

NIGHT CAP

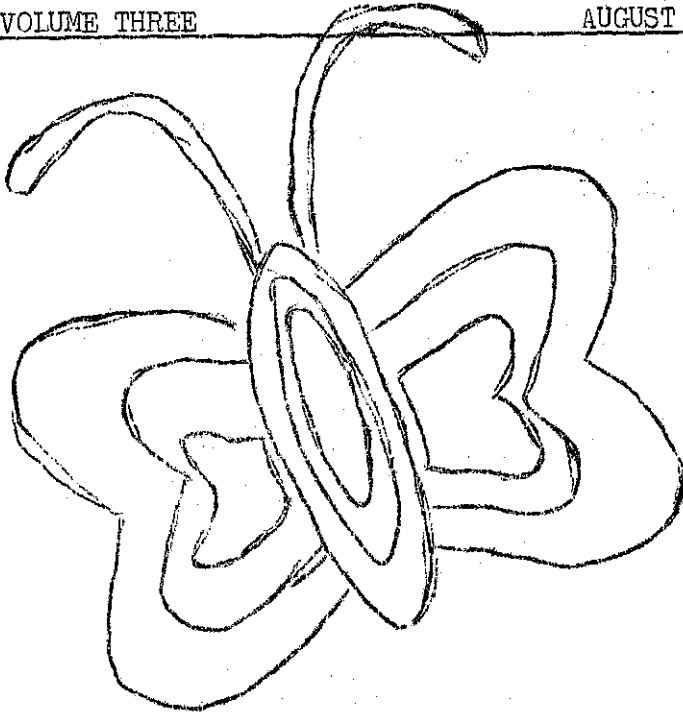
Published monthly by the San Antonio Central Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in the interest of greater unity of members in local and South-west Texas Area groups.

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IT'S A GIFT!

A question is bandied back and forth in our society year after year. If sobriety is a gift that we did not deserve and can never earn then why must we work so hard to get it and keep it? And that question always creates doubt in the minds of a few, particularly the new - comer, still having a rough time.

It seems to me that we all forget a simple fact. A successful gift must have two indispensable ingredients aside from the gift itself. There must be a gracious, willing giver and a grateful, willing taker.

We need not take up the character of the gift. Sobriety we need. We are eager for it. The desire for it is the one and only requisite for membership in our fellowship. Beyond that, it is not theo-

retically, but literally a life and death matter for all of us.

We need not discuss our Giver, nor His Grace, nor His Willingness. Never did He turn His back on us. We turned from Him and deliberately desecrated and nearly destroyed our precious gift of life in the first place. But for His Grace we would not have been here in the first place, would not be here now and most assuredly would not be sober now.

No, we need not question the gift or the Giver of sobriety. Our attention should narrow down and be intensely concentrated on the taker. You and I need examination. Are we grateful willing takers? If we are then we are working the program to the absolute limit of limit of our ability. Else we are not facing our Giver. Obviously we cannot turn our backs again. We must face Him and say, "You made me; I face You: I am grateful; show me the way and the truth."

If your gratitude is in any sense comparable to the precious blessing of sobriety, then only through your deeds, only through your life's example as a whole, can you show your gratitude. Words without deeds are empty lip service. And so we live this way of life, facing God as we understand Him, surrendering to Him, seeking His Will and doing it, maintaining a constant check on the truth about ourselves through constant fearless self - inventory, admitting our mistakes promptly as we go along, seeking closer conscious contact with Him through meditation and prayer, and finally in His Name trying to help the other fellow.

(Continued on Page Two)

IT'S A GIFT! (Cont'd from Page one)

This is living gratitude for the priceless gift of sobriety. That is what makes us a grateful willing taker of a gift we did not deserve and can never earn.

- Fred M. -

THE WORKS OF GOD ARE A COSMIC SHOUT, A DANCE OF PLANETS, AND A THEATRE FOR GLORY

P. I. C. REPORT

To show the increase in institutions committees this P.I.C. Report will begin with the most recent Institutions Report from the General Service Office.

300 New Hospital Groups; 100 New Prison Groups

Staff Report: This desk provides services to institutions groups and committees, and acts as liaison among them. As of January 1, we had 1,351 hospital and rehabilitation center groups and 1,133 prison groups - increases of about 300 and 100 over January 1, 1975. Over 130 institutions committees serve hospitals and prisons.

To help carry the message to these confined, G.S.O. offers correspondence with the institutions staff member and, through the institutions Correspondence Service, with about 100 other AA's. We list new groups, and send each the Group Handbook and complimentary literature. We provide prison and hospital groups with updated directories, copies of BOX 4-5-9 bimonthly, and the Institutions Bulletin three times yearly.

Trustees' Committee: The chairman asked wardens and superintendents of correctional institutions in the New England and North Atlantic states about AA programs, those attending meetings, outside sponsorship, and other points. Results will be reported later.

The chairman suggested that AA membership figures in the 1975 correctional directory are incomplete because some institutions fail to report. He and the staff member on the directory assignment will seek accurate figures.

To interest more AA members in institutions work, it was suggested that: (1) news items about institutions be periodically printed in BOX 4 - 5 - 9; (2) delegates help carry to groups the message that we need more institutions workers; (3) institutions committee members meet regionally, as well as locally, to exchange ideas; (4) a one - Page flyer with helpful institutions sharing be sent to institutions committees.

* * * * *

Fred Douglas of KLRN - TV (Channel 9) put together a 60 minute show on alcoholism entitled "A Minor Drinking Problem." This documentary dealt with the shift from drug use to heavy drinking among youths from 10 to 18 years old. The program was aired on July 2nd and 5th. Three members of local AA groups participated in making the program: DuWayne F., Joe T. and Ben A.

Ignacis H. appeared on the program "En San Antonio" which devoted a 15 minute segment to alcoholism on June 22nd, KWEX - TV (Channel 41).

A bilingual program featuring Roland R. and Dave H. was aired by Maria Elena on Channel 4, TV, June 22nd.

On June 23rd, Marilyn H. spoke to several Health classes at McArthur High School. Roland R. talked to a Social Problems class at San Antonio Junior College for Susan Baker on July 1st, Mary Lou C. and Dean E. also spoke to a Law Enforcement class at SAC on June 23rd.

Beth Lucas requested 2 speakers for Robert E. Lee High School, July 6th. Alice C. and Vangie H. showed a film on alcoholism and responded to questions. Gene A. and Gary M. responded to a call for 2 speakers for a Health class for Alamo Heights High School.

Harlandale High School requested 2 speakers, July 7th, to speak to a Health class. Films were shown before Alice C. and Rick C. took over the program.

A one day notice for a speaker in the SAC Student Union Building was filled by Ben A. on July 2nd.

I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all of you for a job well done. Without you the work of the P.I.C. would not be possible. My heart goes out to all of you - and my family - for the help!

- Ben A. -

Effective in August the Public Information "Community Meeting" will no longer be held. The Public Information Chairman hopes that they will be reinstated later, but a decline in attendance makes them difficult to carry on at this time.

AREA COMMITTEE

The S. W. Texas Area Conference Committee met with the District 1. Committee Members July 11th with the Area Chairman, Raul M. presiding. Also present were the Area Delegate, Gene D., the Alternate Area Chairman, Margaret H. - (replacing Beth J. who resigned upon assuming the duties of the Secretary of the central Service Office), Merle D., Area Secretary, Committee Members Frost U., Sector A. and Forrest "Alex" A., Sector B.

Plans were agreed upon for the Area Delegate to give a second and more detailed report on the Conference during the month of August. The report will be given in a central location in District 1.

Consideration for a yearly District 1. workshop in January for the G.S.R.'s and Committee Members was to be presented to those combined committees.

Frost U. agreed to take the chairmanship of the District 1. Committee Members for the coming six months. All Committee Members were urged to encourage more and continuing support for the C.S.O.

- Margaret H. -

TO THOSE WHO KEEP PACE WITH THE SUN, THE DAY IS PERPETUAL MORNING.

26th ANNIVERSARY IN KERRVILLE

You are invited to help Kerrville observe the 26th Anniversary of the introduction of AA to the Hill Country. We'll celebrate at 6:30 p.m. August 7th with a dinner at the Dietert Claim, 617 Jefferson, Martin W. of Austin is to be the speaker. Tickets are \$3.00 per person. Reservations must be made by August 6th.

To get to the Dietert Claim from I-10, take the Hiway 16 exit into town, drive to the third traffic light, turn right and pull into the parking lot on your left. YA'LL COME! -Hal F. -

5th LONE STAR ROUND - UP IN DALLAS

The 5th Lone Star Round-Up will be held at the Northpark Inn, 9300 N. Central in Dallas, August 13th -15th.

The Chairman of this popular Summer Conference feels this will be the biggest and most outstanding Round - Up yet held. A great way to beat the summer "Drearies" !

Registration is \$5.00 and may be sent to: LONE STAR ROUND-UP
P.O. Box 1395
Richardson, Texas 75080

* * * DELEGATE'S REPORT * * *

Gene D., our Southwest Area Delegate will discuss many of the questions that came before the General Service Conference - their solutions - resolutions - and how they may effect local groups and members.

Gene will be the guest of the "Stepping Stones" meeting on August 18th at 8:15p.m. in the Corral Room at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 408 4th Street.

This 2nd meeting has been arranged to give all who may not have had the opportunity to hear Gene at an earlier meeting. Everyone is urged to attend!

NEW GROUPS:

There are 2 new groups in District 12 - Bandera and the Kerrville Men's Group. Helen L. is G.S.R. of the Bandera Group which meets every Monday night at 8 p.m. At press time they did not have, as yet, a regular meeting place. However, Ann S., District 12 Committee Chairwoman will know the meeting place each week. Her phone number is 512 - 896 - 5772.

Bill A. is the secretary of the Kerrville Men's Group which meets each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. at 720 Tivy Street in Kerrville. The Group will elect a G.S.R., and Alternate in the near future.

* * *

The Sunday Morning Open Breakfast Meeting of the Echo Valley Group meets every Sunday morning from 9 - 11 a. m. at the Echo Valley Motor Hotel, Hwy 281, South, Edinburg, Texas.

A \$1.00 Special, or a "fabulous" \$3.00 "All The Trimmings" breakfast is featured, along with a different "Name" - Convention quality - speaker each week.

They suggest you bring the family, a friend - all your friends - and spend the night for a brief "break - a - way".

"Echo Valley offers good food for the body as well as the heart and soul. "What more? I ask Ya', what more ...?"

Port Mansfield Group: Port Mansfield Station (Between Port Mansfield and San Perlita); Port Mansfield, Texas 78580. Tim H. has been elected G.S.R. and can be reached at the same address for more information.

The Raymondville Group: Meets at our Lady of Guadalupe Church (Annex), 693 North 3rd, Raymondville, Texas, 78580. Willie G. is the G.S.R., and may be reached at 1004 N. 2nd, Raymondville, Texas.

While you're summer traveling, is a great time to drop in and check out these new groups - enjoy a "cuppa " and a chat, you're always at home!

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

The District 12 Round Robin will be held in St. Helena's Episcopal Church in Boerne, Sunday, August 29th at 5:00 p.m., following the G.S.R. meeting. Mae M. will be the featured speaker.

* * *

The Central Service Office Board will meet Tuesday, August 3rd at the Central Service Office, 109 Lexington Avenue, Suite 215, at 7:00 p.m.

* * *

C.S.O.C. - The Central Service Office Committee will meet at Club 12, 102 Thames Drive, 7:00 p.m. G.S.R.'s and their Alternates are reminded that their Groups are unrepresented if they do not attend on August 8th.

* * *

The STARR (Intergroup) meeting will also be held at Club 12 on the 8th, directly following the C.S.O.C. meeting at 8:15 p.m.. The Uvalde Group will bring a bevy of speakers - so plan to be there!

* * *

The Goliad Group, 1004 Avondale will hold their monthly barbeque August 15th at 6:00 p.m., followed by an Open Speaker's Meeting at 7:30 p.m. All other Sunday evening meetings are held at the regular time of 8.15 p.m.

* * *

Club 12: Party Night will be held Saturday, August 28th. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. \$2.00 for adults and \$1.25 for children.

The 24 Hour Service Group: 1203 Fredericksburg Road, will hold their monthly dinner, Sunday the 29th of August at 1 p.m. - Adults: \$2.00 and children \$1.25

APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE!

Welcome to the NIGHT CAP Staff: Carolyn B. who limbered up her twinkling pinkies to cut her 1st stencil for us last month. What a beautiful job she did, and WHAT A RELIEF to the editor not to have to do it herself or "job" it out!

Continueing thanks to Imogene U., and the Mail Crew" who are always at the ready to get the NIGHT CAP put together and mailed to you each month. If you havn't helped them with this, I'll bet you didn't know that it's QUITE a job! (THANKS?!-C.B)

LIGHT UP THE WORLD WITH JOY AND LOVE

" BUCK - A - MONTH "

Your " Buck - A - Month " contribution does much more than cover the cost of printing and mailing the NIGHT CAP. It's a major aid in supporting the Central Service Office - keeping the doors open, literature available, and a hand near the telephone when someone calls Alcoholics Anonymous for help. Support " Buck - A - Month " with your buck!

BUCK - A - MONTH CONTRIBUTION FORM
Central Service Office - 109 Lexington Ave., Suite 215, San Antonio, Texas 78205

Please enter my contribution to the "Buck - A - Month" for ___ months. Donation is enclosed on the basis of \$1.00 per month.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

FINANCIAL CORNER
CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
Alamo Heights	\$ 15.00	105.00	Northeast	\$ -0-	60.00
Audubon	10.00	70.00	Northwest	25.00	175.00
Bethany(Killeen)	-0-	3.00	Northwood	45.00	135.00
Boerne	-0-	15.00	Pilgrim	-0-	9.00
Brees	25.00	85.00	Portland	-0-	-0-
Bridge(New Brnfelds)	10.00	70.00	Reality	10.00	70.00
Broadway	10.00	70.00	Reliance	-0-	20.00
Court House(Brnsvle)	-0-	11.00	San Pedro	10.00	60.00
Downtown	-0-	25.00	San Marcos	-0-	10.00
Feel Free(Lockhart)	-0-	-0-	SASH	5.00	10.00
Floresville	-0-	-0-	Santa Fe	-0-	5.00
Ft.Sam Houston	50.00	250.00	St.Agnes	-0-	5.00
Frontier	20.00	140.00	Seguin	5.00	35.00
Goliad	15.00	75.00	Serenity	10.00	70.00
Group 12	-0-	250.00	Sharing	-0-	-0-
Guidance	10.00	50.00	STARR	35.76	175.27
Grupo Esperanza	-0-	3.00	Stepping Stones	-0-	120.00
Happy Hour	-0-	-0-	Sunset	-0-	75.00
Harmony	-0-	-0-	The Haven	-0-	25.00
Highlands	20.00	140.00	Trinity	10.00	30.00
Hill Country	-0-	20.00	Traditions	-0-	-0-
Hope	-0-	10.00	Twenty Four Hour	10.00	90.00
Kerrville	-0-	50.00	Grupo Unidad	15.00	30.00
Women's Serenity (Kerrville)	-0-	36.00	Universal City	15.00	15.00
Killeen	-0-	3.00	Unity Group (Monterrey,Mex.)	-0-	40.00
Laurel Heights	10.00	70.00	Valley Hi	15.00	105.00
Lytle	-0-	10.00	VA Hospital	10.00	65.00
Luling	10.00	30.00	Villa Rosa	25.00	175.00
Marymont	-0-	40.00	Wesley	-0-	10.00
Grupo Montana(Seguin)	-0-	16.00	Windcrest	15.00	105.00
New Braunfels	-0-	-0-	Woodlawn Heights	-0-	30.00
NAS Hosp. (Corpus Christi)	-0-	15.00			