



# Good News



JUNE  
1966

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## Vallejo "Tools Up" For AA

Some 1200 membes of Alcoholics Anonymous will throng the city of Vallejo to attend the 20th Annual Summer Conference of AA, sponsored by the Northern California Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous, Saturday and Sunday, June 4 and 5. Delegate registration starts at 9:00a.m., Saturday in the Auditorium lobby.

Melvin L. Dykes, general manager, Vallejo Convention and Tourist Bureau, said Vallejo's hotels, motels and restaurant managers are prepared with extra help to handle the huge crowd of visitors. The Vallejo police department will prevent traffic congestion, the chief of police said, by having his entire personnel on weekend duty.

### KEYNOTER

The big two-day AA conference takes place in Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Keynote speaker for Saturday (June 4) at 8:30 p.m. is Dick W., a noted TV personality who has been active in AA for several years.

Principal speaker for the closing session on Sunday, is Norman A., Monrovia Calif. Although the conference will be a two-day beehive of business activity one of the highlights will be a huge dance, "a swingin' affair" with a hot AA dance combo providing the music.

### WORK SHOPS

On the business agenda are work shops at which General Service, Hospital and Institution Committee, Alanons and Alateens, will discuss group problems.

Prior to the official opening of the conference a "kickoff" meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. Friday, at 522 Marin Street, Vallejo.

On Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Mayor Florence Douglas of Vallejo will deliver an address of welcome. The Mayor's address will immediately precede the open public meeting slated for 2:30 p.m. in the main auditorium.

For complete convention agenda, turn to pages 4 and 5.

## Gratitude Group Will Celebrate 5th Anniversary

The Gratitude Group of Marin County was founded June 20, 1961. Impressed by a quotation made by George Herbert 346 years ago in 1620 — "Thou that hast given so much to us, give one thing more . . . a grateful heart," the new formed group adopted the name The Gratitude Group.

It celebrates its Fifth Anniversary at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 14, with a special meeting to be held at Campbell Memorial Hall, Christ Church, San Carlos and Santa Rosa Avenues in Sausalito.

Malcolm D., chairman, promises "an entertainment." Refreshments of course, said he.

## Mental, Alcoholic Treatment Centers

The State Department of Mental Hygiene established new treatment areas January 1, and are currently in effect.

Mentally ill patients, both voluntary and committed, are being referred to Napa State Hospital Alcoholic patients, both voluntary and committed, go to Mendocino State Hospital.

Detailed information on alcoholic treatment may be obtained by phoning S.F. General Hospital, 648-8200. Ask for IMPAC (Immediate Psychiatric Aid Center).

## Sacramento's Anniversary

Twenty five years ago in 1941, AA came to Sacramento — and stayed.

In honor of the occasion, all Sacramento AA members are expected to observe the founding. A Silver Anniversary Meeting is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. Saturday, June 11, at the Labor Center, Sacramento.

Keynote speaker will be Bonnie P., Mobile, Ala. She is a widely read author, and coming back to speak in Sacramento will probably recall poignant memories. It was in Sacramento that Bonnie found AA.

Dr. Ray P., long-time Sacramento AA member will serve as master-of-ceremonies. A quartet of "old timers" are also on the agenda for brief talks.

In deference to the Silver Anniversary Meeting, the Second Saturday Speaker Meeting that would normally meet on Saturday, June 11 has gracefully deferred its meeting to another date.

I am Responsible

## Alameda Alano Birthday Party

A Birthday Party will be held at the Alameda Alano Club, Saturday, June 25, at the club's headquarters, 1348½ Park Street, Alameda.

A hot buffet dinner will be served from 6:30 p.m., with dancing to the music of a good live AA band, starting about 9:00 p.m.

Preceding the Birthday Party, an open meeting will be held Friday, June 24 at 8:00 p.m. at the Alano Club. A good speaker will be at the rostrum.

The Birthday Party Committee invites everyone to both the Friday meeting and the Saturday party.



## Peninsula All Groups Agenda

A panel of top-flight speakers will appear during June on the speakers' rostrum of the Peninsula All-Groups meeting place. Here's the agenda:

**SAT., JUNE 4**—Speaker Grant W., Palo Alto Friday Group; the Half Moon Bay Group will act as hosts.

**SAT., JUNE 11**—Florette P., the Gratitude Group Marin County, will speak; hosting the meeting is the St. Martin's Group.

**SAT., JUNE 18**—Speaker is Walter McC., Sacramento; the Menlo Tuesday Nite Women's Group will serve as hostesses.

**SAT., JUNE 25**—Irene W., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship, will make the "pitch"; the San Carlos Beginners will be hosts.

Peninsula All-Groups meets at 8:30 p.m. every Saturday in the Recreation Room of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, San Mateo. Coffee is served before, and after, every meeting. The meetings are "open" and the public is invited, the Program Chairman reminded visiting members.

I am Responsible

## Group Delegate

A Group Delegates Meeting will be held at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 1, 3rd floor, Alano Club 414 Grant Avenue. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Central Service Committee of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.



## 19th Annual Pacific Northwest AA Conference, Seattle, July 1-4

The Olympic Hotel, Seattle, Washington, will be convention headquarters for the 19th Annual Pacific Northwest Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous slated for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 1-2-3.

In addition to outstanding speakers from California and Canada, AA workshops, a Saturday night dance and banquet, Sunday breakfast, and midnight meetings Friday and Saturday nights, there are special activities for the ladies and teenagers.

Ladies can attend the no-hostess luncheon Saturday, July 2, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the main auditorium of the Washington Athletic Club. The program offers outstanding speakers and door prizes. Price is \$2.25.

### MONORAIL TRIP

Alanon will present speakers from outside organizations and a special guest speaker from New York at all-day Saturday meetings in the Olympic Bowl. Alateens will present a Twelve Step roundtable during the afternoon meeting. Saturday evening Alateens will take the Monorail to the Seattle Center

for dinner at the Food Circus and an evening of fun. Sunday, Alateens have a beach party and weiner roast at Alki Point.

### "PACKAGE" TICKET

Publication of the Washington State AA History coincides with the opening of the conference, and ONE GRATITUDE TICKET gets you a copy as well as a memento conference badge and a chance at the 250.00 cash drawing.

For those unable to attend the Saturday night banquet there will be plenty of good FREE seating to hear the speakers and join in the fellowship.

Immediate registration is recommended by the Convention Committee, emphasizing the \$10.00 registration fee is a three-day "package" that includes costs of meetings, the banquet, the dance, and Sunday breakfast.

Please send ..... tickets @ \$7.50 each for Saturday night banquet featuring Tom B. and honoring Dale A. Please send ..... tickets @ \$2.50 each for the Sunday fellowship breakfast. TOTAL ENCLOSED \$..... (make check payable to: Treasurer, Pacific Northwest Conference)

Name ..... Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zone.....

P.S. Ladies only, check if you will attend all-women luncheon Sat. noon ☐  
Mail to: P.N.W.C. Chairman, P.O. Box 765, Seattle, Washington 98111

## I Shall Not Pass This Way Again

Through this toilsome world, alas!  
Once and only once I pass;  
If a kindness I may show,  
If a good deed I may do  
To a suffering fellow man,  
Let me do it while I can.  
No delay, for it is plain  
I shall not pass this way again.  
—Anonymous

Every AA Group  
Should have GOOD  
NEWS on their FREE  
literature table.

Has YOUR group?  
WHY NOT?



## S.F. Alano Club Set for June Fun

For fun, fellowship and an antidote against loneliness, the San Francisco Alano Club is an unbeatable combination. Every day, every week, and every month throughout the year something interesting is brewing — and it ain't Lucky Lager.

For this month, the Program Chairman has the following:

**SAT., JUNE 4**—A Pre-Conference Dance for those who'd like to "trip the light fantastic" before taking off for Vallejo. The "Jumpin' Jacks" provides the music.

**SAT., JUNE 11**—No program has been officially scheduled for this Saturday, but something interesting is in the mixer.

**SAT., JUNE 18** — Mid-Month Dance. The "Jumpin' Jacks" will also provide danceable tunes for this affair.

**SAT., JUNE 25**—AA Birthday Dance. This is a traditional monthly party which celebrates all those whose AA birthdays occur in the month of June.

The S.F. Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, in downtown San Francisco is located at the "gateway to San Francisco's famed Chinatown" and a favorite gathering place for visiting, out-of-town members.

I am Responsible

## Valencia AA Group Meetings

The 1464 AA Group that meets at 1464 Valencia Street, San Francisco, has the following speaker schedule for June:

**MON., JUNE 6**—Bill G.

**MON., JUNE 13**—Irene W.

**MON., JUNE 20**—Hannibal W.

**MON., JUNE 27**—Jim O'T.

I am Responsible

## Vallejo Meeting

The Thursday Noon Luncheon AA Meeting of Vallejo — a closed discussion gathering — starts at noon with luncheon served before the meeting. Christina B., secretary, announced.

## Central All Groups Meeting to Feature "Finland With Love"

The December, 1965 edition of "The Grapevine" featured a story, "To Finland, With Love," by-lined by Dr. Earle M., Marin County Fellowship.

The article described how Alcoholics Anonymous was introduced to Finland and how Finnish alcoholics responded.

The principal members of this argosy will highlight the 20th Anniversary Meeting of Central All-Groups, the so-called "Big Meeting" held each Friday at 240 Golden Gate Avenue under the auspices of S.F. InterCounty Fellowship.

The meeting which starts at 8:30 p.m., Friday, June 17 will introduce Victor B., Finland; Usko W., Los Altos; and the author of "To Finland, With Love," who will also serve as moderator.

Usko will interpret for Victor of Hilsinki. Dancing, door prizes, and refreshments will follow the meeting with the "Dry Notes AA Orchestra" providing music for the dancers.

The meeting is open to the public. Everyone's invited, the Program Chairman said.

## Speakers for June Named by San Bruno

San Bruno Monday Night Group has named its speaker roster for June. They are:

**MON., JUNE 6**—The husband-and-wife team of Ben and Muriel K., San Mateo.

**MON., JUNE 13**—Bill J., Valencia Beginners of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

**MON., JUNE 20**—Shaelin D., South San Francisco Group.

**MON., JUNE 27**—Jack L., Belmont. In addition to a good speaker, the last Monday of each month is "Birthday Nite." A big cake is cut, plenty of hot coffee — all the trimmings.

San Bruno Monday Nite Group conducts open meetings that start promptly at 8:30 p.m. Meeting place is the Volunteer Fire Hall, 618 San Mateo Avenue in San Bruno.

## S.F. All-Groups Will Feature "Finland" Trio

June will be a busy, interesting month at 240 Golden Gate Avenue in downtown San Francisco. For one thing, the "Big Meetings" sponsored by S.F. Inter-County Fellowship will observe the 20th Anniversary of these Friday night open meetings on June 17, with a "To Finland, With Love" celebration.

Additionally, the other three Friday nights will sparkle with a galaxy of fine speakers, one from the Lone Star State. Here's the excellent line-up.

**FRI., JUNE 3**—Bob C., Peninsula All-Groups; Frances C., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

**FRI., JUNE 10**—Jack L., Texas; Lucille B., Vallejo.

**FRI., JUNE 17**—Central All-Groups 20th Anniversary Program. See "To Finland, With Love" story elsewhere in this edition.

**FRI., JUNE 24**—Irene W., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship; Ted F., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

The meeting hall at 240 Golden Gate Avenue is acknowledged to be one of the best in the West, boasting air conditioning, padded seats, fine acoustics and elevator service.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.; the Coffee Bar at 7:30 p.m., and the meetings start promptly at 8:30 p.m. Parking at nominal prices is available around corner on Leavenworth.

The meetings are open to the public.

I am Responsible

## San Mateo Fellowship Has New Secretary

Lucille S., has been named the new secretary of San Mateo County Fellowship of AA, succeeding Eddie N., who has served the group since 1962.

Eddie resigned May 1, but will remain active in AA continuing his Friday Night Beginners' instruction Group at Congregational Church Hall, Tilton and North Ellsworth, San Mateo.



# Annual Summer Conference

## VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

### Island Fellowship Celebrates Eighth Anniversary June 11

In the books of the Island Fellowship, this is a "first."

Victor (Viekko) B. from Helsinki, Finland, will be the featured speaker (in Finnish) at the 8th Anniversary celebration of Island Fellowship, Saturday, June 11 at 1828 Lincoln Avenue, Alameda. Usko W., Los Altos, will interpret Victor's message for the assemblage.

Viekko is the "Kolumbus" in Dr. Earle's article "To Finland, With Love," published in the December '65 issue of The Grapevine. Usko had his own article "Rebirth" published in the April '66 edition.

In celebration of its Anniversary, Island Fellowship will have "open house." Plenty of delicious refreshments served after the meeting which starts at 8:30 p.m. Plenty of free parking.

Bill W., secretary said "join us in saying "Kiitos Finland."

#### I am Responsible

### San Pablo Holding "Special" Meeting

San Pablo Friendly Fellowship has slated a meeting for 8:30 p.m., Friday, June 3, to play host to the Twelve Steps Group from Hayward. The Hayward unit will be headed by Homer D.

Homer has written a version of the struggle experienced by Bill W., and the first men in AA, in "hammering out" the Twelve Steps as they exist today.

Those that have heard Homer depict this great struggle that brought forth the foundation — The Steps — upon which AA is constructed will want to again hear it; those that have not will miss a graphic account describing the "birth" of The Steps.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1966

8:30 P.M.—Conference "Kick-off" Meeting, 522 Marin, Vallejo  
Chairman: Hazel L., Vallejo  
5th Chapter: Leo D., Vallejo  
Traditions: Margaret M., Vallejo  
Speaker: Paul G., Mill Valley

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1966

9:00 A.M.—Registration opens, Lobby, Veterans Memorial Hall

10:30 A.M.—Hospital & Institution Open Meeting, Main Auditorium  
Chairman: Pres S., San Jose  
Guest Speaker: Bill Pate, Los Gatos,  
Chaplain of Santa Clara Correctional Facility  
and Director of the "Half-way House in San Jose."  
A.A. Speaker: Jim M., San Jose

11:00 A.M.—N.C.C. Central Committee Meeting, Lounge  
(N.C.C. Zone Chairmen only)

1:00 P.M.—General Service Open Meeting, Main Auditorium  
Chairman: Ken K., Loomis  
Resolutions: Floyd B., Roseville  
Traditions: Art D., Stockton

General Service Structure  
John H.—Central Office  
Bill S.—Hospital & Institution  
Jim M.—G.S.O.  
Art D.—Traditions

3:00 P.M.—Hospital & Institution Area Chairman Meeting, Lounge  
Chairman: Kim M., San Francisco

3:00 P.M.—3:15 P.M.—N.C.C. Business Meeting, Main Auditorium  
Chairman: Bill G., Secretary N.C.C.

3:15 P.M.—Group Problems (Secretaries) Main Auditorium  
Moderator: Merle G., Burlingame Sunday Nite Group

8:30 P.M.—Open Public A.A. Meeting, Main Auditorium  
Chairman: Sam P., San Francisco  
Invocation: Rev. Albert Colbourne  
Episcopal Church, Vallejo  
Address of Welcome: Mayor Florence Douglas, Vallejo  
Chapter 5: Arnold R., San Francisco  
Traditions: Ony M., Point Richmond  
Guest Speaker: Dick W., Van Nuys, California  
Television and Movie Personality



# ce, June 4th & 5th 1966

## AUDITORIUM, VALLEJO

10:15 P.M.—Dancing, A.A. Band, Main Auditorium  
 10:30 P.M.—A.A. Meeting, Red Room  
 Chairman: Jack W., Vacaville  
 Chapter 5: Jewel T., Pittsburg  
 Traditions: Ruth D., Pittsburg  
 Speaker: Dewey S., San Mateo

### SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1966

9:00 A.M.—General Service Sharing Session, Green Room  
 Chairman: Floyd B., Roseville  
 Question and Answer Period  
 Audience Participation  
 10:30 A.M.—Hospital and Institution Workshops  
 Institutions: Bob H., Salinas, Moderator, Green Room  
 Hospitals: Norma McL., San Jose, Moderator, Red Room  
 1:30 P.M.—Open Public Meeting, Main Auditorium  
 Chairman: Florette P., Sausalito  
 Invocation: Rev. Morlowe Link  
 Veterans Home, Yountville  
 Chapter 5: Harry I., Island Fellowship, Alameda  
 Traditions: Cynthia W., Hillsborough Wed. Nite Meeting  
 Guest Speaker: Norm A., Monrovia, California  
 Dynamic Speaker  
 Don't Miss This One

3:00 P.M.—Conference Adjourns

All meetings will convene and adjourn on schedule. Snack Bar will be closed during 8:30 meeting Saturday evening and 1:30 P.M. meeting on Sunday. All meetings will be held in the Veterans Memorial Hall.

### ALANON AND ALATEEN PROGRAM

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1966

9:00 A.M.—Alanon and Alateen Registration  
 10:00 A.M.—Alateen Workshop, Green Room  
 10:30 A.M.—Alanon Business Meeting, N.C.C., Red Room  
 1:00 P.M.—“Alcoholism is a Family Disease” Red Room  
 Speakers: Dan and Evelyn, Pleasant Hill  
 Their son, Ron, to appear on same program.  
 3:00 P.M.—World Service Meeting, Green Room  
 3:00 P.M.—Alateen Open Meeting, Red Room

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1966

9:00 A.M.—Alateen Sponsor Workshop, Lounge  
 10:30 A.M.—Spiritual Growth, Mike K., San Jose, Lounge

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I have retired on account of permanent disability and leaving for Arkansas June 4 to live close to my sister.

On May 30 at the Monday Night Group in San Bruno, I'll be chairman for the last time at any AA meeting on the west coast. Glen C., speaker of the evening, is celebrating his 19th AA birthday. It is also mine. Glen and I came into AA at the same time, same group, The Friday Night Group, Altadena. So I'd like to have as many AA's who know Glen at that meeting.

Wish me luck, and if I don't see you anymore, may Our Greater Power always bless you. My permanent address will henceforth be Box 245, c/o Elmer Gann, Gentry, Arkansas 72734

Yours in AA Fellowship  
 Charles W. S.

I am Responsible

### Need For Clothing

There is a desperate need for clothing and funds by the 1464 Welfare Club, 1464 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

“Needy alcoholics are beating a path to our door” a spokesman for the group said. A news item in GOOD NEWS (May issue) brought many alcoholics to the Valencia Street group asking for help. We tried, but couldn't help them all.

“Since March 12, this year,” the club secretary said, “we have helped 28 needy alcoholics and with help we can aid many more.”

Donors of clothing and funds were asked to send them to the Alcoholic Welfare Club, 1464 Valencia Street, 'phone 648-3800.



## News From the Monterey Peninsula

### SALINAS

The Sunday Speakers Meetings are drawing so good a committee has formed — a Paint-up & Decoration Detail — that will renew the chairs, build additional tables.

\*\*\*

Dewey recently made a "sober" trip — to and from — Omaha. He just celebrated his First Birthday — and is enjoying every moment of his new-found life.

\*\*\*

Saturday, June 25 will be Tri-County Speakers Meeting set for Sacred Heart Church. Ben B., Roseville, will be speaker. Meeting starts at 8:30 p.m. preceded by business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*

Bob H., H & I chairman, is clock-watching. He has a June 1 deadline to arrange new schedules for H & I visits to local hospitals and institutions; also another deadline to beat: arranging program for the June 4-5 Vallejo Conference.

### MONTEREY

A recent visitor to the Wednesday Night Closed Meeting was Dorothy of La Jolla, Calif. She's the widow of the author who wrote the "Home Brewmeister" (published in our "Big Book") and who founded Cleveland's Group No. 3. Dorothy's husband passed away more than a year ago.

\*\*\*

At a recent meeting of the Tri-County Inter-Group, the speaker was Jeff W., formerly of Brooklyn, now a resident of Pasadena. After 27 years on the Program — and endowed with a wonderful Scotch gift of wit, he had the group rolling in the aisles with tales of panhandling in Brooklyn's Skid Row and how the Skid Rogues would get mellow after bumming enough for a fifth of muscatel and seriously discuss "when the government was going to start helping the working man?" None of winos had done a lick of work in months.

### WATSONVILLE

Grieved by this group: Bill R., who recently passed away. Bill was one of the founders of AA in Wat-

sonville. Although he had trouble, he returned to the Program and had been sober for over a year. Bill died a sober person.

\*\*\*

Baby rattles in addition to a single candle adorned the birthday cake that marked the First Birthday of Wes C., who managed to blow out taper at one big try. Also Pat B. and Herb B. celebrated recent birthdays.

\*\*\*

Ed H., New York delegate, back from Manhattan, was guest at our May 27 General Service Meeting. Ed gave us an interesting run-down on the workings of GS, fresh from the N.Y. Conference.

\*\*\*

Help and encouragement is needed by the "Clock Watchers," the Sunday night "Step" meetings. Phil G., chairman, reports low attendance, and will appreciate a lift. Let's support this group. It meets at 8:00 p.m., Sunday, at the AA Hall.

Bea and Cal B., Carson City, recently played hosts to Herb and Pat S., who were visiting Nevada. Bea, formerly of Watsonville, is making such fine progress in recuperating from her heart attack, she's making plans to attend the Vallejo Conference, her guests said. What did the doctor say?

### APTOS

Demolition of an old drinking spot, "The Aptos Inn, brings misty-eyed memories to such reformed soaks as Herb B., Sarl H., Bill McC., etc., who, Dayes of Yon were apt to tarry at the Aptos for a blood transfusinn — then stagger homeward.

\*\*\*

Clyde M., recently chaired a meeting at "Stag Eleven" in which he stressed "the humiliation" of returning to his group after a spell of trouble. But that's all behind him. He's making it splendidly.

### SANTA CRUZ

Jim M., Trustee, N.Y. General Service Board, was principal guest speaker at a crowded meeting held Saturday, May 28, at the Congregational Church, High Street. The Ala-

teens and Alanon Group arranged the refreshments. A business meeting preceded the gathering.

The "Step Meetings" held at The Cottage are still popular here. The group takes a Step each meeting night and thoroughly examine it "in depth," until all 12 are discussed. Then they start all over. Lest we forget.

### PACIFIC GROVE

Iver S., formerly of Beacon House, recently became a bridegroom. Beacon House will miss him but he's expectel to pop in and out as time and marriage responsibilities permit.

\*\*\*

The art auction held May 1 at Monterey for the benefit of Beacon House was declared highly successful.

\*\*\*

Beacon House holds meetings every Sunday at 8:00 p.m. Good speakers from all over the Monterey Peninsula makes Beacon House "the place to go" on Sundays.

### CARMEL

Carmel Group holds Closed Meetings at 8:30 p.m. every Thursday at All Saints Episcopal Church 9th and Dolores Street. It also has a Monday meeting at 8:30 p.m. This is an Open Meeting.

### I am Responsible

### Group Activities

Grupo Hispano — moved to 3067 24th Street, S.F.

Daly City Group — Truman H., Glen Ellen, makes one of his outstanding talks Wednesday, June 1, in the social hall of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wellington Avenue, near Mission Street, Daly City.

### 6th Anniversary For In-Between

The featured speaker at the Sixth Anniversary of the In-Between Fellowship will be Father B., Oakland.

The celebration takes place Saturday, June 11, at 4710 East 14th Street Oakland. To start the ceremonies at 7:00 p.m., Libby B., serving as chef, has a buffet supper arranged. For further details phone 532-9472.



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### Thursday Beginners Meetings Slated

A roster of down-to-earth AA speakers have been recruited to expound basic AA tenets for the benefit of newcomers attending June meetings of the Thursday Beginners units. They are:

**THURS., JUNE 2**—John I. Newark, is the speaker; Althea McC. is chairman.

**THURS., JUNE 9**—Florette P., Gratitude Group, Marin County, will make the "pitch"; chairman is Fred R.

**THURS., JUNE 16**—Speaker is Father Jim G., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship; Robbie D. will chair the gathering.

**THURS., JUNE 23**—Penny H., Stepping Stone will speak; Bob W. is chairman.

**THURS., JUNE 30**—Ed S., Forest Hills Group will speak; Althea McC. chairman.

The Thursday Beginners meet at 8:30 p.m. at 261 Fell Street, between Franklin and Gough Streets.



## H & I BROAD-SIDES

By Bill S., general chairman, Hospital and Institution Committee, NCC

"Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety" (definition of Alcoholics Anonymous — AA Grapevine).

The one and only function of our Hospital and Institution service is carrying the message. Conveying to the suffering alcoholic, the help available, which is his, or hers for the taking.

Now then—even though this particular type of activity has been definitely designated as the main purpose — only a handful have volunteered. We are completely non-plussed and bewildered. The only possible explanation can be summed up in three ugly words. Ungratefulness — laziness and stuffiness. Furthermore do not delude yourselves, that you are better clay. You are no more, no less, than any other drunk — except a bit luckier.

We need help desperately and immediately. The ever increasing machinations of various political set-ups, plus, the usual crumb gathering, by the opportunists — has more than trebled the work load.

Respectfully and with no thought of disparagement, most of these newly created agencies, although well meaning, accomplish very little. In the main they become merely referral agencies for Alcoholics Anonymous. Monies paid out in salaries, furniture and fixtures, etc., have reached an astronomical figure in these United States. Aside from providing lucrative positions for fast talkers and hangers-on it's rather doubtful, if anything resembling help for the suffering alcoholic, has been accomplished.

Our present work force, is inadequate to properly service the countless hundreds who desire sobriety — much less those who will be coerced on an "or else" basis. More often than not, the subsidized agencies, in their sincere but inexperienced efforts to be helpful, introduce the "neophyte" to sedation.

Unfortunately many of the sedatives are not prescribed nor supervised. The administration is haphazard and the alcoholic is trusted to be moderate in their use. Something he or she finds it impossible to do. Result — irreparable harm.

Under the above circumstances, our task becomes exceedingly difficult — it would be far better, if they confine themselves to directing traffic. We were taught, the shortest distance between two points was a straight line. So, the suffering alcoholic loses valuable time, arriving at his destination by way of Milpitas.

This program will work only if you work the program. It isn't particularly easy, nor will the general public forgive and forget your former didoes, for a long time.

Even though alcoholism has been transferred from vice to illness, it will probably take several generations to completely purge an idea, that has prevailed since the beginning of time. Not very long ago, an habitual drunkard was deemed a hopeless case — a vice-ridden animal.

With the advent of Alcoholics Anonymous and their record of 300,000 arrested cases — to continue calling it a vice would be preposterous — so dipsomania became alcoholism and was graciously admitted into the fraternity of diseases. The apparent success of the "Fellowship of AA" could be the under-lying reason. Get yourself sober, and we will show you how to stay sober.

As of now — the medical profession has been frustrated. Perhaps one day the riddle will be solved, but until such time — it behooves all members of Alcoholics Anonymous to become more cognizant of Step 12.

Don't say you have never been approached — you are being solicited here and now, to aid and abet our Hospital & Institution service. Not only solicited, but implored.

A postcard addressed to Hospital & Institution Committee: P.O. Box 4032, San Francisco, California, with either an address or a phone number where you can be reached and you will be contacted immediately.



# AA News from Santa Clara County

Santa Clara Valley has been honored by a visit from Ted K., Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Ted is the New York delegate from his area and has spent the past several weeks in San Jose visiting his mother. He has attended many meetings in the Valley and everyone has benefited greatly from the talks he has given.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to Marilyn A. and Bill E. on their marriage May 15.

\*\*\*

500.00 — \$500.00 — Anyone interested? if so come to Alano Club for the big BINGO game. The JACKPOT is now \$500.00 and will continue to go up until someone wins — so — why not you?

The Alano Club Building Fund Committee is sponsoring a Colored TV Raffle — raffle tickets three for 1.00. Inquire from any club member or at the club for tickets — drawing June 4.

\*\*\*

Managers of Warm Springs Resort — good AA members, have offered the Valley AA the use of their fine picnic grounds and pool for the annual AA Picnic to be held Saturday, August 13. The Intergroup Council voted to omit a dance band this year. With the grounds being donated and no expense for a band the tickets for entry will be greatly reduced. Further details will be given next month — but don't forget to mark the date on your calendar.

\*\*\*

The May ALL GROUPS MEETING at the Alano Club was very well attended. The speakers were Lillian C., Castro Valley, and Ted K., Alberta, Canada. The meeting was hosted by the SPIRITUAL PROGRESS GROUP of Los Gatos and chaired by Ruth M.

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TONY R., CUPERTINO, will be the speaker for the ALL GROUPS MEETING to be held at 8:15 p.m., June 11, at the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Ave., San Jose. The meeting will be hosted by the Sunnyvale Group with Paul S., chairman.

## Monday Beginners Meetings Schedule

The committee under Bob K., chairman, Rosemary T., Jack G. and Frances C., have slated the following speakers for their June meetings:

**MON., JUNE 6**—Penny H., Stepping Stone.

**MON., JUNE 13**—Jack O'B., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

**MON., JUNE 20**—Geri D., Anahon Group.

**MON., JUNE 27**—Doug R., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Monday Beginners meetings start at 8:30 p.m., at 175 Clay St., between Polk and Van Ness Ave.

## Azure Acres Halts Sunday Meetings

A brief note from Jo Anne M., secretary, Azure Acres, states that henceforth (unless re-activated at a later date no Sunday meetings will be held at 2264 Greenhill Road, Sebastopol.

Meetings will be held only on Tuesdays, her note said.

I am Responsible

## Oakland East Bay Office New Address

The Oakland-East Bay Fellowship Office has moved from 237 East 14th Street to 370 - 40th Street, phone 653-4300. Kenny McL., Secretary.

## Concord Mourns Death of Ken B.

A great AA member passed away April 29.

A member of Concord Fellowship Group, Ken died at age 60, after doing a monumental amount of good works in the field of alcoholism.

His death came after prolonged illness, but even confined to a wheel chair, he never failed to "carry the message" or allow a cry for help to go unheeded.

Ken was "AA all the way" and during his active AA career, formed AA groups, and spoke at countless meetings, demonstrating to others the wonderful outlook that AA can provide.

He is survived by his widow, Charlena, and two sons, Michael and Steven.

I am Responsible

## Memorial to Jack

The staff of GOOD NEWS offers this suggestion as a memorial to Jack Irving, who died a year ago this month: most groups open meetings with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. It's suggested that the moment of silence be dedicated to Jack's memory, during June, particularly by groups affiliated with S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, which he almost single-handedly built.

## CAKES WANTED

Can you bake a cake? If you can't, do you have a friend that can?

Cakes are badly needed for the 20th Anniversary meeting of Central All-Groups, Friday, June 17 at 240 Golden Gate Avenue.

Cakes may be brought directly to the meeting place in downtown San Francisco, or call the Central Office, YU 2-4473, room 84, 166 Geary Street.