



Good News



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

JULY
1965

Eastbay Fellowship Will Hold Annual Picnic Sunday, Aug. 15

Beautiful Wildwood Acres Resort, three miles from St. Mary's College, in Hunsaker Canyon, Lafayette, Calif., is the site selected for the Eastbay Intergroup Fellowship Picnic.

The big, colorful, annual outing starts at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, August 15, and the grounds will remain open until 11:00 p.m. Admission for adults is \$1.50; children free.

FOOD: Bring your own, Barbecue pits and hot coals will be ready by noon.

SWIMMING: A large, clear, fresh water pool with showers and dressing rooms, is adjacent.

GAMES: Baseball, volley ball, horse shoes, ping pong.

DANCING: To a live band.

Group table reservations can be arranged. Directions on "how to get there" will appear in August issue of GOOD NEWS. Volunteer help and ideas are urgently needed. Please contact Kenny Mac at Central Office.

Five Meetings Slated in July By All-Groups

The All Groups (Show Case) Meetings, held each Friday at 240 Golden Gate Avenue, under the auspices of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, has scheduled five fine meetings for July. The lineup is, as follows:

Friday, July 2—Jack C., Excelsior Group, is one speaker; and Bob E., Husband-and-Wife Group; Oakland, and one of the "First Hundred Men," the other.

Friday, July 9—Katherine G., Helping Hand Group of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship; and Dr. Malcolm H. Merrill, M.D., director, State Department of Public Health, Berkeley.

Friday, July 16—Eloise K., Mill Valley Group; and Tom C., Ambassadors Group, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Friday, July 23—Ernie B., Park-Presidio Group; and Harold D., both of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Friday, July 30—Chuck and Jinny K., a husband-and-wife team from San Pablo Friendly Fellowship, San Pablo, Calif. This pair will give the male and woman's version how "AA" works for them."

Meetings start at 8:30 p.m. but the doors to the Building Service Center at 240 Golden Gate Avenue, open at 7:00 and coffee is available at 7:30 p.m., onward.

Hall has padded seats, good acoustics, fine P.A. system, air conditioning, and is generally recognized as a "comfortable meeting place." Parking at nominal rates may be had around corner on Leavenworth Street.

QUITTER NEVER WINS

Keep coming to meetings. A winner never quits. A quitter never wins.

Words and Wisdom That Will Live

From the Lips of a Dead Man

Jack Irving was scheduled to deliver this talk at the Santa Rosa Conference on Saturday, June 12. Death cut him down two days prior to the meeting. Harriet H., assistant to Jack, discovered his prepared talk on his desk at the Central Office of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship. Harriet agreed to substitute for Jack on the Santa Rosa program only if she could read Jack's talk as he had written it. She did. It is reproduced here, words verbatim, because we believe it a powerful document, forthright, hard-hitting that will shake the complacency and apathy of honest members who have the courage to recognize truth when they hear it. EDITOR

First of all I want to thank the committee for giving me the opportunity of participating in this program today. And, I want to personally congratulate Stan (secretary, Northern California Council of AA) for selecting the title of this talk which I think is most appropriate . . . "The Responsibilities Of A Group Secretary."

In a broad, general way I would think that the chief responsibility of the group secretary is to be responsible! and what I'm going to do is to support this broad general statement.

To begin with, I want to underline the fact that the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous is a great, nationwide, world-wide fellowship of thousands of groups. But, it is easy to understand how we can come to thing of AA in terms of our local

group. AA is very much greater, larger than this — and our local group is but a small part of a great whole.

PUBLIC SCRUTINY

Today, the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous is very much in the public eye. Hundreds of thousands of people are watching us, appraising us, grading us; and AA will continue to be brought to the attention of the general public as time goes by.

(continued on page 4)

Surf Celebrates

The Thirteenth Anniversary of the founding of Surf Group will be observed, Monday, July 19, at 8:30 p.m. in the social hall of the Community Church, 34th Avenue and Noriega Street, San Francisco.

Principal speaker is Harry I. Isl and Fellowship, Alameda. Meeting will be conducted by Bill G., chairman. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., and coffee is served from 7:30 p.m. Following the meeting, more coffee and a nice buffet will be served. Everyone is welcome.

Lighters Found

In the June issue of GOOD NEWS Harriet H., assistant secretary, Central Office, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, asked for information where she could purchase cigaret lighters with the "Serenity Prayer" inscribed upon them.

The response was terrific. Harriet was swamped with replies from Arkansas, Chicago, Denver, Seattle, several from Los Angeles area, Monterey, Texas, Arizona, and Greely, Colorado (Greely even sent a sample lighter) and from New York where the original inquiry came from. Seems that Eve M., New York General Service Office, wanted to take some as "Thank You" gifts on her 'round the world trip.

Harriet is grateful for the many replies and wants to take this opportunity to express her thanks for this wonderful demonstration of fellowship.

James L. Free Dies

Southern California AA members mourned the death of Jimmy Free, whose funeral services were held June 10, in Montecito Calif.

Free, a retired advertising man, came to Santa Barbara from Chicago, setting up a realty investment firm. He was instrumental in efforts which provided men and women alcoholics with facilities that have won state-wide attention.

His death occurred in Santa Barbara at age 59.

Peninsula All-Groups Schedule

Last month, Joe B., San Carlos, succeeded to the position of secretary, Peninsula All-Groups, outgoing secretary Don M. announced. Don also released the speaker line-up for July, together with the groups that will host the meetings, which are:

Sat. July 3—Speaker is Jack S., Crescent City; the host group is Palo Alto Thursday.

Sat. July 10—Barbara I., Menlo Women's will do the speaking; South San Francisco Group will host.

Sat. July 17—Bill J., Santa Monica Group will be on the Speakers' Platform; the Palo Alto Tuesday Group will serve as hosts.

In Between Fellowship Meeting Set

A buffet-speaker meeting, held under the auspices of the In Between Fellowship, has been scheduled for Saturday, July 10, starting at 7:00 p.m., at 4710 East 14th Street, Oakland.

Featured speaker is "Happy Harry" G., a member of the Eastbay

New Post for Jim M

Jim M., presently holding an important post of Pacific Coast Trustee, has been appointed to another, and equally important position. Dr. John L. Norris, non-alcoholic chairman of the General Service Board, announced that Jim has been named chairman of the powerful Policy Committee of the General Service Board.

The "Grapevine"

Bill W., AA's surviving co-founder, has a suspense story in the June issue of the Grapevine. You won't want to miss it — even if you know the ending.

Dr. Karl Menninger has written a special article for the July Convention issue, titled "The Vital Balance." It also contains a tough, realistic look at AA today, written by Bill. Both issues are crammed with a score of entertaining, meaningful articles — sad, hilarious, comic and dramatic — but all topnotch.

Sat. July 24—Bill G., Surf Group of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, will make the "pitch"; acting in the hosting spot will be the group from Santa Cruz.

Sat. July 31—Judy C., Excelsior Group, is slated for the speaking job; the San Bruno Monday Group will do the hosting.

Peninsula All Groups meets in the lovely auditorium of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, El Camino Real and Baldwin Avenue, San Mateo. Meetings start at 8:00 p.m. but coffee is served starting at 7:30 p.m. and there's always a lot of arms-length AA going on prior to the meetings, Don said.

Fellowship. Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. and the speaker will make his "pitch" starting at 8:15 p.m.

Effective July, monthly meetings sponsored by the In Between Fellowship will be under the leadership of Marty I., newly-elected secretary.

Zoe Will Speak

Many missed this gal when she made her great pitch at the March Conference in San Jose. She's Zoe P., North Hollywood Group, who will be principal speaker at an Open Meeting, Saturday, July 31, at 8:30 p.m., at Reidenbach Hall, Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison Street, Oakland.

Event is being held under the auspices of the Eastbay Intergroup Fellowship. A capacity crowd is expected for the return visit of Zoe from Studio City.

"TO OPEN THE DOOR"

Most members affiliated with S.F. Inter-County Fellowship may not realize this — but it costs \$50.00 to open the Central Office doors at 166 Geary Street — every business day morning. This doesn't include phone, postage, stationery, and a lot of other its — it covers just rent and salaries. So, if your Group has an occasional surplus — send it where it will do the most good.

1500 Attend at Santa Rosa

A trio of fine speakers, an unusual incident, and the enthusiasm of some 1500 persons contributed to make the NCC Summer Conference which took place June 12-13, at Santa Rosa, a long-remembered event.

Father Barney, Portland, Ore., delivered a powerful talk — the keynote speech — at the Saturday Open meeting. The Roman Catholic Priest related the problems of a clergyman's experiences in the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous and how he made an effective recovery through the AA program.

STANDING OVATION

Ben W., Los Angeles attorney, brought tears to the eyes of many who heard his talk made before a suprisingly large audience at the Sunday afternoon Open Meeting.

His story of absolute despair and complete surrender — his recovery with the help of AA — and his philosophy of life and living, triggered a standing ovation.

"RESPONSIBILITY"

Jack Irving had been scheduled to address the NCC meeting Saturday afternoon. After his death, his prepared speech was found on his desk. Titled, "The Responsibility of a Secretary" was read by Harriet H., Jack's assistant at the Central Office of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship. The dead man's manuscript was an examination in depth, of some of the things that ail AA, plus the responsibilities of a group secretary — and the groups the world over.

No finer memorial could be offered in Jack's memory. It was perhaps the best written and most constructive article on various phases of AA activity yet developed. Elsewhere in this issue of GOOD NEWS, the article is re-printed in its entirety.

Two other fine talks were made during the Conference. Father Barney addressed the Alateens (and they loved him!) and Floyd B., Roseville, made a hard-hitting talk to the General Service meeting Sunday morning. Floyd pin-pointed the im-

(Continued on page 6)

Bereaved Widow Expresses Thanks

Ada Irving, wife of our late, beloved Jack Irving, is taking this means of saying "Thank You" for the scores of floral pieces, hundreds of notes and letters expressing condolences, and to the legion of men and women who came from all walks of life to pay their respects at Jack's bier at the funeral parlor and who also attended graveside services.

Mrs. Irving is grateful to numerous state and civic dignitaries, business leaders, the clergy, and to hundreds of AA members who came from near and far, to honor a man whom they all loved and respected.

Since it would be almost impossible to know all the friends that Jack made during his 13-year tenure as Secretary of S. F. Inter-County Fellowship, and to obtain their addresses, Mrs. Irving said: "My heartfelt thanks to everyone of you. I grieve deeply for Jack, but I know all of you feel much of the same loss and pain, too."

San Pablo Friendly Fellowship's Agenda

Five good AA speakers highlight the July meetings of the San Pablo Friendly Fellowship, 13857 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo, Calif.

Listing is as follows:

Fri. July 2—Ken B., Concord Fellowship.

Fri. July 9—Joe B., Napa Fellowship.

Fri. July 16—Rosalie R., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship.

Fri. July 23—Bill W., Central California Fellowship, Sacramento.

Fri. July 30—Bertha B., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship.

Farewell to Gerry

Eastbay Intergroup Fellowship warmly welcomed Ben M., new chairman, H & I Committee, and bade farewell to Gerry L., outgoing chairman, with a "Well Done" salute.

Anniversary At S.F. Alano Club

Eight years in its location at 414 Grant Avenue will be celebrated all during the month of July by the San Francisco Alano Club with a series of Eighth Anniversary events.

First of these is an Independence Day Dance scheduled for Saturday, July 3, at 8:00 p.m. This is a pre-Fourth of July affair with the noted "Jumpin' Jacks" providing music for dancing. Surprises and door prizes will be given away.

Saturday and Sunday, July 17-18, is the big Eighth Anniversary weekend. It will be marked by a special anniversary dance on Saturday night the 17th, followed on Sunday by a sumptuous Baked Ham Luncheon served from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Paul "Bus" D., program director, has gone "all out" to make this Anniversary Weekend a real big affair. The Saturday night dance will be highlighted by door prizes, refreshments, and the danceable tunes of the "Jumpin' Jacks." And on Sunday, the luncheon, with all the trimmings that goes to "make" a Baked Ham Luncheon, are on the lavish menu. Saturday and Sunday are both "open house" days, and all AA members and friends are invited.

Anniversary Month winds up on Saturday, July 31, with a July AA Birthday Party and Dance. This is the popular affair at the Alano Club when all AA's whose "AA Birthday" occurs in July, are recognized and honored. Coffee and cake will be served.

Walnut Creek Group

Lafayette-Walnut Creek Group announced that it will meet at a new address: Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane Lafayette, Cal. Change became effective July 1.

REBOUND COMMITTEE

The rebound Group of San Francisco celebrated its 16th year of service last month. This meeting is intended primarily for people who have relapses. Attendance in April was 82, about the average per month per annum.

"HAND BOOK" FOR SECRETARIES

(Continued from Page 1)

That is why it is very important that we conduct ourselves in a way that will impress — favorably impress — not only the sick alcoholic, but all the other people in the community, and in the country, and in the world, as well.

FALSE NOTIONS

We hear AA members say many times, "This is a program of attraction rather than promotion." This is not an accurate quote. Nowhere in all the AA books and literature will you find this particular statement. What the Traditions do say is "Our Public Relations Policy Should Be One of Attraction Rather Than Promotion." Not the "Program" but our "Public Relations Policy." And, certainly to be attractive, we should present an image of responsibility.

Over the last decade we have witnessed an entirely new phenomenon in AA. We have seen thousands of people "passing thru" our fellowship. The "drop out" rate is far greater than it is in the field of education. This can mean only one thing. AA is not growing as it should. AA is not growing as it could be growing. We are not holding a substantial number of the new people.

To give you some specific examples:

The first Open Conference of the Northern California Council was held in Sacramento in March 1951. (Prior to that time Council meetings were closed . . . for alcoholics only). At that meeting in Sacramento, that Saturday night, we had 1,300 people. Later on, in October of 1951, we had the Lasker Award meeting in San Francisco at the Opera House, and that night we had nearly 3,000 people. That was 14 years ago, remember!

At the Saturday night meeting at the March Conference, this year, when we had Jack Bailey, we had 2,800 people; and that was an exceptionally large meeting — the largest we had in some time. But we had more people than that attending these meetings 14 years ago!

We have some growth, yes. But we're living in a state that is growing tremendously. Six hundred thou-

sand new people come to live in California every year. That's almost 2,000 a day. Not tourist—permanent residents. And, California has the highest incidence of alcoholism of any state. We have 8,000 alcoholics per 100,000 of population—and this is far higher than the national average. We have the highest incidence of women alcoholics. So we're bound to have some growth.

STOP "DROP OUT"

If we are to be of help to the new people who come to AA we must do whatever is necessary to keep them coming back. I don't believe anyone will argue against that. And the Group Secretary is in a key position. The Group Secretary plays a vital role in this area. The Group Secretary can really provide a solution to this turn-over problem.

We must be realistic, I believe. This is 1965. Not 1940 or 1945, or 1949, or 1955. Things are not the same today as they were in the by-gone years — and they never will be. We can't do things today the way we did 15 or 20 years ago.

We have an entirely different type person coming to AA today. The National Council on Alcoholism reports 90% of the alcoholics in the U.S. are "alcoholics with assets" they estimate that 2,000 of these active alcoholics are employed, and are in the higher income brackets. I was 54 years old when I came into AA. Today the average of the people in AA is estimated to be below 40.

Many people who come to AA today come with some doubts, some misgivings. They are concerned with what they may become involved in. And, if these people are not favorably impressed with what they see and hear — they are quite apt to "drop out" after a few meetings.

And, in my opinion, when they leave, they leave without being missed. And this, I think, is where we are making a big mistake. Many members will tell you why these people drop out. These AA members have a ready answer. The answer is: "They're not ready!" Some "low-bottom snobs" may even decide they're not alcoholics!

How we are endowed with this

great infinite intelligence that enables us to remember what goes on in other people's minds, I don't know. Certainly, this sort of thing can hardly be looked upon as an exercise in humility. I firmly believe that anyone who approaches AA has some kind of problem — is ready for something—otherwise AA would be the last place he would think of applying.

He may not be ready to become affiliated with us if he receives an impression that we irresponsible. He may not be ready to identify with a secretary who has trouble reading a simple announcement. Or a chairman who says, "will I goofed. But what can you expect? I'm an alcoholic." Or, "that's alcoholic thinking alright!"

WHIM AND CAPRICE

Personally, I don't believe any AA member has the right to brand all the rest of us as rattle-brained, inefficient people; people who can't be depended upon; people guided by whim and caprice. Actually, what we should be trying to do — and what most of us are trying to do — is to impress employers, relatives, friends, and the general public — that we are efficient, dependable people.

If we are to continue to grow it is obvious we must be concerned with this 90 percent. Something has to happen so that we will remember this forgotten alcoholic. He's not better off just because he's solvent. He may be worse off as a result of having assets. This is something the responsible group secretary will keep in mind. The responsible secretary is in a position to make a tremendous contribution in this area.

The good secretary will realize that his job is a labor of love (for which, many times, too few love him). But, be it that it may, he has been presented with a truly great opportunity for service. When his term expires he will have the real good feeling that comes with the knowledge he has tried to do a good job.

KEY POSITION

The good group secretary is the

motivating spirit, the spark-plug, the heart-beat of the group, you might say. He is one single member upon whom depends, many times, the success of the group as a whole.

Now, briefly, we will try to list a few of the things that a group secretary assumes responsibility for:

1) He will see that adequate literature is available for newcomers, and for Twelfth Step workers in the group, at all times.

2) The good secretary will have for ready references the names and phone numbers of members who will accept Twelfth Step calls.

3) The responsible secretary will make it his business to become acquainted with every new person that comes in; he'll get the new members name and phone number; and, he will watch out for this new member for at least six or seven weeks. If the new man or woman misses a meeting, the good secretary will call the next day and tell the newcomer "we missed you last night."

I know from personal experience how effective this can be. It can do a lot to correct this "drop out" situation.

IS MONEY DIRTY?

The responsible secretary will cultivate enough humility to enable him to talk about Money. Many secretaries seem to want to avoid this. Sometimes the basket is passed almost surreptitiously; as though we were doing something that wasn't really nice. Some secretaries seem to feel that we will not like them if they talk about money.

Of course if we're concerned with our own popularity rather than that of the welfare of the group — we're not being either responsible or realistic.

I want to say, parenthetically, that in my opinion, anyone who is seeking fame or prestige — status or popularity — in our great fellowship is simply chasing the greatest will-o-the-wisp of all time. And, besides the competition is too great.

REALISM NEEDED

The responsible secretary will discard that old threadbare, "no dues or fees. But the way the announcement is made, it sometimes sounds like a new rule just went into effect.

I suggest it would be much more appropriate to quote the definition,

"we are fully self-supporting through the voluntary contributions of our members." That's a positive statement. The other is negative. And I can tell you one of the chief reasons AA is held in such high esteem by many outsiders is this very thing. We are the only activity in the field of public health that doesn't have its hand out; that doesn't conduct public fund-raising campaigns.

But, it's one thing to say, "we're self-supporting." We should really be that way. Month after month, about half the groups fail to make contributions. Every inter-group office on the Coast is understaffed; operates under a continuous cloud of anxiety; and worry about whether we're going to get enough money contributed.

SMALL CHANGE

Actually, we don't talk about REAL money at all. All we need is \$1.00 per member, per month earmarked for the local office, and 25 cents per month per member earmarked for the General Service Office. And we can't call that money. The responsible secretary will make the group contribution each month.

Another thing to remember: The very worst thing any group can do is build up a surplus of cash in the group treasury. There is absolutely no valid reason for this. And, experience over the years shows that, inevitably, it causes trouble — sometimes very serious trouble. When next month's rent is paid, and the bills are paid, the good secretary will distribute the rest of the funds at the end of the month.

AVOID "SECRECY"

The responsible secretary will keep the group informed about the money which is contributed. In the S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, we provide the secretaries with a weekly report sheet. This shows all the information including the money collected and the money distributed. This can be on the table each meeting night and any member who wishes, may look it over. This has been helpful — although not all secretaries use these forms.

This is a spiritual movement. This is an undeniable fact. But there are some business aspects involved, and these business aspects should be

handled in a business-like way. We have to discharge our business responsibilities in a manner that is acceptable. This is synonymous with responsibility. This is the way a good secretary will perform.

The responsible secretary will never say, "I have some mail from the office, but I forgot to bring it with me. Oh, well, that's how it goes." The responsible secretary will not say, "I have some announcements up here and if anyone is interested, they can come up after the meeting and read them." How does the member know if he's interested when they don't know what the secretary is talking about

PIOUS PETES

Some of us don a coat of phony piety and exclaim loud and clear, "This is an AA meeting! We didn't come here to listen to a lot of announcements." This is irresponsibility at its best — or worst! Actually, on any given meeting night, all material the secretary has received can be condensed and given to the group in digest form — and it can be done in less than two minutes.

The responsible group secretary will realize that the group is not "going it alone"; that it is not "an island unto itself"; that every AA group is dependent upon every other group which goes to make up this great fellowship.

Whenever they think of doing something they will ask themselves: "What will happen if all groups did this." And they will know at once what is right — and what is wrong.

Despite the 30 years of AA we are still in the early pioneering days. Hardly a dent has been made in the surface of this problem of alcoholism. With nearly six million alcoholics in the U.S., and with a little over a quarter of one million in AA — we have a long way to go — just as we have come a long way.

"FORGOTTEN" ALCOHOLICS

In the immediate future we will be seeing and hearing a great deal about alcoholism. Important legislation is being introduced in Sacramento and Washington. Authorities are going to stop fighting the alcoholic — and start fighting the disease of alcoholism. Because of these developments we can expect an in-

(Continued on page 7)

"BILL'S OWN STORY" FILM Eastbay Sponsors "All Groups Day" at Richmond Auditorium

The Eastbay Fellowship of AA is making plans for a huge "All Groups Day" which will be held Sunday, September 26, starting at noon, at the Richmond, Calif., Civic Center Auditorium. Already, spade work is in progress on a "bonanza program," Jim M., chairman of East bay's Advertising Committee, said.

The committee is working feverishly on a full-fledged program to celebrate the second anniversary of "All Groups Day." Highlight of the program is a smashing, big "scoop."

This is a talking motion picture in color of "Bill's Own Story," taken at "Stepping Stones," Bill's and Lois' home in a little village outside New York City.

NATION'S FIRST

The picture was shown to the recent convention delegate's conference in New York. Other than that showing, this one at the "All Groups Day" meeting will be its first national showing.

The beautiful production depicts Bill's story as he meanders through "Stepping Stones" with Lois, reminiscing over the years gone by, and faith and hope in the days ahead.

The Advertising Committee chairman said the production is a tremendous event in the progress of our wonderful Fellowship. And, it will serve as a guiding light today, and a perpetual memorium to our beloved Bill and Lois, in years to come.

UNFINISHED AGENDA

The film requires about 1½ hours. The "All Groups Day" program, not yet printed, has scheduled to run it only at the afternoon assembly — probably at 2:30 p.m. — but the exact timing has not been definitely set, the Committee said.

Arrangements for securing "Bill's Own Story" was completed by Nick N., Oakland. He was the first delegate to the New York Conferences, and a long-time friend of Bill and Lois.

Details of the "All Groups Day" program will be printed in the August issue of GOOD NEWS.

Running into debt isn't so bad; it's running into your creditors that's so embarrassing.

Fellowship of AA

Based on reports to GSO,
Spring 1965

| Groups Members | |
|---|------------------|
| United States..... | 7,543 128,498 |
| Canada | 1,146 15,928 |
| Overseas | 1,854 36,846 |
| In Hospitals..... | 570 10,764 |
| In Prisons..... | 648 25,000 |
| Internationalists | 332 |
| Lone Members..... | (599)* |
| Totals..... | 11,752 — 217,967 |
| (Including "non-reported" members, actual membership is estimated at more than 350,000. | |
| *These members included in Area totals. | |

reprinted from Conference
Digest for Area Delegates
and Committee Members)

State Meetings

Two important AA conventions will be held in Colorado and Oregon. Denver will be the site of the Colorado State Convention, slated for August 27, 28 and 29, at the Continental Denver Hotel.

In the Pacific Northwest, Oregon State Conference and Assembly will be held at the Dalles, September 4 and 5. Featured speaker will be Herb M., general manager, General Service Office, N.Y. He also is a member of the board of trustees, World Service, and chairman, General Service Conference.

Youngsters in AA

Young People in AA will hold their Eighth Annual Conference in Long Beach, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 13, 14, and 15. The Edgewater Inn and Marina Hotel serve as the headquarters for the gathering.

More About

SANTA ROSA

(Continued from page 3)

portance of the General Service Conference and also stressed the wisdom of following the precepts of the Third Legacy.

CONFERENCE NOTES

A member who had asked for a definition of a "conference caliber" speaker was asked after Ben's talk if he now understood what it was. His reply was "Yes; one who makes you cry."

Willa P., Daly City, winner of the \$50.00 savings bond in the door prize drawing Saturday Night, donated it to the Council.

Howard's Rhythm Kings furnished the music for the dancing which followed the Saturday evening meeting.

The Santa Rosa Alano was filled to capacity for the kick-off meeting on Friday Night, June 11th. The guest speakers, Pat E. and Frank G., were well received, starting off a gala weekend which included Open House at the Club all during the conference.

Barney B., San DeL. and Bob B., Co-Chairmen of the Santa Rosa Host Committee, are to be congratulated for one of the smoothest running conferences to date. Truly, Santa Rosa is becoming known as the city that "knows how."

Breakfast Group

The Sunday Breakfast Group of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship that meets each Sunday from Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, has scheduled these speakers for the month:

Sun. July 4—Fred F., Marin County Group.

Sun. July 11—Kelly G., Valencia Group, S.F. InterCounty Fellowship.

Sun. July 18—George D., Gratitude Group, Marin County.

Sun. July 25—Ray M., San Bruno Group.

Meetings actually start a half hour after Noon, but much arms-length AA goes on before and after meetings.

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23

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More About

Jack's "Sermon"

(Continued from page 5)

crease in AA activity. Let us remember that many people who come to us will be "solvent alcoholics." Let them not become "forgotten alcoholics."

If we are to continue to exist, we must continue to grow. Ours is not a fellowship that can stand still. We must forge ahead or fall behind. This Society of Alcoholics Anonymous is the greatest think God has put on the face of this green earth. It can continue to grow; it can continue to help millions if we only can forget about ourselves and our individual importance—and work for the common good — with no thought about who gets the credit.

We are dealing with Life and Death. We're not a fraternal organization — nor a benevolent organization — nor a club. We operate in the field of public health, trying to help sick people to recover from, and to arrest, a deadly disease.

This is serious business. But we can carry on courageously, bravely, good naturedly — with a smile on our faces — and joy in our hearts. Let's be responsible! Let's not be quitters. A quitter never wins — and a winner never quits!

INTERGROUP MEETING

Next meeting of the Eastbay Intergroup Fellowship will be held Wednesday, July 21, at Intergroup's central office, 237 East 14th Street, Oakland, Calif.

NEW HOPLAND GROUP

The Lazy "K" Ranch Group is a new open group that meets every Sunday at 4:00 p.m. at Duncan Springs, Hopland, California.

H&I BROAD-SIDES

By Walter Mc C., chairman, Hospital and Institution Committee

JACK I., ONE OF THE Four Horsemen, left us rather suddenly to attend "the Big Meeting." He was one of the original members of the Hospital and Institutional Committee and continued active during the years in "Carrying the Message." He battered down the door of ignorance and helped drive out of our lives fear, frustration, terror and bewilderment; opening the door of understanding by sharing his experience, strength and hope with us. What finer message could anyone leave than this Spiritual Monument of A.A. in action.

MAY 22nd WAS AN exciting day for many of us in H & I work at our General H & I Meeting held in Sacramento to elect a new General Chairman for the next two years. Bill S., was elected General Chairman. Bill is well acquainted in Northern California having been real active in all phases of H & I work over the years and was Co-Chairman of Institutions for the past two years. So the transition should be no great problem to Bill or the H & I Committee.

JOHN M., OAKLAND, regional chairman for the Coastal Area two year term expired and the Area Chairmen present elected Preston S. from San Jose, Regional Chairman for a two year period. Preston did an excellent job as chairman for Area 7 during the past and I know he will have no trouble in keeping lines of communication open between the Area Chairmen which is so important. That evening many were privileged to attend the 12th A.A. Conference held at Folsom Prison. Theme of the Conference was "A New Way Of Life." There were many excellent talks given by members of the inside group. Tom T., Los Angeles, gave an outstanding talk that was well received by the inmates. Another interesting talk was given by Dr. David G., Ph.D of U.C.L.A. These conferences given in Penal Institutions just don't happen as they appear in the program that we read at these meetings. There is much work involved in arranging these programs between the different agencies. First, the Warden must give permission and approve the program arranged by the inside conference committee and the outside sponsor.

PROBABLY ONE OFFICIAL who over the years has played a very important part in these conferences has been Gus Harrington. Through his efforts much of the paper work passes over his desk and he often coordinates much of the details between the warden's office, the A.A. Group and outside sponsor. So thanks to Mr Harrington and the time spent away from his many duties I think that I speak for everyone attending this A.A. Conference. It was a great success and enjoyed by all the members of the H & I Groups.

THIS IS MY LAST column for the GOOD NEWS telling the A.A. Fellowship activities of the Hospital & Institution Committee of Northern California. I want to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their patience in accepting my many shortcomings as a correspondent and general chairman.

Spokane Conference

The Pacific Northwest Conference will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 30, 31, and August 1, at the Ridpath Hotel, Spokane, Washington.

Roadside Service?

An AAAA is a recovered alcoholic who belongs to the American Automobile Association.

REDWOOD STAG GROUP

A closed group for Men Only — the Redwood City Tuesday Stag Group — has been established in the city of Redwood City, Calif. It meets at 8:30 p.m. each Tuesday in the Recreation Room of the Terrace Realty Building, 926 Woodside Road.

In AA circles, a "cordless" speaker is one who's not attached to any group; a member of the "fellowship."

ALL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
PICNIC
SUNDAY

AUGUST 15th, 1965

BLACKBERRY FARM

21975 - SAN FERNANDO AVENUE — CUPERTINO

FUN - FROLIC - FELLOWSHIP

SECLUDED AREA - FINE PARKING

Tables For 1,500 - Hot Dogs, Soda Pop, Coffee

— BIG TROPHY GOLF TOURNEY —

— BALLGAME SAN FRANCISCO VS. OAKLAND —

A COMPLETE DAY FOR YOU AND YOURS

SWIMMING — FLOOR SHOW — DANCING

BALL GAME — HORSESHOES — COFFEE

DOOR PRIZES — 9-HOLE GOLF COURSE

ADULT GAMES — CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND



FOLLOW THE BIG RED ARROWS
JOIN THE CROWD - LET'S KEEP GROWING

Sponsored By S. F. Intercounty Fellowship