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About the ACA ComLINE

The *ComLine* is published quarterly by Adult Children of Alcoholics® World Service Organization, with one free report of the Annual Business Conference (ABC). The *ComLine* is intended as a communication line from WSO to the fellowship of ACA around the world, and as a forum for the fellowship to share recovery. The *ComLine* slogan is "Experience, Strength, and Hope." The opinions expressed are those of the individuals writing the articles and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the ACA fellowship or WSO.

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This is *My* Truth

by G.C.

I recently wrote a book where I discuss my journey as seen through the lenses of my Inner Child and Loving Parent. In my book, my character wanted to save all of Africa, but she could not even save herself. I examine my past and present, and discover my Inner Child and Loving Parent. I share my trials, tribulations, and triumphs, and discover my own affirmations – affirmations to nurture my process of changing negative messages into positive ones.

And, of course, now that I'm finished, the critical inner voice is growing louder and louder. "What did you do? Why did you write this?" And, the answer is: my story wanted to come out, had to come out, and heal. Even though my intent was to heal and help, I was concerned I might cause harm.

This is *my* Truth.

I had been pretending in one way or another for so long. My sponsor reminded me that "the Truth hurts, lies harm." As I recently read in *Strengthening My Recovery*, "It hurts when we start to come out of denial, but it doesn't hurt forever," and "we bring light where there is no light." Today I can talk, I can trust, and I can feel. ACA is not an easy program, but it is worth it. The book I

wrote contains my own affirmations that reflect what I learned on my journey. I discovered I need affirmations today, every day, multiple times a day at times. I've learned that I don't have to look outside myself for affirmation; I know how to do that for myself today. But, it takes practice, practice, practice.

1. The Truth will set me free.
2. I am not in the dark today; I am in the light.
3. I can allow other people to have their feelings; I don't have to try and fix things.



image courtesy of opencilpart.org

Our journeys do not have to have measuring sticks attached – they are what they are. We have a solution in the rooms of ACA. As the promise states, we will discover our real identities by loving and accepting ourselves. Rock 'n' Roll 🎸

Controlling and Being Controlled

by John M.

Once I had the privilege of being appointed to an ACA service committee. As I had never given service in this role, I felt scared about doing it properly, and decided my best approach was to do what I was told and not ask questions. But as time went on I found myself seeing things happening that did not match my understanding of the Traditions and the Concepts.

I began to see the leader of the committee as very controlling and started to feel angry. Eventually I was asked to do something I was strongly opposed to, and felt it was in direct opposition to Tradition One and our common welfare.

My ACA sponsor told me that I had to follow the direction of the leader or quit for a year. I resigned, feeling that the leader of the committee was not following Tradition Two, which says, among other things, "Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern."

Peace and calm began to descend into my life as the anger subsided. I suddenly had a spiritual awakening.

It was not the leader of the committee who had not been following Tradition Two, it was me who had not been following Tradition Two. All he had done was asked me to do some things. I had been thinking I had to do them and was letting him control me. I had been letting him govern me as I had been trying to people-please him!

I realized my responsibility was to my Higher Power, by praying for knowledge of His

will for me and for the power to carry it out (Step 11 and Concept 3).

But then my Higher Power sent me the other side of the



By praying for knowledge of His will . . .



picture. In my area, there was a person who had provided a lot of service work. He had revived ACA in our area, and had led a couple of workshops. However, fellow travelers claimed he was taking all the responsibility and doing everything. They wanted a chance to participate. We formed an Intergroup so that other people could get involved. He continued to be active in service work, but returned to the Intergroup for support because people were criticizing him again.

Then it happened to me. I had done a lot of service work for the Intergroup by starting a speaker meeting, initiating a Step Workshop, and writing a set of Intergroup guidelines.

My fellow ACAs grew angry at my behavior, calling me controlling. They boycotted intergroup meetings that I was attending as an elected Intergroup Representative (IGR). They asked me to step down as IGR, claiming I was ruining things. They didn't want to attend meetings where I was present.

I worked on following Tradition Twelve about Principles

not Personalities, and finished up my service term as IGR. Realizing I could not change them, I disengaged. I went to a different fellowship and tried

to follow their suggestion of Letting Go and Letting God.

To make amends for my part in this affair, I am learning communication principles in the hope that I will be less likely to trigger people.

My guess is that any ACA is likely to perceive someone who is active in service work as an authority figure. Then our characteristic of difficulty with authority figures emerges. We see authority in the same light as we saw our alcoholic family members whom we had to obey. Wanting independence and freedom, we rebel against these people in our lives. We forget that as adults we already have freedom and independence, and don't need to people please. We instead have a new employer, our Higher Power (loving parent), and are free to choose actions that will benefit our common welfare.

However, even with these understandings, I am still not perfect. The actions of others affect my emotions, and I have feelings of anger.

Time for Steps 6 and 7 again and forgiveness prayers and meditation. 🐼

Whose Hands?

by Maggie H., USA



And there I stood beside myself . . .
And wondered who that was in the mirror . . .
How come I can't feel like I belong to the image
there?

They say I have an image problem

So what's next?

"No more dissociative episodes"

"What is real is where your hands are"

And do I own my hands?

Are they purposeful and prayerful?

Time will tell. 🐾

Third Annual ACA European Meeting Moscow, 23-25 September 2016

by Liisa P., ACA, Finland

ACA continues to grow in Europe, as confirmed by a record attendance at the third annual European Meeting that was held in Moscow: 291 people from 45 cities across Russia and 7 other countries (Belarus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, and Ukraine) met to share their experience, ideas, strength, and hope.

On Friday, ACA members in Moscow organized a walking tour of the city, and on the weekend we had meetings and workshops. All talks were in Russian or English with simultaneous interpretation. On Saturday evening we had a joyful party, and it was massive and unreal to be there! Our experiences unite us, no matter where we come from. A national service board in Russia was founded on Sunday and members in Russia were also very interested in the experiences of ACA in other countries like Finland.

In attendance were WSO Board of Trustee members Majbrit M. from Denmark, Chair of

the European Committee and Vice-Chair of the WSO, and Jeffrey F. from the Czech Republic, Chair of the European Committee's Literature and Finance Sub-committees. They brought a gift from the WSO (see photo)

to give to all attendees: a coin to commemorate the Big Red Book being published in Russian. Meanwhile, translations of the BRB continue in other languages such as Spanish, German, Italian, Dutch and Swedish because – as Majbrit often says – "My inner child does not speak English."

Many countries have old literature which is not ACA ABC conference approved literature, probably translated by friends in recovery. Some of this material is in a Finnish Steps-booklet, which also contains other material and our own ACA history. The Estonians have translated this into Estonian and have discovered the history of the texts.

It is astonishing, but it seems that ACA in Finland is one of the oldest in Europe and second in activity to Denmark: ACA in Denmark celebrates 27 years in 2017, and Finland celebrates 30. Unfortunately, ACA has dried up in some countries, partly due to a lack of program literature in their native language.

The European Committee has been working to bring ACA literature to Europe in English via Amazon UK, while working with local fellowships to finalize and print translated literature locally. It is also launching a new web site (www.acawsoec.com) to help raise the profile of ACA in Europe while also connecting to local ACA web sites in other European countries, which are difficult to locate, as they are not listed on the WSO site. 🐾



image courtesy of Jeffrey F., Denmark

This Feels Bad – I like it – I think I'll stay

by Martin A. J., Denmark

My name is Martin. I am an adult child from Denmark. For the last three years I have been going to ACA meetings and working the Twelve Steps. I write to stay conscious, help myself and stay in recovery. In my journey I have found that many people relate to the same issues I have. For that reason I would like to share my story.

"Until you make the unconscious conscious, it will direct your life and you will call it fate."
– Carl Jung.

It is a Friday in December 2015 in the city of Aarhus, Denmark. I am here to take a class and afterwards I am meeting my sister in a bar. The plan is to watch a football game between the home team, AGF, and the away team, FCM.

My sister has invited two colleagues, and we are having a couple of beers while watching the game.

In front of us are fans of the opponents, FCM, being loud. The comments at the big screen are fast and negative. FCM is behind and doesn't look like being able to equalize the score any time soon.

I notice two of the fans, sitting in a couch. The first one is facing the screen, watching the game, but also a bit distracted by the other man. He is sitting next to the first one, but instead of watching the game, he is aggressively whispering in the other man's ear.

Mouth and ear are only a few centimeters apart, and I am sensing the aggression from his

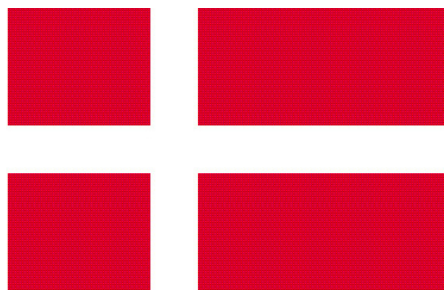


image courtesy of
www.free-country-flags.com

attitude and the way he moves his lips while whispering.

The first guy, the listening fan, watching the screen, doesn't move and doesn't say much to the other man. I know this situation. I remember that I have been the quiet one absorbing the energy of others. I have listened uncritically and made the tension of others my own.

In a situation like this I would feel unable to move. I would freeze to my chair, scared to move – what would happen if I did? Would I be able to control the situation?

Before, I would have stayed in the first bar. I would have been a sponge for the negative emotions that came from others. I would have internalized them and reacted to them as if they were my reality as my own thoughts. I would have let other people decide how I felt.

Today I can use the tools of recovery from our program and listen to my inner voice validating my true feelings and leave knowing that a situation like that is not mine to handle. 🍷

Det her føles dårligt – Jeg må hellere blive i det

by Martin A. J., Denmark

"Indtil du gør det ubevidste bevidst, vil det styre dit liv, og du vil kalde det skæbne". Carl Jung, 1875-1961.

Det er en fredag i december i Aarhus. Efter et kursus skal jeg mødes med min søster på en bar. Vi skulle se AGF-FC Midtjylland og have et par øl sammen med hendes kolleger.

Foran os sidder en gruppe FC Midtjylland-fans. De er højrøstede og kommentarerne til storskærmen er hurtige og negative. FCM er

bagud og ikke umiddelbart i stand til at svare igen.

Jeg lægger mærke til to af mændene. Den ene sidder med front mod skærmen. Han lytter til den anden, som sidder i sofaen. Den anden mand ser ikke kampen. Han sidder hele tiden og snakker til sin ven. Jeg ser venstre side af hans ansigt. Hans mund er hele tiden få centimeter fra øret, og jeg mærker en aggressivitet og kontanthed fra hans holdning og profil. Den første mand, den lyttende,

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4)

Det her føles dårligt – Jeg må hellere blive i det

bevæger sig ikke og siger ikke så meget til sin ven.

Jeg kan mærke, at jeg kender den situation.

Jeg kan huske, hvordan jeg har været den stille, som har taget imod energien fra andre. Jeg har lyttet og ukritisk taget stemningen fra den anden til mig.

Jeg husker, at jeg ikke følte mig i stand til at flytte mig. Det var som om, at jeg bare frøs på min stol. Jeg var bange for, hvad der ville ske, hvis jeg gik. Så ville jeg ikke have nogen kontrol.

Hvis jeg blev, ville jeg i det mindste føle muligheden for at gøre bare lidt for at løse op for stemningen.

“De viser ikke kampen, men der er ingen bullies”, skriver jeg til min søster inde fra den anden bar, mens roen falder på mig og jeg bestiller en ny fadøl.

Efter kampen kommer min søster og kollegerne ind til mig. Min søster fortæller, at både politi i uniform og betjente i civil havde afhørt nogle gæster.

Tidligere ville jeg være blevet på den første pub. Jeg ville have været en svamp for den negative energi, der kom fra andre, gjort den til en del af mig og reageret på den som MIN virkelighed.

Jeg ville have ladet andre bestemme, hvordan jeg skulle have det. 🍷

Boundaries

by Mardi M.

In Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA), one of the first things we usually hear about in meetings is the unfamiliar word “boundaries.” In a dysfunctional home, sometimes there were strict boundaries and sometimes there were none at all. A wire fence, such as in the photo to the right, is an example of a healthy boundary in a wildlife refuge to help keep the wildlife safe and to keep us safe.

In our family of origin, sometimes parents could say anything they wanted. Their words could hurt us to the core, and we were expected to remain emotionless, because if we cried, they would give us “something to cry about.” They’d fight in front of us children, and we were expected to tolerate it, and to be “seen and not heard.”

Today, because of ACA, we are learning the difference between healthy and unhealthy boundaries. We learn that it is not healthy if our partner doesn’t allow us to have friends or to be social with others. We learn we have rights as a human being and are not the property of another person. We learn that it is not appropriate to call each other ugly names in order to shame us/them. We learn to nurture and to take care of ourselves and our children in order to grow spiritually and emotionally.



This photograph for the month of June in *Strengthening My Recovery* was taken by an adult child who was visiting a wildlife refuge at the Grouse Mountain in Vancouver Canada. The fence shown is a fixed knot woven wire fence – a boundary fence – used to separate visitors from the resident wildlife.

Boundaries are a wonderful thing, but learning how to set boundaries kindly, or firmly but gently, is not easy for ACAs. But we get the opportunity to practice every day in our recovery program, until we can do so without leaving scorched earth behind us.

On this day, I will ask for guidance from my Higher Power, in learning how to set healthy boundaries, so I can have the courage to stand up for myself with kindness, and to become the person I was meant to be. 🍷

A Letter to an Adult Child

by Current Chair, Larry A.

If I may, I would like to give you some information concerning some of the things the World Service Organization (WSO) has done and is doing to actively support groups and intergroups. Bear in mind that the WSO employs only three staff members at the Literature Distribution Center, one Board support staff, one literature Design Editor, and one Member and Public Service (MPS) support staff – all part-time. The bulk of the heavy lifting is done by volunteers such as us.

One of the WSO's objectives is to support groups, intergroups and regions, for literature.

In the last five years, the WSO:

1. Standardized and updated all of the trifolds, and published/revised seven new ones all with a consistent, professional look.
2. Published its first-ever meditation book in three formats: pocket, hard cover, and digital.
3. Published the Big Red Book (BRB) in digital format and the Tenth Anniversary Commemorative Edition.
4. Published the unabridged audio version of the BRB (with a free table of contents online).
5. Published *The Laundry Lists Workbook*.
6. Published the online *Hospital & Institutions Guidelines* (H&I).
7. Releasing, soon, a Six Consecutive Meeting chip.
8. Bar coded all of the literature.
9. Relaunched the *ComLine*.

This involved a lot of work with vendors, writers, artists, proof readers, layout staff, attorneys, printers, and so on.

The WSO also offers various special programs to assist U.S. and non-U.S. groups to start up and grow, including:

1. The 30% Intergroup Literature Discount when 20 or more books are ordered.
2. The Board Book Initiative (the Board donates 400 books annually to professionals).
3. The "Lights on Project" (at the Board's

own cost) sends a new meeting starter kit to the first meeting in a country.

4. Book Seeding Project (The project allows non-U.S. groups to receive a discounted rate on literature and shipping to establish a revolving book fund).
5. Special "consignment" orders for Australia.

The WSO:

1. Oversees all translations.
2. Offers the groups a one-time, first-edition limited distribution right.
3. Pays to have all booklets and tri-folds, computer translated into five major languages. These will soon be printed and readied to be distributed.
4. Is opening a literature distribution channel with Amazon UK to eliminate the exorbitant shipping costs.

The WSO maintains the WSO website which was updated to a new state-of-the-art, custom-built site. The site is actually four different domains: Main, Repository, Store, Meeting Directory.

In addition, the WSO funds attendance at major conferences in the U.S. and abroad.

I believe these efforts support groups so that they can carry the message to the adult child who still suffers.

The Greater New York ACA Intergroup (GNYAI) has benefited from these efforts in part because it motivated me to launch the GNYAI. In fact, when I started to try to open the NY intergroup, there were 7-10 meetings in NYC proper and no meetings in Brooklyn. I even had to schlep out there to support the small group once it opened. So in many ways, WSO efforts benefit the groups and the groups benefit the WSO by reaching out to their local communities. Our share-a-days are the way that WSO benefits from all the work it does.

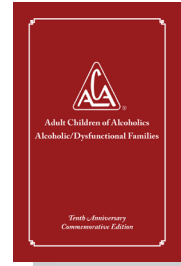
I truly hope this helps to demonstrate that the WSO is actively supporting groups and facilitates their ability to attract and provide service to adult children all around the globe. 🌍

Tenth Anniversary Commemorative Edition of the BRB

We are proud to announce the 10th anniversary of the Big Red Book (BRB) with this very special edition!

The ACA logo and text, Adult Children of Alcoholics/Dysfunctional Families, Special Tenth Anniversary Commemorative Edition is embossed in silver on a leather-like, textured red cover.

The pages are also designed to be more user-friendly. Printed tabs along the top and side edges allow for ease of use in locating sections and chapters. A bonus chapter, "The Laundry Lists", is included as Appendix D. There are only 3,000 copies of this limited edition. See our web site at <http://shop.adultchildren.org/home.php?cat=3> for availability. The cost is USD 20.00, plus shipping and handling. 🐾



Delegates Corner

by Erin D., Delegate Training Sub-Committee and Mardi M., ComLine Editor

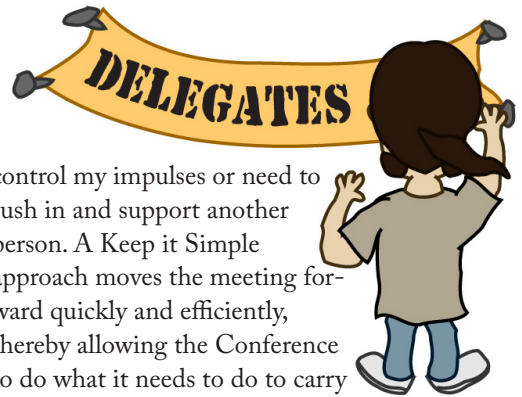
Robert's Rules of Order and ACA. As the 2017 Annual Business Conference is coming up in April, familiarity with *Robert's Rules of Order* (RRO) reinforces the value and lessons learned in recovery.

By following RRO, business can be discussed in an orderly fashion. We are able to present agenda items for general discussion, then ask for a motion of those items. Orderly communication is foreign to most ACAs. In our family of origin, our communication was usually chaos: people pushed buttons, spoke over the top of each other, hollered, and slammed doors.

So how does RRO teach us? Let's say the Chairperson has invited someone to speak. This person **presents a motion**. This needs to be a well-prepared statement of the issue, as the person making the motion will not have the chance to speak again until all voices have been heard. A well-presented motion will allow for a quick and efficient process. This is not the fly-by-the-seat-of-my-pants comment, but a defined statement so those present will clearly understand the motion. Then the person making the motion needs to stay silent, ready to hear how the others will respond.

Next, the motion must be **seconded** by another registered Delegate.

If the motion is seconded, then a **discussion** will now be heard in favor and opposition. Each Delegate, representing their group's conscience, may address the motion. The Delegate will speak only once until all have had a chance to speak. This is where ACA teaches me that I do not need to repeat what someone just said because I agree with it or need to be heard personally. I learn to



control my impulses or need to rush in and support another person. A Keep it Simple approach moves the meeting forward quickly and efficiently, thereby allowing the Conference to do what it needs to do to carry out the will of the fellowship by reaching an informed group conscience. We address the motion with courtesy and respect and without pointing fingers at others. Principles over personalities!

The Chairperson may now ask if the Delegates are ready to **vote**. To adopt a motion, a simple majority is all that is required. At the ACA Annual Business Conference, the Delegates' vote represents the majority's vote of each group that voted – not a personal opinion. We practice open-mindedness and anonymity; the surrendering of ego. As a Delegate, I am responsible to spiritual principle of Unity.

Robert's Rules and ACA meetings, thank you for teaching me the value of listening, honoring and speaking when it's my turn. True to the ACA Promises, this practice has rewarded me so much peace and serenity when it comes to being present and communicating with my family.

For educational information on attending the ABC see: <http://repository.adultchildren.org/delegates-education-page>. 🐾

Service Structure Setting Up to Serve International Scope

by Marcia J., Service Structure Committee (SSC) Vice Chair



Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA) has a good problem. From September 2014 to September 2016, the number of meetings registered with the World Service Organization (WSO) increased from 1,232 to 1,625. That is a 32% increase in just two years.

This extraordinary growth speaks of a strong and vibrant fellowship, which continues to receive more calls for WSO service to help new members and groups get organized all over the world. This, in turn, requires the creation of ACA literature in more languages in order to share the experience, strength, and hope to continue supporting the adult child in recovery.

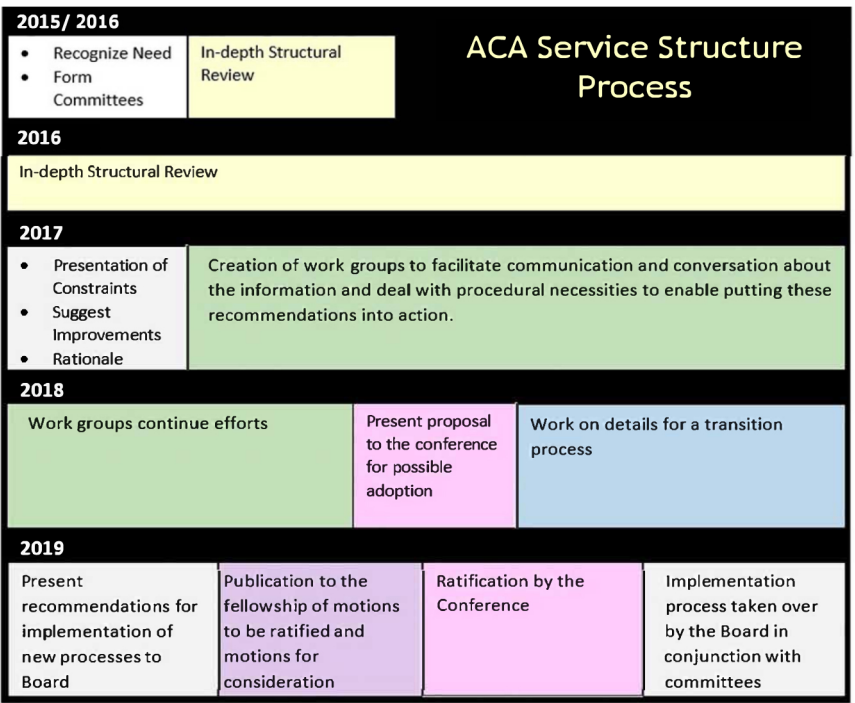
Our primary purpose is to carry the ACA message to those who still suffer. The current structure of the WSO has served the fellowship well so far, but increasing membership and wider demands require that we consider what type of structural changes might address current issues and facilitate the provision of future services in a functional, efficient fashion to a fellowship that is larger and more international in scope.

The WSO Board of Trustees created the ad hoc Service Structure Committee after the 2016

ABC (Annual Business Conference) to review the ACA service structure and make recommendations to the WSO Board and the ACA fellowship in this matter. The committee is chaired by WSO board member Bill D. Others on the committee are: Marcia J. (Iowa) Vice Chair/Secretary, Bonnie K.-M. (Texas), Charlie H. (DC), Jim R. (New York), Marietta B. (Connecticut), Melani M. (Tennessee), Nancy U. (Florida), Tom R. (Pennsylvania), and David McB. (Florida).

The committee has undertaken the task of compiling and analyzing the service structures of nine other 12-step fellowships as well as ACA's own structure. A timeline for continued activity toward the larger goal was presented to the Board of Trustees, as well as a proposed procedure for committee action. Both were discussed and approved by the Board of Trustees at their Strategic Planning Session in October 2016.

We expect this work to continue over a couple of years, with presentations being made at the Annual Business Conferences (ABC) and world conventions. Look for continued information in the *ComLine*. We welcome input from the fellowship. 🍷





Hospitals & Institutions (H&I) Starting to Catch On

Hi Fellow ACAs,

There is something about sharing our recovery with those who cannot get out to an ACA meeting that makes life a little more special. Having been invited to share at prisons, rehabs, and crisis centers, I can say without a doubt, I always leave feeling a lot more grateful than I did when I went in the door.

The H&I activity has picked up again this month with Region 2 in the beginning stages of forming an H&I Committee. Two people in California connected as the result of the on-going Region 2 development. A member in San Diego and a member in Orange County have connected and are beginning to discuss building an H&I Committee.

We received word that the Denmark Intergroup had a new H&I person who will be heading up the effort to reach the adult child who still suffers and cannot get out of institutions to attend a

meeting. We look forward to hearing more about this committee's work in the future.

In South Florida a new Intergroup is forming and has an H&I Committee defined in its foundational documents. The Intergroup already has one H&I meeting in existence in Pembroke Pines, and the SOBE Wednesday Night Group on Miami Beach is inquiring about purchasing books for local prisons in their area.

If there is any H&I activity going on in your community, please let us know so we can acknowledge and support your efforts. We are also looking for an ACA member to volunteer for service who could help coordinate this effort. If you would like to learn more about H&I service, please email me at mepschair@adultchildren.org. Everyone – thank you for your support!

Yours in Service,
Bill D., Member & Public Service Chair 🐾

From Our Treasurer

Greetings,

In keeping with the WSO Board's intent of maintaining transparency in all financial matters, monthly reports are posted in the Treasurer's Report section of the website's Repository – <http://www.repository.adultchildren.org/wso-treasurer>. The 7th Tradition contributions are posted in the "7th Tradition Contributions" section – <http://www.repository.adultchildren.org/donations-received>.

We've received the following question several times over the past year: Can someone leave money to WSO in their will?

The answer is that the Fellowship is always grateful when a member of ACA wishes to add a bequest to WSO in their will. The guidelines for such contributions are as follows:

- In keeping with the Traditions, WSO may accept money only from ACAs.
- The maximum bequest that we can accept each year is \$7,500.
- If someone wishes to add a bequest in their will, a signed and notarized letter should be sent from them to ACA WSO with the following verbiage: "I, _____, am a member of Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA) and I plan to leave a bequest to ACA World Service Organization in my Last Will and Testament."
- The letter should be sent to the following address: ACA WSO, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 3216, Torrance, CA 90510.

For future issues of the *ComLine*, if you or your group have any questions, please contact me.

Yours in Service,
Mary Jo L. ACA WSO Treasurer, treasurer@adultchildren.org 🐾

All ACA Groups Receive Ballot Proposals to Vote



Hello fellow ACAs,

By the time this issue of the *ComLine* is received, the Group Conscience (GC) Ballot Proposals will have been sent out via email to all registered group and intergroup contacts. If you did not receive them, please send an email to information@acawso.com and request an emailed ballot package. We will send one out to you.

The Group Conscience (GC) Ballots are obtained from the ACA Groups and are issues the groups would like to see considered by the fellowship during the next Annual Business Conference*. This year WSO received 25 GC Ballot Proposals before the September 30, 2016 deadline. After carefully reviewing all 25, WSO found that 3 were not filled out with issues and 6 were exact duplicates of other ballots.

The GC Ballots are due in to WSO's online survey site by February 28, 2017. We will send and publish a link on our website to that voting site as soon as it is ready to start receiving votes.

Proposals receiving at least a 2/3rds affirmative vote of the total ballots submitted will then be placed on the agenda for Delegates to review during the 2017 ABC. An affirmative vote simply means your group thinks it should be discussed at the business meeting. A No Opinion vote will be tabulated the same as a No vote in determining the percentage of affirmative votes.

If you have any questions regarding this process please feel free to reach out to me at abc@adulthoodchildren.org.

Yours in Service,

Bill D., ABC Committee Chair

*<http://repository.adulthoodchildren.org/committee-abc/2017-abc>

Audit Committee



Dear Fellow ACAs,

At its November 12, 2016 Board meeting the WSO Board of Trustees established an Audit Committee as a proactive measure to assist the WSO Board in fulfilling its fiduciary obligation of Prudent Corporate Governance. At that meeting the WSO Board appointed Bill D., a WSO Trustee from Florida, as Chair of the Audit Committee. The committee will be charged with performing the tasks below that are traditionally fulfilled by an audit committee:

- Reviews the organization's financial statements and other official financial information provided to the independent auditors.
- Ensures that reports are received, monitored, and distributed correctly.
- Oversees the organization's internal controls, including management's compliance with applicable policies and procedures and risk management.
- Oversees the independent audit process, including engaging the independent auditor and receiving all reports and management letters from the auditor.
- Reviews the annual information returns (IRS Form 990, related schedules, and forms) and recommends them for approval.
- Reviews the organization's procedures for reporting problems. The audit committee may exercise primary responsibility to review the policies and procedures related to the discovery of errors or illegal acts.
- The Board may delegate other authority and/or duties to the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee is currently seeking people to serve on the committee and to assist with the various tasks assigned to the committee. Interested persons may send an email expressing their interest to Bill D. at auditcommittee@adulthoodchildren.org. Please include information about your background in finance, business administration, and/or non-profit governance.

Yours in Service,

Bill D., Audit Committee Chair



2017 Annual Business Conference (ABC) and ACA World Convention (AWC) Registration Form April 20-23, 2017 – San Diego, Calif., USA

To register as a delegate or convention attendee, complete the form below. Please print, * indicates required information

No registration fee is required for the attendance of the ABC (Thursday & Friday)			
Full Name * First, Last			
Name desired on Badge			
Email Address *		Phone*	
I joined ACA / my anniversary is (MM/DD/YY) _____			
Mailing Address*	Street _____		
	City _____ State _____ Zip _____		
	Country _____		
The following section is for ABC Business voting delegates only			
I attest that I have been selected as the delegate of an ACA Group or Intergroup			
WSO No.* _____ Group / Intergroup Name _____			
(To find your group number, go to www.meetings.adultchildren.org/find-a-meeting1)			
Signature*: _____ Date*: _____			
Business Conference & World Convention Costs			
Convention Registration Please select only one	Early Bird Rate until March 22nd	\$30.00	_____
	Regular Rate March 23rd - April 19th	\$35.00	_____
	Walk up Rate April 20th – 23rd	\$40.00	_____
All Meals	Box Lunch Thursday	\$15.00	_____
	Box Lunch Friday	\$15.00	_____
	Thursday Night Dinner in Old Town	\$34.00	_____
	Banquet Dinner Saturday	\$43.00	_____
	Speaker Luncheon Sunday	\$30.00	_____
Scholarship — Donation to help others attend the convention:			
\$5 ○ \$10 ○ \$15 ○ \$20 ○ \$25 ○ other _____			
Grand Total - Amount enclosed		USD \$ _____	

Payment can be made by personal check or money order payable to Adult Children of Alcoholics. We gladly accept personal checks, however to save time and effort we would greatly appreciate Money Orders. We will accept personal checks up to 10 days prior to the event. Please print, complete and mail all forms with your check or money order to: ACA WSO, Inc. – ATTENTION: ABC/AWC – P.O. Box 3216, Torrance, CA 90510 USA

To register online or for hotel information please go to: <https://www.acaworldconvention.org>



ACA WSO, Inc.
Post Office Box 3216
Torrance, California,
90510 USA
adultchildren.org
adultchildren.org/comline