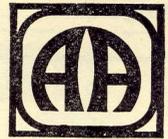




Good News



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

JUNE
1963

PERT 20-YEAR-OLD WAVE TELLS WHY SHE BECAME AA MEMBER

By Fred W., Marin County Staffer

"I'm a different person."

In these words did 20-year-old Katy G. sum up her life after 14 months in AA at the time this was written in mid-May.

"I finally am growing up and I think I am lucky to be doing it at my age," she said. "I wouldn't be grown up if I didn't have AA."

There was no long period of happy "social drinking" for Katy. Says she:

"As soon as I started drinking I started downhill. They say you really won't stop drinking till you really want to. I know this is so. I didn't drink very long before I had DTs. I had blackouts every time."

"AA has changed by whole attitude," said Katy, who is a Wave assigned to Treasure Island.

"I used to want to get out of the Navy. I hated it. I was ungrateful and resentful. Now I like the Navy and think it's a good deal. We get to travel and get a free education. I think the AA program teaches you to appreciate what you've got, makes you grow up."

Katy, 19 when she had her last drink in March, 1962, was born in Ohio and saw alcoholism in her family as a child.

"I saw what it did to my mother."

MOTHER IN AA

But she also saw her mother join AA and she attended AA meetings with her before she herself plunged into alcoholism.

Katy joined the Navy after six years in a private girls school where she majored in business.

After completion of courses in classrooms the school required that a student spend six months at work before getting her diploma.

"Some girls worked in department stores. I didn't care for that. So I joined the Waves about two years ago. I served in Bainbridge Md., about six month before being sent to

(continued on page 6)

Peninsula All Groups Program

An impressive roster of speakers have been recruited by Peninsula All Groups for their June meetings, John F., program chairman, announced.

Peninsula All Groups meets every Saturday at 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium of St. Mathews Episcopal Church, Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, San Mateo, Calif.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1—Bill I., Los Angeles. Host Group is the Palo Alto Friday Womens Group.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8—Cynthia W., Sunnyvale Group. Hosting is the 12th Step Discussion unit.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15—Bud G. of San Francisco with the Menlo Monday Nighters serving as host group.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22—John I., Sunday Morning Breakfast Group of S. F. Hosting is the Brisbane Sunday Group.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29—Paul G., Mill Valley. The Palo Alto Friday Group will host this one.

All Saturday meetings are "open" and all AA members, relatives and their friends are cordially invited. Coffee and arms-length AA, before and after each session, makes Peninsula All-Groups "the place to go" on Saturday evenings.

Brisbane Group

A stellar roster of able speakers will appear on the dais of the Brisbane Sunday Night Group, Harold S., assistant secretary, announced. Harold said the June speakers were:

Sunday, June 2, Pete V.; Sunday, June 9, Jim A.; Sunday, June 16, Bill G.; Sunday, June 23, John B.; and Sunday, June 30, Dick F.

Brisbane Sunday Night meets in the Brisbane Recreation Hall. The group is making a strong effort to increase its membership in the community which lies just south of the San Francisco county line.

Six Groups Meet At 1364 Valencia

Participation Hall, otherwise, and probably better known as 1364 Valencia Street, is a busy AA meeting place.

Six groups call this address their permanent AA location and gather either evenings or daytime, from Mondays through Saturdays, Betty McC., a veteran in the San Francisco AA movement and who serves as program chairman and also as secretary of one, and sometimes two groups, that regularly meet at 1364 Valencia Street. The six units are:

Women's Lighted Lamp Group, Monday, 8:00 p.m.; Mission Alanon Group, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.; Memory Group, Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; Mission Day Group, Thursday, 1:00 p.m. (this one is handy for swing shifters, housewives, shoppers who can't attend night gatherings); Mission Dolores Group, Friday, 8:30 p.m.; Saturday Matinee Group, Saturday, 2:00 p.m.

Members and their friends residing in Central Mission District will find the 1364 Valencia site interesting and active. Everyone's welcome.

ALL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

AA Annual Picnic

Sunday, August 11, 1963

Picnic Ground Opens at 9:00 A.M.

BLACKBERRY FARM

21975 San Fernando Avenue — Cupertino, California

- COMPLETE NINE-HOLE GOLF COURSE
- DANCING TO THE MUSIC OF "THE JUMPIN' JACKS"
- FLOOR SHOW
- ADULT GAMES
- CHILDRENS' GAMES
- SWIMMING POOLS
- FINE DOOR PRIZES
- COFFEE
- HOT DOGS
- SODA POP
- SECLUDED PICNIC AREA FOR 1,500 PEOPLE
- PAVED PARKING AREA

Reservations for tickets will be available from all Group Secretaries from all Clubs affiliated with S.F. Inter-County Fellowship; and almost immediately, they may be purchased outright from the Central Secretary, 166 Geary Street, room 89, San Francisco, 8. The phone is YU 2-4473.

Tickets will be printed on reverse with a "How to Get There" Map and Big Red Arrows will point the way to Picnic Grounds.

DON'T FORGET! SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, '63 BLACKBERRY FARM FOR A BIG DAY

"Grapevine" in Finnish is A-1 Publishing Job

Finland publishes a Finnish version of AA's International Monthly, The Grapevine. From a standpoint of makeup, layout, printing and general appearance, the pocket-size publication is excellently put together.

Closely following the format of the AA Grapevine, the Finnish booklet, printed in Pohjois-Haaga, near Helsinki, Finland's capital city, contains the 12 Steps, the Serenity Prayer, and the familiar AA Triangle "Unity", "Service", "Recovery"—on the inside front, and back covers.

1500 MEMBERS

Veikko K., secretary of the AA central office in Pohjois-Haaga, said he had received a new Exchange Bulletin for Intergroups, and a list of Inter-group publications. Said Veikko:

"Because I have been secretary of AA in Finland for many years, I am interested in your GOOD NEWS. Will you be kind enough to put us on your mailing list?"

The secretary went on to say, "We have for some years a mimeographed bulletin which is printed twice a month. It goes to some 300 subscribers who pay about four dollars per annum per subscribers".

WORLD PUBLICATIONS

Secretary Veikko said about 1500 Finns are members of AA in a nation where the incidence of alcoholism is exceptionally high.

Over the editorial desk of GOOD NEWS, comes a constant stream of AA publications. They come with strange looking postage, with return addresses that stir the imagination—Nyasaland, Rhodesia, Dublin, New Zealand, Central and South American countries.

All are vastly important in the work they do. We add the AA publication from Finland with a great deal of pride to our list of "exchanges."

Hospital Toll

Juanita P., and Eva C., both very good members of Salinas Group are back on their feet after serious surgery in Salinas hospitals. They are now wordained members of the S. O. S. (Society of Scarbellies).

FAIRFAX GROUP IS ESTABLISHED

A long-felt wish of many Marin County AAs was realized May 17 when a Fairfax group held its first meeting, an enthusiastic event attended by 25 persons, in Christ the Victor Lutheran Church.

Arrangements were made by AAs who wanted: 1. to get a group started in Fairfax or Larkspur, points in a central area that's been an AA vacuum, and 2. to give ex-drunks another Friday night meeting in the county.

It's a family group (bring your non-alcoholic wife or husband) as are many others in Marin.

NEW CHURCH

The church, a recently completed (therefore modern) one-story affair, is at 2626 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, a short distance beyond Fairfax city limits.

It is reached by going through San Anselmo and Fairfax and continuing on Drake towards the coast.

On the right side of Drake are three churches in succession, all outside Fairfax proper, all on the right side. First a Catholic church, then an Episcopal church, THEN the Lutherans church, which sits well back from the road.

ROAD DIRECTIONS

If you come from the coast (like Olema or Point Reyes Station) then the meeting place is on the LEFT side but you probably know the area so well you don't NEED directions.

The initial meeting was chaired by Bud H. of Ignacio, introduced by Pauline H. (no relation), secretary.

A number of AAs did a lot of scouting and negotiating to get the meeting started.

None want any credit, said Jay C., one of the founders, but it would seem a shame not to mention him and Ranald C. (no relation other than brotherhood in ex-booing).

Wedding Bells Peal

Virginia D., Salinas, became the bride of Paul U., Los Angeles. The popular couple were married in Reno May 11, after a pretty ceremony at the Park Wedding Chapel. Attendants were Juanita P., Salinas Group, and Charles B., Reno. All of the Monterey Bay groups joined in wishing a good life for the newlyweds who will live in Los Angeles.

ALL GROUPS OF S.F. SETS JUNE PROGRAM

The Friday night "show case" meetings sponsored by S. F. Inter-County Fellowship at 240 Golden Gate Avenue in downtown San Francisco, has its program of speakers arranged for June, Myrl G., program chairman, announced. It's as follows:

FRIDAY, JUNE 7—Virginia B., Alano Women's Group shares the rostrum with W. R. "Captain" K., San Carlos. The "Captain" has just returned to the Bay Region after some seven years in Southern California.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14—Jim W., S. F. Inter-County Fellowship, and the Reverend Joseph Greene, Woodstock Catholic Retreat House, Woodstock, Ill.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21—Dan B., San Rafael, and John G., Press Stag Group.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28—Marc A., San Rafael, and Dr. Gil A., S. F. Serenity House.

All meetings start at 8:30 p.m. They are "open"; the coffee bar is open before and after meetings. Parking is available around the corner on Leavenworth Street at modest rates.

Meeting room has padded seats; fine acoustics; air conditioning and elevator is in service to the third floor meeting area.

Alanon Office Has Part-Time Employee

The Alanon Family Group of San Francisco, 166 Geary Street, now has a paid worker who is employed one day a week. Ellen N., presides over the office from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. handling bookkeeping, mailing, general office routine including banking.

Grass Valley Al-Anon has just recently become allied with the San Francisco office. Rollin W., business manager, Good News, has donated 1000 printed letterheads to the office and Genee S., contributed enough material to make drapes for the establishment.

Members and friends have volunteered to make and hang them.

Jim M. Named Pacific Region Trustee

13TH G. S. CONFERENCE ACTS ON 22 MAJOR AA ACTIVITIES

By **BILL G.**, chairman delegate
Northern California Coastal Panel, No. 1

The 13th annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous met in the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, April 24-28. The four-day international conclave brought to light a score of matters and policies that required action to further the welfare of AA on a world-wide basis. Highlights of the gathering:

Theme of the 13th Conference was "Our Common Welfare", with attention being focused on sharing responsibilities.

It brought together 84 Area Delegates from 50 States, 10 Canadian Provinces and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. It assembled several score workers, both professional and volunteer, who are responsible for administering and executing AA's General Services throughout the world.

OVERSEAS OBSERVERS

It was the host to observers representing AA in Finland, France, Holland, Norway and Sweden as well as in the Internationalist (Seamen) Group.

It was a Conference in which the sharing of experience, service and hope was the dominant theme. GSO Staff Members reported and shared with each of us the highlights of the activities of which each have been engaged the past year in behalf of the Fellowship.

10,000 GROUPS

The total number of groups listed with GSO is 10,070 with a total membership of 198,702. The membership is estimated at more than 300,000 which of course, includes non-reported members.

Following are some of the "Advisory Actions" as a result of the Conference:

1. Approved a plan to encourage groups to contribute monthly to balance out a sound program for GSO.

2. Suggested that retiring delegates continue to act as Grapevine representatives.

3. Recommended continuing study of the possibility of publishing The Grapevine in Spanish and other lan-

guages.

4. Endorsed the plan of conducting Area Committee "Sharing Sessions".

5. Reaffirmed the Traditional AA policy of cooperation but not affiliation with the Al-Anon Family Groups.

6. Two non-AA Trustees were approved and also three AA Trustees. The AA Trustees were selected under the terms of the new six-region plan approved at the 1962 Conference. The following regions selected a Trustee:

Southwest Region—Roy S. (Okla.)
East Central Region—Howard B. (Ohio)

Pacific Region—Jim M. (Calif.)

The Third Legacy Procedure was used in making these decisions.

7. Urged Delegates to support Loners via regular contacts and encourage them to participate in Conference affairs.

8. Asked the GSO to explore the possibility of developing study guides to the textbook, "The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions."

9. Approved preparation of a replacement pamphlet covering AA's relation with correctional institutions.

10. Requested review of the pamphlet on AA's experience with sedatives and tranquilizers to emphasize AA concern with unsupervised use of medication.

11. Expressed interest in having GSO Staff members visit the Areas more frequently, if the economic problems involved can be resolved.

12. The pamphlet "Partners in AA" will have a new title: "The Group Handbook", subtitle, "Partners in AA."

13. Viewed with favor possible increased participation by overseas AA units in General Service Conferences and recommended that a study of factors involved be made by GSO.

14. Reaffirmed the value of current suggested Third Legacy procedures for choosing Delegates, Area Committee officers and other General Service personnel.

15. Approved the optional designation of "Assistant" Delegate or "Alternate" Delegate, as individual Areas may prefer.

16. Recommended that GSO continue to make literature translations available, as needed.

17. Agreed that it would not be practical to list local AA newsletters and bulletins in the World Directory.

18. Approved use of a special statement clarifying the fact that there is no formal relationship between AA and religious retreats, or similar meetings for alcoholics.

19. Reaffirmed advisory actions of previous Conference Delegates approving "cooperation but not affiliation" with outside agencies.

20. Deferred, for consideration at the 1964 Conference, action on a proposal that the textbook, "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" be printed in a deluxe, pocket-size edition.

21. Approved the need for an Intergroup exchange bulletin.

22. Approved the admission to the Conference, effective in 1964, of a third Delegate from the Province of Quebec, Canada for the specific purpose of serving French-speaking groups in the Province.

In addition to these "Advisory Actions" some new services have been added.

1. A quarterly Intergroup and Central Office Exchange Bulletin.

2. A listing of Intergroup and Central Office newsletter.

3. A separate listing of Intergroups and Central Offices.

The Delegates had an opportunity to share Area problems via Area Highlights.

1965 CONVENTION

The Grapevine circulation was 35,478 in December 1961 with a steady climb to 40,681 in December 1962. This gave a \$5,703.15 profit for 1962.

The 30th Anniversary International Convention of AA will be held July 2, 3 and 4, 1965 in Toronto, Canada.

State Elated JIM M. WINS

Telegrams, phone calls, letters and personal greetings from a legion of friends continue to pour into the Sacramento home of Jim M., who on April 24, in the tension-packed Terrace Room of the Roosevelt Hotel, New York City, won an electrifying victory by being named a member of the Board of Trustees at the 13th Annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

A great honor for the man himself it is also a signal and thrilling event for Northern California, the Golden State, per se, and the Pacific Region over which Jim will represent. This area, in addition to California, includes Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada and Arizona.

It is the first time in a decade that the State of California has been honored with a Trusteeship since Cliff W., Whittier, served as a member of the Board. Northern California is particularly elated over Jim's election. In 28 years, this area has not been represented on the Board of Trustees and the breakthrough is felt to be a significant factor in AA circles.

Serving a four-year term, Jim's activities in behalf of the Pacific Region, is well-defined. He will make four trips each year to New York where he will sit in on quarterly Board Meetings held in January, April, July, and in October. These are of three days duration.

At these meetings, all phases of AA are discussed on a world-wide basis, Grass roots AA — the general and peculiar problems of the groups — as well as the Fellowship on a national and international basis, undergoes thorough probing.

He will be charged with attending not only the big Board Meetings, but World Conferences, regional, intergroup conferences and important area affairs.

The youngest Trustee ever to sit on the Board, Jim M., is eminently fitted for the high post he occupies. An ardent laborer in the AA Vineyard, he is an able, conscientious worker, who has served on virtually every menial AA job that came along and gave it the same individual attention and gusto which his legion of friends expect him to give to the Trusteeship.

Pacific Northwest Conference in Oregon, July 5-7

Coos Bay, Oregon, is setting plans for a Pacific Northwest Conference which will be held in the community, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 5, 6 and 7. All AA groups in the Coos Bay area have combined forces to make it a real big AA affair.

Reservations for hotels and motels are being made through the Coos Bay Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 210, Coos Bay, Ore. Send \$5.00 with reservation request.

Headquarters for the Conference is the Tioga Hotel in Coos Bay, Howard D., general chairman of the three day meeting, announced. He said that most plans have been completed including an all-day outing and picnic at the famous San Dunes where a mammoth crab feed is planned.

SET SYMPOSIUM ON ALCOHOLISM

Concord and Pleasant Hills groups of Alcoholics Anonymous are sponsoring a Symposium on Alcoholism, Saturday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Standard Savings Building, Concord Shopping Center, Concord, Calif.

The one-day symposium will be largely devoted to a panel discussion on the provocative question, "How Can We be More Effective in Combatting Alcoholism, Here and Now". **On the panel will appear Dr. Wasserman, program chief, Contra Costa Health Services; John Nejedly, District Attorney, Contra Costa; Judge Louis J. McKannay, Concord Municipal Court; and the Reverend A. G. Hanners, Council on Alcoholism.**

A Question and Answer period will follow ten minute talks by the panel. Refreshments will be served, compliments of the Concord-Pleasant Hill Groups. Symposium will terminate at 9:00 p.m.

Hospital for Bill

Watsonville's Tuesday Night Group will miss Bill F. for a spell. He entered Veterans Hospital Palo Alto, last May 21 for an indefinite period, observation and exploration. Bill is the popular secretary of the Watsonville unit and his "gang" is pulling for a fast recovery.

S.M. Fellowship Lists 14 Groups

San Mateo County is one of the fastest growing counties in the U. S., and San Mateo Fellowship of AA is keeping pace with its growth. According to Ed F, secretary, S. M. Fellowship now has 14 participating groups. These are: Sunday Night Inter-Group, 850 Burlingame Avenue, Burlingame; Sunday Morning (Alano) Group, 319 Villa Terrace, San Mateo; San Mateo Group, No. 1, St. Matthew's School Aragon and El Camino Real, San Mateo; 12th Step Study Group, St. Paul's Church, 405 El Camino Real. All above units meet on Sunday.

On Tuesday: Belmont Home Group, Church of the Transfiguration, 39th and Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo; Young People's Group, Alano Club, 319 Villa Terrace, San Mateo. On Wednesday: Burlingame Group, Recreation Center (two blocks east of S. P. Depot) Burlingame; Women's Group, Alano Club, 319 Villa Terrace, San Mateo. On Thursday: Millbrae Group, Community Church, 380 Chadbourne Ave., Millbrae; Burlingame Men's Group, St. Paul's Church, 405 El Camino Real, Burlingame.

On Friday: Fireside Group Congregational Church Hall, Tilton and North Ellsworth, San Mateo; Beginner's Group (same time and place as Fireside Group); Serenity Group, Intermediate School, Quesada Way (turn off at Trousdale) Burlingame.

Emissary Club now Houses Five Groups

Five AA groups now meet at the Emissary Club, 430 Haight Street, San Francisco. For the most part, the units are recently established. They are:

Sunday Bell Tower — an Open Meeting. Sundays at 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday Bell Tower — a Closed Meeting. Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.

Hilltop Group — a Speaker-Discussion Group. Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.

Eye-Opener Group — a Closed Meeting. Wednesdays at noon.

Playback Group — an Open Meeting. Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.

More About

YOUNG "WAVE"

(Continued from page 1)

San Francisco about a year and a half ago."

"HAVE I A PROBLEM?"

So by the time she drank enough to wonder whether she had a drinking problem, she knew what to do. She visited AA friends of her mother's who lived in the Bay Area.

"The friends helped me along to my end by serving me drinks. At the start I only admitted I was powerless over sweets—but I was still drinking."

Her first meeting was in El Cerrito, where her friends took her. Then she got acquainted with the After Hours Group, 2:30 a.m. Saturdays, 1464 Valencia Street, San Francisco where she has been lining up speakers for more than a year.

NEW "WAVE"

As a Navy enlisted woman Katy is a "Wave" in two ways. She is part of the new wave of AA—those who come in before they have lost just about everything.

Is Katy unique? Not according to her. Says she:

"I see a lot of people in their 20's in AA."

For readers new to the program this account probably is not complete without citing the experience of persons in middle age with 15 or so years under their belts.

Time was when a person in his middle or late 30's was considered a youngster in AA. He looked around and found himself amidst people who might have been in their 40s or 50s but looked at least 20 years older—retreads with indications of not much more mileage left.

Indeed some new people who had not been jailed or fired or divorced might be told by old hands "Maybe you aren't ready?"

GET TO YOUTH

This isn't the advice any longer.

A person is ready when HE decides he's had enough.

Katy's example would appear to indicate that world, national, state and local publicity on alcoholism and what AA can do about it IS penetrating people's minds at younger age levels than ever before in the 28-year history of the Fellowship.

Progress?

One would say, "Yes!"

Watsonville Intergroup Meeting

By Bea R., Salinas-Watsonville-Monterey Reporter

Some 200 members and friends who attended the Monterey Bay Intergroup meeting last month in Watsonville heard a refreshing message of hope delivered by Don R., from down Southern California way.

It is ever-inspiring to some of us who have been around awhile to be reminded that we can learn from the young; and this lad has a message to carry—and carries it well.

TIME TESTED

It is a source of comfort to know that the concepts laid down so long ago by the really desperate AA pioneers are solid enough to stand the test of time. It is attractive enough to draw younger men and women who, because the principals have been retained and the Fellowship has remained a close, warm, understanding organization, need not suffer so long or so severely as did some of the older folks.

It is good, indeed, to know these young people are seeing the nature of their problem early enough; to share useful, growing years with their children; and while they still have years left, to live, work and build a better world for themselves, their families, and their community.

CAPABLE HANDS

It is a thrill to watch the responsibility and dedication of these young folks bring to the working of the Program, and the preservation of its principals. In observing Don's type of enthusiasm at work, we older and middle-age people can be certain that AA is passing into firm, able hands.

We can also be inspired to renew and maintain our own responsibilities, urged on by the manifest dedication of these younger people.

One fine example of the Fellowship at work at the Intergroup Meeting was the cooperation given by women members of the Salinas and Santa Crus Groups who provided the food for the Refreshment Bar. These gals can really cook.

Ben Lomond Group

A new AA unit, The Fireside Group, was recently founded in Ben Lomond, Calif. A closed, discussion group, it meets Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. in the hall at Central and Main Streets.

Foul Weather Fails To Dampen Mount Shasta's Meeting

Despite foul weather and heavy rains, Mt. Shasta's Intergroup Meeting held May 4, in Mt. Shasta City, Calif. was voted a huge success.

Some 100 members from Sacramento, Roseville, Stockton Marysville, Orland, Gridley Redding Yreka Woodland, Dunsmuir and Klamath Falls (in Oregon) enjoyed a hearty potluck spaghetti dinner.

Cliff J., Sacramento, gave an inspiring report on AA World Service, and Floyd B., Roseville got a standing ovation for a message on the 12 steps.

Dunsmuir and Mt. Shasta Group women went all-out in providing a delicious dinner and a variety of wonderful cakes baked by Redding women, won the hearts, and appetites of all hands.

Milt W., Dunsmuir, read the 12 Traditions; Rosellen B., and May W., Mt. Shasta Group, were co-chairman of the Intergroup Meeting. His able assistant was Al W., also of Mt. Shasta Group

Garberville Group

Guys and gals who fish the Eel River do not have to miss meetings (at least on Friday nights) because a new unit has been founded at Garberville. The Garberville Group meets in the Presbyterian Church in that noted resort and fishing community every Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

Fire Razes Vallejo Fellowship's Club

The clubrooms of the Vallejo Fellowship, 820 Marin Street Vallejo, was completely destroyed by fire. It occurred at an hour when the premises was vacant.

The forethought of someone to buy adequate fire insurance prevented serious monetary loss. Ergo Vallejo Fellowship has a bigger and larger quarters at the Alano Club, 1500 Marin Street where meetings are held every night of the week, plus a noontime meeting on Thursdays.

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Clinton Duffy Speaks at Napa

Napa Fellowship Group of Napa, Calif., will sponsor a meeting Tuesday, June 25, at 8:30 p.m., highlighted by a talk, "Remaking of Man" by former warden of San Quentin Clinton Duffy.

Duffy's talk will revolve around AA and alcoholism, and why alcohol is oftentimes a significant factor in causing Homo Sapiens to make poor decisions, thereby leading to prison cells.

Napa Fellowship Group meets in Centennial Hall of the Methodist Church, 641 Randolph Street, in Napa. AA members, friends and families, are invited to attend Mr. Duffy's lecture.

Ask-It Basket

A tit-for-tat Question and Answer meeting will highlight an open meeting on Wednesday, June 19 at 8:30 p.m. sponsored by the Avenue Alanon Club. Cal and Margaret K., longtime AA members will be teamed up against Edith L., and Jane G., Avenue Alanon members in a liberal discussion on how each organization functions.

Pencils and paper will be provided to the audience who will be invited to write questions of the AA team or the Alanon pair. Answers will be given from the stage.

The "Ask-it-Basket" is a popular method of getting matters aired that might otherwise remain unresolved, Murrel S. program chairman of the Avenue Alanon Club said:

The club meets in the auditorium of St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco close to the downtown shopping area.

H & I BROAD-SIDES

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

Saturday, May 18 was quite a day for the committee. At 10:25 in the morning the steering committee meeting got underway with reports from the areas. The area chairmen are doing a splendid job and yet, we realize more and more that we have a long way to go in giving our services but, we think we're gaining. New faces, new ideas, and new approaches are always of great interest. We welcome your interest and your attendance.

CHAIRMAN ELECTED

This brings us to the afternoon general meeting and the nominations for, and the election of, a new general chairman who will take over July 1, 1963. Three men, any one of which was well qualified for this office, were nominated. The smoke cleared away and if you don't know, we'd like you to meet, Walter McC. of Sacramento who will take over from Bud C. of Hayward on the above mentioned date. Walter has served long and well in the interest of this committee and again, Walter will contribute a great deal to make the committee more effective than ever before. Don't bitch, let's pitch, the guy will need the cooperation of all hands.

PRISON CONFERENCE

At 6:00 p.m. a contingent from AA made their way to the gates of the California State Prison at Folsom for the annual conference. To be exact, 97 from the outside were in attendance and approximately 300 resident guests. There was never a dull moment with each and every speaker giving out with good solid AA philosophy. Keynote speaker for the evening, Jim O'T., left a message that everyone will reflect on for quite some time. Jim can reach these guys if anyone can.

TWO OPEN HOUSES

Lest we forget. If you are interested in attending the open house at Soledad on June 9 or, if you can make the open house at D.V.I. at Tracy on June 16, please contact the facility immediately for your clearance. These are functions that you will not only enjoy to the fullest but, you will come away counting your blessings, at least I do. The guys in the joints will be forever grateful.



ELEVEN YEARS OF SERVICE

May 1, this year, marked the date that Jack I. took over the important post of Central Secretary, S. F. Inter-County Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

It is the consensus of clear-thinking members that he has done a remarkable job of building the tri-county Fellowship into a strong organization. And, built solely for the purpose of aiding the sick alcoholic.

A dedicated man to the whole structure and entire concept of AA, he is just as apt to be heard making an optimistic, encouraging "pitch" to an isolated group of ten members that just got started as making the keynote, spellbinder at a major, metropolitan AA gathering.

Many open-minded, thoughtful members—those that were identified with S. F. Fellowship, and when the "infant" was still in swaddling clothes—voice the opinion that the Fellowship took on an aura of maturity, dignity, and a desire for greater unity and spiritual growth under the stewardship of Jack.

A modest man, our Central Secretary would be the last to utter such a statement. To him, humility is an important credo.

Nevertheless, the Fellowship has mushroomed from a small cluster of AA units into a progressive, three-county organization that tallies more AA groups than does some states.

Moreover, the members, and the groups to which they belong RUN the Fellowship. The Central Secretary carries out—to the best of his abilities and circumstances—the wishes of the members and their groups in keeping with the tenets of the 12 Traditions.

Of these years as Central Secretary, Jack said: "The best 11 years I have ever lived. The greatest job I've ever had."

What GSO Means Is Explained at Area 5, 6 Meet

The district committee members and the area chairmen of Areas 5 and 6 held a meeting Sunday May 12th at the Concord Fellowship.

Mildred H., Area 5 Chairman, opened the meeting with an explanation of the importance of having a General Service representatives in our groups. It was noted that many new members did not know what GSO meant. Many questions were clarified to the new district committee members.

Karl S. of Vallejo was elected to replace Hazel L. as Area 6 Chairman. Hazel has resigned because of health reasons. Karl explained the formation of the districts in Area 6 which is Solano, Napa and Contra Costa Counties.

Another meeting will be scheduled in June for all the representatives and interested members. Watch for further notice of the time and place.

European Trip For Al H., Wife

Al H., driving force of the After Hours Group, has arranged a two-month European trip with his wife, with plane departure from San Francisco set last May 29.

Al said they would fly to London and then visit Paris, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Finland Sweden Norway and Denmark.

He plans flying home in time to speak at the All Groups meeting at 150 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, Friday August 2.

In 1949 after his first few years sobriety, Al started a group in the back of a saloon he ran on Stanyan Street, an idea that grew from 12th Step work he did with some of his overthirsty customers.

At times he would bang a mixing device on metalwork behind the bar to the rhythm of records on the juke box. He later sold the joint and made a success as a downtown pianist-entertainer.

S.F. Alano Club to Skip June 1 Dance

In deference to the NCC Conference taking place at Eureka, Saturday and Sunday, June 1 - 2, the usual First Saturday of the Month Dance, sponsored by the S. F. Alano Club, 424 Grant Avenue, has been cancelled.

However, social activities resume on Saturday, June 15, with a Fathers' Day Surprise Dance. The Jumpin' Jacks will play. On Saturday, June 29, the monthly AA Birthday Party and Dance goes on as scheduled. This affair celebrates all AA's whose birthday occurs in June. Coffee and cake will be served.

A First Birthday

Congratulations are in order for the Mamie Smithenson Memorial Group of the Weimar Medical Center, Sacramento. The hospital unit celebrates its first AA Birthday Sunday, June 2. Real "barefoot" AA, cake and coffee is on the menu.

"Family" Sessions At Forest Hills

The warm, homey gatherings that many AA members seem to prefer, are still the vogue at Forest Hills Group, Joe O'G., secretary, announces. The group meets at Jeschke Hall of St. John's United Church, at 200 Woodside Drive, close to Forest Hills Station.

Forest Hills meets Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m., and the "Welcome Mat" is out to all AA members, families and friends.

San Pablo Group

The Friendly Fellowship of San Pablo, 14451 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo, Calif., named their speakers for the month of June, as follows: Friday, June 7, George R., 37th & Roosevelt Group Richmond; Friday, June 14, Estelle R., South San Francisco; Friday, June 21, Jack I., central secretary, San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship; Friday, June 28, Benny K., Island Fellowship, Alameda.

June Program of East Bay Alano

An active June, containing seven major social and business events, is absorbing the planning of the Entertainment and Activities Committee of the East Bay Alano Club, 319-14th Street, Oakland, Calif. On the agenda are the following events:

SATURDAY, JUNE 1 — Saturday Night Dance. Music by Rythm Kings.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 — The Jumpin' Jacks return to play for Second Saturday O' Month Dance.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12 — Semi-Annual Membership Meeting. Election of one Board member. 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 — Slip-Shod Square Dance Hoe-Down. Lois James and guest Callers. Refreshments.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16 — New monthly feature. Sunday Ham & Egg Brunch. 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. \$1.00 donation.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22 — Alano Club furnishes its facilities to A-7-A Fellowship for Sponsorship Dance. Music by Rythm Kings.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29 — Event of the year. Club's 18th Anniversary Dance. Music by Jumpin' Jacks. Reunion of Old Timers. See new, improved Club facilities.

Watsonville Shift

The Watsonville AA "gang" wishes all their friends to know that they've set up a new meeting place at 1221 Lincoln Watsonville, Calif.

Other hall at Lincoln and Boockius became too small to house the gang suffering "growing pains." All Northern California members and friends are cordially invited to inspect the new quarters. Watsonville is "at home" on Tuesday Thursday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

The Alanons meet on Wednesday nights; the Alateens presently meet on Monday night at the home of Phil and Janette G., 62 Roosevelt Street Watsonville.

Betty Denor Dies

A legion of friends are mourning the recent death of Betty Denor a member of Golden Gate Group, several years ago. More recently the dead woman was active in Pacifica Group. Her death was attributed to a cerebral hemorrhage.