



The Nightcap

AA IN SOUTHWEST TEXAS

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NUMBER 12

A CHRISTMAS DANCE WILL BE HELD AT HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH, 758 RAMSEY AT BLANCO, SATURDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 12, 1981. KICK-OFF WITH A SHORT MEETING AT 8:00 WITH DANCE TO BEGIN AT 8:30. A DONATION OF \$5.00 PER PERSON IS REQUESTED! LIVE MUSIC BY THE MEDINA MUD BAND. DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME TO HEAR THIS BAND LIVE!

LOTS OF COFFEE, SOFT DRINKS AND REFRESHMENTS. GUARDS WILL BE POSTED AT THE PUNCH BOWL... FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL ANN OR CAL W 344-8563 OR THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE, 733-7562.

If you or your group can help with the refreshments, please contact one of the following: Desi G, 674-5264 anytime during the day -

Rita Maria Da S, 675-0577 between 3:00 & 7:00 PM -

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WHO SAID THIS IS A SELFISH PROGRAM???

I had been sober only a few years when I met Bill W., one of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous. It was a wonderful experience for me because he was such a charming, fascinating man who had found the answers for himself and for others.

Something had been bothering me for quite some time in A.A. and that was the statement that "this is a selfish program". I felt that this idea was negative and it did not appeal to me at all. Here was my chance to ask Bill W. just what it meant. So I did.

In his slow, thoughtful manner, he explained, "I understand how you feel. Many people think the idea of selfishness is negative and has no place in our fellowship. They have good reason to think that way if our members are interested only in themselves. But I really think there is another attitude we can take."

"Please tell me what it is because I really need to know."

"Well," he continued, "instead of thinking of our fellowship as a selfish program, I like to believe it is a program of enlightened self-interest. By that I mean we are interested in our own sobriety and we are willing to share our experience, strength and hope with each other so that we can carry the message. We have a higher reason for staying sober than just our own selfish reasons. We work the program in order to help others. That, in my opinion, is an enlightened self-interest."

Although the above quotations are not verbatim, they express Bill's ideas on this point. I was thrilled to hear his uplifting explanation which I have never forgotten. (Continued on page 2)

(Selfish Program-continued)

For me, then, this IS a program of ENLIGHTENED SELF-INTEREST which means I am keeping myself fit and able so that I too can carry the message to still-suffering alcoholics.

And that's what it's all about!

Sunny M

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H. O. W. FOUNDATION

As the Nightcap is being prepared for printing, the H. O. W. Foundation is coming under fire by a local TV station that is running a ten part exposé. (ex-po-sé - a public disclosure of a scandal, crime, etc.)

Maybe now is a good time to say a few words about the TRADITIONS. Number 10 reads: ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS HAS NO OPINION ON OUTSIDE ISSUES; HENCE THE A.A. NAME OUGHT NEVER BE DRAWN INTO PUBLIC CONTROVERSY.

The following is from the book TWELVE AND TWELVE, Page 177:

Let us reemphasize that this reluctance to fight one another or anybody else is not counted as some special virtue which makes us feel superior to other people. Nor does it mean that the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, now restored as citizens of the world, are going to back away from their individual responsibilities to act as they see the right upon issues of our time. But when it comes to A.A. as a whole, that's quite a different matter. In this respect, we do not enter into public controversy, because we know our Society will perish if it does. We conceive the survival and spread of Alcoholics Anonymous to be something of far greater importance than the weight we could collectively throw back of any other cause. Since recovery from alcoholism is life itself to us, it is imperative that we preserve in full strength our means of survival.

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WITHOUT ANGER

Suppose A.A. falls under sharp public attack or heavy ridicule, having little or no justification in fact. Our best defense in these situations would be no defense whatever--namely, complete silence at the public level. If in good humor we let unreasonable critics alone, they are apt to subside the more quickly. If their attacks persist and it is plain that they are misinformed, it may be wise to communicate with them privately in a temperate and informative way.

If, however, a given criticism of A.A. is partly or wholly justified, it may be well to acknowledge this privately to the critics, together with our thanks.

But under no conditions should we exhibit anger or any punitive intent.

TWELVE CONCEPTS, Page 74

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WE NEED YOU!

We need the names of A.A. members who really want to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholics.

The Central Service Office gets calls every day from people who need someone to visit them and explain what A.A. can do for them if they are willing.

We have to give it away to keep it!

Add your name to our very short list of 12 steppers. Even if you think your name is already on the list, please call to verify your name & telephone number.

Call 733-6876 today and let us know you really care.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUDUBON GROUP has started studying "As Bill Sees It - The A.A. Way of Life" each Saturday at 8:15 PM. This is a closed discussion meeting at 315 S. Audubon.

GROUP TWELVE will have a Christmas dinner on Friday, December 25, 1981. Turkey with all the trimmings. Turkey furnished-trimmings by covered dish. Open House December 26, 1981 through January 1, 1982. Covered dish daily. 5:00 PM until ?. Also, there will be a New Years Eve dance with live music, blackeyed peas, corn bread and tamales. All this for \$5.00 per person!

SAN ANTONIO STATE HOSPITAL A.A. GROUP will have their annual Christmas party on Monday, December 21, 1981 beginning at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium. There will be a short meeting, fellowship, good food and dancing. Music furnished by the SASH Band. This big event is not possible without the continued wonderful support from our A.A. community. Please send your donations, groups or individual, to Libby Slaughter, 4743 Eldridge, San Antonio, Tx 78237 or give them to Jerry Mc or Clara P. Everyone welcome. Help make this party the best ever. Thanks in advance. See you there....

CRYSTAL CITY GROUP-This is a new group that held their first meeting on Wednesday, November 11, 1981 at 8:00 PM. Meeting place: Centro De Salud Clinic. Closed Discussion. Also Al-Anon meetings (closed discussion) held same day, time & place. A note of thanks to Jose M for helping and sharing with this first meeting. Jose also celebrated 23 years of sobriety that November 11th. Also helping and sharing with this new group was the Uvalde A.A. & Al-Anon groups. All A.A.'s and Al-Anon support are needed and welcome to help keep this new group going & growing.

THE HAVEN GROUP will hold its ANNUAL NEW YEARS EVE TALK-A-THON on Thursday, December 31st. The first meeting will begin at 7:30 PM and continue as long as there are members to participate. There will be a short intermission between meetings. Refreshments will be served. The Haven Group extends an invitation to all A.A.'s to come and share this evening of fellowship with them. Come and celebrate a sober New Years Eve with your friends.

Fifteen groups have regularly scheduled meetings on New Years Eve. They are Eisenhower, Fort Sam Houston, Goliad, Group Twelve, North San Pedro, Open Door, Randolph Fellowship, Stepping Stones, Tejas, Triangle, Twenty-Four Hour, Universal City, V. A. Hospital, Wesley and Wilford Hall. There is no reason to play "nip and tuck" (you nip & the cops will tuck) on New Years Eve--go to your regularly scheduled meeting then on to Group Twelve for the dance. After the dance, go to the Haven and welcome the New Year in.....

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SALLY MEETINGS

DEC 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Marymont Gp
 JAN 6 V. A. Hospital
 JAN 13 Tejas
 JAN 20 Haven
JAN 27 V. A. Hospital

VILLA ROSA MEETINGS

DEC 1 Young People
 DEC 8 Twenty-Four Hour
 DEC 15 Santa Fe
 DEC 22 Alamo Heights
DEC 29 Twenty-Four Hour
 JAN 5 Stepping Stones
 JAN 12 Stepping Stones
 JAN 19 Broadway
JAN 26 Northwest

ARC MEETINGS

DEC 5, 12, 19, 26
Group 12
 JAN 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 Southwest Loop Group

MARK YOUR CALENDAR-NOW! Central Service Office Administrative Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 1981. 7:00 PM - 103 Renner Drive.

CSOC (GSR) meeting will be held Sunday, December 13, 1981. 7:00 PM - 103 Renner.

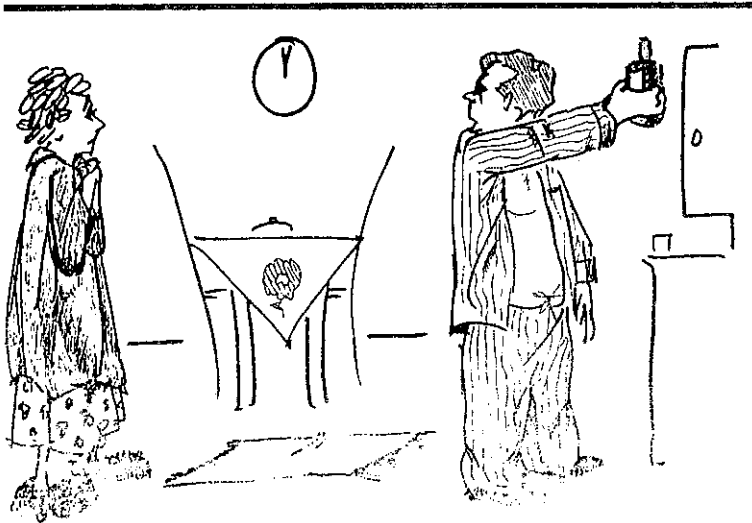
Two of the five DCM's have been elected. Larry Y. was elected for District 1-E with Red K. as alternate and Cal W. was elected for District 1-B with Bill F as alternate. That leaves Districts 1-A, 1-C and 1-D needing to elect a new DCM and alternate. Please try to get this accomplished at the GSR meeting. Groups making up these districts are listed below together with the person who will conduct the election.

1-A (Mary Lou L.)
 Grupo Unidad
 Kingsboro
 Wesley
 The Haven
 Twenty-Four Hour
 Triangle
 Northwest
 Summit
 V. A. Hospital
 Villa Rosa
 Helotes

1-C (Charles K.)
 North San Pedro
 Coker
 Reliance
 Northwood
 Windcrest
 Alamo Heights
 Sunset
 Broadway
 Sahara
 Marymont

1-D (Ralph T.)
 Stepping Stones
 Downtown
 Lambda
 First Step
 Happy Hour
 Fort Sam Houston
 Eisenhower
 Northeast
 Randolph
 Schertz
 Universal City

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"But it isn't today any more. It's tomorrow."



"He says he'd try AA but he's afraid his neighbors will find out he's a drunk."

GRAPEVINE

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Happy 29th birthday to Helen M. You know Helen--she is the one that has been telling the same joke for 29 years but no one knows the punch line. She enjoys it so much that by the time she gets to the punch line you can't understand her because she is laughing too hard.

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WANT TO STAY SOBER? QUIT DRINKING!

The Central Service Office is working on the new 1982 Directory. The Administrative Board decided to go back to the old format last used in 1979. 35¢ for a directory is a little too much and the new ones should be considerable less. New directories should be available by the middle of January 1982.

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Charles M., our friend out Schertz way, has just had open heart surgery on November 16th. He is doing fine and is in Brooke Army Medical Center, Beach Pavilion, Ward 42B.

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IN MEMORIAM

John Mc. November 14 Jack S. October 22 Robert (Bob) J. October 28

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FRONTIER GROUP will have a Christmas Party, Saturday, December 19, 1981 starting at 7:00 PM. This party will be in honor of all the groups that took meetings to the ARC in 1981. Refreshments will be served BEFORE the meeting. All groups will be represented and everyone is welcome.....

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"THE EXPRESS ELEVATOR TO SOBRIETY DOSEN'T WORK. PLEASE USE THE STEPS." (GV)
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An old-line distillery learned about a 104-year-old man in the Tennessee mountains who had been drinking their brand of whiskey since he was fourteen. Sensing some good publicity, they sent an official down to invite the old gent to New York for a TV appearance to endorse their product. The agent presented the details of the trip, and everything seemed settled until the old man said, "Jes' one thing, son. Y'all want me on TV at ten in the mawnin', but I don't stop throwin' up till noon." (GV)

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THE TIGER IN OUR CLOSET

When I was young I found a little kitten and it was a real delight to watch--soft, playful, purring, as harmless a little creature as you would ever see. As time went on it seemed to grow in a normal manner, like cats do, and we were a lot of company for each other.

But one day I realized he was growing much larger than the other cats in the vicinity and his unusual size was a growing concern to me. In his playful antics he sometimes nearly knocked me down and once in a while scratched me severely.

The day came when I entered the room and a ferocious growl greeted me. Before me with jaws wide, fangs exposed, and crouched to leap upon me, was this huge creature grown now to unmanageable proportions. The little kitten that had been such a lot of fun was now a fearful tiger.

Well, I had one heck of a time getting that beast in the closet, and I locked the closet door. But you know, that tiger is still there. He didn't go away or disappear or get any gentler. I know he's still there because every now and then I can hear him growl. But I'm safe--as long as I leave that closet door locked, he can never harm me again.

John T. - Corpus Christi
From WYNOT, Summer 1966

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Just in case you find any mistakes in this paper, please remember they were put there for a purpose. We try to offer something for everyone.

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE - SAN ANTONIO, TX
RECEIVED OCT 24-NOV 23, 1981

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>NOV</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>NOV</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
Alamo Heights	30.00	165.00	Northwest	20.00	168.00
Audubon	-0-	-0-	Northwood	-0-	275.00
Boerne	-0-	-0-	Open Door	20.00	100.00
Broadway	50.00	287.00	Priest & Religious	-0-	-0-
Callaghan	25.00	275.00	Park North	-0-	250.00
Coker	-0-	168.00	Randolph Fellowship	-0-	-0-
Colonies North	300.00	1200.00	Reliance	-0-	35.00
Downtown	-0-	-0-	Sahara	-0-	-0-
Eisenhauer	-0-	30.00	Sally	-0-	-0-
First Step	-0-	-0-	Santa Fe	-0-	10.00
Fort Sam Houston	40.00	440.00	SASH	45.00	75.00
Frontier	-0-	75.00	Schertz	-0-	60.00
Goliad	20.00	220.00	Serenity	15.00	165.00
Group Twelve	100.00	1100.00	Southwest Loop	-0-	100.00
Growing Together	-0-	-0-	Stepping Stones	-0-	230.00
Grupo Del Sol	-0-	18.00	Summit	-0-	180.00
Grupo Unidad	-0-	43.00	Sunset	20.00	190.00
Happy Hour	-0-	-0-	Tejas	-0-	550.00
Haven	20.00	220.00	Triangle	-0-	-0-
Helotes	-0-	17.00	Twenty-Four Hour	-0-	29.20
Highland	20.00	220.00	Universal City	-0-	240.00
Kingsboro	10.00	30.50	V. A. Hospital	-0-	90.00
Lambda	-0-	35.00	Valley-Hi	25.00	265.00
Laurel Heights	20.00	185.00	Villa Rosa	-0-	187.00
Lytle	-0-	36.00	Wesley	15.00	61.00
Marymont	-0-	55.00	Windcrest	50.00	180.00
North San Pedro	-0-	200.00	Young People	-0-	120.00

AREA CONTRIBUTIONS

Bandera	-0-	60.00	Kerrville	-0-	65.62
Canyon Lake	10.00	40.00	Starlight Village	-0-	15.00
Floresville	-0-	60.00	Kerrville Round-Up	-0-	10.12
Poteet	-0-	15.00	Cameron-Rockdale	-0-	13.00
New Braunfels Home	12.00	12.00			

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

District 1 Groups	\$925.00
Area Groups	22.00
Buck-A-Month	60.00
Individual	20.00
Memorial	60.00
	<u>\$1087.00</u>

District 1 Active Groups 56 New Groups 0 Discontinued Groups 0

TO: CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE, 103 RENNER DRIVE, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201
PLEASE ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE "NIGHTCAP" (BUCK-A-MONTH) FOR _____ MONTHS.

NAME _____ STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

