

THE NIGHT CAP

Published monthly by the San Antonio Central Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in the interest of greater unity of members in local and South-west Area groups.

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NUMBER ELEVEN

WHEN DID THIS DISEASE BEGIN?

Some of us may think that alcoholism is a comparatively new disease that may have begun, say, in this century. The following article gives us the news that imbibing alcoholic beverages in "humongous" quantities has been with us almost forever! Who ever heard of an alcoholic drinking water when he had booze on hand??!!

As a part of a project to compile a history of the United States Navy, the U.S. Naval Institute decided to reduce the logs of several ships to narrative reports. Some of these reports make very interesting reading and the following is quoted from one published in April 1963:

"On August 23, 1779, the USS Constitution set sail from Boston. She left with 475 officers and men, 4,700 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black powder, and 39,400 gallons of black rum on board. She also had 48,600 gallons of fresh water. Her mission was to destroy and harass English shipping.

"Making Jamaica on October 6, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum and headed for the Azores. Arriving there on November 2, she was provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine. On November 8, she set sail for England. On the following days she defeated five British Men-of-War, captured and scuttled 12 English Merchantmen, salvaging only their rum.

"By January 27, 1780, her powder and shot were exhausted but she made a raid on the Firth of Clyde. Unarmed, the landing party captured a whiskey distillery and immediately transferred 40,000 gallons on board by dawn.

"Now she headed home. The Constitution arrived at Boston on February 20, 1780, with no cannon shot, no powder, no rum, and no whiskey, but she had 48,600 gallons of stagnant water."

Perhaps, although it isn't mentioned, they had a problem with alcohol even then. They didn't seem to have any trouble in securing it and evidently they had no trouble making use of it!

OUT WITH THE OLD -- IN WITH THE NEW

Did you know that our "old" Editor had this job for 3 whole volunteer years? Mary Lou C., what an excellent and outstanding job you did! Thanks from all of us subscribers for your unfailing time, effort, and humor AND, I might say, when we were reading your works, we surely weren't having that drink! THANKS! THANKS! THANKS! FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

Hello to all of you AA's and Alanons! Your "Night Cap" has a new Editor beginning with this issue (when will I learn to keep my mouth shut!). Jen Rose W. is the Assistant Editor and Chief Reporter (long title -- no pay). I sincerely hope that we can live up to the high standards set by Mary Lou. If you have any criticism, constructive (preferred) or otherwise, please write to us in care of your Central Service Office. Any news items of interest to our clientele will be greatly appreciated -- just keep 'em coming to CSO. Please remember that our cut-off date for publishing your news is the 19th day of the month.

- Dee S. -

HERE WE GO!

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AROUND THE AREA:

A "Community Meeting" on alcoholism and AA will be held in the Church of Today New Life Center, 4242 Piedras Drive East, at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 16. Special Guest Speaker will be Dr. F. E. Seale, Medical Director, Starlite Village, Center Point, Texas. He will speak on the Medical Hazards of Alcoholism. The movie "Alcoholism and The Family," with Father Martin will begin at 7 p.m. Ben A. will chair the meeting, speakers include Dave H. (AA), Joy G. (Alanon), and Tony C. (Alateen).

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The Park North AA Group's 2nd Anniversary Party was a terrific success, mainly due to Mary Lou C., and her elves, for all of the delicious cakes, cookies, sandwiches, coffee, punch, etc., plus all that "elbow grease" that was donated. Approximately 60 persons attended and joined in to eat, drink, and make merry! Pat C. did an excellent job as meeting chairman, likewise did Jack S. as speaker. Thanks, again, Tinker Bell!

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Grupo del Sol, located at Casa del Sol, 321 Frio City Road (223-4117) badly needs your support to carry the message. This AA Group meets on Friday nights at 8:15 with an open meeting.

- Rudy -

The Downtown Group is one of the oldest AA Groups in San Antonio, and yet its attendance is dwindling. PLEASE help us grow again! For further information on our meetings and activities, see the enclosed flyer.

- Laura -

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The Haven Group will celebrate its 7th Anniversary on Sunday, March 18, at 5 p.m. There will be a guest speaker and refreshments after the meeting. PLEASE PLAN TO BE THERE.

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34TH ANNIVERSARY OF AA IN SAN ANTONIO

On Thursday, April 5, we will meet at 6:30 p.m. for coffee and fellowship to celebrate the 34th Anniversary of AA in San Antonio. A Mexican dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and we have two excellent speakers from Lorenzo, Texas, for our 8 o'clock meeting. After the meeting, we will have birthday cake and coffee.

REMEMBER -- our Anniversary Banquet is the sole opportunity of the year when we have the chance to renew acquaintances from local AA Groups and from the San Antonio area. It is the ONLY revenue producing event that directly supports the Central Service Office.

This 34th Anniversary Meeting will be held at the San Pedro Presbyterian Church, located at 1505 Timber Oaks, turn east on Oak Shadows (from North San Pedro). Check the flyers for the map showing the way.

Donations will be \$5.00 per person (including dinner) and may be obtained from your Group Secretary after March 15, or from the Central Service Office.

We hope you will make plans NOW to attend.

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HISTORY OF AA IN SAN ANTONIO:

In 1941, the Rt. Rev. Everett H. Jones, Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, put an ad in the local newspapers in which he announced he had information for anyone who had a drinking problem and wished to do something about it. It also appears that Rev. Joseph Brown and Esther E. of Dallas (now deceased) did pioneer work with Bishop Jones. The first meetings were held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church during 1941-44.

Though not an alcoholic himself, the Bishop's untiring work, love and concern for the sick alcoholic and his support for AA has led him to be dubbed our "Honorary Alcoholic."

The Bishop is still active in San Antonio, maintaining an office, where he is never too busy to greet old friends, or listen to new problems, and still occasionally speaks at gatherings of AA when his health permits. "The alcoholic", the Bishop is fond of saying, "is just everyone else -- only so much more so!"

The first AA Group was formed April 11, 1945, and met in the study of Bishop Jones. From 1945 to 1947, AA met at an old grocery store at 4th and Taylor Streets. This group was called the "Old 4th Street AA Group." Later, the group was moved to the 2nd floor location on West Commerce Street, across from the Frost National Bank.

We now have 48 AA groups within the Metropolitan Area, which includes seven hospital groups, that hold one or more weekly meetings; plus 24 AA groups in the surrounding area that use the CSO. An approximate 600 to 800 AA members attend these group meetings.

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CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES:

PRE-GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE WORKSHOP -- March 31 and April 1, Holiday Inn, Victoria, Texas. (THESE ARE NEW DATES.) Make or reconfirm reservations now by calling toll free to the Holiday Inn -- 1-800-238-8000 and identify as Southwest Area Conference for commercial rates. Remember, your Group's donation must be sent promptly in order that our Southwest Texas Area Delegate may attend the GCS in New York this year. Checks should be made payable to: Southwest Texas Fund and sent to SWAT, 203 North Crescent, Victoria, Texas 77901.

25TH COASTAL BEND JAMBOREE -- March 23, 24th, 25th at La Quinta, 601 North Water Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401. See your Group CSR for reservation and registration blanks.

Conventions/Conferences (contd):

38TH OKLAHOMA STATE CONFERENCE -- May 18, 19th 20th, Oklahoma City at Skirvin Plaza. Write: Oklahoma State Conference Chairman, Box 20297, Okla. City, Okla. 73156. Room reservations at Skirvin Plaza, Box 1677, Okla. City, Okla. 73101 must be made prior to May 1, 1979.

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HOSPITAL ZONE:

Groups responsible for taking meetings to Villa Rosa's Tuesday evening Open Speakers' Meetings for March are:

March 6 & 20th - Northwood Group

March 13th & 27th - Northwest Group

Sally Group's Wednesday night Open Speakers' Meetings will function on a voluntary basis during March.

VA Hospital Group holds Beginners' Discussion Meetings every Thursday at 8:15 p.m. in Room E-136, Audie Murphy VA Hospital.

Park North Group holds Open Discussion Meetings on Wednesday and Friday at 8 p.m. in the basement cafeteria of Park North General Hospital, 4330 Vance Jackson.

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REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS:

Goliad Group, 537 Avondale, will hold its regular monthly BBQ on Sunday, March 18 (3rd Sunday of each month) at 6 p.m., followed by an Open Speakers' Meeting at 7:30. All other Sunday meetings are held at 8:15 p.m.

Group 12, 102 Thames, will hold its monthly dinner and games on Saturday, March 31 (last Saturday of each month) at 7 p.m.

Frontier Group, on Southton Road, will hold its regular monthly dance on Saturday, March 31 (last Saturday of each month), immediately following Open Speakers' Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

24-Hour Service Group, 1203 Fredericksburg Road, will hold its regular monthly dinner on Sunday, March 25 (last Sunday of each month), at 1 p.m.

The Administrative Board of Central Service Office will meet at 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 7 at CSO.

THE CSOC and District 1 Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 11, at 7 p.m. at Club 12, 102 Thames.

NEW GROUP -- Randolph Fellowship Group - for women only - is a closed discussion meeting held on Thursdays, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. This group meets in the Chapel Annex, Room 13, located by the Main Chapel just inside the base. For more information, call Joan at 658-6931.

- Joan -

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HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED"

THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE is compiling a list of persons interested in working with patients in local hospitals and detoxification facilities. AA members may lead beginners' meetings, make 12 Step calls, or temporarily serve as sponsors for patients who are leaving hospitals and halfway houses. YOU could be that very important FIRST CONTACT! Call 226-2523 for more information.

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PIC: 1/20/79 -- 2/20/79

IN MEMORIAM

Jack S. spoke to w Homemaker Classes at Churchill Hi School.

Dan Murrah, father of Sam R.

Carl C. & Art R. spoke to students at Judson Hi School.

Mrs. Anthony Fitzsimons, mother of Bill F.

Mary Jame M. spoke at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church.

To the families and friends, we extend sincere sympathy and our prayers that their bereavement may be tempered by reflective thought upon the happiness shared.

John A. gave 2 presentations at John Jay Hi School.

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MORE SPEAKERS ARE NEEDED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE. Contact CSO if you can help or contact John H., PIC Chairman at 828-3742.

"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."
(Kahlil Gibran)

STATISTICS: 1/20/79 2/20/79

AA	188	188
Alanon	43	43
Information		152
Students		5
PIC		3
Total Inquiries	—	<u>391</u>

"As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say, 'You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?'" (Excerpt from John Hall's "At Day's End")

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CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE - SAN ANTONIO
RECEIVED FEB. 15, 1979

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>FEB.</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>FEB.</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
Alamo Heights	15.00	30.00	Park North	20.00	40.00
Audubon	0	10.00	Randolph Fellowship	0	0
Broadway	35.00	35.00	Reality	0	0
Callaghan	0	0	Reliance	0	0
Downtown	30.00	90.00	Sahara	0	0
Fellowship	0	0	SASH	10.00	10.00
First Step	0	0	Santa Fe	0	0
Ft. Sam Houston	0	20.00	Serenity	15.00	30.00
Frontier	10.00	10.00	Sharing	25.00	25.00
Goliad	0	0	Southwest Loop	25.00	30.00
Group 12	75.00	150.00	Spiritual Life	0	0
Grupo Del Sol	24.00	24.00	Stepping Stones	75.00	75.00
Grupo Unidad	10.00	10.00	Sunset	15.00	30.00
Highlands	20.00	40.00	The Haven	40.00	40.00
Hope	0	0	Triangle	0	0
Kingsboro	0	0	24 Hour	15.00	15.00
Laurel Heights	15.00	15.00	Universal City	75.00	75.00
Marymont	0	0	VA Hospital	10.00	30.00
Northeast	0	20.00	Valley Hi	30.00	30.00
N. San Pedro	20.00	60.00	Villa Rosa	25.00	50.00
Northwest	20.00	40.00	Wesley	6.00	6.00
Northwood	0	0	Windcrest	15.00	30.00
Open Door	60.00	60.00	Young People	0	40.00

30 Groups.....\$787.00
BUCK-A-MONTH.....\$330.00

AREA

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

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Imogene & Frost U. for Ross Young, Bob
Lee, Warren Emory & Forrest Alexander
Northwood Group for Ross Young
Dottie E. for Jess McNeel
Merle & Gene D. for Jess McNeel, U. H.
Rische & Forrest Alexander

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

John McC.
Lee Ray C.
Merle & Gene D.

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 _____

