



The Nightcap

AA IN SOUTHWEST TEXAS

VOLUME 9

March 1981

Number 3

RESENTMENTS

Most of us in AA know about the dangers of resentments. We talk about resentments often. "To resent is to drink, and to drink is to die" is a bit of AA logic that is almost never questioned.

Emmet Fox called resentment and condemnation the "swing doors to hell" and repeatedly warned his readers to check themselves for such negative feelings, which would usually be disguised in some clever way. In his book "THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT," he referred to an old sermon, delivered during the French Revolution, in which the speaker said that it was surely justifiable to hate the arch-butcher Robespierre and to condemn a certain murderer. But Fox pointed out that we heap trouble on our own heads when we entertain such negative feelings, and that the question whether the man Robespierre was, in fact, a demon or an angel of light has nothing to do with the matter. "You might just as well swallow a dose of prussic acid in two gulps, and think to protect yourself by saying, "This one is for Robespierre; and this one for the . . . murderer." Fox wrote. "You will hardly have any doubt as to who will receive the benefit of the poison."

Wise words, but difficult to remember in the heat of emotion. Very few AA members will argue with this logic; it fits his AA program like a glove. It is widely understood in AA that we are seeking a measure of peace and happiness, as well as sobriety, and almost any of us will admit that severe resentment can rob us of all three. When truly understood and accepted, this explanation leaves little room for any justification of a resentment.

One reason that we have trouble facing the truth about resentment is that "everybody does it". Justified resentments are acceptable to most people, not just to alcoholics. There is a dangerous backlog of bitterness and hatred in the world. A man resents the loss of a job, for example, and spends a great deal of time inveighing against the people or conditions that brought about his termination. An individual is bitter against a doctor who bungled an operation or a lawyer who mishandled an important legal matter.

It has long since been proved that resentment and rage are killers. No alcoholic who values peace of mind and sobriety can afford to keep company with them. Are there times when we dare make an exception when the enormity of the offense justifies a resentment? The answer is clearly No - unless there are also times when we can justify taking the first drink."

Have you heard about the two drunk Texans who were carrying their buddy out of a bar to their pick up truck? One said to the other one "Lets just throw him in back and let him sleep it off. No, No, said the other one. "He might fall out and get killed. Just let him drive.

You may find the following a help with your daily living:
Lord, give us a gentle heart, and help us to do loving things to surprise even ourselves.

Lord, help us to stop in our daily round of duties, rush and hurry to smile and to say a brief word to people.

Lord, help us to heal what is broken, and to touch with our love that which needs love.

Lord, make us more aware of the little surprises which you scatter in our lives like sunshine.

Lord, help us to notice the things we have forgotten, and to be grateful for what we may be taking for granted.

Lord, as we do the important things in every day life, help us also to find time for small celebrations.

Lord, give us the insight to live each day as if it were a new gift. Lord, through your Spirit, give us a sense of wonder that we may celebrate all of your gifts to us. (With thanks to Fr. Bob S)

BCRROWED WISDOM

Matt Talbot was a drunkard, St. Dismas was a thief, Magdalen, a playgirl, and Tom was without belief.

But there they are in heaven, Smiling down on us now, as each holds a tilted halo, To a badly battered brow.

So, the sins of all you sinners, Do not definitely damn: Four "wasness" doesn't matter, If your "isness" really am!

And now this from the recent Grapevine:

"When my six-year old daughter and I were returning home after a meeting, she asked me why I talked so much to the other men at the meeting." When I told her that was "caring and sharing," she said, You weren't talking to any girls,"

I told her I knew I wasn't, she then asked, who is Karen and Sharon?"
I guess she is right. I've met two new members I'll never forget.

Jim W. stopped by the Central Service Office and finally paid his back dues for the Nightcap. He celebrated his 24th AA birthday the 7th February 1981.
Lets see---24 x \$12 = Thanks Jim!

An observer was watching the hundreds of guests milling around the hotel lobby. He approached a clerk and asked "Who are all of those people?" They are members of Alcoholics Anonymous here for a convention was the reply. "AA, huh?, said the first man, I wonder if it really works?" "Mister", replied the clerk fervently, "I hope so! I surely do hope so!"

On April 11th we will celebrate San Antonio's 36th AA Birthday. Lets make this an event to be remembered. This will be an opportunity to meet your fellow AA's from all over the area. We will have a good meal consisting of barbecued brisket, baked potato, salad, apple pie, hot rolls and beverage. This will be home cooked. The dinner and meeting will take place at Christ Lutheran Church at 6720 Broadway, San Antonio. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Phil Parham, an Episcopal priest who is very much dedicated to helping the program of AA. Serving will begin at 7:00 PM followed by a fine meeting. This event will take place on a Saturday night and will be your chance to meet all your friends and enjoy a couple of hours of fellowship and goodwill. The cost is only \$5.00 per person and tickets are now available. There will also be door prizes awarded and we also plan to have a raffle.

NEW GROUP: Helotes AA/Alanon Joint Discussion meeting each Thursday at 7:45 PM. Meeting Place: Helotes Community PARC Bldg. at the VIA Park and Ride location adjacent to the Methodist Church on Bandera Rd just beyond Helotes Plaza. We are most grateful to the Helotes Community for providing this fine facility. If you would like further information call: 695-8094 or 684-7077. Please come see us we promise you a good meeting.

The HAVEN Group will celebrate its 9th anniversary on Sunday March 15th. There will be a meeting at 3:00 PM followed by a barbecue with all the trimmings. You are all invited to come share with us. The speakers will be Gale McA and Frank C.

There will be a meeting of the Administrative Board of the Central Service Office on Tuesday March 3rd at 7:00 PM. Several board members were absent along with several committee leaders at the last meeting, please make an extra effort to attend.

There will be a CSOC meeting on Sunday March 8th at Club 12, 102 Thames, San Antonio. Meeting begins at 7:00 PM. GSR's please make special note of this meeting. There will be many interesting subjects to be discussed and your participation is absolutely essential to insure an informed AA program for SW Texas. This is the place to share your happenings with your fellow AA's and hear what has been happening in other groups.

On the Light Side: Bob S was being examined by his doctor and he confessed that he went on "binges". "How often?" asked the MD. "About once a month" answered Bob S." "And how long do they last?" "Around thirty days" was Bob's reply.

Club 12 will show the following films during the month of March:

March 1, Chalk Talk by Fr. Martin.
 March 8, I'll Quit Tomorrow.
 March 15, Film by Gert Bohanna.
 March 22, Life, Death & Recovery of an Alcoholic
 by Dr. Joseph Pursch.
 March 29, Alcoholism & the Family by Fr. Martin.

The showing will begin promptly at 4:00 PM each Sunday afternoon.

On March 20,21,22 the 27th annual Coastal Bend Jamboree will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas at the LaQuinta Royal. You are cordially invited to attend. If you would like to have additional information please call 1 883 5331 in Corpus Christi.

The Sahara Group has a new home. This Group is now located at 118 Pershing. The telephone number is 822 2843. Their meetings are as follows:

Closed Discussion, Sundays at 3:00 PM.
 Open Speakers, Tuesday 8:15 PM.
 Open Speakers, Friday 8:15 PM.

The Pearsall Group would like to remind you again that it has a new meeting place - the Gill Savings Association Bldg. on Oak St. They are now having an Open Discussion meeting on Wednesday at 8:00 PM. You are all encouraged to attend.

Public Information Statistics:

Dec 18th	Patrician Movement	Hank C.
Jan 7th	Patrician Movement	Hank C.
Jan 12th	Judson Hi School	Allan P. Kenneth & Doug. K.
Jan 13th	Pearsall High School PTS	Bill S.
Jan 14th	Bexar County DWI	Bill F.
Jan 14th	Patrician Movement	Hank C.
Jan 21st	Patrician Movement	Hank C.
Jan 21st	Edgewood High School	Allan P.
Jan 28th	Patrician Movement	Hank C.
Feb 10	So. San School District	Bob W.
Feb 18th	Shenendoah Church of Christ	Bill F.

The Pre-Conference Workshop will be held on 28 & 29 March 1981 at the Holiday Inn-Northwest, 6023 NW Expwy, San Antonio, Tx. Noon meal will be served on Saturday-Cost \$5.95. Coffee and Danish will be served Sunday Morning-Cost \$1.00. Special speakers meeting Saturday nite. Registration 8:30 - 9:00 Sat Morn. For room reservations, call toll free 1-800-238-8000. Do you want your suggestions, ideas or gripes aired at the General Service Conference? Attend the meeting!

Groups responsible for taking the meetings to the SALLY

March 4th	Audubon Group
11th	Audubon Group
18th	Young Peoples Group
25th	Young Peoples Group

For the Month of April: The Tejas Group.

Groups Responsible for the ARC meetings:

For the month of March: The Lytle Group.
For the month of April: The Valley Hi Group.

Groups responsible for the Villa Rosa Meetings:

March 3rd	Laurel Hts. Group
10th	Northwest Group
17th	Young Peoples Group
24th	Callaghan Group
31st	Northwest Group
April 7th	Young Peoples Group
14th	Callaghan Group
21st	Wesley Group
28th	Group 12

We are indebted to John H. for the following:

If AA is for you today,
Then let it be tomorrow,
For every moment of sober breath
Relieves so much burdensome sorrow.

The following is in memory of Pat Gannon. Nightcap is proud to end this edition with this memorial.

DAILY PRAYER & A HAPPY DEATH

Pat Gannon moved to San Antonio from the Chicago land area ten years ago. He had become sober in Illinois, and continued his sobriety throughout the years in San Antonio. Pat returned to Chicago in December 1980 to visit friends and relatives and to be at the graveside of his wife Evelyn whom he had buried just one year prior.

After placing a wreath on the grave, he stepped inside St. Marys Church. As always, he carried with him a well-worn prayer book with scripture reflections for every day of the year and a copy of a widowers prayer expressing a longing to be reunited with his wife in Heaven.

In the quiet of the church, his prayer was answered. Another visitor to the church found him lying near the Blessed Mother's Shrine. A rescue squad worked an hour, but was unable to revive him.

In his jacket they found his "Twenty-Four Book" with a marker placed at the prayer for that day, December 30th.

Father William Quinlan said at the funeral, "Pat prayed the last day and last moments of his life as he apparently had all the days of his life. May he rest in peace and may we all learn a lesson on the value of daily prayer.

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE-SAN ANTONIO, TX
RECEIVED FEBRUARY 23, 1981

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
Alamo Heights	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	Open Door	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Audubon	-0-	-0-	Park North	-0-	50.00
Broadway	-0-	20.00	Randolph Fellowship	-0-	-0-
Callaghan	25.00	50.00	Reality	-0-	-0-
Coker	-0-	-0-	Reliance	-0-	-0-
Colonies North	-0-	-0-	Sahara	-0-	-0-
Downtown	-0-	-0-	Sally Group	-0-	-0-
Eisenhauer Step	-0-	-0-	Santa Fe	-0-	-0-
Esperanza	-0-	-0-	SASH	-0-	30.00
First Step	-0-	-0-	Schertz	-0-	-0-
Ft Sam Houston	40.00	80.00	Serenity	15.00	30.00
Frontier	-0-	-0-	Southwest Loop	-0-	-0-
Goliad	20.00	40.00	Spiritual Life	-0-	-0-
Group Twelve	100.00	200.00	Stepping Stones	-0-	-0-
Grupo Del Sol	8.00	8.00	Summit	-0-	120.00
Grupo Unidad	7.00	7.00	Sunset	-0-	-0-
Haven	30.00	70.00	Tejas	-0-	150.00
Helotes	-0-	-0-	Lytle	-0-	-0-
Highlands	20.00	40.00	Triangle	-0-	-0-
Kingsboro	5.00	10.00	Twenty-Four Hour	-0-	-0-
Lambda	5.00	10.00	Universal City	-0-	-0-
Laurel Heights	-0-	15.00	VA Hospital	-0-	-0-
Marymont	-0-	-0-	Valley-Hi	40.00	80.00
Mens Group	-0-	-0-	Villa Rosa	28.00	28.00
Northeast	-0-	45.00	Wesley	-0-	-0-
North San Pedro	20.00	40.00	Wilford Hall	-0-	-0-
Northwest	-0-	-0-	Windcrest	-0-	50.00
Northwood	-0-	-0-	Young Peoples	-0-	-0-

15 GROUPS - \$ 403.00
Buck-a-Month 412.00

AREA

Floresville Group	-0-	15.00	Starlight Village	-0-	15.00
Individual Contributions		34.00			
Memorial Contributions--Stepping Stones Group for Bob S. Harold S. for Bob S.					

BUCK-A-MONTH CONTRIBUTION FORM

DATE _____

Central Service Office - 109 Lexington Ave. - Suite 215 - San Antonio, Tx 78205
Please enter my subscription to Buck-a-Month for _____ months.

NAME _____ STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____