



Good News



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

APRIL
1963

MARYSVILLE NCC CONFERENCE PROCLAIMED "OUTSTANDING"

Some 1200 AA members and friends attended the Saturday night Open Meeting in Marysville, and an estimated 700 returned Sunday afternoon for the second Open Meeting. These two meetings were highlights of the two-day Spring Conference of the Northern California Council of AA, held Saturday and Sunday, March 2 and 3, in Marysville, California.

Guest Speakers Fenton E. from Studio City and Dick W., Van Nuys, (Southern Conference area) related stories of their careers, which to outsiders, seemed incredible and many hardened AA members wondered at the fact "that they made it." All were impressed with the power of the Program to assist, and rescue the alcoholic who sincerely wants sobriety.

GSO Meet

Other events of major importance were held. Among these was the General Service meeting that was attended by all five California delegates to the national assembly, including Bill G., newly-elected delegate from Panel One, San Francisco.

Shortly afternoon on Saturday, a GSO film was shown, that was almost immediately followed by an address made by Clyde D., GS delegate from Los Angeles.

Forden Talk

The Hospitals and Institutions Committee was addressed by F. W. "Bill" Forden, deputy superintendent, Soledad Facility. Forden reviewed in detail the workings of the California system. He complimented the H & I members on their fine work, emphasizing its importance in an important field.

Seven Pacific Coast Central Office Secretaries held a workshop at 4:00 p.m. The panel consisted of Vern H., Seattle, serving as chairman; "Doc" D., Portland; Sybil W., Los Angeles; John M. Long Beach; John F. San Diego; Tom O., Oakland;

(Continued on page six)

Sacramento to Celebrate 6th Birthday, May 11

Central California Fellowship of AA will observe its Sixth Anniversary with a shindig of elaborate proportions, Saturday, May 11, it was announced by Henry F., program and entertainment chairman of the affair.

Site of the birthday party is Bishop Armstrong High School, Sacramento Boulevard at 22nd Avenue in Sacramento, with festivities starting at 6:30 p.m.

MENU

A full course cuisine dinner consisting of hors 'd'ouvres; seafood cocktail; prime ribs, au jus; whipped potatoes; fresh garden peas; rolls and butter; cake, coffee, and soft drinks—is one of the gustatory highlights of the evening.

Master of Ceremonies is Dick P., Sacramento, who will introduce an imposing list of invited guests, most of whom are dignitaries connected with various state, county, and city agencies that are interested in the problem of alcohol.

CHUCK

Main speaker is Chuck C., Laguna Beach, who is concluding a major speaking tour—a swing through the states of Virginia, Alabama, and Tennessee—winding up in Sacramento before returning home.

(Continued on page six)

SF Fellowship Signs Speaker

The All-Groups meetings sponsored by S.F. Inter-County Fellowship at 240 Golden Gate Avenue in downtown San Francisco every Friday through the year, has marshalled a stellar roster of speakers for April, Myrl G., program chairman, announced.

The meetings, known as "show-case meetings" are open to the public and start at 8:30 p.m. Coffee is served before, and after, the sessions.

FIRDAY, APRIL 5 —

Margaret K., Daly City Group; and, Joe C., Emerald Lake Stag Group.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 —

Paula B., Friday Tradition Group; and P. L. "Barney" B., also of Friday Tradition Group.

FIRDAY, APRIL 19 —

Eve T., Palo Alto Friday Group; and, Charles "Chuck" K., San Pablo Friendly Fellowship Group.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26 —

Art. I., Martinez Group H & I Committee; and, The Reverend James T. Golder, recor., Church of the Advent of Christ the King.

Low cost parking is available around the corner on Leavenworth Street.

"When We Grow Old"

There comes a day
When each AA
Regardless of his station
Should step aside for the rising tide
Of the younger generation.
Some step aside
With a feeling of pride
And become our brightest beacons.
Some cling to the past
To the very last
And become our Bleeding Deacons!

DEBATE RAGES OVER . . .**Can The Alcoholic Resume Normal Social Drinking?**

New Brunswick, March 20—A controversy is developing among some experts in the field of alcoholic studies over the implications of a recent study indicating that, contrary to general belief, there are some few alcoholics who can resume a pattern of normal social drinking.

The growing debate is reflected in letters to the Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol which last fall published the controversial findings by Dr. D. L. Davies of Maudsley Hospital, London, England. Dr. Davies reported that he had found seven out of 93 confirmed alcoholics who eventually became normal social drinkers.

Question Diagnosis

The letters on the Davies article make two main points. First, several writers doubt whether the seven "recovered" alcohol addicts were correctly diagnosed in the first place, and suggest that they may have been heavy drinkers rather than true alcohol addicts.

Second, all the letters suggest that the Davies findings, even if accepted, should not be seen as justification for abandonment of the belief that complete and total abstinence is the best treatment for alcoholism.

Letters Cited

The Spring issue of the Journal, published today, contains eight letters by acknowledged experts in field. Additional comments will be printed in the next issue of the Quarterly. The Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol is a publication of the Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies and is generally recognized as the leading periodical in its field.

In a typical comment, Dr. P. H. Ssser, Consultant on Alcoholism of the Alcoholism Consultation Bureau for Amsterdam and Haarlem, The Netherlands, contends that the Davies report does not give enough details to indicate whether the recovered group might not have originally consisted of habitual excessive drinkers who were nevertheless not true addicts.

He writes, "I can add that in the last 15 years I have never seen one single 'True Addict' who, after treatment, was able to return to regular normal drinking."

Several commentators noted that it would be extremely unwise for therapists to abandon their insistence on complete and total abstinence.

"Rare" Cases

An example of this view is found in a letter by Dr. Marvin A. Block, chairman of the American Medical Association's Committee on Alcoholism, who writes in part:

"The cases which Doctor Davies cites are worth reporting, since they point up the possibility that there may be some biochemical changes in some individuals which will allow them to drink eventually, even though they have been diagnosed as alcoholics.

Cancer "Cures"

"However, this should be thought of as corresponding to the reported spontaneous recoveries in cancer. They are unique, they are different and they are rare. For the average alcoholic patient to depend upon such a phenomenon, or for the average physician treating alcoholics to hold out to his patients the possibility that they may be able to drink with impunity, would be a disservice to the patients."

Dr. Harry M. Tiebout, a former member of the Connecticut Commission on Alcoholism, adds that despite "some interesting facts" in the Davies report, "my practice will continue on the assumption that the addictive alcoholic cannot learn to drink."

Dr. Tiebout also notes that now-sober alcoholics with whom he has discussed the Davies article express concern that others may be tempted to abandon abstinence if they learn of this research.

"As for themselves, they place themselves with the 86 and have no desire to return to normal drinking . . . they are comfortable with their sobriety and intend to remain so. They represent, I am sure, the vast majority of the sober alcoholics.

Easter Dance at S.F. Alano Club

A pre-Easter Dance will be held Saturday evening, April 6, under the auspices of the San Francisco Alano Club, Bus. D., program chairman, announced.

Bunnies, colored eggs, fun, frolic and friendship are all on the agenda along with the "Jumpin' Jacks," dance combo. Door prizes, too.

This will be followed on Saturday, April 20, with a monthly Surprise Dance, where, again, the "Jumpin' Jacks" will play danceable tunes for those who like "the light fantastic." Prizes, as well as door prizes, will be taken home.

On Saturday, April 20, the popular AA Birthday Party and Dance is scheduled. This is an opportunity for all AA's whose birthday (AA, that is) occurs in April, to celebrate it. Coffee and cake will be served.

The S.F. Alano Club is located at 414 Grant Avenue, at the entrance to San Francisco's famed Chinatown, mecca of world tourists. It's close to downtown shopping, hotel, and restaurant area.

B-R-E-A-K-F-A-S-T

An Easter Sunday Breakfast will be served by the Oakland Alano Club, Easter Sunday, April 14, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., at the Oakland Alano Clubhouse, 319 14th Street, Oakland, Calif. All friends of AA are invited.

It also announced that it sponsors a dance every Saturday evening at the same address. This is in addition to its regular Slip-Shod Square Dance Hoe-Down, also held on Saturdays.

V. Wright Passes

Members of Sunset Group, San Francisco, and a legion of friends, are mourning the recent death of Mrs. Veronica Wright.

"Vee," as she was affectionately known, was a one-time secretary of Sunset Group. She was known everywhere in the Bay Area as a loyal, hard-working, AA member particularly with the Beginner's Group.

She was interred Saturday, March 23, following Roman Catholic Church funeral services held in Redwood City.

Hilltop Club of C.C. Is Booming

The Hilltop Club of Contra Costa Alano Fellowship is a very active outfit. This is best attested by the number of lively affairs currently underway or planned by their trio of live wires who run things at the Martinez club, Art. I., program chairman; Jack C., business manager; and Bill W., entertainment chairman.

On Saturday, March 30, The Hilltop Club hosted a big fried chicken dinner at 6:00 p.m. which was followed by a capacity crowd participating in the club's regular open meeting. A dance followed the meeting with the noted dance band, The Rebels, providing the music.

During April, a fine line-up of speakers will appear on the dais of the clubhouse located at 528 Palms Road, Martinez.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 — Marc from San Anselmo.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13—Betty B., West Sacramento.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 — Stan W., Fairfax.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 — Bill S., Stockton.

Ed and Marlene C. from Walnut Creek were the speakers and the frind chicken dinner meeting, and a week previous Buzz from San Francisco Fellowship, spoke.

This, the three busy club chairmen said, will give potential visitors to Martinez an idea of the calibre of entertaining meeting we have and plan for the future.

"And," they added, "all visitors are cordially welcome."

Dr. Earle Speaks

The Woodland (Calif.) Group is sponsoring a meeting on Saturday, April 6. Highlight of the session will be the appearance of Dr. Earle M., member of Mill Valley (Calif.) Group, who will make one of his noted "blackboard talks." Woodland meets in St. Luke's Episcopal Church Hall, 515 Second Street, corner of Lincoln Avenue, Woodland. Time: 8:00 p.m.

On of the best ways to make your old car run better is to ask the price of a new one.

T-H-A-N-K-S

The Marysville Conference Committee is extending sincere thanks to all members and groups who helped to the recent Conference—a good one.

John (Tolerant) J., was particularly grateful for the aid he received in kitchen and dining room duties.

Many delicious cakes were brought to the Convention and donated "to a good cause." Since the number was great, and the donors' identities unknown, Johnny and Agnes extend a "blanket," but sincere, Thank You!

Peninsula Sets April Meetings

Peninsula All-Groups has included former warden of San Quentin among its topnotch panel of speakers during the month of April, John F., program chairman, announced.

Meetings are held at 8:30 p.m. each Saturday at St. Mathews Episcopal Church Auditorium, Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, in San Mateo. The April line-up:

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 — Joe Mc G. from New York. Host group is Brisbane Sunday Group.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13 — Former Warden Clinton F. Duffy, and now Executive Director, S.F. Council on Alcoholism. Host group is Woodside.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 — Speaker is Harry A. (The Dean) of Palo Alto Group. Hosting is the Redwood City Group.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 — Eanas "Red" K., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship. Host group is Belmont.

Peninsula All-Groups holds "open" meetings at all times. AA members and their friends are cordially welcome. Coffee, and plenty of arms-length AA before, and after sessions.

Look For Beacon

San Bruno Group now meets at St. John's United Church, where the group holds discussion sessions every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. The church is at Sylvan and Mastick, San Bruno, Calif., and is easily located since it is almost in back of El Camino Theatre and the church is illumi-

ASS'T SECRETARY

AA Office Has Position Open

Qualified persons are invited to apply for a position—assistant secretary—in the central office of S. F. Inter-County Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Minimum requirements: member of AA, with three years or more of continuous sobriety; some typing ability; familiarity with detail work; paper shuffling.

Ability to get along with people, tactfulness, and one who can adjust to different personalities—are essential requisites. These points are emphasized since the Central Office is the focal point and principal contact with the public as well as sick alcoholics.

It is representative of AA, and is therefore a critical point inasmuch as the impression it presents to the visitor is the visitor's impression of the Fellowship.

The job has some attractive features, and others that are not. There is no Retirement Fund, no free health and accident insurance; no so-called "fringe benefits." There is practically no anonymity. When it becomes necessary to disclose the name of your employer, there is only one answer. Here, length of employment is of questionable value in connection with future job applications. No 40-hour week.

For a dedicated person, however, there is a tremendous opportunity to be of service. The job calls for a paid vacation, Social Security contributions, and it is permanent.

To accept it as a temporary thing or a stop-gap would be a dis-service to the Fellowship. Starting salary is \$400.00 per month. Applicant should be a member who is acceptable to a majority of the groups and also to the present Central Secretary since the job is one calling for joint effort. No definite starting date has yet been set.

Applications may be directed to the Central Secretary, room 84, 166 Geary Street, San Francisco 8, Calif. Applications will be treated in strict confidence — and should be in writing.

nated by a lighted spire. Plenty of parking, too.

Value of S.F. Alanon Shown

Figures don't lie. There are plenty of figures to back up the belief that the Al-Anon Family Group Office, 166 Geary Street, San Francisco, is proving its worth to San Francisco and the Bay Area.

From August 1 to December 31, 1962, calls to the Al-Anon Office totalled 281. Of these, 128 have been calls for direct assistance. Of this number, 51 have come to the office for personal interviews.

Growing Pains

We have been visited by 11 out-of-town Alanon members, several of whom have asked for and received information concerning S.F. Alanon meetings and personnel, a local Al-Anon Family Group spokesman stated.

The Family Group office, here, has a large supply of Alanon literature on hand and can make quick delivery to groups requesting it.

Presently, there are 15 groups registered with the Al-Anon Family Group Office. Five of these are completely new; formed since the Family Group Office came into existence.

Volunteer Aides

It is the function of the S.F. Office to assist and nurture these groups and render basic service to the older, more established Alanon units previously registered with the Office.

The San Francisco office is open five days each week, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is staffed by eight regular volunteers and four trainees and emergency workers.

The Telephone Answering Service has been recently added. Simply phone GA 1-6198.

Yuba City Group

A new meeting place has been selected by the Yuba City (Calif.) Group. New site is the City County Room, 441 Colusa Avenue, Yuba City.

April "Grapevine" Gives AA Reply to Magazine Article

"Our Critics Can Be Our Benefactors" will appear in the April issue of The Grapevine, international monthly publication of AA.

Written by co-founder Bill W., the article will answer the question of many AA members asking, "what has AA to say about criticism in the public prints?"

This question was brought before the AA's Board of Trustees, which passed it on to Co-Founder Bill. Using ample documents, long in existence, Bill will point out the answers in The Grapevine article, which should reach groups about March 20.

Most of the AA outcry against the "public prints" stemmed from a recent article in Harper's. Some readers registered "indignant outrage" while others were merely mildly amused, according to reports from the Central Secretary of S. F. Fellowship.

Avenue Alanon Sets April Open Meeting

Gladys and Joe B., a husband-and-wife team (Gladys is Alanon and Joe is AA) will be featured speakers at an Open Meeting sponsored by the Avenue Alanon Group, Wednesday, April 17, at 8:30 p.m.

The speakers are noted in AA and Alanon circles for willingly giving their time and effort to any project, large or small, that will aid the sick alcoholic.

Avenue Alanon meets at St. Boniface Church auditorium, 133 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco. Members of Alanon or AA, and their friends are cordially invited to attend.

ARA Celebrates

Alcoholism Rehabilitation Association will hold Open House Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28, in observance of six years of occupancy in the First Step Home, 1035 Haight Street, San Francisco. ARA moved to the site about May 1, 1957.

First Step Home will be open to the public Saturday from 2:00 p.m. until midnight, and on Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Festivities commence Saturday at 8:00 p.m. with Bingo, followed by a dance that will start about 9:30 p.m.

Feature of the two-day event will be an informal public meeting on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. when city officials, noted citizens, and ARA's officers and board of directors will be introduced to those present. A guest speaker, yet to be announced, will make a brief address.

Lakeshore Group

Bud G., who has recently been asked to represent the Northern California Council of AA for the Lakeshore Group, Oakland, Calif., issues this SOS: "We're sorely in need of visitors. Please come over soon."

Lakeshore Group meets Thursdays at 8:00 p.m., at 608 Mandana Blvd., Oakland. This appeal should get response from some of the "roving" members of AA that prefer to visit rather than become "nailed" to any particular group.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of GOOD NEWS, it was stated that Ruth G., former secretary of Central California Fellowship's office, Sacramento, held the post for 14 years prior to her resignation.

Ruth writes to inform us that the statement was incorrect; that she succeeded Ray B., on November 15, 1957, which adds up closer to five years rather than 14.

It is true that she celebrated her 14th AA birthday, this year, and that probably accounts for the garbled reporting, which GOOD NEWS regrets.

Hereafter, in deference to accuracy, we shall refrain from picking up and printing items from other AA publications, unless we have checked the source. Editor

A
BIG CONFERENCE
in the
BIG TREES

Country of the Redwood Empire
EUREKA — June 1 & 2
Give yourself a treat — be there.

Oregon Banquet Features 'Red' K

The Third Annual Banquet sponsored by the Portland Inter-Groups, held Saturday, March 2, at the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, was highlighted by a speech delivered by Eanas "Red" K., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship.

Some 160 attended the sumptuous banquet in the Rose Bowl Room, and approximately 500 were present in the Grand Ballroom to hear "Red" talk, following the dinner.

The message that Eanas delivered got a rising ovation from the assemblage from hundreds of Oregon AA members who attended the Portland function.

Leo B., formerly of S.F., Surf Group served as MC, aided and abetted by his Alice. Both sent greetings to San Francisco friends via the banquet chairman.

Portland Inter-Group plans making this an annual affair, largely as a result of the big turnout for the 1963 banquet-meeting.

Big Crab Feast

Havenscourt Group contributed mightily to the current crab shortage when they held their annual Crab Feast Tuesday night, March 5, 1963, at their quarters in the Mills Terrace Christian Church, 55th Avenue and Fleming, East Oakland. Hugh S. managed to contract for 125 lbs. of fresh, cracked crab, which was attacked with gusto by some 50 guests. Thanks go to Emma M., Joe F., and Henry C. for the success of this effort.

A feature of the meeting was a re-showing of the GSO film seen at the last N.C.C. Conference at Marysville. Bill G. and Jim A. travelled over from San Francisco to assist in this presentation.

Dewey To Speak

In Between Fellowship is proud to announce the speaker scheduled for the next dinner-speaker meeting Saturday, April 6, 1963, is Dewey S., of San Mateo, one of the "first hundred."

All members and their families are invited to attend this regular monthly features, held at the Fellowship Center, 4710 East 14th Stret, Oakland, California, the first Saturday of each month. A buffet dinner is served at 7:15 p.m., and the speaker meeting starts promptly at 8:15 p.m.

The In Between Fellowship features a discussion meeting every night of the week except Tuesday, under the aegis of Dave J., Secretary, and Dean K., Treasurer. An especially popular meeting is that of th Lady "A" Group, a women-only closed meeting each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. (Ernie J., Secretary).

The Fellowship Center is open daily from 9:00 a.m.

New Meeting Site

Stockton (Calif.) Midtown Group now meets in a new location at 248 East Poplar Street, Stockton. Visitors are most welcome all the time, but especially invited to Special Meetings. These are: Potluck on first Saturdays; Breakfast on second Sundays; and Special Speaker Meeting on fourth Fridays.

Roseville Change

The meeting place AND the meeting night of Roseville Group has undergone a change. Henceforth, the group meets at 8:00 p.m. on Mondays, at St. John's Episcopal Church. Church is at the end of Main Street. Go out Highway 99, turn left off Highway at Stop Light, Roseville, Calif.

Conference at Pac. Northwest Coos Bay - July

The community of Coos Bay, Oregon, and particularly, the AA groups of the Coos Bay area, are feverishly making plans for the next Pacific Northwest AA Conference which has been scheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 5-7.

The publicity chairman of the Conference Committee said, "Coos Bay groups are elected and honored that the big big Pacific Northwest Conference selected our community for this major event."

Already groups are pitching in on preliminary arrangements, working in cooperation with the Coos Bay Chamber of Commerce to get the project properly launched.

In addition to a host of business meetings including H & I, workshops, Alanon, and Alateen sessions, Coos Bay is planning to entertain visitors with a variety of outdoor recreational events, including a big picnic.

Said the chairman, "We are thinking of the Fourth of July; the long weekend in which the Conference takes place, will provide a wonderful trip for AA members and their families."

Today, reservations for hotel and motel accomodations are being accepted. A deposit of \$5.00 along with a hotel or motel reservation, may be sent to the Coos Bay Chamber of Commerce.

GOOD NEWS will print additional news of the Coos Bay Conference in subsequent issues.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Group Reporters, District Council Members
and Area Chairmen
of

Northern California Council of A.A.

Time: 1:00 P.M. — Sunday, April 7, 1963

Place: All Groups Hall
248 East Poplar
Stockton, Calif.

**TUNE IN
K F R C
"THE PROBLEM
DRINKERS"
Every Sunday at
6:30 p.m.**

610 on your radio dial
106.1 on your FM Band
A public service program,
courtesy of Al Racco, mgr.,
Station KFRC in cooperation
with the S.F. office of
Alcoholics Anonymous

Central Office Secretaries Meet at Marysville Sessions

(by Eleanor H., former Secretary, Oakland Inter-Group)

The annual symposium of far western Central Office secretaries was held during the forty-first annual NCC Conference at Marysville.

Attending were "Doc" D., of Portland Intergroup; Betty B., newly-appointed secretary of the Central California Fellowship at Sacramento; Sybil W., of the Los Angeles Central Office; Jack I., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship; Tom O., of the Oakland-Eastbay Intergroup; John F., San Diego Central Office and Verne H., Seattle Intergroup Association Central Office, who acted as chairman.

"We have faith in our work and we are grateful for our God-given abilities. We know that we have latent abilities, qualities yet unexpressed by us. May we start to cultivate a correct attitude about our duties, so that we may find a greater satisfaction in the work that we accomplish at this Conference and in our offices."

These words prefaced the work-outline prepared by the Chairman. As each suggested topic was introduced and discussed by the secretaries the inevitable problems concerning the rapid growth of AA population and responsibility of the Central Offices to keep up with the need for better communication and services were highlighted.

Apparent throughout the meeting was the faith of these Central Office secretaries in the vital need for stronger unity of groups and individuals through an easily-available and efficiently-maintained Central Office.

Through the exchange of sometimes divergent but always positive views, the secretaries accomplished the purpose of their meeting by presenting the sum of the past year's work to each other, thereby gaining further insight into the present and future needs of their respective metropolitan and outlying communities.

Although the time allotted to this meeting seemed at the planning stage to be sufficient, it was necessary to continue on Sunday morn-

ing, after the initial three-hour session on Saturday morning. Even then, the meeting was regretfully adjourned with some topics still not yet discussed fully.

As these Central Offices reflect every aspect of AA life, from the call for help from the individual to the services necessary for an Intergroup Association to maintain itself, the range of the discussion was wide. Whether or not the question, **"How can we better provide service and communication between our groups, between the individual seeking help and the sponsor seeking to give it, between ourselves and the communities in which we live, and between ourselves and world-wide AA?"** can ever be fully answered at one time is debatable, but the Central Office secretaries certainly gave it a try.

MORE ABOUT

BIRTHDAY, MAY 11

(Continued from page 1)

Recognized as one of the best AA speakers in the country, Chuck is expected to make one of his traditional, electrifying "pitches."

Dancing is scheduled from 10:00 p.m. until "lights out." A good dance band has been engaged.

All seats, at \$3.50 per person, are reserved. Reservation deadline is May 1. Tables seating 12 may be reserved for groups, but individual tickets are also available. A capacity crowd is anticipated and reservations are being accepted immediately by writing Reservation Committee, 4544 14th Avenue, Sacramento. Check or money order must accompany reservation.

"Very Much Alive"

Mark Twain is reported to have told an interviewing newsman, "The recent story concerning my death is very much exaggerated." Citrus (Calif.) concurs with Mark Twain. According to Fred F., secretary, Citrus Heights resumes their regular Wednesday night meetings on April 10.

MORE ABOUT

MARYSVILLE

(Continued from page 1) and Jack I., San Francisco.

Big Switch

Sunday was marked by the traditional Annual Breakfast. It started at 8:00 a.m. under the supervision of Harriet H., San Francisco. It was a good breakfast, well served, and inexpensive.

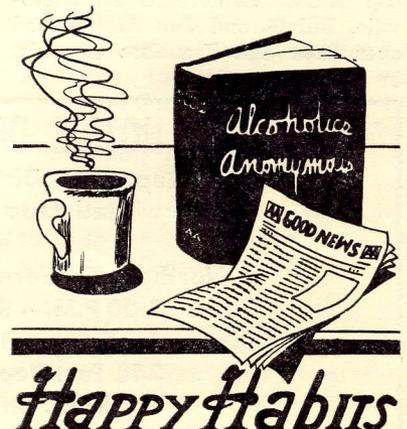
A switcheroo was pulled by Harriet who hit upon the unique idea of pulling names of those to be introduced on the floor—from a hat! Instead of so-called "brass" dominating the scene large numbers of "average" citizens were introduced. The capacity crowd applauded the emergence of John Q Public from his historical position—obscurity.

Eureka Wins

On Sunday, starting at 10:45 a.m. business sessions of the NCC got underway. Some of the more noteworthy actions that took place were the re-districting of the area, and selection of various chairman. It accepted bids for future conferences from Watsonville, Fresno, Eureka, Stockton, and San Jose.

Eureka was selected. The NCC Conference will be held in the Redwood Empire community on Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2. Secretary Errol W., Santa Rosa, reported progress on completing a more comprehensive Group Address File.

Chairman Elmer B., the Marysville Conference Committee chairman, was given a vote of thanks for developing an outstanding two-day session. He was asked to commend the groups located in the Marysville, Yuba City, Linda, and Grass Valley areas for lending their whole-hearted support to the Conference.



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Five Panelists At Marysville

The growing importance of General Service in the affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous was demonstrated at the NCC Marysville Conference March 2-3, by the presence of five New York delegates—three from Southern California and two from the northern part of the state.

Cliff J., Panel Two Delegate, Sacramento, and Bill G., Panel One Delegate, San Francisco, jointly expressed their gratitude to Clyde D., Los Angeles; Joe B., Redondo Beach, and Fritz H., San Diego, for participating.

"This," according to Cliff J., Sacramento, "is the first time that all five California panelists were represented at a NCC Conference."

On March 24, Panel Two met to determine plans to present before the General Service World Conference in New York. Along with Bill G., Panel One, it is also making preparations for a General Service Inter-Group Meeting slated for Saturday, May 4, at Dunsmuir, when the Mt. Shasta-Dunsmuir jointly host a one-day GSO session.

Cliff J., will make a report of the World Conference and Floyd B., Roseville, will give an AA talk. Art and Bobbie S., Dunsmuir, are co-chairman of the Mt. Shasta-Dunsmuir conclave.

Folsom AA Resumes

By the authorization of Warden Robert Heinze of Folsom Prison, the regular Saturday night AA meetings will be resumed, it was announced by Bud C., chairman of the Hospital and Institution Committee of AA, Northern California Council.

H & I BROAD-SIDES

(By Bud C., Chairman, NCC Hospital and Institution Committee)

MARYSVILLE What does it take to make a good conference? It's easy, Marysville and lots of wonderful people. The last conference in that fair city was real good and this time even better. The Good Lord willin', I'll look forward to another conference in the same locale. For "H. & I." a most sincere "THANK YOU" to Bill Forden of Soledad, Bill S. of Stockton, Lee A. of San Rafael, and John M. of Oakland for their contribution to a pleasant and informative weekend. You will note that we refer to people geographically, and for a reason. A recent publication stated that Lil H. and Bud C. of Hayward were to be married and, for no logical reason, my wife was a little non-plussed. I guess maybe there will come a day when we can no longer be anonymous with each other.

★
COMING EVENTS A day at a time. The balance of March and the month of April gives us an opportunity to get caught up on our daily chores in order that we can get our respective houses in order for a visit with Eureka on the week end of June 1st and 2nd but, before that, H. & I. gathers in Sacramento on the morning of May 18th for our regular business session. If you don't get an engraved invitation just make it out yourself in the manner that you would like and come on over to 1755 - 34th Street, Sacramento. This will be a busy day as, at 6 P.M. somewhat in excess of one hundred guests will meet at Folsom for the annual conference. This, ladies and gentlemen is quite an affair so, if you get invited don't miss it. You'll be glad you went.

WE NEED YOU — PLEASE ATTEND

Again don't forget your plans for Eureka. On June 9th (Sunday) there will be open house at Soledad and this is one facility that makes the ladies most welcome. Write to Soledad, contact the chairman who goes from your area, or just let it be known that you would like to attend. Further, on Sunday, June 16th, we have the opportunity to visit with the gang at D.V.I. at Tracy. The fellows at D.V.I. are mostly young people and you will love every minute of your visit. Make plans, save your money, ACTION!

★
ROTATION Nominations and elections will be held at the May 18th meeting in Sacramento for the replacement of the writer as general chairman for the committee, effective June 30, 1963. Now, if you have more than the usual amount of gripes about the present operation, now is the time for, believe me, it's later than you think. Again, come to Eureka and meet the chairman-elect.

We'll see you at all of these places, yes?

KEEP INFORMED * SPEND A DIME * READ "GOOD NEWS"
SEE ROLLIN W.

CONFERENCES

Another fine conference has been completed and Stan is preparing plans for the next one.

The Eureka Conference is sure to be up to the very high standards we have been enjoying and that is saying something.

Elmer and the gang in Linda, Marysville and Yuba City, with a lot of help from Grass Valley, can well be proud of the tremendous job they did in preparing and carrying on their conference. We have not received the financial report yet but whether we had an excess, broke even or face a deficit is not important.

The BIG thing is—did those attending find their time well spent? Everyone I have talked to would answer with a whooping big YES.

We owe Elmer, Agnes and all their hard working helpers a hearty thanks and I am taking this opportunity to express the gratitude of all of us to all of them.

I thank all of A.A. in Northern California for their co-operation.

Your Secretary,
Northern California Council of A.A.
Errol

Island Fellowship Sets Date For Its Easter Breakfast

In keeping with the custom started when the Group was formed, the Island Fellowship Group will hold their Fifth Annual Easter Sunday Breakfast at the Fellowship Center, 1828 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, April 14. Breakfast will start at 9:30 A.M. followed by an Open Discussion meeting at 11:00 A.M.

The Group has now completed the rebuilding and redecorating of the Center necessitated by the recent fire.

The Saturday night meetings, featuring outstanding speakers, continue to draw good crowds. Here is the line-up of speakers scheduled for the next several weeks.

APRIL 6th — George O'H. (Los Altos)

APRIL 13th — David D. (San Rafael)

APRIL 20th — Red K. (S.F.)

APRIL 27th — Isabelle B. (San Rafael)

MAY 4th — Tom M. (San Jose)

The Island Fellowship holds six meetings each week—every night except Friday—to which all AA members and friends are invited.

Dunsmuir-Shasta Groups Hosting Inter-Group Meet

Mt. Shasta and Dunsmuir Groups will sponsor their first Inter-Group Meeting, Saturday, May 4, at St. Anthony Hall on Pine Street, Dunsmuir.

The session will open with a pot-luck dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by a pair of well-known California speakers.

Floyd B., Roseville, and GSO Delegate Cliff J., Panel Two, Sacramento, will share the speaker's rostrum. Floyd is an all-around good AA "pitcher," and Cliff will give his first report in California upon returning from the big GSO Congress in New York.

Bob B., of Mt. Shasta Group is chairman of the meeting and he invites all AAs and their spouses to the session. It is an open invitation.

He who keeps himself in a stew eventually goes to pot.

Election Slated

Balloting to elect seven members to the board of directors of the Alcoholics Rehabilitation Association of S.F. will highlight an annual membership meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, at 8:00 p.m., at the First Step Home, 1035 Haight Street, San Francisco.

All members and former members are urged to attend. Progress reports will be heard and necessary business transacted. Refreshments will be served after the meeting and coffee throughout the session. A social hour follows the meeting.

"Face-Lifting" for San Pablo AA Club

The San Pablo Friendly Fellowship Club, 14451 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo, Calif., announces their clubhouse has undergone remodeling and is finished. Proud members cordially invite visitors to inspect the refurbished quarters, and to hear a fine roster of speakers that will appear on the following dates:

Harold J., of the Hayward Group speaks on Friday, April 5; Brooks of the Five-Cities Fellowship is listed for Friday, April 12; Dave B., Island Fellowship, appears on the platform, Friday, April 19; and Carl E., San Leandro Group, speaks on Friday, April 26.

S.F. Picnic Date

Adobe Creek Lodge has been turned into a private enterprise. Ergo, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship is holding its mid-year picnic at Blackberry Farm, Cupertino, Sunday, August 11. Bus D., picnic chairman, is announcing the date early in order to avoid conflicting with some other AA unit that may be planning a picnic on the same day. More on Our Big Outing later, says Bus.

Help Thy Neighbor

Tracy (Calif.) Group is in need of support . . . by your presence. Harold S., secretary, said, "We go to other groups. They just can't find Tracy Group."

What are we waiting for? Let's find Tracy!

AA Fellowship at Folsom Is Planning 10th Conference

The Tenth Annual Conference of Folsom Fellowship at California State Prison at Folsom is scheduled for Saturday, May 18. Mannie B., secretary, Folsom Fellowship, said "We anticipate an attendance of approximately 125 guests and 250 inmates."

June 17 marks the 20th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous in Folsom Prison. The anniversary will be celebrated with a commemoration program at the prison's regular meeting on Sunday, June 16.

Bill B., conference chairman, said "Your excellent publication (GOOD NEWS) affords us an opportunity to keep up with Northern California AA activities, which is especially meaningful to those in our group who are going to be paroled to Northern California.

Folsom Fellowship expressed sincere thanks for sending monthly copies of GOOD NEWS.

Conservation Camp No. 11, at Weott Joins Rio Dell AA

High Rock Conservation Camp Number Eleven, Weott, Calif., an inmate group of Humboldt County Jail, is the third conservation group brought in to the AA fold by the joint effort of Rio Dell and Fortuna groups of the Rio Dell Fellowship.

Conservation Camp 11 held its first AA meeting on Sunday, February 3, at 1:30 p.m. and will meet thereafter on the first and third Sundays.

Camps and the Humboldt County Jail is under the jurisdiction of Area 10, Hospital and Institution Committee of the NCC of AA. Joe E. is Area 10 chairman, and Francis B. is secretary of Rio Dell Fellowship.

Vacaville Group

Henceforth, Vacaville Group meets on Wednesday instead of Tuesday. Group still meets in same location, Senior Citizens Hall, opposite Greyhound Bus Depot. Meetings start at 8:00 p.m.