



Good News



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

WE KNOW, WE KNOW...

We know, we know, we're somehow slow--but bulk mail does take awhile and we are doing our best to get the Good News from the printers to the mailman as fast as we can. It does pose some problems when an upcoming event is published, is printed seasonably, but arrives at your doorstep post-facto. We, too, are trying to learn "patience and tolerance," so bear with us. They say things will get better!

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H and I Highlights

Highpoint of the 10th Annual Hospital and Institution State Conference recently in Fresno was an inspiring talk by Sylvia of San Francisco (who, coincidentally celebrated her 20th AA birthday the same night).

Sylvia stressed self-honesty as a key to recovery. An estimated 800 to 900 members attended the session. Gene K. of Monterey was named chairman to plan for next year's event.

More H & I -- "BROADSIDE RE-VISITED."

The "Good News" formerly featured the "H and I Broadside" as a regular feature. Perhaps in future issues we may be able to resume that column in these pages.

Meantime, we would like to paraphrase a few excerpts from the excellent Broadside of Jerry G., general H & I chairman, in the October, 1974 issue.

The author pointed out the only purpose of the H & I Committee is to "carry the message" of Alcoholics Anonymous to the alcoholic who is confined and that its' activities are governed by the 12 Traditions. The service and responsibility is three-fold: to the patient or inmate, to the hospital or corrective facility, and to AA as a whole.

Jerry summarized by pointing out that H and I service makes us realize "but for the Grace of God" we could be the ones confined, and, if AA members did not take the time

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to carry the message, many of us today who were confined might still be confined!

ALATEEN ANNIVERSARY

NEW HOPE ALATEEN, Sunnyvale, recently held its 10th Anniversary celebration at St. Luke's Church with 67 persons present.

Debbie P., chairman, opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer, followed by the 12 Steps. Ed B. briefly described Alateen and Chris B. discussed the disease of alcoholism. Helen R., Al-Anon sponsor since the group's inception, traced New Hope's history.

The theme: "Family Disease--Family Recovery," was related by speakers Karl H. and Shannon H., father-daughter, and John B. and Tim B., father-son.

HOW Study, New Hope's sponsoring Al-Anon group, presented a large "Happy Anniversary" cake bearing the names of all of the Alateens, and a gift--a new outdoor meeting sign.

By Shannon H., G.R.

(* "As Bill Sees It," P-58.)
(** "As Bill Sees It," P-61.)

COMINGS...

and

...GOINGS.

Clancy I. of Venice will be the speaker at the Sacramento Area Speakers Meeting July 10, 1982, at the Cathedral, downstairs, at N and K. A no-host dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m. at Espanol, 57th and Folsom, in advance of the 8 o'clock meeting.

Nearly 200 folks--family and friends--participated in the recent joint 20th birthday party for Tom A. (affectionately known as the "Mayor of Clovis") and Henry H. (the "West Side Farmer") at the "Red Barn" between Fresno and Clovis. Guests from Clovis, Fresno, Stockton and elsewhere enjoyed fine food, fellowship and lively band music. Happy Birthday to both!

Manteca Fellowship, at press time, is planning to celebrate its 9th Anniversary this month with a barbecue picnic in Lincoln Park. Action scheduled includes swimming and baseball. Jack B., Modesto, is the 8 o'clock speaker.

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Ron C. of Stockton, a hard-working circulation manager, was leafing through past issues of late and was inspired by Le Juene D.'s piece about a year ago on "Responsibility - Not a Four-Letter Word."

"You ought to run that again--it's good for newcomers," says Ron.

So here it is, again, with thanks again to Le Juene of Pinole.

The word "responsibility" is a word of many letters. For me, the definition of the word is another word of many letters, "opportunities," as used in this text mans "spiritual opportunities, with no implication to the four letter word "work."

When I say I am an Alcoholic, I am also making a commitment and automatically assuming certain responsibilities to AA as a whole. As a member of Alcoholics Anonymous it is my responsibility to uphold the structure and principles, and preserve the traditions of our heritage. A responsible person is answerable, reliable, dependable, and acts in a responsible manner. I feel a responsibility to my home group, to make 12 step calls, to make sure the doors are always open, to attend its meetings regularly. In my group, I am also responsible for sponsoring and helping the newcomer develop and grow by guiding them into action, to give freely what has been given freely. Therefore, it is my responsibility to learn something about the program so I have something to give away. Being responsible is to get involved, which takes personal sacrifices. My responsibility lies to the old-timer also. They lend a stabilizing influence in their sharing. I also must share my gift of faith with others and offer my services, depending upon what particular talents I may have. There is a need for all of us.

In this new sober life, I will be presented with responsibilities to the world, as a good citizen. Our 12th step refers to this. As a sober citizen I am ready to accept these responsibilities outside of AA, such as in my home and to my loved ones, job, church, neighborhood, and associates. I have a moral responsibility to use the 12 steps as a tool to recovery and to accept the AA program for moral regenera-

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tion. Sober, I can make decisions and take the responsibility for my actions and for any damage to others.

"Easy Does It," is no excuse for avoiding responsibilities.

"Keep it Simple," does not mean to be ineffective.

"Let It Begin With Me," speaks for itself.

The results of "spiritual opportunities" are "spiritual experiences."

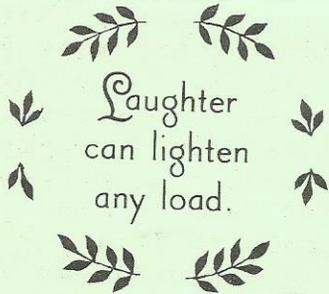
Your Good News staff would sure like to get some new copy from Le Juene--and from any of you readers who, we know, have so much to offer.

Please let us hear from you.

Like Riddles?

Here's One:

What do you call a lot of rabbits, all walking backward, single-file?



How about "a receding hare-line?"

"The hand that lifts the cup that cheers

"Should not be used to shift the gears!"

The Thursday Night Men's Group will celebrate its 35th Anniversary June 24, 1982, at 8 p.m. in the Trinity Cathedral Annex. Bernie B. is the scheduled speaker.

August 8 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. is the date and time set for CCFAA's 25th Anniversary Picnic at Elk Grove Park. Details are still in the "works."

Don't forget the annual "Pig Out" June 25-27 at Sly Park, Placerville area, for fun in the sun. It's sponsored by the Greater Sacramento Young Peoples AA.

circumstances which brought us
misfortune we felt we didn't
deserve. But did we not often
set the ball rolling our-
selves?" **

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