



Hand in Hand



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SPECIAL EDITION

Summer 2005



Your San Diego Convention Hosts want to celebrate RECOVERY with the whole WORLD!

The Miracle Will Happen, August 12, 13, and 14, 2005 RCACC

Convention Registration: Registration for the conference **does not include** hotel rooms. Please contact the hotel directly to reserve a room. **All registration information is strictly confidential!**

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City, State Zip _____	City, State Zip _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	Email _____

How long in RCA _____

Do you want your email & phone # on the Convention Attendee List? Yes ___ No ___

Convention Registration Fee (costs are per person)

With meals	Without meals
___ \$125 by July 1 st	___ \$95 by July 1st
___ \$140 after July 1st	___ \$110 after July 1st

Convention & General Information: Convention Co-Chairs: Mike S & Sue S 619/668-6931 suesheffield@cox.net

A detailed registration form may be downloaded from www.recovering-couples.org

Hotel Reservation Info for the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel

2270 Hotel Circle North (800) 882-0858 (toll free)

San Diego, CA 92108 www.hanaleihotel.com (Password: RCA2005)

2005 San Diego RCA Convention (The Miracle Will Happen) August 12, 13, 14, 2005

- 1 The special convention rate is \$135.00 per night per room (up to 4 people)
- 2 Please make your room reservations promptly as room availability and rates are not guaranteed after July 13, 2005
- 3 Register online (password: RCA2005) or call the hotel toll-free

Silent Auction Donations Needed

If you plan to attend, or do not, you can help by donating something to the auction - anything from an old book to a weekend at a "time share". -perhaps a gift basket. Please help. Contact: Fred and Eva at efginc@rcn.com

RCA COUPLES WANTED

To represent your group in San Diego

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT? Your Trusted Servants on the WSB need to hear from every RCA Group in order to be sure we are serving the needs of the entire Fellowship!

We need you to tell us *how* to serve you in the best possible ways so that we all can Carry the Message!!

SEND at least ONE RCA COUPLE to represent your RCA group to the San Diego 2005 Convention/Conference

Your group may help to Sponsor them by paying their registration fees

- Hold a Silent Auction so a couple can attend**
- Have a fundraising BBQ or RCA Dance**
- Have a Garage Sale**

If you cannot manage to send a couple, please send us a letter from your group voicing your needs and concerns for Recovering Couples Anonymous at rca-board@recovering-couples.org

World Service Conference Agenda for the 2005 RCACC

Focus of weekend "Service and Continuity" We need Committee and Board members to serve RCA.

Friday Forum 1:30 Open Mike for Group Rep input followed by SHORT Committees report to the Fellowship (Detailed Committee reports will have been sent to the groups by July 12 and will be in your Registration packet)

2:30 pm to 3:30pm (3:00 to 3:10 a break) ...**Regional Liaison Couples** meet to develop plan for RCA Growth, and members meet in groups based on their area of interest to brainstorm solutions for issues presented by Fellowship. Some topics groups will address are "more vibrant and lively meetings" "getting the word out to the public about RCA" "Public Service Announcements"... "Seventh Tradition support for WSO" "Ideas for literature development" "Conferences" "Conventions" "Hand In Hand" or other topics arising from Open Mike input.

3:30 to 4:10 Focus groups share their ideas - we hope that the groups will come up with RCA jobs that the fellowship needs done, then at 4:20 to 5:00 Sign up for an RCA job, or to be on the Board (9 couples needed)

Saturday Call to Service 8:00 to 8:30. Synopsis of Friday findings, Trustees and past Board members share one sentence how service on Board or a committee helps the coupleship; complete committee application forms.

8:30 to 9:20 meet your committee and plan first conference call date...a Board member will be at each committee to help

9:20 to 9:30 break. Demonstration of RCA Bulletin Board

Sunday Elections. 8 to 8:15 Complete an Application form and serve on the board and /or serve on a committee 8:15 to 8:45 Panel: Past Trustees and Committee members share What does SERVICE mean to me? 8:45 to 9:00 Break 9:00 to 10:00 Nominations and Election of 9 Board couples; acknowledge new committee members.

Board Meeting 1:00 to 3:00 New World Service Board meets with outgoing board; new officer elections, all members welcome!

Meet Your 2004-5 Trustees



John and Katherine

John and Katherine (San Juan Is., WA) are completing their third year on the Board of Trustees. Katherine served at Literature Committee Chair in 2003 and as Board Chair since July 2003. John served as Treasurer in 2003 and as Chair of Literature Communication Committee and Intergroup-Outreach Committee. "The best thing about Board service is traveling around the continent and meeting RCA'ers and learning the variety of ways people work the program."

(Photo Removed)

Jane and Ed

"Jane W (Vice Chair). and Ed B. (Gaithersburg, MD) gratefully celebrated both 7 years in RCA, and 1 year in their marriage June 5th, have served on the Board of Trustees since the Philly Convention in 2003. 'With 18 years each of recovery in our primary program, we thought we'd have it easy but without RCA we would not have had the support and tools we needed to develop our healthy and loving relationship. We love our Fellowship and want to give back a little something for all it has given us! Thank you!'



Doug and Doreen

Doreen, WSB Secretary, and Doug (Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada) Doreen says, "I came to the World Service Board at Philadelphia prior to the Winnipeg Convention in 2004. The last year, I have served a secretary to the WSB, a role in which I learned patience and humility in service. .. Doug comments, "I have worked on Budget and Traditions Committees. My hope is for RCA to grow slowly and steadily in the future.



Randy and Gerrie

Gerrie and Randy (E. St. Paul, Manitoba, CA) were host Convention Chair Couple for the 2004 RCACC in Winnipeg. Since coming onto the Board, Gerrie worked on RCA Convention and Conference Support Committee Chairperson and made Outreach calls to mid-continent RCA groups. "Service is a good way to practice principles before personalities. The Board needs 5 more couples to serve! " Randy, the WSO Treasurer says, "Thanks for contributing to WSO. This service work teaches me to treasure humility and love in Service



Jason and Christi

Apple Valley, MN. Jason and Christi have worked on the revisions for the Blue Book, both marvel at what a difference actual practical use makes in awareness of how the revisions "work" – as our home group was a "guinea pig" for all the revisions. Our team created the new pamphlets on Sponsorship and a 12-step workshop for couples. "The work we've done this year 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 and we feel good about the feedback received after facilitating the step workshop, knowing that we helped to create another tool for coupleship recovery."



Jean and Joe

Alternate board members in 2004 - 2005. "We have been a contact couple. We sponsor. We lead meetings. We chaired RCAC in Phili in 2003. We have been speakers at various meetings. We have led workshops. We held various offices at the meeting level. Valiantly tried to hold our meeting together single-handedly!! We promoted RCA to numerous counselors, pastors, therapists and publications, and served on committees at world service level."

A note from the Treasurer Randy W.

I believe RCA is currently at a crossroads where, as individuals, groups and ultimately collectively, we need to make some important decisions about RCA and where we are going. Are we ready for the exponential growth that Patrick C. suggested recently we are on the verge of ... a 12 step program where we could start seeing many referrals? We certainly have the infrastructure ... a W.S.O., a very knowledgeable and experienced office manager, and the RCA board that is committed to healthy growth.

So here are my thoughts ... take what you want and leave the rest.

Right now WSO is struggling from a lack of funds. On one hand this is good because we are not arguing about what to do with too much money. The challenge we face is that we have used up our reserve funds and are struggling to pay the rent and overheads. We are running out of Blue Books, which is also good because they're selling fast, but we have no money to print new ones. So I encourage RCA couples and groups to please make a contribution especially if you haven't recently. If you prefer your contribution to go directly to printing literature, please designate it that way and Steve will do that.

The RCA message to new groups and couples can only continue with your continued financial support.

I'd also like to tell you something about your current Board. We meet once a month by conference call and 2X a year face to face. We are from Maryland, Washington St., Minnesota and Canada so RCA, geographically anyway, is well represented. Our first face to face meeting this year was in Phoenix in February and our second will be in San Diego in August at the convention. In Phoenix we met for 2 full days with the first day talking about and committing ourselves to healthy communication and priorities for the Board this year. We are all on various service committees, that are open to all RCAs, and I believe we all bring something unique to the Board and RCA. In case any are wondering ... all Board members pay all of their own expenses.

So I encourage you all to pass the hat one more time ...make couple or group contributions ...have a potluck and invite a guest couple to speak ... come to the 2005 convention in San Diego and meet other couples and meet your service Board. We can be responsible, carry the message, support WSO and have fun!!!! Randy W.

REGISTER NOW!!! For the RCA Annual Convention/Conference San Diego CA August 12, 13, 14
Contact Mike or Sue (619) 668-6931 or email: suesheffield@cox.net

Convention Highlights

Special Speakers at the Convention: Ken and Aurora, South Central LA and Sami and Paul, San Diego and Carl and JoAnn, New Orleans, LA

Parallel Programs Saturday All day workshops on writing contracts and agreements, and Breakout sessions on topics such as: Division of Labor, Clutter, Date Night, Expectation and Entitlement vs. Acceptance and Serenity, Raising Children in Recovery, Step Children, "Not-so-empty Nesters", Parenting as a Team, Tools of Recovery, Meetings of Two, Blame Attack Defend=BAD Relationships. And on sexuality; some possible titles are Love or Lust, Sex is Not Intimacy, Many Faces of Infidelity and Intimacy is Not Just Sex.

Please let the San Diego committee know right away if you can lead one of these breakout groups!!!