



AA CONNECTIONS AROUND THE WORLD

MANY COUNTRIES-MANY LANGUAGES-ONE ROAD

Miracles Do Happen in Fiji

Please share my stories with everyone especially the Australia Asia! They are a huge part of this miracle! *(Letter received from a new member from Fiji)*

Is it beyond chance that the daughter of an alcoholic has 12 stepped her father and reignited the flame...and that there are others. On the island Vanua Levu.... an AA priest carried the message about 29 years ago.... and the spark was carried back to them by a young lady who attended the "Fellowship in Fiji Convention"!

We will help start this meeting again. The computer donated by John can be used for this, as they need a strong system to hook up from there. Also I will be seeking funds to bring a group again to Vanua Levu...

Higher Power sure rocks ...never doubt that miracles do still occur!

Read on for her experience

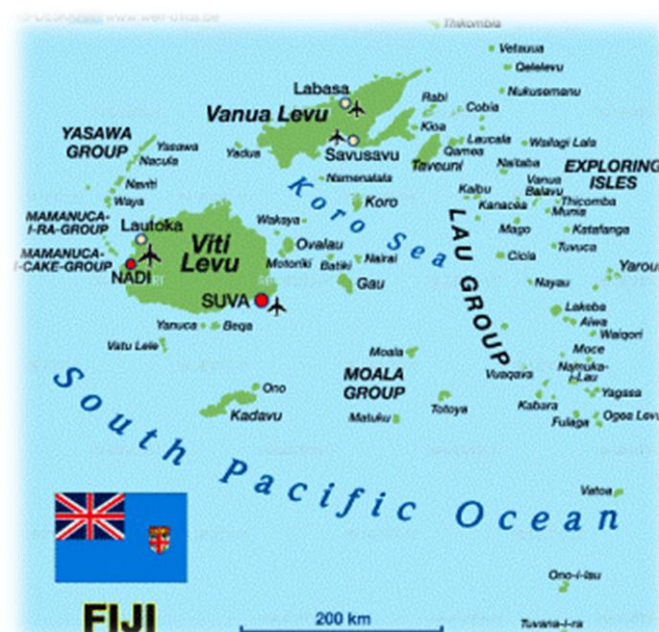
The reaction of my parents took me by surprise. When I started sharing my recovery experience with them, they were blown away. My father said that I have given him a new life. He just couldn't get over it. My sharing has renewed his faith in the AA program. Brought him a lot of memories from when he started out in the program. We kept sharing the whole weekend. He couldn't get enough. He dug out his old AA material and has started reading again. Its just amazing how he responded to my stories of the struggles and the miracles that began to happen. He identified with everything, slapping his knee and saying, "Yes! I know exactly what you're talking about! That's right!" We laughed and cried together. It was a truly spiritual weekend. My higher power was at work. He collected his old buddie and shared my stories with them. Some of them are his old AA friends who did the program with him some 25+ years ago. They were fascinated. He just couldn't contain his joy. I spoke with him this morning and he said that mum and him were still amazed by my coming in the weekend. They were still discussing AA whole morning when I called. It made me so emotional when I wake up early in the morning and listening to them in the kitchen making breakfast and sharing about the AA experience. He is coming back to the program. Once I get his laptop fixed and send it back to Labasa, he will get online for our Skype meetings.

God is at work here! I am just blown away by what is happening right now to my family. They have called up my other siblings and shared with them my experiences, hoping that they too will join in the future.

Yesterday, before our meeting at Bahai Hall, I spoke with my father who was still coming to terms with the miracle that has happened. His whole life changed instantly. He wanted so badly to attend a meeting that I decided to call him in through the phone during the meeting so he can listen in. We all shared yesterday as he and my mum listened in through the phone. He was so emotional because it was his first meeting after 25+ years. Last night his buddies came over to our house where he shared my experience, struggles and miracles yet again. He took out his AA materials and they all went through it again, rekindling what was brought to them years ago by Fr. Sigarara. They have asked for more materials and maybe a chance to start a meeting there. Yes, I think it would be very beneficial for them to use the computer in Labasa.

My father had given me his laptop to be fixed by my brother (who is also an alcoholic. His wife also). I went by his place last night to drop off the computer and they asked me to tell them yet again about how I ended up in the cell! Hahaha. I didn't mind at all. I knew something was about to happen here also. I told them the same things I shared with my father. Walked them through my experience, strength and hope. The struggles, the miracles. Before I was half way through, they had tears in their eyes. I was overwhelmed with emotion when they admitted that they were also alcoholic and they were struggling to manage their lives. They are keen in joining the meetings, at least once, and see from there. I knew the seed has been planted and that is all that matters.

A power greater than ourselves is at work here. I am truly humbled.



From Mongolia and Russia



The sun is sinking behind the last dunes of the Gobi Desert as our trans Mongolian train edges toward another border. We exit Mongolia having participated in workshops in the far North (Sukhbataar City, Selene Province), bypassing UB and Gobi as stopovers, and enter China at Erlan. The 4th annual AA Traditions and Steppe Workshops close off for another year. No camera would do justice to this astonishing landscape passing by our train window. Mile upon mile of simply nothing. A perfect Step 11 opportunity.

The 2016 Workshops began in Vladivostok, Russia, with a two day Traditions exercise at the Eastern Siberian Convention by Megan I. This sophisticated city has well developed service structures and we participated in a Public Information Forum for church, health and legal professionals. Workshops offered opportunities to hear thoughts from fellow members on women and structures that support some of the ethnic minorities in remote communities in Chukotka (Russia's closest land to Alaska) and Kamchatka.

A week later Megan was joined by Ruth F for a journey to Irkutsk or Lake Baikal and a two day Step and Traditions explorative with travellers from as far away as St Petersburg and Yamal in the Arctic Circle. We witnessed amazing breakthroughs as participants worked beyond Step 3 - something many had never done. The light in the eyes of a man who told us his loneliness was the cost of holding resentments we will never forget. Unforgettable also, the fresh fruit from the regions summer picks, hot Baikal smoked fish, Uzbek meat buns and BBQ shazlik. The fellowship, the food and the friendships...matched only by the stupendous scenery of Lake Baikal famously holding 20% of the worlds fresh water and icy cold even in the thaw. The Eastern Siberian fellowship is remote with many loners so the opportunity to travel, sometimes thousands of miles, to share experiences was enriching. Summer in Baikal is short. Flowers harvested on the road sides and apple blossoms were given to us as precious parting gifts.



We board the Trans Siberian Train in Irkutsk heading to Selenge, in Northern Mongolia. Its a 24 hour comfortable sleeper and we pass into the Northern Province very slowly after several hours of border formalities. Sukhbataar is so close to the border of Russia that we can see both sides from a high vantage point. It has two rivers running North West to Lake Baikal. In winter the entire area freezes over, herds are moved to warmer southern climates but in summer they return to the grazings on the steppes and the open skies and plains are jewel like. Most members speak Russian and many are from a nomadic or herding culture. Alcoholism is endemic. The theme of the workshops differed from Siberia, as members worked through the Steps and Traditions learning in groups, to place principles before personalities and many for the first time understanding the concepts of Primary Purpose, Tradition Two and Unity. After generations of clan and country hierarchy to see how an 'upside down' service structure works; that GSO serves the fellowship and that this office is responsible to the fellowship it serves. The members being a part of that service structure, was illuminating for many. Mongolia has recently gained publishing rights for the Big Book and 12 and 12 and is excited to be working toward self support through its Literature. Every member of AA in Mongolia will one day have access to Literature.



We were royally hosted to picnics of simple food and fellowship in the wide open grassland spaces as the sun sets past 10.30 pm. With the music of the starry night mixing with the musical talents of our hosts – sing-alongs in the desert and on the train platform as we left on the Trans Mongolian Express will be etched in our memories. A further two nights (three days) of travel took us across the Gobi - hard to imagine a fellowship here where no manmade structures are seen for miles but the people of the Gobi have assured us they are waiting...for their turn to work the steps and learn the traditions.

Inevitably the question was asked...Will you come to the Gobi next year ?

We face each other. Travel weary, dirty, dehydrated, suffering from too much AA and too much mutton. "ABSOLUTELY" we chime impulsively. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR !



The next AOSM is being held in Mongolia next July, and more info will be provided as time goes on.

The All-Europe Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous Convention 2016

August 19th—21st
Bath, UK

www.eurypaa2016.org



National A.A. Convention

"City of Lakes"
BHOPAL, (MP)

THEME
Unity
The Heartbeat of A.A.

23rd to 25th Sept 2016

Booking Open : 1st May, 2016
(with Al-anon & Alateen Participation)

Venue
Kanta Shravan Palace
Near Bonnie foi School, Durgesh Vihar, BHEL Gate No. 3, BHOPAL

Hosted by
GSO India & Inter Group Bhopal

www.aa.org.au/documents/IndiaConvention2016.pdf

SAVE *the* **DATE!**

FREEDOM THROUGH SURRENDER

THE 8th Annual Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous Hong Kong

Victory Over Alcoholism Starts With Surrender

Friday Workshop on Spirituality

Great International Speakers

Huge Fun, Boat Trip & Awesome Door Prizes

AA, Alanon, Chinese, LGBT, Youth Meetings

Main Meetings Will Have Simultaneous Chinese Translation

Everyone is Welcome! PLEASE Come!

NOVEMBER 11-13, 2016

MARINERS' CLUB, 11 MIDDLE ROAD, KOWLOON HONG KONG SAR
www.hkconvention.org

AA

Don't quit before the miracle

roundup

Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

2016

21-23 October

Archbishop Pastoral Centre

No. 5 Jalan Robertson

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

In the city centre, next to Bukit Bintang
Shopping / Food District

3 days of meetings and fellowship with Gala Dinner on Saturday night.
 Refreshments will be provided during the roundup.

Tickets: MYR 100.00

Full program & complete information:

www.aamalaysia.org

SOLOMON ISLANDS VISIT

A group of members from Brisbane will be travelling to the Solomon Islands in early September. The airfares with Virgin Airlines from Brisbane are around \$480 and with Solomon Air around \$640, accommodation is about \$150 per night. They are looking at going to Malaita, an Island off Honiara for a couple of nights. For more information on travelling along with them please contact World Service Delegate Tony V on 0435 887 464



NETHERLANDS 30th AA Netherlands Round-Up
August 19-21st 2016

www.aa-netherlands.org/convention

BERLIN English speaking AA Convention
September 2 to 4, 2016

www.berlinaaconvention.com

TEXAS We Agnostics, Atheists & Freethinkers International AA
Convention November 11th -13th 2016

www.waaftiaac.org

MAP OF AA'S ASIA-OCEANIA ZONE

