



GOOD NEWS



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

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1994

NCCAA Tape Librarian

Bart Passes Away In Modesto

NCCAA lost a dear friend and long-time supporter when Bart D. passed away on Sunday, December 19, after an illness that started after the Redding Conference where he caught a cold that turned into pneumonia. He had to be rushed by ambulance from the Yosemite Conference to the hospital in Modesto where he remained until his death.

Bart was born in Missouri on April 16, 1902. He would have been 92 years old this April. Dur-

ing his lifetime he was an electrical engineer, an accountant and served in the Army in England.

Bart started taping NCCAA Conferences in 1968 and has an awesome library of tapes dating back to that time. His sobriety date is September 26, 1964.

He was of invaluable support to the many Tape Selection Com-

mittees that he served, as well as a storeroom of knowledge about speakers and where to find them. He will be missed by all.

Bart is probably now sitting in the wings with the headset on, taping the Big Meeting in the Sky, and as Marilyn said, "Yes, and he's probably telling them all how to do it!" We all miss you, Bart!

News From The Chairperson

Impressive 1994 Conference Lineup - Oakland, Monterey, Modesto

A great lineup of Conferences has been planned by your Steering Committee for the coming year. The speakers have been chosen and confirmed, hotels and Conference Centers booked, committees are all in place and we are ready for 1994!

As always, don't forget to mention NCCAA when registering at your favorite hotel, pre-register early, and we hope to see you all.

Happy 1994 and a thank you to the many who sent wonderful seasons greeting cards our way. I am very grateful for the many new friends that I have made in NCCAA and look forward to high adventure and wonderful fellowship in Oakland, Monterey, and Modesto this year.

Oakland is ready for us! Not only is the Oakland Committee, under the leadership of Joe M., in high gear but, also, the Parc Oakland Hotel and the Convention Center personnel are falling all over themselves trying to be of maximum service. I have attended all four committee meetings held thus far and am really impressed with the sobriety, energy, and enthusiasm on this committee. The

unity in Oakland is Five Star. This is one Conference I would not want to miss.

Our Steering Committee Meeting in Stockton on December 5 was very productive. We unanimously decided not to adopt the Third Legacy Procedure in the election of our Chairperson and Treasurer; we decided to print the hotel list and the map on the back of the Monterey program flier; we further discussed and decided to bring to the Open Delegates' Meeting in Oakland the recommendation that we lower to \$3.00 the fee for those who pre-register, and we added to the bid procedures format the statement that a host committee may not bid for a conference. (See MORE FROM, Page Three)

Happy New Year

Hospital & Institution Corner

Times are tough! There is a lot of talk in groups throughout Northern California about the lack of funds. Contributions to groups are down, contributions to Central Offices/Intergroups are down, but H&I continues to receive contributions.

Many groups have decided that they will NOT make the Pink Cans available to group members. The idea, presumably, is that this will increase contributions to the group and, thus, possible contributions to Central Offices/Intergroups. When the Pink Cans were first introduced, this was a real fear - both for groups and for H&I. We of H&I did not want to detract from contributions to groups. Over time, it was seen that the contributions in the Pink Can did NOT lessen contributions to groups. It will be interesting if the contributions to those groups who have taken the Pink Can out of their meetings realize an increase in contributions. Frankly, we doubt it.

It has always been my experience that AA people contribute to those AA entities they perceive as doing worthwhile AA work, as truly fulfilling AA's primary pur-

pose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Groups and Intergroup/Central Offices might take a look at this idea.

We of H&I certainly do not want AA members to neglect their home groups or the groups they attend. We do not want them to give short shrift to their local Intergroup/Central Office. We ask that you make those entities your major financial contribution and give H&I what's left in your contribution "budget." We're doing the work of AA's Twelfth Step on a daily basis. Your small contributions, added to those of others, add up to what seems like a huge budget - most of which is spent on literature to carry the message to those in hospitals and institutions.

Now for some H&I news: Our October meeting in Sacramento was hosted by Area 32 with the generous assistance of the resident AA group, Rebellion Dogs. Thanks to all those who made this a fine gathering. Jeff S. has been re-elected to serve as General Secretary of NCCAA H&I for his second term. Congratulations, Jeff, for a well-done first term and a promising second.

We are facing a budget situation on yet another front. As all of you know, the state has cut its budget which means the budgets of correctional facilities have been cut. To hold most of our meetings in facilities, an "inside sponsor" is required to be present. Since, *(See H & I, Page Three)*

Punishment

If you have any fear of being punished by an AA hierarchy, just turn to Concept Five. There you will read the following:

"We are not obliged to maintain a government that enforces conformity by inflicting punishments. We need maintain only a structure of service that holds aloft our Traditions. . ."

Under Concept Twelve we read the following: "No Conference (should) ever be personally punitive... Societies and governments feel it necessary to . . . (punish) individual members for violations of their . . . laws . . . Alcoholics Anonymous finds this practice unnecessary. When we of AA fail to follow sound spiritual principles, alcohol cuts us down. Therefore no humanly administered system of penalties is needed . . ."

"To . . . some AA's, guardianship of the AA Traditions implies . . . to publicly punish or sue every willful violator . . . Such aggressive public acts would place the Conference in the position of having violated one Tradition in order to defend another . . ."

"Privately, however, we can inform Tradition violators that they are out of order . . . Certain members who run counter to . . . Traditions sometimes say that they are being censored or punished and that they are therefore being governed. It would appear, however, that AA's right to object calmly and privately to specific violations is at least equal to the rights of violators to violate . . . The *(See PUNISHMENT, Page Four)*

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

Deadline Guidelines (Not Set in Stone)

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

Good News Policy The Good News is the newspaper of the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous and therefore is a vehicle for you, the members and supporters of the Council to express your views. The views expressed here are those of the writers, and are not intended to represent the opinion of Alcoholics Anonymous or NCCAA as a whole, nor do they necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Good News.

If you would like to contribute articles to the Good News, we welcome your participation. The guidelines are as follows: "It (Good News) reports the activities of the Council, Hospital and Institution Committee, General Service, and other articles of interest to AA members. News is written about the conferences for the benefit of members unable to attend. News of activities of the Groups in Northern California may also be included."

More From The Chairperson

(Continued from Page One)

ence three years hence in their own city. We approved the Tape Selection Committee's recommendations for the speakers that will participate in the Fresno 1995 Spring Conference: Friday Night, George D., New York City; Saturday Young People's, Steve B., Van Nuys, CA; Saturday Evening, Keith L., Fayetteville, NC, Sunday Morning Bea M., Brae, CA.

Bart had not yet passed away when we met but was very sick, so Marilyn M. brought recommendations from him in writing. His selection for our Northern California Tape Librarian is Terry D. from Yuba City. Marilyn strongly supports the recommendation and will work with Terry. Terry has an impressive library of his own, a lot of experience in the field, modern equipment, and he served us as NCCAA Chairperson from 1986 to 1988. He has been active in NCCAA for years and was unanimously approved by the Steering Committee. There was one question about other viable bids for Tape Librarian; this has been explored, and there are none. In Oakland, the Steering Committee will be asked to re-affirm the approval of Terry D. for the position.

The Steering Committee will have a number of interesting items on its agenda in Oakland. Besides confirming Terry D. as the new Tape Librarian, we will nominate candidates for the 1994-1996 NCCAA Chairperson. This position will be elected at the 2:30 PM Open Delegates' Meeting. We will entertain bids for the 1997 Spring Conference, and we will formulate guidelines that the host committees may use in selecting a band or DJ for their dances. We will also hear a report from the committee updating our *Purpose*,

Structure, Functions Booklet and *Host Committee Guidelines* and from the committee which is preparing an NCCAA inventory. It will be a fascinating meeting; everyone is welcome.

Please remember to register early for the 1994 Summer Conference in Monterey June 24, 25, and 26. Rooms will be scarce if you wait; the Blues Festival is being held at the fairgrounds the same weekend. Our host hotel is Casa Munras where our rate will be \$79 single and \$89 double. You may make your reservations early by calling 1-800-222-2446 now!

Finally, I want to tell you about Bart and how very much he has meant to me. He was a close friend and beacon of light on my sobriety path. I thought that I had a full appreciation of his kindness, talents, and wisdom until I became NCCAA Chairperson; but I was wrong. Two days after my election, I was overwhelmed by the love and support and information that began to pour my way from him. For twenty months, he had or found the answer for every question that I asked him. He sometimes had to make numerous phone calls to track down what I needed to know. He, also, sent me all his invaluable NCCAA Archives - fliers and programs - dating back to the 1950's. I cannot begin to tell you how much I already miss him. He has been such an incredibly important part of my sobriety.

I count on seeing all of you in Oakland. Our four speakers are confirmed and are eagerly awaiting our Conference. Jim F., Zone Chairperson for Butte County, tells me that both Tehama and Colusa Counties now have a Zone Chairperson, and so our Steering Com-

H & I Corner

(Continued from Page Two)

even as volunteers, they must be paid, this becomes a budget expense. So far, our H&I meetings are still being held, but we are preparing for the possibility that, due to inability to fund the inside sponsors, some meetings may be curtailed. Part of our effort is simply to impress on facility staff the importance and benefits to their people of AA meetings and sobriety.

We have explored the use of the "itty-bitty" Big Book and, for the time being, will make it available only in long term facilities on a request only basis. Two factors in that: It is almost as expensive as the soft cover Big Book which is complete, and if an inmate carries it and is in a shakedown by prison staff, it and anything else in his pockets is taken away. More on this after the trial period.

Again, thanks for your contributions to the Pink Can (AFTER those to your Home Group) and thanks to those who answer our continued call to H&I Service. It is needed and you are appreciated.

WILL N.

*H&I Public Information Chair
Sacramento, CA*

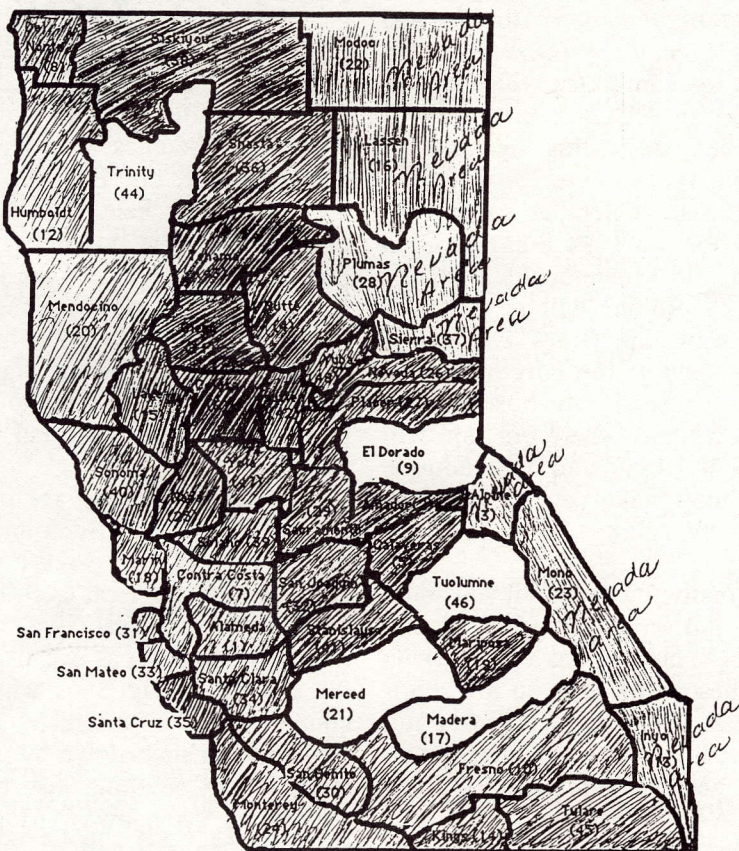
mittee continues to grow. Thirty-six county-zones are now represented. I would love to see all of you on March 25, 26, and 27. God Bless!

Yours in love and service.

DIANE ☺, *Chairperson,
Cupertino, CA*

Subscribe Now

ZONE MAP



Only five Zones (Counties) now remain without representation on the NCCAA Steering Committee

A Printer for the Printer

Steering Committee OK's Laser Printer

At the last Steering Committee meeting in Stockton the group approved the purchase of an HP LaserJet 4L Printer for the GOOD NEWS when the Editor expressed a need for help in making "Repro" prints for the publication.

The articles are set in "Word," then imported into "PageMaker" where they are justified, lined up with headlines and graphics added. The newsletter has then been transferred onto disk and taken to another computer with a printer for the final prints for

publication at a local commercial printshop.

This was where the trouble started. The other printer didn't always have the same type faces or graphics capability and substituted type faces that didn't fit or otherwise changed everything. This meant running around, some times for three days, looking for a suitable printer.

Now it is all under one roof and everything matches easily. The Editor thanks you for making it possible.

Punishment

(Continued from Page Two)

difficulties of those who contravene the Traditions are chiefly troubles of their own making."

Those who fear the Traditions should realize that they are not governmental laws or regulations, that one of the reasons for their adoption was to protect the groups from governmental laws and regulations. Bill's essay on Tradition One states that "No AA can compel another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled. Our Twelve Steps . . . are suggestions; the Twelve Traditions contain not a single 'Don't.' They repeatedly say 'We ought' but never 'You must!'"

Tradition Two explains that AA leaders do not govern. Tradition Three signals the abandonment of membership regulations, emphasizing that any alcoholic is a member when he says so. Tradition Nine declares that no service entity can issue directives to members or groups; that AA's can't be dictated to - individually or collectively; that the absence of coercion works because, unless each AA follows the suggested Steps, he signs his own death warrant. And that same condition applies to the group. Suffering and love are AA's disciplinarians.

FRANK B., Napa, CA

Good News?



Submitted by JULI S.,
Kerman, CA

HUMOR

Airline hostess: "Keep the chewing gum I handed out - it's to keep your ears from popping at high altitude."

Drunk (after plane landed): "Okay - now how do I get the gum out of my ears?"

One elbow-bender to another: "What do you mean you have to think twice before leaving your wife alone at night?"

"First," said his friend, "I have to think of a reason to go out. Then I have to think up a reason why she can't go with me."

A drunk fell out of a second story window, bounced off an awning and landed in the street without any apparent harm.

A crowd gathered around him and a cop asked, "What happened?"

"I don't know," said the drunk, brushing himself off, "I just got here myself."

From early copies of the GOOD NEWS, circa 1980.

NCCAA CONFERENCE DATES

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 - Oct. 6, 7, 8

1996 CONFERENCES

MONTEREY - March 8, 9, 10

SAN JOSE - May 31, June 1, 2

REDDING - Oct. 11, 12, 13

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Please Pre-Register
Early**

Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

Financial Statement

January 1 to December 31, 1993

INCOME

Fresno Conference	\$21,191.85
Redding Conference	7,456.56
Stockton Conference	14,857.97
Oakland Conference - 1994	60.00
7th Tradition - Steering Committee Meetings	93.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$43,659.38

EXPENSES

Fresno Conference	\$10,517.29
Redding Conference	9,154.40
Stockton Conference	14,023.33
Contribution to AAWS, New York	4,082.06
Chairman's Expenses	770.37
Treasurer's Expenses	554.36
Coastal Secretary's Expenses	36.00
Interior Secretary's Expenses	146.90
Young People Chairperson Expenses	87.00
Telephone	712.57
S.F. Central Office Mailings	225.00
Good News	1,308.93
Delegate Ribbons	239.53
Tax Exempt Tax Returns	262.00
Steering Committee Room Rental	104.00
Purpose and Structure Booklet	61.33
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$42,285.07

INCOME IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES **\$1,374.31**

BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1993

ASSETS

Cash in Bank	\$20,000.00
Oakland Conf. Deposits & Expenses for 1994	5,370.28
Monterey Conf. Deposits & Expenses for 1994	1,192.00

TOTAL ASSETS **\$26,562.28**

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

FUND BALANCES

Prudent Reserve	\$20,000.00
Operating Reserve - 1994 Conferences	6,562.28

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES **\$26,562.28**



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