



Good News



Vol. IX
No. 1

Published Monthly in San Francisco, California
By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

September,
1965

"I AM RESPONSIBLE"

TORONTO, ONT., JULY 4, 1965.
—A mighty message of hope for the world's suffering victims of alcoholism thundered forth from here at 10:25 p.m. last night, Sat., July 3.

The largest assemblage in history of recovered, once-thought-hopeless drunks . . . more than 10,000 A.A. members, their families and friends representing 30 countries . . . at that instant solemnly clasped hands and led by Bill W. and Lois, clearly and loudly pronounced this promise of hope in one tremendous, strong voice.

I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

It was the moving climax to the biggest A.A. gathering yet, the 30th Anniversary Year International Convention which brought together A.A., Al-Anon and Alateen members from all over the globe for three days packed with opportunity to share experiences, strengths, hopes and fun.

VAST CROWD

In Toronto's vast Maple Leaf Gardens on Friday night a crowd mindful of its own size heard from their own lips the stories of Bill W., A.A.'s co-founder and author of the basic books; Lois W., his wife, the First Lady of the Al-Anon Family Groups; and Marty M., one of A.A.'s first women members.

On Saturday evening an even larger throng heard Bill and non-alcoholic Trustee Bernard Smith, describe one of the most glorious fruits of A.A. recovery from alcoholism; individual freedom to accept responsibility for ourselves and for our share in A.A. as a whole.

"Newcomers are approaching A.A."

(continued on page 2)

HERB M. SPEAKS AT SACRAMENTO, SEPT. 12 PAST TRUSTEE — N.Y. OFFICE MANAGER

Herb M., formerly a member of the Board of Trustees of AA, who is at the present time Manager of the New York General Service Office, will be in Sacramento to address an AA meeting on Sunday, September 12th, according to word received from Jim M., Trustee, of Carmichael.

Herb's appearance will be under the dual sponsorship of General Service Interior Panel No. 2 and the General Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, 4544-14th Avenue, Sacramento.

Herb's appearance will be under the dual sponsorship of General Service Interior Panel No. 2 and the Central California Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, 4544-14th Avenue, Sacramento.

This is Herb's first trip to the West Coast, according to Jim. He

'Little Conference' In Eureka October 2

Patterned after the G.S. 'Sharing Session' idea and the format of the N.C.C. conferences, a 'Little Conference' will be held at Eureka on Saturday, October 2nd, in the Episcopal Church recreation hall, 625-15th Street, according to Win S., PIC Committee Chairman.

The Conference will start at 1:00 p.m. with a brief sketch of the history of the Humboldt-Del Norte Central Service Committee, sponsors of the affair, by Harold B., Chairman.

Three discussion meetings, the first starting at 1:15 p.m., will cover a wide scope of selected subjects, at 2:30 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. as well. The theme of the conference will be "Sharing our group experiences in Carrying the Message."

Moderators at 2:30 p.m. will be Clay S. and Bob P., Co-Chairmen of H & I Committee, and at 3:45 p.m. Win S. will preside.

A pot-luck dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m., followed at 8:15 p.m. by a showing of the film "Bill W's Own Story" at an open public meeting.

All AA's are cordially invited to participate, especially Fort Bragg, Ukiah, Willits, Redding, Brookings and Grant's Pass members who may not have another chance to see and hear Bill's story.

THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE 15th ALBERTA A.A. CONFERENCE

To Be Held

OCTOBER 1, 2, 3
At CALGARY

Everything Under One Roof
at the Beautiful
CALGARY INN

POSTER, REGISTRATION FORMS AND
TICKETS TO FOLLOW

All replies to:
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
BOX 686
CALGARY, ALBERTA

is also visiting a number of cities in the Northwest, including Seattle and Spokane.

Herb as Manager of the New York Office, works with all the gals we know as being members of the Staff and, says Jim, is the 'watch-dog' of the treasury of General Service Funds, and a very efficient one, too.

This is an opportunity for all AA members to hear a fine speaker, a well informed member and a devoted worker. All are urged to attend.

IN TORONTO: H & I COMES ALIVE

You would have to see it to believe it!

At 8:30 a.m. on the morning of July 2nd (just barely daylight) there was a standing room only crowd awaiting the start of the Institutional workshop, scheduled to get off the ground at 9:00 a.m. It did.

Ann M. of the General Service Staff acted as moderator and did an outstanding job of controlling the meeting. We heard interesting accounts of what is happening in Canada from Happy M. of Winnipeg, Manitoba, an outstanding presentation of Oregon by Betty V. of Portland, Oregon, a run-down on North Carolina by George H. of Raleigh, North Carolina, and the writer was privileged to present the Northern California version of "How It Works" in prisons and hospitals.

There must have been some reaction as we received word from Bill W. that he would like to meet with us from 3:30 to 4:30 the same afternoon. We were, and are flattered, and you can believe me when I state that it was a fine get-together.

On Saturday, July 3rd, we all received an outstanding message from each of four gentlemen. Chairman, our long-time friend, Austin McCormick, speakers Myrl E. Alexander, Director of Bureau of Prisons for the United States; Frank P. Miller, National Parole Board of Canada, and Vic K. who came all the way from Alaska to visit with us.

Perhaps our ego is showing. However; the mails are rather heavy with requests for information on how the Northern California Hospitals & Institution Committee is set up. Mr. Alexander, Mr. Miller, and many others have requested additional information and to date they have been supplied with all available detail.

Get acquainted with your committee, try it on for size, and if you like it, jump in with both feet. If it isn't your particular bowl of cherries, drop it fast. In any event, everybody learns something, nobody gets hurt, and the committee is always anxious to welcome new people.

AA Trustee to Speak at Area 7 G.S. Gathering

An urgently needed meeting of all group representatives and General Service representatives of Area 7 will be held Friday, September 10, at the Santa Rosa Alano Club, 70 South E Street, Santa Rosa. It is set for 8:30 p.m.

Area 7, which comprises Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake Counties, is calling the session together "primarily to restore the line of communication between the groups in the area and AA World Service," Jim A., secretary, General Service Committee of Northern California Panel No. 1, said.

The agenda is, as follows:

(1) Outlining the importance of the General Service Representative, and the line of communication functioning between the groups and our General Service (AA World Service) Office, New York City.

(2) Selection of a new Area Chairman by the groups represented at the meeting. Blanch S., Sebastopol, sent in her resignation as Area

Alex M. Struck by Auto Condition Fair

Alex McC., well known Old Timer of San Francisco, is in serious condition in the Intensive Care Ward at the St. Francis Hospital here.

He was struck by an auto as he was crossing Market Street at Laguna on Thursday, August 19th.

No visitors, no phone calls, no flowers.

Chairman, because of ill health.

(3) An AA talk by Jim M., Sacramento, who is presently an AA Trustee serving on the General Service Board, and former delegate from Panel Two.

Additionally, there will be a discussion of the proposed ratio change on the Board of Trustees. This matter will be of interest to groups since they will probably be asked to vote upon the change, later this year, the chairman said.

He emphasized the necessity of all group representatives, G.S. representatives, and committeemen, to attend this important policy-making session in Santa Rosa.

I AM RESPONSIBLE . . .

(continued from page 1)

at the rate of tens of thousands yearly," Bill declared. "Let us not pressure anyone with our individual or collective views. Let us instead accord each other the respect and love due to every human being.

"I trust we shall continue to have tremendous awareness of our responsibilities for improvement," Bill continued.

AWESOME

Attorney Smith, associated with A.A.'s General Service Board for 21 years, said, "You have something great and awesome going for you, treat it tenderly, respect what it has done for you and what it can do for others . . .

"As long as one man dwells in the darkness you once knew, you cannot rest; you must try to find him and help him become one of you . . . By the grace of God, may A.A. last for all time!"

Bill had already sketched in colorful terms a picture of A.A.'s fantastic history, and the "old days" were also mentioned amusingly over coffee cups, by hundreds of 20 and 25-year sober members to the thousands of newcomers here.

JAM-PACKED

Their memories of early A.A. hardships contrasted sharply with the joyous human kaleidoscope in Canada's "Queen City" this last three days.

More than 150 A.A. members, 100 Al-Anons and Alateens, and 24 internationally known nonalcoholic authorities on alcoholism have addressed 69 jam-packed sessions at the Convention. Even when unspoken, the "I Am Responsible" theme seemed almost so present you could see it.

"AT THIRTY"

A.A. at 30 is now so big and so highly respected it must live up to a tremendous reputation for selfless helpfulness — and it must expect & welcome constructive criticism and challenge both from within and outside its own ranks. Much that was said in Toronto will provide stimulating discussion material for thoughtful A.A.'s all over the world for many years to come.

(Reprinted from AA Exchange Bulletin)

"Bill's Story" To Feature All Groups Meeting

Central AA Groups Meetings, held each Friday at 8:30 p.m. at the Building Service Center, 240 Golden Gate Avenue, under the auspices of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, announced the following speaking agenda for September:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3—Margaret D., Thursday Night Palo Alto Downtown Group; and Bob D., Westlake Group.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 10—W. R. "Cap" K., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship; and Ed. C., Midtown Group, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 17—Jim McP., Brookfield Group of the Island Fellowship, Alameda; and Superior Judge Gerald S. Levin.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 24—Two Showings of "Bill's Own Story," a sound film in color at 7:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. A documentary, with Bill and Lois narrating. Tells of Bill's last drinking days and the events leading up to the formation of the first AA group. Film was first shown at Toronto Convention. This will be its first San Francisco showing. Film runs 60 minutes. Coffee will be served downstairs this evening.

The meetings at 240 Golden Gate Avenue starts promptly at 8:30 p.m. but the doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the Coffee Bar at 7:30 p.m. The hall is equipped with padded seats, air conditioning, fine acoustics, and an excellent P.A. system. Parking at nominal cost is available around the corner on Leavenworth Street.

West Portal Group will serve as the host group for the month of September.

In-Between Club To Hear "Red" K

A Buffet-Speaker meeting has been scheduled by the In-Between Fellowship, Saturday, September 11, at 4710 East 14th Street, Oakland.

"Red" K., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, will be guest speaker. Buffet starts at 7:00 p.m. followed by speaker-meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Peninsula Sets Sept. Meetings

Following are the host groups and speakers for the Peninsula All Groups meetings for the month of September, as announced by Don M., program chairman for the active Peninsula unit:

SATURDAY, SEPT. 4—Speaker is Eddie C., The Burbank Group; hosting the meeting is the Westlake Group.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 11—Surf Group's Lowell G. is the speaker; the hosting unit is the Palo Alto Wednesday (Fireside) Group.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 18—The husband-and-wife team of Paul and

Peninsula All-Groups AA 13th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

BINGO DOOR PRIZES

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 16, 1965
8:30 P.M.**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
Baldwin & El Camino Real
San Mateo, Calif.

CHAIRMAN: JOHN F.

**SPEAKER: DICK W.,
Hollywood**

"T.V., Radio personality
DANCING

**MUSIC BY THE DRY NOTES
Midnight Buffet Dinner**

Jackie G., Los Gatos Friday Nite Group, will be on the speaker's dais; hosting the meeting is the friendly group from Pacifica.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25—Arnold R., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, will do the speaking; the Menlo Monday Group will do the hosting.

Peninsula All Groups meets every Saturday in the lovely auditorium of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, San Mateo. Meetings start at 8:30 p.m., but the doors are open at 7:30 with coffee and arms-length AA "served" before and after each meeting.

Watsonville Area Hosts N.C.C. Fall Conference Set for October 23-24

The Fall Conference of the Northern California Council will be held in Watsonville, Saturday and Sunday, October 23-24, according to Bill G., Assistant Secretary. These dates are somewhat later than usual due to prior commitments of the Santa Cruz County Fair Grounds which will house the conference.

A full program of activities for both days is being worked out by Bill and Stan W., Secretary, in cooperation with a very active local conference committee, Herb S., Chairman, along with Bob P., Jarvis McG. and others.

A pre-conference regular AA meeting is scheduled for Friday Night, October 22nd, in Watsonville; all groups in the area participating.

Meetings are also being scheduled by General Service, Hospitals and Institutions Committee, Alanon and Alateen groups, as in the past.

Guest Speakers will address both public meetings, Saturday Night and Sunday Afternoon.

The full conference story and program will appear in the October issue of GOOD NEWS. Watch for it, and plan to be in Watsonville October 23-24.

Al M. Will Speak to San Jose Intergroup

Al M., noted and popular AA speaker from Los Angeles, will address a combined meeting of all Santa Clara County Groups Saturday Night, September 11th, according to a last minute call from Chriss C.

The meeting, sponsored by the San Jose Intergroup Council, will be held in Friendship Hall of the Calvary Methodist Church, at the corner of West Taylor and Morse Streets in Santa Clara.

The Tuesday Women's Closed Group will host this meeting, announcement of which was delayed owing to difficulty in securing a hall big enough to accommodate the large crowd expected.

Vallejo Celebrates 22nd Anniversary

Vallejo Fellowship of AA will observe its 22nd birthday in the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous, Saturday, Sept. 4, at its meeting place, 522 Marin Street, Vallejo, Calif.

Celebration in recognition of its founding in 1943, starts at 8:30 p.m. Principal speaker will be John H., Sacramento, secretary of Central California Fellowship, Hazel L., program chairman of the Vallejo organization, said.

Vallejo is the "mother" group of several AA groups including Napa, St. Helena, Santa Rosa, and Martinez.

Another highlight of the anniversary party is a buffet which has been arranged by Al-Anon members of Vallejo Fellowship, Hazel said.

Cordova Group Will Celebrate Birthday

The Fifth Anniversary of the Cordova Group, Sacramento, will be observed Saturday, September 11, at the Cordova Community Center, Henry F., secretary, announced.

He said the group "hit the jackpot" when it was able to induce Dr. Earl M., Mill Valley Group, to come to their anniversary party and present his noted "black board" talk.

Active from the day it was founded, Cordova Group flourished, and in a short period found it was necessary to conduct two meetings each week.

In addition to Dr. Earl's lecture, coffee and cake will be served along with plenty of arms-length AA, the secretary said.

Oakland Alano Club Gets "Face Lifting"

The premises of the Alano Club of Oakland has undergone an attractive re-decorating and refurbishing, and all AA's, relatives, and friends are invited to inspect the job.

Located at 319-14th Street in downtown Oakland, the club is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, the hours are from 8:00 a.m. to midnight.

Meetings are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 p.m., and on Sunday at 2:15 p.m.

Every Saturday night throughout the year, a dance is programmed from 9:00 to midnight with Howard's Rythm Band providing the music. Buffets are served on the fourth Saturday of every month, and a Brunch is served each Sunday from 10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m., followed by a meeting.

AKRON THIRTY YEARS LATER

Thirty years seems a long time but there were several AAs around who had been there 30 years ago.

The place: Akron, Ohio, the weekend of June 18.

The event: 30th Annual Founder's Day at the birthplace of AA.

People always make the event, but for some of us, places add to the pleasant memories. We altered our travelling plans to include Akron, and a memorable alteration it was. We saw:

- 1) The schoolhouse where the FIRST AA meeting was held, anywhere in the world.
- 2) The house where Dr. Bob and Bill W. first came together.
- 3) The gatehouse where Bill and Mrs. Seiberlin spent the first few hours talking over how to reach another sick alcoholic.
- 4) The new wing of the hospital where Dr. Bob, Bill and Sister Ignatia and many others helped the first few, and thousands more alcoholics, back to the path of AA sobriety.
- 5) The serene garden spot, final resting place of Dr. Bob and Ann, his non-alcoholic devoted wife and helper.

And lots more of the places and the people who started us "on the road."

People came from far and near in large numbers, but the "meeting" never lost the rare quality of simplicity and fellowship. Hundreds attended the big Memorial Auditorium meeting. When the chairman asked those in attendance who had 25 or more years of 'day at a time' sobriety in AA to take a bow, at least a dozen members rose for a nod. The 20-25 year veterans numbered twice that figure.

The whole weekend was commemorative and full of work, fun, and people.

Bill W. spoke twice, briefly. He regaled us with poignant and humorous memories of the early days in Akron, Cleveland, and New York. Allan B., former trustee from New York and Connecticut, told of AA, worldwide, and recounted some of his experiences, and AA "service" highlights — and, lowlights.

So, it went, swiftly through a "Founders Weekend." The speakers, the amateur (but highly competent) entertainers in the skit-play, the Big Meeting, dance, well-planned breakfast and dinner, and on into the night. AA alive but commemorative.

For many of us, the perfect ending to such a moving and challenging weekend was to kiss the tender hand of the fragile Sister Ignatia. Remembering the many hands and hearts of non-alcoholics who unselfishly use their talents and wisdom to keep us AAs on the path of AA sobriety by being "friendly with our friends."

George O'H., Los Altos

INDUSTRIAL CLUB

IMPORTANT MEETING

MONDAY, SEPT. 13th

All members urgently needed. Special request of Bob K., Manager, PLEASE ATTEND!

Overseas Bids

Lil C., Castroville, who recently returned to her home from the 30th International AA Convention, in Toronto, was honored by an invitation to address a Latin American Conference in Venezuela in October.

Almost simultaneously, John O., Hayward, also a visitor to the Toronto Convention, received an invitation to address the AA Conference next summer in Helsinki, Finland. The Hayward man is a Finn and speaks the difficult language fluently.

Finland was one of the 30 nations that sent delegates to the Toronto Convention. News dispatches from Canada featured Finland's participation. It sent an entire jet load of Finnish delegates.

Prize Costume Ball Feature of SF Alano Club Sept. Program

Highlight of the S.F. Alano Club's September program will be a costume dance, any kind of a costume, with prizes and good music and all it takes to make a Ball.

The "Jumpin' Jacks" will make the music for both the Costume Ball and the regular 'First Saturday of the Month' dance according to John I. who has taken over as Program Chairman for "Bus" D., confined in the St. Francis Hospital (see story).

SAT., SEPT. 4th—'First Saturday' Dance Party; door prizes, etc.

SAT., SEPT. 18th—Costume Ball; all kinds and types of costumes will be eligible for fine prizes to be awarded. There will be door prizes as well. Come in costume, any kind of a costume, and get in on the fun.

SAT., SEPT. 25th—The monthly Birthday Party. This is the event which honors all persons whose birthday falls in September. They will be the Special Guests of the Alano Club, with suitable ceremonies honoring them.

The San Francisco Alano Club is at 414 Grant Ave., where a total of eleven AA meetings are held every week. Prominent among them are the Wednesday High Noon group and the 90 minute Beginners from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., the same day; the Saturday Serenity Group at 1:30 p.m., and two meetings on Sunday, a Breakfast Group at 12:30 p.m. (speakers for September to be announced), and a Discussion Group which meets on the third floor at the same hour.

There are meetings at the Club every evening except Tuesday.

"Foaming at the Mouth"

The Lucky Lager gang and Alcoholics Anonymous occupied adjoining picnic areas at Blackberry Farm in Cupertino last Sunday, but no defections either way, although they were separated only by a shallow stream. Can't you just hear the AA leader; "Now men, I don't want to catch any of you with wet feet!"

(Reprinted from Herb Caen, August 19).

Napa Fellowship Group Special Speaker Meets

The Napa Fellowship Group, 1200 Jefferson Street, announces two special Guest Speaker meetings in September:

Tues., Sept. 7th—Silas P., San Francisco.

Tues., Sept. 21st—Buede S., San Pablo.

Open meetings are held every Monday; closed meetings every Thursday. The second and fourth Tuesdays are closed discussion meetings, with the Alanon Group meeting separately on the same dates.

Visitors are cordially invited to drop in any time you are in Napa.

Death Takes Jean Shelburne at 59

Scores of Bay Area friends were shocked to learn of the death in La Jolla, Calif., of Mrs. Jean (Clayton G.) Shelburne, who died Sunday, August 1, in her home, 867 South Coast Blvd., La Jolla.

A native of Oregon, Mrs. Shelburne was for the past 10 years a resident of San Diego County. In recent years she was a private nurse and had previously worked at Scripps Memorial Hospital.

She was widely known in San Francisco AA circles and made numerous friends while in training at S.F. General Hospital and Doctor's Hospital.

Surviving are two sisters, including Mrs. Thomas W. Dalton of La Jolla, and two brothers.

Hayward Group's Speaker-Meeting

Dorcas of the Five Cities Fellowship will be guest speaker at a breakfast Speaker-Meeting, Sunday, September 12 at Noon.

The breakfast gathering will be held in the Alano Club, 19652 Mission Blvd., Hayward, Calif. Marion E. San Leandro Group, chairman of the affair, said breakfast will be served from 9:00 a.m. — 11:30 a.m., with the meeting commencing immediately after, at Noon.

Eureka 'Jots & Notes'

Just about one year ago the Serenity House Groups were forced, by the whims of Cupid, to move to new quarters, and now it has happened again. The owners of the E street property decreed that we must move by August 1st.

But our Higher Power is always looking out for us, it seems. A member with less than a month of sobriety had an old apartment unit behind his home. With the help of a building contractor and a few appreciative A.A. members, the Serenity House Group now has a cozy place to meet at 2314 Union Street in Eureka.

On Sunday, August 15, the Eureka Sunday morning meeting held an open house, following by a period of A.A. chit chat and refreshments, & silent prayers all around that maybe the group's "geographical cure" had come to an end.

No change in meetings:

Mon., 8:00 p.m., Eureka Tape meeting.

Tues., 8:00 p.m., Closed Men's meeting.

Wed., 8:00 p.m., Closed Women's meeting.

Fri., 8:00 p.m., Eureka Closed meeting.

Sun., 10:30 a.m., Sunday Morning meeting

A new Beginners Group, which meets Sunday Nights at 7:00 p.m., was recently started at 2237-2nd St., making twelve weekly meetings in the Eureka Area. Co-Secretaries of the new group are Paul and Vie, husband and wife.

The Annual Picnic sponsored by the Humboldt-Del Norte Central Service Committee of AA was held on Sunday, August 29th.

A pot-luck dinner was served, topped off with barbecued corn-on-the-cob from the famous Pepperwood area.

Horseshoe pitching, softball and games for young and old were followed, toward the close of the day, by a 'down-to-earth' AA meeting around the picnic tables, preceded by a short business meeting of the fellowship committee.

LETTERS

Fresno Halfway House
938 O Street
Fresno, Calif.
August 3, 1965

Good News,
166 Geary Street,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sirs:

We, at the Fresno Halfway House, are sorely in need of a Manager, and we wish to enlist your aid through your publication to possibly come up with the answer to our problem.

We are looking for an A.A. member, active on the program, unattached, with possibly a small pension (but not necessarily so).

Our funds as you can imagine are limited, and we can offer a salary of \$100.00 monthly with room and board.

Please have anyone interested contact me at the above address.

Sincerely,
Gray R.

P.S. AA member should have at least 3 years sobriety.

July 7, 1965

AA Secy. — Good News
166 Geary Street
Room 79
San Francisco 8, Calif.

Hi Gang:

Just a short note to express my personal appreciation for your publication which I have enjoyed during this past year. Each week I spend a few moments "browsing through" the publications that cross my desk.

And in going through your Good News I have often found something that helps to maintain my own continued sobriety. So thanks for being nice to your's truly.

Do hope that you find our Chit Chat Bulletin of interest and value. Unless we hear from you to the contrary we will continue to mail our Chit Chat Bulletin at the address noted.

Sincerely yours A.A.,
Dick C.

Dear Dick:

We think your Chit Chat Bulletin is great. Keep it coming, please. — Editor.

Good News,
166 Geary St — Rm 84,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Gentlemen:

The Santa Rita Group and I wish to thank you for sending us the GOOD NEWS every month. We are very glad to read what is going on "outside." We have two meetings here a week which are Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoons. On Saturday we have groups from parts of the Eastbay area. We wish to express our thanks to them for giving us their time.

Hubert G. L., Jr.
AA Chairman,
Santa Rita Rehabilitation
Center

Modesto, California
August 5, 1965

THE EDITOR

Good News

I find many of my AA friends have been worrying as to how my illness is coming along. I am extremely happy to tell you that after 7 months with no improvement, suddenly everything turned for the better. It is simply a miracle how much better. I am now than my condition of only two months ago.

My doctor has said I have the worst case of Reiters Disease he has ever seen, and now says I am making a better and faster recovery than any patient he has seen that has the same condition.

I am quite sure that I will be at the October conference and will be recording the meetings. If possible, through the Good News, I would like to thank the many friends who inquired about my condition and tell them all that I stand ready to make tape for them again.

Jack B. and Zoe P. at the San Jose conference were very good and ordered by many people. Ben W. and Father Barney at Santa Rosa has also been ordered by many. One speech \$5.50 any two speeches on one reel \$7.00.

Write "Educational Tape Recordings", 2103 Miller Avenue, Modesto, California.

Best Wishes,
Bill M.

Camellia Center
Will Hold Forum

A "Community Forum on Alcoholism" will be held at the Hotel El Dorado, Sacramento, Monday, September 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The forum was initiated for the following four basic reasons:

WHEREAS—the President of the United States, the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, has recognized and proclaimed Alcoholism a major national public health problem, and

WHEREAS—the Governor of the State of California, the Honorable Edmund G. Brown, has recognized and proclaimed Alcoholism as a major state public health problem, and

WHEREAS—National Legislature and State Legislature have written into law precise action in combating this killer disease, and

WHEREAS—Contained within the recognition, the proclamations and the legislative action, positive community action is also required to initiate and implement these acts . . . this COMMUNITY FORUM ON ALCOHOLISM will introduce to the public the true situation . . . from it will be developed a unified citizen's action toward understanding the problem and making a concentrated effort in the fight to alleviate the many hardships created by the disease of Alcoholism in the Sacramento area.

Julie Kaye Rifkin, chairman, Community Relations Committee on Alcoholism, further clarified the objectives of the Forum, with the following declaration:

"The Capital City of the largest state in the nation, California has the dubious honor of ranking second, nationally in the incidence of Alcoholism.

"Efforts have been made by many — efforts are being made by many — however, the many are too few as we look daily at 33,000 persons in this community who continue to suffer and to die from this public health problem.

"Recognition and proclamations by national and state leaders are not
(continued on page 7)



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Vol. IX September, 1965 No. 1

'Bus' D. Stricken In St. Francis Hospital

'Bus' D., popular, hardworking Entertainment Committee Chairman of the San Francisco Alano Club, Major Domo of the Annual S.F. Inter-County Fellowship Picnic for a number of years, and well known friend to many AA members all over Northern California, lies partially paralyzed in St. Francis Hospital, San Francisco, a very sick man.

He was stricken, on July 19th, with what is called Bulbar Paralysis, a disease due to Vascular condition or accident. He was in intensive care ward for about three weeks with little hope held for his recovery, but as we go to press things seem to be improving.

He cannot speak or swallow, is fed intravenously, and breathes with a tracheotomy. He has some use of his right hand, recognizes and understands visitors and what they have to say, and seems to be coming along. GOOD NEWS suggests that cards might be appreciated.

Assistant Manager! In Las Vegas, Nevada

The newly formed Samaritan House for Alcoholic Men, 311 North 6th Street, is looking for an assistant to the manager, a man with at least two years of continuous sobriety, and other means of support, who will start for board and lodging with the possibility of a small salary in the future as the House progresses and finances make it possible.

Contact Helen Weyerman, Secretary of the Board, 1500 Houssels, in Las Vegas, Nevada, 89104, for further information.

H & I BROAD-SIDES

This is my first opportunity to generally thank everyone for their confidence in electing me as General Chairman. I certainly appreciate it, and it is my aim to retain your confidence throughout my term of office.

We have been busy setting up a new Service Committee, and I feel that we have come up with a very hard-working, dedicated group of guys and gals.

It will be the policy of the present Committee to submit for publication, a Treasurers report. This information was in the August issue of Good News, along with the names of the new members on the Committee.

A Service Committee Meeting was held at the San Francisco Alano Club, Sunday, August 7, 1965. This was an excellent meeting, and the principle conclusions drawn — with a minimum of debate — stressed energetic action and to push forward on a program of activity based solely on the fundamental principle of "Carrying the message to the confined alcoholic."

However, in order to push forward, in view of the many new hospitals and institutions added to our already top-heavy schedule, literally hundreds of A.A. volunteers are needed.

Many people who have served on the Hospital & Institution Committee in the past, have expressed their desire to become active again. This is GOOD. This we NEED. We would like to have all of the people who are presently in our inactive file move over into the active file. And, of course, we are always in need of new blood, new ideas, and energetic workers.

If YOU are interested in joining this large scale 12th step work, please send us your name, address and telephone number — P.O. Box 4032, San Francisco. If by chance, you forget the P.O. Box number, it is on all "Pink Cans" at your local A.A. groups.

We reported in last months issue that Bud C. was Acting Co-Chairman of Institutions. Bud had willingly consented to help out until we could fill this office. At the aforementioned meeting, George R. of Concord, who has served the Committee well as Chairman of Area 2 for a few years, consented to take this office.

Many thanks Bud for assisting us as usual. And our thanks to George for accepting this very responsible job.

Please note the following changes made in the Service Committee titles:

We will no longer use the Co- for the Chairman of Hospitals and Institutions —

George R., Chairman of Institutions
Harold F., Chairman of Hospitals
Pres. S., Coastal Regional Chairman
"Kim" M., Valley Regional Chairman
Third Regional, still open.

The latest news from Area 3 is that Jim C. of Chico was elected Area Chairman replacing Oscar Van O. Thank you Oscar for helping out when we needed you very much. And in case you don't know who Jim C. is, you will, before too long.

I met Jim at the Dunsmuir Conference. He is an energetic young man, who didn't even know that there was an Hospital and Institution Committee, but was, on his own, going to one of the road camps very regularly, just because he realized how much it meant to the men up there. He travelled many miles to do this. Since then, of course, he has become a very important part of our Committee as a Contact Chairman and Coordinator. We sure need people like Jim C.

A General Meeting is set up for August 29 at the Industrial Club in San Francisco, and at this writing, notices have gone out. But, by the time you receive this issue, the meeting will be in the past.

In closing this, my first Broadside article, I urge you to make certain that you receive your copy of Good News every month in order to keep abreast of our activities. We hope to keep everyone informed via this media. So don't miss the news, read GOOD NEWS.

"Bill S., General Chairman".

(continued from page 6)
sufficient — action at the level of the public, in areas of industrial leadership; by the insurers of health and welfare; and individuals, is needed in understanding and combating this disease.

"The FORUM, we hope, will incite, excite, induce and reduce this from verbiage to concrete action. Your participation is requested . . . your contribution of self, persons interested within your own organization or association, is strongly urged."

Fresno's Halfway House

There is an old ramshackle house 938 O Street in Fresno, that evokes little or no passing interest to the average citizen who strolls or drives by, unless it be a casual glance or minute reflection of the days and ways that used to be when this old house was the typical modern edifice of its day.

One enters this house with its old fashioned hallway and high ceiling rooms and it is not hard to imagine as one views the huge dining room, the splendor and the genteel way of life so many years ago, for those that called it home.

Home — the magic sound of it — the Mecca for the returning wanderer, and today, many wanderers call this once abandoned structure, home. These are the wanderers who have known Trent Alley in Spokane, Frisco Street in El Paso, West Madison in Chi. not to mention lower Burnside in Portland. These are the men who have huddled together on the windy vacant lots of many cities, sharing with each other, their only comfort — the rich sweet warmth of the wine bottle.

These are the men who have wallowed in the dregs of despair, but

today have found in this home something different to share — hope.

While it is only too true that all of our guests have not returned to the status of respectability, we feel safe in stating that at least fifty per cent have recovered through this house and the A.A. program.

On your next visit to Fresno, come in and meet Charlie S., our genial manager and the rest of the boys . . . You'll be glad you did. Or better yet, come to our A.A. garden meeting "Under the Stars" every Sunday at 8:00 p.m.

Santa Rosa Club To Stage Potluck

Santa Rosa Group has scheduled two potluck suppers to be held in September and October. The first affair is set for Saturday, September 11, at the Santa Rosa Alano Club, 70 South "E" Street, Santa Rosa. Charles R., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, will be guest speaker. Potluck supper is at 6:30 p.m. with the speaker-meeting following at 8:00 p.m.

Second potluck has been slated for Saturday, October 9, in the same clubhouse. The supper will again be served at 6:30 p.m. and the speaker-meeting following at 8:00 p.m.

Harriet H., acting secretary of the central office, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, celebrating her own 20th AA birthday, will be speaker.

"Cures" Popular in Minsk, USSR

Alcoholics must wait six months for admission to the city hospital at Minsk, in the Soviet Republic of Byelorussia, because the "cure" is so popular that patients return year after year for a month's rest cure.

The only fault they find with the treatment is, that although they pass the time with TV, books, chess or dominoes, some inmates develop a thirst and no vodka is for sale in the wards.

New York Times

Roosevelt Asks Group Support

Group contributions to the General Service Office should be larger this year than ever before. Archibald B. Roosevelt, treasurer, General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, made this plea to 7,453 U.S. AA groups yesterday.

Said Treasurer Roosevelt:

"We ask you to show this sense of responsibility by making your Group contributions as large as possible. Why this year? Because contributions last year fell short of the cost of services — and no one wants to see that happen again lest some services need to be curtailed."

The National Treasurer went on to reveal that:

"Reason for a tight money situation lies in AA growth — particularly the growth of new groups that need GSO help now though they may not be able for some time to pick up their share of expenses.

"And groups abroad where the AA program is making great gains but where groups are too new and too broke to make substantial contributions yet. Eventually, all groups become self-supporting; meanwhile they seek our help."

Mr. Roosevelt said we are doing many things here to stretch the dollar. This year's budget includes economies of over \$7,000 suggested by Staff. But, he said, while we succeed in making the dollar go farther each year, demand for GSO services increases even more rapidly.

"Please help us to help — so that in this 30th Anniversary Year we can be proud that as AA's we are not now shirking our responsibilities to those that are still waiting to hear our message of hope."

Make checks payable to GROUP FUND, P.O. 459, Grand Central Station, New York City, 17. Individual members may contribute directly to GSO—up to \$100 per year. Contributions are exempt from Federal Income Tax. Some groups particularly those in prisons and hospitals, may not find it possible to make contribution.

Alameda County

A surge of interest in Saturday Night Speakers' Meetings in Centerville has resulted in increasingly large crowds. Sponsored by the Southern Alameda County Service Center, the quality of speakers scheduled for meetings just ahead, indicates continued growth.

SAT., SEPT. 4th—Speaker is Bud C., Gratitude Group, Sausalito; Newark Group will sponsor the meeting.

SAT., SEPT. 11th—Roger O'D., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship will be at the speakers' lectern; Hosts are the Castro Valley Group.

The Centerville meeting place is located at 3958 Peralta Court, Centerville. Meetings start at 8:30 p.m. All groups in the Southern Alameda area are affiliated with Fremont Fellowship, and the Welcome Mat is always out to visiting AAs and friends.