



Good News



JULY 1978

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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

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Hi Everyone -

I am JoAnne P from Hayward and a very grateful, recovering alcoholic. First of all, please understand I have no training or talent in this field of being an "Editor" so whenever you see errors, remember it is only a trusted servant at work. Secondly, I am sure many of you could do this much better but are just too bashful to step forward. So for the time being, I am willing to try and learn how to carry the message in this manner.

At any rate, it is my desire to become friends with each one of you and hope you will each remember to share your experience, strength and hope with me and the GOOD NEWS. That is all we have to give one another and I know there must be shut-ins, senior citizens, newcomers as well as old timers who want and enjoy our newspaper. For me, it has been a friend in sobriety and I do not want to see it perish. So at the Northern California Council Conference in Redding this past weekend, when it became evident that we were not going to have an editor, my HIGHER POWER gave me a big nudge and I found myself volunteering to do anything to keep the publication alive. Later when it dawned on me what had happened, I wondered how in the world it would be accomplished. About that time a friend said why, JoAnne, when you came to AA you didn't know how to stay sober either and look at the miracle that has occurred in your life. That made me stop - think - and remember what you have taught me --- that we will not be given any more than we can handle and that a day at a time anything can be done. So with the guidance of my HIGHER POWER, I am ready to proceed.

Please remember, it is not me who will make the GOOD NEWS an interesting publication. It really depends on each and everyone of you. Without subscriptions, which bring in the funds to support this endeavor, we will not be able to carry on. By the same token, without news, no one will want to subscribe. So we need your subscriptions and news articles. PLEASE SEND BOTH TO:

GOOD NEWS
166 GEARY STREET, ROOM 804,
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Before closing, I want to thank Dorothy L for all her hard work as editor in keeping the GOOD NEWS going. I know she has spent many hours, traveled many miles and done a lot of worrying. I certainly wish you, Dorothy, success in all of your endeavors.

Staff 4 Susan P
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file
10/4/78
S.D.

Thankfully, Betty Ann C has agreed to remain as Business Manager. Certainly, she has done a splendid job in the past and I feel very fortunate in having her guidance and experience to rely on. Thank you, Betty Ann, for agreeing to carry on.

Lovingly in service,

for Anne

PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM by Dean K

General Service Representatives, District Committee Members, and H&I Area Chairmen have now received a supply of registration and reservation forms for the Pacific Regional Forum, to be held at the Woodlake Inn, 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento, September 15-16-17, 1978. If you plan to attend, please contact one of these service representatives for a registration form. These forms must be returned to the General Service Office, New York City, not later than August 1, 1978. This is to enable GSO to plan for the total number to be in attendance at Sacramento.

The following members of the General Service Board will be in attendance at this forum: Dr. Milton Maxwell, new Chairman of the Board; Chuck H, Trustee, and chairman of the Grapevine Corporate Board; Stan W, outgoing, and George D, incoming Pacific Regional Trustee. Those attending from the General Service Office will be Bob P, General Manager; Cora Louise B, Staff Coordinator; Susan D, Regional Forum Secretary; and Vinnie M, Institutional Staff Member. In addition, all thirteen conference delegates from the nine western states, (including Alaska and Hawaii) will be on hand.

The Woodlake Inn, Sacramento's only convention/resort hotel, is located just minutes from downtown Sacramento, Cal Expo and the Sacramento Convention Center. It is easily accessible to major shopping centers, all freeway systems, and has ample parking. The Sacramento Metropolitan Airport is only 20 minutes from the hotel and courtesy limousine service offers transportation to and from the airport. For the family of AA's there are available special half-day and full-day tours, visiting such places as Old Sacramento, the Gold Country, and the Sacramento Delta. Rental cars are available at the hotel's bell desk. There are 335 guest rooms and suites, all with color TV, direct-dial telephones, individually controlled heat and air, and some have large balconies overlooking the three-acre lake. The Garden Room serves meals daily from 6:30 am to 11:00 pm. The Delta Dining Room also is open for lunch and dinner. If you plan to stay at the Inn, reservation forms should be sent direct to the hotel.

EL CERRITO FELLOWSHIP

Because of extensive fire damage to the El Cerrito Fellowship on San Pablo Ave., meetings are now being held elsewhere. For further information about the meetings call: 232-9743 or Central Office 653-4300.

H & I BROADSIDE by Louise C

Having lived in or around big cities all my life, it was a special treat for me to attend the Annual Summer Conference of the Northern California Council of AA in Redding, CA. The people of Redding are warm and easy going, the beauty of nearby Mt. Shasta takes your breath away and the Redding Civic Auditorium is a very pleasant site for a conference.

The 9:30 am H&I meeting on Saturday, June 17 had two speakers: Tom A from Sacramento and Dr. Richard Carlson, Sequoia Hospital, Redwood City, CA. The program listed Dr. Carlson as the "Non-AA" speaker; however, it did not take the audience very long to realize that Dr. Carlson may be a "Non-Alcoholic" but that he completely endorses the AA program for successful recovery from alcoholism and that he practices the principles of AA in his own life. Tom, the AA speaker, shared his strength, his hope and his experience of H&I work, most recently of Hawaii.

The 10:30 am meeting on Sunday consisted of four panelists who were to share their views and understanding of the terms "Two Years Sobriety", "Outside Sponsorship" and "Confinement." The panelists were: Frank R, Vallejo; Dave J, Santa Rosa; Bernard, Fresno; and Dave H, Manteca. In the sharing of their own personal experiences in H&I work, the panelists brought out the wisdom that guided the author of this "Two Year of Sobriety" requirement; the importance of "Outside Sponsorship" and that the word "Confinement" need not restrict H&I work but may even include AA meetings at the Salvation Army as is the case in Santa Rosa.

I must not forget this saying by Dave J:

"If I don't have to win,
I can't lose!"

IN MEMORIAM

Walter R, for many years Treasurer of H&I in Northern California, went on to the Big Meeting the last of May. He was a willing servant and will be missed by many. May our thoughts be directed to his wife, Rosalie.

We, also, lost another faithful H&I worker, Joe S of Stockton. He at one time was Area Chairman for Area 4S as well as coordinator for Folsom Prison and many other institutions.

* * * * *

"Nothing is truer for us of AA than the Biblical saying 'Faith without works is dead.' AA's services, all designed to make more and better Twelfth-Step work possible, are the 'works' that insure our life and growth by preventing anarchy or stagnation."

From AS BILL SEES IT page 284

5 Hoff

THIS SHOULD CONCERN EVERY AA MEMBER from S.F. Secretary's News Letter

More and more we are hearing that alcoholics "should stand up and be counted"- that AA members should not be so "nervous" about being a "recovered alcoholic"- that we should say at the level of press, radio and television that we are "recovered alcoholics" thereby lighting the torch of enlightenment for those who do not yet know that they are alcoholics. This is a trap that is easy to fall into --- perhaps some of our egos get in the way of our anonymity - but once we say to the press, on the radio, and on television where some of us have appeared as "recovered alcoholics" the question usually follows, whether deliberately or in good reportorial faith, "and HOW did you recover?" If you are a member of AA you find answering THAT question at the very least "awkward" and for very sure "uncomfortably embarrassing." What can we say to the HOW of recovery at the public level? Then when you find it impossible to further elucidate an innocuous reply, such as "through a group of people who had recovered earlier" and decline to identify just who these people are and what their methods of recovery are, most of us sound, at the very least "far out" and maybe a little "touched with a vague mental capacity."

NOW - before you say this is kind of "stick-in-the-mud AA" and isn't up with the times - that AA is "changing" and on and on, let me please quote to you from Bill Wilson's last written message to US, written October 10, 1970, less than EIGHT YEARS AGO:

My Dear Friends:

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"My thoughts are much occupied these days with gratitude to our FELLOWSHIP and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God's Grace. If I were asked which of these blessings I felt was most responsible for our growth as a Fellowship and the MOST VITAL to our continuity, I would say 'the concept of anonymity'."

"Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival: The spiritual and the practical. On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable: on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use AA for sick and selfish purposes."

"AA must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity, we will continue to receive God's Grace."

"And so once more I salute you in that spirit and again I thank you for your lives. May God bless us all, now and forever. Bill"

Betty

NEW ORLEANS "SPECIAL" CONVENTION FLIGHT by Paul G

A few inquiries have been coming in regarding a New Orleans AA Convention Flight to leave from San Francisco for the New Orleans AA International Convention in 1980.

For the International Convention held in Denver in 1975, some 200 members went on a "Special" AA flight which was a money saver. This is just to let you know that there will be a similar flight - transportation only - package available for members of the Intercounty Fellowship.

Jim McN will act as chairman again and says that he will have all the details ready to announce in early 1979. Costs will be held down and "time payments" will be available. No inquiries at this time please - this item is informational only. An announcement will be made when all details are finalized.

MYRTLEDALE CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT by Kenny W

The 5th Annual subject event in Calistoga on May 20 was the biggest yet. The turnout was fantastic and everyone shared a glorious day. The winner of the men's trophy in first place was Tom H while Larri O from San Diego was tops in the women's division. Winner of the group trophy was "The Lodge", San Rafael.

A lavish dinner was enjoyed by all at the Calistoga Fair Grounds, after which Chairman Kenny W welcomed players and gallery watchers, and presented LaRue B with a gift of appreciation for her time and effort in coordinating this event. Prizes for many winners in the tournament were presented. As a further heightening of the day, all enjoyed the special guest speaker Don M from Long Beach.

Special credit to the Golf Committee and many thanks to Gene D and his staff for their marvelous hospitality. And, last but not least, we wish to thank all of you beautiful people for helping make this occasion another wonderful day of sharing through your love and sobriety.

SPECIALS OF THE MONTH

Newark Fellowship, 7115 Rich St., Newark - Midnite Meetings Mon. thru Fri.

New Step Study Meeting, City Savings & Loan, 2961 College Ave. at Ashby,
Berkeley, Wednesday at 8 pm

Valencia Smokefree Open Meeting, 1364 Valencia St., S.F., Friday at 6 pm

Sunday Morning Breakfast Meeting, 10 am, \$3.00, Juanita's Casa de Vallejo
Hotel, 1825 Sonoma Blvd., Vallejo; 11 am Speaker - Info: 707-552-5149 Ben

SPEAKER MEETINGS

Mon.	July 10	Noon	Gene D, Longshoreman & Poet - Rap at Noon, Oakland 319 14th St.
Tues.	July 27	8:00 pm	Jenny C, Alameda - Eastbay Group, 5201 Park Blvd., Oakland
Tues.	July 4	8:00 pm	Eilish L - H&I & G.S. Temple Group West -
	11		John C - H&I Beth Shalom, 14th Ave. &
	18		John M - PAR/G.S. Clement Sts.,
	25		Rob C - G.S. San Francisco
Fri.	July 7	8:15 pm	Paul J - East Bay In-Between Fellowship
	14		Mary & Gree H, AA & Al-Anon 4710 E. 14th
	21		Marnie M - Berkeley Oakland
	28		Sandra Blane Films (Woman Alcoholic)
Fri.	July 14	7:00 pm	"Chalk Talk" West Oakland, Prescott
	28		Eleanor H - Walnut Creek School Aud., 920 Camp- bell St., Oakland
Fri.	July 28	8:30 pm	Gene D "Duffy" - Calistoga Park St. Center 1348 $\frac{1}{2}$ Park St., Alameda
Sat.	July 1	8:30 pm	Denise B - San Carlos Peninsula All Groups
	8		Larry R - Surf Group St. Matthews Church
	15		Tom L - Brown Baggers Baldwin & El Camino Sts.
	22		Cecil C - Brisbane San Mateo
	29		Chuck G - Birds
Sat.	July 1	8:30 pm	Tom McM - Mt. View Hayward Fellowship
	8		Bob P - Fremont 16250 E. 14th St.
	15		Fred S - Fremont San Leandro
	22		Bud F - Livermore
	29		No Speaker - See Chuck C under Coming Attractions
Sat.	July 1	8:30 pm	Barry McV - San Mateo Island Fellowship
	8		Tom W - Kentwood 1828 Lincoln Ave.,
	15		Bill S - Monterey Alameda
	22		Merry M - Walnut Creek
	29		Mary Lou F - Alameda

* * * * *

"It is now and in this world that we must live." from Andre Gide

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- July 8 8:30 pm Tradition Play - Recreation Center, 415 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa
- July 15 8:00 pm Tradition Play - St. Paul's Church, Pajaro & San Miguel Sts, Salinas, CA
- July 15 8:00 pm 7th Anniversary, Myrtle town Alumni AA Group, Eureka Inn, Colonnade Room, Eureka, CA
- July 28 8:00 pm Tradition Play - Alano Club, 1122 Fair Ave., San Jose, CA
- July 29 18th Anniversary, In-Between Fellowship, 4710 E. 14th Ave., Oakland, CA - Potluck 6 pm, Speaker 8 pm
- July 29 8:00 pm Chuck C of Laguna Beach - Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd., Hayward
- Aug. 4-6 1st Annual Sierra Nevada Young at Heart Roundup, MGM Grand, Reno, Nevada - Address inquiries to: 1795 Vassar, Reno, Nevada 89502
- Sept. 15-17 Pacific Regional Forum, Woodside Inn, Sacramento, CA (See write-up on page 2)
- Sept. 29 - Annual Fall Conference, Northern California Council, Sacramento
- Oct. 1
- Oct. 6-9 3rd Annual AA Cruse, Miami to Nassau - Write Bob H, 11550 W. 8 mi. Rd., Stockton, CA 95209

The material published in GOOD NEWS represents the experience and opinions of AAs and others interested in the field of alcoholism. Opinions expressed herein are not intended to represent the opinion of Alcoholics Anonymous, nor does publication of any information imply endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or the GOOD NEWS.

Friends - I hope you have received some pleasure in reading these pages. Please send in your suggestions and comments as well as articles. Am looking forward to visiting you with the August edition.

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