



Good News



**AUGUST,
1966**

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Central All Groups of S.F. Sets Meetings

The San Francisco Central All Groups Open Meetings, sponsored by S.F. Inter-County Fellowship has programmed a topnotch speakers' agenda for August.

FRIDAY, AUG. 5—Mary S., and Joe K., One from Hawaii, the other from New York, with Roger O'D. serving as chairman.

FRIDAY, AUG. 12—Al M., from Movieland with "AA Message From Studio City". Betty E., chairman.

FRIDAY, AUG. 19—John M. and Jan S. will jointly discuss, "The Problem Drinker — A Woman's Story"; Merle G. is chairman.

FRIDAY, AUG. 26—Bob and Patti K. A dedicated couple. Co-outside sponsors of C.M.F. Anne B. serves as chairman.

S.F. Central All Groups meets at 240 Golden Gate in downtown San Francisco. Meetings start promptly at 8:30 p.m. Coffee and refreshments served before—and after every meeting. Parking at nominal rates may be obtained in parking lot around corner on Leavenworth Street.

Meeting place is considered one of most comfortable in West. Padded seats, fine acoustics, air conditioning, fine public address system, with elevator service to third floor meeting area. Outsiders invited.

Gilroy Reactivates

The Gilroy Group which temporarily discontinued meetings has been reactivated. It meets at 8:00 p.m. each Wednesday at 165 West Fourth Street. For more information, phone 842-5166. The "Welcome Mat" is out for those passing through.

8 Weekly Meetings at 1364 Valencia Big Weekly Agenda

Foot traffic, in and out of 1364 Valencia Street, San Francisco, must be like that of Grand Central Station. According to Enid R., secretary, eight meetings are held each week at 1364 Valencia. Chief difference between it and Grand Central Station? You'll find a friendly, homey atmosphere on Valencia Street. Here's the weekly agenda:

Monday at 8:30 p.m.—Mission Group; Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.—Luncheon Group; Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.—Memory Group; Thursday at 1:00 p.m.—Mission Day Group; Friday at 8:30 p.m.—Mission Dolores Group; Saturday at 2:00 p.m.—Matinee Group; also on Saturday at 8:30 p.m.—The Triangles and the 12 Step Study Group.

On Sunday at 7:00 p.m.—The 60 Minute Group. And you're very welcome to attend one, or all of them, says Enid.

Brisbane Names August Speakers

A star-studded roster of speakers has been recruited by the Brisbane All Groups Open Meeting for its August sessions. Here's the line-up:

SUNDAY, AUG. 7—Roger W., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship.

SUNDAY, AUG. 14—Corrie E., San Carlos Monday Group.

SUNDAY, AUG. 21—Gene D., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship.

SUNDAY, AUG. 28—Jane X., San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship. Brisbane Group meets in the Brisbane Recreation Hall, Brisbane, Calif.

Dunsmuir and Shasta Merged; Joint Meet Set

Dunsmuir and Mt. Shasta Groups have combined and are now officially merged as the Dunsmuir-Mt. Shasta Group, Bobbie and Art S., of the unified group announced last week.

Meetings will be held twice weekly. On Tuesday, the merged group meets at 8:00 p.m., in the Methodist Church, Mt. Shasta. On Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room of the Methodist Church, Dunsmuir.

The merged groups are presently engaged in making plans to host the Northern California Inter-Group Meeting, scheduled for 8:30 p.m. Saturday, August 20, at St. Anthony's Hall of the Catholic Church in Mt. Shasta. Keynote speaker will be Dick H., Sacramento.

Bobby and Art said, "the weather up here at this time of year is delightful. St. Anthony's hall is very lovely, and our hard-working committee is 'going all out' to make this Inter-Group Meeting a memorable affair".

Friends from San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento and those interested in inter-group affairs, are cordially invited.

Cordova's Birthday

The Sixth Anniversary of the Cordova Group of the Central California Fellowship will be held Saturday, September 17. Already slated are three well known local speakers, but the Program Chairman said full details will be announced in the August issue of By The Way. Meantime, he said, keep the date circled on your calendar.

S.F. Alano Club August Dances

San Francisco Alano Club announces three social activities for August, all of which incorporate Fun, Frolic, Friendship. They also include door prizes, refreshments, with a "Welcome Mat" inviting everyone that drifts in the neighborhood of 414 Grant Avenue, San Francisco—the Alano Club's address.

SAT. AUGUST 6—August Moon Dance. Music by the "Jumpin' Jacks".

SAT. AUGUST 20—Mid-Summer Dance with danceable tunes by the "Jumpin' Jacks".

SAT. AUGUST 27—AA Birthday Dance. This affair is of special significance to AA members whose birthdays occur in August. And, what is more important to an AA member—than his or her AA birthday?

The S.F. Alano Club is located at the Gateway to the city's famed Chinatown; a favorite gathering place for out-of-towners as well as a rendezvous for local members and their families.

AA News *from Santa Clara County*

(By Carolynne G.)

The July 9 ALL GROUPS MEETING featured Harriet H., San Francisco Central Office Secretary as guest speaker. Those in attendance were treated to an entertaining and inspiring story of a woman's search for sobriety.

The September 10 ALL GROUPS MEETING, 8:15 P.M., Alano Club. San Jose will present Waynn E., Palo Alto and will be hosted by the SATURDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP.

Dancing to an unusually fine live band is enjoyed every second and fourth Saturday of the month at the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Ave., San Jose. These dances are fun and well attended. Pat & Sam B. have taken over the "running" of these dances, succeeding Bernice and Al E. Your support will be greatly appreciated. **THERE WILL BE A DANCE AT THE CLUB AFTER THE PICNIC AUG. 13th.**

We have been asked to bring to the attention of the Valley A.A. members that the Central Office is attempting to compile a mailing list of the members. **THIS LIST WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL.** A good percentage of the members have already cooperated but until we have what we feel is a representative number, plans for the list can not be put into use. If you have not already given your Secretary the information please do so or contact Jane at the Central Office.

The San Jose Alano Club has recently installed a **BILLIARD ROOM**. This was done at considerable expense and effort and is being really enjoyed by those interested in BILLIARDS. Everyone is welcome to use the room.

Weimar Group Will Celebrate Aug. 14

Bob R., and friends from Reno, Nevada are traveling from The Silver State to take part in a Birthday Party sponsored by the Weimar Group, Sacramento.

Bob will be the speaker at the meeting and party which observes the birthdays of Ray H. (three

years); Dorothy B. and Harold B. (one year each) on Sunday, August 14, at the Weimar Medical Center. The affair starts at 7:00 p.m.

Weimar has a Speaker-Meeting on the last Sunday of each month, the Program Chairman, said.

Group Starts At Clearlake Highlands

A new AA unit—The Konocti Group—has been founded at Clearlake Highlands. It meets at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Community Methodist Church. Phone 994-2951 or 994-6722, for additional data.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY ANNUAL PICNIC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13 ---- 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

HIDDEN VALLEY RANCH

Warm Springs, Calif.

Mission Boulevard, Livermore Road, off Nimitz Freeway

"Alabama" C. North Hollywood Group, will be

Speaker at AA Meeting at 3:30 p.m.

French Bread — Beans — Coffee

Swimming — Bingo — Games

\$1.00 per family

Sacramento Plans Outing At Elk Grove Park August 28th

Central California Fellowship's big annual picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 28, at Elk Grove Park, CCF's Picnic Committee announced last week.

The huge outing which will be patronized by most of the Fellowship's 69 AA groups and six Alanon units, starts at noon and continues until 8:30 p.m.

It has plenty of attractions highlighted by a Grand Raffle with raffles for \$25.00 prizes slated for 1:30 p.m.; 3:30 p.m.; 5:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. Lots of action is anticipated at the White Elephant Booth, and more of the same at the Ham and Bacon Wheel.

THURSDAY BEGINNERS

The following speakers are scheduled to address the Thursday Beginners' meetings during August:

THURSDAY, AUG. 4—Paula B., Santa Rosa Group, will be speaker; Fred R., chairman.

THURSDAY, AUG. 11—Jim G., High Noon Group, is speaker; Robbie D., chairman.

THURSDAY, AUG. 18—Penny H., Monday Beginners', will make the "pitch"; Bob W., chairman.

THURSDAY, AUG. 25—Roger W., Central All-Groups, will be speaker; Aletha McC., chairman.

Tickets are going at 50c each or three for a \$1.00 and may be obtained at the Alano Club in Sacramento or from any group secretary throughout the Fellowship.

There will be an AA meeting "On The Green"; a soft-ball game; and games for children and adults.

New Group In Redwood Valley

Redwood Valley, Calif., with seven meetings to its credit, is one of the latest AA units founded in Northern California.

Betty L., secretary, said the lowest attendance was five persons; the highest, to date, fifteen. So, she added logically, the group is growing.

Meetings at the new Redwood Valley group are held at 7:00 p.m. every Friday at the home of the secretary. The meetings are open—and by common consent of the membership—has been named The Helping Hand Group of Redwood Valley.

To communicate with the group, write Route 1, Box 231, Redwood Valley, Calif.

Second Saturday of Month SPEAKER MEETING

Sponsored by

Central California Fellowship

Saturday, August 13

8:00 p.m.

LABOR CENTER

2525 Stockton Blvd.
Sacramento

THE PROGRAM

Message of Welcome by

Louise E., Chairman

Patty K. — AA Prayer

Don L. — 12 Steps

Ben M. — 12 Traditions

Sharon B. — Master of Ceremonies

GEORGE STAUB

Guest Speaker (non-alcoholic)
Chief of Counselling Services
Sacramento Alcoholism Center

INTERMISSION

AA SPEAKER

LOU H.—HOLLYWOOD

With A Most inspiring AA Message

Coffee

Donuts

PENINSULA ALL-GROUPS OPEN MEETINGS RECREATION ROOM — ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH BALDWIN & EL CAMINO REAL, SAN MATEO

SPEAKER	DATE	GROUP AFFILIATION	HOST GROUP
Gene D.	Sat. August 6	Saturday Nite Open	Midway-So. S.F.
Mary S.	Sat. August 13	Palo Alto Sunday	Palo Alto Tuesday
Jack H.	Sat. August 20	Menlo Park	Menlo Park Fri. Nite
Joe K.	Sat. August 27	Hayward	San Bruno Monday

COFFEE SERVED BEFORE AND AFTER
the MEETING — EVERYONE WELCOME
All Meetings Commence at 8:30 p.m.

COOPERATION BUT NOT AFFILIATION

There Are No AA Retreats!

Is there an AA Retreat?

This question has again been raised as a result of activities in our Area and in order to clarify the situation definitely it was forwarded to our General Service Office in New York for an understanding of the principles involved.

The following is a quote from their reply:

"It is distressing to know that after Conference action on the relationship of A.A. to retreats, and the fact that we have spelled this out very clearly in literature, there is still a misunderstanding. Of course any individual may attend and enjoy a retreat, or any other type of meeting, but there are NO A.A. RETREATS."

Further reference is made to Conference approved Literature on our Sixth Tradition "Cooperation but NOT Affiliation". On page 14 it summarizes our movement — wide experience in regard to retreats. This reads as follows:

QUESTION #20—WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP OF A.A. TO RETREATS OR OTHER MEETINGS FOR ALCOHOLICS HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES, OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACTIVITIES, OF RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS?

ANSWER—There is no formal relationship. Movement-wide experience might be summarized as follows:

(1) Traditionally, A.A. does not sponsor such gatherings. There is no such thing as an "A.A. retreat" any more than there is an "A.A. hospital" or an "A.A. clinic." Members participate in such activities as individuals.

(2) Since the Fellowship does not affiliate with other organizations, the A.A. name cannot properly be used to identify or publicize retreats or activities sponsored by others. This applies even when most of the participants (perhaps all of them) consider themselves members of A.A. The objective is to minimize public misunderstanding of A.A.'s purpose and function.

(3) If reference to the participation of A.A. members seems unavoidable in advance notices or in reports, such reference should also

emphasize that A.A., as a movement, does not sponsor retreats or religious activities and members attend as individuals.

"Sully" Dead

Members of the In-Between Fellowship, Oakland, mourned with the family of Arthur J. "Sully" Sullivan, who died at the age of 72 in Fairmont Hospital, San Leandro, Sunday, July 17.

"Sully" at the time of his death was manager of the In-Between Fellowship, and formerly custodian of the A-7-A Fellowship, Oakland.

A Rosary was recited at Cooper's Mortuary, Oakland, and funeral services were held at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Oakland.

MONDAY BEGINNERS

Five Monday evening meetings have been slated by the Monday Beginners' during August. They are, as follows:

MONDAY, AUG. 1—Virginia R., West Portal Group, will speak; Bob K., chairman.

MONDAY, AUG. 8—Pat O'B., 35 & Under Group, is speaker; Rosemary T., chairman.

MONDAY, AUG. 15—June R., Panhandle Group, will be speaker; Jim Mc., chairman.

MONDAY, AUG. 22—Bob W., Uptown Group, is slated to speak; Frances C., chairman.

MONDAY, AUG. 29—Dorothy P., Downtown Group, will speak; Bill P., chairman.

The Monday Beginners' meet at 8:30 p.m. at 1755 Clay Street, between Polk and Van Ness Avenue.

The Central Service Committee of the S.F. Inter-County Fellowship meets the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Panel 1 Sets A Pre-Assembly For Saturday, August 6

A highly important meeting of all group representatives of the General Service Committee of Coastal Panel 1, has been scheduled for Saturday, August 6, at 240 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, starting at noon.

This is the first annual pre-Assembly Meeting of all group representatives, committee members, and area chairmen within eight areas embracing 56 districts that makes up Panel One. It includes all groups taking in Santa Cruz and Santa Benito Counties in the south, to Humboldt and Del Norte Counties to the north.

Jim A., General Service Secretary, Panel 1, said, "it is essential that every group sends a G.S. representative to participate in this meeting. Each group should have a voice in the Panel's decisions and Committee Members are urged to inform groups of this important meeting."

The Program is, as follows:

Noon to 1:00 p.m.—Registration and Buffet.

1:00-1:15 p.m.—Roll Call — Area Chairmen — D.C.M.'s.

1:15-2:00 p.m.—Proposal to be acted upon:

(a) Delegates expenses to N.Y.

(b) Should a chairman be added to the three offices of No. Calif. Coastal Panel One?

2:00-2:15 p.m.—Coffee Break.

2:15-3:00 p.m.—Proposal C and D.

(c) Should No. Calif. be divided into 3 Panels? Possibly splitting Panel One to make 2 panels?

(d) Discussion concerning selection of new committee from odd-number districts to serve for a two-year term, 1967-68.

These meetings afford an opportunity for groups serving together through an exchange of ideas and suggestions to better carry the Message to sick alcoholics that still suffer, Jim A. said.

HERE'S THE "WHY" OF A General Service Conference

The 16th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference is coming up in April. You have every right to ask: Why are these meetings necessary?

You might also ask yourself these two questions: (1) What would happen to our beloved Fellowship—and you as a part of it—if the Conference meeting did not occur? and (2) What are G.S. Conference members going to do in your name in New York, April 18 to 23.

GROUP DATA

Your Group deserves to know that if the Conference did not meet, the nearly 10,000 A.A. groups in the U.S.A. and Canada would have absolutely no voice in such matters as . . .

1. How the General Service Board (Trustees) operates our world clearing house of A.A. information—G.S.O.

2. How the Board represents the Fellowship to the public (at the national and international levels).

3. How it manages the funds contributed by Groups and derived from sales of A.A. books and pamphlets.

(Much enlightenment on these matters can be found in "Third Legacy Manual.")

Theme of this year's Conference meeting is "Principles Before Personalities." Measuring themselves against this yardstick, your Delegate and the others this year are asked to guide the Board and G.S.O. on such matters as:

Should the Board (which has always had both non alcoholic and A.A. Trustees, with the "non's" in the majority by one) now slowly evolve into a 21-member body—14 A.A.'s and 7 distinguished non alcoholics? (The Board itself recommends the change.)

SECRECY

When A.A. is charged with being too secretive ("speak-easy Groups, hard to find," one member said in Toronto), should we look for new ways to attract alcoholics to A.A.?

Should we keep letting sick alcoholics stumble onto knowledge about A.A. accidentally? Just what

does "attraction" really mean?

What relationship does your local Central Office have with the local G.S.C. Committee, and with G.S.O.? Should some discount price structure on A.A. pamphlets from G.S.O. be established for local Central Offices that distribute them?

What's the difference between "misuse" and "proper use" of the World Directory?

What about personal anonymity within A.A.? Do we need it?

Do Delegates adequately report to Groups what really goes on at G.S.O. in New York?

(For a list of other subjects on this year's agenda, see adjoining column.)

OTHER QUESTION

While figuring out for yourself whether or not the Conference is necessary, you might also ask yourself one more question. Almost no one ever asks it out loud, yet it concerns the biggest job G.S.O. does in your name. It is:

When sick alcoholics, or A.A. Groups, write G.S.O. for help, should G.S.O. answer the letters at all, and if so, how, and who pays the postage?

Perhaps some A.A.'s take the answer for granted, assuming G.S.O. will do it.

But on the other hand, perhaps some of us answered it in Toronto, when we all clasped hands and said together, "I am responsible . . ."

(Reprinted from AA Exchange Bulletin)



HAPPY HABITS

AA Picnic Date

Sunday, August 28 is the Big Day.

That's the date for the big outing and picnic sponsored by the Northern California Council of AA.

It'll be held at Blackberry Farm, 21975 San Fernando Avenue, Cupertino. The hard-working picnic committee has ambitious plans afoot. Already it has a barbecue setup, games, a baseball game, golf tournament, and bingo in the mixer.

Swimming in two outdoor pools; ample parking; plenty of tables under cool overhanging trees; and lots of barbecue pits for those that want to broil their own steaks or ribs, are available.

Admission for adults, \$1.50; children, 75c.

Sacramento Plans Picnic August 28

"By The Way" official publication of Central California Fellowship, announces in its June issue that the Fellowship's annual picnic will be held Sunday, August 28, at Elk Grove Park.

Mary and Roger, co-chairman of the Program & Entertainment Committee said "mark this date on your calendar—we plan a day of real AA enjoyment".

Full plans about this big outing will be published in the July edition of "By The Way", they promised.

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

The Central Service Committee of the S.F. Inter-County Fellowship meets the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

"THERE, BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD, GOES I" Memorable Visit to Big House

By Henry S., Alameda Fellowship

"These men are real people—they're no different than me."

That's the first note I scratched down, as I looked at the prisoner's who were gathered around a table in a San Quentin Prison Dining Room.

There were Glenn, Sam, Bill, Dennis, Johnny, Bob and others. All wore the blue denim garb of prisoners. They were clean-shaven and sharp eyed. So was I, only was dressed in civilian clothes.

Physically we were the same—except they were in and I was out and we were the same kind of people for the same reason — we're alcoholics.

I've been on the program a little over a year, but in that short space of time I've learned a helluva lot. Strangely though I've been a newspaper reporter or editor for over 35 years, my assignments never carried me inside the walls of a prison.

When Hy C. of the Surf Group, San Francisco recently told me he was going on the regular monthly AA visit to San Quentin, I hopped at the chance to ride with him. I didn't know what it was all about, but the fact that it was an AA meeting inside a prison wall was all I needed. That was another way to improve my AA education.

YOU HERE, TOO?

They say you meet all kinds of people in AA—that you'll find new friends and rediscover old ones. So, as we waited drinking coffee in the Cafeteria before being led inside the prison proper, a gentleman approached, tapped me on the shoulder and said "Hi, Henry . . . what the hell are you doing here?"

In a flash, I figured this guy must be an AAer I'd met somewhere during my various visits. In the same flash, he realized I didn't remember him . . . the face was familiar, but the name escaped me.

"I'm Grant W.," he said "Remember?" I handled an accident case for your son some years ago."

BEIGE MURALS

Of course—and to think he was having alcohol troubles just like me back in 1962. An old friendship thus was renewed.

The San Quentin Group is known as the Robert B. Flippen Memorial Group and meets in a huge dining

hall, the entire wall of which is covered with a black and beige mural depicting the history of our times—depression, war, post-war era, etc. There were about 25 of us and we broke into groups of two and talked to the men.

Hy and I sat at a table and a few men gathered around us. It started dull, then the questions came. Men started gathering around us. The conversation picked up. I extolled the virtues of AA—of how I'd spent seven months at Napa and was familiar with a life almost like that of prison. Where almost your every movement was under supervision. That put us on a common ground.

The men didn't believe me when I told them of how I'd been torn apart physically from alcohol. I said I now weighed about 155, against about 119, when I entered Napa in February, 1965. They didn't believe me . . . that abstinence, good food and a healthy life could make a new man of one.

PICTURE-PROOF

Then I thought of something. In February, 1962, I was dismissed from a good job after 17 years, because of drinking. I was a shadow of a man. My birthday was that same month. I'd renewed my driver's license then, as I pulled the license from my wallet, pictorial proof of my claim. That picture of a tall, black-stubbed bearded man, taken with a terrific hangover was proof enough of what I was and what I am today . . . thanks to AA.

NOTHING BUT TIME

I met the editor of the San Quentin A.A. paper—Johnny K. He promised to put me on the mailing list. I was told earlier that I could arrange to visit the prison for a full tour, any time I wanted . . . I said to Johnny:

Growth of AA Books Soars

One of the corporations, A.A. World Services, Inc., publishes books and other materials on A.A. experience for distribution among A.A. members, professionals, and others interested in helping alcoholics. The other corporate body, The A.A. Grapevine, Inc., has since December, 1945, published a monthly A.A. journal.

PRINTING VOLUME

At present, A.A.W.S., Inc., has in print four books and 27 monographs for public distribution, in a total of 12 languages. Since the beginning, the total number of copies of books distributed in the past 10 years is 8,461,200.

Other publications in the present series include "Alcoholics Anonymous and the Medical Profession," "The Alcoholic Employee," "A Clergyman Asks About Alcoholics Anonymous," "A.A. in Prisons," "Young People and A.A.," "A.A. for the Woman," "Alcoholism the Illness," "Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic," "Sedatives, Stimulants and the Alcoholic," and others.

Like most other A.A. publications, the two largest monographs—"The A.A. Group" and "A.A. in Hospitals"—show no author's name, thus maintaining the traditional anonymity of A.A. members in public.

AA CONSENSUS

Each bears, however, the legend, "This is A.A. General Service Conference - approved literature," indicating that it presents a consensus of A.A. opinion, prepared in consultation with Delegates from the nearly 10,000 A.A. Groups in the United States and Canada who meet annually in New York.

(Continued on page 8)

"I'll try to get up one day. I want to see your print shop. What's a good time to catch up with you? (The latter is a normal question asked in civilian life.) "Anytime . . . anytime," Johnny said. "I'm not doing anything for the next six years."

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H & I BROAD-SIDES

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

By the time this issue is in your hands, the Quarterly General Meeting in Fresno will be a memory. But, I would like to comment on some of the issues presented to the committee on July 23.

1. To all committee people going into the hospitals:
We do not run the hospital or prescribe treatment for alcoholics. Our primary purpose is to carry the message of A.A. to the alcoholics who are confined.
2. To all contact chairmen going into our institutions:
You are responsible for the qualifications and actions of the visitors attending the meetings, as covered in our instruction regarding institutions which you will find in "How It Works."
3. Under NO circumstances should any non-alcoholic be in attendance at our regular institution meetings. Under our committee's agreement with the superintendents and wardens, only members of A.A. in good standing will have the privilege of serving these facilities. Any violation of this agreement may result in the loss of visiting privileges.

If for any reason a contact chairman would like to invite a non-A.A. person he must contact his regional chairman, presenting the reasons for the request. The regional chairman will notify the general chairman, then if the general chairman feels that this request is in the best interest of the group he then will make his request for permission and clearance known to the facility heads by written letter.

As of July 1, I have reached the half way point in my term of office. I extend my thanks to all the people who helped make this year one of the best of my A.A. life. Although I hope the coming year we don't face the frustrations and problems of the past year. I would like to make a very special thanks to Johnny H. Secy. of the Central California Fellowship office in Sacramento for his fine support, help, strength, and comfort.

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE A PINK CAN?

ALL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ANNUAL PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

21975 SAN FERNANDO AVENUE

CUPERTINO, CALIF.

- SWIMMING
- BASEBALL
- GAMES
- MUSIC

ADULTS — \$1.50

- BINGO
- GOLF TOURNAMENT
- DANCING
- BARBECUE PITS

CHILDREN — 75c

This big fun outing, sponsored by the Northern California Council of AA, is a popular attraction in the nine Bay Area counties. It has tree-shaded picnic tables to hold more than 1,000 picnickers; ample parking space; barbecue pits for families that prefer broiling their own steaks or ribs along with lots of outdoor fun and fellowship.

Those interested in the Golf Tourney are advised to sign up early. Starting times are limited.

News from the Monterey Peninsula

(By Herb S., Watsonville Group)

APTOS

"Stag Eleven" meetings resumed after a three-week layoff. Resumption of group meetings resulted in a big attendance, among them two faces that had not been present for some time—Bob P. and Ray O. Bob brought along a new man (another Bob) who wants to stop drinking and find a new way of life. Welcome, Bob! Keep coming!

Ray O. was proud and happy to return to "Stag Eleven" after being absent for four months in Plumas County.

Earl H. told of his trip to the L.A. area; and of the doctors who told him if he didn't quit drinking it would kill him. Now, most of the medics are all dead. But with AA—Earl is still with us.

PACIFIC GROVE

Visitors at the Shorty Memorial Group (held at the Beacon House, Sundays at 8:00 p.m.) were Priscilla of Houston, Tex.; also Gin and Ann of Santa Barbara.

Mac says his serenity is being sorely tested these days. Visiting him from Hawaii are two very young grandchildren.

Norville says the Beacon Group is enjoying large attendance. Thirty last Tuesday, and 20 came the week previous. Meetings are held every Tuesday night at St. Mary's Church.

Monterey

A recently-held business meeting attended by all group secretaries of the Fellowship. Various problems were discussed, the most serious and pressing was the problem of finding a new meeting place. As of next spring, about April, 1967, the building at 440 Alvarado where meetings are now held will be bulldozed under a Redevelopment Project.

Virginia is already planning a cookie baking project for our next Tri-County Speakers Night at Watsonville.

Salinas

Red K., S.F. Inter-County Fellow-

ship, was a recent guest speaker at our Tri-County Inter-Groups Speakers Meeting. Red spoke before one of the largest audiences, this summer. Father Barney, Portland, was guest speaker at our latest Tri-County Speakers Meeting, held at the Fair Grounds, Watsonville.

Tug T., visited us and chaired a recent meeting held at Fort Ord. The group welcomed Tug's return (he'd been away on a business trip) because he's a valuable man on H & I work.

Carmel

Sally from New York State recently chaired a meeting here and gave the "Carmelites" some real down-to-earth AA.

Willard B. did a great job of reporting to those that missed it—the Open House Meeting held at Soledad in June—sponsored by the H & I Committee. Some of those that stayed away from the Soledad Open House claimed it was because the Open House fell on Father's Day. That excuse will be erased in '67. Open House has been set for the last week in April, 1967.

Watsonville

Bill M. is reportedly doing great at Veterans Hospital, Palo Alto. The Watsonville gang is pulling to get Bill "back in the saddle" — and they'll probably win!

Al of Capitola is attending our "Live and Let Live" Meetings. He's new in the community but he's being shown some warm Capitola friendship.

Betty G.—if she's not already left—is looking forward to visiting her old stamping grounds in Utah.

Santa Cruz

Bill of Star Lodge (Scott's Valley) hosted the Watsonville Tri-County Speakers Meeting where Father Barney was guest speaker.

Health Center Meetings continue to be well attended both on Monday and Friday nights. These meetings are twice weekly at the County Hospital Health Center.

More About

AA PUBLISHING

(Continued from page 6)

The 48-page handbook on "The A.A. Group" shows how local A.A. units, without becoming rigidly organized or authoritarian, help alcoholics who wish to recover; what kinds of meetings the Groups hold for members and others who are interested; why anonymity in public is the traditional policy of the movement; how Groups in metropolitan areas pool efforts (usually through local "Central Office" facilities) for "providing services for alcoholics"; and how the far-flung network of autonomous A.A. Groups manages to maintain a flexible unity through the services of the world service office in New York.

"A.A. in Hospitals" (28 pages) reports the early history of A.A. work in hospitals, plus the seven modern case reports—examples of how A.A. members and principles are useful to hospital administrators, medical and nursing staffs.

HOW TO "RENT" Bill's Own Story

The New York office of AA frequently get letters asking about the color-sound movie of Bill and Lois shown in Toronto.

It is a 60-minute (two-reels) 16 MM film, professionally produced, with Bill and Lois telling of his last drinking days, his and Dr. Bob's recovery, and their decision to share this miracle with other alcoholics.

Only AA meetings may have this film. It is not for screening outside the Fellowship. Prints are rented at \$35.00 per week, plus shipping cost to next point.

Number of prints are limited and must be scheduled in advance. Order them from the General Service Office, Box 459 Grand Central Station, New York, 10017..

The Central Service Committee of the S.F. Inter-County Fellowship meets the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested is invited to attend.