



Hand in Hand



Publication of Recovering Couples Anonymous World Service Organization PO Box 11029, Oakland, CA 94611
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Volume XIV, Issue 3

FALL 2005

Upcoming RCA Events!!! Recovering Couples Anonymous - 2006 Convention/Conference LIVING IN LOVE Boston, Mass. Area August 4th- 6th Flyer enclosed!



RCACC

Closing Ceremony
Gratitude Bouquet
&
12- Step Candles

RCACC 05 —Miracles, Miracles, and More Miracles

In the closing ceremony at the San Diego 2005 Convention each couple wrote out their most appreciated gifts they have received from working the program onto slips of colored paper. These papers were then assembled into a flower. The multi-colored flowers were combined into the gratitude bouquet pictured above. The bouquet was presented to the newest newcomer couple at the convention. What a welcome! That couple is still attending meetings in San Diego.

As we wrote out our gratitude statements, we each reviewed the ways the promised gifts of RCA had materialized in all aspects of our lives. The spirit of the convention was one of positive expectation, of hope reborn after a time of resignation or despair. Couples were asked "What was the highlight of the RCACC for you?" Here are some responses:

"The **honesty** of the sharing created safety – we realized we're all the same." "The conflict resolution workshops. We got practical guidelines for solving our problems."

"The sense of community." "The dance! We didn't want to stay because we were tired, but the dancing rekindled the fires!" "Hearing people talk about sex as both spiritual and fun."

From all of us who attended, many thanks to Mike and Sue, Sami and Paul, and the San Diego crew for making it happen!!!

Chair Letter to the Fellowship

Hi! I'm Dennis B. recovering with Carol.

While attending the San Diego RCA Convention this past August (our 13th convention out of 15), Carol and I were once again moved to serve as World Service Organization trustees. We experienced a similar feeling of gratefulness that we felt when we joined the board in 1991. Gratitude for our recovery compelled us to volunteer. It is a joy to witness RCA recovery working for RCA couples all over the world and especially those attending the convention. It is particularly inspiring to see new couples begin to "get it" and start to communicate without blame and shame in its many sneaky ways.

The new officers of the RCA Board of Trustees for 2005-2006 are: Dennis B. (IRW Carol) was elected Chair, Jason G. (IRW Christi) was elected Vice Chair, Mike A. (IRW Robin) was elected Secretary, Doug D. (IRW Doreen) was elected Treasurer and Joe G. (IRW Jean) was elected Assistant Treasurer. We have had several teleconference meetings. Our next face to face meeting is scheduled for January 27, 28 and 29th in St. Louis, MO. All members of RCA are welcome.

There are many issues and projects to be accomplished by the 2005-2006 Board. Among these are:

(1) obtaining fellowship input and approval of the draft of the Fourth Edition of Recovering Couples Anonymous. All members are encouraged to obtain and review a copy of the draft edition (either as a couple or through your group) and send your comments, additions and corrections to the literature committee. The final draft will be presented for approval at the upcoming Boston RCA convention in August, 2006;

(2) improving 7th tradition donations to provide adequate funding for the Word Service Office;

(3) attracting new couple members to grow the fellowship via the Outreach Committee; and many others.

One of the board's long term goals is to create a workable delegate structure to approve literature and bylaw changes.

Currently the board brings literature and bylaw changes to the RCA convention for approval. This poses a problem because couples attending the convention are typically not there for literature and bylaw approval, and they do not want to trade time in recovery meetings with time in a business meeting. The Group Contact Couple, a couple designated by each group to receive literature and communications from the WSO, in most cases, is not interested in being delegates to an approval process. So, we are going to investigate all the possibilities for a delegate structure.

Blue Book Revision in Process

The 4th Edition draft is now being offered for sale and for review and editing by the Fellowship. You can order yours now from the WSO. The book is \$11, the electronic version is \$5, or get both for \$15. **BIRT the following Transition Plan be approved** as a procedure to transition from the current edition of the book to the arrival of the new edition:

1. The board reviews the draft version of the new edition.
2. Once approved, this draft version will be sold at the convention *at cost* with a feedback request.
3. Feedback will be requested up to November 2005.
4. Then the draft will be revised according to the feedback received.
5. The WSB remands the document with feedback to the Literature Committee for revisions.
6. The Literature Committee incorporates inputs and submits the final draft for approval.
7. Literature Committee or special task force gets bids for printing, and makes recommendations to WSB.
8. When final document is approved, and printing costs are evaluated, WSB will allocate funds and order the book printed. *Motion passed July 21, 2005.*

(Continued on page 6)

Six Simple Steps to Build a Stronger Meeting

By Sami and Paul, San Diego

When a group has a couple doing outreach, it increases the presence of RCA in their community.

1. We recommend that every group be contacted and the suggestion be made to start an "outreach" service position in their group.
2. An "outreach couple" can circulate flyers and business cards to other community groups and post the business cards on group (and Alano club) bulletin boards, so the name RCA becomes known.
3. This couple can also check web sites to find out when such groups as the APA, AMA, AMFT*, and leading religious groups would hold conventions (end of 2005 and 2006) in their areas.

4. Having a small table and/or connecting with organizational members at these conventions (as we did at the NCSAC convention, for example, in San Diego) enables RCA to become known in a larger context. Some MFT's may see us as a challenge because of our unique sponsor-couple offering, but we can emphasize our Tradition 8, "Recovering Couples Anonymous should remain forever non-professional," and point out that RCA literature emphasizes the balance of working individual programs, therapy, and RCA. However, RCA is the answer to the clergy person's prayer!

5. Using the local "therapist directory," and sending a mass mailing to local therapists with our brochure enables information dissemination at the local level.

6. Encouraging each couple and/or individual member to inform his/her/their therapist and/or religious pastor personally about RCA, and hand them a brochure and contact number. The outreach brochure can be downloaded from the website or ordered from the office.

We'd love to know about what strategies have been done elsewhere and what has worked in the past! We're available for couples to contact us by email: psdisse@cox.net or samilongo@yahoo.com

- American Psychologists Association, American Medical Association, American Marriage & Family Therapists
-

HELP WANTED: Active RCA couples working the 12 steps in their Coupleship recovery – a genuine interest in helping others a must! **Call 510-663-2312**

Outreach Kit \$5 *

Media and Public Information Guide

* Please Specify CD or Floppy Disk

☺ HEARD AT A MEETING

"We gotta remember – we're a hospital for souls, not a museum for saints."

Editor's Note

Hand in Hand is published four times a year. It can be mailed to you printed in full color for a subscription fee of \$12, or downloaded at no fee from our website www.recovering-couples.org.

And you can **DOWNLOAD PAST ISSUES** of Hand In Hand, too. Click **SUBSCRIBE NOW** for options.

Disclaimer Articles in the Hand in Hand are the Experience, Strength and Hope of the individuals and groups who submitted them. Take what you like & leave the rest. We welcome notices of upcoming events and your stories or

reflections on your coupleship recovery. Once an item has been submitted to RCA, it can be used in RCA publications, i.e., books, pamphlets, and Hand In Hand. Submissions may be edited due to spatial considerations, or publishing may be delayed. Please sign your submission exactly the way you want it printed!!

2005-6 Publications Submissions Deadlines

Winter 2005 December 21, 2005

Spring 2006 March 21, 2006

Summer 2006 June 20, 2006

Fall 2006 September 20, 2006

Please send your submissions to

RCA WSO Hand in Hand

P.O. Box 11029 ♥ Oakland, CA 94611♥

Phone: 510-663-2312

E-mail: wso-rca@recovering-couples.org

Website: www.recovering-couples.org

NOTICE The Group Contact Couple listing on the website is for the use of individuals to locate meetings. **BIRT** Any individual using it for any other purpose should be dissuaded from doing so in a letter clarifying the policy; Steve will send a letter, at the direction of the Board.

NEW LITERATURE

**Recovering Couples Anonymous 4th Edition Draft
Book with Twelve Traditions Pamphlet \$11**

Electronic Copy \$5. Book + Electronic Copy \$15

Pamphlets - from the new Blue Book chapter "Into Action"

Into Action Titles: Still Only 50¢ Per Brochure!

Stepping Together, Caring Communication. Couple Contracts, Conflict Resolution, Restoring Joy and Intimacy, and We Practice These Principles

The Power of Sponsorship Titles: 50¢ Per Brochure!

What Is Couple Sponsorship, Overcoming Barriers, Choosing a Sponsor Couple, Working With Others

RCACC tapes from the 2005 Convention available!

Call Steve at 510-663-2312 to order.

You may specify where you want your donation to be used – for the Book Printing Fund or the World Service Organization.

Contributions to the Book Printing Fund are invested in an interest-bearing CD.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

SPONSORSHIP: We need help for new couples and new groups in areas with little RCA support

REPORTER(S) to interview groups, to write couple stories, meeting ideas, and other articles for Hand In Hand.

AMBASSADORS: Couples to carry the message to communities where the RCA presence is missing, or needs support.

WRITERS AND EDITORS: Your talent is needed for Literature/Communication Committee.

Contact Steve or any Trustee.

Email your Trustees from the www.recovering-couples.org CONTACTS menu.

Reflection 35. Gratitude

From Recovering Couples Anonymous 4th Edition Draft

In a world that bombards us with visions of that which we have yet to “get,” we may fail to fully appreciate the goodness of the gifts that we already have.

We often experience a sense of relief after our first few RCA meetings when we realize that other couples know what we are going through. Not only that, but we also begin to sense that our problems, which seem so ominous, have been solved by others in the group, who have moved on to happier lives. We are finally with people who understand us and can help us. That feeling that we are at home at last may well be that feeling we can now define as couple gratitude.

Many of us tried all manner of treatments for getting our relationship on track. We read self-help books. We went to therapists and counselors. Yet, it wasn't until we found the RCA program that we had the tools we needed to fully repair what was wrong. Though individual 12-Step programs had been around since AA started in 1935, there was no adaptive prescription before RCA for using these Steps in relationships.

Helping us to grow together spiritually, RCA, in no uncertain terms, tells us exactly what we must do as a couple if we want happy, healthy relationships.

When we look into the faces of our children and no longer see the fear that goes with membership in our dysfunctional family relationship, we are grateful. When we can disagree with our mate and yet continue our lives together in love, trust and

respect, we are grateful. When we are together and feel just wonderful and proud of our relationship, we are grateful. When we can nurture and be nurtured without fear of “who’s giving the most,” we must surely be grateful. We express our gratitude by sharing our joy and by helping others find their way to and in RCA through our words, deeds and resources.

Our commitment today

Today, we will take time to think about the gifts we have in our relationship. We will acknowledge ourselves – as a couple – for taking the actions required for having these gifts materialize. We will each express appreciation to our partner for one thing she or he has done to contribute to the well-being of our coupleship.

My commitment today

Today, I will commit myself to having “less attitude and more gratitude.” I will find one way of spontaneously doing something for my coupleship to share my appreciation and joy.

IF YOU ARE GRATEFUL ...

Ask your group to pass a second basket for WSO! www.recovering-couples.org is our link to suffering couples worldwide.

✓ A contribution of \$6.67 will pay for our WSO website for one day

✓ A contribution of \$50 will pay for our WSO website for one week.

A Big Thank You to the Anonymous Couples who contribute every month!

Through our World Wide Website, dozens of people are connected to meetings, to sponsors, or to RCA literature every week!!!

...And each and every inquiry receives a personal answer from our webmistress, our office manager, and/or a trustee.

☺ **HEARD AT A MEETING**

“Time takes time.”

“Instant gratification is too late!”

Income/Expense Jul 1 - Oct 6, 05

7th Tradition Donations

Jamestown, CA - 45015	170.00
Sherman Oaks, CA – 45020	200.00
Tempe, AZ - 43005	45.00
Hamilton, ONT Canada 26005	50.00
LA-EI Segundo Date Night 45040 . .	113.50
Madison, WI - 89005	10.05
Minneapolis, MN - 63015	511.00
Morgantown, WV - 88005	39.00
Oakland, CA - 45050	184.41
Los Altos, CA - 45060	101.90
Rockville, MD - 60015	142.00
San Diego/La Mesa - 45075	368.00
Sarasota, FL - 49030	200.00
Seattle, WA Sunday - 87010	200.00
Tulsa, OK - 76000	13.60
Walnut Creek, CA 45105	163.45
7th Tradition - Other	5,299.13
Total 7th Tradition.	7,811.04
Individual	1,692.88
Donations - Other	1,647.00

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

Expenses

Total Consultant	6,301.88
(E-mail 576.88, WSO 5,725.00)	
Insurance	738.28
Medallions.	835.27
Office Supplies	282.37
PayPal Fees.	63.49
Postage	473.40
Printing Copy	1,891.46
Printing - Other.	976.85
Total Printing.	2,868.31
Reimbursement	100.00
Rent	1,601.01
Telephone	279.34
Total Expense.	13,543.35

“Being self-supporting is the RCA source of strength and self-respect.” Tradition 7

Did you know??? If every group gave just \$35 per month, we would be operating in the black, reprint the Blue Book, and could build a prudent reserve?

The San Francisco Bay Area Annual RCA Green Gulch Retreat

The San Francisco Bay Area RCA groups just completed our annual retreat at Green Gulch Farm in Sausalito, California. We had several meeting topics to choose from on Saturday and Sunday after a warm-up meeting on Friday night. Many of us were challenged to grow through the sharing at the

meetings. But the hard work of growing and stretching was balanced by game night on Saturday at which we all got to laugh, play and have fun together. It was a great release from the work of recovery.

The meetings and the play night alone made the retreat worthwhile. An added bonus was the beauty of Green Gulch. Set in a valley amid eucalyptus and oak trees just on the far side of the Golden Gate bridge from San Francisco, wooded, meadow and beach trails fostered a sense of serenity and well-being. Not only did we enjoy wooded walks but we could also walk to the valley's end – the Pacific Ocean at Muir beach. Here we saw tidepools with starfish and anemones and felt the ocean breeze refreshing our spirit preparing us for the challenges of the next meeting.

Obviously it was a weekend filled with recovery, visiting with friends and meeting new ones.

We wrapped up the with a short business meeting in which we **decided on a date for next year's retreat which is October 6th – 8th**. All RCA couples are welcome, however there is room for only 15 couples so watch the RCA home page next year for sign-up time.

BLUE BOOK ON SALE NOW

Recovering Couples Anonymous 4th Edition Draft

Book with Twelve Traditions Pamphlet \$11

Electronic Copy \$5. Book + Electronic Copy \$15

The following Experience Strength and Hope was a check-in sent via e-mail from Maria in recovery with Rick to their sponsor couple, who submitted it with their permission. This couple has been coming for a few months to the Gaithersburg, Maryland, Stepping Together RCA meeting.

They were all amazed at

How Quickly Love Returns!

Rick and Maria, Newcomer Couple ESH :-)

Rick and I are having a lot of little victories.

We have had a really good week so far, and I am starting to understand what you (and the RCA blue book) mean when you say that respectful conflict can deepen your love for someone.

When we have a disagreement that would previously have caused us harm and when we settle it in a better way I really feel his love. I feel his love because I see the effort and know how easy it would have been to have made a different choice ... and yet he didn't and he decided to try. It's amazing how deeply that touches me.

We have both been somewhat stupid at times this week; we made less than positive choices (I was a total three year old on Saturday for a few seconds), but we have really worked with one another and have tried to give space when needed, to talk when needed and to listen when needed.

I am also enjoying not having to be perfect, and not expecting him to be perfect. It helps a lot when he says to me that I don't have to be perfect; I can relax.

I also know that I have to remember that since we are not perfect, something (anything really) can trigger us right back to where we started. I try now to remind myself that it will be a slip and not a declaration of "unlove". I also try really hard not to live in fear of a slip ... living in fear of the next fight just makes me feel unbalanced and brings it on so much more quickly. Ah, yes, the mind is a terrible and wonderful thing!

I was sitting in the park the other day, and there was a couple having a fight very similar to the fights Rick and I have when we aren't careful. I couldn't help but see just how useless it is to play that game. The lady was insisting that he listen to her and saying the same thing over and over. Every time she repeated herself he shut down more and side stepped her issue by bringing up something else she did to upset him. I felt sorry for them. I also felt sorry for us and felt more love for the inner children in us that so need love that we will do anything to get it.

September 11, 2005 7AM PDT World Service Board

Teleconference Report

Members present: Carol B., Jason G. (Vice-Chair), Christi G., Doug D. (Treasurer), Doreen D., Mike A. (Secretary), Katherine S., John S., Steve A (Office Manager)

Jason, acting Chair, called the meeting to order

Approval of WSB Minutes of 9/1 and 9/11 respectively; Jason asked for a motion to postpone approval of the minutes. Motion was made by Katherine, seconded by Carol. Motion passed.

Additional agenda items were requested. Carol asked for committee information. Steve raised the question of when the next Hand in Hand printing would be. Jason agreed to send committee information to each committee chair. John added that there were committee members left over from previous year's service and member lists should be updated. Mike sent committee applications to Steve (From San Diego Convention), and Steve agreed to update committee listings. No additional new business was added to the agenda.

Budget proposal and earnings plan A motion to look into this and to schedule a special board meeting to discuss plans was made by Doreen, seconded by Jean. Motion passed. Jason set meeting date for September 25, 2005 at 5PM Pacific, 7PM Central, and 8PM Eastern.

St. Louis WSB Meeting: Jean agreed to be point person and to secure meeting space for 11-13 persons. In addition, to ask a St. Louis group to set up a get together for the board on Saturday night.

RCA WSB .b4ai Forum. Jason had concerns about the B4AI forum online and continued use of said forum, Katherine agreed to speak to Ed B. on this matter.

Hand in Hand. Carl S. offered to sponsor sending the upcoming H & H in hard copy. The Hand in Hand historically has gone out with the changing of the seasons, i.e. March 21, etc.

P&L report Steve informed board this is currently up to date and that we were in the black, current with bills, and that the Convention committee was still working on expenses and reports. 14 pledge checks to be used strictly for printing of the Draft Blue Book were collected for \$1647, and said monies have been placed in a 6-month CD. All financial information to be discussed at the executive board meeting.

Seed Money for 2006 RCACC. Jason, 2006 convention liaison, added that \$480 from the San Diego Convention has been sent directly to Boston as seed money for the 2006 Convention. Jason has spoken to Bob & Karen who are on the Planning Committee for the Boston RCACC.

Survey Monkey. Christie noted that this service was free for 100 surveys and that it was a great trial prior too moving up to the "pay version." Jason asked for a vote to place a link to the "Survey Monkey" on the RCA website, which passed unanimously.

Committee Reports. Committee chairs to post results on the B4AI site (forums) would be helpful, Steve, Carol, and Doreen expressed a desire to be included in the Outreach Committee Meeting.

Delegate Package for Groups. Jason proposed a Delegate package for groups, which might possibly be handled by the Structure Committee.

Next phone meeting of the WSB is set for Sunday September 25 at 5PM PDT – 8PM EDT.

The tentative agenda of the next meeting set by Board Chair Dennis S. includes: Subject: RCA Special Board Meeting Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes of 9/1 meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes of 9/11 meeting.
3. Budget

September 25, 2005 World Service Board Teleconference Report
Members present: Dennis B. (Chair), Carol B., Jason G. (Vice-Chair), Christi G., Doug E. (Treasurer), Mike A. (Secretary), Katherine S., John S.

Approval of minutes from 9/01/05 and the 9/11/05 WSB meetings were corrected and approved respectively.

Proforma Budget discussion and dissection; Board agreed that Steve's presence was needed for concrete information. Jason offered to call Steve on 9/27/05 for the purpose of obtaining specific budget numbers. The board agreed that Steve should categorize all budget items. Doug make a formal request will be made of Steve in the Executive Committee Meeting. Executive Committee Meeting was set for 9/29/05 at 6PM Pacific, 8PM Central and 9PM Eastern.

Hand In Hand. John asked new board members to send him a short bio and picture. Jason suggested a request be made of Carl and Joann to do an article on the Draft Blue Book.

Next general meeting of the WSB was set for 10/09/05 at 7AM Pacific, 9AM Central and 10AM Eastern.

Dennis asked for any further business, there was none, Motion made to adjourn passed unanimously.

Next WSB meeting tentatively set as follows.

Sunday, October 09, 2005 Agenda :

1. Approval of minutes of the September 25 meeting
2. Budget
3. Online Order Form
4. Letter to the Bay Area Groups
5. 4th Edition pledge and donor list and accounting
6. Request from Betsy F. of Bay Area groups
7. WSO Report
8. New business
9. Committee Reports
 - A. Convention Support
 - B. 7th Tradition
 - C. Outreach
 - D. Literature/Communications
 - E. Structure
 - F. Other (Budget?)

September 29, 2005 WSB Executive Committee Report.

Present: Dennis B. (Chair), Jason G. (Vice-Chair), Doug E. (Treasurer), and Mike A. (Secretary)

Line items in the "Sales by Item Summary" were discussed.

Category 9902 was unclear and suggested Doug find out what this was from Steve.

New computer equipment is needed for the WSO office, Jason volunteered his time and effort to get and if necessary, make a trip to install and give Steve some basic training on the aforementioned equipment.

Cutting costs from printer. Mike to call Steve to request Draft Blue Book files, find out file formatting structure required by printer and other pertinent information, investigate possibility of cutting costs from printer by sending them clean flight-checked file for printing purposes.

Next Meeting. Dennis to decide need for a possible Executive Committee Meeting for next week.

October 9, 2005 WSB World Service Board Agenda

In Memoriam to Marcial D

Donations to RCA have been received in memory of Marcial D., partner of Santa D., who passed away on August 4. Marcial was active in the St. Louis RCA community, where he has been greatly missed; his wit and humor always have been a source of enjoyment. Marcial served as WSB Treasurer from 1998-2000 and on the World Service Structure Committee in 2003-5. Marcial was particularly effective in his RCA Board service. His good humor and laughter were always appreciated. He could be counted on when conflict arose to stay calm and propose some compromise position that could appeal to all enough to defuse the situation. He could listen well to all as individuals and then often convert them to his position. He could charm newcomers to the Board. He was an inspiration to all who served with him, and through his leadership, has left a legacy of wisdom and love.



Blue Book Revision

To make Recovering Couples Anonymous 4th Edition the best revision ever, we ask your help on this 4th Edition revision of Recovering

Couples Anonymous. In 2001, the Trustees voted to comply with the requests of Alcoholics Anonymous to stop using or adapting their material without permission. We have permission to adapt only the Traditions (short form), the Steps (short form) and the Preamble. Removing the other material we had adapted left some pretty big holes in our literature. Consequently, WSB directed the RCA Literature Committee to produce material that was uniquely RCA. In assembling this text, the Literature Committee also followed the suggestions that had come to WSO through the Visions Surveys and feedback to our World Service Office.

1. Language inclusive of all 12-steppers, rather than just the addict.
2. Start the book with ways for new couples to get started, not with a history lesson. The first chapter in this edition is "Into Action" and is designed to help couples recognize that they are not alone, others have faced and coped with similar problems, and here's how they did it.
3. More emphasis on restoring joy and intimacy, rather

(Continued on page 7)

than pain and dysfunction. The meeting readings have been enhanced with this in mind.

4. Clean up the grammar and mechanical errors. The editing team worked to standardize verb tenses within paragraphs, use pronouns properly, reduce the stereotypical gender bias, and clarify segments of the book that have caused confusion. (Cont. next page)

We are asking you to participate in the process of improving the work of revising the Blue Book.

Please let us know what you think!

Blue Book Revision Feedback Questions:

1. Do the language and tone of the book feel welcoming to you, whatever your 12-Step affiliation may be?
2. Does the "Into Action" chapter focus on the right things? Is anything missing? Is anything confusing?
3. A lot of space was given to conflict resolution. Is that (or anything else) given too much emphasis?
4. Is there anything in this revised Blue Book you find offensive?
5. Is there anything that was changed that you didn't want us to change? If yes, should we change it back?
6. Has there been anything in your couple's recovery that is not mentioned somewhere in the Blue Book?
7. Has there been anything in your group's success that is not mentioned in the Blue Book?
8. Does the Blue Book give you a sense of the spirituality of the RCA program? If not, what kind of material would be helpful in transmitting that sense?
9. Do you think you could start a new RCA Group based on the information provided? If not, what would you need?
10. Do you have any suggestions for funding the new Blue Book?

The Trustees and Literature Committee want to have the next printed edition be the best it can be, and for that we need your help. Get your red pen out! We are all volunteers on this project. We need all the help we can get on typo's, grammar, consistent mechanics.

Send your input in by November 30, 2005

Paper: to World Service Organization at RCA WSO P.O. Box 11029, Oakland, CA 94611 or

E-mail: wso-rca@recovering-couples.org or

Litcom@recovering-couples.org or

Post your input on the Forum at

<http://rcamembers.b4ai.com> under Member Discussions: Literature or

Post it on the Survey Monkey link at

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?A=99417044E58144>

Blue Book Printing Fund Update The \$1645 collected at the convention has been placed in an interest-earning CD. If you wish to contribute, please make a note on your check that the donation is for printing the Blue Book.

Meet Your 2005-6 Trusted Servants Trustees

Dennis, WSB Chair, and Carol We are grateful for 15 years of RCA recovery and that the meeting we started in Maryland 15 years ago is still active. We have attended 13 of the 15 RCA conventions and along with our group, hosted the Washington, DC RCA Convention in 1995. We had the privilege of serving on the first RCA Board from August 1991 to August 1994, where Dennis contributed as Secretary, Treasurer and Structure Committee chair and Carol was chair of the Literature Committee. We have sponsored many couples and facilitated RCA workshops. We are blessed by all the couples of RCA. We gratefully offer our service to the fellowship and the RCA World Service Board in 2005 and 2006.

Jason, Vice Chair, and Christi have worked on the revisions for the Blue Book. Their team created the new pamphlets on Sponsorship and a 12-step workshop for couples. This work has been a great way to keep a focus on the gifts of the program, and the love and support our coupleship has found through RCA. "Putting that workshop together has helped us grow in our recovery. We feel good about the feedback from the step workshop, knowing that we helped to create another tool for coupleship recovery."

Doug, Treasurer, and Doreen Doug: "I have worked on Budget and Traditions Committees. My hope is for RCA to grow slowly and steadily in the future."

Doreen says, "I came to the World Service Board at Philadelphia prior to the Winnipeg Convention in 2004. Last year, I served as secretary to the WSB, a role in which I learned patience and humility in service."

Mike, Secretary, and Robin came onto the WSB at the RCACC 2005 in San Diego. Having driven an hour or more to get to RCA meetings for several years now, they plan to start a meeting in their own area soon.

Joe, Assistant Treasurer, and Jean, alternate Board Members in 2004-5, are now trustees. "We have been a contact couple. We Sponsor. We lead meetings. We have been speakers. We have led workshops. We held various offices at the meeting level, and promoted RCA to counselors, pastors, therapists, and publications. We chaired the RCAC in Phila in 2003, and served on committees at the World Service level."

John and Katherine John and Katherine will complete their third year of Board service in January. John is editor of the HAND IN HAND, and Chair of the Structure Committee. Katherine serves on both Literature and Structure Committees and her focus is on local Outreach.

World Service Office Staff

Steve A., our World Service Office Manager since the office moved to Oakland, Ca. This is the voice you hear when you call RCA.

Josie H., our webmistress, responds to email inquiries, manages contacts between the members and their trusted servants, and posts updates on our website.

Your Trusted Servants can be contacted through our official website

www.recovering-couples.org

On the Front Page, click on CONTACTS.

**Recovering Couples Anonymous - 2006 Convention/Conference Boston, Mass. Area
August 4th – 6th, 2006**

For info: contact Bob & Keren 103 Bradford Commons Lane Braintree, Ma 02184 Call 781-848-5922 or email rppetitti@aol.com Confirmation will be sent by e-mail. Receipts will be handed out at the door. If you want a receipt earlier, please send a self addressed envelope with your payment. VERY Early Bird Convention Registration Fees _____ x \$ 39.00(Jack Benny's Age) per person (no meals included at this price). Make checks Payable to RCA 2006.

Hotel Reservations are Separate and your own Responsibility

For more hotel information contact: The Sheraton Braintree Hotel 37 Forbes Road Phone (781) 848-0600 E-mail “sheraton_braintree@sheraton.com”

Rate: \$ 99.00 per night (up to four per room) Mention: R.C.A. for this special rate.

Please note this rate is for you before July 1st.

* Easy 12 miles to Boston, at junction of Rte. I-93 and I-95 * Logan Express Shuttle \$20 round trip

RCACC 2006 LIVING IN LOVE August 4th-6th

Early Birds Registration Form

Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Will assist with _____ Topics _____

COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM TO: RCA 2006 c/o The Petitti's *Sorry no refunds*

There will be a Banquet w/ Growth, Dinner and Dance on Saturday and other meals when the meal package is finalized. Look for more details on the RCA website later this fall.

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**HAND IN HAND
RCA World Service Office
P.O. Box 11029, Oakland, CA 94611**