



Have you heard the Good News?

Good News



Est. 1948
Spring 2008

Upcoming Spring Conference

There is much excitement for this upcoming Spring Conference in Fresno, Ca.

The last conference held in Fresno was back in Spring of 2001. It is no surprise that the community is filled with excitement and have been very busy planning to make this a memorable conference. Ironically, the main speaker on Saturday night for the conference in 2001 was Peggy M. from Bellevue, Nebraska. Peggy will also be the main speaker for this Fresno conference on Saturday night. This Spring conference will have an additional dance on Friday night which will be hosted by the planning committee of the Fresno conference. They are anticipating a large

Spanish speaking participation as well. This is a conference that you will not want to miss. Make sure to make hotel arrangements early because there are other events taking place that weekend which will make last minute Hotel reservations difficult.

Fresno Conference NCCAA 61st Annual Spring Conference

- March 7,8,& 9 2008
- Convention Center 7000 M Street Fresno, Ca
- **Friday March 7** —2:00 p.m. registration opens
- 3:30 early bird meeting—
- 8:00 p.m. Open Speaker Meeting—Clem T. Elk Grove, Ca.
- Dance following main

speaker meeting

- **Saturday, March 8** -
- 9:30 a.m. General Service Speaker Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Workshop
- 1:00 p.m. Hospital & Institutions Panel Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Young People's Meeting—Larry T., Lake-wood, Ca.
- 8:00 p.m. Open Speaker Meeting—Peg M., Bellevue, NE
- 10:00 p.m. Dance Following Drawing
- **Sunday, March 9, 2008**
- 9:30 a.m. All A.A. Services Panel Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Open Speaker Meeting—Danny B., Austin, TX

Reminder : Upcoming H&I Conference

The Hospital and Institution Conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Burlingame, California on April 25th through April 27th, 2008. No pink can money is used for this conference. It is self supporting through registration and the 7th tradition money collected at the

conference. This is the 37th annual Northern California H & I Conference. There will be three main speakers and a talk on AA history pertaining to H & I. Rooms at the Sheraton are \$99 per night. Mention H & I when making your hotel registration.. **Interesting H&I historical**

fact: Robert B. Flippin started the first penal group with former Warden, Clinton Duffy in 1942 in San Quentin, Ca. This San Quentin group led to the formation of AA units in most state and federal penitentiaries throughout the U.S.

Have you visited your Web Site yet?

<http://www.nccaa.org>

You'll find:

- The History of NCCAA— Our :Purpose, Structure, & Function"
- Past Issues of the "Good News"
- A list of upcoming Speakers
- Flyers
- Future & Past Programs
- Information on our Archivist
- Guidelines for Hosting a Conference
- A Link to AA General Service
- And More

What's Going on in General Service?

April A. Cupertino, Ca.

Last time this article was written for your Newsletter, I tried to answer the question I *always* get asked: "What is General Service, anyway??" The following two paragraphs were originally written for the Intergroup Newsletter last fall, but because so many members of Alcoholics Anonymous continue to ask what we do, I thought it might be good to start with them again:

"General Service is the link in the chain of communication between the Members of Alcoholics Anonymous and A.A. as a Whole. *Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside-down organization because, the Groups are on top and the Trustees, at the bottom. Bill W. wrote in Concept I: "The A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority for our World Services..."**(The A.A. Service Manual, pg.S15)

"All decisions made about Alcoholics Anonymous, whether it be our Literature or Policies, must come before the members of A.A.; therefore our Service Structure created what you might know as a General Service Representative or GSR. Your Home Groups have Service positions available for members to fill and represent *your* group at each of these entities: H & I, InterGroup, BTG, PI/CPC, and hopefully, General Service (GSR)."

January is the start of a very lively time in General Service all around our Country! It's really neat to know that all of Alcoholics Anonymous is linked together during this time as we prepare for the Agenda Topics of 2008, and our GSR's all around the United States and Canada start collecting their Home Groups conscience, thoughts, and opinions. They'll all work very hard during this time to make sure what they report to their Delegates, is exactly what their Home Group Members want the General Service Conference to hear and think over, while making those all important decisions regarding AA as a whole!

Does your Home Group have a GSR?? Are you being heard at GSO?? Have I sparked your interest?? Want to know a little bit more about General Service? Please visit our website to hear more about what's going on in Alcoholics Anonymous:

1. <http://www.cnca06.org/>

Upcoming NCCAA Conferences

Fresno Conference March 7,8,9, 2008

Friday 8:00 p.m.	Clem T.	Elk Grove
Saturday 3:30 p.m.	Larry T.	Lakewood
Saturday 8:00 p.m.	Peg M.	Bellevue NE
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Danny B.	Austin Tx

San Ramon Conference June 18,19,20 2008

Friday 8:00 p.m.	Charlie C.	Burbank
Saturday 3:30 p.m.	Kristina W.	Windsor
Saturday 8:00 p.m.	Marty J.	Richmond B.C.
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hector E.	Los Angeles

Santa Cruz Conference September 5,6,7 2008

Friday 8:00 p.m.	Anita T.	El Sobrante
Saturday 3:30 p.m.	Josh H.	Toronto Ontario
Saturday 8:00 p.m.	Scott R.	Los Angeles
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Vivian Q.	Hilton Head , SC

Cartoon AA Grapevine

Volume 5 Issue 1 ([June 1948](#))



JOHNNY ONE-STEP™ THINKS IT'S AN ESCALATOR--
---JUST SIT ON THE FIRST STEP AND RIDE UP.

In Remembrance of "Ebby" by Bill W. Copyright AA Grapevine, Inc, June 1966

In his seventieth year, and on the twenty-first of March, my friend and sponsor "Ebby" passed beyond our sight and hearing.

On a chill November afternoon in 1934 it was Ebby who had brought me the message that saved my life. Still more importantly, he was the bearer of the Grace and of the principles that shortly afterward led to my spiritual awakening. This was truly a call to new life in the Spirit. It was the kid of rebirth that has since become the most precious possession of each and all of us.

As I looked upon him where he lay in perfect repose, I was stirred by poignant memories of all the years I had known and loved him.

There were recollections of those joyous days in a Vermont boarding school. After the war years we were sometimes together, then drinking of course. Alcohol, we thought, was the solvent for all difficulties, a veritable elixir for good living.

Then there was that absurd episode of 1929. Ebby and I were on an all-night spree in Albany. Suddenly we remembered that a new airfield had been constructed in Vermont, on a pasture near my own home town. The opening day was close at hand. Then came the intoxicating thought: If only we could hire a plane we'd beat the opening by several days, thus making aviation history ourselves! Forthwith, Ebby routed a pilot friend out of bed, and for a stiff price we engaged him and his small craft. We sent the town fathers a wire announcing the time of our arrival. In midmorning, we took to the air, greatly elated — and very tight.

Somehow our rather tipsy

pilot set us down on the field. A large crowd, including the village band and a welcoming committee, lustily cheered his feat. The pilot then deplaned. But nothing else happened, nothing at all. The onlookers stood in puzzled silence. Where were Ebby and Bill? Then the horrible discovery was made— we were both slumped in the rear cockpit of the plane, completely passed out! Kind friends lifted us down and stood us upon the ground. Whereupon we history-makers fell flat on our faces. Ignominiously, we had to be carted away. The fiasco could not have been more appalling. We spent the next day shakily writing apologies.

Over the following five years, I seldom saw Ebby. But of course our drinking went on and on. In late 1934 I got a terrific jolt when I learned that Ebby was about to be locked up, this time in a state mental hospital.

Following a series of mad sprees, he had run his father's new Packard off the road and into the side of a dwelling, smashing right into it's kitchen, and just missing a terrified housewife. Thinking to ease this rather awkward situation, Ebby summoned his brightest smile and said, "Well, my dear, how about a cup of coffee?"

Of course Ebby's light-hearted humor was quite lost on everyone concerned. Their patience worn thin, the town fathers yanked him into court. To all appearances, Ebby's final destination was the insane asylum. To me, this marked the end of the line for us both. Only a short time before, my physician, Dr. Silkworth, had felt obliged to tell Lois there was no hope of my recovery: that I, too would have

to be confined, else, risk insanity of death.

But providence would have it otherwise. It was presently learned that Ebby had been paroled into the custody of friends who (for the time being) had achieved their sobriety in the Oxford Groups. They brought Ebby to New York where he fell under the benign influence of AA's great friend-to-be Dr. Sam Shoemaker, the rector of Calvary Episcopal Church. Much affected by Sam and the "Oxford Group" Ebby promptly sobered up. Hearing of my serious condition, he had straight-way come to our house in Brooklyn.

As I continued to recollect, the vision of Ebby looking at me across our kitchen table became wonderfully vivid. As most AA's know, he spoke to me of the release from hopelessness that had come to him (through the Oxford Groups) as the result of self-survey, restitution, outgoing helpfulness to others, and prayer. In short, he was proposing the attitudes and principles that I used later in developing AA's Twelve Steps to recovery.

It had happened, One alcoholic had effectively carried the message to another. Ebby had been enabled to bring me the gift of Grace because he could reach me at depth through the language of the heart. He had pushed ajar that great gate through which all in AA have since passed to find their freedom under God.

Alcoholics Anonymous Real estate Page

THE WILSON HOUSE

The Birthplace of WILLIAM GRIFFITH WILSON
Village Street, East Dorset, Vermont 05253
802-362-5524

In 1846 this lot was vacant. Five years later the Barrows House opened as a hotel. When Bill Wilson was born here in 1895, his Grandmother Wilson owned the hotel, which had been in her family since it was built by her father. When she married Bill's grandfather, the hotel became [The Wilson House](#).



Dr. Robert Smith and his wife Ann joined the Oxford Group where they talked about their prayer needs. Dr. Bob confessed that he was a silent drinker and couldn't stop and asked for prayers. Henrietta Seiberling was in that religious group as well and committed to pray for him. A friend, Bill W, came into town for a business venture that fell through, wanted to get drunk, and asked Henrietta if there was another drunk that he could talk to. His theory was that only another drunk could understand what he was going through and would help him maintain his sobriety. Ms. Seiberling got Dr. Bob and Bill together for a six hour meeting where they talked about the problems that they went through as a drunk. That meeting in 1935 led to Alcoholics Anonymous.



Dr. Bob's Home - Where AA Began

(courtesy of Dr. Bob's Home)

Dr. Bob's Home, in Akron Ohio, is where Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) all started in 1935. The purpose of AA is to help alcoholics gain and retain sobriety by sharing experiences, problems and hopes with one another. Dr. Bob and Bill W. worked with alcoholics one at a time to help them achieve sobriety in Dr. Bob's Home. Today the house is completely restored and welcomes visitors free of charge.

Dr. Bob's Home
855 Ardmore Avenue
Akron, OH 44309
330-864-1935 888-864-1930
Dr. Bob's Home is open daily from
Noon to 3pm.

Sobriety Birthdays

Arthur B. San Francisco, Ca. 1/15/2002
Brian G. Mountain View, Ca. 4/17/1983
Carol L. Crescent City, Ca. 12/15/1975
Carol S. Palo Alto, Ca. 2/6/1996
Carol H. Lodi, Ca. 5/19/1985
Celeste M. Fairfield, Ca. 1/26/2006
Dale C. Hayward, Ca. 2/2/2004
Dave M. Chico, Ca. 1/10/1991
David K. Belmont, Ca. 3/7/2001
Dennis F. San Jose, Ca. 2/5/1984
Dennis S. Castro Valley, Ca. 12/5/1971
Dennis W. Woodland, Ca. 12/4/1989
Diana F. Copperopolis, Ca. 1/24/1979
Ron J. San Jose, Ca. 3/19/1979
Dianne J. San Jose, Ca. 5/29/1984
Donna M. Fort Jones, Ca. 1/1/1998
Whitney G. San Jose, Ca. 2/10/2001
Eli M. San Jose, Ca. 5/22/2001
Ed V. Sacramento, Ca. 1/1/1997
Eleanor M. Pleasanton, Ca. 12/7/1980
Gil M. Gilroy, Ca. 4/21/1994
Holly S. Carmichael, Ca. 3/1/1988
James A. Sacramento, Ca. 12/27/2004
James C. San Francisco, Ca. 2/1/2002
Jean R. Half Moon Bay, Ca. 1/5/1978
Gary S. Felton, Ca. 2/20/1990
Jim S. Hayward, Ca. 5/10/2007
Jo M. Turlock, Ca. 3/15/2001
Joe K. San Carlos, Ca. 4/26/1975
John D. Burlingame, Ca. 5/1/2000
Joni L. French Gulf, Ca. 2/28/1989
Kat J. Arnold, Ca. 12/10/1988
Kathryn C. Roseville, Ca. 3/9/1990
Ken G. Santa Clara, Ca. 5/1/1996
Laurie S. Sunnyvale, Ca. 2/5/2002
Leslie K. Modesto, Ca. 5/4/1992

Loretto H. Burlingame, Ca. 2/18/1982
M.W.B. Redwood City, Ca. 4/10/1977
Marcia B. Hayward, Ca. 3/13/2007
Marianne H. Winters, Ca. 5/2/1987
Mary E. S. San Francisco, Ca. 4/1/1972
Martie D. Tracy, Ca. 5/29/1995
Mary W. Mountain View, Ca. 3/23/1960
Michael B. Alameda, Ca. 1/22/1983
Mike P. Manteca, Ca. 5/1/1994
Mike O. Redwood City, Ca. 1/28/2002
Miki S. Madera, Ca. 5/4/1996
Mitch W. Livermore, Ca. 12/20/1991
Pat A. Galt, Ca. 12/5/1980
Pat G. Sacramento, Ca. 1/28/1988
Peggy B. Lodi, Ca. 2/4/1977
Peter M. San Francisco, Ca. 5/1/1995
Philip C. Petaluma, Ca. 12/27/1987
Richard M. San Leandro, Ca. 2/30/1994
Rick B. San Carlos, Ca. 2/29/1982
Rick G. Riverbank, Ca. 2/8/1999
Robert B. Modesto, Ca. 5/6/1986
Ronald D. Magalia, Ca. 5/4/2002
Sheryl C. Vacaville, Ca. 2/14/1995
Shellie K. Oakdale, Ca. 1/8/2004
Susan P. Magalia, Ca. 2/13/2006
Ted R. San Francisco, Ca. 1/1/1985
Terry D. Yuba City, Ca. 4/20/1980
Terry F. North Highlands, Ca. 3/2/1994
Theresa A. Paradise, Ca. 4/1/1991
Thomas E. Sacramento, Ca. 3/21/1994
Tom P. Meadow Vista, Ca. 4/1/2005
Trish C. Dublin, Ca. 3/10/2001
Veronica S. Pacifica, Ca. 4/1/1991

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