



Good News



February,
1975

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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

Vol. XIX
No. 2

NCC Annual Spring Conference

The Civic Auditorium at Church and Center Streets in Santa Cruz will be headquarters for the Northern California Council of AA's Annual Spring Conference on March 14, 15 and 16.

The pre-conference kick-off meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 14, with Marjory C. of San Francisco as speaker.

H & I, General Service and Young People's will each have meetings during the day on Saturday, with an open meeting that evening, with John F. of San Carlos as speaker. Following the meeting, there will be both a dance and a discussion meeting.

On Sunday, there will be an H & I panel, a General Service panel, with a final open meeting at 1:30. Johnny H. of Lakewood will speak.

Al-Anon headquarters will be at the Holiday Inn, and they will have many events on Saturday and Sunday, including a men's stag meeting.

Alateen will also have a Saturday and Sunday program.

The complete program will be in the March Good News.

8th. Pacific Region Assembly in Utah

February 28, March 1 and 2, marks the Eighth Pacific Region AA Assembly at the Rodeway Inn, 154 West Sixth South, Salt Lake City, Utah. The assembly includes Al-Anon and Alateen meetings.

Registration is \$7.50 per person, checks to be made payable to Pacific Region Assembly, Sent to PRA-75, P.O. Box 7291, Murray, UT 84107. The banquet will also cost \$7.50 per person. If you are interested in serving on a panel, please note this on your registration.

Originally, this assembly was scheduled for the Hilton.

12 Step Worker Shortage Desperate

San Francisco needs people who are available day or night for 12 step calls. Please call Paul G. at the San Francisco Central Office 982-4473 if you can help.

The situation is critical.

(No one who volunteers will ever be called after 10 p.m.)

International Convention Comin Up

Register now for the 40th Annual International AA Convention to be held in Denver, Colorado, July 4, 5 and 6, 1975.

Registration fee of \$15 covers all events. Room rates vary from \$7 single to \$75 for a two-bedroom suite, so there are all types of accommodations to fit every budget — including sites for campers and trailers. Shuttle bus service from outlying hotels to the big downtown convention hall will be provided.

Official registration blanks are available at Central Offices, AA Clubs or through your General Service representatives. Registration closes on May 15, and housing is on a first-come, first-served basis, so early sign-up is advisable.

Al-Anons and Alateens will have separate programs, and the big event will be the big Saturday night show with professional entertainment.

New San Francisco Women's Group

Wednesday, January 6, marked the first meeting of the San Francisco Women's Discussion Group. Chaired by Mary F., a group of about a dozen women met in the small room on the third floor of the San Francisco Alano Club to start a women's group patterned after the Silkworth Group in New York.

Meetings will be held each Wednesday from noon until 1 p.m., with coffee, tea, Sanka and nibbles. (Fresh carrot sticks, green pepper strips, radishes and celery made an appetizing plate for the first meeting.)

Trudy A. is secretary, and after a brief qualification by the chairman, a reading of the Preamble and the Traditions, the meeting was thrown open for discussion of any topic or problem area particularly pertaining to women in AA. The meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer.

Newcomers, some of whom feel a bit shy in a mixed group, are especially welcome. At the first meeting, a newcomer from Oakland asked about maintaining sobriety under the pressures of a job with rotating hours; teen-age children, one of whom drinks; and an extremely demanding (male) boss. Almost everyone there had experienced one or more of her problems, and enjoyed sharing a variety of solutions, with the unanimous conclusion — "sobriety has to come first."

All women AA members in the Bay Area are welcome to attend this meeting. It is hoped that we will see more women from out of town who are in San Francisco for appointments and shopping, who will take an hour out of their schedules on Wednesdays to join us, stated Trudy A. and Mary F.

The Link

Something's afoot, and it harks of conspiracy, although no one would be so bold as to point an accusing finger. This reference is to last month's column in which the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. John L. Norris, following an elaborate introduction explaining why his last name could be used (because he is a NON-alcoholic trustee) emerged in print described as an ALCOHOLIC trustee. Although it is certain that Dr. Jack, as he has been known to AA members for many years, would not object to being incorrectly included in the alcoholic ranks, the use of his family name in print makes rectification obligatory. And thus prevails Tradition Eleven: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always to maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

Oddly enough, an error in the August issue (long since corrected) involved a similar transposition of alcoholic non-alcoholic references. This was when the election of Stan W. of Fairfax was reported in this column as our newest (Pacific Region) Trustee, and the numbers (14) of the alcoholic and non-alcoholic (7) trustees was somehow transposed between proofed copy and the press run. In both of these incidents, static was heard from the readership, which is welcome, but none from the principals involved, which is kind. Stan continues his hospital convalescence from the ordeal of four major operations, and he hopes to be discharged in the very near future. He will then continue to convalesce at the home of his daughter in Southern California.

Discussions involving the wearing of two hats continue as a repercussion of the Congress on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, held in San Francisco in mid-December. In addition to the admonishments of Dr. Norris regarding the proposed two-hatter, as enumerated here last month, he and Mary Ellen U. had some advice for those sober alcoholics who are already employed in the field. In addition to distinguish-

ing between the job (of professional counseling) and sponsorship, and having more to offer than sobriety, the job holders should avoid cross reference to AA membership on the job and the job itself while at AA meetings. If the need proves great enough, this could involve some special two-hatter meetings. Further, if in the capacity of counselor, the AA member refers a counselee to a specific AA Group, thus avoiding confusing confliction.

It is already time to start thinking about the round of 1975 Conference activities, starting with the Pre-Conference Assembly to be held this year at the Sun Valley Mall in Concord, and ending with the Post-Conference Assembly which will again be held at Konocti Harbor Inn at Clear Lake. Full details will be provided as they emerge.

Participation and interest in the General Service Organization has been expanding, as evidenced by increased attendance at both the Area Meeting held on third Thursdays at the Oakland Alano Club (8:00 p.m., and it's open to all), and the district meetings which are held either monthly or with some regularity (depending on GSR and AA population) at the local level. To further unify California Northern Coastal Area members, each has been given a list of meeting schedules for the districts so that he can attend other than his own meetings, which further involves two sides of our logo. The unilateral triangle of recovery, unity and service.

It might be expedient to add here that this newspaper, if more extensively used by members throughout at least the full range of the Northern Coastal Area, could well intensify this desired unity. To help make more people aware of each new activity, special meeting, assembly, conference or whatever, write to the editor (see staff box) of this paper.

Ralph L.

"Why didn't you hold on to your mommy's skirt?" a lost child in a department store was asked.

"I couldn't reach it," answered the little boy.

THE PITCH

California Northern Interior Area General Service

Another Interior Area Assembly has come and gone, and with it the election of a chairman to fill out the remainder of an unexpired term. The new chairman is this writer, and as she's still in a state of shock, this may be the shortest Pitch to date.

The Assembly was held at the historic Senator Hotel in Sacramento on January 4, and in addition to the election included the adoption of procedures for the regular November Election Assembly.

We also voted to make a Public Information-Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee (P.I.-C.P.C.) an on-going, permanent part of the Assembly structure. Composition of the committee includes the Area Committee officers, and District Committee Members (DCM's). Permanent chairman will be the Alternate Delegate — in this case, Ed S. from Redding. Also included in the committee, as non-voting members, will be a representative from the Fresno and Sacramento Central Offices and a representative from the Hospital and Institutions Committee.

Our hard-working delegate, Jack B. and his equally dedicated wife, Naydene, have put together a manual for use in conjunction with PI-CPC committee, which contains the short form of the 12 Concepts, structure of the Fellowship, the service structure, complete set of AA guidelines, public information guidelines and much, much more. This was a mammoth undertaking and is a beautiful piece of work.

In the Sacramento area, interest has already been shown in ways to make use of the manual and its contents, and the ways in which the committee will work to cooperate with professionals, persons in the community, schools, churches and the like. No small part of the committee's commitment will be to come up with a panel of names in each area from which Central

(Continued col. 1 page 8)

Without Sincerity We Haven't Got Much At All

Sincerity to ourselves and to others must surely be one of the most important attributes that men and women can strive to attain. It embodies humility and honesty and an attempt to see and accept things as they really are. It may well be considered the core of our spiritual involvement in life.

We people of AA know that sincerity is a cornerstone of our program of recovery from alcoholism. Unless we tackle that program with the utmost sincerity — with a willing and open heart — we have not much chance of achieving a contented and lasting sobriety.

And unless we can be sincere in practicing the principles of AA philosophy in all our affairs we cannot go very far along the recovery road.

And yet sincerity may not seem to come too easily to some of us when we first put down the bottle and try to remake our lives. We have schooled ourselves to double standards and rationalizations during our drinking years and we have to unlearn this sort of thinking.

"More than most people, the alcoholic leads a double life," says the Big Book. "He is very much the actor."

"To the outer world he presents his stage character. This is the one he likes his fellows to see. He wants to enjoy a certain reputation, but knows in his heart he doesn't deserve it."

We have the chance to do something about this state of affairs as we work the AA Program. But any estimate of our progress, any

evaluation of whether we are really making the greatest effort we can, must come not from someone else assessing our performance but from our own hearts.

We might be shy, awkward, lacking in witty conversation. But all the polish and sophistication in the world will get us nowhere — in fact, it will probably hold us back from spiritual advancement — if it is just a facade.

Without sincerity we haven't got much at all.

—The News, The Monthly
Journal of AA Victoria (Australia)
November 1974.

Mission Unity Latino Alcoholic Survey

The following letter from the Mission Unity Group Center, which offers detox and recreation facilities to alcoholics, was received by the Alano Club this month.

When their survey is completed, it should be of special interest to Spanish-speaking AA members.

Dear Colleagues:

The Board of Directors of M.U.G.C. has the pleasure of informing you that since November 1, 1974, this organization undertook a research program to determine the needs relating to the Latino alcoholic in the Mission District. The program is being financed by the Bureau of Alcoholism of San Francisco.

Our organization actually provides recreational activities, referrals to other alcoholism agencies and family activities on behalf of the alcoholics, and we are offering such services to the alcoholics looking for a place to get sane recreation.

Our main goal is the rehabilitation of the alcoholic, and it is our feeling that everyone's cooperation is essential.

Looking for better understanding between organizations, we are.

Sincerely yours,
(signed)
Ernesto Martinez
President.

35th AA Birthday For Dewey S.

Dewey S., one of the first one hundred who lit a candle in AA, will celebrate his 35th AA birthday on Saturday, February 15, at the Peninsula All Groups Anniversary.

Dewey still goes to a lot of meetings, and is especially active in Peninsula All Groups. To quote him, "I was just a link in a chain that didn't break."

His wife, Ruth, will help him cut his cake, and his many friends at All Groups will be on hand to help him celebrate.

Friday Central All Groups

Ellie R. of Novato will be the first speaker of the month February 7, at San Francisco Intercounty Fellowship Friday Night All Groups, Unitarian Church, Franklin and Geary Streets, San Francisco. Host group will be 90 Minute Beginners.

Other speakers and host groups for the month will be:

February 14—Shirley K., San Francisco Fellowship; San Francisco Book Group.

February 21—Sam P., San Francisco Fellowship; San Francisco Young Peoples.

February 28—Aileen K., Fairfax, Wednesday Noon.

The meetings are at 8:30 p.m.; doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Coffee will be served before and after the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

February Speakers At Ambassadors

Here are the speakers for the month of February at Ambassadors:

February 5 — Helen A.

February 12 — Tom L.

February 19 — Larry B.

February 26 — Roger O'D.

(All this month's speakers are from the San Francisco Fellowship.)

Ambassadors Group meets Wednesdays in the downstairs auditorium at St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, at 8:30 p.m.

New Non-Smoking San Francisco Group

Foglifters, San Francisco's first non-smoking group, meets every Saturday, from noon to 1:00 p.m., in the small room on the third floor of the Alano Club, 414 Grant Ave.

This open discussion meeting is especially popular with non-smokers, but anyone may attend, who will refrain from smoking in the meeting room during the meeting. Helen A. is the secretary.

Carrying The Message

Increased activity on all fronts of Public Information made January 1975 more than twice as busy as a year ago when this committee was formed.

Social studies teachers were suddenly anxious for AA speakers before the term ended January 31, and at least eight classes in several schools were covered during the month.

One of the local Lions' Clubs asked for a speaker to join them in Sukiyaki on January 15. Lee G. accepted the invitation to address the predominately Japanese-American group.

American Telephone and Telegraph Longlines (Overseas telephone operators, long distance operators and their supervisors) met for an hour to discuss alcoholism, and later to hear about AA. Keith C. and Nancy C. described a bit of their own stories and recovery through AA, and then answered many questions for half an hour. (Interestingly enough, there was a very loud office party in progress down the hall throughout the meeting!) AT&T has a new management policy offering help to the alcoholic, rather than "either burying or firing him or her". This meeting was a first for the company in San Francisco. AA will be invited back to talk to other divisions in the Spring.

Channel 44 has requested that AA make a tape for TV, and this will probably be worked out late in February, with careful attention to backlighting and observing the tradition of anonymity.

At the P.I. Committee meeting in January, a financial report was given, showing that the committee ended the year in the red \$9.46. (This was before January contributions from the Central Service Committee and General Service.) In view of this, John S. treated the committee to coffee, and those present chipped in \$3.80 for literature for school lectures scheduled for the following week. It was agreed that with the increase in school activity, Area General Service should be approached to replenish the literature supply, in

that the present budget of \$20 per month barely covers mailing, printing, coffee, telephone and some literature.

There are still problems stemming from the last convention handled by the P.I. Committee. Two copies of the Big Book which were loaned to us, by the Central Office, for the booth, were either stolen or inadvertently packed up and sent to New York. In that the booth was packed up four hours ahead of schedule, not all of the literature was returned to the Central Office. In the future, it is hoped that there will be less confusion and more facts to work with when setting up any conventions in the City. Mean-

while, we owe the Central Office for two copies of the Big Book, which adds to our deficit.

Nancy C., who had agreed to be Public Information chairman for the year 1974, resigned, effective March 15, but will remain as an advisor to the committee. An election will be held in February to select a new chairman. Other officers will remain the same.

The late Babe Ruth, while not an alcoholic, sometimes had a drinking problem. He did hit 714 home runs, but also struck out 1330 times, about the largest number on record.

Pipeline

California Northern Coastal Area General Service

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT 31 DECEMBER 1973 TO 31 DECEMBER 1974

CASH BALANCE AS OF 31 DECEMBER 1973	\$1,822.59
INCOME	
Group Donations	\$2,757.93
Sale of Manuals, Concepts, World Directories, etc.	357.70
Area Meeting Collection	225.80
Income from NCC Conferences (Gen. Serv. Meetings)	182.83
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,524.26
EXPENSES	
Donation to 1974 General Service Conference	\$150.00
Delegates Expense to 1974 Gen. Serv. Conference	171.00
Delegates Expense to 1974 Pacific Reg. Assembly	189.82
Literature, Manuals, Concepts, World Directories, etc., Ordered	643.05
Area Meeting Hall Donation	120.00
Area Backdrop Banner	185.31
Stationery, Duplicating Services, Postage	725.88
Area Com. Officers Phone & Mileage Allowance	832.39
Donation to "Good News"	100.00
Donation to San Francisco P.I. Committee	120.00
Deposit for 1975 Post-Conference Assembly (Konocti)	50.00
Deposit for 1975 Pre-Conference Assembly	30.00
Loss from 1974 Pre-Conference Assembly	76.32
Loss from 1974 Post-Conference Assembly (Konocti)	23.77
(Actual Loss was \$73.77, However \$50.00 accounted for in 1973 Report)	
Loss from Election Assembly	255.54
Loss from P.I. Committee Information Meeting	28.25
GSO Delegation Expenses	11.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,712.58
CASH BALANCE AS OF 31 DECEMBER 1974	\$1,634.27

Yours In Service

Paul R. Van A., Past Treasuere CNCA

Good News

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Alano Club Letter

January 9, 1975

Dear Roger, Don and All:

Happy New Year! And, of course, my best wishes to each and everyone in the Inter-County Fellowship and for the continuing opportunities of the Alano Club.

The natural thing, I am sure, is to reflect on my life in San Francisco each time I write and send my dues. It is so clear now to see how truly good God has been to me and how truly wonderful the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous has been personally to me. It is just a little less than seven years since I left San Francisco. I was then still drinking and had a felony charge of assault with the intent to commit murder over my head — do you wonder why I left? I thought, at the time, it was the end of my world, because I really loved San Francisco and had arrived there five years earlier “to make my mark on the world”. Well, all I succeeded in doing was drinking a lot of booze and leaving my mark on someone's head — the felony charge arose as a result of my trying to bash another alcoholic's head in with a bar stool, but I took care of that in July 1972. I paid him some money, and, after

talking to one of the attorneys in City Hall, the thing was dropped for want of prosecution.

Nevertheless, it was a good five years for me. I didn't think so at the time. I used to use the Club as an antidote. In between drunks and drinking sprees, I would come to the Club, sit at the Hospitality Tables, attend meetings and yearn desperately for you people to do something and get me out of the worsening situation, I was drinking myself into.

I am so happy to report that you did do something. Don, Gordon and all the others gave me the message loudly and too clearly: “Do not take a drink and things will get better.” But, you know how it is! I didn't want to hear all that crap.

So, I had to return to Washington, and, what else but continue drinking. And guess what? All the things Don, Gordon and the others said would happen did happen. I learned to live in an “Inner City” situation, that is, no fixed address — and such a nice, “pure” fellow like me, too. I was regularly put away in one place or another. Finally, I was committed to an insane asylum at thirty-nine years of age. And, what can I say about all of this? That's easy. It was well worth the price to get sober. Yet I must remember, it takes time to see. And it is the prerogative of each of us to do with his life as he chooses.

At this point, another year has passed. I've completed being secretary for a rather large group in Northwest Washington, and I hope my term in office brought just half as much to the group as it did to me. I am sort of without commitment now, but still make three or four meetings a week. I consider this to be my duty. So much has been given to me. I go regularly to the institutions, and talk to and for my brothers, because any man drinking is my brother. I feel so much compassion for them, and am jealous for their recovery, although I bear in mind the decision is not mine. I don't know whether or not I've helped anyone get sober. I'm simply pleased that people do get sober and the fellowship grows.

I have adopted as my guide the fifth chapter of St. Paul's first

Letter to Peter, verses two through four:

“Be shepherds to the flock God has given you. Carry out your charges as God would have it done, cordially, not like drudges, generously, not in the hope of sordid gain, not tyrannizing, each in his own sphere, but setting an example, as best you may, to the flock.”

I do hope all is well with you in San Francisco, as all is well with me.

My very best regards,
Henry P.

(We are indebted to Roger O'D., manager of the San Francisco Alano Club, for passing this along to us. — Editor)

New Group at Industrial Club

A new group held its first meeting at the Industrial Club Wednesday, January 29 at midnight.

Called the P.M. Group, it is an open Wednesday group.

The Industrial Club is at 3198 - 16th Street, San Francisco.

Little Boy: Dad, I wish you would let Mom drive. It's more exciting.



1975 Calendar

Assemblies and Conventions

Here is a listing of the assemblies and conferences coming up in the year 1975.

February 28 to March 2

Pacific Regional Service Assembly, Hilton Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah.

March 14 through 16

Northern California Conference, Civic Auditorium, Chestnut and Church Streets, Santa Cruz. For more information write: Conference Secretary, 166 Geary St., Room 84, San Francisco, Ca 94108.

March 22

Northern California Coastal Area Pre-Conference General Service Assembly, Sun Valley Mall Auditorium, Concord. For more information write: C.N.C.A. Secretary, 1190 White Drive, Santa Clara, Ca 95051.

May 3 and 4

Northern California Coastal Area General Service Assembly, Konocti Harbor Inn, Clear Lake. For more information write: C.N.C.A. Secretary, 1190 White Drive, Santa Clara, Ca 95051.

May 3 and 4

Hospital and Institution State Conference, Convention Center, Fresno. For more information write: H & I General Chairman, 5544 Drysdale Dr., San Jose, Ca 95124.

June 13 and 14

Northern California Conference, Civic Auditorium, Oakland. For more information write: N.C.C. Secretary, 166 Geary St., Room 84, San Francisco, Ca 94108.

July 4 through 6

40th Anniversary International AA Convention, Convention Center, Denver, Colorado. For more information write: Convention, General Service Office, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017.

October 17 through 19

Northern California Conference, Civic Auditorium, Sacramento. For more information write: N.C.C. Secretary, 166 Geary St., Room 84, San Francisco, Ca 94108.

October 17 through 19

Southern California Convention, Convention Center, Bakersfield. For

more information write: Los Angeles Central Office of AA, 767 South Harvard Blvd., Los Angeles, Ca 90005.

Secretaries Past, Present And Future Meet

On Wednesday night, January 15, a meeting of Group Secretaries, past present and future (which is exclusive of no one) was held at the San Francisco Alano Club.

Chairman Ralph L. set the pace with a quotation from "AA Guidelines" from General Service on the Group and its purpose.

Five panelists discussed the problems which a secretary encounters and offered suggestions culled from experience.

Betty S. Talked about the duties of a secretary and, in the process, gave an interesting dissertation on her own mishaps and conquests.

Central Office Secretary, Paul G., followed with some pertinent words on the assistance given all new secretaries, at the outset of their terms. Most of the panelists agreed, and did not except themselves, that too often a new secretary fails to read the aids mailed out by the Central Office. If new secretaries would imply open and read their mail many problems could be averted.

General Service Representative, Helen A., discussed her duties as liaison between the Group and the General Service Organization, locally and worldwide.

Mike R.'s succinct words on the value to the Group of a steering committee were well received, and John F., who arranged the evening's program, gave a short talk on the importance to the newcomer and oldtime alike of a hospitality or greeter's committee.

The discussion which followed further accentuated the need of a secretary to accept all available help, rather than to try to run the whole show. It is hoped that those present who have as yet to be secretaries will accept the suggestions given at this meeting. The job involves responsibility, personal growth, and perspective into the fellowship. And it is not to be taken lightly.

Santa Clara All Groups

Host group for Santa Clara County All Groups will be the Hucksters on Saturday, February 8, at 8:15 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Ave., San Jose.

Guest speaker will be Joe C. from Phoenix, Arizona, who was very active in the Santa Clara County area before moving to Phoenix.

A dance sponsored by the Club will follow the meeting. The Hucksters Group meets at the Alano Club every Thursday evening.

El Cerrito Saturday Nite

Orrin M. of Oakland will be the speaker at the El Cerrito Fellowship meeting Saturday, February 22. It will be held at 11231 San Pablo Avenue in El Cerrito.

There will be coffee, Brim and arms-length AA before and after the meeting. Also, there will be a birthday cake.

Peninsula All Groups 26th Anniversary

On Saturday, February 15, Peninsula All Groups will celebrate their twenty-sixth anniversary. Florette P. of the Gratitude group will be the speaker and Paul G. of the San Francisco Fellowship will be the chairman.

The meeting, at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Auditorium, Baldwin Ave. and El Camino Real, San Mateo, will begin at 8:30 p.m. There will be coffee and arms-length AA before and after the meeting.

Stonestown Second Anniversary

On Monday, February 17, the Stonestown Open AA Group will celebrate its second anniversary. This meeting is held in the Baptist Church, 3355 - 19th Avenue, at 8:30 p.m.

Veronica S. will be the speaker and Paul G. will act as chairman for the anniversary meeting. Every one is welcome. There will be coffee and arms-length after the meeting.

H & I BroadSides

By Jerry G., General Chairman
Hospital & Institutions Committee

(The following column arrived too late to be included in the January Good News. Although it is a little dated, we are including it in its entirety this month — Ed)

Well, it is the beginning of a new year, and it wouldn't be right if I didn't extend best wishes to all of you for the coming year.

The H & I Committee will start its new year by having its first General Meeting, February 9, in Sacramento. This will be at the North Sacramento Fellowship of AA, 2330 Fairfield St., Sacramento. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. It is open to all who are interested in carrying the message to those who are confined in hospitals and institutions.

In December, I had the opportunity to go to a meeting in Soledad again. Soledad, like other institutions, has been closed to outside guests because of internal problems. Now, fortunately, they are back to the regular schedule of AA meetings.

I was impressed with the meeting and the good response. Also, I was pleased with the smooth entry and exit provided by the Soledad staff.

While at the meeting, Cruz D., the group secretary, asked me if I could put something in this column, thanking the guests who bring the message to the group. I jumped at this opportunity.

The following is a letter from the Soledad group secretary.

As best as I can figure it, this is the list on attendance at AA meetings at the CTF-Tri-Facility (South, Central and Northern Facilities).

We, the inmates at Central Facility, extend our warmest thanks to all AA members involved in H & I work, without which we don't really know if we would have AA meetings at the institution. Also, thanks for taking the time and effort to bring the message to us less fortunates in the hope that our drinking problems may be arrested (pardon that expression). Through

Peninsula All Groups

Dr. Ed P. of Yountville will be the first speaker of the month at Peninsula All Groups, Saturday, February 1. The host group will be Daly City, Wednesday. The place is St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Auditorium, El Camino Real and Baldwin Ave., San Mateo. The time is 8:30 p.m.; doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Other speakers and home groups for the month will be:

February 8—Fr. John L., Hillsborough; Hillsborough.

February 15—26th Anniversary. Florette P., Gratitude; Peninsula All Groups.

February 22—Jim S., Mt. Vista Farm; Belmont Hills.

Coffee and arms-length AA before and after the meeting.

the example of all interested H & I members, we may find a higher power which may help us stay away from the bottle. Thanks again to all.

We have an average of 40 meetings per month, with over half of them held at CTF-Central. The rest are about evenly distributed between South and North Facilities.

The average number of guests taking their time and effort to bring the message to prisoners is around 90 guests per month (give or take 10). Central Facility has about half of these guests at their meetings, with rest evenly distributed between North and South Facilities.

Inmate attendance at all three facilities is roughly 1100 or 1200 inmates per month. Broken down by Facility, it reads something like this:

Central Facility — 550 inmates (average). South Facility — 300 inmates (average). North Facility — 300 inmates (average).

All this takes a lot of coordinating. We are thankful that H & I Committee assures that the flow of outside guests attending our meetings is uninterrupted.

The "outside" sponsors for the Central group are Dennis D. and Jim B. For the North group, Frank B. I don't know, at this time, who the "outside" sponsor for South is, it used to be Bob F.

—Cruz D., AA Secretary, CTF-C.

NCC Semi-Annual Financial Statement

On Hand — 7-1-74	\$2756.32
Income	1776.30
	\$4532.62

Expenses (by check) (1629.40) *

Balance on hand 12-31-74 \$2903.22

* Includes deposit of \$75.00 for Spring conference.

11th Annual National AA Women's Conference

Theme of the 11th Annual National AA Women's Conference is "What A Difference A Day Makes." The Conference to be held February 21, 22 and 23, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, will have its headquarters at the Leamington Hotel.

In addition to a dinner banquet, there will be a breakfast banquet and many meetings and informal "sharing sessions". Tickets for the banquet may be purchased at the hotel.

Registration is \$6.00, and the fee should be sent to:

Conference Committee
1301 Cambridge Street
Apartment 207
Hopkins, MN 55343.

Good News would very much like a report on this event from any of our readers who attend. Please write us all about it at:

Good News
166 Geary St.
Room 84
San Francisco, CA 94108.

A Quarter? Big Money?

I am a quarter.

I am not on speaking terms with the butcher.

I am not large enough to buy a ticket to the movies.

I am too small to purchase a schooner of beer.

I am hardly fit to give a youngster for a job done.

But, believe me, when I go to an AA meeting,

I am considered big money!

The Pitch

(Continued from page 2)

Office Secretaries may draw for speakers.

This new activity is an exciting one, and the manual prepared by the Delegate is the first of its kind. It is a very important addition to General Service functions, and in the opinion of many will be added to the literature disseminated by GSO in New York.

Interior Area DCM's are requested to take a serious look at their districts and be prepared to make a report to the committee at the April 5th Assembly relating to what they are doing about public information and cooperation with our professional friends.

The April 5th Assembly is the regular Pre-Conference Assembly and it will be held at the El Rancho Motor Motel in West Sacramento. Its theme will be Unity Through Love and Service, the same as the General Service Conference in New York April 21 through 26.

Registration for the pre-conference Assembly will be between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. A buffet lunch will be served during those same hours so that the meeting can begin at 1:15. You can, of course, reserve overnight accommodations at the El Rancho. More details about the room we'll meet in, the agenda and any other plans will be forthcoming in the March PITCH.

SAN FRANCISCO ALANO CLUB Chinatown Gate

414 GRANT AVENUE, near Bush Street

ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR
DANCES—PARTIES—GAMES—PRIZES—FRIVOLITY
FUN—FELLOWSHIP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 —

DANCE — 9 p.m. to 12 p.m. ... Free — Come and bring a friend — join in the fun.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY '8 —

YOUNG PEOPLES' ROCK DANCE. EDDIE MONEY BAND — 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. — Donation \$1.75.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 —

DANCE — 9 p.m. to 12 p.m. ... Free — Come and bring a friend — join in the fun.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 —

BIRTHDAY DANCE — to music on tapes. No donation. This is on the house. Have a birthday in February, or know someone who does? Come & share with us!

The Alano Club is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Closing time on Friday and Saturday night is 12 midnight. AA meetings every day of the week. The Club restaurant features good food, tasty snacks, sundaes, etc. at reasonable prices.

We'll be there to give you a warm welcome! Come and visit with old friends — and meet new friends — at our dances.

The New York conference agenda will be the main item of business at the pre-conference Assembly and is packed with such goodies as the role of DCM's, is sponsorship slipping or only changing? AA literature, is there too much? is it too specialized? is it becoming a substitute for person-to-person contact? There'll

be more about the agenda items in the next PITCH, too.

Marge K., Chairman

New San Francisco All Groups Chairman

Tom A. has resigned as San Francisco All-Groups Committee Chairman it was announced at the regular meeting of the Central Service Committee of the San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship, Wednesday, January 8.

Steve B. will be the new All-Groups Committee Chairman. Tom A. will remain with All-Groups as a committee member.

Deadline the 15th

A deadline means just that! The Good News deadline is the 15th of every month. Any mail received in the Central Office after 5 p.m. on the 15th cannot be included in the next issue, nor can any news be telephoned in after that time.

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