



GOOD NEWS



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

JULY - AUGUST
1992

'Welcome — Friends of Bill W.' Greets Santa Rosa Conferees

The Santa Rosa committee made us all feel welcome as we drove up to the El Rancho Tropicana and read the marquee proclaiming "Welcome-Friends of Bill W." An interesting side-light was when a U.P.S. delivery truck pulled up in front of the convention center (We all wondered what he was bringing) and the driver got out and asked, "What's happening here?" He was told that an AA conference was being held and replied, "Wow, I'll be back tonight and bring some friends!" Thanks to this simple message, someone who might not have otherwise known of our presence in town was able to enjoy our message of sobriety.

Thanks to our speakers who filled in at the last moment for our ailing scheduled speakers who cancelled out on the Tuesday before the conference. We appreciate your efforts in planning a last-minute trip to come to our rescue.

**NCCAA'S
45th ANNUAL
FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 16, 17, 18, 1992
San Jose Civic Auditorium
145 West San Carlos
San Jose, California
NCCAA Will Be Using
The Fairmont Hotel
170 South Market Street
(800) 527-4727**

*They will hold a block of rooms
for us until September 16, 1992*

PLEASE REGISTER NOW!

Although Carter's language Friday night left some of our oldtimers aghast, Franny's Saturday night impressive message of recovery made up for it. Paula's Saturday afternoon message to the Young People was an inspiration to all of us of all ages. Jack H. of San Jose and "Tweety" kept us laughing all the way home. Thanks for being there, Jack. In fact, thanks to all of you for being there.

As the delicious smell of freshly popped pop corn drifted out over the area, over 2,000 registered conferees gathered in groups at the Hospitality room, swam in the pools, attended meetings, danced to the "All Most Legal" Band, visited with old friends, and in general, had a good time. Santa Rosa will go into the history book as "Another good one," thanks to Dave P. and his crew.

News From The Chairperson

First of all, I want to thank all of you for the privilege of serving as your chairperson. It is going to be a wonderfully challenging two years; I can tell already. I am delighted with my fellow officers, and our Steering Committee is loaded with talented and dedicated members.

Because of all the forces for good that are already on our firing lines, I believe that this is the perfect time to do an outreach to include more of our members in all our exciting adventures. Only fourteen of our forty-eight zones are represented on our Steering Committee. This is sad because so many of our members are missing out on all our fun. Also, only thirty-one of our forty-eight zones were represented by Delegates at our Monterey Conference. A lot of the flock is lost out there somewhere.

I am open to any and all ideas that anyone might have about increasing participation and involvement in NCCAA.

These are the seventeen counties that were not represented in Monterey:

Zone 2	Amador	Zone 3	Alpine
Zone 6	Colusa	Zone 8	Del Norte
Zone 11	Glen	Zone 13	Inyo
Zone 14	Kings	Zone 15	Lake
Zone 16	Lassen	Zone 19	Mariposa
Zone 22	Modoc	Zone 23	Mono
Zone 26	Nevada	Zone 28	Plumas
Zone 30	San Benito	Zone 37	Sierra
Zone 43	Tehama		

Maybe one of you knows someone that you could reach out to who could at least be a contact in one of these counties. And, maybe one of the delegates from the zones who came to Monterey, but who do not have a zone chair, could act as zone chair until an election could be held and a committee formed in the zone.

Let's go for it! I love you all and thank you for your support and encouragement.

God bless,

DIANE O., SARATOGA, CA

Hospital & Institution Corner

First of all, thank all of you who have put your change (and folding money, too) in the Pink Cans. Those funds are being routed on to their work of carrying the message of AA to places where we can't be every day. Sometimes, our AA literature carries the message into places we can't be at all, for one reason or another. But your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters are adding up to a great effort that is needed more and more in today's institutions.

We have been meeting lately with officials in various of the correctional facilities we serve to smooth over any rough spots. The word we receive time and again is what a great job our AA members who serve on panels to carry AA's message inside these various facilities are doing! Another word we receive is how the facilities want to expand their commitment to bring the AA message in and how many more meetings they want to start. As you probably know, there are also a number of new facilities opened or opening in Northern California. These two facts continue to create a need for sober AA members who will undertake this 12th Step effort. And we do not have them. That is the greatest need of the NCCAA H&I Committee throughout Northern California - sober AA

members willing to commit themselves to a couple of hours each month to carry the message.

Remember "We have to be willing to go to any lengths?" Remember "You have to give it away to keep it?" You are needed if you have some sobriety behind you and are willing to make this really small commitment to the still suffering alcoholic. Contact your local H&I people. If you don't know who they are, write to: H&I Public Relations, P.O. Box 162607, Sacramento, CA 95816, and we'll get a name and phone number to you. Both men and women are needed; both long time and new sobriety are needed; YOU are needed.

Books do carry the message, but not with half the power that another human being who says "I'm an alcoholic" and then tells how she was, what happened and how she is today can have. Think about it. Pray about it. Then, make your commitment to your sobriety and to AA's primary purpose: To carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to another alcoholic. If you don't do it, who will?

BY WILL N., SACRAMENTO, CA
NCCAA/H&I PUBLIC
INFORMATION CHAIR

Speech

Thanks to Harold L. for his Profanity article. Our group pamphlet lists dirty jokes and profanity as group problems. It seems valid to opine that if bad language erodes the common welfare then, surely, it is contrary to Tradition One. It certainly seems inconsistent with traditional spirituality.

Tradition Two fuses the terms leaders, trusted, servants. Not unimplied is the term responsible. These terms are characteristic of our primary literature. Note therein the decency of expression, the respect for the reader, the clean humor. We are told that when Dr. Bob heard a speaker using bad language he would say, "You have a very good lead, young man, but it would be more effective if you cleaned it up a bit."

If Tradition Three enforces no rules for an alcoholic's membership, certainly it implies that our deportment should not be so gross as to drive a newcomer away. As for Tradition Four, Bill once said that "Autonomy. . . means simply that each group can conduct its affairs any way it pleases. The only thing its members can't do is to behave in such a way as to be harmful to other people."

(See SPEECH, Page Three)

Good News Editor Seeks Staff - Help Wanted

It's time again for a report from the GOOD NEWS Editor. Subscriptions are up to a healthy level now with a mailing list of over 300. Of these, 225 are paid up subscriptions, with 20 to 30 copies sent to the local conference committee members for the issue that comes out before their conference. This has resulted in many new subscriptions as more people become aware of the GOOD NEWS. The remainder are complementary or exchange copies sent to Intergroups

and Fellowships around the state and country. It is gratifying to see this interest in our paper.

I would really like to hear more from more of you. I do thank those of you who have been so supportive in the past with articles and contributions. I would like to hear your ideas on where we are going or where we would like to go, and how to get there. Maybe we can form an Editorial Staff to meet and discuss some of

(See EDITOR, Page Three)

GOOD NEWS

Newsletter of the

Northern California Council
of Alcoholics Anonymous

Articles of interest to our readers are welcomed and may be mailed to the editor at:

Post Office Box 64090,
Sunnyvale CA 94088-4090

Deadlines for Material

December 10 for January-February
February 10 for March-April
April 10 for May-June
June 10 for July-August
August 10 for September-October
October 10 for November-December

Editor

(Continued From Page Two)

these issues. Maybe we can get together for some coffee at the hospitality room and share some ideas. Look me up at the GOOD NEWS table, I should be there. I need help in selecting articles that are of interest, reports on current events or even some new jokes for the HUMOR column. Cut 'em out and sent them.

I get newsletters from all around the country and ours is one of the finest. We have come a long way from the days of cutting stencils for the Mimeograph Machine. With your help we can make it even better. Let me hear from you, I need your help.

RON J., EDITOR
GOOD NEWS
P.O. Box 64090
SUNNYVALE, CA
94088

Speech

(Continued from Page Two)

Tradition Five honors our basic communication. Isn't it to be understood that AA's spiritual message should not be polluted by foul speech? Tradition Ten alerts us to be sure when unique speakers give scandal at open meetings. (Didn't Bill say, "Our unreasonable individualism was the main reason we failed in life and took ourselves to alcohol?")

Tradition Eleven calls for public relations based upon attraction. The pamphlet, "SPEAKING AT NON-AA MEETINGS," elaborates by saying that even though a speaker "is not speaking for AA. . . many will base their. . . opinion of the Fellowship on what he says and how he says it."

Therefore, it seems fair to conclude by declaring that if bad language is incongruous with spirituality, if it erodes our common welfare, if it scandalizes newcomers, if it abuses autonomy, if it muddies AA's message, if it risks outside criticism, and if it contravenes the principle of anonymity, then it is a serious violation of Tradition.

FRANK B., Napa, CA

NCCAA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1992 to June 30, 1992

INCOME

Balance on Hand as of 1/1/92		\$20,897.10
Monterey Conference Income (1992)	\$23,526.82	
Santa Rosa Conf. Income (to 6/30/92)	14,782.20	
Contribution Young People's Conf. Comm..	306.15	
TOTAL INCOME		\$38,615.17

EXPENSES

Monterey Conference Expenses (1992)	\$9,560.17	
Santa Rosa Conf. Expenses (to 6/30)	6,371.35	
San Jose Conference Expenses	807.36	
Chairman's Expenses (Alex McE.)	95.30	
Chairman's Expenses (Diane O.)	22.07	
Treasurer's Expenses	144.28	
Coastal Secretary's Expenses	0.00	
Interior Secretary's Expenses (Linda M.)	57.44	
Interior Secretary's Expenses (John G.)	167.00	
Phone Expense	315.80	
Conference Badges	1,133.12	
SF Central Office	00.00	
Good News	00.00	
Bank Charges	42.77	
Delegate Ribbons	290.93	
Non-Profit Status Filing Fee	10.00	
Finance Committee	15.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$19,032.59

Balance on Hand This Statement 6/30/92	\$40,479.68
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Finance Committee To Meet

The Finance Committee will meet in Stockton on Sunday, August 9 at the Alano Club before the Steering Committee meeting. The committee will be discussing alternatives to the recommendation made by the Finance Committee during the Santa Rosa Conference. This recommendation concerns the disbursement of a portion of the funds over and above the prudent reserve to the Intergroup Offices in locales where conferences have been held.

This proposal is part of a group of

five that was to be presented to the Steering Committee in Santa Rosa but the lengthy agenda and shortness of time prevented their introduction. It is hoped that time will allow their introduction and approval at Stockton. The Finance Committee has been working on them since their first meeting last December.

**Please Mention NCCAA
 When Registering at Your
 Favorite Hotel or Motel.**

CNCA Delegates Report — June 1992

Now that many of you have heard my report of the 1992 General Service Conference and have read the "Early Bird Box 459" you picked up at the Post-Conference Assembly in Petaluma, you may be wondering, "What do we do next?" The Conference is a year-round process and many of the recommendations and considerations of the 1992 Conference suggest action by all us in preparation for the 1993 Conference. Here are some suggested topics for you and your groups to consider:

1. Learn more about Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustees in order to discuss whether their terms should be limited to 2 consecutive three year terms (they currently may serve up to 3 consecutive three year terms plus additional time if elected to serve as Chairman of the General Service Board).

2. Discuss the spirit of rotation as it relates to Trustees. Should the term of the Chairperson of the General Service Board be limited to 4 successive annual terms (the term is currently limited to 6 successive annual terms)? Should the terms of Chairpersons of Trustees Committees be limited to two years?

3. Discuss the suggestion that contributions to G.S.O. from conferences, conventions, and round-ups be limited to the amount an individual may contribute in a given year (currently an individual may contribute up to \$1,000.00 a year but there is no limit on the amount contributed by groups, conventions, conferences, etc.).

4. Do we need information about service sponsorship in the AA Service Manual? Should such information be in other pieces of literature, as well? If so, which ones? What information should be included?

5. Does AA need an anonymity statement to be read at meetings or put on a card for wall or table display? The Trustee Literature Com-

mittee is looking for ideas and suggestions for the text.

6. Questions are needed from AA members for the 1993 Conference Workshop, "Where Are We and Where Are We Going?"

7. The General Service Board will make a feasibility study of all possible methods by which sobriety chips/medallions with the AA logo may be made available to the AA fellowship. This will result in a recommendation being made to the 1993 Conference. Some questions your group may wish to address now are:

* how will having these chips/medallions available be in keeping with our primary purpose?

* is it worth it to have these medallions at the expense of losing our rights to our logos?

* will having sobriety medallions be the best course of action for Alcoholics Anonymous?

8. An ongoing Literature Advisory Subcommittee composed of Trustees, Delegates, and G.S.O. Staff will continue to review our literature to assure that we discourage unnecessary duplication; we encourage simplification wherever possible. They would welcome input from us.

Some of these topics may be discussed by us at our Summer Assembly in Ferndale (District 15) on September 12. There will be time for input on all of them before the 1993 General Service Conference. Anything you mail to me will be passed on to the appropriate Trustee Committee or passed on at the end of the year to the new Delegate you elect in November.

Work continues on the American Sign Language Big Book project although no completion date has been projected. The new video for young
(See DELEGATE, Page Five)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR GOOD NEWS

FROM 1/1/92 TO 6/30/92

BALANCE IN BANK JAN 1, 1992		\$290.30
Deposits from subscriptions	344.50	
Subsidy from NCCAA	00.00	
Pre-paid Postal Expense	33.14	
TOTAL INCOME		\$667.94

EXPENSES		
Post Office Box Rent**	00.00	
Permit Bulk Rate	75.00	
Printing	364.87	
Mailing costs	83.14	
Editors Reimbursement	16.99	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$540.00
BALANCE IN BANK, JUNE 30, 1992		\$127.94

AVERAGE COSTS TO PRINT AND MAIL AN ISSUE:		
Printing	\$121.62	
Bulk Rate Mailing Costs	27.38	
Portion of P.O. Box Rent	8.20	
Portion: Cost Bulk Rate Permit	12.50	
		\$169.70

169.70 X 6 Issues = \$1018.20/yr.

TOTAL COPIES MAILED LAST ISSUE	304
TOTAL CURRENT SUBSCRIBERS	226
EXCHANGES AND COMPLEMENTARY COPIES	78

** Payable August 1, 1992: \$49.00

Delegate

(Continued From Page Four)

alcoholics approved by the 1992 Conference and the new Public Service Announcements for older and younger alcoholics will be available in August.

Regional Forum information has been mailed to General Service workers listed with the General Service Office. Even though there is no registration fee, it is important to pre-register so we'll know how many participants to plan for. Even if you can't come for the whole weekend, please pre-register and come for as many sessions as you can.

I have enjoyed reporting on the General Service Conference to the Assembly and several districts already. Many people who attended had never before heard a Conference Report. I urge you to invite group members to attend when I visit your district this summer.

With love from your trusted servant,

**BARBARA M., CNCA Delegate,
Eureka, CA.**

N. C. C. A. A CONFERENCE DATES

1992 Conferences
SAN JOSE - Oct. 16, 17, 18

1993 Conferences
FRESNO - March 12, 13, 14
REDDING - June 25, 26, 27
STOCKTON - October 8, 9, 10

1994 Conferences
OAKLAND - March 25, 26, 27
MONTEREY - June 24, 25, 26
MODESTO - October 7, 8, 9

1995 Conferences
FRESNO - March 10, 11, 12
SAN MATEO - June 2, 3, 4
SACRAMENTO - October

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Coming Attractions

Aug. 21 - 23
Fri. - Sun.

22nd DISTRICT 25th ANNUAL
AA CONVENTION
Cal Poly State University
San Luis Obispo, CA
Pre-Registration: \$8.00
At the door - \$10.00

August 23
Saturday
8 am - 9 pm

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
UNITY DAY
Milpitas Community Auditorium
457 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Registration: No Charge

Sept 4 - 6
Fri. - Sun.

15th ANNUAL SIERRA NEVADA
ROUND-UP FOR AA
John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel
Reno, NV
Registration: \$10.00 / person

Oct. 16-18
Fri. - Sun.

45th ANNUAL FALL NCCAA
CONFERENCE
San Jose Civic Auditorium
San Jose, CA
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY

Oct. 30, 31 &
November 1
Fri. - Sun.

13th ANNUAL C.C.Y.P.A.A.
(Calif Coastal Young People of AA)
CONFERENCE BY THE SEA
Host Hotel: The Doubletree
Monterey, CA

Nov. 5 - 8
Thurs. - Sun.

31st ANNUAL HAWAII
CONVENTION
Sheraton Waikiki, Honolulu
Registration: \$70 / person

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

HUMOR

Said the tipsy driver to the high-way patrolman who pulled him over, "I wish you people would get your act together! Last night you took my license away, now you wanna see it!"

W. C. Fields, the late comedian and no stranger to booze, is credited with the admission that, "A woman drove me to drink, and I never had the decency to thank her."

"My wife left me for the bartender at the Green Lantern," wept the distraught drunk. "I'll never go there again."

"That must hurt," said his pal.

"Sure does. They've got the best happy hour prices in town."

From the Grapevine

From a Sunnyvale Bumper Sticker:

*Let's Get Drunk and
Be Somebody*

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