



# Good News



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

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## KTIM Program Is Featuring "AA Meeting of Air"

A monthly radio program on Marin County radio station KTIM-FM (100.9 on the dial) started a half-hour program last month, "AA Meeting of the Air," which until further notice will be heard on the last Friday of each month at 9:15 p.m.

A panel-type show, it will be conducted under a permanent chairman but will feature a "cast" of local AA members each month drawn from the Bay Region membership.

If any AA member has any ideas on this type of program which he or she would like to see put into effect—or questions they would like to hear answered on the air—send to the Central Office, 166 Geary Street, or to the attention of Karl Barron, radio station KTIM.

This new show stemmed from a program that was heard on KTIM two years ago on their "Marin Sounding Board" that discussed the problem of alcoholism in Marin County.

It was good enough to win a gold medal for KTIM at the State Fair as an outstanding public information program.

Later in September of 1962, KTIM did a tape re-run of the "Sounding Board" presenting another AA program "Are We Winning or Losing the Battle of Alcoholism in Marin County?" This was a prepared script using a panel of a doctor, a minister and three AA members—plus thirty minutes to answer questions phoned in by listeners.

KTIM's management informed the AA committee that the volume of telephone response was greater than any the station had yet produced.

Dial KTIM on the last Friday of each month at 9:15 p.m. for "AA Meeting of the Air."

## 20th Year for Cleveland's AA Central Bulletin

With justifiable pride, Cleveland Central Bulletin Foundation, Inc., publisher's of its excellent Central Bulletin, is celebrating its 20th publishing year.

Good News joins with thousands of well-wishers in commending Cleveland AA for consistently publishing a fine, informative AA periodical.

Bill W., who knows good writing professional-type make-up, offered his personal message of congratulations, to wit:

Thanks for your reminder that this is the twentieth anniversary year for the Central Bulletin—the first publication of its kind ever to appear in A.A.

While most of us know that it was originally proven in Cleveland that sobriety for great numbers could be literally mass produced. I'm sure that far too few are aware of the vital pioneering part the Bulletin played in that all-important development of our early time — and, indeed, ever since!

On behalf of the Bulletin readers everywhere, I say to you "May your good journal continue to carry the message in the language of the heart for so long as God shall wish our fellowship to endure."

Very sincerely yours,  
BILL W.

## Avenue Alanon Group Schedules Meeting

Murrel S., chairman, Avenue Alanon Group, announces that Bill and Barbara A., of Richmond, Calif., will be the featured speakers at a meeting slated for Wednesday, November 21, at 8:30 p.m., at the Avenue Alanon meeting place, 133 Golden Gate Avenue (St. Boniface Church Hall) San Francisco.

## Fine Speakers At "Showcase" Meeting Here

November has five Fridays, and each will be highlighted by top-flight speakers at the Central All-Group meetings held at the Building Service Center, 240 Golden Gate Ave., S. F. Myrl G., Program Chairman, has again come up with an excellent roster, including:

**Friday, Nov 2—**Patty Mc., Telegraph Hill Group of S.F. and Bob M., Menlo Park Monday Group.

**Friday, Nov. 9—**The husband-and-wife team, George and Ann B., The Book Group of Marin County.

**Friday, Nov. 16—**Magdalene C., Mission Group of S.F., and Bob G., Merritt Group, Oakland.

**Friday Nov. 23—**Bertha B., First Step Group of S.F., and Canon Robert E. Hoggard, Canon Counselor, Grace Cathedral, S.F.

**Friday, Nov 30—**Eleanor H., Lafayette-Walnut Creek Group (former secretary of Eastbay Fellowship) and Rev. Curtis R. Nims, pastor, First Baptist Church of California. Reverend Nims will speak on the topic "For Those Who Follow The Swallow."

All meetings at 240 Golden Gate Avenue start at 8:30 p.m. Parking is available around the corner on Leavenworth Street.

## Santa Clara to Observe National Alcoholism Week

The week of November 25-December 1 will be observed in the U.S. as National Alcoholism Education Week.

Chairman for National Alcoholism Education Week in San Jose-Santa Clara is Bill B. The AA speaker for the occasion is Tom C., who will be joined by prominent civic and business leaders.



## "LADY FROM TEXAS" IS GUEST GSO COMMITTEEMEN TO HOLD MAJOR MEET IN SACRAMENTO

By Cliff J., Chairman-Delegate General Service, Panel 2

General Service Representatives and District Committeemen of the General Service Group of Panel 2, will convene in an assembly-type meeting, Saturday, November 10, at 1:00 p.m., at the Sacramento Labor Center, 2525 Stockton Blvd., Stockton, Calif. Purpose of the session is to discuss important matters concerning proposed changes within the General Service electoral structure with the idea of taking definite action on such changes.

The most significant matter to be acted upon will be the selection of the Chairman-Delegate (to New York) Alternate-Delegate-Secretary, and the Treasurer, at future Assembly meetings held for the purpose of electing new General Service officers.

### Tenure of Office

Traditionally, local groups elect GSR's to serve for a period of two years which term coincides with that of the New York Delegate and other officers. In Panel 2, each two-year term commences on January 1 of the even numbered years. Local groups elect their GSR's prior to January 1 so these new GSR's may attend the Assembly meeting and elect, from among their number, the officers and committeemen who are to serve for the next two years. The change in electoral structure which will be presented to current GSR's for consideration and ratification is, that instead of electing the Chairman-Delegate, Secretary and Treasurer from the incoming GSR's, that these officers be elected by the outgoing GSR's from among those who have served as such for the past two years.

The reason for this is that experience in General Service is so important, and the GSR's who have been active in this work for the past two years, are in a position to know which of their fellow GSR's are best qualified to serve as a Chairman-Delegate, Secretary and Treasurer.

### Attendance Vital

This is but one — but the most important matter coming before the Assembly November 10. All groups in Panel 2 are asked to have their

GSR attend without fail, and as many of their members as possible.

At 8:00 p.m., that same night, the General Service Committee of Panel 2 will present as its guest speaker, "THE LADY FROM TEXAS"—Marguerite C., of Austin, Texas. Marguerite found her sobriety in Sacramento on July 15, 1954, returning to her home in Texas shortly thereafter.

In 1957 she started "The Silent Rostrum," an AA newsletter, which she still publishes. Since 1958 she has served as AA chairman each month at AA meetings in the Women's Goree Prison, Huntsville, Texas. During 1959, 1960 and 1961 she was free-world AA Counselor for this same group. She has been secretary-treasurer of the Texas Department of Corrections Central AA Committee since 1959. All of these activities are strictly AA, for which she receives no money. Marguerite is also the 1962-63 Chairman-Delegate to New York for South west Texas.

### "Lady Jailbird"

Her profession is that of legal secretary to the Attorney General, State of Texas. In a letter Panel 2 accepting the invitation to speak at the November 10 AA meeting in Sacramento, Marguerite: "When I was drinking I couldn't stay out of jail . . . and now that I'm sober, it seems I just can't get away from law enforcement officials. Except now, I work for them instead of occupying their jail cells. What a switch!"

AA members, families and friends from all over Northern California are cordially invited to attend this meeting, and are admonished: "Don't miss Marguerite."

## Coastal Panel No. 1 Convenes Dec. 8 in S.F.

By Zela daM., Secretary, Coastal Panel 1

The Northern California General Service Committee, Coastal Panel #1 will conduct an open assembly meeting, Saturday, December 8th, 1962 at 240 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, California. Registration will be from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Purpose of this gathering will be for the newly appointed General Service Representatives, following registration, to elect a Delegate, Secretary, and Treasurer for the years 1963-64.

### Groups Notified

Groups have received information regarding this event and have been urged to select their General Service Representatives as soon as possible, in order that the various districts may choose from among their Representatives a "District Committee Member" prior to the assembly meeting.

It has been suggested that Groups ought to take much care in choosing their representatives because such a member should serve his group's interest in AA as a whole and this should be his main assignment.

### Open Meeting

We hope that the election for the new Delegate, Secretary and Treasurer will be finished about 3:00 p.m. at which time the Committee will recess until 8:30 p.m. At that time, at the same address, there will be an open AA meeting sponsored by the General Service Committee. Plans are being made to procure a well-known speaker from the Los Angeles area. More information on this and other details of the meeting in the near future.

## Gus K. Mourned

Members of Santa Clara Inter-group are mourning the death of Gus K., Sunnyvale. Gus passed away Sunday, October 14. His wife, and a host of friends in and out of Peninsula AA groups are bereaved over his death, from cancer. He was a staunch and loyal member of AA and his good works will be long remembered.



## Intergroups of Eastbay Prepare New Year's Party

The East Bay Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous is already preparing a giant celebration for their greatest event in the holiday season. The Big Evening that was normally dedicated to "Good King Grog" is to be wildly celebrated by former celebrants in a most celibate manner.

Fun will had by all — as the saying goes; King Grog is missing; the "sauce" is no longer in evidence; the atmosphere is cleared. The "Chanel" fragrance of Sour Mash No. 5 will no longer permeate the air. In its stead will be wafted the toothsome aroma of sugar-cured ham competing with the delicate scent of brown-roasted plump turkeys, mingled with the divine aura of baking pastries that will bring back visions of the past with the memory of the cakes mother used to bake.

The seventy five groups in the Alameda and Contra Costa Counties extend a warm invitation to join with us for this gala event. There will be balloons, noisemakers, favors, prizes, entertainment and revelry to celebrate another sober year.

Tickets will be available at the clubs and groups of the East Bay, and the Central Offices in San Francisco and Oakland.

This is a full fledged New Year's Eve Celebration with complete dinners, refreshments and music with a fine dance band. And most important of all — joyous sane sobriety. All this for \$3.50. Plan this Happy New Year with us at 7:30 P.M., December 31st, 1962 at the A.P.U.M. E.C. Hall, at 3256 East Fourteenth Street in Oakland.

## Accident Kills Joe

His wife, Juanita, and a host of friends in and around Monterey Bay are mourning the death of Joe Paxton, killed in an auto accident September 8, in Gilroy.

A resident of Salinas, Joe had been around AA for a long time and his soft-spoken message of hope and strength will be remembered by new and old AA members in the Monterey Bay region.

## After Hours Group Still Going Strong

The After Hours Group is still going strong, at its new location at 1464 Valencia Street, San Francisco, its sparkplug, Al H. points out.

This is the outfit that meets at 2:30 a.m. Saturday for musicians, cabdrivers and other night people.

**Though it's listed under Saturday in the local AA directory, it's really a late Friday night session, says Al. "It's still Friday night for us birds who work the saloon circuit," he comments.**

He made his observation because anyone who begins looking it up Saturday p.m. for the address just aint gonna make it unless he's planning nearl a week ahead.

## S. F. Alano Club Revises Calendar

Because of the many seasonal events taking place in November, the San Francisco Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, has made some changes in its November social calendar, Paul "Bus" D., announces.

On Saturday, November 10, a combination First-of-the-Month and a Surprise Dance will be held. Prizes, surprises and the "Jumpin' Jacks." Thursday, November 22 is Thanksgiving Day. An Open House is set with a buffet luncheon served from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On Saturday, November 24, an AA Birthday Party and Dance is scheduled at which time all November AA birthdays will be observed. On Saturday, December 1, a big First-of-the-Month Holiday Dance is slated with the "Jumpin' Jacks."

## British Columbia AA Sets Two-Day Meet

Yukon Area Assembly of the British Columbia AA Conference is holding a two-day gathering Saturday and Sunday, November 10-11, in the Royal Towers at New Westminster, British Columbia.

Highlight of the meeting is a gala banquet and dance set for Saturday, November 10, with Dave B., well known AA Trustee, as guest speaker.

In addition to important workshops, business sessions, and election, Al-Anon groups and the Alateens will also hold major meetings.

## San Jose AA's Buy School to House New Club

In the world of AA—anything can happen, and it usually does.

Ten years ago, the San Jose Fellowship decided, by golly, that someday they were going to have an AA clubhouse of their very own. And, having made the decision the members proceeded to prepare for "the day." Money is always a requisite in the pursuit of such a project.

**So it proceeded to do a bit of hoarding and saving by holding White Elephant Sales, card parties, raffles and all the usual corney-gimmicks that they could.**

There's a saying that "Fortune favors those that have prepared for it." And it seems that in this case, at least, the saying was accurate. Because one fine day, one of the AA members mentioned that a school was for sale. It had later been a church and finally had been lived in by a family that served as caretakers of the property.

**Investigation showed that the San Jose Planning Commission had no objection to the Fellowship taking over the property excepting that a large, lovely tree in the yard could not be cut down.**

So on November 17, a huge housewarming party is panned by San Jose Fellowship to celebrate the establishment of its clubhouse. It's going to be a real party . . . 1122 Fair Avenue, San Jose.

**Dr. Earl M., Mill Valley, will be guest speaker. And if that in itself was not sufficient drawing power, a roast turkey and baked ham dinner will be served.**

All the details of the housewarming shindig are not available because the party chairman are still coming up with ideas.

The party is being held under the direction of the Club's board of directors who are largely responsible for the purchase and establishment of the new clubhouse. They are Harold P., A. E., Jack H., Milt S., Joe C., and manager Glenn G.

## Hospital Patient

Laila C., of Vallejo Fellowship, has been hospitalized at Kaiser Foundation Hospital, Walnut Creek, She'll be there for some time.



## 300 at Salinas Intergroup Meet

Bea T., Watsonville Correspondent

Some three hundred members and friends who were lucky enough to have been in attendance at the Intergroup meeting in Salinas on September 29, can sum up the evening in one word. It was GREAT!

From the moment of entering the beautifully appointed hall where we were met by the committee of hosts and led past a most appetizing array of delicious refreshments straight to the 'help yourself' coffee bars, then on into the main hall to be seated comfortably at long tables set up so that every one had a clear view of the speakers; where we could handle our coffee and cigarettes without danger of having a trayfull of ashes and butts in our laps, the truest fellowship was seen, heard, and felt from the farthest nooks and corners of the hall in a way that seems to be found only at AA meetings.

### Good Planning

A lot of care and planning had been put into that meeting. We were made even more comfortable by the greeting from Monsignor Thomas Earley, pastor, Sacred Heart Church in whose hall the meeting was held. Isn't it good to be wanted by fine people like him, after so many years of not being really wanted by anyone?

### Fine Substitute

Our disappointment in not hearing Gene B. was completely overcome and forgotten in the first opening words of Harry H. from the Los Angeles area who in true AA spirit was so good as to make the trip up as a last minute substitution. This reporter is at a loss for words to report the depth of the message he brought as he expressed both by word and attitude his deep and humble gratitude to the loving God who inspired and those first few men who struggled and preserved to bring into being this plan of AA so that you and I could have a chance to live if we cared to.

### Door to Sobriety

In a most digestible way he reminded us to realize our capabilities and to be ever alert that we leave nothing in the path upon which those coming later might stumble. Like a thread binding the whole

# YOUR SECRETARY REPORTS

Another Conference has come and gone but it will be long remembered by those who attended. I hesitate to say that "this was the best Conference we ever had" as some people object to such a statement but it is mighty hard to refrain when every one is raving about how good it was.

Every work shop was well planned and informative, the speakers were unusually good and delivered their messages in a manner that enlightened the audience as to the objects of our various activities, The H & I Committee maintained their high standard and General Service put on a program that brought nothing but praise. I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Lloyd and Cliff for their splendid meeting. Everybody has been talking about how much they learned at this meeting.

We, who are familiar with the details of conducting conferences, believe that the wisdom of reducing the suggested registration contribution to \$1.00 was vindicated. The Conference was well attended and the number who registered this time

message was his repeated reminder that complete self-honesty is the key that opens the door to sobriety for all of us.

No listener could fail to catch his sincerity and hope for us as he emphasized over and again the truth we must hold that it is not we but God using AA and the fellowship who grants us in the working of this program as outlined in the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* our successful SOBRIETY.

### Up From Gutter

In closing he reminded us that sobriety does not relieve us of responsibility and that perhaps our best means of making amends lies in the doing for another what was done for us. To care enough to get down in the gutter beside that man and help him to rise and walk well and straight just as once someone, thank God, cared enough for each of us.

In thanks, Harry, I can only say I'm deeply glad I stayed around long enough to hear that message.

### Dance Band

Our thanks too, to those non-alkie gals and our Alateens for making

was the largest in recent years. We are unable to give a financial report at this time but we can assure you that the income exceeded the out go. See the next issue of the GOOD NEWS for a complete report.

The Vallejo Committee did an outstanding job in carrying out the operations of this Conference and the Vallejo Fellowship as a whole must be highly complimented for their efforts.

It would be difficult to name every individual who helped to make this affair so successful but I would be very remiss if I failed to give a BIG vote of thanks to Jack I. for securing Tony and Marion as our speakers. If you do not think you missed something — ask those who heard them.

Your Secretary humbly thanks all those who helped to make the Vallejo Conference one of the best of all. If we can maintain this high standard we are going to have trouble finding halls big enough to hold the crowds.

Best wishes to you all,  
Your Secretary.

those refreshments as good as they looked, and to the alkie and friends who formed the band for our dancing. (For those who remember, it was the same group who played together for the first N.C.C. conference in Monterey back in 1954.

## San Pablo Meetings

San Pablo Friendly Fellowship, 14451 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo (Calif.), announces the following speakers for the group's Friday Open Speakers' meetings:

Friday, Nov. 2—Casey P., Santa Rosa; Friday, Nov. 9—Sam P., Parkside Group, San Francisco; Friday, Nov. 23—Bud C., general chairman, H & I Committee; Friday, Nov. 30—Stan W., Fairfax.

Discussion meetings are held Monday, Tuesday, Saturday and Sundays. Combination speaker-discussion meetings are held every Wednesday; Beginners (closed) Meetings each Thursday; also Al-Anon on Thursdays.

A monthly dance is set for Friday, November 16. Music by the "Jumpin' Jacks." Fellowship hours are 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily.



## Yountville AA Holds A Jolly Annual Picnic

Kangas Oaks Park was the scene of the first annual picnic to be held by the Veterans Home Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, Saturday, September 29. More than a hundred AA members and their families and friends from various parts of the Bay Area were present.

Quite a number of Home members not affiliated with the AA Group took advantage of the open house invitation to join in the party.

There were plenty of chuckburgers hot dogs and Boston baked beans along with all the fixin's.

Accordianist Bob Warnock entertained during the afternoon with a number of popular favorites including some of the old standard tunes. His artistry is always appreciated by the Home members and was a special treat to the visitors.

A highlight of the day was a short open meeting with Rube S. acting as Home Chairman. The welcoming address of Commandant Stanley Dunmire was well received by the audience.

The meeting was then turned over to Ernie B. of San Francisco who introduced the principal speakers, Bill R. of SF whose subject was "Why the first drink makes the alcoholic drunk," followed by Joe B. of Napa who discussed alcoholism as a disease. Adam, from the Sonoma Valley Group spoke of the personal life of an alcoholic.

The meeting was concluded with Chaplain H. Marlowe Link, speaking of the AA program from the point of view of a minister an non-alcoholic.

Orpha and Mabel of the Napa Group, volunteered to do the cooking and serving; and a wonderful job they did too. The Veterans Group of AA are grateful for the assistance.

## Sat. Nite Group

Correct address of the San Rafael Saturday Night Group is in the Lutheran Church, Woodland Avenue at the foot of B Street, San Rafael. Al J., Novato, is the group's new secretary.

## H&I BROADSIDES

by BUD C., H & I Committee  
Why must H & I be organized?  
It's a Perennial Question

We could easily write volumes on this; however, we will attempt to cover only the pertinent points in answer to the "WHY?" Consider, if you will, that we serve in excess of seventy facilities and that these facilities include road camps, maximum, medium, and minimum security prisons, state and county hospitals, veterans' hospitals, city and county jails, etc. Consider, too, that these facilities range from isalia and San Luis Obispo in the south to the Oregon border in the north, and from San Francisco to the Nevada border to the east. Realizing that the vast geographical area and the number of facilities served, we get some idea that a central coordinating point is required to avoid duplication of effort. For instance, ten or twelve people show up for one meeting and for the next three or four weeks no one puts in an appearance. A captive audience, such as the patient and the inmate, take a dim view of an erratic program and, rightly so. This, ladies and gentlemen, is one of the many reasons for the annual printed schedule which spells it out as best we can. This is not a one-man show. We have many active people and we need a lot more. Come on in, the water is just fine.

### Why the Screening for Visiting Prisons? Regulations? Requirements?

Ordinarily we work with the staff assigned to "Classification and Treatment" which includes the psychiatric departments. In the normal course of events this is as far as we go. But, on occasion we run head-on into another phase of the penal system known as "SECURITY." When they talk, we listen real good for they only talk when something happens that is known as a "RUMBLE." What could cause a rumble? Many things, and we will point out just a few of the things we do NOT, repeat NOT, do:

Take messages, written or verbal, in or out of any facility, make deals with anyone with promises of employment, housing, financial help and/or anything other than carry the message of AA. A uniform opinion of staff members of the California Penal System is, "We much prefer that a member of 'AA' who is acting in the capacity of Contact Chairman do NOT correspond with an individual inmate, or patient, while so serving in this capacity." The purpose of AA in the prison or hospital is that a group of people from the outside come in to visit with a group of people on the inside and an unhealthy atmosphere develops when this is disregarded. Let's repeat, we do NOT make the call on the individual.

**WE ARE PLEASED TO KNOW** that through the effort of our good friend Rollin W. that copies of the GOOD NEWS are finding their way into the California Men's Colony just outside San Luis Obispo. Thanks, Rollin. We would like to keep on record to the effect that anyone who does not subscribe to the GOOD NEWS is missing one of the best pieces of cake available.

**VALLEJO! EACH SUCCEEDING** Northern California Council Conference gets better. We would like to publicly thank Dr. Ed P. of Yountville, Pattie M. of Alameda, and our very good friend Bob Flippin for making the H. & I. open meeting an outstanding success. Too, we sincerely appreciate the generosity of the audience for their contributions to the literature fund. We will make every effort to see to it that it is used where it will do the most good.

The God Lord willin', we'll be with you next month.

**START PLANNING NOW !!**  
**MARYSVILLE — MARCH 2nd and 3rd**  
**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL**  
**A.A. CONFERENCE**



## CAPACITY CROWD AT VALLEJO

## 40th N. C. C. Conference Draws 2,000

A dedicated crowd of AA members, their families and friends, gathered in the City of Vallejo over the weekend of October 6 & 7, to attend the Fall Conference of the No. California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous, the 40th semi-annual meeting of the NCC.

Held in the Veterans Building, the two-day session moved with clock-like precision, thanks to the excellent coordination and preliminary work done by the convention committee consisting of Rawson M., general chairman, and his able assistants Warren T., Carl S., and Hazel L.

**Judge Cox**

Featured event of Saturday's program was the AA public meeting which filled the big auditorium to the hilt. Municipal Judge Walter W. Cox of Vallejo, delivered a welcome address to the enthusiastic gathering. He told the visitors—representing most California counties—that he works closely with AA because he had learned from experience that AA "can do more for the alcoholic than the courts, the judges, the prisons, or the jails."

Judge Cox said he had become aware of this through members of AA who showed regularly in his court on Monday mornings when the usual number of weekend drunks came before him.

**"On one occasion" Judge Cox recalled, "I asked one of the AA members what could be done to prevent repetition of drinking offenses and was told in effect, "Maybe we can help you. Send them to us."**

Since that time, the judge went on, he had found Alcoholics Anonymous to be of tremendous value in helping many persons to recover from their compulsive drinking problems, return to sobriety and begin living useful lives.

**Guest Speaker**

Principal speaker of the Saturday night session was Anthony F., Los Angeles Fellowship, formerly an attorney and now a college history teacher.

He declared that any person who desires to overcome alcoholism can do it only if he does what the original 100 members of AA did—that is to follow the 12 steps—hallmark of the AA program.

Pioneers in AA, he said, found out

through their own experiences that this was the only way—the only way—in which they could achieve lasting and happy sobriety.

Various other meetings were held throughout Saturday, including a General Service meeting; Hospital and Institutions committee session; and Institutions and Hospital workshops.

**Pinch-hitter**

Dr. Harry Elkins, medical director, Santa Clara County Alcoholic Rehabilitation Clinic, slated as speaker at the Hospital and Institutions committee gathering was unable to appear.

**Bob Flippin, member of the Adult Probation Board, a long-time friend of AA and sponsor of the AA group at San Quentin Penitentiary, spoke in place of Dr. Elkins.**

Mary Clark, Carmel, West Coordinator of the National Council on Alcoholism, was principal speaker at a well-attended Al-Anon meeting. She discussed ways and means of communicating the Al-Anon program with the many public agencies which deal with the problem of alcoholism and she emphasized how Al-Anon can aid family members in dealing with a husband, wife, or other relatives who have an alcoholic problem.

**Meeting concurrently with the Council sessions were the Alateens. They were very well represented at the Conference with a group numbering 45 from San Jose Fellowship, alone.**

Highlights of the evening was a gay, colorful dance with "Jumpin' Jacks" providing the danceable tunes.

Final day of the Conference was marked by a business meeting of the Northern California Council, and a Secretaries' Workshop chaired by Tom O., secretary of the Oakland-Eastbay Central Office. Both were pre-noon sessions.

In deference to a ball game in progress at 1:00 p.m., the scheduled

talk of Guest Speaker, Marion F., Los Angeles, was postponed to 2:00 p.m. But the wait was well worth it.

**Marion of L.A.**

As is customary at AA Conferences, the public meeting had its own chairman, Eleanor H., Lafayette; Invocation by Pastor E. I. Bradely, Community Presbyterian Church; Chapter Five by Millie J., Vallejo., who did a superlative job of recitation in one of the best, modulated voices heard on an AA dias (and much of the Chapter from memory); Twelve Traditions by Donna B.,

**The guest speaker did a superb job of recounting what it is like for a woman to discover on her 39th birthday that she is "cast out"—rejected by society, discarded by friends, avoided by relatives—a failure as a wife after two futile tries at matrimony. Or so she thought ten years ago on April 1 which also was her birthday. An April Fool?**

This was not a "drunkalogue." It was a poignant chapter of a women's life who felt she had no reason to live—or perhaps any right to live—until she made a mighty decision that proved to be the turning point in an otherwise misspent life.

**On Tape**

The way of the transgressor is hard. If the transgressor happens to be a woman, the way oftentimes seems doubly hard. Marion F., of Los Angeles, is a cultured person; a woman with highly cultivated standards that were temporarily shrouded in an alcoholic miasma. How she cleaved through this suffocating blanket and clawed her way to sanity and self-esteem through the healing aid and understanding of Alcoholics Anonymous, is worth listening to. It was taped and may be obtained through the AA Tape Library.

The Conference adjourned at 3:30 p.m.



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### "Sobriety Riders" Of Santa Cruz

"Going to any lengths" can be fun. This was demonstrated by the Friday Night Group of Santa Cruz when an emergency situation deprived of them of their regular meeting place for the evening, one recent night.

Undaunted, they showed up at their meeting hall at the regular hour, boarded a chartered Greyhound bus and traveled over the hill to the nearby town of Los Gatos.

Twenty of them joined the surprised but highly gratified Los Gatos Group; shared a highly interesting meeting with the folks; had coffee and "arm length" afterwards; climbed aboard their waiting bus and went home satisfied to the brim.

The resourcefulness of recovered drunks is remarkable and unpredictable.

### Alateen's Gift

The Alateens of Santa Clara Valley performed a valuable service at the Vallejo NCC Conference by efficiently handling the checkroom in the Veterans Memorial Building. In volunteering to handle this not-too-glamorous chore, they helped make the Conference "go."

They also made \$40.00 checking hats and coats which they promptly mailed to San Francisco. To Sue P., and her 45 Alateens that represented San Jose Fellowship at the Vallejo NCC Conference, GOOD NEWS doffs its hat to a fine group of dedicated youngsters whose youthful energy is only exceeded by its thoughtful generosity.

## PENINSULA JOTTINGS

By John F., San Carlos Group

Peninsula All Groups had another Birthday Party Saturday Night, October 13th at their regular meeting place, St Mathews Episcopal Auditorium, Baldwin & El Camino, San Mateo. Paul G. of Mill Valley gave an Inspirational talk—practically all the Gals brought a cake for the occasion, with the result there were a few left over, and were won by lucky ticket holders such as Margaret S., Carl, Lorain and a beginner there for his first time bought a Big Book and won a cake too—the feeling of UNITY prevailed and a Grand Birthday Party was had by all.

Don M. of San Bruno, Ed S. of Brisbane and Gene of South San Francisco reports continuing growth, and plenty of arms length AA over coffee after the meetings.

Bill J. was up from Santa Monica with his Veda for a visit with the above groups, which to Bill is like coming home, for it was here he started over 10 years ago — a new Group started in Millbrae named the 12th Step Discussion Group, and its meeting night is Wednesday at 8:30, St. Dunstons Church, 600 El Camino — Dave is the first Secretary and reports very good attendance along with enlightening on our 12 Steps.

Dave M. of San Carlos led a contingent of 14 to the Conference at Vallejo, which is good going for a secretary, and says his lieutenants Allen B., Gen. Service and Carl for NCC gave and gathered information for the group — and the San Carlos Alanon was well represented to, by Helen B., with an assist from Mercedes, Lorain and others — Redwood City has Gladys among many others who welcome new comers and beginners — Art R. of Pacifica invites visiting or other members of AA to stop by any Friday at 8:30.

Menlo on Monday always has a lively discussion, presided over by Gordon and as usual there beginners — and Tuesday night at Palo Alto there was quite a gathering of the "Clan" with Walter H., chairing, with Margaret and Paul D., Secretary — Wednesday night at Palo Alto, Dick G., Secretary had a Birthday Cake for Tom McG. and Beth — and for the Gals there is a Woman's Group in Menlo Park, at 8:30, pre-

sided over by Sonya, who by the way gives a very good AA talk — The Alateens have their meeting on Wednesday at 7:30 on 764 Stern Ave., Palo Alto, and Walter H. says there are quite a few Teenagers interested—and at Palo Alto, Friday in the Recreation Center there is always a good meeting presided over by Pat P. — and then on Sunday afternoon, at 1:30 there is what has been known as the Open End Group, which has a lively discussion, and very well conducted by Jeanne, which makes for a very pleasant Sunday afternoon — Los Altos, on Thursday, Hank bangs the gavel at 8:15 sharp, and off to fine round on basic AA — and though the Woodside meeting is realitively new Floyd gets it off to a good start at 8:30 — and close by at Mt. View on Grant Road on Saturday there is another AA meeting that gets going at 8:15 — All the above meetings are listed in our Group Directory.

So good to get around and visit with other Groups, as there are no strangers in AA, just a lot of friends we haven't met yet — many are glad to see Millard T. around again after recovering from a serious operation, and Eve T. said they both went to Reno to celebrate — over 2000 at the Conference at Vallejo, and Walt W. would be asked by Tony, the Speaker to get his car out of someones driveway — Bernie should have gone along.

Should have some of the plans for our All Peninsula Groups New Year's Party in the next issue, which is expected to be the largest.

### NAPA FELLOWSHIP

The following speakers are slated to speak at the Napa Fellowship meeting place during November. All meetings are held at 641 Randolph Street, Napa, starting at 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 6—Blackie S., San Francisco.

Tuesday, Nov. 20—Jean K., El Cerrito.

The other two Tuesdays are devoted to closed meetings and meetings held by the Al-Anon Group.



## Al-Anon Group Office Growing

The Al-Anon Family Group Office of Northern California, located at 166 Geary Street, San Francisco 8, has been operating for the past two months. During this time, they have answered 82 calls, 27 of which were from outside San Francisco. Inquiries have been received from Oregon, Alaska, Honolulu, Oklahoma, New York and Ohio.

Nine Al-Anon groups have contributed, and five of these contribute regularly. Contributions of furniture, supplies and printing have been received also. Many 12th step calls have been referred by the office to other Al-Anon Groups throughout Northern California.

Three new groups have started, two in San Francisco and one in Marin.

Financially, the office has been able to deposit over \$300.00. Office expenses are averaging about \$80.00 per month and distribution of literature has been great.

"We thank those who have made this possible for the office to spread the message," the secretary said, "to the others, we hope you join us so that we will grow. To all, we are here to serve you."

Financial Report dated October 1st, shows receipts of \$538.20 and disbursements of \$202.16, leaving a surplus of \$156.04.

## Picnic Run-Down

"Bus" D., chairman of the 1962 Fellowship picnic at Adobe Creek Lodge, totaled his books and gives this detailed accounting:

Total Income (gate, kitties, and bingo) .....	\$1,334.55
Total Expenses (gate admissions, supplies, and door prizes, etc.) .....	1,101.17
Net Profit to S.F. Central Office .....	233.38
Total Attendance: adults, 576; children (6-12), 125; children (under 6 years), 64; complimentary tickets, 20. Grand Total, 785.	

## From Paradise

Vallejo Fellowship recently welcomed into its fold Tony A., and her husband. Both were formerly members of Paradise Group. Hazel L., summed it up with "Paradise Lost—is our gain."

## News of the Groups

**NINETY MINUTE SERINITY** — a new group, meets at S.F. Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue. It's a closer, discussion group, for alcoholics only. Meets on Saturdays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**MISSION DOLORES** — moved to Participation Hall, 1364 Valencia Street.

**SUNDAY NIGHT FRIENDLY CIRCLE** — moved to temporary headquarters at St Boniface Hall, 133 Golden Gate Avenue, S. F., due to destruction by fire of St. Mary's Cathedral.

**PACIFICA AL-ANON** — group has become temporarily inactive.

## Vallejo Announces November Speakers

Since the recent NCC Conference in the community and the widespread publicity it received, Vallejo's bustling Hazel L., reports, "new members are coming to meetings two and three at a time."

Hazel said a fine roster of speakers will appear at Vallejo's meeting place, 820 Marin Street (side entrance) during November. They are: Ralph W., San Jose, on Saturday, November 3; "Brownie" from Pittsburg on Saturday, November 10; Art I., Martinez, on Saturday, November 17; and Fallet M., Santa Rosa, on Saturday, November 24.

With the exception of Sunday, Vallejo conducts meetings every night of the week, and holds a special noon meeting on Thursday, when a hot luncheon is served.

## The "Retreads"

The "Retreads" is a new group that meets each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, San Francisco.

The new group deals with the unique problem of the so-called "slippee" and the allegorical group title was selected thusly: tires when they become too smooth are dangerous. When some AA members become too "smooth" — to complacent, the danger of slipping becomes increasingly dangerous. Hence, wise AAers need smooth tires "retreaded" by attending meetings and having new, and deeper treads grooved.

Good News welcomes the "Retreads" and wishes them a million miles of blow-out-proof mileage.

## New Lakeport Group Has Initial Meeting

Meeting for the first time on October 18, the newly formed Lakeport Group got off to a good start at its meeting place in Lakeport Christian Church, corner of Seventh and Brush Streets, Lakeport (Calif.).

Groups from nearby Ukiah, Cloverdale and Santa Rosa have made plans to visit the new group to welcome them into "AA fold." Meetings are held each week on Thursday, at 8:00 p.m.

To Bay Area AA members that visit Clear Lake, Blue Lake, etc., for fishing and boating, John and Joann S., of the Lakeport Group, extend a cordial invitation to "drop in." They may be reached at COLONY 3-5324 or P.O. Box 897, Lakeport, Calif.

Lakeport is on Highway 25 in Lake County and Highways 16 and 20 connect with Highways 101 and 29.

## Big Turnout At Intergroup Meet

Santa Clara Intergroup Conference held Sunday, September 23, had a remarkable representation with 53 of 54 groups reporting. The Picnic Committee reported that its outdoor affair held September 16 was a huge success with 265 paid admissions. This was the picnic highlighted by a two-hour show performed by the Indian Group.

Officers of Santa Clara Intergroup Conference are Hank S., secretary; Helen G., chairman; Ed B., treasurer; and Marge M., librarian.

## Stag Group Starts

The Stag Eleven — Watsonville's newest group—had its first meeting in the home of Marge and Earl H., 210 Coronado Drive, Aptos, last Monday.

As the name implies, this is a closed meeting, for men only. It also means that in the Watsonville area, five meetings each week are now available.

Meetings will be held each Monday at 8:30 p.m. and the Watsonville area members are grateful to Marge and Earle for making their home available to this needed AA facility.

As an old-time member remarked, "Within these walls is sobriety."