



Good News



Est.
1948

Published Bi-Monthly in Stockton, California
By The Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

Sept.-Oct.
1983

STOCKTON FALL CONFERENCE, OCT. 7, 8, 9 TAKES SHAPE

"It is an established fact that those who attend and take an active part in our conferences have a more positive attitude in their solution of the problem of Alcoholism and are aided in acquiring the knowledge needed to arrest this devastating disease," NCCAA's 'Purpose' Pamphlet tells us. In other words, "Conferences are held for one purpose. TO CARRY THE MESSAGE."

On Oct. 7, 8 and 9 when the Auditorium fills with all those people from all those groups, coming together with a single purpose, we hope you plan to be among us to see for yourself as "IT" happens again. There are Marathons, Spanish-Speaking Meetings, H & I, General Service, Workshops, Panels, the 12 Tradition Play, Young Peoples Meetings. All of this is held together by continuous coffee and fellowship, and anchored by our key speakers, Ruth S., Hacienda Heights, Ca. on Friday night, Jim W., Ft. Worth, Texas on Saturday night and John A., Laguna Beach, Ca. on Sunday, as well as many other participants.

At the same time, over at the Holiday Inn, there is a full program for both Al-Anon and Alateen. The theme this fall is "Turn Over a New Leaf" with meetings, speakers and activities to complete a full and exciting AA weekend for all.

- HELP WANTED -

The true meaning of gratitude may be "wishing to do something in return". This may be your chance to show your gratitude by volunteering to work at the Stockton Conference (October 7, 8, 9). It's only about a month away and there is still a ton and a half to do! If you wish to help make this another great conference, give a few minutes or hours. Every pair of hands is necessary. We all work, we all enjoy.

If you don't know what you can do we'll give you choices you probably wouldn't think of in a month. Think of it as "free alternative-career exploration". Try doing something you've always wanted to do. Think of it as a break. Think of it as a contribution. Think of it as a dare. Now stop thinking about it and call Steve and give him your name. . . NOW!

Steve - 473-4600

CUNNING, BAFFLING --- and NEUTRAL

Alcohol was discovered thousands of years ago. It has been with mankind ever since, in almost every land and culture, and in hundreds of forms. The odds are strong that when the crack of doom sounds, alcohol will still be on the scene. So we'd better get used to alcohol's being here on earth, all around us.

Even while I speak of alcohol as cunning, baffling, powerful and patient, I must confess that I no longer really feel that. During my first years in AA, it was helpful to me to regard alcohol as a living enemy, waiting to spring out at me of its own volition. I now know that alcohol is neutral. When allowed to rest on the shelf in a bottle, it will remain there for centuries, doing nothing more than evaporating.

So I no longer imbue alcohol with either demonic or human attributes. Instead, I focus on the demons in my own character, in my own alcoholism. I remind myself that my capacity to reach out and take a drink will not leave me until I die. It is myself, not liquor, that I must guard against.

Grapevine, Oct., 1981

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Recently I received the July issue of the Grapevine which notified of the granting to AA of the President's Volunteer Action Award. On the same day I also received word that one of California's General Service Areas is contemplating opening an office with paid employees to handle responsibilities of the Area Treasurer, and possibly those of the Area Secretary. The two bits of information seem contradictory.

The whole concept of Service (the Third Legacy) is based upon a giving of ourselves, freely, willingly and without thought of recompense. Volunteerism is the very backbone of Service, and without it, AA would not have survived in as healthy a fashion as we know it today. In AA we're all volunteers - whether it be a 12th Step call or the tedious tasks of counting money, stuffing envelopes, or the frustration of trying to keep up-to-date records from information furnished by autonomous AA Groups. All Service requires a free gift of ourselves, our time, and many times of our money. Those of us involved in such responsibilities are well aware of this fact before we make ourselves available for the several jobs needed to keep AA on the track. In Service, the AA member who is a winner thinks of all the possible ways to give, then stretches beyond that point.

Certainly, there are jobs in Alcoholics Anonymous which call for paid employees, such as Central Offices. Here, such offices must be kept open during

regular business hours and frequently require the services of a full-time employee. When such a need arises, an employee is paid for services rendered. But even Central Offices could not function as efficiently as they do if it were not for volunteers.

But there never has been expressed a need for paid employees at the Area level of the General Service structure. Even Trustees serve without pay, except for reimbursement of travel and housing expenses during Board meetings. If responsibilities have become too burdensome or time-consuming at the Area level, because of AA population growth, perhaps the time has come to elect or appoint a working alternate or an assistant treasurer or secretary. Monthly mailings can be tedious work and time-consuming, but it is all a part of Service. If the individual truly does not have the time to devote to such work, perhaps some arrangement could be worked out with the nearest Central Office to get assistance in such tasks by paid employees from there. But volunteerism, the act of giving our time freely and without expectations of any return (the factor which brought about the President's Award) does not compute with the concept of paid employees in the General Service structure.

Certainly before such a novel idea is approved, the AA groups should be informed and have ample opportunity for a thorough understanding and discussion of the reasons behind such a concept.

Thanks for listening to one man's opinion.

Dean K.

COASTAL AREA "LINK"

Our heritage (the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts) is the key to our future success as God's Gift to the drunks of the world. This Gift is Alcoholics Anonymous. Have you ever wondered just what AA is? I've asked a number of people this question, and I have received a number of different answers, but the one statement of just what AA is can be found on the inside cover of all Conference-Approved Pamphlets; also the Grapevine. It's worded thusly:

"Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

"The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

"A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

"Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

This definition of A.A. doesn't change, and herein lies our Experience, Strength and Hope, which -- God willing--shall sustain us in unity for so long as He may need us.

Yours in service,
Bill M.

WHY NOT GO GLOBAL?

Have you heard of the Loners-Internationalists Meeting? It is just one of the services provided by our General Service Office in New York. A bi-monthly "meeting-in-print" is sent to anyone who wishes to participate in this valuable and rewarding exercise in maintaining sobriety. Very early in AA's development, a need was seen to reach those members of AA who want to maintain contact and involvement but who are 1) located where there are no meetings--2) homebound due to illness or infirmity, 3) seagoing members and servicemen. There is one more important "group"--YOU. You can join from your own living room and become a "Loner Sponsor".

Is AA a program of action? You bet! Today, we not only wait for the "meeting-in-print", but the members of this group also correspond with each other, in writing and by tape. This is the most rewarding part of this LIM program, for after all, isn't the basis of our program one alcoholic sharing with another? There is no feeling better than the one you get after a hard day's work, finding a letter from an AA friend--one from a distant land, or just someone you haven't met yet but came to know through sharing by mail. The words are written to you: "You just don't know what getting your letter meant to me that day--it kept me from that first drink...."

H & I BROADSIDES

By Bill S., General Chairman of NCC H&I

Hi,

This is my first BROADSIDES as General Chairman. Nineteen (19) years have gone by since writing for BROADSIDES. With too much to say and too little space, I'll have to stick to "first things first". I have been having an exciting time meeting new members of H & I and renewing contact with long-timers in H & I. EXCITING!!

I was invited to take part in a workshop in Marysville, held by Terry D., Gen. Serv. DCM. I heard the best presentation of PI-CPC, EVER, by Frank L. of Yuba City. I hope to have Frank repeat it for the Stockton Delta PI-CPC meeting in September.

Leo R. of Sacramento will be our new Northern California Literature Librarian. Leo is one of our long-time members of H & I.

The next, and first, general meeting under the new officers will be Oct. 16th, Teamsters Local 70 Union Hall, 70 Hegenberger Rd., Oakland, Ca. Our host and hostess, Wil and Lucy N., sure picked a super place to hold our meeting.

Please bring your pink books! We have important discussions and decisions before we vote on changes in our policy.

Al A., Santa Clara, asked to be relieved due to work commitments. A big "THANKS" to Al, and we hope we get to see him soon.

Looking good on having a second General Secretary if the work doesn't scare her off.

We want to wish Percy F., our Regional Chairman in Sacramento, a happy, happy 20th Birthday in AA. Keep on carrying that message "Perce".

Roger R., Galt, was elected Area 32, H & I Chairperson, just this past week.

THINK PINK FOR H & I

Bill S.

P.S. Thoughts on Sponsorship:

The thrill you get when you see your new boy or girl making the grade. You will never outlive the ability to be so thrilled.

I have had the great privilege of having these feelings by participating in the Loners-Internationalists Meeting. I have yet to experience anything else like it. I share this experience often at meetings, hoping that other alcoholics will join and reap the benefits as I have. I have found a wonderful way to 'give it

away to keep it'. Interested? For information:

G.S.O.

Box 459, Grand Central
Station

New York, N. Y. 10163

I think you'll be suprised at the results you'll get--I surely was!

Lynn B.

* * *

CONTRA COSTA CORNER

Hi Friends:

I really enjoy telling you the great things happening in our area. Thanks to Owen W., a new meeting has been started called the TRAVELING MEETING GROUP. Have Coffee Pot-Will Travel to the homes of confined members who want a meeting.

The newcomer meetings are especially important as they are designed to inform people who are new to the program about our program. They consist of four classes presented by AA members as an introduction to AA. The AA guidelines are used and the topics are the History, Structure, Steps, Traditions, The 24-hour Program, and What is an Alcoholic? Good informative Meetings.

Our new Grapevine Chairperson, Ken C., is representing our "MEETING IN PRINT" with great Posters about the Grapevine, displaying them at different meetings to help the sale of the Grapevine!

The PI/CPC (Public Information/Cooperation with the Public Community) committees are keeping busy in Contra Costa County with the assistance of the new chairperson, Dan A. An article was printed in the Antioch Ledger entitled "Drinkers Making Drastic Changes with A.A." This article was a result of the committee granting an interview between members and the reporter. Dan feels that our aim is to help other suffering alcoholics and that we can approach local newspeople with the knowledge that we are trying to provide them with information that will be interesting and useful to readers, plus keep them aware of our

Cont. on Page 5

ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF A.A.
OCTOBER 7, 8, 9, 1983

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1983

- 2:00 P.M. Registration - Auditorium Lobby
- 3:30-8:00 P.M. Marathon-North Hall
- 3:30-8:00 P.M. Spanish Speaking - Walnut Room
- 8:30 P.M. Kick-Off Meeting - Auditorium
- Chairperson: Lynne H., San Carlos, Ca.
- Definition: Carl M. San Pablo, Ca.
- Chapter 5: Francine W., Richmond, Ca.
- Traditions: Kelly C., Stockton, Ca.
- Speaker: Ruth S., Hacienda Heights, Ca.
- 10:30 PM-2:00 AM Marathon - North Hall

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1983

- 9:00 A.M. Registration - Auditorium Lobby
- 9:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. Marathon - North Hall
- 9:00-10:00 A.M. Spanish Speaking - Walnut Room
- 9:30 A.M. Hospital & Institution - Auditorium
- Chairperson: Pat S., Stockton, Ca.
- Purpose of H&I: Eric M., Modesto, Ca.
- Traditions: Rod H., San Leandro, Ca.
- Professional Speaker: Jim Curtis, Director, St. Vincent dePaul Ozanam Center, San Francisco, Ca.
- A.A. Speaker: Ronnie C., Santa Rosa, Ca.
- 11:00 A.M. N.C.C.A.A. Steering Committee Meeting - Walnut Room
- 11:00 A.M. Workshop - Auditorium - 12 Tradition Play

LUNCH BREAK

- 1:00 P.M. General Service Speaker Meeting: Auditorium
- Chairperson: Russell B. Salida, Ca.
- Reader: Terry D., Yuba City, Ca.
- Speaker: Diane O., Saratoga, Ca.
- 1:00-8:00 P.M. Spanish Speaking - Walnut Room
- 2:30 P.M. N.C.C.A.A. Open Delegates Meeting-Auditorium
- 3:30 P.M. Young Peoples Meeting - Auditorium
- Chairperson: Audrey M., Columbia, Ca.
- Definition: Terry, Turlock, Ca.
- Traditions: Jerry T. Los Banos, Ca.
- Promises: Mark H., Marera, Ca.
- Speaker: Paul M., Modesto, Ca.
- 8:30 P.M. Open Speaker Meeting - Auditorium
- Chairperson: Doris McK., Redding, Ca.
- Invocation: Pastor Tom Adams, Bethany Community Church, Stockton, Ca.
- Welcoming Address: Superior Court Judge Peter Saiers, Stockton, Ca.
- Definition: Peggy B., Sacramento, Ca.
- Chapter 5: Al R., Menlo Park, Ca.
- Tradition: Ann B., Stockton, Ca.
- Speaker: Jim W., Ft. Worth, Texas
- 10:30 P.M. Drawing - Auditorium
- 10:45 P.M. Dance - Auditorium

ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (Cont.)

10:45 P.M.-2:00 A.M. Marathon - North Hall
 10:45 P.M.-2:00 A.M. Spanish Speaking - Walnut Room

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1983

9:00 A.M.-12 Noon Marathon - North Hall
 9:00 A.M.-12 Noon Spanish Speaking - Walnut Room
 10:00 A.M. Workshop - Walnut Room "Working Your
 4th Step"
 Chairperson: Marvita C., Turlock, Ca.
 10:00 A.M. Alcoholics Anonymous Service Meeting -
 Auditorium - "Sponsorship"
 Moderator: Tom T., Marin, Ca.
 Purpose of H&I: Mike P., Stockton, Ca.
 Traditions: Joe T., El Dorado Hills, Ca.
 Panelists: Peggie M., Santa Clara, Ca.
 Efren T., Stockton, Ca.
 Erwin K., San Francisco, Ca.
 Annette F., Fresno, Ca.

LUNCH BREAK

12:30 P.M. Open Speaker Meeting - Auditorium
 Chairperson: Bob C., Turlock, Ca.
 Invocation: Rev. Paul Snider, St. Marks
 Episcopal Church, Tracy, Ca.
 Definition: Ham H., Redwood City, Ca.
 Chapter 5: David D. Modesto, Ca.
 Traditions: Kathleen M., Monterey, Ca.
 Speaker: John A., Laguna Beach, Ca.

AL - ANON PROGRAM

Location: Stockton Holiday Inn., 221 N. Center, Stockton,
 CA 95202

Theme: "Turn Over a New Leaf"

FRIDAY, OCT. 7, 1983

3:30-8:00 P.M. Registration
 7:30 P.M. World Service Committee Meeting
 8:30 P.M. Turn Over a New Leaf

SATURDAY, OCT. 8, 1983

7:00 A.M.-9:00 P.M. Alathon
 8:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. &
 3:15 P.M.-8:30 P.M. Registration
 9:00-11:00 A.M. Steps to A New Leaf
 12:00 P.M. Luncheon
 1:00 P.M. Raffle
 1:30-3:00 P.M. Speaker: Tim H., Stanford
 3:15-5:00 P.M. Pre-Conference Planning Meeting
 3:30-5:00 P.M. Institutions & Public Information
 3:30-5:00 P.M. Freedom to Choose
 3:30-5:00 P.M. Alateen Sponsorship Workshop
 7:00-8:20 P.M. District Representative Workshop
 8:30 P.M. Application of the Traditions in Your
 Personal Life

NCC CORNER

With the Conference coming right up we hear a lot about "Delegates" and what they do. Here it is.

The NCCAA is a fellowship of all the Groups in California north of a line through the southern boundaries of Monterey, Kings, Tulare and Inyo counties. It is governed by the Groups through their Group NCC Delegates (2 to each Group). The NCC Delegates are elected by the Groups. Each NCC Delegate has a vote in making all decisions of the Council and should consult with and express his Group's conscience.

The NCC Delegate should attend the Conferences, NCC Delegates' meetings, Zone and District meetings and keep the Group informed as to the Council activities. (One important duty is to advise the Council Secretary of the correct Group mailing address and his own as changes are made.)

The term of office for each NCC Delegate is for two (2) years and the election in odd numbered years. Those belonging to Groups in even numbered Districts shall be elected in an even numbered year.

The above will insure us that part of the voting Council and Steering Committee will be experienced in Council activities at all times.

* * *

CONTRA COSTA CORNER (Cont.)

tradition of anonymity.

Lots of great activity in Contra Costa County!!

See you next month with news about our Archive Committee and H & I.

Sincerely
 Betty H.

ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (Cont.)

SUNDAY, OCT. 9, 1983

- 8:30 A.M. Registration
 8:30-10:30 A.M. Alathon
 9:00 A.M. Breakfast - Bacon & Scrambled Eggs
 Buffet \$4.50
 10:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Spiritual Meeting
 12:00 P.M. Exchange Meeting between Stockton &
 Monterey Conference Committees
 12:30 P.M. AA Speaker Meeting

ALATEEN PROGRAM

Location: Stockton Holiday Inn, 221 N. Center, Stockton,
 Ca. 95202

Theme: "Turn Over a New Leaf"

FRIDAY, OCT. 7, 1983

- 3:30-8:30 P.M. Registration
 8:30 P.M. A New Leaf in Alateen

SATURDAY, OCT. 8, 1983

- 8:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. &
 3:15 P.M.-8:30 P.M. Registration
 9:00-10:15 A.M. Changes in Thoughts & Attitudes
 10:30-11:45 A.M. What is Alateen To You?
 11:45 A.M.-1:30 P.M. Luncheon
 1:30-3:00 P.M. Speaker Meeting
 3:30-5:00 P.M. Alateen Sponsorship Workshop
 5:15 P.M. Alateen Pre-Conference Planning Meeting
 8:30 P.M. Alateen Speaker Meeting

SUNDAY, OCT. 9, 1983

- 8:30 A.M. Registration
 9:00 A.M. Breakfast
 10:00 A.M. Spiritual Participation Meeting
 12:00 P.M. Exchange Meeting between Stockton &
 Monterey
 12:30 P.M. AA Speaker Meeting

COMINGS AND GOINGSSept. 17-Fresno

The California Casual Fellowship presents an evening with Phil P., Newport Beach, followed by live music by "The Family" and dancing into the wee hours. Coffee and cake will be served. 7:30 PM, Saturday, Scottish Rite Temple, 1455 "L" St., in Fresno, CA. Donations only.

Sept. 16 - Campbell

Saturday Night Live Group. Speaker Meeting 8:30 at 1 W. Campbell, Rm. 47, Campbell, Ca. Vince Y. of L.A.

Sept. 18 - Stockton

Fremont Fellowship's "1st Annual" Picnic, Speakers Meeting and Raffle, at Louis Park. Starts at 10 AM, food at 12 Noon, speaker, John S., Stockton, at 2 PM, raffle at 3:30 PM. Fun and games all day!

**HAVE YOU
"GOT WHAT IT TAKES"?**

The pamphlet "Responsibilities of A Group Secretary", by Jack Irving, will be available (as long as the supply lasts) at the GOOD NEWS table at the Stockton Conference, Oct. 7, 8, 9. Look for it as you register.

Every fellowship should have at least one around for reference. Most of us have found it to be true that good solid experience in black and white makes our jobs go ever-so-much more s-m-o-o-t-h-l-y.

COMINGS & GOINGS (Cont)**FLETCH'S TERRITORY**

For men only: For the last four years the Roseville Men's Stag Group has sponsored a Spring Campout, but this year, due to heavy Sierra snow, they are holding a Fall Campout. It's open to men, both AA and Al-Anon, and their sons. Remember, men and boys only ...sorry about that, gals. I don't know what they're trying to get away from!

Hey, that CCFAA picnic that the Central Office in Sacramento threw at Elk Grove Park, August 14 was some shindig. Now who says good folks can't get together for a good time and have honest fun without booze? Our thanks to everybody who helped out and made it the success it was.

Sacramento AAs tell me they like the GOOD NEWS and are looking forward to its going monthly. - Me too!

Just Plain Fletch

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous
12/1/82 to 6/30/83

Bank Balance 11/30/82		\$ 7,187.27
Receipts 12/1/82 - 6/30/83		<u>14,629.48</u>
		\$21,816.75
Disbursements 12/1 - 6/30/83		
Conferences	11,476.42	
Secretary	926.21	
Delegates	173.98	
Banner	250.00	
San Francisco Central Office	150.00	
Good News	375.00	
Insurance-Base Policy	861.00	
Donation G.S.O.	<u>1,000.00</u>	
		<u>15,212.61</u>
Bank Balance 6/30/83		\$ 6,604.14
Reserve		<u>4,500.00</u>
BALANCE		\$ 2,104.14

GOOD NEWS CORNER

Dear Trusted Servants:

GOOD NEWS is our NCCAA official communication; all the news, all the activities, all the meetings, conferences and plans, also decisions and resolutions. We are running a little heavy on pre-game reports.

Without Live Copter 3, we depend on you - no budget for solicitation. We do want our members and fellow servants to know what is going on all over Northern California, from all of you. Send impressions of parts of events - we incorporate.

Additionally, GOOD NEWS can be a great training tool for all our future delegates, GSRs, etc. A firm foundation in the workings of our committees, boards, councils and all representative capacities can result from detailed frequent reports from everyone. When you attend a "great" whatever - that is GOOD NEWS! It inspires others. It may be old hat to you - what you are doing in the line of duty - but stop and think of the newcomers who might be more eager to serve if they knew what service is all about.

Your "Trusted" Editor

* * *

A DAY OF SOBRIETY

Sept. 22 - Saratoga

Saturday Night Live Group. A Day of Sobriety 12-6 PM. St. Andrew's Church, 13601 Saratoga, Saratoga, Ca. Jenny and Ed C., Glendora, Ca. Raffle & Refreshments.

***** NOTE *****

GOOD NEWS presents the experiences of AAs and others interested in our program. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement, either by AA or the GOOD NEWS. If you would like to share your viewpoints, please send them to GOOD NEWS, P.O.Box 5521, Stockton, California 95205.

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PASSED OUR WAY...

In Memoriam

Emilie M., a member of the Fellowship since Sept. 1956, who died on July 7, 1983. Trusted servant and friend, she will be missed.

In Memoriam

Che M., formerly active in GSYPA, who was killed by a drunk driver in San Diego, July 23, 1983. A member, a friend, he will be missed.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

My letter is in reply to the article by the same name printed in the Sept. Oct. issue of the Good News.

It would seem that the Coastal Area of General Service might be thinking of opening an Area Office, since the writer is from the Coastal Area. My first impression about the idea was, "What took them so long to think of that?" As I read on, I find that the writer didn't think it was such a good idea. I wonder how many people directly involved did he talk to or was this negative attitude born out of contempt prior to investigation? Otherwise, reasons other than employee versus volunteers would have been given. Is there anything we distrust more than new ideas? Unless it is the thought of a little organization. Both are like waving a red flag in front of a bull. An open minded person would ask themselves first, "Is this idea feasible? How would it function? Could an office better serve the groups in the area? Are there any other General Service Area Offices? Why not investigate first, outline the purpose, structure, officers responsibilities, financing etc., that would be just for a start. Has the growth of the area placed a burden on the Secretary and Treasurer so that those jobs will be hard to fill with responsible people? Do the job qualifications require a great deal of time? Would the record keeping be more timely and accurate? The article seems to be a little contradictory. It's not O.K. to have a part time paid worker but it is O.K. to have a paid Central Office worker assist in doing the job. The monthly mailings are done by a paid worker at the present time, this is nothing new, has been going on for years. When does a service responsibility fall into the "job" category? Does he believe that volunteers should replace the paid Central Office employees? There would soon be no Central Offices if we had to depend on volunteers.

expect

We should not ~~wur~~ expect our AA members to do a job free of charge when we wouldn't expect someone on the outside to work for free. Concept X deals with financial compensation of special workers. We are not a charity, we pay our own way. Some have the idea that our AA members should work cheaper, on the contrary we should compensate our workers well. We do not expect our service workers to make financial sacrifices. We expect our service workers to be recompensed in reasonable relation to the value of his or her similar service or abilities in the commercial world.

The Eighth Tradition makes perfectly clear the difference between the non-professional in regard to our Twelfth Step. Of course we do not pay people to do the twelve step work.

I was a DCM a few years back and recall when the delegate was given a raise in "run around money" to go back to the General Service Conference. Today the delegate is paid \$300.00. What professional job does the delegate do that they need \$60.00 per day? What possibly can they spend the money on? Everything is paid for by the General Service Office. Today the area officers are paid their meals when they visit districts. Where is the volunteerism there?

What ever happened to the "group conscience", the ultimate authority and the "trusted servant" as the delegated authority?

I believe there should be more than one opinion heard and now you have heard mine.

Thank You.