



GOOD NEWS



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Published Bi-Monthly in Sunnyvale, California
By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

MAY - JUNE
1992

Monterey Breaks Many Records; Santa Rosa Readies For Council

The entire Council wishes to thank Jerry McD. and his crew for an outstanding conference just concluded at Monterey. Everything came off smoothly as planned and records were broken for pre-registrations as over 700 of you pre-registered and the entire registration

was higher than usual. Sacramento held the previous record with over 600 pre-registrations which is not too shabby either. We also filled up the hotels and motels in the area enough to qualify us for getting the Convention Center at no charge. You may not know this, but that

saved us a pile of money. The complete financial statement for this conference is not available at press time but will be at the Steering Committee meeting in Stockton on May 17 and in the next issue of GOODNEWS. NCCAA has booked the Monterey Conference Center through the year 2000, every other year starting in 1994. Thanks again, Jerry and Company!

Finance Committee Meets

The Finance Committee for the NCCAA met Sunday, April 26, 1992 at the Alano Club in El Cerrito to discuss and prepare for presentation some items of importance to NCCAA at the next NCCAA Steering Committee meeting in Stockton on May 17.

The meeting, headed by Anne K., of San Pablo, was attended by Committee Members Diane O., Saratogo, Dianne and Ron J. of Sunnyvale, Diane L. of Pacific Grove, Dave K. from Santa Rosa, John T. of Sacramento, Marlene Y., of Richmond and Gary H., of Pinole. Thanks to all of you for donating your time to this important task.

Following are the agenda items discussed by the Committee:

DISCUSSION OF SPEAKER LETTER

Purpose: To discuss and finalize the sample letter to present to the Steering Committee in Stockton. To inform speakers regarding what expenses NCCAA will cover and to curb excessive spending by future speakers.

DISCUSSION OF DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO OTHER AA ORGANIZATIONS.

Purpose: To discuss and develop a recommendation to be made to the Steering Committee in Stockton on how the NCCAA funds over and above the prudent reserve are to be dispersed to other AA organizations.

DISCUSSION OF "COOPERATION IS IMPORTANT," WRITTEN BY DIANE O. AND PRESENTED TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE IN STOCKTON IN DECEMBER 1991

Purpose: To develop verbage to be added to the "Purpose and Structure Booklet," Finance Section, on the following matters:

- (1) Requiring that all NCCAA contracts between the NCCAA and other outside entities be reviewed and signed by the Chairperson and Treasurer.
- (2) Requiring that all documents involving the future payment of NCCAA funds be in the possession of both the NCCAA Chairperson and Treasurer within a few weeks of the time that they are received by either the

(See FINANCE COMMITTEE, Page Three)

SANTA ROSA

The Santa Rosa gang, under the direction of Dave P., has been meeting and planning for our visit June 26 through 28.

PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS BY MAY 26

If you plan to attend the Santa Rosa Conference and stay at the host hotel, El Rancho Tropicana, please make your reservations by May 26. If we meet our contractual number of rooms occupied by NCCAA guests (500 for the week-end), NCCAA will pay nothing for the use of the Conference Center and other meeting rooms. If we only occupy 499 rooms or 399 rooms, NCCAA will pay \$3,500 or \$5,500 respectively for the Conference Center. However, the hotel is only obligated to hold a block of rooms for NCCAA hotel registrants until May 26. If your reservation is not made until after May 26, hotel personnel can turn away prospective hotel registrants, we will not make our quota of 500 registrants and we will be charged as much as \$5,500 for use of the Conference Center.

(See SANTA ROSA, Page Three)

(Some H & I history from the Stockton Archives)

GOOD NEWS

APRIL, 1966

H & I BROAD-SIDES

By Bill S., general chairman, H & I Committee, NCC

THE CONFERENCE held in Sacramento was one of the most successful to date. Our guest speaker, Dr. David Dressler, gave one of the best A.A. pitches and some of us found it hard to believe he is not a member of our fellowship. Jack H. of Palo Alto, our alcoholic speaker, once again rose to the occasion, and gave one of his sterling pitches. We still have people talking and congratulating H & I for such a fine selection of speakers.

ONE OF THE highlights of the Saturday afternoon meeting was the announcement of the recent presentation of a plaque, from the California Department of Correction, to the Hospital & Institution Committee. The plaque, which was created and made by the inmates at San Quentin Prison, was received on behalf of the Committee by Ernie B., coordinator for the facility and Area 6 Chairman. The plaque was given in thanks for the work of the H & I Committee in San Quentin and to the inmates. Pete C., our former General Chairman's wife, made a beautiful frame for displaying and

hanging of the plaque. Thanks Pete!

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 5, in Stockton, the H & I Committee was asked to share in presenting the position of our committee in relation to the general workings of A.A. John H., Sacramento Central Office Secretary, explained the importance of the Central Office in our structure. Jim M., our trustee, summed up the whole workings from the starting at the group level to the New York General Service office level. We should have more of this type of general information meeting for all our members.

THERE IS ONE note from our Secretary about the new schedules that are to be out in July, 1966. The date for getting in all schedule information is June 1, 1966. If you are planning to have elections in your area for a new Area Chairman, they should be in May so that the information of these changes can be in on the due date of June 1, 1966. We want the new schedules to be as correct and up to date as possible.

Submitted by BILL S., Stockton

Compulsion

Dr. Silkworth defined alcoholism as an obsession of the mind which compels one to drink, and an allergy of the body which condemns one to go mad or die. Bill W. spoke of the insidious insanity of that first drink, the seemingly hopeless state of mind and body. We are told that the alcoholic at certain times has no effective defense against the first drink; that, except in a few rare cases, neither he nor any other human being can provide such a defense; that his defense must come from a Higher Power.

I understand an obsession to be a useless or irrational thought that persistently forces itself into the consciousness, and, a compulsion to be a useless or irrational act which one feels compelled to carry out. I understand that obsessions and compulsions are often intertwined. Fulton Sheen once said that a compulsion could not be forced out of the mind but that it could be crowded out. He recalled an alcoholic who loved booze above all else until there entered her heart a Greater Love to crowd out her love for alcohol. He emphasized that one need never despair over any compulsion because a Greater Power can always crowd it out.

I once read that, in the experience of being loved, one receives the capacity for a loving response both to God and human beings; that this first love is not earned or deserved—it is freely poured into our hearts from heaven. Perhaps we may add that our part is in acceptance.

FRANK B., Napa, CA

listing and sent on to the local registration committee, this time in Santa Rosa, where badges are made up in advance of your arrival at the conference. This takes time so please register early and not after 10 days before the conference.

**Please
Pre-Register Now**

GOOD NEWS

Newsletter of the

**Northern California Council
of Alcoholics Anonymous**

Articles of interest to our readers are welcomed and may be mailed to the editor at:

Post Office Box 64090,
Sunnyvale CA 94088-4090

Deadlines for Material

December 10 for January-February
February 10 for March-April
April 10 for May-June
June 10 for July-August
August 10 for September-October
October 10 for November-December

Did You Know?

Did you know what it takes to process your pre-registration forms? We stress EARLY pre-registration because of the length of time it takes your form to reach its destination. Pre-registrations are mailed to the Central Office in San Francisco (NCCAA's official address for over 40 years) where they are sorted by office manager Erwin K. and sent in a bunch to the Council Treasurer, now in Sunnyvale. The names and home towns are put on a dBase

The 1992 Pacific Regional Forum

On Friday July 24, through Sunday July 26, 1992 the Pacific Region Forum will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Santa Clara, CA. The last Pacific Region Forum was held in San Diego in 1990. The next will be held in Boise, Idaho in 1994.

According to the General Service Office, Regional Forums were the good idea of the late Chair of the Board Emeritus, Dr. Jack Norris. They originated in 1975. These weekend sharing sessions are designed to enhance and widen communication among service and potential service people, and representatives of the General Service Board, staff and Grapevine staff.

Our U.S./Canada structure is made up of eight regions. A Regional Forum is held every other year in a particular region, and on a rotating basis. Each Forum is held at the invitation of the region. There are four held each year.

There is no registration fee for a Regional Forum. The General Service Board covers the expenses of hotel meeting rooms and transportation and rooms for its board and staff personnel. Many Areas/Districts/Groups cover or defray the transportation and hotel room expenses of the service people representing them at a Forum.

The location and agenda for a forum are worked out jointly by the Regional Trustees, Area Delegates, and G.S.O. The responsibility for direct contact with the hotel, ahead of time, is assumed by a local A.A. Host Contact working with the Regional Forum Coordinator and Regional Trustee. The Host Contact is the liaison person on the spot. The Regional Forum Coordinator at G.S.O. sends out registrations/invitations to the region and coordinates and follows through on all the details.

A Regional Forum is not a for-

mal, decision-making body, thus no formal actions come about as a result of forums. Rather, forums provide a unique opportunity to share valuable experience, ask questions, and spark new ideas.

The first Pacific Region Forum held in California was in Sacramento in 1978, in the California Northern Interior Area. The upcoming

forum in Santa Clara will be the first for the California Northern Coastal Area. The opportunity to attend a Regional Forum for most service people and potential service people in Northern California is not always as easy as it is this year. Driving time to Santa Clara from the farthest point of CNIA or CNCA
(See FORUM, Page Five)

A Friend of Bill W.

By HAROLD L.

Do you ever feel uncomfortable when you hear a lot of profanity used at an ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meeting? Well, I do and I was in the military for about 22 years, where I have heard every profane word that probably existed and I probably have used most of them at one time or another but not in mixed company. But that was in my drinking days and now that I am sober, my life has changed. I don't use those profane words any more or try not to.

I looked up the words profane and profanity in my dictionary and found that profane had a lot of meanings but the one I chose was this: "To misuse (anything that should be held in reverence or respect); defile; debase or anything vulgar." and profanity is the act of using profane words.

I have been to A.A. meetings where a person that was sharing or speaking would use profanity and especially the "F" word. There would be laughter and then this person would increase their use of profanity. I guess some people think it is necessary to use profanity to make a point or use it as a crutch.

When I first came into A.A., I had a difficult time listening to what was being shared or said by certain people who used a lot of profanity. When a person would start saying

the "F" word, I would start counting and when I left the meeting I couldn't tell you what was said but I could tell you how many times the "F" word was used. That was not what I went to the meeting to hear, I wanted sobriety, and wanted to hear how to get and keep it from those who had it. After that, I would try to find and go to meetings where less profanity was used.

I believe that the BIG BOOK teaches us not only how to stop drinking but how we can have a better life and on pages 83 and 84 it lists the promises that we can have. In order that we can have these, we must make the necessary changes in our lives, which includes cleaning up our act and language. We don't need to hide behind foul language to express our feelings, but we should speak our feelings from the heart. We must learn to respect, love and help others especially the newcomers and not offend or chase them away with our offensive language. Respect others as you would want to be respected.

No amount of wishful thinking will resolve your problems... You have to take action!

Editors note: Harold hails from Rocklin and has been a regular GOODNEWS contributor over the years. Thanks Harold!

Forum

(Continued from Page Four)

is less than one day. Having the Pacific Region Forum in a metropolitan area such as the Santa Clara Valley offers a score of hotels and motels for those that have to spend the weekend away from home. Those in the greater Bay Area are within easy commute distance of the Forum. For those who prefer to stay at the host hotel, there will be ample room with early reservations. The last Forum in San Diego registered around a thousand people. This Forum has the potential to exceed that number.

I was taught in my early sobriety that I couldn't keep it if I didn't give it away. I was also taught that God doesn't take care of Alcoholics Anonymous, He takes care of drunks and if we ask for His help, He'll help us take care of A.A. This seems to be verified by what Bill W. wrote in, "A.A.'s Legacy of Service," "Our Twelfth Step - carrying the message - is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society for alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die." If the

Coming Attractions

June 19-21
Fri. - Sun.

13th ANNUAL YOUNG PEOPLES
ROUND UP OF A.A.
Hacienda Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

June 26-28
Fri. - Sun.

45th ANNUAL SUMMER NCCAA
CONFERENCE
El Rancho Tropicana Hotel
2200 Santa Rosa Avenue
Santa Rosa, California
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BY EARLY!

July 24-26
Fri. - Sun.

G.S.O. 1992 REGIONAL FORUM
Doubletree Hotel
Santa Clara, California
Registration: No Charge

July 25
Saturday

UNITY DAY - AUBURN FELLOWSHIP
Write P.O. Box 9174
Auburn, CA 95604 for Information.

Oct. 16-18
Fri. - Sun.

45th ANNUAL FALL NCCAA
CONFERENCE
San Jose Convention Center
San Jose, CA
FLYERS AVAILABLE IN SANTA ROSA

Oct. 30, 31 &
November 1
Fri. - Sun.

13th ANNUAL C.C.Y.P.A.A.
(Calif. Coastal Young People of A.A.)
CONFERENCE BY THE SEA
Monterey Convention Center
Host Hotel: The Doubletree
Monterey, CA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

N. C. C. A. A.
CONFERENCE DATES
1992 Conferences
SANTA ROSA • June 26, 27, 28
SAN JOSE • Oct. 16, 17, 18,

Future conferences
FRESNO - March 1993
OAKLAND - June 1993
STOCKTON - October 1993
MONTEREY - March 1994
SAN MATEO - June 1994
MODESTO - October 1994

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
Please Pre-Register Early!

above is true, and I believe that it is, then as A.A. members we have an obligation to be as prepared as we possibly can to carry the message of recovery from alcoholism through the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. We have come a long way since the birth of the General Service Conference, a multitude of men and women have gotten sober and remained so, many more are coming to us and a lot are staying. I think that we need to keep the message clear and one of the most effective ways that I know is to keep our communications throughout the Fellowship open. Being able to talk to Board members, Trustees, and staff members from G.S.O. and the Grapevine about issues that I understand and finding answers to those

that I don't understand is an opportunity that I can't pass up. I hope that I see you there and that together we can give away what we find and help others to keep it too.

Submitted with Love through Service,

Jim M., Eureka, CA
DCMC District 15,
Humboldt/Del Norte

HUMOR

"Doctor!" cried out the drunk. "My arm has been broken in three places! What should I do?"

"Don't go into those places anymore," the doctor replied. (Bill B., Indianapolis, Ind.)

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OF YOUR NEW JOKES**

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