

Jono M. and **Wiafe M.** were honored to represent the NYCMA Area at the “World” Conference in Chicago on Oct.6-9, 2016. It was an international gathering of delegates tasked to build and maintain the structures and committees that keep our shared Fellowship strong.

We exchanged ideas, had debates, had food, voted on policy, held meetings, and learned of CMA sobriety and procedure in other parts of our country and world. All the while, we were spiritually and administratively unified by our primary purpose of helping the suffering crystal meth addict who seeks our Solution.

1. Purpose/Structure of Assembly

The CMA General Service Organization consists of the General Service Committee and Regional Board Trustees who receive guidance from Sub-Advisory Committees, who meet monthly on conference calls and annually in person. Each Area (usually a geographic state, like NY) sends delegates to be on the Advisory Committees, covering the working topics of Finance, Communications, Hospitals & Institutions, Literature, Public Information & Outreach, and Executive, whose work is sent to guide the Board’s actions of Policy.

2. Schedule of Conference

The 2016 Chicago Conference was 4 days. Thursday began with a Trustee mtg and introductory session, with late night Delegate orientation meeting.

On Friday the break-out committee meetings were held. Morning & Afternoon sessions, 8AM-5PM then dinner, speaker mtg

Saturday was the assembly of the entire conference with Committees presenting the reports to the room, all recorded by secretaries, and questions taken from mics in the hall. We finished with Trustee nomination & discussion. Dinner, speaker mtgs (very powerful speakers, Mark, Yvonne), then late night show!

Sunday was Executive Committee, By-law clarifications, Final questions from delegates, Gratitude Panel.

3. Ideas/Decisions/Motions

Chips and medallions! We now have CMA chips for all months up to 12, and will soon have medallions for each year thru 15. They can be ordered from www.crystallmeth.org (general note on websites: our Area site www.nycma.org can be accessed on the national site under “contact us”; it tells of local information. And, our NYC meetings are findable on the national listing.)

Meetings outside the USA: CMA continues to expand. In addition to Delegates from Canada and Australia to the Conference, we learned that there are established meetings in Montreal UK, Iran, and Bangladesh with new meetings being formed in Thailand and New Zealand.

There have been requests to the Literature committee to translate the pamphlets into Farsi.

There was a powerful share from the Australian delegate who relayed the gratitude to CMA from her Fellows in Sydney: “We need you to lead. Your Fellowship has the structure and the experience. We want to be lead and be guided by you.”

At the conference itself, the US saw new delegates from Kansas, Texas, and Minnesota, with Arizona, CA, and the northeast strongly represented.

There is New Literature and readings available, having been officially “Conference Approved”:

The 12 steps: A Plan of Action and *There is Hope*

which can be voted on in individual meetings to be part of the script.

There was a vote to rescind Conference approval from the old Seventh Tradition pamphlet & replace it with a new one, which stresses the spiritual underpinning of donation, and the tasks of the Treasurer. It will be available & printed this year. Indeed, on the topic of money and budget, it was a powerful experience to see how meticulous CMAGSO is with safeguarding our donations. (And I can say the same for NYCMA, indeed!) Their financial health of the main body is stable, and many fellows were watchdogs on making sure every dollar is correctly spent on our primary purpose of helping the addict in need.

The Hospitals and Institutions Committee is finalizing a standardized Handbook to bringing CMA meetings into jails and rehabs. It has the details of structuring a successful meeting within the confines of a restricted facility, how to introduce our CMA literature, how to start “Sober Mentoring” by a penpal system, and link the confined Fellow with meetings upon release to the outside.

CMA wants to hear your voice and story of Recovery!

Submit written story or recording on www.crystalmeth.org thru “Share Your Story” on main tab, and also through the individual committee tab of Hospitals and Institutions, especially if your story involves time spent at such facilities. The stories will be available online, or edited in the next anticipated book of our Fellowship: **Voices of The Fellowship**, with a dedicated chapter on *Sex in Sobriety*.

National helpline. CMA has a national helpline and you can volunteer for service.

(You may also be interested in serving on our local NYCMA helpline!)

For national service, contact the Public Information Chair at Tanner.w@cmagso.net

Scientific Outreach:

The Public Information committee visited the American Society of Addictive Medicine, a first outreach between our Fellowship and a scientific body.

Our publication **Crystal Clear** can be on your phone. CMA’s book is not only available in hardcopy from Amazon, you can download a kindle edition for \$8.99. Now you can have all the info at your digital fingertips. Find further info at www.crystalmeth.org

On the social media front:

We are excited to note the Communications Committee’s projected release of a CMA app for your phone by next year.

And there is early exploration of the mechanics and protocol of ad-linking on “sexual social” apps, to allow for pop-up’s of CMA links. CMA is realistic on where our information and outreach are most needed, and where future fellows will want to learn that we do exist. We adhere to our purpose of helping the suffering addict in need, but are mindful that we do not “advertise” as other organizations do: Attraction not Promotion.

Finally, it is hard not to be impressed by the effort, devotion, and mutual respect of the trustees and Board Members who guide the CMA GSC for many years.

Our own David H. was voted in as Regional Trustee where he has an important role on the Finance committee, which will ultimately be drafting an encyclopedic “Treasurers Handbook: to guide rules on all levels of service.

All Chairs of NYCMA Committees, and indeed all interested fellows have been invited to sit in on General Service Organization Conference Calls. They take place as follows:

Communications	4 th Sunday	6pm/3pm EST/W	712-832-8300	3104995#	
	Dale.g@cmagso.net				
PI&O	3 rd Saturday	12pm/9am	646-307-1300	7477640#	Tanner.w@cmagso.net
Finance	2 nd Sunday	7:30pm/4:30pm	605-475-6333	5057218#	Chip.e@cmagso.net
Hospitals & Institutions	4 th Saturday	12pm/9am	712-432-0075	311101#	Brenda.s@cmagso.net
Literature	1 st Saturday	11:30am/8:30am	605-475-5950	976886#	Aaron.m@cmagso.net

Thank you for letting us be of Service,

Jono M.

Wiafe M.