



Good News



SEPTEMBER,
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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

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Plans For 20th Annual Conference at Chico, Oct. 1-2

(By Bill G., chairman, Northern California Council of AA)

A strong spirit of unity and enthusiasm has been generated throughout California for the 20th Annual Fall Conference of NCC, slated for Chico State College, Saturday and Sunday, October 1 and 2. Jim C., Chico, and Vern McM., Gridley, co-chairmen of the Host Committee have been feverishly perfecting final arrangements for the big two-day affair.

Clarence S., one of the early members of our fellowship, will come from St. Petersburg, Florida to speak Saturday night. Clarence appeared on the program in Toronto for the 30th Anniversary Convention of A.A. He is reported to be a very fine speaker with an inspiring A.A. message. Jim W., San Francisco, will chair this meeting.

SEATTLE SPEAKER

Sigrid W., Seattle, Washington, will speak Sunday afternoon. Sigrid is very active in A.A. affairs in the State of Washington and is currently serving as Alternate Chairman of the State A.A. Assembly. She has a very important assignment outside of A.A. as President of the Women's Studio Club, a rehabilitation home for women alcoholics in Seattle. Chuck W., Santa Rosa, will serve as chairman for this closing meeting.

All meetings will be held in the Chico State College which makes a most beautiful setting for this final conference of 1966.

BILL'S OWN STORY

A kick-off meeting for early arrivals will be held Friday at 8:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 279 E. Washington Ave., Chico. Chairman for this gathering is George S., Chico. A special program has been arranged. "Bill's Own Story," a 60-minute color film, professionally produced with Bill and Lois telling of his last drinking days, his and Dr. Bob's recovery, and their decision to share this miracle with

(Continued on page 4)

Eastbay Plans All-Groups Day

Eastbay Fellowship is making plans for its Third Annual All-Groups Day scheduled for Sunday, October 30, at Veterans Memorial Building, Oakland.

Jerry M., secretary, said the theme of program is "Opportunities For Service".

At this stage of planning, Jerry said, the program and format will be similar to the past two All Groups Days which made such a big hit in the Bay Area.

Local speakers will be utilized, along with panelists and other local talent. Clark C., Hayward, is general chairman, and Chuck G., Hayward, is program chairman for the event.

Central California Fellowship Sets Monthly Speaker Meeting

The Second Saturday Of The Month Speaker Meeting, sponsored by the Central California Fellowship, will be held at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, September 10, at the Labor Center, 2525 Stockton Street, Sacramento.

The program, Louise E., Chairman, has the A.A. Prayer by Ed N., 12 Steps by Cliff J; 12 Traditions

San Bruno Sets October Slate

San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship provides all five speakers for the San Bruno Monday Night Speaker-Discussion Group meetings in October. And, this, readers are apt to observe is a natural consequence since San Bruno is affiliated with S.F. Inter-County Fellowship. Speakers are:

MONDAY, OCT. 3—Rollin W., business manager, GOOD NEWS.

MONDAY, OCT. 10—John A., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

MONDAY, OCT. 17—Charley R., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship

MONDAY, OCT. 24—Harriet H., central secretary, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31—Ila W., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Program chairman Jean N., said, October 31, is "Birthday Time" which will undoubtedly provide the speaker with an augmented audience.

San Bruno Monday Night Group meets at 8:30 in the Volunteer Fire Hall, 618 San Mateo Avenue, San Bruno. Plenty of free parking is available in the rear of the adjacent Grand Leader Market.

by Mae J; and Dick H., accepted the post of Master of Ceremonies.

Dr. Harold Herrick, assistant Superintendent of Psychiatry, De Witt State Hospital, will be the non-alcoholic Guest Speaker, and after Intermission, Johnny H., central office executive secretary, will address the assembly.

ALANO CLUB PLANS LABOR DAY DANCE

Three "fun events" are planned by the San Francisco Alano Club for September, among 'em a Labor Day Dance.

The affair, to commemorate the union labor man (and woman) is set for Saturday, September 3, starting about 9:00 p.m. The "Jumpin' Jacks" providing the music.

It will be followed on Saturday, September 17, with a "Back-To-School" Dance, which is likely to startle some of our good readers with the notion that we've a bunch of teenage alcoholics belonging to the Club. 'Taint so. It's believed the Program Chairman means "Back - to - the - School - of Hard Knocks".

Then, on the 24th, an AA Birthday party will be held to honor those that have an AA birthday occurring in September.

Industrial Club Re-Starts Dances

Sunday, September 25, The Industrial Club of San Francisco, will resume a weekly program of dancing.

Taped "name" bands will provide the music and a buffet supper will be served. Dancing starts at 6:00 p.m. and continues until 10:00 p.m. Donation for dancing and buffet is \$1.00.

The Industrial Club is located at the corner of 16th and Guerrero Streets, in the Mission District.

Eastbay Alano Club To Hear Walter O'K

Guest speaker at the Eastbay Alano Club, Wednesday, September 28, will be Walter O'K., noted TV and radio personality from Hollywood.

Walter will speak to the Oakland group at a meeting which starts at 8:00 p.m., at the Club's headquarters, 319 14th Street, in downtown Oakland.

Bay Area AA members and friends are invited to attend.

AA News *from Santa Clara County*

(By Carolynne G.)

The annual AA Picnic for the Valley was held Saturday, August 13 at Hidden Valley Ranch. Those in attendance were treated to an exceptionally grand day. About 400 people were on the grounds. The afternoon was climaxed by a talk given by "Alabam" C., of North Hollywood. Her message was terrific and all were inspired by her story of how she worked out her problem. The meeting was sponsored by the Cupertino Group as the August All Groups Meeting. Special thanks go to Glenn and Betty H. for the wonderful job they did in organizing the picnic and to John and Juanita C., for donating the grounds to us for the day.

The September All Groups Meeting will be held September 10th at the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Avenue, San Jose. The speaker will be Wayne E., Menlo Park, and will be hosted by the Friendship Group which meets the first Saturday of each month. Wayne has a very fine message which should be heard.

The Alano Club Bingo game is still waiting to give a lucky person the jackpot of \$500.00. The blackout number is up to 58 and someone should soon win. Why not give yourself a break and come out to the Club on Friday night?

The Alano Club is constantly making improvements for the enjoyment of its members. A Billiard room recently, and now they are re-doing the large meeting room. Last year it was the new parking lot and picnic area—all done for the benefit of A.A. members who are also members of the Club. The Club "dues" are only \$3.00 per month per family or \$15.00 for six months. This entitles all members of a family to use the club and its facilities. The Club plays an important part in the sobriety of many people—those who need the association of sober people as well as those who need the Fellowship to be found there.

September is an important month for the Intergroup Council of A.A. in the Valley. It is the month that nominations are made for a new intergroup chairman. All registered intergroup representatives are urged to attend. Your group must be represented to have a vote in October. If you are interested in the future of A.A. in the Valley be sure your representative attends the monthly meeting held the first Wednesday of each month at the Alano Club.

DOVE ARSEN ARDENT AA WORKER DIES

At 10:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 17, Dove Arsen was making a Twelve Step call via phone from her Millbrae home. Suddenly from nerveless fingers, the receiver fell to the floor and a great woman who had devoted countless days and hours to helping alcoholics was dead. Physicians pronounced it a heart attack.

For two years, Dove was treasurer of Peninsula All-Groups and was for another two years chairman of Peninsula's annual Christmas and

New Year parties.

She was buried from the Chapel of the Highlands with Reverend Nims, a retired minister, and longtime friend of the dead woman, delivering the eulogy. Interment took place in Golden Gate National Cemetery. She is survived by her husband and teenage daughter.

Hundreds of AA friends and family members paid last homage at the Chapel and graveside ceremonies.

ARA Festival Is Set for Sept 24

The Alcoholic Rehabilitation Association (ARA) holds its Fall Festival Saturday, September 24, at the First Step Home, 1035 Haight Street, San Francisco.

Rollin W., chairman of the ARA program committee, said a bingo game will kick-off the Festival at 8:00 p.m., with dancing scheduled for about 9:30 p.m. with ARA's own "live" music orchestra.

Rollin said an Anticipated Donation of \$1.00 per person entitles the donor to a drawing for a \$25.00 merchandise order and a lesser prize.

But, he emphasized, admission to the bingo game and dancing is free—that is—it is not mandatory to make a donation. Everyone can play bingo, dance, eat, and participate in the door prize drawing whether or not they've bought a raffle ticket.

Proceeds, if any, will be devoted to the First Step Club, Rollin said. The Club, an alumni association of the ARA, uses its funds for specific projects that benefit the Home, i.e. purchase of carpets, drapes, furnishings and things to make the Home more liveable.

Peninsula To Show "Bill's Own Story"

A special showing of "Bill's Own Story" a 60-minute color film, will be held at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 28, in the auditorium of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, San Mateo.

The film, shown under the auspices of the Peninsula All-Groups, is a documentary in which Bill and Lois W., relate events leading up to, and the formation of the first AA group. Actually, it's a history of Alcoholics Anonymous, to date.

Court House Group Plans Anniversary

The Ninth Anniversary of the San Rafael Court House Group will be held at 8:30 p.m., Thursday, September 29.

The affair is scheduled to take place in Room 206 of the San Rafael Court House, 5th and Court Street, San Rafael.

Harriet H., central secretary, San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship, will be guest speaker. Refreshments and door prizes are on the agenda.

S. F. All-Groups Open Meetings

Central All-Groups Open Meetings, held under the auspices of San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship, announced its speaker roster for the month of September.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2—Marialice and Pete M. will discuss "Dividends of AA", with Rollin W. serving as chairman.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 9—Ila W. will chair a session presided over by Speakers Kathy S. "Problems of a Woman Alcoholic"; and by Charles Q. who talks on "Don't Take Yourself So Seriously".

FRIDAY, SEPT. 16—Speaker Lucille S. talks about "Contentment With Sobriety"; and Bill A's theme is "Came To Believe". Bill G. will chair the session.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23—"Spiritual Progress" will be discussed by Margaret P; and Meek M. has something to say about "Grass Roots AA". Chairing the meeting will be Phyllis McG.

FRIDAY, SEPT 30—June R. will speak for half the meeting on "Answers in AA"; the other portion of the program will be devoted to a talk by Stanley F. Davey. Mr. Davey is director, Harbor Light Center & Bridgeway House and a "true friend of the alcoholic" although he, himself, is a non-alcoholic.

Central All-Groups hold meetings every Friday at 8:30 p.m. throughout the year at the Building Service Center, 240 Golden Gate Avenue in downtown S.F.

Considered one of most comfortable meeting places on the Pacific Coast, the hall boasts padded seats, air conditioning, fine PA system, and good acoustics.

Open to the public, it is also considered a good meeting to introduce Doubting Thomases to AA. Parking at nominal cost may be obtained around the corner on Leavenworth Street.

H & I BROAD-SIDES

By Bill S., general chairman, Hospital and Institution Committee, NCC

The final quarterly general meeting for the year 1966 will be held in Modesto on Sunday, September 11, 1966 at 10:00 a.m. The address is 1115 5th Street near the corner of 5th and Maze Road. We would like to see 100% attendance as we have a dynamic area chairman Ron G. No one in his area should be able to say they were not informed on the activities of the Hospital & Institution Committee. Ron sets a good example of good communications.

* * * *

We had a real good general meeting in Fresno. Our thanks to Bob D. and his lovely wife Neva for the fine hospitality they showed to all of us.

* * * *

Bob D. is doing a fine and enthusiastic job as area chairman for Area #9. He understands organizational procedures. He is real fortunate to have so many willing and dedicated workers. The results of good communications, willing workers, and good leadership at all levels show in the good results we are getting in Area #9.

* * * *

This month I must be brief. Last month I was so long winded that they didn't have room to print the financial report. So this month you get a financial report.

Chico is Set for "Big One"

(Continued from page 1)

other alcoholics, will be shown.

WORKSHOPS

Conference registration commences Saturday at 9:00 a.m. The main auditorium will be used by the General Service Committee to stage the first meeting of the day, getting underway at 10:30 a.m. This is an open session. The color-sound movie of Bill and Lois will also be featured at this meeting to accommodate those who were unable to attend the kick-off meeting.

For the remainder of Saturday and again on Sunday the Conference will be full with workshops, an important secretaries participation meeting, Hospital & Institution, Alanon and Alateen sessions.

PSYCHIATRIST TALKS

At 1:00 p.m., the Hospital & Institution open meeting will get underway with Jim C., Chico, serving as chairman. Guest speaker is Dr. Harold D. Herrick, assistant superintendent psychiatric division, DeWitt State Hospital.

Following a 15 minute business meeting of the Council Delegates, a Group Secretaries meeting will convene at 3:15 p.m. This Secretaries discussion program has been revived within the last year and, is rapidly becoming a big feature of council sessions. All Secretaries and interested members are urged to attend. Mildred H., Livermore and Merle G., Millbrae, will co-chair this meeting.

ALATEEN-ALANON

Alanon and Alateen programs are scheduled to get under way Saturday morning. An Alateen Workshop will be held in Room 104 at 10:00 a.m. and at 10:30 a.m., Alanon will convene in Room 107 for a World Service meeting. Room 120 will be occupied by Alanon at 1:00 p.m. with an open meeting.

A complete program of Alanon and Alateen meetings will be available at the conference site. They will close with an open meeting at

(Continued on Page 5)



PROGRAM ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1966

- 8:30 P.M.—Conference "Kick-off" Meeting
 First Christian Church, 279 East Washington Ave., Chico
 Chairman: George S., Chico
 Chapter 5: Ed S., Chico
 Traditions: Art H., Chico
 Special Program: "Bill's Own Story" A sixty-minute, colored film showing of Bill W. starting with his last bout with booze & the beginning of A.A.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1966

- 9:00 A.M.—Registration opens, Lobby, Chico State College
- 10:30 A.M.—General Service Open Meeting, Main Auditorium
 Chairman: Ed H., Chairman Delegate, Panel I, Pittsburg
 Resolution: Ralph S., San Francisco
- 10:45 A.M.—"Bill's Own Story"
 A sixty-minute, colored film showing of Bill W., starting with his last bout with booze, and the beginning of A.A.
- 11:00 A.M.—N.C.C. Central Committee Meeting, Room 117
 (Zone Chairmen only)
- 1:00 P.M.—Hospital and Institution Open Meeting, Main Auditorium
 Chairman: Jim C., Chico
 Guest Speaker: Dr. Harold D. Herrick, Assistant Superintendent, Psychiatric Division DeWitt State Hospital
- 3:00 P.M.—Hospital & Institution Area Chairman Meeting, Room 117
 Chairman: Pres S., San Jose
- 3:00-3:15 — N.C.C. Business Meeting, Main Auditorium
 Chairman: Bill G., Secretary, N.C.C.
- 3:15 P.M.—Secretaries Meeting (Group Problems) Main Auditorium
 Co-chairmen: Merle G., Millbrae; Mildred H., Livermore
- 8:30 P.M.—Open Public A.A. Meeting, Main Auditorium
 Chairman: Jim W., San Francisco
 Invocation: Rev. Rolfe J. Conrad
 Trinity Methodist Church, Chico
 Address of Welcome: Honorable Harry McGowan,
 Mayor of Chico
 Chapter 5: Barbara A., Richmond, Calif.
 Traditions: Bill A., Richmond, Calif.
 Guest Speaker: Clarence S., St. Petersburg, Florida
 (Speaker at 30th Anniver. Convention of A.A.)
- 10:15 P.M.—Dancing, A.A. Band, South Gymnasium
- 10:30 P.M.—A.A. Meeting, Little Theater
 Chairman: Myrtle V., Sacramento
 Chapter 5: Warren T., Vallejo
 Traditions: Bertha B., San Francisco
 Speaker: Curly F., Mt. View

CHICO STATE COLLEGE
OCTOBER 1-2, 1966
CHICO, CALIFORNIA

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1966

- 9:00 A.M.—Hospital & Institution Workshops
 Institutions: Bob D., Fresno, Moderator, Room 107
 Hospitals: Ron G., Modesto, Moderator, Room 104
- 10:30 A.M.—General Service Participation Workshop, Main Auditorium
 This will be something new. The meeting will be set up with a number of "BUZZ GROUPS"
 Chairman: Jim A., San Mateo
 Co-Chairman: Bob R., San Francisco
 Resolution: Geri DeV., San Francisco
 Traditions: Fran R., San Francisco
- 1:00 P.M.—Open Public A.A. Meeting, Main Auditorium
 Chairman: Chuck W., Santa Rosa
 Invocation: Reverend Father Raymond C. Rolf
 St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, Chico
 Chapter 5: Roberta A., Sacramento
 Traditions: John A., Sacramento
 Guest Speaker: Sigrid W., Seattle, Washington
 President of Women's Studio Club for the Rehabilitation of Women Alcoholics. She is currently Alternate Chairman of the State A.A. Assembly.

3:00 P.M.—Conference Adjourns

All meetings will convene and adjourn on schedule. The snack bar will be closed during 8:30 meeting Saturday evening and 1:00 p.m. meeting on Sunday. All meetings will be held in the Chico State College.

ALANON AND ALATEEN PROGRAM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1966

- 9:00 A.M.—Alanon and Alateen Registration
- 10:00 A.M.—Alateen Workshop, Room 104
- 10:30 A.M.—World Service Meeting, Room 107
- 1:00 P.M.—"Courage To Change," Room 120
 Speakers: Sara, Oakland
 Marilyn, Stockton
 Estelle, Woodland
 Dorothy, Chico
- 3:00 P.M.—Alanon Business Meeting, N.C.C., Room 120
- 3:00 P.M.—Alateen Open Meeting, Room 104

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1966

- 9:00 A.M.—Alateen Sponsor Meeting, Room 117
- 10:30 A.M.—Alanon-Alateen Open Meeting
 Speakers: Bob and Madeline, Paradise
 Husband and wife team. Bob is an A.A. member.
 Madeline is Alanon.
 Sandy from San Pablo will be the Alateen speaker

More About
CHICO

10:30 a.m. Sunday in the same hall. After the Saturday night meeting, all members and friends may enjoy dancing to an all A.A. band.

G.S. WORKSHOP

On Sunday at 9:00 a.m., the Hospital and Institution Workshops will get under way with Ron G., Modesto, serving as moderator for Hospitals and Bob D., Fresno, will chair for the Institution section.

At 10:30 a.m.—A General Service Participation Workshop has been scheduled in the Main Auditorium. This is something new. Meeting will be set up with various "buzz groups" Chairman: Jim A., San Mateo; Co-chairman: Bob R., S.F.; Resolutions: Geri DeV., S.F.; Traditions: Fran R., S.F.

Jim C., Host Committee Chairman, assures everyone who attends that ample refreshments will be available and a fine weekend of good A.A. fellowship will result.

ANSON WEEKS ILL

Bandleader Anson Weeks is seriously ill in Martinez Veterans Hospital, according to a report received from the central office of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Thanks to Anson Weeks who volunteered to lead the orchestra at the first Annual Dance and Banquet sponsored by S.F. Fellowship, the initial AA "big-time" social affair was a success. Attendance was 350.

Today, the annual banquet and dance is considered to be the biggest single social event in San Francisco, requiring the largest dining room to accommodate crowds of 1200—with up to 300 turned away for lack of seating capacity.

Oldtime AA members are grateful to Anson for "exposing himself and career to possible public criticism" although it later led him to a top-notch position in the entertainment field and lucrative band contracts.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION COMMITTEE OF NCC

Hopeful of expediting the issuance of our schedules, a decision was made to switch from a Calendar Year to a Fiscal Year operation. Henceforth our year will begin on July 1 and terminate on June 30, the following year. It was also decided to issue the schedules semi-annually. The following statement covers the period from January 1 to June 30, 1966:

DONATIONS

Cash Balance Jan. 1, 1966		795.75
From Area 1	22.26	
From Area 2	256.63	
From Area 3	119.71	
From Area 4	829.03	
From Area 5	221.51	
From Area 6	515.03	
From Area 7	158.29	
From Area 8	204.50	
From Area 9	114.57	
From Area 10	000.00	
From Area 11	60.54	
From Areas 12, 13 & 14	39.32	
		2541.39

TOTAL

3337.14

DISBURSEMENTS

Literature	1100.00	
Postage	67.80	
Good News	100.00	
Sacto Central Office (rent)	10.00	
S.F. Alano Club (rent)	50.00	
San Jose Alano (rent)	9.96	
Vallejo Fellowship (rent)	6.70	
Sacramento Group #3 (rent)	15.00	
P.O. Box 4032 (rent)	13.50	
Conference Expense	106.70	
Petty Cash issued	108.60	
Schedule & Misc. Expense	278.36	
Phone & Mailing	495.57	
A. B. Dick Co.; Deavolo Equip; Fairway Press; Keefe Type; McDougall Press; Riteway Printing; O. H. Daveson; Wilson-Rich Paper Co.;		
Schwabacher; Perino & Vitek, etc.	307.04	2669.23

SURPLUS (cash on hand)

667.91

Respectfully Submitted, Walter R., treasurer. 3337.14

SECRETARY MEETINGS HELD AT ALANO CLUB

Secretaries of groups affiliated with S.F. Inter-County Fellowship are warmly invited—and urged—to attend Group Secretary Meetings which are held the third Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. on the Third Floor of the Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, San Francisco.

Purpose of the sessions is to (a) improve communication between groups, and between groups and the

Central Office; (b) find better ways to fulfill our primary AA purpose of "Carrying the Message"; (c) encourage greater participation in AA activities; (d) to share group problems, experiences, and information.

Group secretaries are needed and wanted at these workshops for opinions, suggestions, criticisms. Let's have yours and the next meeting, please.

THURSDAY BEGINNERS

Five meetings have been slated by the Thursday Beginners' Group which meets at 8:30 p.m., at 1755 Clay Street, between Polk and Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco.

Speakers are:

THURSDAY, SEPT. 1—Jane O'T., Panhandle Group.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8—Roger O'D., S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 15—Frances C., Monday Beginners' Group.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 22—Joe C., Panhandle Group.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 29—Helen C., Seven Seas Club.

Chairing the meetings for the month are Fred R; Robbie D; Bob W; Aletha McC; and Fred R., respectively.

Ambassador Group Celebrates Birth

The Fifteenth Anniversary of the founding of Ambassador Group will be held Wednesday, September 21, starting at 8:00 p.m.

The colorful event will be held in the auditorium of St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate Avenue, in downtown San Francisco. Ed McL. will be guest speaker, and refreshments will be served, the chairman of the Anniversary Committee, said.

MONDAY BEGINNERS

The following have consented to be guest speakers at the Monday Beginners' meetings during September:

MONDAY, SEPT. 5—Ann B., The Book Group.

MONDAY, SEPT. 12—"Cap" K., Hillsborough Group.

MONDAY, SEPT. 19—Jim McK., Monday Beginners' Group.

MONDAY, SEPT. 26—Pat E., Central All-Groups of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.

Chairmen for the four meetings, are, respectively: Bob K; Rosemary T; Jim McK; and Frances C.

All meetings held under the auspices of the Monday Beginners' start at 8:30 p.m. at 1755 Clay Street, between Polk and Van Ness, San Francisco.

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Peninsula All Groups Slates Sept. Agenda

An excellent schedule of speakers will appear at the Peninsula All-Groups Meetings during September, their Program Chairman announces. The line-up is, as follows:

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3—Roger W., Central All-Groups of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, will speak; hosting the meeting is the Palo Alto Friday Group

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10—Speaker is Bertha B., First Step Group; the Brisbane Open Group will serve as hosts.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17—Bruce J., Gratitude Group, Marin County, will be speaker; the hosting unit will be the group from Pedro Valley.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24—Ron A., Menlo Park Friday Group, will make the "pitch"; Westlake Group will do the hosting.

Peninsula All-Groups Meetings start at 8:30 p.m. in the Recreation Room of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Baldwin Avenue and El Camino Real, San Mateo.

Coffee is served before, and after, each meeting. The meetings are open—and everyone welcome.

News from the Monterey Peninsula

(By Herb S., Watsonville Group)

WATSONVILLE

The following Watsonville Group members recently made a visitation to Fort Ord where they talked to soldiers afflicted with compulsive drinking problems: Jim S; Harold J; Lon V; and Phil G.

Last month, Julie S. celebrated her 19th AA birthday. She came to Watsonville via San Francisco where she first found AA.

A recent visitor from San Francisco, Joe W., claims he likes the small town friendliness found in attending meetings such as our Tuesday Nite Group, where discussion is free and open and everyone allowed to say his/her piece.

SALINAS

Picnic Day for Salinas Groups was July 24, held at Balado Park Grounds, near Hollister. A big turnout was a good sight for the Salinas Al Anons and AA units that sponsored the outing.

At the recent Tri-County Inter-Group Speakers Meeting held in Watsonville, the music was furnished by Gill.

Apology is due Trig R., whose name came out in this column as "Tug". (Comment by Herb, "the writer can't write or the Editor can't read")

Herb S., Watsonville, recently chaired a Salinas Group meeting with 15 in attendance—one a newcomer. This was Prince's second AA meeting. Keep coming back, Man. You'll make it!

MONTEREY

A big crowd from Monterey recently attended the Speakers Meeting at Watsonville. Virginia provided a king-sized box of cookies for the affair, and Harold did a tape recording of the meeting. Any person or group who'd like a tape of the Father Barney talk may obtain same by contacting Harold, c/o The Friendship House, 440 Alvarado Street, Monterey.

PACIFIC GROVE

Fran and Don, from Scottsdale, Ariz., recently visited the Shorty Frick Memorial Group Meeting, engaging in a spirited discussion on two subjects: "How Do You Draw The Line Between a Social Drinker and An Alcoholic" and "How Far Would Be Going 'To Any Lengths?'" Questions were drawn from a hat.

KING CITY

Contacted Ray I., who reports that King City Group has a meeting at 8:00 p.m. every Thursday, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. All meetings are open and out-of-town visitors cordially welcome to attend.

SANTA CRUZ

A large delegation, representing Santa Cruz groups, attended the recently-held Speakers Meeting at Watsonville. Among those noted were John G., Jess C., Sid F., Cliff and Art—plus a number of Alanon members. The Alanons supplied a hamper of cookies and cakes for the occasion.

Bill and Fern attended the Saturday Night Meeting at "The Cottage". Got there a bit late—but better than never.

BURNEY GROUP FORMS in NORTHWEST CALIF.

A new group, the Burney (Calif.) Group was founded last month, according to Bob B., who serves in the joint capacity of group secretary and G.S. Area Committeeman

Burney nestles in the timber country near the foot of majestic Mt. Shasta. The new AA unit conducts open meetings every Monday at 8:00 p.m., at the Buckhorn Cafe, on Highway 99W, in Burney.

News of the formation of the Burney Group should've appeared in the August edition of GOOD NEWS. It was inadvertently omitted. The editor apologizes to Burney's AA for this non-intentional omission.

Meeting Pinpoints Unity Northern Calif. Inter-Group

The practical wisdom of establishing an inter-group was amply demonstrated at a regular monthly meeting of Northern California Inter-Group which was held at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, August 20, at St. Anthony's Parish Hall, Mt. Shasta City, under the sponsorship of the recently merged Dunsmuir-Mt. Shasta City groups.

Northern California Inter-Group is composed of 18 AA units—Marysville (two groups) Yuba City, Gridley, Paradise, Oroville (two groups), Redding, Dunsmuir-Mt. Shasta, Colusa, Orland, Red Bluff, Grass Valley, Linda and Chico (three groups).

ISOLATION

In the immense stretch of Northern California, some of these "outpost" groups—far from the metropolitan centers—could develop an "isolation complex or syndrome" . . . a feeling of being "left out"—or aloneness".

Even the group secretaries, delegates, and group committeemen travel 100 miles to attend (Colusa, for example) and another 100 miles to get home, the Northern California Inter-Group Meeting held on August 20, was well attended with some 75 in the parish hall audience.

Prior to the meeting, some 35 sat down to a no-host dinner at a motel dining room located between Dunsmuir and Mt. Shasta City.

When dinner was over, diners traveled the few more miles to Mt. Shasta City where they were joined by another 35 or 40 group representatives who were unable to attend the dinner party.

NO BIG SHOTS

The meeting? Highly interesting but no special effort had been made by the Inter-Group committee to attract a bumper crowd by the "big name" gambit. Why, then, do groups belong—and attend—that are located a good 100 miles away? There are many reasons, but chief among them is the realization that strength to "Carry the Message" can best be accomplished from a position of united effort—Unity.

What happened at the Northern California Inter-Group Meeting held last month? Well, there was a wealth of comradeship, friendship,

and fellowship that flowed from person-to-person . . . from group to group. A feeling of "belonging".

The meeting, jointly sponsored by Dunsmuir-Mt. Shasta had organization, direction, and a meaningful program.

- (1) The speaker was a young fellow named Dick H., from Sacramento (via Cleveland) who gave a dramatic talk on "how not to make the AA program"—which is sometimes as valuable as "how to make it". (He finally made it—but good).
- (2) Ken K., Roseville, newly appointed G.S. delegate to New York, who promised to recommend important improvements in inter-group communication at the Chico Conference.
- (3) Chas. L., Mt. Shasta-Dunsmuir Group read Chapter 5; Art S., Dunsmuir, recited the 12 Traditions, and Reverend Michael O'Connor, assistant pastor of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Mt. Shasta City, kicked-off the meeting with an Invocation.

GORGEOUS CAKES

Frank R., secretary of the merged Dunsmuir-Mt. Shasta units, engineered the session keeping it rolling smoothly, with the aid of Bob B., G.S. Area Chairman; Rick S., past Gen. Service delegate to New York, from Redding; and Louise S., the hard-working secretary of the Northern California Inter-Group, who is from Colusa. Gorgeous cakes were made (five of 'em) by Bobbie S. and Leta W.

Next Northern California Inter-Group is slated for Yuba City at a date yet to be set. If anyone's interested in the "know-how" of such collective group enterprise,

Judge Roy of Des Moines To Speak

The Seventh Anniversary Dinner of Midtown Groups, Stockton, will be highlighted by the appearance of Judge Roy H., Des Moines, Iowa, who has consented to be Guest Speaker.

The annual affair has been definitely set for Saturday, November 5. Chet M., general chairman of the anniversary celebration, said ticket reservations are now being accepted.

To guarantee a seat in the dining room, Chet suggests that reservations be obtained now. Send check or money order with reservation to the Anniversary Committee, Midtown Groups Society, 248 East Poplar Street, Stockton, Calif., 95202.

BANQUET DATE

The 12th Annual Banquet and Dance, sponsored by the Fellowship has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, November 5, in the Continental Ballroom of the San Francisco Hilton Hotel, Mason and O'Farrell Streets.

Fresno Inter-Group Meeting Draws Big

The hottest weather and longest heat wave since 1905 failed to keep a capacity crowd from attending Fresno's Inter-Group Open Speaker Meeting held August 13.

Chariman Max introduced Irma and Jim A. from Chico. Irma spoke, recognizing that Alanons also have a "bottom".

Dinner was served at Alpha Hall—Fresno's Half-Way House for girls. All food was donated and sold by volunteers to keep Alpha House in operation.

Wilma and Eunice deserve much credit for devoting time, energy, and ideas to help this good cause. They raised funds through salvage sales, raffles, and dinners.

Dottie L. is in charge of Alpha Hall and appeared on a recent Fresno radio program to describe Alpha House functions.

watch how Northern California Inter-Group functions.