



# The Nightcap

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VOL. 16

DECEMBER 1986

NO. 12

## CONVENTION CLIPBOARD

DEC 5-7: The Border AA Conference, Del Rio, TX. Write CP, Border Conference, Box 395, Del Rio, TX 78841-0395, or call 512-774-7090 for more info.

JAN 9-11: 13th Annual Lower Rio Grande Valley AA Jamboree, Ft Brown Motor Hotel, Brownsville, TX. Write Chairperson, Box 5453, Brownsville, TX 78520.

JAN 9-11: 25th Annual Southeast Texas Area Conference, Hyatt Regency West, Houston, TX. Write Treasurer, Box 459, Stafford, TX 77477-0459.

JAN 9-11: Tyler's Big 40th Anniversary. Write Chairman, 2514 Malabar, Tyler, TX 75701.

JAN 16-18: 17th Mid-Winter Conference. Write Chairman, Box 5751, Midland, TX 79704.

JAN 23-25: 3rd Yellow Rose Conference; Lakeview. Write Chairman, Box 1470, Cleveland, TX 77327.

(For more detailed information on all of the above, please call GSO.)

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## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Intergrupala Hispana de San Antonio will have its Christmas Party on Friday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m., at Christ the King Church cafeteria, 2610 W. Perez St.

Mexican Food Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Speaker Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Oscar P. from Houston

Karen R. formerly from Colorado

Dance to Live Music: 8:30 p.m.

Arturo Lopez and his combo

Donation: \$5.00 per person

## 36TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The members of the HIGHLAND GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous invite you to the 36th Anniversary of the founding of their group to be held on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21ST, at 8:15 p.m.

The Highlands Group meets at 502 Kayton and Palmetto Streets at the Aldersgate Methodist Church.

Betty Z. is anniversary chairman and the speaker will be Reverend David S.

This Group always serves refreshments, but am sure there will be something special for this special event! Everyone is welcome!

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## CHRISTMAS PARTY

The SASH AA Group will hold its annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 15. The party will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. The speaker is George B.--he will speak from 7 to 7:30; dinner will be from 7:30 to 8:00. The dance will feature live music and starts at 8 p.m.

HELP US HAVE A PARTY! We need you to come to the party--and we need cash donations. Please send donations to:

Jerri McC.  
227 Antrim Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78218

or  
Clara H.  
1515 Mission Road, #88  
San Antonio, TX 78210



# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



H O L I D A Y   H A P P E N I N G S

GROUP 12 will move their Birthday Night up one week during the Christmas holidays-- it will be held on Friday, December 19th.

A Christmas Dance will be held at Club 12 on Saturday, December 13th featuring the Cherokee Band. Donation of \$3.00 per person for the dance is requested.

Games Night will be held on Saturday, the 20th of December. In the future, the 3rd Saturday of each month will be Games Night at Club 12.

\* \* \* \* \*

WINNER'S CLUB GROUPS will have a Christmas Dance on Saturday, December 20th from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE will be held at the Winner's Club on Wednesday, December 31, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. (The Turning Point Group will have its meeting from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on this night only.)

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NEW MEETINGS--NEW GROUPS

A new meeting began on November 26, 1986, at the First Christian Church, across from the Sands Motel in the metal building in back of the church (1180 Jct. Highway). The meeting is held every Wednesday at 8 p.m. (ED. Note: This is all the information we have received regarding this meeting, no name, etc.)

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Southwest Loop Group has received letters from the TDC Sugarland AA Group and the TDC Lovelady AA Group expressing appreciation for the literature contributions to them from this group.

This is a great way to carry the message!

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MY UNDERSTANDING OF HUMILITY

One of the definitions of humility that I could understand when I was trying to grow in this program was "the willingness to be taught" to be able to admit that I was not self-sufficient, that I needed help. That I was not SPECIAL, I was not selected out of all of mankind to be one of the chosen few that would recover, no more than I was selected to be a drunk. I was a drunk because I drank alcohol and my system could not handle it like some other people. I used alcohol to hide the things in me I did not like, or did not know how to change, and was ashamed to admit. For me to think that I can get and stay sober without help of a Higher Power, is just as bad as to think that I was chosen to get sober because I was special.

When I stopped trying to prove that I was different and started to find out that I was just one of many, a very insignificant one of many, did I begin to grow in this program. One of the tools that remind me that I am just a very small part of something so large that I will never be able to understand it, is the 12 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

My first service sponsor told me, a long-time ago, that some individuals in AA do not like the Traditions--their reason for not liking them is: All 12 Traditions remind us that we as individual's are only a very small part of it all, they all teach the same lesson-- EGO DEFLATION. I never want to stop doing the service work that got me sober and keeps my ego in check.

Rotation is very important to keep AA growing; gratitude is expressed in action, not words. Don't tell someone what to do, show them how you do it. If you accept a job as a GSR or DCM remember that you are only representing what your group or groups have decided, you as an individual were not selected or elected because you are SPECIAL and when your term of office is up, step down and let someone else do the job, even if it is not the way you want it done.

If you are an elected servant of AA you will go to the Area workshops and bring back ideas and information, and carry your group's ideas to the workshop, not your own.

Rich R.

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... FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A.A. DOES NOT GUARANTEE A KEY TO OPEN THE GATES OF HEAVEN; BUT IT DID OPEN THE GATES OF HELL TO LET ME OUT.

TE → SA DIRECTORY UPDATE

CSO will be updating the San Antonio meeting directory this month for the January printing. Please send your changes to CSO before Christmas. MANY THANKS!

I N M E M O R I A M

LORETTE C. passed away Monday, December 17, 1986. She was a member of AA for over 7 years and regularly attended the Universal City Group and the Schertz Group. She will be greatly missed.

TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS, WE EXTEND OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY AND OUR PRAYERS THAT YOUR BEREAVEMENT MAY BE TEMPERED BY REFLECTIVE THOUGHT UPON THE HAPPINESS SHARED.

EXCERPTS FROM A GRAPEVINE ARTICLE BY BILL W.

"Sobriety--freedom from alcohol--through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps, is the sole purpose of an AA group. Groups have repeatedly tried other activities, and they have always failed. It has also been learned that there is no possible way to make nonalcoholics into AA members. We have to confine our membership to alcoholics, and we have to confine our AA groups to a single purpose. If we don't stick to these principles, we shall almost surely collapse. And if we collapse, we cannot help anyone."

"I see no way of making nonalcoholic addicts into AA members. Experience says loudly that we can admit no exceptions, even though drug users and alcoholics happen to be first cousins of a sort. If we persist in trying this, I'm afraid it will be hard on the drug user himself, as well as on AA. We must accept the fact that no nonalcoholic, whatever his affliction, can be converted into an alcoholic...and an AA member."

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DEADLINE FOR JANUARY 1987 NIGHTCAP NEWS IS DECEMBER 20TH!

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N E W S F R O M C S O

1. The service-work type meetings being held at Central Service Office are showing more and more interest. As of this writing, three Saturday morning meetings have been held with an average attendance of eight people at each. These meetings are proving to be very helpful and informative for anyone involved in or interested in doing AA service work.
2. Fred D., DCM for 1-D, held a meeting for the GSR's in his district in the literature room at the Central Office on Saturday, November 22nd. The meeting was very well attended.
3. We welcome Dave S., our newest employee at CSO. He will be working on Monday, Friday, and Saturday and replaces Gene H.
4. Telephone calls received at CSO and after hours, by great volunteers, totaled 740 for the month of October.
5. The new "portable" soft-cover edition of the "Big Book" Alcoholics Anonymous is now for sale at your Central Service Office. These will make great Christmas gifts!
6. Your Central Office will be CLOSED on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
7. "HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE" begins on Monday, December 22 at Central Service Office. Hope that we will see you there so we can wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in person!
8. Congratulations are in order for the CSO Administrative Board's newly elected members who will begin their terms of office on January 1, 1987: Bobby G., Don T., Juan S. and Gary L. We are looking forward to working with you.

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A bore is a fellow who wants to talk about himself when you want to talk about yourself!



# THE TWELVE TRADITIONS

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority--aloving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every AA group ought to be fully selfsupporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
- \*12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

**\*TRADITION TWELVE:** "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

Anonymity, as we observe it in AA, is at root a simple expression of humility. When we use the Twelve Steps to recover from alcoholism, we are each trying to achieve real humility, to put our self-respect on a solid base of truth, rather than on fantasies about ourselves. When we use the 12 Traditions to work together in AA, we are all trying to achieve humility: as individual members, by recognizing our true place in AA; as a fellowship, by recognizing AA's true place in the world.

Tradition One reminds each of us that we are not recovering on our own, that we would control our personal desires and ambitions in order to guard the unity of our group and our Fellowship. We ought not fancy ourselves as big shots in AA, no matter what office we hold.

All of us are just alcoholics together, and in our groups we are not entitled to rule on the qualifications of other alcoholics seeking the same help that we've had. Yes, a group needs humility, too. It may make its name public, but in the spirit of anonymity it should see the Whatever Group as merely part of a bigger whole, careful in every enterprise to consider the welfare of all the other groups that make up AA. In both group and individual activities, we should remember what the full name of our Fellowship is. It does not represent any established religion, nor is it a new religion. We are not evangelists or gurus out to save humanity; we are anonymous alcoholics trying to help other alcoholics.

In the rising battle against alcoholism, we ought not let our pride in AA mislead us into linking our Fellowship with other agencies, in order to bid for a share in their power, prestige, and funds. If we keep Traditions Six and Seven in mind, we will instead direct all our efforts toward AA's own unique purpose.

When we go on Twelfth Step calls, we should not tell ourselves how noble we are for doing such valuable work without pay. The meaning of Twelfth Step work cannot be measured in money, and we have received advance pay for it, in coin of far greater worth--our very lives. In the same Tradition, it's suggested that a service center maintains AA humility by paying its employees decent wages--rather than considering AA so virtuous an outfit that employment there is a favor.

When we are given special responsibilities within AA, Tradition Nine defines these as opportunities to serve, not titles to flaunt. The humility of the Fellowship itself is safeguarded by Tradition Ten...

We do not want to sell our program as a "surefire remedy" in the extravagant terms of a promotional campaign (Tradition Eleven), nor dramatize it by identifying noted people in AA, thereby implying that recovery has been for each of us an individual accomplishment. As Tradition Twelve reminds us, we have something stronger than our human personalities to rely on. Our principles come first--and they are not our own invention. They reflect eternal spiritual values. With this Tradition, both as individuals and as a fellowship, we humbly acknowledge our dependence on a power higher than ourselves.

"LET US ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT ANONYMITY--NOT TAKING CREDIT FOR OUR OWN OR OTHERS' RECOVERY--IS HUMILITY AT WORK."

(Reprinted with permission of AAWS)

# December Birthdays

(These are the ones reported to CSO by various AA Groups--  
if yours isn't here, and should be, complain to your  
Group Secretary!)

## 35 Years

Bob R.

## 31 Years

Darrell T.

## 30 Years

L. G. T.

Morgan G.

## 27 Years

Buster B.

Alice N.

Nick N.

## 19 Years

Margaret W.

## 18 Years

Buddy B.

## 17 Years

Faye S.

Dick W.

## 16 Years

Cande R.

## 13 Years

Pat O'B.

## 12 Years

Rosemary B.

## 11 Years

Joe N.

Nancy W.

Reyes S.

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## 10 Years

David T.

Edward P.

Pinky M.

Virginia C.

## 9 Years

Robert G.

## 8 Years

Mel S.

Michael C.

## 7 Years

Marjorie B.

Nick St. J.

David E.

Kay T.

## 6 Years

Carolyn P.

Daniel B.

Joyce G.

## 5 Years

Alice S.

Joseph M.

Patsy O.

Bill V.

Harriet K.

## 4 Years

Richard H.

Robert G.

Carl P.

## 3 Years

Pam J.

Sue McN.

P. J.

## 2 Years

Randolph P.

Roger H.

Don T.

Holly B.

James K.

Cindy B.

Ann W.

## 1 Year

Richard L.

Andrew L.

Collin A.

Charles S.

Cheryl H.

Terri P.

Judith P.

Bob B.

Jerry Mc.

Sandy H.

Carole P.

Charles O.

Jerry L.

Roger H.



Happy Birthday

Feliz Cumpleaños

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

T O

Y O U A L L

DO YOUR SHOPPING WITH US!

We have all sorts of AA Birthday items. Come in and browse--have a cup of coffee or a soft drink.

Please know that you are welcome and encouraged to come visit your Central Office--we would like to get to know you better!

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M O R E H O L I D A Y H A P P E N I N G S

From Group 12: December 6th there will be a Homecoming Covered Dish Dinner beginning at 6 p.m.

Every Wednesday, starting on December 3, AA movies relating to alcoholism will be shown in the TV Room.

Open House from December 23 to January 1--refreshments start at 7 p.m.

New Year's Eve Dance: Walker Colt Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$10 per person

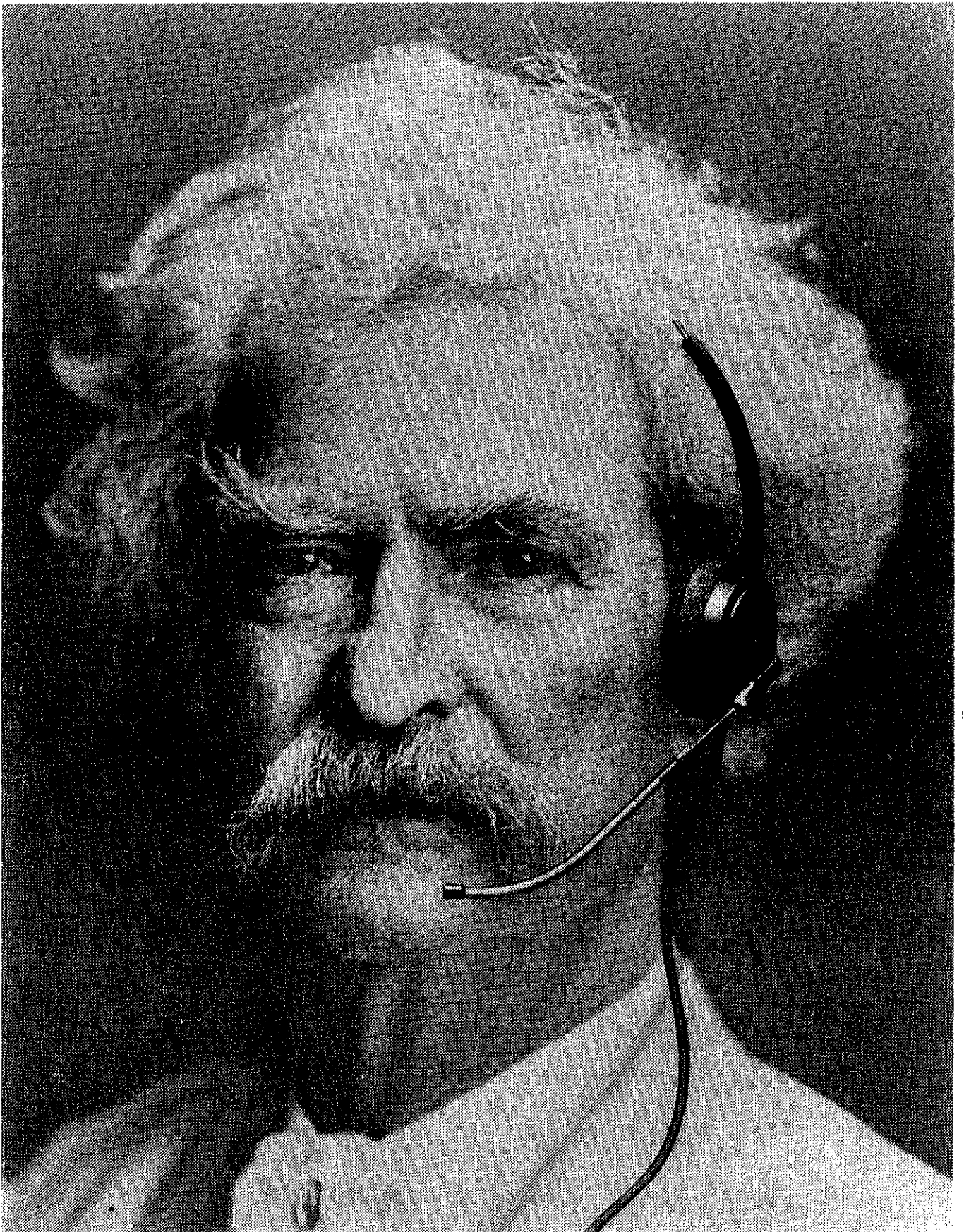
THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE WILL HAVE "HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE" BEGINNING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND. COME AND SHARE WITH US!!

CSO Staff

# DECEMBER 1986

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Group 12 Xmas Dance.
14	15 SASH Xmas Party	16 GSO Admin Board Meeting, 7 p.m.	17	18	19 Club 12 Birthday Night. Intergroupal Hispanic Xmas Party.	20 Winner's Xmas Dance; Games Nite Club 12. DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NIGHTCAP!
21 GSR Meeting at Club 12, 7 p.m. Goliad BBQ 6 pm	22	23	24	25 Southside Group Birthdays	26 El Libro Grande, Downtown, Freedom, SW Loop, Colonias No., Brookhollow, Schertz, Marymont Birthdays	27 Winners Club Birthdays; Lambda Pot-Luck & Birthdays.
28 24-Hour Club Dinner	29 Alamo Heights Birthdays	30 Valley-Hi & Windcrest Birthdays	31 Park North, 24-Hr, Northwood Birthdays Winners and Club 12 New Year's Dances		NOVEMBER 1986 S M T W T F S 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 1987 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

CSO VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Give us a call--he is waiting to hear from you! (We just never know who is going to show up for 'phone duty!!)

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED OCT 1986

GROUP	DISTRICT 1A	MONTH	YR TOT	GROUP	DISTRICT 1E	MONTH	YR TO DT
V BUNDANCE		45.83	578.11	FLORESVILLE			50.00
BANDERA			129.90	FRONTIER	21.23		101.77
W FRI-SAT NIGHT OWLS			122.74	GOLIAD			277.66
W GENERIC			34.00	HAVEN			100.00
W LADIES MON-NIGHT			36.00	HIGHLANDS	25.00		216.40
W MENS MON NIGHT			38.08	KELLY SPECIAL			50.00
W MOBUD BIG BOOK	10.59		84.29	LAMBDA			151.86
W MOBUD ROUNDTABLE			112.56	LYTLE	20.00		20.00
W MORNING AFTER	65.35		824.65	SASH			100.00
NORTHWEST			54.00	SERENITY			90.00
REALITY			155.74	SOUTHWEST LOOP	20.00		125.00
W SAT NIGHT LIVE			230.89	VALLEY HI			471.25
W SIESTA LADIES	6.00		94.50	WILFORD HALL	60.00		133.00
W SUMMIT			126.42	DISTRICT 1F			
W TURNING POINT	17.00		118.66	GRUPO DEL SOL			51.35
VILLA ROSA			100.00	GRUPO UNIDAD	11.00		37.00
W YOUNG PEOPLE			65.29	KINGSBORO	9.00		37.75
W = WINNERS GRPS SUB TOT	144.77		2466.19	LA NUEVA VIDA			11.00
DISTRICT 1B				SANTA FE	12.00		64.00
AUDUBON			90.00	WESLEY	10.00		20.00
BLUEMEL OAKS			90.15	TOTALS			
BOERNE WED NIGHT			67.50		1,340.00		14,111.59
CALLAGHAN RD			370.00	AREA CONTRIBUTIONS			
COLONIAL HILLS			200.00	-----			
COLONIES NORTH			124.57	NEW BRAUNFELS			24.00
L'OREL HEIGHTS	70.00		649.00	KINGSLAND			55.00
M.ICAL PROFESSIONAL			390.00	BULVERDE			60.00
OAK HILLS			57.00	FRIO COUNTY			7.00
OBLATE			180.00	TOTALS			
PARK NORTH	60.00		375.00				146.80
RANGER CREEK			38.00	-----			
ROADRUNNERS BOERNE			57.00	MANY THANKS TO THE INDIVIDUAL			
TWELVE	120.00	1200.00		SUPPORTING MEMBERS WHO DONATED			
TWENTY FOUR HOUR	10.00	80.00		DURING THIS MONTH.			
DISTRICT 1C				ANN E.			
ALAMO HEIGHTS	72.00	438.00		CURT L.			
ALPHA HOUSE		50.00		JUAN S.			
BROADWAY		100.00		M. J. G.			
BROOKHOLLOW		172.00		IF YOU WISH TO BE A SUPPORTING			
FREEDOM	120.00	1160.25		MEMBER, PLEASE SEND ANY AMOUNT,			
MARYMONT	120.00	720.00		LARGE OR SMALL, AND WE WILL BE			
NORTH SAN PEDRO	75.00	300.00		HAPPY TO INCLUDE YOU AS ONE OF OUR			
NORTHWOOD	60.00	180.00		VERY MUCH APPRECIATED INDIVIDUAL			
STAHL RD.	30.00	125.00		SUPPORTING MEMBERS.			
SUNSET		20.00		-----			
TEJAS		125.00		BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS:			
WINDCREST		60.00		AMELIA P. - 22 YEARS			
DISTRICT 1D							
FT SAM HOUSTON	150.00	600.00		FRED D. - 6 YEARS			
DOWNTOWN	40.00	90.00		GARY M. - 1 YEAR			
EISENHAUER		30.00					
N LIFE	20.00	75.00					
NORTHEAST	60.00	298.25					
SCHERTZ		305.00					
UNIVERSAL CITY		240.00					
UNIVERSAL CITY SUNDAY		412.00					
				HAPPY BIRTHDAY--SHARE YOUR SOBRIETY			
				SEND DONATIONS TO YOUR CSO, THANKS.			

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE  
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