



Good News



MAY-
JUNE

Published Bi-Monthly in Stockton, California
By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous
Established 1948

1983

11th Annual Alcoholics Anonymous Hospital and Institution State Conference

The Concord Hilton Hotel will be the site for the 11th Annual Alcoholics Anonymous H & I State Conference on May 13th, 14th and 15th.

Registration begins on Friday May 13th at 4:30 pm.

A partial schedule of the conference can be found on page three of your GOOD NEWS.

Al-anon and Alateen schedules will be available at the conference site.

Stockton Fall Conference

October 7th, 8th, and 9th are the dates set for the Stockton Fall Conference which will be held at the Stockton Civic Auditorium on N. Center Street.

Ruth S. of Hacienda Heights will kick off the Friday meeting.

Saturdays speaker will be Jim W. of Fort Worth, Texas.

The speaker for the Sunday meeting will be John A. of Laguna Beach.

Al-anon and Alateen schedules will be available at Holiday Inn, Stockton.

Northern California Council 36th Annual Summer Conference

NCC's 36th Annual will be held at the Convention Center in Redding, California on June 3rd, 4th and 5th.

Fridays kick off speaker at 8:30 pm will be Anne P. of Westminster, California.

Doc C., CNIA Delegate to New York will bring a report from the General Service Conference which was held in New York last month at a General Service Open Meeting on Saturday morning.

Saturday evening at 8:30 pm the speaker will be Dick G. of Parker, Colorado.

Clint H. of San Clemente, California will top off the conference in a speakers meeting on Sunday at 12:30 pm.

Al-anon and Alateen schedules will be available at the conference site.

WHERE'S JACK B. OF MODESTO?

Jack B. has been a bad boy and the doctors have grounded him to 1117 El Terino Dr. Modesto, 95350.

cont'd page 2, col. 1

Area Public Information and Co-Operation with Professional Community Committees Report

Stockton PICP Committee, chaired by Bill S. meets the first Saturday of each month at Costanzos Restaraunt on Pacific Avenue at 11:00 am.

Rick M. was recently elected Speaker Co-ordinator. Your participation is urged.

Sacramento has a new CPC Committee chaired by Dennis which meets the third Saturday of each month at 5642 Folsom Boulevard at 3:30 pm.

Sorry..because of a lack of space and information, we are unable to report more this month.

Stockton Hospital & Institution Report

I have yet to see so much activity anywhere in A.A. as I did in our local H & I Committee Meeting March 26th at Midtown.

There were 30+ active or interested members on hand with as many reports as people. I didn't realize we had so many institutions in the area,

cont'd page 4, col. 3

Jack B. cont'd

Yes, his crime was bad! The doctors say "if you're going to work, be responsible, make commitments and get things done, you're gonna pay." And Jack did all that and more, if the doctors only knew. But let's keep quiet, let's not tell the doctors all the work this man has done for AA alone. Jack's been paying the price since 1979 when he had his first massive heart attack, since, it has been a gradual downhill slide.

The doctors located three more artery blockages, scar tissue, chronic angina, erratic heart skipping and racing.

In lieu of the above punishment the doctors are allowing Jack out two or three times a week to inspect their nice hospital testing and therapy wards.

Unfortunately he must pay even a higher price, very little outside AA and no service work in the near future.

I'm not writing this to draw attention to Jack B., as he'd kill me if I did. But what I am saying, is thanks to all the Jack B.'s in AA who are paying the price for my sobriety.

God bless you all,
past and present.

GOOD NEWS
Staff Member

HAS YOUR GROUP STUDIED THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRADITION
ELEVEN AND TWELVE?

**FRESNO CONFERENCE
ANOTHER WINNER**

Lonesome George may have put Fresno on the map, but the 36th Annual Spring Conference brought them to town. An estimated 3,000 enjoyed three of the best days yet of A.A. in action. Not only the young and new to A.A. were on Cloud 9, as we're getting outstanding reports from Midstreamers and Long-timers as well. It was one of the best.

Vincent Y. of Venice, California really kicked it off with a bang Friday evening to get things rolling.

Saturday morning at 9:30 John C. of Daly City got the second day off to a great start at our regular Hospital & Institution Open Meeting.

A very eye-opening 4th step workshop was held at 11:00 am and chaired by Norma M. of Modesto.

After lunch Sam E. of Napa was the General Service Speaker, and speak on service he did.

NCCAA had an open meeting at 2:30pm to discuss past, present and future business.

Much thanks goes to Pat from Fort Bragg for our new AA banner. Betsy Ross, eat your heart out!

The Steering Committee also made an announcement that the 1984 Summer Conference

will be held at the University of Santa Clara the last weekend of June.

The Marathon Meeting held the attention of at least 1,500 people with 42 new, active members taking part.

The Spanish speaking meeting reported very good participation.

At 3:30 Bruce V. of San Jose, speaker for the Young Peoples open meeting proved to all those listening that young or old AA is alive and well.

Wesley P. of Pompano Beach, Florida wound up the evening with the raffle drawing and a great dance that followed at the Hilton Hotel.

General Service and Hospital & Institution started the Sunday agenda together with the topic "Back to Basics."

Hugh C. of Stockton followed as chairman of the 10th step workshop at 11 am in the San Joaquin Room of the convention center. I bet few of you would guess this Gentle and Giant man has but 2+ years on the program. We're looking forward to seeing more of you Hugh.

At 12:30 Jack H. of San Jose finished off the weekend and sent us home with a weekend to remember.

**Every AA Group
Should have GOOD
NEWS on their FREE
literature table.**

**Has YOUR group?
WHY NOT?**

MYTHS DISMISSED ON OLDER DRINKERS

Valuable lessons are being learned about older drinkers and the particular traits of the older alcoholic—other than the myths that the disease kills off alcoholics before they get too old, or "it can't be - not grandma!" or the idea that the aged boozier hurts only himself or herself.

Elderly practicing alcoholics have a massive denial syndrome. Why not? Have they not beaten other major foes over a lifetime?

They feel more guilt than youths, and are more susceptible to stigma.

They matured in an era when abstinence was widespread.

They hate their addiction and get much abuse from their peers who also feel that drunkenness is a moral weakness.

The older drinker is suspicious of young people who "stick their noses into older people's business"

They reject the advice of experts who they feel have axes to grind. But they do relate to their peers, who, with sobriety to talk about, can help them see the nature of their addiction.

More and more Alcoholics Anonymous directories include listings of groups formed specifically for the "older problem

drinker." (Though like other "special" A.A. groups they are open to anyone with a desire to stop drinking)

One such newly formed A.A. group, "the Auburn Over Age 50 Group" meets Mondays from 1:30-3:00 pm in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1279 High St. in Auburn. → ↗

This is a non-smoking meeting with a smoking break. New-comers, relatives and friends are welcome.

Auburn Journal

1981

QUESTION?

Without intervention on some level, where would Alcoholics Anonymous get its members?

Anonymous

11TH ANNUAL NORTH STATE HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION CONFERENCE

Friday, May 13

- 4:30 pmRegistration
- 8:00 pm ..Speakers Meeting, Chair Felicia S. Redwood Valley

Saturday, May 14

- 8:00 amRegistration
- 8:30-9:30 am ..The New and Old of H & I
Moderator: Blaine W. Sacramento
- 10:00-11:00 am ..Military and Government
Moderator: Erwin K. San Francisco
- 11:30-12:30 pm ..Law & Probation(adult & juvenile)
Moderator: Dave B. Fresno

Lunch Break

- 2:00-3:00 pm .. Treatment Facilities and Hospitals
Moderator: Lucy M. Alameda
- 3:30-4:30 pm .. Correctional Facilities
Moderator: Forest H. San Francisco
- 5:00-6:00 pm.. Handicap and Senior Citizen
Moderator: Joe C. Redwood City

Dinner Break

- 8:30-10:30 pm Main Speaker Meeting
Chairman: Gene K. Pacific Grove
- 10:30-???..... Dance

Sunday, May 15

- 10:00-11:00 amEx-inmates and Patients
Moderator: Bud P-S. Cottonwood
- 11:00-12:00 pmBusiness Meeting

END

INTERVENTION AND AA DO NOT MIX

Wotinell are we doing with an article about "Intervention" in the "Good News?"

As I understand it, intervention is a tool that some counselors use in treatment centers, after undergoing extensive training in intervention techniques. From what I have seen, the results of intervention are chancy, to say the least, and many times result in a condition worse than before such experimenting.

Where does intervention fit into the program of Alcoholics Anonymous? In Chapter 7 of the "Big Book" appears the following: "If he does not want to stop drinking, don't waste time trying to persuade him. You may spoil a later opportunity." Also, "If he does not want to see you, never force yourself upon him." Fur-

ther, "Make it clear that he is not under pressure, that he need not see you again, if he doesn't want to."

And finally, "Do not be discouraged if your prospect does not respond at once..." We find it a waste of time to keep chasing a man who cannot or will not work with you...To spend too much time on any one situation is to deny some other alcoholic an opportunity to live and be happy."

It seems to me this outlines fully AA's philosophy in recovery from alcoholism. To feature an article which is directly contrary to this philosophy does AA an ill turn. Let's be friendly with our friends, but let's not join them in techniques which have not proven out. Intervention and recovery within the AA program simply do not mix.

Dean K.
Seattle, WA

Is Alcoholics Anonymous Anonymous?

Alcoholics Anonymous is not anonymous, the members are.

Anonymity, born of fear, has gone on to become the true Spiritual foundation of all our traditions.

Experience has taught us that we do not need the limelight for our super-egos. That we can better serve our needs with the true humility of anonymity at the personal level.

Our reward is our own personal sobriety. We cannot get anyone drunk nor can we get anyone sober. All we can do is share our spirit, strength and hope.

I call your attention to the first paragraph of Tradition Twelve. "The Spiritual substance of anonymity is sacrifice." Because A.A. Twelve Traditions repeatedly ask us to give

up personal desires for the common good, we realize that the sacrificial spirit, well symbolized by anonymity, is the foundation of them all. It is A.A. proved willingness to make these sacrifices that gives people their high confidence in our future.

If we remember how truly grateful we were when we first began to come out of the Alcoholic fog and those wonderful people who were so willing to give of their time and their truly understanding love; and for them to say they needed us as much as we needed them. For me it was a long time before I understood they were anonymous around the table to protect me as well as them. I wasn't going to spill my guts to you, not with all of you just waiting to get me!

I am sure you know the pattern and I am sure you understand, to me that is all the spiritual awakening I will ever need. The names and the faces have changed but the spirit will always be there in every meeting I attend. For me that is the true Spiritual meaning of A.A.

Goldie F.

H & I Report cont'd

let alone the fact that we are getting inside and carrying the message. There were reports of participation of those confined that were truly astonishing.

Mike chaired the →

meeting with Anne as Recording Secretary, and the beautiful reports from persons going to D.V.I., the County Jail, Folsom Prison, DeWitt, Carol Holt, R.T.C., Recovery House and more went on and on. Without mentioning the amount of literature in dollars and cents that was ordered for March alone, I will say it was alot and was still not e-

nough.

If H & I is working half as well anywhere else, we are doing a bang up job. Our thanks go out to all of the hard-working, caring, concerned volunteers who are giving of their time freely and unselfishly.

Attending and observing what is being done at the local level of H & I work put me on a

high I can't describe. If you would like to participate or observe your local H & I, believe me, they need you. Ask your group General Service Rep. or General Secretary, or call Alcoholics Anonymous in your area and find out where and when the next H & I meeting will be held.

In Stockton meetings are held the last Saturday of every month at 10:00 am at Midtown, 424 W. Harding Avenue.

GOOD NEWS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OPENING BALANCE 11/2/81 \$ 456.00

Revenues:

Subscriptions	1,894.25
NCCAA	300.00
H & I	408.00
US Post Office refund	27.86

TOTAL REVENUES

2630.11
3086.11

Expenses:

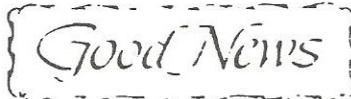
Checks	21.91
Endorsement Stamp	3.70
Printing	1574.52
Mailings	583.46
Supplies	745.30

TOTAL EXPENSES

2928.89

BALANCE CASH IN BANK 1/8/83

157.22



Published Bi-Monthly in Stockton, California by the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

Business Manager: Naydene B.
 Editor: Scott M.
 Associate Editor: Geri E.
 Circulation: Ron C.
 Circulation: Nona C.

Address all subscriptions to GOOD NEWS, 1117 El Terino, Modesto, CA 95350. Articles for publication consideration should be sent to: EDITOR, P.O. Box 5521, Stockton, CA 95205

A special thanks from the GOOD NEWS staff goes to Bill S. for all his help and support.

DEADLINE THE 10TH

A deadline means just that! The GOOD NEWS deadline is the 10th of each even month. Any mail received after 5pm on the 10th cannot be included in the next issue, nor can any news be telephoned in after that time. The deadline for the July-August issue is June 10th. Let's hear from you!

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage PAID
Permit No. 6158
San Francisco,
California

GOOD NEWS
1046 Irving Street
San Francisco, CA
94122

Subscribe to
GOOD NEWS

Mail subscriptions to GOOD NEWS, % Naydene B.,
1117 El Terino, Modesto, CA 95350

Individual subscriptions

In U.S. - \$3.50/year (\$3.00 each per year for 2 or more)
\$5.50/year for 1st Class
Outside U.S. - \$5.00/year

Enclosed find \$ _____ for _____ subscriptions to
GOOD NEWS to be mailed to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Note: 1st Class mail arrives 10-14 days earlier)