



Good News



AUGUST,
1970

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

Vol. XIII
No. 9

BILL W. ILL — SPEAKS ONLY ONCE

OVER 11,000 AT MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION 28 COUNTRIES JOIN "DECLARATION OF UNITY"

The mob scene in the lobby of the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami, Florida, headquarters of the 35th Anniversary Convention July 2-5, 1970, was unbelievable. A crowd estimated at from 11,000 to 16,000, from every state and province and 26 other countries, around the world, made up the biggest assemblage of alcoholics the world has even seen — all of them sober, but rarely solemn. The Convention Center where the big meetings were held Friday and Saturday Nights was filled to capacity. Anything orange identified the wearer as one of the 1,300 Florida A.A. Hosts, even orange-dyed hair.

Ever since the first International A.A. Convention at Cleveland in 1950 such a gathering has been held every five years. In four days of 75 sessions including an Alkathon in Spanish, seven social events and many an informal coffee-clatch in hospitality suites, onlookers were amazed at the sober high-jinks and mutual enjoyment of a loving Unity rare among folks of differing nations races and tongues.

Bill and Lois W. had looked forward eagerly to the Miami Convention. Unfortunately, Bill took ill with virus pneumonia and spent several days in a Miami hospital. He was very happy to be allowed to make a brief appearance at the Spiritual Meeting Sunday Morning in Convention Hall.

Bill's illness put a bit of a damper on things, but Lois was everywhere, looking healthy and vigorous, worrying about Bill but carrying his messages to sessions he was scheduled to attend, plus keeping her own crowded Al-Anon calendar, climaxed by the Sunday Morning reception and "Breakfast with Lois," sponsored by Al-Anon, which drew thousands.

GOOD NEWS cannot hope to 'cover' the Convention in full; there was just too much, but we note a few of the most outstanding events.

BILL IS WELL CELEBRATES 36th

Bill is home now and rapidly regaining his strength. He will celebrate his 36 AA birthday at a dinner meeting and dance on October 10, 1970, at the New York Hilton. Tickets are \$14.00. Reservations should be made at once! Box 459, Grand Central Annex, New York, N.Y. 10017.

General Service Delegates from every Panel (from 1951 on) were presented at the delegates luncheon arranged by Jim H., Huntsville, Ala. (new A.A. trustee-at-large) and emceed by Tom B., Sask., former Trustee.

The midnight meeting of "25 over 25" presented "bleeding deacons" and "senior senators" with a total in excess of 800 years of sobriety, a great testimonial to the success of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The repeated showing of the new color film "Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions." which

AL-ANON INSPIRATIONAL AT MIAMI CONVENTION!

The Al-Anon portion of the Miami Beach Convention was unlike any convention I have attended. A spirit of wonderment permeated the gatherings; that this organization could have helped so many, and that we were seeing the people responsible for its beginnings.

The Al-Anon meeting speakers were truly inspirational. They included Alateen and A.A. speakers, thus reminding us that alcoholism is a "Family Disease" and we all need and deserve an opportunity to get help.

It was wonderful seeing Lois W. and learning that the idea for Al-Anon was born on the day she threw her shoe at Bill, and came to realize that she, too, needed help. We learned also how each of the office staff and the Trustees were drawn to Al-Anon.

We were uplifted at the concluding Al-Anon "Breakfast with Lois" by the tremendous number of people gathered together for such an occasion, something to be remembered, with pleasure, for years to come.

drew overflow crowds, and finally:

The closing A.A. Spiritual Meeting, where Bill appeared, came to an inspired finish as the world-wide family of A.A.'s clasped hands and prayed in unison, "Our Father, which art in Heaven . . ."

NEWS OF AA DOINGS IN FRESNO

By IRENE H.

The "dog days" of August are upon us, and people here in Fresno are seeking cool spots. However, our regular programs continue as usual.

Mary P. and 'Mud' from Bakersfield will be speakers at the Inter-group meeting Saturday, August 8, 1970, at St. Francis Hall, 8:30 p.m. The Louis Johnson Group will be sponsors, Jo M., Secretary.

The Sunday Breakfast Meeting August 16th, at the Carousel will have Joe F. of Oakhurst as speaker, with Bob L. presiding. Breakfast at 10 a.m. is followed by the meeting at 11.

The Village Group will sponsor their regular monthly speaker meeting Friday, August 28th, 8:30 p.m. at St. Columbo's Church. The speaker will be Phil G. from Los Angeles, with Ray B. serving as Chairman.

Bob D. recently addressed the Reedley Rotarians, and his message so impressed them that the Rotary Luncheon Club of Dinuba have requested a speaker for their group. And so Lloyd M. will address a Rotary Luncheon on August 18th in the Memorial Building, Dinuba, Calif.

Visalia A.A. announces the opening of their new Alano Club at Mineral King and Ben Maddox. Congratulations!

Woody W. of the Clovis Group is "up and around" on crutches, with plans to start walking sometime this month. Extra pleasure was

S.F. NEW LIFE GROUP TO HEAR SACRAMENTO MAN

The New Life Group which meets at the Center for Special Problems, Room 226, 2107 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, on Wednesday Nights at 7:20 p.m. will have Reed H. of the Sacramento Monday-Niters as Guest Speaker on August 12th.

The Saturday Night New Life Group meetings at Oliver House, 88 Ninth Street at 7:30 p.m. promise an interesting program for August, with good speakers, discussions and strong "one-to-one" confrontations.

These meetings, which some have facetiously termed Saturday "nite-school" are proving quite popular, drawing a good attendance. They are open to all!

added to the occasion with a "half-hour old" picture of wife Betty and their first grandchild, born July 19, 1970.

New secretaries around town: Eunice M., Alano Club Sunday Morning, Ed G., Monday Night Alano Club, and Calvin F., Madera Group.

1,000 Visitors in Miami Hospitality Suite

1,000 or more visitors from all over the world swarmed into "room 762" as it soon came to be known 'downstairs' during the four days, Thursday noon to Monday at the Miami Convention.

The Guest Register had about 815 signatures, 130 of which represented two or more, and included quite a few Canadians who visited our Toronto Suite in 1965, and they were happy to find us there.

Also registered were people from Switzerland, Iceland, Edinburgh, Scotland, and we could go on and on. Instead, we quote; from Stan W.

"The warmth and good fellowship that prevailed for hours each day in Room 762; running into Joe L., formerly of Sacramento, now in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; meeting in room 762 members from Europe and Australia, indeed from around the world."

"The remark from a member from Florida, that the best coffee and hospitality were in Room 762. Other Hospitality rooms closed early in the day and did not reopen until the following day. Everyone was talking about Room 762. It was a great success; one of the finest spots for fellowship at the convention. California can be justly proud, and I can just

Intercounty Fellowship August Program-Picnic

The Friday Night All-groups meeting schedule for this month includes five 'out-of-towners' including a husband and wife team, Pat and Nancy M. of the San Pablo Fellowship, who will occupy the podium on the 21st.

August 7—Speakers, Ed R., Hayward, and Frank L., Greenbrae. Host Group, Ignacio.

August 14—Speakers, Dan B., Larkspur, and Dorothy L., S.F. Hosts, Ross Hospital Group.

August 21—Pat and Nancy M., San Pablo. Host Group, Menlo Tuesday Womens.

August 28—Bob M. and Lucille W., both of S.F. Host Group, Sunday Nite Open.

These meetings are held in the Starr King room of First Unitarian Church, Geary & Franklin Streets, 8:30 p.m. The doors open at 7:30 p.m., with coffee served both before and after the meetings. A meeting for beginners only is held from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the alcove.

The Peninsula All-groups will have five Saturday meetings this month at St. Matthew's Church, Baldwin and El Camino, San Mateo, the time, 8:30 p.m. Paul E. of San Jose will be the speaker on August 8th, with Peninsula members doing the honors the other four Saturdays. Coffee served both before and after the meetings.

Don't forget! The All Northern California A.A. Picnic Sunday, August 8th, at Blackberry Farm, 21975 San Fernando Road, Cupertino; the same location as last year. What with the Golf Tournament, the soft-ball game for the perpetual cup, games, dancing, swimming and fun for everyone, no one should miss it. Adults \$1.50, children 6-12, 75¢; under 6 free. Tickets may be had at the gate, at all clubs and most groups.

Imagine members from all over the world on their return home telling their friends about Room 762 and the persons they met there."

"THE LINK"

(California Northern Coastal Area
of General Service)

The California Northern Coastal Area of General Service holds its regular committee meeting the third Thursday of each month, 8:00 p.m. at the Oakland Alano Club, 319-14th Street. This is about half way for committee members from Del Norte County in the North to Monterey County in the South.

Unfortunately, some of these communities do not have District Committee members; many of their groups do not even have General Service Representatives, even at this stage of AA development, yet the approach is simple.

If any group Secretary feels the incentive to be a part of the larger team; if he wishes to relate his group to General Service; he may write to the Area Delegate, Ed B. at 1929 Hershner Drive, San Jose, Cal. 95124.

Plans are being made for a General Service program of special interest at the October conference in Santa Rosa, also for the November Election Assembly in Berkeley. More on these later.

THE MIAMI CONVENTION

The sincerity of the entire assemblage at Miami was very evident. How amazing that a bunch of ex-drunks could put on such an affair without a slip-up. The theme was Unity, and there was just about every type of meeting.

Impressions; between four and five thousand people Thursday Night in the largest ballroom this writer ever saw; Bill's new film on The Twelve Traditions, a beautiful job — practically any A.A. member could understand it.

The experience of hearing Bill report for just five minutes at the Spiritual Meeting Sunday Morning — if every A.A. member could hear him for five minutes there would be a change of attitude on service.

Following is the A.A. 35th Anniversary Declaration of Unity:

This we owe to A.A.'s future:
To place our common welfare first;
To keep our Fellowship United.

"THE PITCH"

(California Northern Interior Area
of General Service)

The question has arisen from time to time as to why we need a Conference, either national or local. Bernard B. Smith, former non-alcoholic Chairman of the Board of Trustees answered the question as follows, quote:

"We may not need a General Service Conference to insure our own recovery. We do need it to insure recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to insure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined to alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth which brought us back to life."

"We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect on the human urge for power and prestige which we must insure can never invade A.A. We need it to insure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing over integration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions and all of its services."

"We need it to insure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to needs and wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to insure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to insure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is." Unquote.

For on AA Unity depend our lives,
And the lives of those to come.

"By-The-Way"**Sacramento CCFAA**

An A.A. Special, the Hayward Players present: "The Twelve Step Play" will feature the CCFAA monthly speaker meeting on Saturday, August 8, 1970, 8:00 p.m. at the Labor Center, 2525 Stockton Boulevard, Sacramento. The speaker will be Non-AA, Sister Burgoon, Cenacle Retreat House.

The Hospital & Institutions Committee of Area 4 North, Ed O., Chairman, will meet earlier the same day, 2 p.m. August 8th, also in the Labor Center. This meeting is open to any A.A. member interested in carrying the message to sick alcoholics in hospitals and institutions.

The monthly CCFAA Delegates meeting will be held at four o'clock, also the same day, at the Labor Center. The meeting on July 11th had 31 delegates signing in as a result of much work 'beating the bushes', and it was a very smooth and expeditious meeting thanks to Chairman Howard K. Let's do it again.

The Annual picnic will be held on Sunday, August 16, 1970, at Meadow Vista Park, off the Hiway just above Auburn. It's the same place as last year. Plenty of activity, fun and games for everyone. Send in ticket money to Central Office early. The Chairman needs it to get things moving.

Silas P., an attorney from San Francisco, will be the Guest Speaker at Group 3, last Saturday of the month meeting. Coffee and cake as usual!

The Davis Group will celebrate their four year Birthday on Wednesday, August 12th. Fr. John will be the speaker, "also cake" says Mary C.

The North Highlands group HAS NOT been discontinued! It meets Fridays (open) at St. Timothy's Church, 4151 Don Julio Boulevard.

The first group delegate to register under the Amended Procedures was Bill B., Round Table Group, with Virgil O., Alternate. How about you?

Stockton Mid-Town News

The monthly Open Speakers Meeting will be held Saturday, August 29th at 8:00 p.m. The pot-luck dinner was held Saturday, August 1st, followed by an open meeting at 7:30 p.m. and games afterward.

The birthday cake will be cut Friday, August 21st, celebrating August birthdays for Kim M., 23 years; Dick B., 13 years; Hal C., 5 years; Eldon S., 4 years; and Marty H., 2 years.

GOOD NEWS predicts; the September pot-luck will take place on Saturday, the 5th!

AZURE ACRES REOPENED BY GLADYS & BILL H.

Azure Acres which was operated for some years at 2264 Greenhill Road in Sebastopol under the direction of Gladys and Joe Butler has recently been reopened by Gladys and her present husband Bill H. Sold by Gladys in 1966, it was repossessed, and reopened on June 1, 1970.

In her letter to GOOD NEWS Gladys says,

"We have completely refurnished the place, as the hippies took everything out of the house — furniture and all."

"Our Azure Acres Fellowship Group was formed in 1958 by Joe Butler. Bill and I (will) continue these wonderful meetings at Azure Acres in the hope that we can—help someone achieve sobriety."

"The group meets each Wednesday (closed) at 8:30 p.m., and Sundays at 3:30 p.m. followed by a buffet. Each fourth Sunday we have a speaker meeting. I cannot give you the name of the speaker, however our next speaker meeting is August 23rd."

"We hold the large meetings outside in the open air, under the Douglas Firs. Picnic tables are available in case someone wants to come early and enjoy the grounds, visit the shrine and make themselves at home on our 32 acres of forest."

Calendar of Coming Events

August 7-9—International Doctors in A.A. Write Secretary, IDAA, 1950 Volney Road, Youngstown, Iowa.

August 8th—25th Anniversary of A.A. in Idaho. Picnic, Boise Municipal Park, Saturday, 2-10 p.m. Boise, Idaho.

August 9th—Intercounty Fellowship Annual AA Picnic, Blackberry Farm, Cupertino, Calif.

August 14-16—13th International Conference of Young People in AA. Fort Worth, Texas.

August 16th — CCFAA Annual Picnic, Meadow Vista Park, off Hiway just beyond Auburn, Calif.

August 23rd—Santa Clara County

1971

ONE DAY AT A TIME

Next year's edition of the Grapevine Calendar has just come from the printer's: Twelve handsome black-and-white photos, quotations famous writings to help you focus on serene, one-day-at-a-time living. Orders must be received by October 15.

Annual AA Picnic, Warm Springs Resort, Hidden Valley Ranch on Livermore Road. Chuck C., Speaker. \$1.50 per family 10 a.m.

Sept. 4-6 — Oregon State Annual GS Committee Meeting, Community Center, Baker, Oregon. Write P.O. Box 167, Baker, Oregon 97814.

October 10-11—Fall Conference, Northern California Council. Memorial Auditorium, Santa Rosa.

October 23-25—19th Annual Southern California Convention, Bakersfield, California.

Feb. 26-28, 1971—7th All Gal A.A. Conference, Broadview Hotel, Wichita, Kansas. Write: Conference Chairman, 3805 South Broadway, Wichita, Kansas 67216.

SAN JOSE AREA NEWS SANTA CLARA COUNTY

The big news this month is our 10th Annual AA Picnic on Sunday, August 23, 1970, starting at 10 a.m.; the place, Warm Springs Resort, at Hidden Valley Ranch on Livermore Road, and the cost (that's right) \$1.50 per family.

There will be something for everyone: swimming, a raffle, bingo and other games. There will be free coffee and beans, and charcoal for barbecues. Chuck C. of Laguna Beach will be Guest Speaker at 12:30 p.m.

Chuck is also scheduled as Guest Speaker at the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Avenue, Saturday Night, August 22nd (the night before the picnic) 8 p.m.

The monthly all-groups speaker meeting on Saturday, August 8th, 8:15 p.m., will have Frank S. of Santa Clara as the speaker, the meeting sponsored by the Sunnyvale Friday Night Group, at the Alano Club. Dancing will follow.

Regular meetings are held at the Club every evening at 8:00 p.m., with a second meeting at 10 p.m. Thursday Night, an Al-Anon meeting Tuesday Noon and the Alateens meeting Wednesday Nights at 8:00 p.m.

Breakfast is served every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. (donation basis) with a speaker every other Sunday morning at eleven o'clock.

Two business meetings are scheduled for this month. The Inter-group Council will meet at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8th, and on Monday, the 17th at 7:00 p.m. there will be a meeting of the G.S.R. committee.

Good News First Class

—mail, that is! If you want to get GOOD NEWS promptly instead of waiting for 3rd class (permit) mail, send in 60c either money or stamps and we will put your name on the First Class Mail list.

FIRST LATIN-AMERICAN GROUP IN FLORIDA STARTED AT CONVENTION IN MIAMI BEACH

By 'PAPA' FELIX V.

Now that we are back from Miami Beach, I would like to share with you a few of my experiences. Originally, when I planned this trip, I thought I was going *only* for the pleasure of meeting Bill W. (which I did of course), but after registering I felt something come over me.

It was something similar to the feeling I had as I entered the first A.A. meeting I ever attended. All of a sudden I knew that there was a great deal to be learned from this wonderful congregation of alcoholics, but I felt it would be impossible to see and hear everything.

Shortly after this I noticed a group of Latin-American boys off in a corner by themselves. As I introduced myself I realized they were from

It was very gratifying to see the faces of these people when they learned that there was going to be a meeting in Spanish. As in all meetings there were a host of subjects discussed, the two most important points being (1) — That a committee should be organized to participate in the next convention, and (2) — That a second committee should be set up for the sole purpose of translating "The Grapevine" so that all the Latin-American members could have full knowledge of what was happening throughout the world.

Much to my surprise, I learned that there was not a single Latin-American Group in the entire State of Florida, and yet there were thousands of Spanish-speaking members in the State. It was South America and as we talked I became aware that they felt as though they were not welcome. They had this feeling because they did not speak English and therefore felt left out. They were under the impression that there were going to be some meetings conducted in Spanish. Unfortunately, there were none scheduled.

The thought occurred to me, "I've got to help these fellows so that their trip will not be a complete waste." I met another Latin boy from New York whose name was Luis. Between Luis and me, and with the help of a very fine gal, Mary Ellen, we succeeded in obtaining one of the halls that was not being used. We rustled around and before too long we had 60 Spanish-Speaking members and we opened our own meeting.

about that time that I met Tony who was from Spain, but currently living in Miami. I discussed with him the possibility of forming a Latin-American Group in Miami, but Tony did not appear too interested.

I continued to plead with him, pointing out that the convention offered an excellent opportunity to form a group; that we had present all the ingredients we needed, and I was finally able to transfer my enthusiasm to him. We immediately began to spread the news about the new Spanish Group which was being formed.

That very evening Tony was able to obtain the St. Patrick's Church Hall, and now we had a home for our new group. We held our first meeting that same evening, with 6 excellent speakers, and Tony and I rejoiced. The Miami Spanish-speaking group of Alcoholics Anonymous was now officially formed. The following afternoon we again gathered. We named the group, and held the first meeting of the "Grupo Hispano Americano", the first Latin-American Group in the whole State of Florida.

After having associated with about 700 of these Latins from 15 different countries I personally observed that these people have developed their A.A. principles to the point that their every living moment is devoted to A.A. They are willing to "go to any length" to improve themselves. It was a very rewarding experience. I'm sure that the one who benefitted the most from it was me!

Letter to the Editor

Atlanta, Georgia

July 23, 1970

Hi Friends:

If it's anything I like it's GOOD NEWS! I picked up a copy of your publication in that out-of-this-world hospitality suite at the convention! I believe those reprints of the late Jack Irving talk would be marvelous to mail out to our Metro Atlanta secretaries. We seem to be inadequate in this area when it comes to sponsorship so perhaps the secretaries could be nudged a bit.

I hope I included enough money—if not, please let me know. We don't have an A.A. publication here in Atlanta and it's a distressing thing to me personally. Perhaps I can stir up a lot of interest by passing GOOD NEWS around. It is great, incidentally.

The convention still has me in a state of shock! I've never been so proud to be a part of something before—it was just an indescribable experience to me thus far!

Please do let us know when we can help you from this end of the world. We have some fellows who have begun a group on Sunday morning—for the traveling men. Bob L. who's the instigator of it is real enthused and wants to get visiting AA's knowledgeable of the group so they can come see us when they're in town over the week end.

Thanks to the wonderful folks of California for helping to make the convention what it was.

Sincerely,

Geneva B.

PI Secretary

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, we want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.

1970 Irish Convention Draws 630 To Westport

The A.A. groups in Ireland held their own convention in Westport April 25-26, 1970, according to the June issue of "The Road Back" a newsletter put out by the Dublin Groups, from which we quote:

"We are indeed fortunate in Ireland that our Ministers of Church and State are prepared to come to our Conventions and encourage us. This year the Archbishop of Tuam, and the Lord Bishop of Tuam came as our chief guests Spiritual, and Mr. Erskine Childers, Deputy Taoiseach and Minister for Health, to represent the State."

"In spite of the leprechauns putting in some work on the heat-

THE 26 COUNTRIES

The list of countries (26) represented at the Miami Convention reads:

Australia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, England, Finland, France, Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Puerto Rico, San Salvador, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Uruguay.

ing and lighting for a time, nothing ever really went wrong. The Mayo Groups and Westport in particular are to be congratulated on their organization and work. They were rewarded by a registration of 542 and an attendance of 630 at the banquet."

34 visitors came from the United States and Canada; 97 from England, Scotland and Wales. There were public meetings both Saturday and Sunday, in between the main events there were Alanon and Alateen meetings, and a meeting of representatives from all Irish Groups. Dan G. played a tape of Bill W. reading the Fifth Chapter.

The next Convention will be held in Limerick. (in 1970?)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT EUREKA CONFERENCE JUNE 20-21, 1970

INCOME:

Registration:

Pre-Conference\$ 61.00
Conference Registration 311.00

\$ 372.00

Collections:

Saturday 8:30 P.M.\$236.98
Saturday 11:00 P.M. 20.09
Sunday, 1:00 P.M. 116.37

\$ 373.44

Miscellaneous:

Raffle\$172.50
Snack Bar 278.43
Literature 11.00
Banquet 552.25
Alanon Donation 47.00
Misc. Donations 20.00

\$1,081.18

Total Income

\$1,826.62

EXPENSES:

Speakers\$326.93
Printing 281.93
Insurance 22.00
Auditorium Rent 345.35
Mailing 164.81
N.C.C. Secretary & Conference Committee 232.22
Raffle 66.91
Dance Band 120.00
Publicity 29.22
Tapes 11.00
Flowers 33.08
Signs 27.61
Snack Bar 169.50
Banquet 497.25

Total Expense

\$2,327.81

Loss

501.19

"DO MORE"

The following was copied from a wall telephone at a friend's house.
Do more than just Exist—Live
Do more than just Touch—Feel
Do more than just Look—Observe
Do more than just Read—Absorb
Do more than just Hear—Listen
Do more than just Think—Meditate
Do more than Talk—Say something

NORTHERN CALIF. COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1-1-70 — 6-30-70

Bank Balance 1-1-70\$1,633.80
Deposits 5,961.46

Total

\$7,595.26

Expense checks\$5,594.70

Bank Balance 6-30-70\$2,000.56

Max McD., Secretary

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Published Monthly in San Francisco
By the Northern California Council
of Alcoholics Anonymous
Rollin W., Business Manager

Address all letters to GOOD NEWS
166 Geary Street, Room 84
San Francisco, California 94108
Subscription Price — \$1.20 per year
Outside U.S. \$1.80 per year

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VOL. XIII August, 1970 No. 8

Welcome New Trustees

A new (nonalcoholic) treasurer and the first A.A. general service trustee-at-large have now joined the G.S. Board — the corporate body responsible for guardianship of the A.A. program for the future.

New treasurer is nonalcoholic Arthur J. Miles, senior vice president of the Dime Savings Bank of Brooklyn. He is on the Board of Trustees of the American Institute of Banking and the Cultural Institutions Retirement System, a member of the N.Y. Society of Security Analysts and the National Association of Business Economists.

James (Jim) H., elected trustee-at-large (U.S.) in April, had his last drink in 1951, was a Panel 7 Conference delegate. He works for NASA in Huntsville, Alabama, where he lives with his wife and three daughters.

Two nonalcoholic faces we shall miss are those of Archibald Roosevelt and Robert W. P. Morse, trustees recently resigned.

"Archie" often spiced with Latin his treasurer's report, peering over his glasses at Conference delegates in the hotel named for his famous father.

His successor as treasurer in 1965, Bob Morse, also earned our long-term gratitude and affection.

Box 4-5-9

Heard at an A.A. meeting:
"There are days when personalities squeeze my principles all out of place."

H & I BROADSIDES

By George R., general chairman,

Northern California Hospital & Institution Committee

Although the number of A.A. people attending the recent Eureka Conference was somewhat less than usual, the Hospital and Institution portion of the program was well attended. The Saturday morning Open Meeting, chaired by Ken K., Elk Grove, Regional Chairman Northern Valley, featured excellent talks by both Tod Cook of Eureka, the non-alcoholic speaker and Dr. J. M. S., of Vacaville the alcoholic speaker. Our thanks to Ken, Tod Cook, and Dr. J. M. S. for their fine presentations. The Sunday morning workshops were capably handled by Ricky S. of Redding-Institutions and Win S. of Vacaville-Hospitals. Pertinent topics were discussed as well as questions pertaining to all areas. Ricky and Win did their usual fine job.

On June 28, 1970 the regular General Meeting of the H and I Committee was held at the El Cerrito Fellowship. Reports from all areas were made as well as reports from the Treasurer and Librarian. The schedules for all facilities were distributed and questions raised were answered by Juanita M. of Pacific, our efficient secretary. Juanita deserves a great deal of credit for stepping into a new job and capably preparing over a thousand schedules covering over a hundred facilities. Our thanks to Ollie O. of Area V for preparing a delicious lunch at the meeting.

Our next General Meeting of the H and I Committee will be held on September 20, 1970 in San Jose at the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Avenue. Don't forget this date—let's all plan to attend.

As all of us in Hospital and Institution work well know, we always take away more than we contribute to the meetings at the various facilities into which we try to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to those who are confined. An example of the spirit and quality of A.A. in these facilities continues to be demonstrated. The A.A. inmates of San Quentin of the Robert B. Flippin Memorial Fellowship have over the past several years donated numerous pints of blood to be used in the following manner:

1. For their own families
2. For outside A.A.'s (not Alanons)

There is no blood account at San Quentin in the name of Alcoholics Anonymous; it is included in the reserve for the institution. Any A.A. member in Northern California who needs blood should contact either of the following two persons: (1) A.A. Clerk, Robert B. Flippin Memorial Fellowship, San Quentin State Prison, Tamal, California, 94964; (2) King H. Blankenship, CCI, A.A. Sponsor, California State Prison, San Quentin, California 94964 (Phone 415-454-1460, Extension 388). They will make arrangements to have one or more of the A.A. members who have donated blood to the reserve, sponsor the person who needs the blood. A.A. will work outside or behind the walls. The H and I Committee and all members of A.A. continue to extend our thanks to the Robert B. Flippin Memorial Fellowship.

A further note from Rudy M., a member of the Latin Group of A.A. at San Quentin states "Alcoholics Anonymous in San Quentin is a success because of cooperation among its members . . . We have shown progress every Thursday because of the simple reason that we share our differences, feelings and intentions . . . Many of us extend our appreciation to Jose C. for making Alcoholics Anonymous possible to us at San Quentin today."

In addition, the Steering Committee of the Robert B. Flippin Memorial Fellowship is planning a joint meeting with speakers and entertainment — one of three during the year — to be held as soon as details can be arranged with the authorities.

PENINSULA NEW LIFE GROUP BEING FORMED

A New Life Group is planned for the Peninsula, beginning by or before September 1st, according to Benny M. It should prove a definite helping hand for institutional "AA-ers" at Agnews, Crystal Springs, SMRC (Single Men's Rehabilitation Center), Belmont Hills and others.

San Francisco New Lifers will be helping with the plans, participation, etc.—to get the Peninsula New Life Group started. Jack S. and Jack B., prime "co-operators" are open to suggestions for a location, and **sponsors are wanted.**

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP SPEAKERS FOR AUGUST

The San Pablo Friendly Fellowship, 1426-13th Street, announces the following Friday Night speakers for August:

Aug. 7—Tony F., Albany

Aug. 14—Scotty L., El Cerrito

Aug. 21—Ed C., Palo Alto

Aug. 28—Fr. Graham L., Hayward.

Coffee, cake and Arms-Length A.A. after the meetings.

IDAHO 25th BIRTHDAY PICNIC SAT. AUGUST 8

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of A.A. in Idaho, there will be an A.A. picnic at the Boise Municipal Park, Fireplace No. 6—by the Boise River—on Saturday, August 8, 1970, from 2 to 10 p.m. Out of state guests most welcome! There will be food, fun and entertainment, according to Avice A., formerly of San Francisco, now a resident of Boise, Idaho.

Avice also says, "Edith, our State Delegate to N.Y. found several delegates made remarks to her such as, 'Oh! You do have A.A. in Idaho! We would never know it. So—we are sending this picnic notice to other states.'"

News Events from S.F. Alano Club

By Paul "Bus" D.,

Dances, live music and door prizes. Birthday Parties, coffee and cake. You name it and we'll try to have it! Our dances and parties are held for your benefit and pleasure. If we can improve them in any way just let us know and we'll try our best to please you. Keep these dates in mind. We'll be looking for you.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1st—PRE-PICNIC DANCE. Make your picnic plans at the club, and enjoy dancing to the "Dry Notes" while doing it. Fine door prizes too.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15—POST-PICNIC DANCE. Talk over things that went wrong or right at the picnic to music — its much nicer. Dancing to the "Dry Notes". Great door prizes!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29th—AUGUST A.A. BIRTHDAY PARTY AND DANCE. Help celebrate all the August A.A. Birthdays. Coffee and cake. Dancing to fine records.

There you are. A month of entertainment just for you and yours. Our doors are open every day, just waiting for you — So — Keep the address and dates handy. We'll be looking for you.

SAN FRANCISCO ALANO CLUB

414 GRANT AVENUE — CORNER BUSH STREET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Northern California Hospital & Institution Committee
July 1, 1969 to June 30, 1970

Donations		Disbursements	
Area	1	\$162.05	
	2	386.47	Good News \$200.00
	3	335.82	H and I Office 759.89
	4	1645.92	Postage 202.27
	5	265.00	Literature Reserve 329.93
	6	1111.63	P.O. Box 4032 27.00
	7	982.74	Misc. Acct. 476.98
	8	80.79	Equipment Reserve 500.00
	9	196.28	Librarian 2902.64
	10	125.85	Printing and Stationery 161.73
	11	435.20	Bank Charges 2.50
	12-13-14	82.05	Telephone (outside) 399.89
Total Donations		\$5809.80	Total Disbursements \$5962.83
Bal. July 1, 1969		853.03	Bal. July 1, 1970 700.00
		\$6662.83	\$6662.83

ESPECIALLY FOR NEWCOMERS

Both Meetings held at 1755 Clay St., San Francisco—8:30 pm
Coffee — Refreshments — Arm's Length A.A. after each Meeting

MONDAY BEGINNERS

Speaker Meeting with
Questions and Answers

THURSDAY BEGINNERS

Speaker—Discussion Meeting