

THE NIGHTCAP

Volume 32 Issue 06

JUNE 2001

CSO Notes

'Pass It On'

In an on going effort to keep groups informed the following events have and or are taking place at your Central Service Office.

A reminder you can contact us by E-mail for information, or to order literature, or if you have something for the Nightcap. We also take complaints, compliments, and best of all suggestions.

The new meeting schedules will be out by the middle of June, if your group is not keeping your central office updated on changes at your group or meeting your next window of opportunity will be December.

Instead of an open house this year the Central Office will have a Membership appreciation day. 7 July, at the Seven Oaks on Austin Highway from 7:30-9:00 pm. Speakers include Sandy B from Tampa, Fla. And Hal M from Arlington, VA. The price? Free. Cake and Coffee will be available. If you want to help out call the CSO.

Also as the summer months are upon us. The office volunteers will be starting their vacations, and we are looking for people to answer phones through out the summer months if you have time on your hands call the CSO. (Before your sponsor calls for you)

More will be revealed

Your Manager
Bill T

Dr. Bob could remember nothing from the time he boarded the train to his awakening in the home of his nurse. He had been in a blackout for at least 24 hours—perhaps longer. Bill brought him home, and they put him to bed in a corner bedroom, which had two beds. Dr. Bob never attended another A.M.A. convention

Now, Bill occupied the other bed and took charge of the tapering-off process. There was great urgency in their efforts, because Dr. Bob was scheduled to perform an important operation three days hence. Bill and Anne wondered if they could get him sober in time. "It was a worrisome thing, because if he was too drunk, he couldn't do it," Bill remembered. "And if he was too sober, he would be too jittery. So we had to load him up with syrup. The idea was to supply him with vitamins from the tomatoes and sauerkraut and energy from the corn syrup. We also gave him some beer to steady his nerves

As Bill remembered it, at four o'clock on the morning of the operation, both of them were wide-awake. Dr. Bob, shaking, turned to look at Bill. He said, "I am going through with it."

"You mean you're going through with the operation?" "I have placed both the operation and myself in God's hands," Dr. Bob replied. "I'm going to do what it takes to get sober and stay that way."

Dr. Bob said not another word that morning. He was shaking miserably as he got into his clothes. Bill and Anne drove him to the hospital, and just before stopping the car, Bill handed him "one goofball" and a single bottle of beer, to curb the shakes. Dr. Bob got out of the car and walked into the hospital. Bill and Anne went home to wait.

After what seemed an age, the telephone rang. It was Dr. Bob—everything had gone well. But time went by, and still he didn't come home. When he finally arrived, hours later, he explained the reason for the delay. After leaving the hospital, Dr. Bob had set out to make the rounds of creditors and others he had previously avoided. He told them what had been going on, and expressed his desire to make amends. Following up on the statement he had made to Bill early that morning, he was doing what it took to get sober and stay that way. For Dr. Bob, a professional man, one of the greatest stumbling blocks had been his prideful need to conceal his drinking—from people who probably knew about it anyhow. He had only recently admitted to fellow Oxford Groupers that he was a secret drinker. Now, he openly admitted his problem to the very people he had wanted to hide it from.

It was a difficult thing to do: "He trembled as he went about, for this might mean ruin, particularly to a person in his line of business."

When he came home that night, his entire outlook had changed. He was happy, and, like Bill he was finally a free man. It was June 10, 1935—now honored as the date when AA really began. The bottle of beer Bill had given him that morning was his last drink. After months of pursuing drunks, Bill had finally helped one to recover.

Pass It On, pages 148-149

CSO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Madonna M
Louis R
Corky C
Ed C
Randy S
Andy L
Judy F

Happy 66th
BIRTHDAY A.A

FYI 51st GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The 51st General Service Conference took place last month and it approved the publication of a Fourth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The First, Second and Third Editions of the Big Book were published in 1939, 1955 and 1976, respectively. Our cofounder, Bill W., was responsible for the preparation of the First and Second Editions of the Big Book. The trustees' Literature Committee and members of the staff at the General Service Office worked on the Third Edition of the Big Book. For the first time in A.A. history, the General Service Conference was responsible for oversight of the preparation of a new edition of the Big Book. The only changes to the Fourth Edition will be in the story section. Twenty-four new stories will be added and sixteen stories will be brought forward from the Third Edition of the Big Book. The Conference agreed that information about these stories would remain confidential until publication of the Fourth Edition, which will be available to the Fellowship in November 2001. We have no information at the present time about price or how to order.

Bill defined the reasons for updating stories in the Big Book: *"The main purpose of the revisions is to bring the story section up to date, to portray more adequately a cross section of those who have found help — the audience for the book is people who are coming to Alcoholics Anonymous now. Those who are here have already heard our stories. Since the audience for this book is likely to be newcomers, anything from the point of view of content or style — that might offend or alienate those who are not familiar with the program should be carefully eliminated."*

This Conference also approved the publication of a new pamphlet titled, "Can A.A. Help Me Too? — Black/African Americans Share Their Stories." It is hoped that this pamphlet will be made available to those in early recovery or to those who are thinking about A.A. This pamphlet would be a source of early identification with the Fellowship for newcomers. Based on this same premise, the Conference also approved a revised pamphlet, "A.A. For the Older Alcoholic — Never Too Late," to replace the current pamphlet, "Time to Start Living." This pamphlet will be printed in large type and will fit in your literature racks. Both of these pamphlets will be available to the Fellowship in early September.

Terminal Uniqueness—Has it infected you?

"It is not to be expected that an alcoholic employee will receive a disproportionate amount of time and attention. He should not be made a favorite. The right kind of man, the kind who recovers, will not want this sort of thing. He will not impose. Far from it. He will work like the devil and thank you to his dying day.

(From To Employers, Alcoholics Anonymous)

We read a section from this chapter in my home group the other night. So, I read the whole chapter when I got home and this paragraph stood out. I think Bill's talking about being one worker among many—the opposite of what many of us suffered from when we came into this program. It was described to me as "terminal uniqueness."

"I nearly died with my uniqueness during the year that I didn't drink but wasn't an alcoholic. And everyone around me suffered! During that year I was a highly stressed woman who wasn't drinking for her family and I "certainly hope you appreciate what I'm doing!" Boy, I bet there were times that they wanted to hand me a drink. They were much better aware of the consequences than I and so they endured, God love them!

It took awhile for the stark raving sobriety to drive me into these rooms. And, in my alcoholic way, I hung out; hoping for a short cut, sure that there was a way that someone who was as smart, as accomplished as I was, could just pick up the main part and then stay home and not drink. I haven't been so unique or so smart or so invincible since I realized I needed to be in these rooms.

Someone told me that if I went to meetings, worked the steps, did all the things my sponsor recommended, AND didn't drink; I could hold the highest office AA has. For someone who left the Catholic church because I couldn't be Pope, that sounded great. It took me a few months before I discovered the "highest office" is that of sober drunk—and we in AA want everybody to hold the position!

Margaret C.

How about you? How did you learn to be one among many? Has "Terminal Uniqueness" ever infected you? I'd like to share your comments and thoughts about this topic in next month's issue. Please send them into CSOSA @ Stic.net or Fax (210) 822-4491. We'll publish as many as space allows. The editor

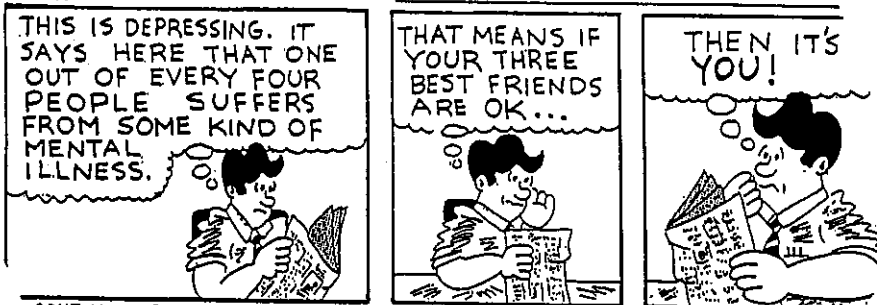
PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

	4 months ended			
	Apr-01	Apr-00	2001	2000
Sales	\$6,478	\$5,442	\$23,696	\$23,101
Cost of Sales	3,350	3,401	12,576	13,445
Gross Profit	3,128	2,041	11,120	9,656
Group Contributions	971	1,126	6,807	6,520
COR Meeting Contributions	13	0	35	35
Individual Contributions	127	7	770	812
Nightcap Contributions	33	75	213	439
Total Revenues	4,272	3,249	18,945	17,462
EXPENSES				
Salaries and Wages	2,638	3,040	10,507	12,861
Payroll Taxes	202	233	802	984
Contract Labor		50		200
Other Personnel Expenses		50		229
Rent-Office	912	855	3,534	3,420
Equipment and Storage leases	370	152	826	608
Utilities	213	106	1,064	602
Telephone & Answering Service	206	174	883	681
Advertising -SWBYP	47	45	188	180
Repairs & Maintenance			887	0
Office Supplies	90	73	696	380
NightCap printing & Postage	262	199	1,097	845
Postage and Freight	218	113	427	249
Accounting Services	150	138	876	551
Depreciation	250	163	1,000	652
Credit card and bank fees	60		353	0
Total Expenses	5,618	5,391	2,314	22,442
Income(Loss) From Operations	(1,346)	(2,142)	(4,195)	(4,980)
OTHER INCOME				
Interest Income from AA in SA		9	9	83
Interest income		9	9	83
Total other income				
Net INCOME(LOSS)	(\$1,346)	(\$2,133)	(\$4,186)	(\$4,897)

	April '01	YTD '01
Acceptance		
Alamo Hts		
Broadway	\$100.00	\$100.00
Came to Believe Grp		
Community	\$60.00	\$60.00
Colonies North	\$	197.76
County Line		
Entire Abstinence		
First things First		\$1063.10
First One Today		\$10.00
Fort Sam Houston		148.00
Freedom Group		25.00
Free at Last	\$ 10.75	\$40.75
Goliad		
Generic		100.00
Grupo El Libro Grande		\$25.00
Grupo Esperanza		\$30.00
Grupo Unidad		\$20.00
Grupo y Paz	\$10.00	\$50.00
Halt Group		\$60.00
Highland		
Hunt Ingram Grp		35.00
Hondo		
Keep it Simple Group		
Kelley Special		
La Quinta Tradicion		
Lavernia		
Lambda		\$100.00
Legal Professions		
Laurel Hts Group		
New Downton Grp	\$8.00	\$16.00
Marymont		
New Life		
NorthEast Group		
North San Pedro Group	\$45.00	\$153.00
Oak Hills Group		\$567.51
Oblate Group		
Peremales Valley Group		\$119.20
Pearsall		
Pleasanton		30.00
Road Of happyDestiny		\$218.00
Rush Hour Group	\$117.50	\$478.85
SA North Womens		
Schertz-Cibolo		\$200.00
Serendipity Group		\$250.00
SW Loop Group		
Spirit of Hope		
Stahl Rd Grp		
Sunrise		
Tezel Rd Women		
Travis Park		
Twelve	\$360.00	\$1,440.00
UC TGIF		30.00
Universal City		\$120.00
Valley Hf	\$40.00	\$120.00
Windcrest		\$25.00
Womens solution group		10.00
Womens Big Book		
Woodlake	\$20.00	\$80.00
AREA		
Boerne Noon		\$200.00
Bulverde		
Blanco		25.00
New Braunfels Grp		263.62
Kerrville(Fellowship Grp)	\$100.00	\$100.00
Tolerance Grp	\$100.00	\$100.00
Total	\$971	\$6,610
Birthdays	101.	\$770.00

O-DAAT'S Adventures

by Kay J. and Bob S.



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**SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION
MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2001 MEETING**

In Attendance:**District 1A DCM** – Mike C.**District 16 DCM** – Barbi H. (Treasurer)**Archives Chair** – Tom H.**Cooperation with the Professional Community / Public Information Chair** – Glenn C.**Central Service Office Liaison to SAMSO** – Judy F.**District 19 DCM** – Bill T. (Chair)**Hospitals / Institutions Chair** – Bob T.**Absent:****District 1E DCM** – Len A.**District 17 DCM** – Steve J. (Secretary)**District 1F DCM** – Frank E.**Grapevine Chair** – Martha H.**District 18 DCM** – None**Corrections Chair** – Marvin Q.**SAMSO to Central Service Office Liaison** – Vacant

Meeting called to order by **Bill T.** at 6:40 PM with Moment of Silence and Serenity Prayer.

Lynn - Read the Traditions. New GSRs: **Cindy** of Women's Big Book, **Julius** of Morning After, **Donna** of Highlands, **Jim** of Woodlake - New DCMs: None

Announcements: Judy F. – Thanks to everyone and all of the Groups for their support for Weekend in SA. With all that was provided to Hospitality Room very little was needed to be purchased.

Presentations: Bill T. announced that he had invited a special guest to do a presentation as to the "Area Service Structure and its importance" for us at this meeting, and introduced **Ramon M.** of Corpus Christi. Ramon reviewed the AA Group and Service Structure from the AA Service Manual. He pointed out that there are two "killer things," and those are Alcohol and Apathy. He stated that if we do not approve of things as they are happening, then nothing would change unless we participate. Area will continue to do what it is doing unless we attend and present our voice and our vote. The Groups need to send someone to represent them even if their GSR cannot manage to attend. The Area is there to serve and to address the concerns and needs of the Groups. The Groups are the final authority. There have been some expressed concerns that Area Agenda items are only coming from Area Officers and Committee Chairs. What makes a good leader? A good leader leads by example, and not by mandate. He made note that the Southwest Texas Area will be conducting an Inventory at its next Workshop that will be held at the Fiesta Inn (For reservations Phone: 956-723-3603) in Laredo the weekend of July 27th – 29th. The voting Conference will be held in Victoria the weekend of October 27th – 29th at the Holiday Inn.

Some of the questions that followed:

Chris: Who sets the agenda? **Answer:** Brent Brown, the Area Chair. Need to send notice as to agenda items 45 days in advance.

Marie: Will we be receiving information as to what will be voted upon? **Answer:** It will be sent out in the Area Newsletter. **Marie:** Who gets the Newsletter? **Answer:** All GSRs should be getting the Newsletter, Understand that there are some who seem to be having a problem getting theirs so need to check with the Area Secretary to be sure she has your correct information.

Jack: If we do not like the manner that the GSR meetings and Workshops are being conducted, what can we do? Open discussions seem to be a waste of time. We would like to have workshops on how to be a better GSR, and our responsibilities. **Answer:** Area was never designed to be a policy making body. Call or write to Brent as to your concerns. **Jack:** Can Brent set up some type of structure for these meetings where we can do this? **Answer:** If this is what you all want.

Lucian: How were the workshops done before? **Answer:** Ideally it was what the Groups wanted happened. What the major concerns now seem to be are centered on the re-writing of the little blue SWTA procedures manual book, and away from our Primary Purpose of how to better serve and carry the message.

Tom: Can we have the names and contact information for the Area Officers listed in the Nightcap? **Bill:** Yes

Mike: At the June 30th District 1A Workshop we will be addressing many of the same issues.

Bill T. – Our thanks to Ramon for his time and consideration in coming and making such a fine presentation. We know that everyone will take something beneficial away from this meeting. Thanks.

Central Service Office Liaison to SAMSO – Judy F. – They are putting together a Nominating Committee for the (4) four COS Board vacancies, which will occur. Nominees need to have (5) five years sobriety, and the term is for (2) two years.

SAMSO Liaison to Central Service Office – Vacant

Chairman's Report – Bill T. – Traditionally June is the month in which we had the Delegate come to SAMSO for the NY Conference report, so **the meeting next month will begin at 6:00 PM** to accommodate this.

Secretary's Report – Glenn C. for **Steve J.** – Asked for a motion to approve the minutes as printed in the *Nightcap*. **Louis** made the motion; seconded by **Tom H.** All approved.

Treasurer's Report – Barbi H. – Submitted the report for April. Donations were \$182.84 with expenses of (\$334.35) for a balance of \$2,157.14. A motion was made by **Tom H.** to accept the report as given. **Teresa.** Seconded the motion. All approved.

Archives – Tom H. – The Committee is doing well. The Archives Committee holds its meetings on the 1ST Sunday of each month at St. David's Episcopal Church, 1300 Wiltshire, at 7:15 PM. Tom can be reached at 696-5228, or email at teh543@sprynet.com.

Correctional Facilities (Marvin Q. – Absent – No report). The CFC Committee holds its meetings on the 1ST Wednesday of each month in the Alanon room at Club 12 at 102 Thames at 7:00 PM. Marvin can be reached at 365-9973.

Grapevine – Martha H. – (Absent – No Report). The Grapevine Committee holds its meetings on the 1ST Monday of each month at Jim's at 410 and Blanco at 7:00 PM. Martha can be reached at 344-6588, or email at JHernden@aol.com.

Hospitals / Institutions – Bob T. – Announced service opportunities, and most slots were filled The Hospitals/Institutions Committee holds its meetings on the 2ND Saturday of each month at the Winner's Club (Snack Bar Area) at 11 AM. Bob can be reached at 628-7340 (Pager), or e-mail at anotherdrunk@r67.net.

Cooperation with Professional Community / Public Information Chair – Glenn C. – Currently there are no pending requests for presentations. He had a request from an online group to do a presentation as to AA, and it went very positively. Brought forward again that: *Glenn currently has 12 racks of materials from past events. Glenn suggested that the Literature racks from past CPC/PI events be put to good use by donating them to smaller Groups for that cannot afford the \$65.00 startup cost. The only cost the Group will be that of maintaining the Literature about \$5-10 per month.* To date, five (5) Groups have requested Literature Racks, leaving (7) seven available. Any Groups interested in receiving a donated Literature rack for use in the "Adopt a Literature Rack" program can contact Glenn. The CPC / PI Committee holds its meetings on the 2ND Wednesday of each month Club 12 at 102 Thames at 7:00 PM. Glenn can be reached at (H) 342-2330, (Pager) 220-9281, or email at GlennC3663@aol.com.

District 1A – Mike C. – The District is planning a Workshop to be held the 1ST weekend in June. There will be a roundtable discussion with SAMSO and SWTA Service Committee Chairs participating.

District 1E – Len A. – (Absent – No Report)

District 1F – Frank E. – (Absent – No Report)

District 16 – Barbi H. – The District is doing well – District decided to place (5) literature racks in High Schools. Group 12 will hold a Panel discussion Workshop on "How to Chair a Meeting" on June 9th from 1:00 to 4:00 PM

District 17 – Karen L. – Introduced herself as the new Alternate DCM. The District is doing fine.

District 18 – Gil C. – (Absent – No Report)

District 19 – Bill T. – Groups are healthy, and the Broadway Group has a new GSR.

New Spanish District: Alberto - The District has 4 Groups and 3 Committees. The Correctional Committee takes meetings to the Dominguez Unit. The La Vina Committee visits Groups in order to motivate the AA fellowship to buy subscriptions. The Anniversary celebration of La Vina will be held in San Antonio on August 13th, and they will need assistance with this function. The Public Information Committee is working with two Radio Stations. The District meets every 2ND and 4TH Sunday of the month at 12:00 PM at 1917 Castroville Rd. (435-2947)

Old Business – None

New Business – Translation Equipment: Bill T. – As was voted upon, he checked into the pricing of the translation equipment and came up with a price for (10) ten units with headphones and a transmitter for \$629.04. This was well below what everyone had expected, and well within what we have in the treasury. It would be nice to have the equipment in place before the La Vina anniversary celebration. **Glenn** – Brought forward that with this type of pricing that we should possibly look at having (2) two transmitters so as to expand their use, and in the event that one of them broke down. The issue will now be taken back to the Groups.

– **Change of Meeting Time: Bill T.** – Bill checked with the church, and the only way we could change the meeting time would be to back it up to the same time as that when the Central Office Representatives hold their meeting, and to divide the room.

Adjourned – 7:40 PM with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted: Glenn C. for Steve J. – SAMSO Secretary Printed as submitted

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES.

I was in the store the other day, standing in line and waiting for the line to move. I was daydreaming and watching the people when I heard this little voice saying very loudly "HI! HI!" I looked around and there was a 2yr. old child in a grocery cart a little way away from me. I looked at him and he smiled real big and said "HI" I said hi back. Then he put his Feet up and said, "Look, I have no shoes on!" I said "Oh no!" He smiled and then looked away and was quiet. All he wanted was someone to pay attention to him, notice him - LISTEN TO HIM. All the way home I thought about how many people! come across each day. I wonder how many of them need to be heard? How many need to be acknowledged that they are human beings, that they are present and that they count? How many of them do I give the respect of acknowledgment? Maybe they Just want to tell me that they don't have shoes on that day. Maybe they just want to say 'HI'. Maybe I need to pay more attention. Maybe I need to LISTEN.

COR MEETING MINUTES
5/20/01

Meeting called to order by Vicki S. at 5:30 with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Char read the Traditions.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Members agreed to accept the previous meeting minutes as published in the *Nightcap*.

CSO Report: Corky C. outlined two basic issues regarding the Board of Trustees:

1. There needs to be a committee formed to select from the general membership nominees for the rotating positions on the board.
2. Pocket of Enthusiasm Conference is being planned for the Thanksgiving weekend as another source of income for the Central Office. Setting will be Radisson downtown. Fliers will be available for distribution to the COR's at the next business meeting (June 14)

Financial Report: Corky C. handed out copies of the Balance Sheet and Statement of Operations. Virginia F. asked about the Central Office's CD or IRA as a source of income. Corky and Bill agreed there is no longer any such thing in the treasury, but allowed there may have been in the past.

There was a question about the 4 Edition of the Big Book. Bill T. answered, the fourth edition has been approved and is headed to publication. New York has not given out any information beyond that. The Delegate is going to be questioned further by Bill. The purpose of Pockets is to give more financial security. Cheryl and Char announced the Group level fundraiser by the Woman's Big Book Study Group. Fliers have been distributed to many local groups.

New Business:

Change of COR meeting date or time: Vicki supported it being changed for personal reasons. Beth A. Also wanted it to be changed as it conflicts with the monthly Bar-b-q at the Goliad Group. Andreas suggested there be an alternate COR to help with the monthly meeting. Virginia F. argued that there was a shared rent issue with SAMSO. Cheryl moved that the meeting stay as it is. Virginia seconded it and a majority were in favor of not changing the date or time.

Nightcap Committee: Bill T. (who edits the *Nightcap*) suggested a committee be formed to help fill flue monthly newsletter with more stories and articles for and about San Antonio AA. He stated that the *Nightcap* "should be a San Antonio Group based product. Volunteers are needed to sort, fold, staple and mail it during the last week of the month. COR's were advised to talk it up in their groups. Committee establishment issue was tabled.

After Hours Phone Duty Chairperson will be resigning very soon. Persons interested in taking on the highly rewarding role can call Vicki S. at 341-0159.

Nominating Committee: Three people from the general membership make up the committee. Kim C. had already volunteered and Andreas and Lauren said they'd share the responsibilities. Their function is to seek out 8 qualified candidates to fill 4 spots on the Central Service Board of Trustees. Elections will be in October and terms begin the following January. Forms for the candidates are at the Central Office.

List of COR's: Vicki will print a list including name, address, phone and e-mail. She may have them ready for June's meeting.

One time only Change of Meeting time: June 17 meeting will begin at 5:00 pm. Delegates are using the room at 6:00 and we'll want plenty of time to address our business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 with the Lord's Prayer. Printed as submitted

LIFE IS NOT A DEAD END

When a man or woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel, and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone. He has been granted a gift which amounts to a new state of consciousness and being.

He has been set on a path which tells him he is really going somewhere, that life is not a dead end, not something to be endured or mastered. In a very real sense he has been transformed, because he has laid hold of a source of strength which he had hitherto denied himself.

Reprinted from the Twelve and Twelve, pp 106-107

A.A. History Trivia

One of the titles suggested for the Big Book was One Hundred Men This name was objected to by Florence Rankin, at that time the only female member.

She had come to AA in New York in 1937. Later she moved to Washington, D.C. and tried to help Fitz Mayo, who after sobering up in New York, started AA in Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, she relapsed and died of alcoholism. When Marty Mann came into AA, Florence was already in Washington, D.C. Marty met her once, and had read her story in the Big Book, but she died before Marty had been in AA a year.

Despite her death from alcoholism, Florence must have helped pave the way for other women.

from Marty, 'Mann, the First Lady of Alcoholics Anonymous by Sally R. Brown

REGIONAL FORUMS SCHEDULE

2001 DATES	REGION	HOTEL/ LOCATION
January 6-7	Special	Yakima and Spokane, Washington
June 6-10	Northeast	Four Points Sheraton hotel Rochester, NY
August 24-26	West Central	Best Western Rankotu Inn Sioux Falls, South Dakota
September 28-30	Southwest	— Sheraton Old Town Albuquerque, New Mexico
October 12-14	East Central	Hilton Toledo Toledo, Ohio
December 8-9	Special Hispanic	Austin Texas

2002 DATES	REGION	HOTEL/ LOCATION
March 2 -24	Special inner city	Chicago, Illinois
May 25-26	Special	Chicoutimi, Quebec
June 7-9	Western Canada	Sands Hotel & Resort Regina, Saskatchewan
July 12- 14	Pacific	Holiday Inn Phoenix, Arizona
September 27-29	Eastern Canada	Fredericton Inn Fredericton, New Brunswick
December 6-8	Southeast	Huntsville Hilton Hotel Huntsville, Alabama

2003 DATES	REGION	HOTEL/ LOCATION
June 20-22	Northeast	Holiday Inn Grand Island Grand Island, NY
July 18-20	East Central	Holiday Inn Confererce Center Columbus, Indiana
September 5.7	West Central	Holiday inn Minot, North Dakota
October 3-5	Southwest	Kansas City, Missouri

2 004 DATES	REGION	HOTEL/ LOCATION
TBA	Southeast	Kentucky
TBA	Eastern Canada	Montreal, Quebec
TBA	Western Canada	Alberta
TBA	Pacific	Marriott hotel Portland, Oregon

The Promises:

A Sponsor Keeps His

"Mike, here's how it works. There are twelve steps. Not any more, not any less. We need to work all twelve. The way I see it, you've been doing OK on eleven of them, but you're not doing any 12th step work. Maybe that's why you've been flip flopping in and out of these rooms for so long."

"Richard, that's ridiculous. I've finally admitted that I need help. I'm the one who needs help. That's real hard for me to accept, but I do. Now you tell me that I should be helping others. That's crazy. I'm not qualified to help anybody. I've never had more than a month or two of sobriety. How could I possibly help anyone? I'm just a big loser."

"I know how you feel. But this program will work if you work it. How much sobriety did Bill have when he Dr. Bob? How much sobriety did Dr. Bob have when he helped A.A. number three? Not much more than you, Mike."

They got sober, because they helped others. It's not like they got sober and then helped others. Do you see the distinction? This idea of helping others is at the core of the program, Mike. If you want what we have, do what we do. You're all wrapped up in your own turmoil. You're consumed by grief over the harm you caused yourself and others. And you can drink because of the pain, the anxiety, the guilt, and the anger. Yeah, you're life is a wreck, but your experience can help others. People can relate to you, Mike. And here's the payoff: You will see others helped simply because of your willingness to help them. And as a result, you will be freed. You will succeed. You just need to thoroughly follow this path. That's how it worked for me and that's how it will work for you. That's a promise."

Richard kept his promise. After ten years of false starts in and out of the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, Mike started working all twelve steps and is now in his 13th year of sobriety, experiencing this and all the promises. Mike E., Burtonsville

J

1 YR
Helen M
Steven V
Joe D
Olga R
Terri S

U

Roseia C
Danny Q
Niki T
Erik K

A

Stephan B
Brian C
Mike F
John S

E

Randy H
Bethany B
Ray O
Robert C
Howard S
Bobby H II
Michael R

B

2 YRS
Brenda R
Debbie M
Rene' R
Michael S
Bob Z

i

Sheryl H
Lefty Mc
David O
Richard Z

r

Aron A
Bruce B
Kevin K
Lou B
Fausto C
Harold G

e

A

3 YRS
Connie C
Shar L
Chris F

D

4 YRS
Alvin F
Stepanie C
Ida B
Bill A

S

5 YRS
P.J. J
John H
Brian G

F

6 YRS
Gilbert N
Pam M
Cindi T

W

7 YRS
Robin D
David B
Tracy E
Bill L

8 YRS
Daniel C
Joe Mc F
Victor E

9 YRS
Don G
Jake H
Mary-Lynn-H

10 YRS
Rene C

11 YRS
Jack B
Janice M

12 YRS
Javier G
Rai S
Jeanne W

13 YRS
Mark B

14 YR
Jeff J
Pablo L
Don G

19 YRS
Ed S

20 YRS
Art M
Kevin W

21 YRS
Mike G

23 YRS
Jim R

24 YRS
Lorn R

25 YRS
Daniel A

28 YRS
Larry W

29 YRS
Nick D

30 YRS
Elaine B

31 YRS
Maye A

35 YRS
Lionel S

37 YRS
Joan L



WE HAVE CEASED FIGHTING ANYTHING OR ANYONE-EVEN ALCOHOL. (Pg. 84, Alcoholics Anonymous)

GROUP FORUM

GROUP UPDATES

NEW GROUP

Freedom Group 12X12 Wednesday's 7:15

Starting June 6th Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in the fellowship hall 14700 San Pedro (corner of 281 & Oak Shadow) Open meeting

Until further notice the Fort Sam Group is still meeting in its old location (2797 Stanley Road, Roadrunner community center)

NEW GROUP

The Fort Sam "HOSPITAL GROUP" will begin meeting at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) On third Floor West The Health Promotions Center in Conference Room B-3-358 Mon. -Wed-Fri, Noon.

NEW GROUP

The Acceptance Group has added an Open, Friday Night 7PM meeting at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (off Kitty Hawk in Universal City) Family members encouraged to attend.

NEW GROUP

Woodlake Tuesday Night an O / / Disc/ NS 8 PM Woodlake Baptist Church 6880 Woodlake club Drive (Off FM 78)

NEW GROUP

Helotes Cork In The Jug 10am Sunday, Closed Disc 12070 Leslie Rd. Helotes Senior Citizen Center

WORKSHOPS

The Next Frontier: Emotional Sobriety

The Wednesday night Women's Big Book Group is bringing Polly P to San Antonio for a One-day workshop for men and women. Saturday September 29th

9-5 PM, Leon Springs Dance hall
Pre Registration \$10.00 Further Information call 820-3573 Pre - Registration Forms can be obtained at the Central Office

FYI The Fellowship In Action A roundtable discussion moderated by Brent B SWTA Chair Rita L Alt SWTA Delegate Roger L Past Delegate J.R. SWTA Treatment Facilities Chair John S SWTA PI/CPC Chair June 30th Winners Club 1-4 pm Barbecued Brisket, Chicken, Sausage

"Chairing an AA Meeting" Sponsored by Group 12 At Club 12 June 9th, 2001 1-4 PM Format will be panel discussion with group sharing

UPCOMING EVENTS

10 June New Life Group
19th Anniversary 1114 Willow, St Patricks Catholic Church

16 June Dance Club 12 8pm-Midnit
19 June Club 12 Board of Directors meeting

56th State AA Convention
Raddison Plaza Hotel Downtown
Fort Worth, 815 Main St 1-800 333 3333 29 June 2001

http://

www.geocities.com/texasstatecon

29 June 7:30 Club 12 Birthday Night
30 June Club 12 dance 7:30-Midnight

Delegates Report:

Yolanda F SWTA 68 Delegate will be giving her report on the 51st General Service Conference at the SAMSO Meeting on June 17th 6 pm at St Andrews Episcopal Church 6110 NW loop 410(Ingram Rd turn-around)

the entire fellowship is welcome bring your self and your questions.

CSO MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION DAY

7 July Seven Oaks Hotel on Austin Highway 7:30-9 pm Speakers are Hal M from Arlington VA. and Sandy B from Tampa Fl. Cake and Coffee provided
Just get there. No cost



JUNE 2001

Service opportunities and events

24 HOUR HELP-LINE:
(210) 828-6235
BUSINESS LINE:
(210) 821-6325



- 3 June SAMSO Steering Meeting Club 12 4PM
- 3 June SAMSO ARCHIVES Committee meets 7:15 St. David's Episcopal Church 1300 Wiltshire
- 5 June SAMSO Grapevine Committee meet at Jim's' Restaurant 410 & Blanco 7 PM
- 5 June Club 12 Board of Directors meet 5:30 PM
- 6 June SAMSO Correctional Facilities Committee meets Club 12 7 PM
- 7 June SAMSO Cooperation with Professional Community and Public Information Committee meets Club 12 PM
- 8 June SAMSO Hospital & Institutions Meeting -Club 12 -10 AM
- 9 June Chairing a Meeting workshop by Group 12 1-4 Pm Panel Discussion
- 10 June New Life Grip 19th Anniversary
- 14 June CSO Board meets Any member can attend
- 16 June Dance Club 12 8PM to Midnight
- 17 June SAMSO/ Interdistrict Meeting 6:00COR Meeting 5:00- Districts 16-19-1A meet 6PM Delegates Rpt St. Andrews Episcopal Church
- 6110 NW Loop 410
- 24 June Birthday Night -New Life Group (Birthday Night open speaker)
- 25 June Birthday Night Alamo Hts.
- 26 June Birthday Night-Valley Hi,- Windcrest,-Santa Fe- New Acceptance-Life Support
- 27 June Birthday Night -Oblate- Women's Big Book-Northwood
- 28 June Birthday Night : Goliad-Devine- Ft Sam -North San Pedro -Stahl Rd
- 27 June Birthday Night: Pearsall (Come as you are)- SW Loop-Colonies North El Libro Grande- Rush Hour-Group 12-Marymont
- 28 June Birthday Night Schertz-Cibolo-Lambda-Winners club
- 29-30 June 56th State AA Convention Raddison Plaza Hotel Downtown Fort Worth Texas (See Group Forum)
- 29 June Dance club 12, 8 PM to Midnight
- 30 June Workshop FYI Fellowship in Action Winners Club 1-4 PM Barbecue / Panel Discussion

THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

Charles R

He had 19 plus years of sobriety. He was fond of saying "I've had so many of them I don't remember which one was the last one" when asked about a sobriety date.

He passed away May 19th. He was an active member of the Goliad Groups. His many friends will miss him and his special way of sharing.

The Nightcap is about, by, and for members of the A.A. fellowship. Opinions herein expressed are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either A.A. or the Nightcap. (Exceptions: Quotations from A.A. books, pamphlets and the 12 Steps and/or 12 Traditions are reprinted with the permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.; the A.A. Preamble, slogans, etc. are reprinted with the permission of The Grapevine, Inc.)

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A PHYSICIAN LOOKS UPON ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

By ELRICK B. DAVIS

Dr. Silkworth

The first appraisal in a scientific journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, former drunkards who cure themselves by curing each other with the help of religious experience, was published in the July issue of the journal *Lancet*. It was "A New Approach to Psychotherapy [in] Chronic Alcoholism," by W. D. Silkworth, M.D., physician in charge, Chas. B. Town's Hospital, New York City. A drunkard during a moment of [deep] depression had the spontaneous "religious experience" which started his cure. This was the seed from which came Alcoholics Anonymous. Dr. Silkworth was at first skeptical. He is no longer. Excerpts from his paper follow:

"The beginning and subsequent development of a new approach to the problem of permanent recovery for the chronic alcoholic has already produced remarkable results and promises much for the future. This statement is based upon four years of close observation. The principal answer is: Each ex-alcoholic has had and is able to maintain, a vital spiritual or 'religious' experience, accompanied by marked changes of personality. There is a radical change in outlook, attitude and habits of thought. In nearly all cases, these are evident within a few months, often less.

"The conscious search of these ex-alcoholics for the right answer has enabled them to find an approach effectual in something more than half of all cases. This is truly remarkable when it is remembered that most of them were undoubtedly beyond the reach of other remedial measures.

Religion

"Considering the presence of the religious factor, one might expect to find unhealthy emotionalism and prejudice. On the contrary, there is an instant readiness to discard old methods for new which produce better results. It was early found that usually the weakest approach to an alcoholic is directly through his family or friends, especially if the patient is drinking heavily. Ex-alcoholics frequently insist a physician take the patient in hand, placing him in a hospital when possible. If proper hospitalization and medical care is not carried out, this patient faces the danger of delirium tremens, 'wet brain' or other complications. After a few days' stay, the physician brings up the question of permanent sobriety. If the patient is interested, he tactfully introduces a member of the group. By this time the prospect has self-control, can think straight, and the approach can be made casually. More than half the fellowship have been so treated. The group is unanimous in its belief that hospitalization is desirable, even imperative, in most cases.

"An effort is made for frank discussion with the patient, leading to self-understanding. He must make the necessary readjustment to his environment. Cooperation and confidence must be secured. The objectives are to bring about extraversion and provide someone to whom he can transfer his dilemma. This group is now attaining this because of the following reasons:

Reasons

1. Because of their alcoholic experiences and successful recoveries they secure a high degree of confidence from their prospects.
2. Because of this initial confidence, identical experiences, and the fact that the discussion is pitched on moral and religious grounds, the patient tells his story and makes his self-appraisal with extreme thoroughness and honesty. He stops living alone and finds himself within reach of a fellowship with whom he can discuss his problems as they arise.
3. Because of the ex-alcoholic brotherhood, the patient too, is able to save other alcoholics from destruction. At one and the same time, the patient acquires an ideal, a hobby, a strenuous avocation, and a social life which he enjoys among other ex-alcoholics and their families. These factors make powerfully for his extraversion.
4. Because of objects aplenty in whom he can vest his confidence, the patient can turn to the individuals to whom he first gave his confidence, the ex-alcoholic group as a whole, or to the Deity.

Like A Bump On A Log

Psychologists will tell you that the inclination to avoid responsibility is a characteristic of immaturity.

If that is so, we would appear to live in an age of rampant immaturity. "Let's not get involved" is an expression frequently heard. If you witness a serious traffic accident and your statement might help the person who is not at fault, what is your reaction? Most people drive on, because they do not want the aggravation of involvement.

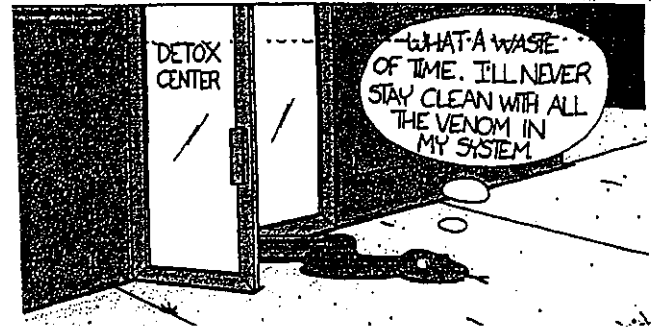
This trend runs the gamut of human happenings. Murders are being committed in the presence of scores of people, none of who raises a finger. Part of it may be the instinct of self-preservation, but most of it is the desire not to be involved.

What does this have to do with the AA way of life? As a group, we alcoholics suffer from immaturity somewhat more than most people. Fortunately, we become aware of this. But awareness alone, though it gives us an advantage over other people, is far from enough. We must act upon it. In our early AA years, most of us throw ourselves into this way of life and the Fellowship's activities. As we grow older in AA, many of us are inclined to pull back, and we may reach a stage of aloofness from activity. Leading meetings and doing Twelfth Step work are jobs for those in their first five years of sober living—that is the rationalization.

The person who drifts away and finally loses sobriety itself is a typical casualty of this procedure. Even those who maintain sobriety are pathetic figures. They are not happy in it. The one who sits like a bump on a log at an occasional meeting and says, "I don't seem to get much out of the Fellowship any more" is reflecting another result of inactivity or, to put it more clearly, noninvolvement.

This is a program of involvement. When we stop giving generously of ourselves in the vital, living, moving program of AA, we are dead ducks in terms of happy sober living. Fortunately, most dead ducks can be revived if they are willing.

Remember, the Twelfth Step says, "carry this message to alcoholics." That doesn't mean merely alcoholics who still drink. It means our fellow AAs, too. Shouldn't some of us old-timers hunt up other old-timers we seldom see any more, and somehow try to get them really involved with us? They all have a lot to give, and only through new involvement will they start to receive again. *Anonymous, Cleveland Ohio*



THANKS SO MUCH

There has been some grumbling and rumbling from some sectors of the Fellowship, many A.A.'s asking, "What is all this about service work?" "Why do we need Central Office?" Things like that.

Page 281 of "A.A. Comes of Age" discusses why we need General Service. After reading "A.A. Comes of Age", I also realized that Central Offices are needed for the same reason General Service is. We need a Central Office not so much for our own recovery, because for the most part, we have the fellowship and each other.

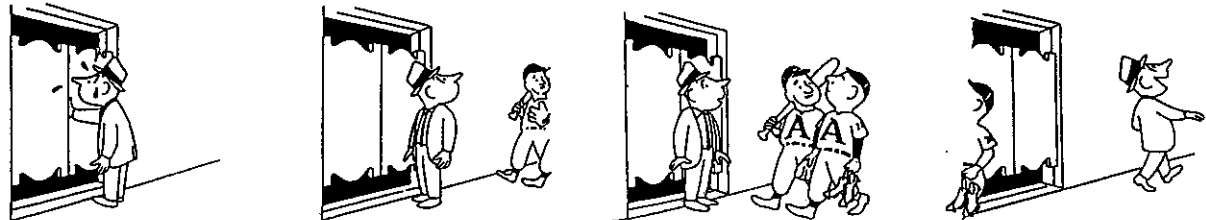
We need the Central Offices for all who are still struggling, still searching for peace. We need it as a permanent place of refuge for all who need the First and Twelfth Steps and a sympathetic ear. We need it for all the newborn, for reasons still unknown, are destined to become alcoholics.

We need A.A. and the Central Offices for the community, so it is always there—in the middle of the night, in a rainstorm, in times of prosperity and times of crisis.

Finally, we need Central Offices for all of the non-believers who don't think they need the hand of A.A. We need to be an established part of the community, visible and available, so that in an emergency' it will automatically be assumed that A.A. is there when needed. We need to be a resource for the community.

For these and 100 other reasons, we need the Central Office; if any one side of the A.A. triangle's chopped off, the collapse of the structure is sure to follow. To those in service to the fellowship, Thanks so much! Tom F., Merrville, IN

VICTOR E.



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