



The Nightcap

THE NIGHTCAP IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE
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VOL. 13

DECEMBER 1984

NO. 12

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Christmas party sponsored by members of the SASH AA Group will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday evening, December 10 at the San Antonio State Hospital auditorium.

This big, festive annual affair kicks off with Dr. Gene S. as featured speaker at the 7 p.m. AA meeting. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. following the short meeting.

A dance with live music will round out the evening from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Tell your friends. . . everyone is welcome. The state hospital is located at 5900 S. Presa on the south side of town.

Donations from AA members to help meet the party's expenses will be greatly appreciated. Contact SASH Group GSR Clara P. at 333-2041 to arrange to make a donation, or mail contributions to her: Clara P., 4622 Clark Ave., #240, San Antonio, TX, 78223.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

Jim B., Roland R., Dave S., and Jeanne B. were elected as board members of the Central Service Office for 1985-86 at the November GSR meeting. Forty-four GSRs attended and voted in the election.

Terms of board members Al D. (chairman), Red K., and Gene L. expire at the end of December.

The new board members will join Fred D., Jim D., and Jim A., whose terms of office run from 1984-1985.

The new board will meet in December to elect their chairman and their other officers. Board members serve for two years.

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE OPEN HOUSE

The Central Service Office will host an Open House during the last two weeks of December.

Open House is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except weekends & holidays: that is, Dec. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, and 28.

Serving as hosts and hostesses will be some of the board members and volunteer workers who have contributed so much to the office during the year.

Please stop by and visit and take a look around. There will be refreshments, including "safe" ones for the diet- and health-conscious among us!

NEW TAPE LIBRARY

The Central Service Office now has a limited number of tapes available for loan in the new tape lending library.

The cassette tapes are of speakers at AA conferences. A \$5 cash deposit is required for each tape checked out. Tapes are checked out for a period of three weeks; the borrower's \$5 will be returned when he returns the tape any time before the three weeks are up.

DETOX MEETINGS ARE ON AGAIN

After one month during which no voluntary patients were accepted at Detox and no AA meetings were allowed there, the situation has been reversed.

Local AA groups are again bringing AA meetings to Detox on Monday and Thursday nights, and voluntary patients are taken on a space-available basis.

Detox (Bexar County Medical Holding Unit) is expected to move in January from 622 Dolorosa to a location near the Brady Green Clinic.

CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING IDEAS
FROM YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE:

* A year's subscription to the AA Grapevine (\$8).

* A year's subscription to The Nightcap (\$8 -- see below).

* Grapevine Tape #1 (\$6) or the new Grapevine Tape #2 (\$6).

* Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions gift edition -- convenient smaller size, attractive binding. (\$4.25).

* Not-God: A History of Alcoholics Anonymous by Ernest Kurtz; see book review on this page (\$13).

* Best Cartoons from the Grapevine (\$4.50).

Q: Is the AA Grapevine conference-approved?

A. The General Service Conference has approved the concept of the AA Grapevine in a number of advisory actions, and has endorsed its continuing editorial policy. There is a conference Grapevine Committee, and any Grapevine matter of Conference importance is taken to the Conference as a whole through this committee.

The Grapevine does not carry the circle and triangle seal. All AA literature bearing this seal must go through a lengthy process of approval.

BOOK REVIEW:

NOT-GOD: A History of Alcoholics Anonymous

What does the title of this history of AA really mean? Ernest Kurtz, the non-AA author, explains: (Page 3)

"The term not-God . . . is drawn from the very heart of "How It Works," the key fifth chapter of the book Alcoholics Anonymous -- the fundamental and first message of Alcoholics Anonymous to its members is that they are not infinite, not absolute, Not-God. Every alcoholic's problem had first been . . . claiming God-like powers, especially that of control. But the alcoholic . . . is not in control even of himself; and the first step towards recovery from alcoholism must be admission and acceptance of this fact that is so blatantly obvious to others. . . Alcoholics Anonymous teaches first and foremost that the alcoholic is Not God."

This book, which is a doctoral thesis, goes into great detail on the history of AA, bringing out new facts about Bill and Bob, our co-founders, that have never been published before.

The author was given permission to read personal letters to and from Bill W. as well as other documents. Some of this material will knock your socks off.

This fascinating book is available in paperback at your Central Service Office.

--- S.A.C.S.O.

Nightcap

Your Name _____ (please print)

Address _____ (Apt. #)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- Start my subscription plus gifts.
- Start gift subscriptions only.
- Start or extend subscription in my name.
- Send gift cards to me for mailing.
- Send gift cards to recipients with my greeting.

Give the Nightcap for Christmas! Special holiday gift rates are in effect through December only: \$12 a year for your subscription then \$8 a year for each gift subscription. Offer applies to current and new subscribers. Mail this form to AA Central Office, 103 Renner, 78201.

1st Gift _____ (please print)

Address _____ (Apt. #)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift card to read "From _____"

2nd Gift _____ (please print)

Address _____ (Apt. #)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift card to read "From _____"

Special Christmas Rates

A CONVERSATION WITH
A RENEWED ACQUAINTANCE

"How come you don't drink anymore?"
a renewed acquaintance from long ago
asked me the other day.

"Any more than who?"

"I mean any longer. How come you
don't drink anything thses days?"

"Drink? I drink. . . coffee, milk,
tea, soda pop, water, fruit juices,
ice cream frappes."

"I mean drink," he said, "you know,
booze."

"Oh, booze. No, I don't drink booze
anymore. I couldn't trust it anymore;
it turned on me. Once my friend, it
became my enemy."

"Maybe you got a bad batch."

"No, the sauce is the same. I
changed. I have the illness of alco-
holism and my tolerance weakened. Al-
coholism doesn't come in bottles, it
comes in people."

"Gosh," my friend exclaimed. "It must
have taken a bunch of booze to get you
in that shape."

"Just one," I told him. "The first
one. For me, one is too many, and a
thousand is not enough."

"So that's why you don't drink any-
more?"

"Yep, I made it a rule: I DON'T
DRINK WHILE I'M SOBER."

--- Excerpted from a publication
of the Hays, Kansas AA Groups

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IMPORTANT: This newsletter is sent without
charge to GSRs so that they may
share its contents with members
of their groups.

LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The New Life Group at St. Patrick's
Catholic Church on Willow Street is
now a bilingual group, not a Spanish
group. . . The minister at Concordia
Lutheran Church wants AAs to know that
his facility is available for use by
AA groups for meetings. Small meeting
rooms are available now, but a much
larger facility is under construction
on the church's grounds at 1826 Basse
Road. A nursery is available on Tues-
day and Wednesday nights.

Another church building which has
been offered as a site for AA meetings
is that of University Christian Church
of San Antonio, 6131 DeZavala west of
I-10 in far northwest San Antonio. In-
terested persons should contact AA mem-
ber Bill W. at 680-1793.

Cassette tapes of our Nov. 3 "A Day
in S.A. with A.A." can be ordered from
the Buddy Ross Tape Library, 3540 Dor-
orthy Lane No., Fort Worth, TX 76107.
Phone number is (817) 731-2276. \$6.50
per tape. . . Since some AA members tend
to move around a lot, we thought you
might like to know that the Central
Office sometimes has sturdy boxes on
hand to give away. Call first. . . Also,
Central Office would appreciate the do-
nation of small, sturdy bags for pack-
aging the books we sell.

A couple of new meetings: "Singles
in Sobriety" beginning Friday, Dec. 7
at 8:15 p.m. at 315 W. Nakoma -- for
more info call 340-2135 or 656-2813.
Also a new group has formed in Castro-
ville and will begin meeting Thursday,
Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. at St. Louis Catholic
Church there.

Try to catch Channel 5's "Kaleido-
scope" at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12.
A brief interview with local AAs will
be featured. . . A big welcome to new
"Ala-baby" Shane S., born to Hank and
Suzanne S. on Friday, Nov. 23. . .

Grupo Unidad Christmas Party beginning
at 6 p.m. Dec. 24. Free tamale dinner.

"Worry works. Everything I worry
about never happens."

-- From the OA Lifeline

ALCOHOLICS REHABILITATION CLUBHOUSE?

On Page 154 of the December Reader's Digest, there is an article about a fellow who sounds suspiciously like one of us. In accordance with the Eleventh Tradition, however, he is not identified in the article as an AA member.

In fact, AA is never mentioned in the story.

Reference is made, though, to an "alcoholics rehabilitation clubhouse." And the article talks about the fellow "helping others to walk the road back."

(The subject of the article can be heard telling his own story on cassette tapes now available for loan from the Central Service Office tape library.)

JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP:
DOWNTOWN GROUP BINGO

SATURDAY NIGHT
8 P.M.
DOWNSTAIRS AT
110 McCULLOUGH

LAWSUITS INVOLVE MANDATORY AA ATTENDANCE

Is Alcoholics Anonymous a program "with a religious orientation"?

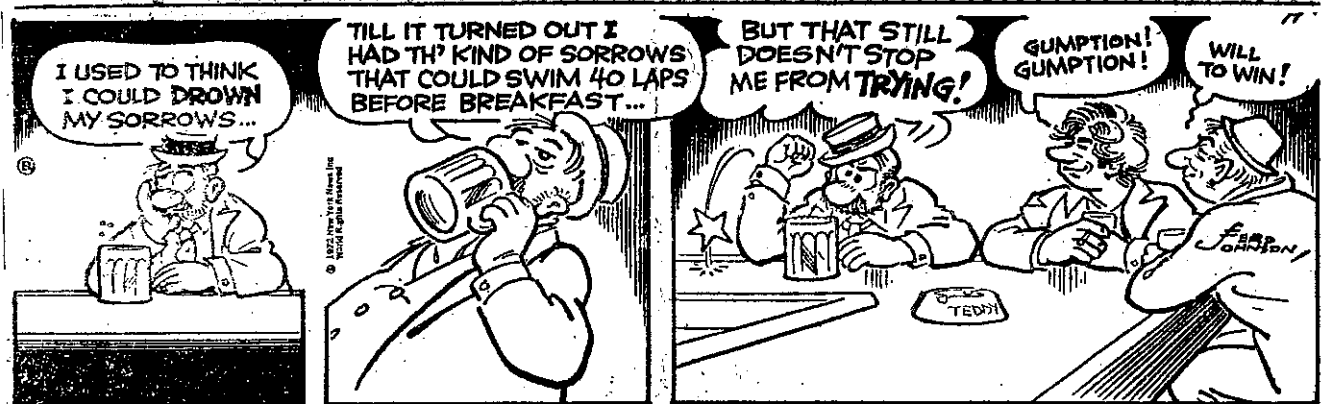
Of course, everything in our literature says it's not.

But that's the subject of two lawsuits, one filed in Colorado and the other in Wisconsin. The lawsuits raise legal questions about mandatory attendance at AA meetings. One involves court-ordered AA attendance; the other involved a Veterans Administration alcoholism treatment program requiring AA attendance.

While the two lawsuits are unrelated, at the core of each suit are similar constitutional rights issues and questions involving the doctrine of the separation of church and state.

AA cannot speak for itself on the issue, since our Tenth Tradition keeps us from becoming involved in any controversy. AA was not named as a defendant in either lawsuit.

The Central Service Office is in possession of two lengthy articles about the lawsuits. Stop by and read them if you are interested.



Moon Mullins



DECEMBER 1984

For more information on events listed, contact sponsoring group or your Central Service Office at 733-7562 or 733-6876.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOVEMBER 1984 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	JANUARY 1985 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					1 Starlite Group Birthdays Downtown Group bingo
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Grupo Unidad Game Night Club 12 Game Night
9	10 SASH Group Christmas Party	11 Central Service Office Administrative Board Meeting, 7 p.m.	12	13	14	15 Cafeteria Meeting, Wyatt's Babcock & 410, 6 p.m.
16 Goliad Group Christmas Dinner GSR Meeting	17 Central Office Open House	18	19	20	21	22 Club 12 Children's Christmas Party
23	24 Grupo Unidad Christmas Party Goliad Alkathon	25 Club 12 Dinner Marymont, Valley- Hi, Windercrest Birthdays CHRISTMAS	26 24-Hour, Northwood, Park North Birthdays Central Office Open House	27	28	29 Winners Pot Luck Birthdays
30 24-Hour Group Dinner	31 Las Vegas Night					

CONVENTION CLIPBOARD -- 1985

Jan. 4-6: 11th Annual Lower Rio Grande Valley Jamboree, Bahia Mar Resort, South Padre Island, Texas.
 Jan. 11-12: 38th Annual Anniversary, Harvey Hall, Tyler, Texas.
 Jan. 11-13: 23rd Annual Southwest Texas Area Conference, Astro Village Hotel, Houston, Texas.
 Feb. 15-17: 21st Annual National Women's Conference, Denver, Colo.
 May 3-5: First Annual Heart of Texas AA Conference, Waco, Texas.
 June 6-9: State Convention, Austin, Texas.
 July 4-7: International Convention, 50th Anniversary of AA's Founding, Montreal, Quebec.

OUR AILING FRIENDS:

Pete H., our very active Penal Committee member, is recuperating from a heart attack.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bob K.	1 year	Tommy T.	3 years
Danny M.	1 year	Bob S.	3 years
Victor W.	1 year	Carolyn P.	4 years
Gail S.	1 year	Michael C.	6 years
Tom C.	1 year	Mel F.	6 years
Ray G.	1 year	Dave T.	8 years
Rev H.	1 year	Len N.	9 years
Eddie M.	1 year	Pat O.	11 years
Maureen M.	2 years	Jack L.	12 years
Lester S.	2 years	Claire M.	14 years
Carolyn B.	2 years	Buster B.	25 years
Jable K.	2 years	L.C. T.	28 years
David P.	3 years	Morgan G.	28 years

Please call JANUARY BIRTHDAYS in to the Central Service Office by Dec. 22.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert T. died November 20, 1984 at the age of 75.

GSR MEETING MINUTES (continued)

IE REPORT by Jim B. (continued)

what we can and cannot do.

Romy R. reported that her group was having a problem with probationers having people sign their attendance slips. We agreed to present to the rest of District I the idea of starting a probation meeting and notifying all probation officers of this meeting. We felt this would help both the groups and the people on probation. Frank P. agreed this would help by allowing all people on probation to meet together as in a beginners meeting.

Jim D. made a motion that all groups contribute \$4 a month toward DCM expenses. If groups approve, the DCM will prepare a monthly statement showing how the money was spent.

New district officers elected were Jeanne B., treasurer, and Keith D., secretary. Jim B. accepted a nomination to serve as chairman of the 1985 Southwest Area Conference.

Next District IE meeting will be Dec. 8, Saturday, at the Santa Fe Group.

AFTER-HOURS PHONE DUTY

The following groups agreed to take calls to AA when the Central Office is closed:
 Week of Nov. 26 -- Group 12
 Week of Dec. 3 -- Oblate Group
 Week of Dec. 17 -- Northwest Group

HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTIONS MEETINGS

The following groups agreed to take meetings to these institutions during December:
 State Hospital -- Stepping Stones Group
 The ARC -- Alamo Group
 Detox Mondays -- Abundance Happy Hour Group
 The Haven -- Colonies North Group
 Casa del Sol -- Alamo Heights Group
 Salvation Army -- Morning After Group
 Detox Thursdays -- Monday Night Men's

Respectfully submitted,

Donna T.

Substitute CSOC Secretary

GSR Meeting Minutes

Club 12, 7 p.m., November 18

NEW GSRS

New GSRS and alternate GSRS were introduced. They are:

Fred D. -- Mobud Big Book Study Group	Chris C. -- Windcrest Group (alternate)
Keith D. -- Valley Hi Group (alternate)	Fritz B. -- SASH Group (alternate)
P.J. -- Alpha Group	Neida M. -- Nakoma Group
Melissa B. -- Group 12	Pledger C. -- Park North Group
Pat W. -- Pleasanton Group	Manuel G. -- West Ashby Group
Steve B. -- Audubon Group	

Gene T. announced that he was resigning as GSR of the Courage Group because that meeting at the House of Yuki Halfway House is no longer an AA Group.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD REPORT

By Al D., chairman

All new GSRS are asked to provide Central Service Office with name, address, and phone number.

Jack E., financial chairman, said the October financial statement registered an income of \$850 from the Nov. 3 miniconference before any bills were paid. Actual income for October was 11 cents. Al D. noted that after all money is collected and all bills are paid for the miniconference, we will probably break even.

Don S., penal chairman, absent; penal committee member Carolyn P. said one visitation had been made during the month and that 15 Big Books had been donated to an appreciative women's unit. She said over 30 people filled out applications and got fingerprinted for visitation privileges at the miniconference. It takes at least six months to have the applications processed. Once they are processed, an AA member must make at least two visits a year to remain approved for visitation.

Sylvia O., hospital and institutions chairman, announced that the Detox Unit of Bexar County MHMR asked to have AA meetings brought on Mondays and Thursdays again.

Bob W., public information chairman, reported visits to the Worden School of Social Work (two hours), 57 students at the Fort Sam Houston Academy of Health Sciences (four hours), 203 students at Madison High, 9 boys and girls aged 12-17 at Girlsville, 113 students at Fox Tech. A 6-minute live interview to be aired on "Kaleidoscope" at 8 a.m. on Channel 5 is planned. A half-hour taped interview will be played on KXZL on Friday, Dec. 16. Al D. said that the CSO board had approved an additional \$200 to pay for literature distributed by the PI committee.

Janis H., editorial committee chairman, announced that there were no takers yet on the Christmas special for Nightcap subscriptions. Melissa B. asked what the special was. Janis said that after the first regular \$12-a-year subscription, additional gift subscriptions were \$8 a year. Janis also said she hoped AA members would offer news and short articles for the Nightcap.

Al M., mailing committee chairman, asked GSRS to impress on their groups that they need to send in a change of address for the Nightcap if they are moving because it costs CSO 45¢ for each wrong address mailed.

Jim B. announced that the Border Conference would be at the Ramada Inn in Del Rio on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 & 2.

NOVEMBER 3 AA CONFERENCE

Al D. announced that \$2796 had been received from ticket sales to date from "A Day in S.A. with A.A." The coffee bill was over \$860; convention center rental was \$550; numerous other expenses remained to be paid. He said we would probably break even.

DETOX STATUS

Bob T. asked for a clarification of the status of Detox. Sylvia said prisoners from the jail have first priority, MHMR clients have second priority, and other patients will be accepted on a space-available basis.

(CONTINUED)

***** CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED *****

OCT 26 - NOV 26 1984

GROUP	DISTRICT 1-A	NOV	YTD	GROUP	DISTRICT 1-D	NOV	YTD
- CAFETERIA MEETING		\$ 9.00	\$141.98	4TH STREET		\$ -0-	\$ -0-
CORRECTIONAL		-0-	-0-	-ALAMO		-0-	45.00
GRUPO UNIDAD		20.00	110.00	- DOWNTOWN		-0-	130.00
-KINGSBORO		-0-	10.00	-DOWNTOWN LUNCHEON		-0-	-0-
-NORTHWEST		-0-	120.00	EISENHAUER		25.00	25.00
TWENTY-FOUR HOUR		-0-	40.00	FORT SAM HOUSTON		-0-	500.00
V. A. HOSPITAL		-0-	-0-	NEW LIFE		-0-	20.00
- VILLA ROSA		-0-	100.00	NORTHEAST		-0-	115.00
-WESLEY		30.00	67.00	SCHERTZ		-0-	264.00
½ YEAR BUNCH		4.45	12.19	- STEPPING STONES		-0-	270.00
- ABUNDANCE		54.83	122.53	- UNIVERSAL CITY		-0-	306.00
FRIDAY NIGHT OWLS		-0-	-0-	- UNIVERSAL CITY, SUN		30.00	100.00
- MOBUD BIG BOOK STUDY		15.26	62.69	<u>DISTRICT 1-E</u>			
- MONDAY NIGHT MENS		-0-	60.13	- DAKOTA		-0-	-0-
MONDAY NIGHT WOMENS		-0-	-0-	EL LIBRO GRANDE		-0-	-0-
- MORNING AFTER		36.00	156.00	FRONTIER		-0-	-0-
SIESTA		15.50	30.75	- GOLIAD		-0-	200.00
- SUMMIT		-0-	211.66	GRUPO EL SOL		-0-	-0-
SUN MOBUD ROUNDTABLE		2.50	54.39	- HAVEN		-0-	100.00
SUNDAY SPEAKERS		-0-	9.00	- HIGHLAND		20.00	220.00
TURNING POINT		-0-	154.74	KELLY'S BOOZE BUSTERS		-0-	-0-
^ WEEKEND WINNERS		-0-	108.00	LAMBDA (GAY)		-0-	240.00
- YOUNG PEOPLE		-0-	-0-	BIG BOOK STUDY		-0-	-0-
<u>DISTRICT 1-B</u>				LIVE & LET LIVE		-0-	-0-
- AUDUBON		-0-	25.00	SEX & SOBRIETY		-0-	-0-
- BLUEMEL OAKS		-0-	91.00	TOGETHER IN HARMONY		-0-	-0-
BOERNE		-0-	434.39	-LYTLE		12.00	30.00
- CALLAGHAN ROAD		40.00	400.00	^ SANTA FE		-0-	-0-
- COLONIES NORTH		-0-	630.00	- SASH		-0-	100.00
LAUREL HEIGHTS		30.00	310.00	- SMOOTH SAILING		-0-	-0-
- MEDICAL PROFESSIONS		-0-	275.00	- SOUTHWEST LOOP		-0-	145.00
- OBLATE		-0-	40.00	- VALLEY-HI		-0-	225.00
- PARK NORTH		-0-	100.00	- WILFORD HALL		20.00	200.00
TEJAS		-0-	540.00	<u>AREA</u>			
TODAY (DISCONTINUED)		22.00	22.00	CALDWELL TRI-CITY		-0-	20.00
- TWELVE		400.00	2400.00	CANYON LAKE		-0-	40.00
^ WEST ASHBY		-0-	-0-	FLORESVILLE		-0-	25.00
<u>DISTRICT 1-C</u>				KERRVILLE (DIST 12)		-0-	170.41
- ALAMO HEIGHTS		42.00	462.00	NEW BRAUNFELS HOME GP		12.00	12.00
- ALPHA HOUSE		-0-	185.00	<u>SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS</u>			
BROADWAY		78.00	213.00	DISTRICT 1		\$1031.54	
COKER		-0-	-0-	AREA		12.00	
HOPE		-0-	-0-	BUCK-A-MONTH		293.00	
- FREEDOM		25.00	325.00	INDIVIDUAL		34.00	
- MARYMONT		-0-	335.00	MEMORIAL		10.00	
NORTH SAN PEDRO		-0-	300.00	TOTAL		\$1380.54	
NORTHWOOD		100.00	385.00	DISTRICT 1 ACTIVE GROUPS		79	
RELIANCE		-0-	-0-	NEW GROUPS REPORTED		0	
SAHARA		-0-	-0-	DISCONTINUED GROUPS		2	
ST PAULS		-0-	-0-	(TODAY & COURAGE)			
SUNSET		-0-	5.00				
^ WINDCREST		-0-	90.00				
- REPRESENTED AT CSOC MEETING NOV 18, 1984							

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SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PLEASE ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "NIGHTCAP"

RATE: BUCK-A-MONTH FOR _____ MONTHS DATE _____

NAME _____

MAIL TO:

STREET _____

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE
103 RENNER
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE

OFFICE USE ONLY

AMOUNT RECEIVED \$ _____ DATE RECEIVED _____ CASH CHECK # _____ CHARGE _____

CARD INITIATED OR UPDATED BY _____ MAILING LABEL BY _____

LAST ISSUE MO. _____ YR. _____