

# The KANSAS CITY PIPELINE

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT OF COCAINE ANONYMOUS  
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME II, SUMMER 2004

**PURPOSE:**

*To enhance communication and outreach among diverse elements within the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous in the interest of carrying the message to the addict who still suffers and promote unity.*

***From the Editor's Desk:***



***The Fellowship Prayer***

*Dear Higher Power, I am grateful that: I am part of the fellowship, one among many, but I am one. I need to work the steps for the development of the buried life within me. Our program may be human in its organization, but it is divine in its purpose. The purpose is to continue my spiritual awakening. Participating in the privileges of the movement, I shall share in the responsibilities, taking it upon myself to carry my fair share of the load, not grudgingly, but joyfully. To the extent that I fail in my responsibilities, the program fails. To the extent that I succeed, the program succeeds. I shall not wait to be drafted for service to my fellow members. I shall volunteer. I shall be loyal in my attendance, generous in my giving, kind in my criticism, creative in my suggestions, loving in my attitudes. I shall give to the program my interest, my enthusiasm, my devotion, most of all...myself.*

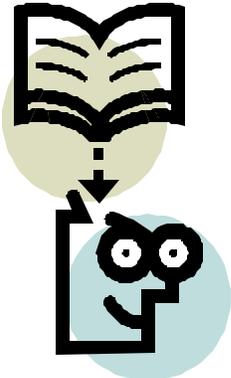
***Step this way***

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Were entirely ready?? THAT was a huge one...one of those 'what an order, I can't go through with it.' Step six was definitely for me a place where pain was usually the motivator. I would like to say it was because I was trying to grow oh so much in the likeness of my Creator but the truth is I was just getting sick of ME. I was praying and asking God for help every day and thank goodness prayer continued no matter how I was feeling about me, I would hear that small still voice giving me guidance, gently nudging and every now and then it became real loud, like WHY DID YOU DO THAT? Is THAT what I told you to do?

Another huge word in this step: ALL. But what about the ones that make me feel good?? The step says ALL. I don't know how often I have been 'entirely ready' but yes it has happened. If I read ahead to step 7 in the big book it talks about 'all of me, good and bad'. Once again, I find myself reflecting on the decision I made in step three....did I really mean it? If the answer is yes, then this step becomes so much more easier, and I truly DO want to grow in His likeness!

The last part I will share on is the part I overlooked the most: "Have GOD remove". Once again I am getting a lesson in powerlessness....for years I tried to change my thinking about dope and couldn't, and now sober I see I still don't have the power to

<p><i>Step 6, cont</i>  change my thinking or actions without divine intervention. I am grateful to know that the intervention sometimes comes through other people He has put in my path...not necessarily Fellowship friends, it could be just someone I meet for an instant, and see something in them that I cannot find in myself, and I make a note I would like to treat everyone like they just treated me. And then smile inside and maybe out because I just saw the hand of a loving God at work in the tiniest little detail, the tiniest little chance meeting, and saw that nobody BUT God could have orchestrated it so smooth.</p> <p>And see that He is still in control, in spite of all my efforts to sometimes think I can do His job better. God doesn't need me, I need Him, but I think He takes satisfaction in seeing His kids play well together.</p> <p>Much love and God bless,  Ellen U  12/10/95 grace baby</p>	<p><i>Learned Wisdom of Pearls:</i></p> <p><i>God has restored me to sanity, however if the situation calls for an insane person to act, then I can respond accordingly.</i></p> <p>GET INVOLVED!!!  STAY CONNECTED!!</p> <p>Whatever happened to???</p> <p>Passing out fliers?  Speaker Meetings?  Hope Faith &amp; Courage Storybooks?  Resentment chips?  The meeting after the meeting?  The meeting before the meeting?</p>
<p>Important Dates:</p> <p><b>Show Me Recovery Greater Area Missouri Convention:</b> August 13, 14, 15 at KCI Marriott</p> <p><b>District Picnic:</b> August 28th at Swope Park Shelter #10 from 9 AM til 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>Area Meeting:</b> Oct 17th @ 9:00 AM in Columbia</p> <p>Fundraiser <b>Comedy Show</b> featuring Alonzo B coming in November... Stay tuned</p> <p><b><i>World Service Convention 2007  Kansas City MO- This is going to be BIG</i></b></p>	<p><b>Got News?? See your GSR for details for next issue: Fall issue 2004 due October</b></p>  <p><b>Help get this pipeline moving...</b></p>

<p>Who has recovered??</p> <p><u>WVO</u>          Pearl B 10 years, Emily C 6-yrs          Jahi B 16 years, Marcella C 8 yrs</p> <p><u>WDR</u>          Chris D-7 years</p> <p><u>CTC</u>          Cheryl-1 year</p> <p><u>Minn Ave</u>          Angela S 5-yrs, Jim D 9 yrs          Christine M 2 yrs, Arnold H 16 yrs,          Barbara 4 yrs, Teresa M 6 yrs</p> <p>Nrthlnd          Rod D, 9 yrs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Glum Lot</b>          ☺</p> <p><b>Jeopardy was invented by a drug addict. Who else starts out with all the answers and no questions</b></p> <p>How many addicts does it take to change a light bulb?</p> <p>Just one - he holds the light bulb and the whole world revolves around him.</p>	<p>Overheard at meetings:</p> <p>“I am no longer powerless over people, places nor situations. God has empowered me to change.”</p> <p>“Last time out, I gave away my car. I have not seen it in 3 weeks”</p> <p>“I’m an addict, an alcoholic and a criminal thinker”</p> <p>“I could never stay stopped on my own”</p>
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### Reflections

I have been reflecting on CA in Kansas City a lot lately. I have been thinking about being a part of CA here for the last 9 years. One thing that comes to mind is how far we have come. Back in 1995 you could attend every meeting in the district during the week. It was possible to know everyone in the fellowship. The district was new, CA was new. Everyone was on fire trying to do everything all at once. We tried, it seems to me to become a full grown fellowship over night. We made a lot of mistakes. Eventually that early energy began to die down. Members left, groups grew in fits and starts. The district began to slowly die off as a active thing in the fellowship. Eventually the district came to be three people. A guy to collect money to pay the phone, a guy to make sure the helpline was answered (me) and a gal who kept the schedule out there and updated. After meeting every month and no one showing up, we began just to hold meetings by phone. After over a year of this, a returning newcomer called me. She wanted to know when was the next district meeting was. I had to answer truthfully. I told her I didn't know. That the district had really quit function as such. I told her it was up to the groups to restart it. She ran with the ball. A group of people from many groups met from several months and put together the district as it stands today. Today the district is responsible to the groups. Fifty one percent of the voting members present must be group service representatives for the district to be able to do anything. The district belongs to the groups. It serves the groups. We had many fears about doing this. Fears of what if the groups don't send their GSRs? How will we be able to operate. So far since this was enacted over four years ago, we have only seen not enough GSRs show up twice. The district today works to serve the groups. It is accountable to the groups.

When I look at the fellowship I see so many wonderful changes. There are forty meetings a week. There are so many members that I don't come close to knowing them all. We have a local newsletter. We help host the area convention every other year. We carry the message to many more places. People are getting sober. It is wonderful. I am so grateful to have witnessed all this.

Then at times I reflect on all the addicts still suffering. The whole areas around town where no meetings exist. The lack of members sometimes to help carry the message to those who still suffer. The fact that some people seem to get well and leave the meetings. That meetings seem to lack support at times. Then I stop, the question isn't what others should do. It is how really grateful are you Rod? Do I show my gratitude? Am I showing others by my actions that I am. Then I look around. The addicts I see staying sober for years and years, they are busy showing up. I look at the two guys with 16 and 18 years, still giving back. They have what I want. I have discovered for me, that easier softer way to learn how to live sober is to make sure I just don't get sober and go on. It is to love this fellowship, to share with others who love this fellowship. To try to give just a little of the love given to me back. There is no way I can repay to CA what it gave to

me. All I can do is try and make sure someone else has the opportunity to experience that love also.

I will end with this. It works for me. Instead of saying I can't do something that needs to be done in fellowship. I say well I will try my best to do it. God seems to work for me when I am doing service work for others. I find things working out even if I am unsure, and don't know. I encourage everyone to give it a try. I wish for you the experience of seeing God's hand act work in the fellowship. There are many areas of service where there is a lack of people. Maybe next time I will share about some of them. If no one has said it to you, welcome home, we will love you till you can love yourself.

Lots of Love  
in the spirit of service,  
Rod D.