my journey in life and life happened, I began to lose faith due to things happening with the church which made me feel as if I was an outsider. My first time at a C.A. meeting I heard the word God and I was a bit disappointed because I had lost faith and now, I am at a meeting that is talking about God. I stayed and listened with an open mind as the program stated in one of the readings at the beginning. When I started working the steps I realized that my faith during my time before C.A was for religion not a higher power I started to think differently. My understanding between religion and spirituality became clear to me. As time went on working the steps and starting to pray correctly to my higher power "God" that things started to change for me and I

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was grateful for what I was receiving first and foremost which as Sobriety. C.A. has taught me how to connect and stay connected to God and as long as I continue to do so He will Bless me on my new way of life

-Eloy A

FAITH. What is faith? Faith is believing in something that you can't exactly see, hear, feel, or touch. I have faith in my higher power. I had to learn to have faith in my higher power. It didn't just happen by itself. Today, I have faith that my higher power will show me His will for me and that He will give me what I need to do His will. Sometimes I compare faith to being in a boat on the river. The river is going to come to a waterfall and crash 250 feet somewhere downstream. It says in the book that faith without works is dead. If I'm in the boat going downstream and I have faith that God will save me from going over the waterfall, but I don't do anything, I just lie there in the boat having faith, then I'm going over the waterfall. If on the other hand I paddle like hell to get to the side, my higher power will make sure I do get to the side and I don't go over the waterfall. I took action and went to a Cocaine Anonymous meeting and got a sponsor. My higher power grabbed me by the hand and pulled me to the shore so that I didn't go over the waterfall. I didn't know it then, and it says in the book, my higher power is doing things for me that I didn't even know it was doing, and I couldn't do them by myself. Today I understand that if I have faith, my higher power will show me what I need to do, take action, and that His will shall be done.

-Ken M

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It's an intersection of faith and life's challenges, including the concept of recovery, which to me means relying on God through life's difficulties. It's about putting God first, relying on His will for my life, using life's challenges to strengthen my character, and maintaining discipline and consistency in my spiritual life. I do this by putting God first, above all else, for a deeper purpose beyond worldly success. Recognizing that true healing and strength are found in a relationship with God, believing in the unseen, knowing that He has everything in His hands, and understanding He is right by my side to carry me through. I must claim it to receive it.

-Ella M

My faith is expressed best on page 100

I walk day by day in the path of spiritual progress. As I persist, remarkable things have happened. As I look back, I realize that the things which have come to me as a result of putting myself in God's hands have been better than anything I could've planned. By following the dictates of a higher power I presently live in a new and wonderful world.

My faith has become my experience.

-Owen S

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STAY TUNED, THE THEME OF THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE

“COURAGE”

SO STARTING PREPARING YOUR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE!

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