



Good News



Vol. XII
No. 1

Published Monthly in San Francisco, California
By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

SEPTEMBER
1963

STAGE SET TO GREET 2500 AT BERKELEY AA CONFERENCE

Appearance of two of the west's most sought after AA speakers will highlight the Fall Conference of the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous when it convenes in Berkeley, Saturday and Sunday, October 19 and 20. Al M. of Los Angeles will address the Saturday meeting at 8:00 P.M., and Cliff M. of Whittier, California will be at the podium for the 1:30 P.M. Sunday meeting in the 3,000 seat Berkeley Community Theatre.

Many AA members in Northern California have been privileged to hear one or both of these outstanding speakers on previous occasions, and their appearance promises a rare experience for the 2,500 expected to attend the Conference.

Al M., former great Hollywood studio musician, has been a member of AA for over 22 years. He was founder of the well-known Arlington Group in Los Angeles. His tireless Twelfth Step work and many years of speaking at AA meetings throughout Southern California have provided inspiration and help to hundreds of suffering alcoholics and AA members alike.

AA Veteran

Cliff W., Whittier businessman, and long-time AA member, is a former member of the General Service Board and Chairman Emeritus of the Policy Board of AA in New York. Prior to the opening of the Los Angeles Central Office in 1941, Cliff and his wife personally handled all 12th Step calls in that area and have continued to spark the growth of the program in Southern California through the years. Eastbay AA members will recall Cliff W., for his splendid contribution to the Fellowship's 20th Anniversary meeting in 1961.

PSYCHIATRIST TALK SEPT. 27

Dr. David G. Schmidt, chief psychiatrist, Department of Corrections, San Quentin Penitentiary, and Dr. A. E. (Ed) P., Veterans Home, a member of Napa Group, will share the rostrum at the Friday, September 27 open meeting at 240 Golden Gate Avenue.

This duo is part of interesting program of fine speakers enlisted by Myrl G., program chairman, of the Central All-Groups Meetings, for the month of September. The full calendar is as follows:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 6—Ruby and Lee M., Husband and Wife Group, Oakland. A speaking team consisting of husband and wife have been found to be profoundly interesting since the marital status oftentimes has a vital affect on recovery from alcoholism.

FRIDAY, Sept. 13—Bill N., Surf Group; and Dr. Gill A., Serenity House.

FRIDAY, Sept. 20—Rosalie R., San Francisco Fellowship; and Glenn W. C., Los Altos Thursday Group.

FRIDAY, Sept. 27—Dr. Schmidt and Dr. A. E. (Ed) P.

Meetings held each Friday at 240 Golden Gate Avenue in the Building Service Center, are known sometimes as "showcase meetings". Speakers are selected to present the AA program from the standpoint of the beginner as well as the viewpoint of veteran AA members.

The meeting place is equipped with excellent acoustics, padded seats, fine public address system, and is air conditioned. Coffee is available at the Coffee Bar before and after meetings.

The hall is open for visitors at 7:00 p.m. Meetings commence promptly at 8:30 p.m. Parking is available around the corner at a minimum-rate parking lot.

Kick-off

Although the Conference opens officially at 9.00 A.M., October 19, the Eastbay Fellowship will host a special "kick-off" meeting Friday, October 18 at 8:00 p.m. at the Lake Merritt Sailboat House in Oakland. The Sailboat House is located on the shore of beautiful Lake Merritt, just behind Fairyland on Bellevue Avenue off Grand Avenue. Refreshments will be served, and members are invited to meet old friends and enjoy the hospitality of the Eastbay groups. There is ample free parking for everyone.

Red Carpet

As this edition of GOOD NEWS goes to press, the committee continues its efforts to make the Fall Conference one of the most memorable and rewarding in N.C.C. history. Information bulletins, tickets and other conference data, including the Conference Program will be in the mail shortly. AA members and members of Alanon and Alateen are urged to plan now and to make reservations as soon as registration information is received. Berkeley civic leaders and the Chamber of Commerce are preparing to "roll out the red carpet" in an historic welcome for the first AA Conference ever held in this friendly Eastbay city.

There's more to come! Watch for the next edition of GOOD NEWS.

Hundreds Mourn Bob Flippin, 60

Hundreds of bereaved persons with bowed heads and damp eyes passed the bier of Robert Browning Flippin, 60, at the Martin and Brown Funeral Home, San Francisco, to pay their respects to a dearly beloved man.

He passed away Sunday, September 1, and interred on Wednesday, September 4.

Prison Group

Coming from Nevada more than 30 years ago, Bob Flippin made major contributions to Bay Area social service. He was the first Negro correctional counsellor at San Quentin Prison and is credited with sponsoring the first prison chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous in the United States.

Housing Leader

He died Sunday at a local hospital, and until his final illness he was working in the prison hospital's psychiatric counseling department.

Prior to joining the San Quentin staff, about 15 years ago, Mr. Flippin played a role in several community projects in San Francisco.

He was director of the Booker T. Washington Community Center from 1937 to 1945. In 1940, he was credited with establishing the city's first low-cost housing project, Westside Courts in the Western Addition.

Hospital Aide

He was a founding member of the Council for Civic Unity, and was active in developing a number of interracial programs in the Bay Area. Mr. Flippin was also a member of the Northern California State Hospital and Institutions Committee of Alcoholics Anonymous.

He is survived by his widow, Katherine, and a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Jeffers of San Francisco.

Betty Smith Killed

An auto wreck on August 26 snuffed out the life of Betty Smith. A former member of Group Three, Central California Fellowship, Betty Smith is mourned by a legion of sorrowing friends.

G. S. Representatives of Panels One and Two Meet in Berkeley

District Committee members and General Service Representatives are requested to register and attend a joint meeting of Coastal Panel One, and Interior Panel Two, Northern California General Service Committee, at Berkeley High School Auditorium, October 19.

An important facet of the two-day Northern California Council's Fall Conference, the General Service session will be highlighted by a G. S. Workshop, an added attraction, "Sharing Session" and a General Service Open Meeting.

The agenda is as follows:

Saturday, October 19 — Registration at 9:00 a.m. From 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., a General Service Workshop is scheduled, titled "General Service and You". A Panel Meeting will be held from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Panelists are: Mildred H., Livermore, Calif.; and Ruth F., San Francisco, representing Panel One, and Pat S., Paradise Calif., and Doc R., Modesto, Calif., representing Panel Two. Moderator will be Rickey S. Redding, Calif.

Moderating the "Sharing Session" set for 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. will be Bill G., San Francisco.

A General Service Open Meeting from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., will be chaired by Lillian G., Stockton, Calif. Cliff J., Delegate Panel Two will introduce Jim M., Trustee, Pacific Region for a brief talk. Following Jim's remarks, Cliff will introduce the guest speaker, Everett K., delegate to the General Service Conference, from Washington State.

It is essential that all group representatives register for this meeting.

New Hope Group

The New Hope Group announces it has opened meeting headquarters at 3198-16th Street, San Francisco, with every Tuesday, at 8:30 p.m.

Speakers for the month of September are, as follows:

Tuesday, September 10, Tom McM;
Tuesday, September 17, Ray J.,
Tuesday, September 24 Frank and Ada M.

Oakland Alano

This is the September social calendar of the Oakland Alano Club, 319-14th Street, in downtown Oakland.

SATURDAY, Sept. 7—Big Drawing Night. Bring all your tickets. Maybe you are winner of Dual Control Electric Blanket. Dance to Howard's Rhythm Kings. Door prizes.

SATURDAY, Sept. 14—Dancing to the music of the Jumpin' Jacks. Door prizes.

SATURDAY, Sept. 21—Last Dance of Summer. The Rhythm Kings provide the music. See the Club's new fall decorations. Door prizes, too.

SUNDAY, Sept. 22—Brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Ham & Eggs Juice, Hash Browns Rolls Butter and lotsa good coffee.

SATURDAY, Sept. 28 — First Dance of Fall Season and the Rhythm Kings.

Every Thursday, a Beginners Square Dance is held from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. Enrollment closes September 12. No fee. Larry Hale is Caller.

Save stubs for Saturday, October 5, when another Big Drawing Night is scheduled. A rummage sale is slated for next month. Bring your rummage to the Club's bartender.

REDWOOD VALLEY

The Beginners' of Redwood Valley—a new, open meeting that meets Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at Kenna's Lodge nine miles from Ukiah, Calif.

ADDRESS CHANGE

The Mayflower Group, effective this date, has moved its meeting place to 854 Brussels Street, San Francisco.

Chuck C. Visits Azure Acres Soon

Chuck C., Laguna Beach AA member, who has been engaged in and extended speaking tour of U.S. AA units, will speak Sunday, September 15, at 330 p.m. at Azure Acres.

Azure Acres is about 3½ miles from Occidental, at 2264 Greenhill Road. Those planning to visit Azure Acres should drive to Sebastopol, turn left at the Forestville-Occidental Road out of Sebastopol. At 2 and one-tenth miles, turn left on to Occidental Road. At 2½ miles, turn right into Greenhill Road. Landmark: "Sturgin's Mill". Thence, one-half mile to Azure Acres, on left side of road. Look carefully for road thru trees.

All Northern California AA members and their families are cordially invited to hear this noted speaker make one of his great talks.

550 at Avenue

Dr. Earle M. and his famous Blackboard Talk, is potent box office material. When he talked at the August 21 meeting of the Avenue Group, Dr. Earle drew 550 attendance, an overflow crowd that caused Murrell S., program chairman, to place a "Standing Room Only" sign outside the auditorium at 133 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco.

For her meeting on Wednesday, September 18, she has another attractive show. Three youngsters from the local Alateen Club and their AA sponsor, Henry H., will give their joint versions how teenagers accept, and work, the AA program.

Avenue Alanon meets at 8:15 p.m. each Wednesday in the auditorium of St. Boniface Church, on Golden Gate Avenue, between Jones and Leavenworth, close to the theatre-restaurant district, in downtown San Francisco.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY 9th ANNUAL BANQUET IS SET FOR NEW NOB HILL GRAND BALLOOM

The 25th birthday of the founding of AA in San Francisco will be jointly celebrated with the Ninth Annual Banquet and Ball, sponsored by San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship, Saturday, October 26, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the new Grand Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel, atop Nob Hill.

The Silver Anniversary of the establishment of Alcoholics Anonymous in San Francisco, in 1938, will be fittingly observed, when estimated crowd of some 1100 diners sit down in the newly refurbished Fairmont Hotel ballroom.

Speaker

Expectations of a capacity crowd is emphasized by the keynote speaker. He is Don G., Pleasantville, N.Y. (home office of Reader's Digest), a former editor of The Grapevine, AA's international monthly, and a former AA Trustee. Professionally, he is a noted ABC-TV news commentator.

The tariff, per person, is \$7.50 which includes tax and tip. Tables seat 10 and reservations may be made for an entire table—several tables—or individual seats.

Seat Limit

In the City by the Golden Gate

where banquets are noted for the size and sumptuousness, the annual banquet sponsored by San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship is now recorded as the largest in the city. More important than mere size, it demonstrates to the community that alcoholics come from all walks of life, a fact of significant importance.

Reservations

In a letter to the Fellowship, the Fairmont Hotel management, said: "Our entire staff is eager to be of service in any possible way to make this an outstanding affair".

Early reservations are advisable. Established by the Fire Department, there is a definite number of diners that can be accommodated.

Mail reservations accompanied by check or money order to: Banquet Committee, Room 84, 166 Geary St., San Francisco, Calif. 94108.

S.F. Alano Club

San Francisco Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, at the gateway to the city's famed Chinatown, lists these activities for September:

SATURDAY, SEPT 7—First Saturday-of-the-month Dance. Fun and frolic with the Jumpin' Jacks. Door prizes.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21—Monthly Surprise Dance. Prizes and surprises, and, of course, the Jumpin' Jacks.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28—Monthly AA Birthday Party. This is a funfest when all those who have September AA Birthdays, are feted. Coffee and cake for all.

Everyone is invited to attend these social affairs, and Bus D., program chairman, suggests you bring your friends and have real wholesome fun.

Zone Delegate's Meeting Sept. 15

An important meeting of delegates from Groups One, Three, Four and Five, has been slated for Sunday, September 15 at 1:00 p.m. at 1755-34th Street, Sacramento, Calif.

All groups that, presently do not have a registered Group Delegate, should immediately register a representative with the office of the Central California Fellowship. This procedure will enable groups to vote at this meeting.

Highlight of the gathering will be the election of a new Zone Delegate and each group must be registered to cast a vote. Other vital business affairs will be aired.

Another Daly City Group Is Founded

A new group, as yet unnamed, will hold its first meeting, Monday, September 30 at 8:15 p.m. in St. Martin's Episcopal Church 777 Southgate, near the Westlake Shopping Center, in Daly City.

This is an open meeting. Its chief function will be to offer frank and honest discussions on how the AA program works. Emphasis will be directed particularly on subject material, and topics of interest to new members.

"Humility—Attaining it—Maintaining it" — is the topic for the first meeting.

Fall Fete For 1st Step Home

The annual Fall Festival of A.R.A., sponsored by the First Step Club's Alumni Association, is slated this year for Saturday, October 12, starting at 8:00 p.m., in the First Step Home, 1035 Haight Street, San Francisco.

The lively fete starts with a Bingo Game at 8:00 p.m., followed by a dance. Bingo winners will receive fine prizes.

All evening refreshments will be served and a door prize will go to some lucky winner, Mike Q., master-of-ceremonies, said.

Veterans Home Picnic Planned

H. Marlow Link, Chaplain, and Group Sponsor of AA units at the Veterans Home of California, Napa, announced that plans are completed for a big picnic and outing on Saturday, September 7, from Noon to 8:00 p.m.

Picnic grounds are located at Kangas Oaks Picnic Grounds at the Veterans Home of California, Napa County.

Chaplain Link said the picnic area is secluded, with room for 1500 picnickers. Included in the day's fun are: dancing to the Napa Valley Musical Group; adult and children's games. picnic prizes; hot coffee; barbecued chuckburgers; plenty of parking area.

Featured speaker is Floyd B., Roseville Group, a prominent and active member of the Central California Fellowship.

AA's all over Northern California are extended a cordial invitation to attend.

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Each week the AA meeting at San Quentin is held in the usual manner of AA meetings, with one exception. That exception is the fact that it is a meeting of a prison group and is attended by a group or different groups of personnel from the free world each week, free people and inmates alike, joining together for the purpose of maintaining their sobriety.

The majority of inmates at an institutional AA meeting are coming into the Fellowship for the first time. They have little knowledge of the program or how it works. Perhaps they have been advised to go, sometimes even ordered to go. And so, they find themselves in the North Dining Hall of the institution on Thursday evenings with over 400 other members, listening to the speakers who tell their stories and how the program works.

DEEP ADMIRATION

Those who come in to carry the message do so at their own expense and on their own time. And for this we wish to express our deepest appreciation and admiration. It is their example, and courage to face life as an alcoholic, that is proof to us that AA does work. Who knows how many inmates would leave the institution to return to a life filled with misery, frustration and disaster, but who, with the inspiration received from our visitors go out and rebuild their worlds with the help of AA.

Through these meetings we have met many fine, valued and wonderful friends. One of these is Bud C., who was the General Chairman for the Northern California Hospital and Institution Committee, whose job it was to coordinate the 12th Step work being carried on between the outside groups and our institution. Thus, it has been possible for our group to be visited by one or more of the many outside groups each week.

GROUP INTEREST

During Buds term in office he was known to many of us because we saw a good deal of one another. It is his interest in our group and individual men that make us all aware of Bud and his fine works and generous personality. We wish we could adequately convey our thanks and appreciation to Bud, and we extend this open invitation to visit us at any time.

As of July 1st, Bud has passed his job over to Walter McC., of Sacramento who will take over the duties of General Chairman of the Northern California Hospital and Institution Committee. We extend our warmest wishes and congratulations to Walter McC. in his newly elected office.

The San Quentin Fellowship
Jim McC., Secretary.

KINS Beams Help For Alcoholics

Radio Station KINS has been beaming 10-second taped announcements designed to acquaint the public where they can obtain help for the sick alcoholic—who wants it.

The Public Information Committee of the Humboldt-Del Norte Central Committee, Eureka, said plans are also in the making for a taped 15-minute radio program to be aired over the same station. Actual taping of individual's stories would take place within 30 days. This program is similar to that beamed by KFRC in San Francisco in behalf of S. F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Prepared slides, "Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help" giving the 'phone number of the local answering service, are continuously being shown on KVIQ-TV.

Response from the TV "spots" are extremely gratifying, Eureka AA, reported.

S. F. Pair Speak at Vacaville

The California Medical Facility AA Fellowship Group at Vacaville is holding its annual anniversary meeting on Saturday, September 21, between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Guest speakers are two noted San Franciscans, Jane O'T., and "Red" K., a speaking duet that have a wide, admiring following. The CMF AA Fellowship is desirous of having present the many good friends the facility has developed throughout Northern California.

But, Ross Marsh, the Facility's Outside Sponsor said:

"Keeping in mind that this celebration must adhere to the rules of institutional life, we have taken the liberty of asking that you obtain a reservation from me by giving your name, address, and organization (group, club, etc.) to which you belong. Minimum age is 18 years."

This should be immediately mailed not later than September 10 to The Anniversary Committee, P. O. Box 2000 Vacaville, Calif.

New Alano Group at Citrus Heights

The Citrus Heights Alanon Group will meet at the Messiah Lutheran Church on Antelope Road in the Grand Oaks Subdivision, North Area of Citrus Heights, Calif.

It meets at 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays, at the same time, and place as does the regular Wednesday night AA group. Acting Secretary is Marcia C.

Rebound Meetings

There's a solid place in the AA program for Rebound Clubs. These groups are primarily helpful in aiding those who have slipped and need extra help in adjusting to a life without alcohol.

The Rebound Club of the Central California Fellowship, meets at 615 Tenth Street, Sacramento, Calif. If you're in the vicinity, drop in.

FIRE DESTROYS REDDING ALANO

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Alano Club of Redding (Calif.), only after a few short weeks of operation.

Opened for business June 1, at 1551 Market Street, the Club served as the established meeting place for Redding Groups.

Thanks to the voluntary offer of the Reverend Bob Hawthorne of Redding's First Methodist Church, the social hall in the basement of the church has been placed at the disposal of Redding Groups, pending future rebuilding plans for their ruined Alano Club.

First Methodist Church is located at the corner of South and East Streets, Redding. The groups meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 p.m.

S. F. Alanon Elects 3 Board Members

Alanon Family Group elected a trio of new Board members at a meeting held in San Francisco, Friday, August 9. They are:

Lilian A., Civic Center Alanon; Helen B., San Carlos Group; and Marjorie B., Mission Alanon Group.

Staffed entirely by volunteer members, the office at 166 Geary Street, suite 129, is dedicated largely towards spreading the Alanon message. Additional volunteers to keep this work flourishing are urgently needed, the new Board members declared.

Phone GA 1-6198, or come in person. Office hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

HISPANO WEDNESDAY

Grupo Hispano Wednesday — a new Spanish-speaking group. Closed, it meets Wednesdays, at 8:00 p.m., at 1464 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

HISPANO FRIDAY

Grupo Hispano Friday — a new, closed, Spanish-speaking group. Meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m., at 1292 Potrero Avenue, San Francisco.

Peninsula Sets September Talks

Dave M., pinch-hitting as acting secretary for Peninsula All Groups, has arranged a sterling roster of speakers for speaker-meetings during September, including Chuck C., our AA Envoy Extraordinary, who has been on an AA speaking tour of the Nation. Chuck, from Laguna Beach, Calif., is rated one of the top AA speakers in the U. S.

The complete program:

SATURDAY, SEPT. 14—Chuck C., Laguna Beach. Hosting is Palo Alto Friday Group.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21—Barbara I., formerly of S. F. Fellowship, now a member of San Carlos. Her Hosting Group will be San Bruno.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28—Arnol R., San Francisco Central All-Groups. The Palo Alto Friday Women's Group, will host.

Peninsula All Groups meets at 8:30 p.m. each Saturday at St. Matthews Episcopal Church Auditorium. The lovely hall is located at Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, San Mateo, Calif.

Coffee and plenty of arms-length AA before, and after, the meetings.

H & I Meeting Set for Chico Sept. 22

Contact Chairmen and Facility Coordinators are requested to attend an Area Three, Hospital and Institution Committee Meeting, at 1:00 p.m., September 22, at Chico alif.

Bill S., Regional Chairman will preside. Since Bill is changing his residence to Sacramento, all future H & I mail addressed to him, should be posted to 1255-33rd Street, Sacramento.

STEPPING STONES

Stepping Stones Women's—a new group — closed, for women only, meets Sundays, at 7:30 p.m., at 255-10th Avenue, San Francisco.

Good Speakers at Monday Beginners'

The Monday Beginners' Meeting of S. F. Inter-County Fellowship will be featured by five sterling speakers during September, the Program Committee announced. Highlighting the five meetings, are:

MON., SEPT. 2—Bertha B., First Step Group.

MON., SEPT. 9—Tom C., Mission Dolores Group.

MON., SEPT. 16—Jinny B., Los Altos Group.

MON., SEPT. 23—Walt W., Palo Alto Group.

MON., SEPT. 30—Harry G., Alano Wednesday Noon Group.

Monday Beginners meet at 1755 Clay Street between Polk and Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco. The Committee that arranged the September program consists of Fanda S., Glen B., Wayne S., and Ralph S.

Eureka Holding Picnic Sept. 15

Win S., chairman, Public Information Committee of the Humboldt-Del Norte Central Committee, said the annual Eureka AA Picnic will be held at Williams Grove, Sunday, September 15.

The grounds is located in a secluded State park in the heart of the north woods redwood area, a few miles from Weott, on Highway 101.

In addition to a pot-luck luncheon, a short central committee meeting, the outing will be devoted to traditional picnic activities, including swimming, horse shoe pitching contest, and other wholesome outdoor fun.

AA members, and their families and friends, are cordially invited to attend.

AA Fundamentals at Thursday Beginners'

The basic principals of the AA program will be emphasized by a foursome of down-to-earth speakers at the Thursday Beginners' Meetings held in September. The programs are as follows:

THURS., SEPT. 12—Myrtle N., Stepping Stone Group.

THURS., SEPT. 19—Nic N., Oakland Fellowship.

THURS., SEPT. 26—Millie B., San Francisco Fellowship.

Meetings are held at 8:15 p.m. at 261 Fell Street, San Francisco. Coffee, cake and arms-length AA before, and after each meeting. Committee for September is composed of Barbara T. Henry H., O'Day R., and Jim M.

"SNOW WHITE AND SEVEN DWARFS" PANICS PICNIC

Mother Nature provided warm, balmy weather for the All Northern California Annual AA Picnic, held Sunday, August 11, at Blackberry Farm, in Cupertino and AA members, their kin kith and kids responded in record numbers—the biggest turnout ever held—a total of 1007 attendance.

Kids and adults were having a ball in the three swimming pools; divot diggers slashed and putted little white balls on the nine-hole course; fragrant aromas from fried chicken and baked ham wafted through the trees and everyone was having a jolly time, indeed.

The Enticer

And, then came the piece-de-resistance, as the French say: The Floor Show. Headlining this opus was "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs". Lurking ever in the background was the Ugly Sister who was hell-bent on enticing the beautiful and demure Snow White to fall off the wagon and belt some nourishing muscatel.

Constantly racing to forestall the nefarious plot were Snow White's faithful Seven Dwarfs — Stinky, Drinky, Dinky, Sneaky, Blotto Sotto, and Grappo — who, for some reason

or other, were dashingy attired in Mexican Sombreros.

In a well-modulated falsetto and with a five o'clock shadow that heavy applications of pancake make-up wouldn't conceal, our heroine courageously withstood the wiles of her equally bearded sister - the louse.

All during the entire mellerdrammer, the sound equipment would sputter and die—leaving players in mid-stage mouthing their lines into a dead mike like goldfish gaping out of a bowl. (Which could account for the writer's inability to tie-up the seven-man mob in sombreros. The mike was dead when the announcer outlined the plot).

Local Talent

Sympathetic listeners sometimes wondered why—at some points in the sound failure — demure Snow White and her supporting cast didn't rush over the stage bar and gulp a half-gallon of grape out of sheer frustration. But we found out later that like the wiggled players, it was masquerading as something else. Just colored water. A fake, demmit.

At the end of the floor show — and everyone appreciated the efforts

of the cast and bit players—all of whom were recruited from the Industrial Club, the 1464 Club, and the Emissary Club — they received a rousing ovation.

All except the Sound Engineer who was last seen quietly trying to drown himself in the creek that flowed through the picnic grounds. Alas, that too, failed. There was only two inches of water in the stream.

Good Music

But it was a grand day. The Kids had foot races, smashed a pinato containing prizes, and ate hog dogs and drank pop 'til they were bow-legged. Adults danced to the fine music of the Jumpin' Jacks, following Snow White. And the day ended with glows of satisfaction for having a darn swell day.

Those who like statistics, can have this: 1500 cups of coffee were drunk; 100 gallons of soft drinks consumed, and 800 dogs eaten.

Secretary Recovers

Howard B., Alano Group Secretary, Central California Fellowship, is at home recuperating following major surgery performed at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital.

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Published Monthly in San Francisco
By the Northern California Council
of Alcoholics Anonymous
Address all letters to GOOD NEWS
166 Geary Street, Room 79
San Francisco 8, California
Subscription Price — \$1.20 per year



Vol XII September, 1963 No. 1

**'Last Sunday' Party
To Be Held Sept. 29**

The Industrial Club of San Francisco that meets at 16th and Guerrero Streets announced the commencement of "Last Sunday" affairs—a dance and buffet supper—from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to be held the last Sunday of each month.

The first is scheduled for Sunday, September 29. Dance music will be provided by Pete's Combo, a popular dance band. An anticipated donation of \$1.00 per person will help defray the expenses of the activity.

Meeting Change

The Eddie Cupps Memorial Group of the Central California Fellowship, Sacramento, has changed its meeting date from Tuesdays to Thursdays. It will continue to meet at the Church of the Guadalupe, Seventh and T Street, Cleve M., secretary, said.

**Lincoln Park Will
Celebrate Sept. 14**

The Fourth Anniversary of the founding of Lincoln Park Group, San Francisco, will be observed with a gala party, Saturday, September 14, at 8:30 p.m. in the social hall of the Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church 31st Avenue and Clement Street.

Two noted Marin County AA members are slated to speak. Florette P., Gratitude Group, Sausalito; and Paul G., Mill Valley, will be on the speaker's rostrum.

Refreshments coffee, and ample arms-length AA is on the agenda following the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

**366 Inmates Attend San Quentin
Quarterly All Groups Meeting**

Sixty-two Northern California guests from ten districts gathered at the North Dining Hall (San Quentin Penitentiary) July 18 to take part in San Quentin's quarterly "All Groups" Alcoholics Anonymous meeting.

The evening was highlighted by the introduction of Walter Mc C., of Sacramento, who succeeded popular Bud C., as Alcoholics Anonymous Northern California Hospital and Institution chairman. The Hayward man has devoted much of his time to San Quentin's AA program and was general chairman for the Northern California Hospital and Institution Committee.

Walter McC., acknowledged the introduction with what was described as a "brief but powerful message of hope and inspiration" to the local members.

Membership Grows

Alcoholics Anonymous membership at San Quentin is currently 434, with 366 present at the quarterly

meeting.

Eleven inmate speakers delivered their experiences with alcohol, and how it eventually led to disaster. The talks were hailed as demonstrating "profound thinking and deep insight".

Groups from Santa Clara, South Alameda County, Oakland, Sacramento area, Vallejo, Palo Alto Marin County Richmond, Contra Costa and San Francisco, attended the All Groups conference.

Next quarterly meeting is scheduled for November 21.

(Reprinted from Aug. 1 issue, The San Quentin News)

IN MEMORIUM

Karl Schneider, a dedicated member of Vallejo Fellowship, passed away last month, in Vallejo. A host of AA friends bereaved the loss of a good man.

DO YOU GET YOUR MAIL?

Does your group get the mail? Does a change of group secretary mean that you do not receive conference bulletins, H & I notices, NCC Committee communications, and General Service announcements?

In a recent discussion with Errol W., NCC Secretary, the subject of mailing was given top priority as a serious problem to solve.

GOOD NEWS, and the central office of the S. F. Inter-County Fellowship have been witness to the many pieces of mail returned for faulty address: "moved", "unknown", etc.

Conference mail has been returned by the handfuls while many groups and members complain because they failed to receive tickets, announcements, and other pieces of important mail. Obviously, some answer should be found.

GOOD NEWS is convinced that the problem can be largely solved by the use of POSTOFFICE BOX NUMBERS.

Many groups, have for years, used P. O. boxes. No matter how many times a group may change its secretary—how frequently group reporters, G. S. delegates, or H & I committeemen — or even a complete relocation of a meeting place, the mail will get to the group, or the person, if mailed to a POST-OFFICE BOX.

In many groups keys are a sort of "badge of office". They change hands when changes are made. Keys to the building, the locker for literature, coffee-making paraphernalia, dishes, etc. These are passed along to the person that assumes group responsibilities.

Why not include P. O. Box key? It's inexpensive and it will solve the problem of mailing—both for the group and the sender—and the same box safely intact, in service for years, no matter how many group changes.

UNIQUE PATERSON HOSPITAL TREATS ONLY THE ALCOHOLIC

Paterson, N. J. (AP)—An alcoholic needs \$100 and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous as his sponsor to be admitted to a hospital located in a back-sliding industrial area of this city. It is the Mount Carmel Guild and Hospital, established in 1955 by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson in a factory building that served many years ago as a brewery.

The 25-bed hospital for male alcoholics is the only hospital licensed by New Jersey solely for the treatment of alcoholics. Its 50-50 record of success led the diocese to nearby a 12-bed hospital for women alcoholics a year ago.

7,000 Handled

Both units offer patients a compressed, five-day treatment based on medication and sedatives for the first day or two, then a high vitamin diet and finally group therapy. The outspoken optimistic director of the hospital since its founding, is Monsignor William N. Wall, whose "uniform of the day" is slacks and baseball cap.

More than 7,000 alcoholics have passed through the hospital in eight years and working with these men and women has given Monsignor Wall definite opinions about the disease.

Alcoholism is a disease, he says, a physical compulsion with mental obsession. And, it affects five per cent of the population, the rich, the poor, the educated the uneducated. "The only kind we haven't had is a rabbi," Monsignor Wall says. How do women compare with men? "They are more emotional and tremendous pretense. Often the husband is to blame. He doesn't want anyone to know he's married to an alcoholic so he hides her, and this convinces her that she's terrible, a disgrace'.

Prevention Field

It is in the field of prevention rather than rehabilitation, however, that Monsignor Wall is at his outspoken best. In a recent speech, Monsignor Wall suggested that beer be

introduced to young men and women at the age of 18 — by the family at the dinner table and in moderation. It prompted a flurry of angry letters. Monsignor Wall, 48, and with crew-cut grey hair, held his ground.

"Prevention starts in the 18-25 year group", he says. "Prevention means education. The best teachers are the parents. The best classroom the home. The best textbook is a good example. The best environment is the dinner table.

"The best introduction medium should be a moderate beverage; beer served with meals."

He adds: "Beer does not cause alcoholism; alcohol causes alcoholism; alcoholics pursue alcohol—not beer".

"As a matter of fact increased beer consumption can be an opportunity to reduce our alcoholic population."

And, as if anticipating another deluge of vehement mail, the Monsignor smiles and says, "I don't own any stock in a brewery."

Editor Comments

Since this item was reprinted from "Chit Chat", which is not an official AA publication, but read in AA circles in and around Pennsylvania, its editor comments, thusly:

"The Right Reverend Monsignor William N. Wall deserves a lot of credit for the success of Mount Carmel Guild and Hospital in Paterson, N. J. The article quoted above appeared in a Paterson newspaper and reprinted from the Associated Press. I certainly agree with Msgr. Wall in that "Prevention Means Education". Im not quite so sure that his remarks about beer is the answer, but at least it is thought-provoking. Do you have any ideas?"

Change in Davis

Davis Group, an AA unit affiliated with Central California Fellowship, has changed its weekly meeting night to Wednesday, at 8:00 p.m. It still meets at its regular place, room 20, Davis Junior High School, Russell Blvd. and "B" Streets, across from Standard Oil station.

Large Group Hears Paula at Eureka

lic speaker meeting held Satur-KB

Paula B. of Santa Rosa was the principal speaker at the fall public speaker meeting held Saturday, August 17, at the Veterans Memorial building in Eureka. Approximately 70 AA members and their guests heard Paula tell her story. August 13 was the tenth anniversary of her sobriety, and her straight from the heart "pitch" held her listeners from beginning to end.

"All of us being members of the human race, it would behoove each of us to recognize our own faults as well as those of others', Paula stated in essence. "There are those of us who are complacent as there are those of us who show our gratitude in a more recognizable manner", she went on to say. She suggested that we all become better acquainted with ourselves in order to better understand our fellow man.

This meeting, sponsored by the AA Central Service Committee for Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, was hosted by the members of the Fellowship Group of Rio Dell. Brownie B., secretary of that group, was chairman for the evening, while Verne B., read the Twelve Steps and Joe S., the Twelve Traditions.

Coffee, and an abundance of arms length AA was consumed after the speaker session.

H & I Meeting Is Set For Saturday, Sept. 7

A pre-conference meeting will be held by the Hospital and Institutions Committee of NCC, Saturday September 7, at the S.F. Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, San Francisco.

Millie B., secretary said the morning session is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Principal order of business will be the formulation of a program which will be presented by the Hospital and Institution Committee at the fall NCC Conference Saturday,

District and Chairman, and all group committee members, are invited to participate.