

AA GOOD NEWS AA

December Issue

December 2001

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Election

The office of Council Chairperson will be up for election at the Monterey Conference.

It is recommended that the Council Chairperson have a minimum of five (5) years continuous sobriety and a service background.

The Council Chairperson should have time available to perform the duties of conducting the business of the council and presenting three conferences each year.

Approximately 40 hours per month

Good News 50th Anniversary Year

As we wind down the year of 2001 we at the Good News letter hope your Holiday Season was sober and fun.

The year in past has led us to read a great many articles from the past issues to bring to you. After reading so many past articles I was amazed how much that A.A. has kept to it's primary purpose through all of life's distractions.

There are so many reasons to be led astray from the important things we do for ourselves and each other. Thank God for meetings.



Unity- Recovery -Service

This will rap up the Good News 50th Anniversary year and we look forward to 51. We look forward to sharing with you at our conference in 2002.

HAVE FUN & STAY SOBER

MONTEREY GEARING UP FOR NCCAA 55TH ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

It may not be spring yet, but it sure sounds like by the enthusiasm about the upcoming "Spring Conference" in Monterey. The committee in Monterey as always is ready for one of the biggest Conferences held every other year in their local. Also noticed by old conference pro's we have a all-star California line-up.

The Host hotel is the Doubletree located right next to the convention center. I know we are all looking forward to the great weather and wonderful hospitality. See ya there.

DID YOU KNOW ??????????????

Where did the custom of reading from Chapter 5 at the beginning of the meeting start?

A drunk by the name of Mort J. sobered up in 1939, after reading the book. He moved to LA in 1940, and at his own expense rented a meeting room in the Cedil Hotel. He insisted on a reading from Chapter 5 of the AA book at the start of every session.

Who received the five-millionth copy of the Big Book?

At the 50th Anniversary International Convention in Montreal in 1985, the five-millionth copy was presented to Ruth Hock, who typed draft after draft of the original manuscript. The one millionth copy was presented to President Richard Nixon in April 1973; the two-millionth to Joseph Califano in June 1979; the ten-millionth to Nell Wing, Bill W.'s long-time (nonalcoholic) secretary and AA's first archivist, in July 1990. The 15th-millionth was given to Ellie Norris, widow of former trustee chairman John L. Norris, M.D. in 1996; and in the year 2000, the 20-millionth copy was presented to the Al-Anon Family Groups.

Where did the "Big" Book get its nickname?

When Alcoholics Anonymous was published, the founding members wanted purchasers to be sure they were *getting their money's worth*. Thus, they instructed the printer to run the job on the thickest paper he had. "The original volume proved to be so bulky that it became known as the big book".

When was the Big book approved by the General Service Conference?

In 1939, the conference did not exist. Not until 1950, at the first trial session, did the Conference approve the basic text, along with several other pieces of recover material that were in widespread use.

REDDING WELCOMES NCCAA CONFERENCE

It was once again the great pleasure to visit the fellowship in Redding. You guys and gals do such a great job up there were all sure to be coming back for many years to come.

All of the speakers were great, and Opie P. playing his flute after his share was a rare treat indeed.

The weather was perfect and

the volunteers outdid themselves to

make us all feel right at home. So many people came so far to support our conference that most stood in astonishment at the people they were running into.

GREAT JOB REDDING

We are all just itching to come back.



Redding

Blast From the Past

PUBLISHED JANUARY 1991

The Familiar AA Symbol: How, When, Where and If To Use -or *Not* to Use

Recognized worldwide, A.A. symbols and trademarks in various forms are sought by many for reproduction on everything from scholarly works and reprints A.A. literature to ballpoint pens, jewelry, puzzles and games. Some years ago, there was even a request to reproduce the Twelve Steps on bed sheets. In these and similar situations, what logos and trademarks are involved? How can they be used and who decides where, when and if to give the green light? What is the philosophy governing these decisions?

The earliest A.A. symbol, a circle enclosing a triangle, was introduced at the Fellowship's Twentieth Anniversary Convention in St. Louis in 1955. The circle stands for the entire world of A.A., and the triangle stands for our Three Legacies of Recover, Unity and Service. Over the years, other versions have been added. One replicates the original logo, except for addition of the letters "A.A." initials inside the triangle plus the words "Unity", "Service" and "Recovery", placed inside the circle but outside the lines forming the triangle. Any group, district or other entity of the Fellowship is free to use these logos (with addition of the symbol signifying a registered trademark), on its newsletters, meeting schedules and other A.A. material.

There is yet a fourth symbol – this one contains the "A.A." letters inside the triangle and the words "General Service Conference" outside it. Use of this logo is confined to A.A. Conference-approved literature.

Blast from the Past Continued from Page 3

Then there are the A.A. trademarks, including "A.A.", "Alcoholics Anonymous", and "Big Book." Casual or commercial use of these (and any of the circle-triangle logos) on apparel, trinkets, bumper stickers or other novelty items is discouraged. It would dilute our legal rights to exclusive "ownership" of these symbols that identify and represent our Fellowship. Moreover, there would be no means of assuring the integrity or quality of such products, which would appear to have emanated from A.A.

Responsibility for the use of A.A. logos and trademarks rests with the Board of Directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. Generally, the board considers each request on its own merits, and does not license or permit the logos to be used commercially (as mentioned above, each A.A. entity – groups, districts, areas, local service committees, central offices, and so on – are free to use most logos without requesting permission).

The A.A.W.S. Board also considers requests, both from A.A.s and non-A.A.s, to use material copyrighted by A.A.W.S. Here too, the board has discouraged strictly commercialized use. However, the board has recognized an exception to its general policy, when, for instance, a request is received from a governmental or nonprofit agency serving a limited group of persons e.g. the blind or hearing-impaired seeking permission to publish copyrighted material in Braille or on tape as a free service to the people served by the agency. Even in these cases, a need for the material must have been established.

While many reprint requests and requests to use our trademarks come from non-A.A.s, members account for a fair share. Understandably, a large number of these requests derive from the A.A.s enormous pride of membership. Thus, many such requests involve the taping of A.A. literature which has not been published, taped or filmed by A.A.W.S.; the use of copyrighted material and/or A.A. logos for imprint on greeting cards created by members; and the use of A.A. logos on coffee mugs, jewelry and similar commemorative items for sale at A.A. conventions, assemblies, forums and roundups.

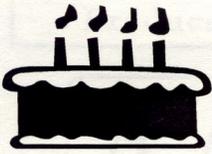
While appreciating the creativity show, the board generally turns thumbs down on such ideas. Were our logos and trademarks to be associated with items willy-nilly, it could confuse the public – and A.A. newcomers as well. If we are self supporting through our own contributions, they might wonder, then why would we lend our name to products for sale?

Some requests are not easy to handle. What happens, for instance, when A.A. is asked to lend its emblem for use on information that contains the logo of another twelve-step organization? For Example: A.A. enjoys a special relationship with Al-Anon; yet the A.A. W. S. Board recognizes that any suggestion of affiliation would be in conflict with the Traditions of both societies and therefore should be avoided.

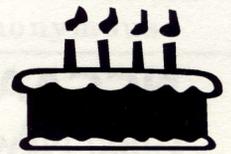
The Board finds it personally difficult to turn down requests from fellow A.A.s identifying as it does with their enthusiasm for the Fellowship. It is hoped that these people will appreciate the need for A.A. to cleave to its primary purpose and focus on suitable ways to "pass it on".

(Reprinted from Box 459, 1989, with permission of A.A.A.W.S., Inc.)

Note: The N.C.C.A.A. does not sell nor permit the sale of A.A. "Trinkets" as its Conferences.



BIRTHDAY CLUB



October 2001

Inez T Mariposa 18 Years

December 2001

Carina H Livermore 11 Years

The Birthday Club celebrates Birthdays every quarter. If you would like to be on the birthday list please come by the Good News table at your next conference and find out How. There is no charge. Next issue

January—February—March

Calendar of Events

Jan 18-20	12 th Annual River Roundup	Laughlin Nevada
Jan 27	NCCAA Steering Committee Meeting	Stockton California
Feb 14-17	38 th Annual International AA Women's Conference	– Denver Co.
Mar 28,29 & 30	55 th NCCAA Annual Spring Conference	– Monterey Ca.
April 12-14	14 th Annual Big Island Bash	Kailua-Kona Hawaii

Letter from the Editors

First of all we would love to thank all the people who have helped make the Good News Letter a very enjoyable year. We would like to dedicate this letter to one of the very best friends a person could ever have had. Our dear friend Paul Nikolas. Paul passed away this year one week after the Redding Conference.

Paul had helped enormously on the Good News Letter and attended most every conference and represented us well in steering committee when needed. He was an asset that will be greatly missed. He did so much to help with the concept of the format in the Good News that both of us have come to love so much.

I was Paul's sponsor, and Paul succeeded in keeping me sober until the day he died. We had known each other since the seventh grade and the thing I remember best happened in AA. When Paul had 1 month he went out for a day. After that I could not find him for about a week-he was hiding from me. When I did find him I asked him why he was hiding. He said "I didn't think you people would want anything to do with me after I went out and got drunk" I said "Paul we want you just the way you are." Paul never drank again. That was December 7th 1994.

Nothing was left unsaid, nothing was left undone between us. Thank you GOD for the life and friends you have given us.

In Service with Love Carina & Rich H.

NCCAA

Good News

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