

THE NIGHT CAP

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Central Service Office of Alcoholics
Anonymous in the interest of greater
unity of members in local and South-
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Address all communications to :
"THE NIGHT CAP" Lexington Bldg.
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San Antonio, Texas 78205 226-2523

JUNE 1979

NUMBER 14

A BAG OF STONES

There is an old, old story of a fisherman who was walking by the shore of a sea. As he trudged along, his head down, he speculated on what he would do if only he could forsake his boat and his nets and retire to idle luxury. Wealth, he mused, would solve all of his difficulties.

His eye suddenly alighted on a small, weathered leather bag. He picked it up, opened it, and found therein a handful of small stones. He resumed walking, and as he moved along he withdrew one of the stones. "If I were rich," he said, "I'd build me a good house." He tossed the stone idly into the sea. "I'd have lots of servants and never lift my hand to do anything again," he continued, and tossed another stone into the waves.

Thus he continued, dreaming of what he would do if only he were rich, punctuating each new thought by tossing away another stone, until finally he came to the last. He held this in his hand for a moment, and as he did so it sparkled, giving off reflected rays of the sun. The fisherman looked at it closely, then realized that he had in his hand a precious gem. He'd no way of knowing what the other stones were, for he'd tossed them away without scrutinizing them. While he'd been idly dreaming of what he would do were he to attain wealth, he had ignored that which he had had in hand, and it was irretrievably lost.

How like that fisherman are so many people today, and how fortunate are we in Alcoholics Anonymous who have learned the joy and beauty and problem-solving blessings of living each day for today only. We greet each new day with resolutions in our hearts to make that day a fresh adventure in decent and normal living--to show kindness in our dealings with others, to exhibit a helping hand where possible; to speak softly and kindly; to be grateful that we have work before us to do and to be thankful that we have the strength and ability to do it. These things are the wealth of AA's. True, many of us achieve and we all enjoy more mundane things. But the wealth of right living which we receive in AA, as gifts we never dreamed of when we asked only for sobriety, far outweigh any material thing we ever could want. These are the jewels in hand. We can enjoy them and use them each day or we can toss them into the sea as we dream of what might be.

You can make your new life happy, bright, and wonderful if you will only make it so with the small bag of precious stones supplied to all good AA's as we trudge away from the slough of alcoholic defeat along the shores of the sea of life to our ultimate destinations.

Excerpted from HERE'S NOW

SPECIAL NOTICENOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD PROCEDURES OF THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE

Under the present Administrative Board Procedures, Membership, Sections 1 and 2, and Elections, Section 1, the Executive Secretary of the Central Service Office is a nonvoting member of the Administrative Board but serves in an ex-officio capacity as its Secretary-Treasurer. Central Service Office Guidelines from the General Service Office suggest that the Secretary of a Central Service Office have a vote on its policy. In agreement with this, the Administrative Board and the Central Service Office Committee recommend the following amendments to the present Administrative Board Procedures:

MEMBERSHIP

1. The Administrative Board shall consist of seven members who shall qualify for their membership as outlined in the section hereof under Elections.
2. All Southwest Texas Area District Committee Members and the Central Service Office Standing Committee Chairman, Auditor, Executive Secretary, and Alternate Secretary shall be ex-officio, nonvoting members of the Board and the Executive Secretary shall be its Secretary and Treasurer.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO READ

1. The Administrative Board shall consist of seven members who shall qualify for their membership as outlined in the section hereof under Elections, and the Executive Secretary of the Central Service Office, who shall serve as its Secretary-Treasurer.
2. All Southwest Texas Area District Committee members and the Central Service Office Standing Committee Chairman, Auditor, and Alternate Secretary shall be ex-officio, nonvoting members of the Board.

ELECTIONS

1. Except as is provided for ex-officio members, the Administrative Board shall be selected from the membership of the Central Service Office Committee and from past General Service Representatives who have served a full two-year term, or past or present District Committee Members, provided that at least four members of such Board always shall be selected from the membership of the Central Service Office Committee.

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1. Except as is provided for ex-officio members and the Executive Secretary of the Central Service Office, the Administrative Board shall be selected from the membership of the Central Service Office Committee and from past General Service Representatives who have served a full two-year term, or past or present District Committee Members, provided that at least four members of such Board always shall be selected from the membership of the Central Service Office Committee.

NEW MEETINGS

CLUB 12: The Business and Professional Men (BPM), Wednesdays from 12:00 noon till 1:00 p.m., in the TV Room at Club 12, 102 Thames.

GOLIAD CLUB: Beginner's Meeting, Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m., 537 Avondale. This new meeting needs your support to help teach the still sick alcoholic what AA is all about, and what he can do about his alcoholism. Tell some one about it, or come and bring a friend.

GOLIAD CLUB: A new Alanon Meeting, Tuesdays at 10 a.m., 537 Avondale, beginning May 29.

HONDO GROUP: New AA Meeting, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., First Methodist Church, 1206 K. Street, Hondo, Texas. Contact Sarge H. at 426-3752 (Hondo), or 658-2785 (San Antonio).

DEVINE GROUP: New AA Meeting, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., St. Matthias Episcopal Church, N. Tiel Street, Devine, Texas. Contact Sarge H. at 426-3752 (Hondo), or 658-2785 (San Antonio).

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AROUND THE AREA

LAMBDA GROUP is now meeting at 1136½ W. Woodlawn (behind the Free Clinic) on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:15 p.m., for Open Discussions. Contact Jim for more information at 732-8377.

DOWNTOWN GROUP *** CHANGE IN MEETING *** The Candlelight 2 which meets on Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m., formerly Open Discussion, has been changed to an Open Speakers' Meeting. Address is 110 McCullough, Basement entrance (East end Avenue E and McCullough by Grace Lutheran Church).

FRONTIER GROUP will have a BARBEQUE at 2 p.m. on July 4. All you can eat for \$3. There will be an Open Speakers' Meeting afterwards, featuring David A. from Dallas.

THE HAVEN GROUP still needs your support! Open Discussion Meetings every Tuesday at 8:15 p.m.; Open Speakers' Meetings are held Fridays at 10 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. 1640 W. Woodlawn. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE THIS WEEK.

OPEN DOOR GROUP meets at 758 W. Ramsey at Blanco Road on Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m. These meetings need your support in discussing the 12 Steps.

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Adversity is the trial of principle. Without it, a man hardly knows whether he is honest or not. (Henry Fielding)

PEOPLE WHO STOP GOING TO MEETINGS ARE NOT THERE TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS TO PEOPLE WHO STOP GOING TO MEETINGS!

CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES

34TH ANNUAL TEXAS STATE AA CONVENTION--July 12-15, 1979, Sheraton-Ft. Worth Hotel, Fort Worth, Texas. Make room reservations directly to: Sheraton-Fort Worth Hotel, 815 Main Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102, telephone 817-332-3151. See your group GSR for Convention Registration Blanks. Convention Theme is "KEEP IT SIMPLE" so let's all go!

39TH ANNUAL ARKANSAS AA CONVENTION--August 2-5, 1979, Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, Arkansas. For room reservations write: Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, Arkansas. For Convention Registration Blanks, see your group GSR.

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HOSPITAL ZONE

VA HOSPITAL GROUP holds Beginners' Discussion meetings every Thursday at 8:15 p.m. Room E-136, Audie Murphy Hospital.

SAN ANTONIO STATE HOSPITAL holds Open Speakers' meetings Mondays at 8:15 p.m. in the Auditorium.

SALVATION ARMY GROUP (SALLY) holds its Wednesday meeting at 8:15 p.m., 1324 S. Flores. Volunteers to lead the meetings and/or speakers are needed badly.

GRUPO DEL SOL (Bi-Lingual), 321 Frio City Road, holds a Friday Open Speakers' meeting at 8:15 p.m. Volunteers also needed to bring meetings.

VILLA ROSA AA Group holds its Open Speakers' meeting on Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m. Groups responsible for furnishing speakers for the month of JUNE are as follows:

Highlands Group June 5, 19

Sunset Group June 12, 26

* * * * *

AA is not a static situation--our sobriety is maintained on a daily basis--ONE DAY AT A TIME. So, consequently, there are new members coming in every day. What's my point? Just this--part of our recovery is our voluntary contributions to our program and the need to constantly mention various areas where we, as recovering alcoholics, can help keep our wonderful AA program functioning.

If you are new, there's a BUCK-A-MONTH Club--ever heard it mentioned around? Ever wondered what it is? It's our individual contribution plan to help the AA Central Service Office keep its door open for the next person who asks for help. Simple, isn't it? This plan means to contribute a dollar a month or \$12 a year (however best fits your financial means) to the Central Service Office. In doing so, you will receive the NIGHT CAP. Someday we hope to have the NIGHT CAP available (at a lower cost) or free to all, but at present this is not possible. It would be possible though if each one spread the word around about the BUCK-A-MONTH CLUB to former members and new ones, or better yet, got in the yearly habit ourselves! YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE!!!

Jeanne W.

DATES TO REMEMBER

THE GSR AND CSOC meetings will be held on Sunday, June 10, at 7 p.m. at Club 12, 102 Thames. ALL GSR's PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND.

24-HOUR GROUP, 1203 Fredericksburg Road, holds its regular monthly dinner on Sunday, June 24, at 1 p.m.

FRONTIER GROUP, at the ARC on Southton Road, holds its regular monthly dance on Saturday, June 30, immediately following the 8:15 p.m. Open Speakers' Meeting.

GROUP 12 will hold its monthly dinner and games at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 30.

GOLIAD GROUP, 537 Avondale, holds its monthly dinner on Sunday, June 17 at 6 p.m. and Open Speakers' Meeting at 7:30 p.m. All other Sunday meetings are at 8:15 p.m.

THE FLORESVILLE GROUP will celebrate 4 years of good AA on Wednesday, June 20, at 7 p.m. in the American Legion Hall across from the Courthouse. Plenty of coffee, cakes, cold drinks. Regina S. is the guest speaker. Everyone invited--be there!

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<u>PIC:</u>	4-20-79	5-20-79	<u>STATS:</u>	4-20-79	5-20-79
April 26:	Norma W. Spoke at Alamo Heights		AA		123
May 2:	Ed B. and Carl C. spoke at Churchill		Alanon		38
May 3:	Dick S. spoke at Holmes		Information		164
May 15:	Norma W. and Burney F. spoke at John Jay		Students		4
			PI		<u>1</u>
			Total Inquiries		330

* * * * *

IN MEMORIAM

Jerry England, May 2, 1979
(Husband of Anne E.)

Teddie Larimore, May 18, 1979

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

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NEWS FROM FAR AWAY PLACES (and elsewhere)

Michigan State Prison. Twenty-six inmates were hospitalized after they drank duplicating fluid containing wood alcohol. Two were being kept alive on life-support systems, 13 were plugged into kidney machines, and 11 were kept drunk on vodka in an effort to keep their bodies from metabolizing the deadly wood alcohol. The incident occurred after prisoners stole 3 gallons of duplicating fluid, bottled it, and sold it to fellow inmates. Ingestion of wood alcohol, which breaks down into formaldehyde, can cause blindness, kidney failure, and death. (Editor's Note: But For The Grace of God...)

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Trying to squash a rumor is like trying to unring a bell.
Reader's Digest (June 79)

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE - SAN ANTONIO
RECEIVED MAY 18, 1979

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
Alamo Heights	0	30.00	Park North (W)	5.00	25.00
Audubon	0	30.00	Park North (F)	40.00	100.00
Broadway	15.00	95.00	Randolph Fellowship	0	0
Callaghan	0	50.00	Reality	0	0
Downtown	30.00	130.00	Reliance	0	6.00
Fellowship	0	0	Sahara	0	0
First Step	0	0	SASH	0	20.00
Ft. Sam Houston	20.00	100.00	Santa Fe	0	0
Frontier	20.00	30.00	Serenity	15.00	75.00
Goliad	45.00	45.00	Sharing	50.00	75.00
Group 12	75.00	375.00	Southwest Loop	0	30.00
Grupo Del Sol	8.40	32.40	Spiritual Life	0	0
Grupo Unidad	10.00	40.00	Stepping Stones	25.00	175.00
Highlands	20.00	100.00	Sunset	15.00	75.00
Hope	0	0	The Haven	0	40.00
Kingsboro	0	15.00	Triangle	0	0
Laurel Heights	35.00	90.00	24 Hour	15.00	60.00
Marymont	25.00	25.00	Universal City	50.00	125.00
Northeast	0	50.00	VA Hospital	10.00	60.00
N. San Pedro	120.00	220.00	Valley Hi	0	75.00
Northwest	20.00	80.00	Villa Rosa	25.00	125.00
Northwood	100.00	100.00	Wesley	0	6.00
Open Door	45.00	105.00	Windcrest	15.00	75.00
			Young People	0	40.00

29 Groups \$903.40
Buck-A-Month 75.28

AREA

Bandera	0	0	Lytle	0	0
Bridge (N.B.)	20.00	30.00	New Braunfels	0	0
Canyon Lake	20.00	40.00	Pearsall	0	25.00
Floresville	10.00	30.00	Pleasanton	0	0
Fredericksburg	0	12.00	Seguin	0	0
Hill Country Grp.	0	0	Women's Serenity (Kerrville)	0	20.00
Kerrville	0	0			

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Trish F for Marie Thaxton

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Jan G

BUCK-A-MONTH CONTRIBUTION FORM

Central Service Office - 109 Lexington Ave., Suite 215, San Antonio, Tx. 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 _____