



The Nightcap

THE NIGHTCAP IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE
103 RENNER, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201 PHONE NUMBER 512-733-7562/6876
OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM MON-FRI 24 HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE
SAT 10 AM to 3 PM

VOL. 17

MARCH 1987

NO. 3

Convention Clipboard

MAR 13-15: 8th Annual Las Vegas Young People's Round-Up of Alcoholics Anonymous. Write Round-Up Committee, P. O. Box 60657, Las Vegas, Nevada 89160.

MAR 20-22: 33rd Coastal Bend AA Jamboree, Corpus Christi, Texas, La Quinta Royale. Write AA Jamboree Chairman, 2833 Norton St., Suite 208, Corpus Christi, TX 78415.

APR 3-5: AA's 42nd Anniversary in San Antonio (Weekend in SA with AA), La Mansion del Norte. Write Chairman, P. O. Box 16845, San Antonio, Texas, 78216.

APR 24-26: 3rd Annual Heart of Texas (HOT) AA Conference, Waco, Texas. Write Heart of Texas Conference, P. O. Box 897, Hewitt, Texas 76643.

MAY 28-31: 42nd Texas State AA Convention, Marriott Hotel, Dallas, Texas. Write Committee Treasurer, 703 Kirkwood Dr., Dallas, TX 75218.

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

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

NEWS FROM MEDINA VALLEY

Bob G. and Jewell R. have resigned as the Medina Valley AA Group GSR and Alternate GSR, respectively. The Group thankfully accepted L. H. (Slim) R. for temporary GSR and Ben B. as temporary Alternate GSR to serve out the balance of the terms of these vacated positions.

The Medina Valley Group also wishes to announce that they celebrate AA birthdays on the second Thursday of the month.

PRE-GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The Southwest Area of Texas will be hosting the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop on April 11, 12, 1987, at the Holiday Inn, 1051 I-35 East, New Braunfels, Texas 78130.

Make reservations directly to the Inn at (512) 625-8017. Special room rates are \$40 for any size room.

The Workshop begins with registration at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 11 and ends at noon on Sunday, April 12. All GSRs are encouraged to attend.

Marty N., Area Sec.

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

IS YOUR GROUP BEING SUBSIDIZED?

Is your group being subsidized? If it's not contributing to GSO, CSO, or the Area then yes, your group is being subsidized..because it is accepting service, but letting other groups foot the bill. Some AA's might even think that the contributing groups are in violation of our Tradition of self-support. If they take but never give; if, for example--their GSRs are receiving regular mailings (for the group's information) from New York and the Area; if they take advantage of the convenience of buying literature from the Central Office, if they rely on the Central Office to correctly list their meeting information in the directory; if they regularly pay their rent, exchange coin for coffee at the grocery store but look on contributions to the Service Structure as a "luxury" then they surely aren't self-supporting.

Newly formed groups or groups that cannot afford it are not expected to contribute. But, let's be honest...how many of these groups have we?

PENAL COMMITTEE DONATION

The Stahl Road AA Group has made a contribution of \$6.00 for purchase of literature for the Penal Committee to take to Texas Department of Corrections AA members.

Keep up the good work!

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

MARCH HAPPENINGS AT CLUB 12

A St. Patrick's Day Dance will be held on Saturday, March 14, from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight at Club 12.

Come dance to the music of the Cherokee Band--\$3.00 per person.

* * * * *

Games Night will be held on Saturday, March 21, at Club 12.

* * * * *

Club 12 will celebrate Birthday Night on Friday, March 27.

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

SPECIAL SPEAKER

Oscar W. will speak at Club 12 on Sunday, March 8, at 11 a.m.

Oscar has 47 years of sobriety and is believed that he has the most sobriety of any living AA member today.

Come hear a real oldtimer!

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

WINNER'S CLUB SPECIAL

The Winner's Club will have a St. Patrick's Day Dance on Saturday, March 21. The festivities begin at 9 p.m. and will continue until 1 a.m.

Come join the leprechauns and dance to Ron R.'s music!

(SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE MEETING WILL BE HELD FROM 7:30 to 8:30 THIS NIGHT ONLY)

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

W A N T E D

AMBASSADORS TO CARRY THE MESSAGE

TO THEIR GROUPS OR TO MEETINGS THEY

ATTEND! WE NEED TO START TALKING UP

SAN ANTONIO'S FIRST 3-DAY CONVENTION

TO CELEBRATE 42 YEARS OF AA IN SA

PLUS OUR FIRST CONVENTION! HELP

GET THE WORD OUT! OTHER LARGE CITIES

HAVE HAD THEIR CONVENTIONS FOR YEARS

AND IT'S ABOUT TIME WE HAD OURS!!!

The 3-day convention will take the place of the usual 1-day AA Anniversary we have had in the past.

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

NEW GROUPS, NEW MEETINGS AND CHANGES

THE NORTH SAN PEDRO AA GROUP meets at 1605 Timber Oak at the Presbyterian Church, on Thursday at 8:15 p.m. This is an Open Discussion meeting.

THE PALISADES AA GROUP meets on Monday at 8:15 p.m. at the Hill Country Hospital, 8205 Palisades between 1604 and Pat Booker Road. This is an Open Discussion group.

THE CREEKVIEW YOUNG PEOPLE'S AA GROUP meets on Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. at 8600 Wurzbach, Suite 601. This is an Open Discussion meeting.

THE ALAMO HEIGHTS AA GROUP now meets at 8 p.m. on Mondays, 1300 Wiltshire Blvd, St. David's Episcopal Church.

NEW GROUP in Castroville with first meeting on Saturday, February 28, from 8 to 9:15 p.m. in the Baptist Church on Highway 90 across the street from the cemetery. This is an Open Discussion Meeting. A NEW AL-ANON meeting will be held at the same time. A NEW AL-ANON meeting is also in Hondo. Same time and place (Gill Savings Bldg.) as the AA meeting--Monday at 8:15 p.m.

SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to thank all those who gave of their time to work at the AA booth at the National Association of Secondary School Principals convention on February 6th through 9th, and also those who volunteered but were not needed. Your willingness and help was much appreciated.

The turn-out was good and much interest was shown, especially from professionals from the coastal areas and Canada. All those who inquired will receive packets of literature from the General Service Office and may be able to help many of their students and fellow-professionals.

The ability of each AA member to identify himself with and bring recovery to the newcomer is a gift from God--passing on this gift to others is our one aim. Sobriety can't be kept unless it is given away...(from Tradition Five of the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.)

Thank you again,

Carolyn B., PIC (Media)

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

NEWS FROM FRIO COUNTY

The Frio County AA Group of Pearsall has changed its name to the "Come As You Are Group," and is now meeting at the old Frio County School House, located on Pecan St., next to the Jail Museum and City Park.

Meetings are held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights at 8 p.m. and are open meetings. There is a new open Womens' meeting on Sunday at 3 p.m. at the same location.

There are two new meetings in Dilley at the Wintergarden Hospital on Tuesday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; there is also a new meeting in Cotulla on Monday night at 8:15 at the old Parish Hall across from the City Park and needs SOLID support.

We always look forward to you driving out to visit with us--for further information, call our secretary, Jim D., or GSR, Anne D., at 334-8143 or 334-4464.

Anne D., Pearsall

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORT
DISTRICT 1-F

The month of February was a busy one, starting off with the Southwest Texas Area Workshop, held in Temple on the 31st of January and ending on the 1st of February.

Directories for the Spanish Speaking Groups in the State were given to the Hospital and Institution Chairperson and the Public Information Chairperson, as well as to the Area Officers. San Antonio Spanish Speaking Group Directories were also handed out.

The same information was given to the State Hispanic Assembly held in Houston on February 13-15 and an update of the State Directory is also being worked on.

Grupo Internacional is now in-active until they find a new meeting location.

The District also has a list of Spanish speaking members who are willing to make 12-step calls and hold Spanish meetings in area hospitals, on request.

District 1-F will deeply miss Alice at the Central Service Office, and wish her continued SOBRIETY and happiness in whatever she chooses to do.

The following are activities I have attended in my job as DCM:

- Nov 3: Internacional Group Meeting
- Nov 5: Kingsboro meeting
- Nov 6: Wesley Group
- Nov 7: Grupo del Sol meeting
- Nov 8: CSO Workshop
- Nov 13: Christmas Party Meeting
- Nov 14: El Libro Grande Meeting
- Nov 15: CSO Workshop
- Nov 15: Grupo Unidad Meeting
- Nov 16: CSO Meeting
- Nov 18: Santa Fe Group Meeting
- Nov 19: GSR Meeting/Kingsboro Meeting
- Nov 30: Intergrupul Meeting
- Dec 1: Intergrupul meeting about PI
- Dec 14: PI meeting at St. Leo's Church
- Dec 19: Christmas Party, Christ the King Church
- Jan 17: CSOC meeting at Club 12
- Jan 31: 2-Day SW Texas Area Workshop
- Feb 13: 3-Day State Hispanic Assembly

I want to do the job you have entrusted me with, but I need some input as to what else I may do to better serve you! Please feel free to call me and let me know if there is anything I can do to better serve you.

Linda G.

The Third Tradition

*The only requirement for
A.A. membership is a desire
to stop drinking.*

Isn't every organization entitled to have rules for membership? Why did AA decide to forego this privilege, to be "inclusive...never exclusive"? That's easy. Early members tried it the other way, and it just didn't work. As the Fellowship was nearing its ten-year mark, the office that served as headquarters "asked the groups to list their membership rules and send them in," Bill W. recalled. "If all of these edicts had been in force everywhere at once, it would have been practically impossible for any alcoholic to have ever joined AA. About nine-tenths of our oldest and best members could never have got by!" So the rule books went out the window and were replaced by one uncomplicated sentence: Tradition Three.

But, somebody may ask, isn't this Tradition itself a rule? It does state *one* requirement for membership. Let's read it again, and ask another question: Who determines whether or not newcomers qualify, whether they do want to stop drinking? Obviously, nobody except the newcomers themselves; everybody else simply has to take their word for it. In fact, they don't even have to say it aloud. And that's fortunate for many of us who arrived at AA with only a halfhearted desire to stay sober. We are alive because the AA road stayed open to us.

The problem faced by this Tradition isn't just past AA history. It keeps coming up--for instance, when a group debates whether to exclude alcoholics who are also hooked on other drugs. The Tradition mentions no such negative requirements, no demand that the prospective member must not be a "pill" addict, a homosexual, an ex-convict, a person with a record of mental illness. All alcoholics are welcome.

What about the group that seems to impose extra positive requirements, beyond "a desire to stop drinking"? This might be a "special interest" group or collection of

groups in which, for example, each member must be a physician--or a young person, a man, a woman, a priest, or a law-enforcement officer. By their own account, those who belong to International Doctors in AA or Young People in AA consider themselves AA members first, and they attend general-membership meetings as well as those that fill their other individual needs, while remaining devoted to AA's primary purpose.

These "special interest" groups offer only one instance of the wide variety within the Fellowship. Our Traditions allow unparalleled freedom, not only to every AA member, but to every AA group.

(Reprinted with permission of AAWS)

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

H O W I T W A S . . .

Larry K., a friend of mine, told me that his sponsor clued him in on what the Big Book really says about our stories. His sponsor, Ted W., said that many speakers rattle off "how it was, what happened, and how it is now," but that is not what Chapter 5 states.

He explained to Larry that it says "how we were" not how it was. There's a big difference. He said "how it was" would refer to how things were outside of me but "how we were" refers to how things are inside me.

He added that "what happened" also means what changes occurred inside me, not events that are outside of me.

The same goes for "how we are now." This deals with how I am today--emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

Old Ted knows what he is talking about and I am very grateful to Larry for passing along the right way to tell my story.

"Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now."

Thanks, Ted!

Anonymous

March Birthdays 1987

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

20 Years

Charles C.

17 Years

Dick T.
Fred D.

15 Years

John P.
Chuck C.

13 Years

Kaye N.
Jeff O'C.

12 Years

R. W. B.

11 Years

Dale B.
Jack H.

10 Years

Bill O.
Dave S.
Bob S.

9 Years

Juan S.
Lalo A.

8 Years

Richard D.
Ray A.

7 Years

Dinah B.
Bob B.

6 Years

Georgianna W.
Steve S.
Diana B.
Marilyn J.
E. B. M.
Marge F.
Josh F.
Bick E.
Laurie P.

5 Years

Linda T.
Carol M.
Dave M.
Jewell R.

4 Years

Suzanne S.
Jo S.
Robert B.
Jim J.
Justin W.

3 Years

Nancy B.
Mario C.
Kris DeJ.
Moe B.
Robert K.
Michael D.
Bill H.
Bob P.
Austin F.

2 Years

Harris N.
William M.
Jack H.
Debbie G.
Larry B.
Annie D.
Nadine McC.

2 Years (cont)

Doug B.
Vivian R.
Irvin S.
Dee L.

1 Year

Jack G.
Nan E.
Ernie H.
David G.
Ed K.
L. J. H.
Dee M.
Tim E.
Jimmie S.
Robert B.
Gerry F.
Sandra W.
Jan T.
Gabriel O'C.
Stephanie W.



Happy Birthday
Feliz Cumpañños

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

T O Y O U A L L !

AA AA

BIRTHDAY PLAN

Have you contributed to the Central Service Office BIRTHDAY PLAN? To become a contributing member of this plan, just send \$1.00 for each year of your sobriety to: CSO, 103 Renner, San Antonio, TX 78201.

Be sure to mark your check "Birthday Plan."

Any contribution is welcomed!!!

AA AA

Many thanks to those who took advantage of our enclosed envelope in the last issue, to send in an individual contribution--your contribution in any amount, to help pay for the printing of THE NIGHTCAP is greatly appreciated! KEEP UP YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS and THE NIGHTCAP will continue to be available at no cost to you!

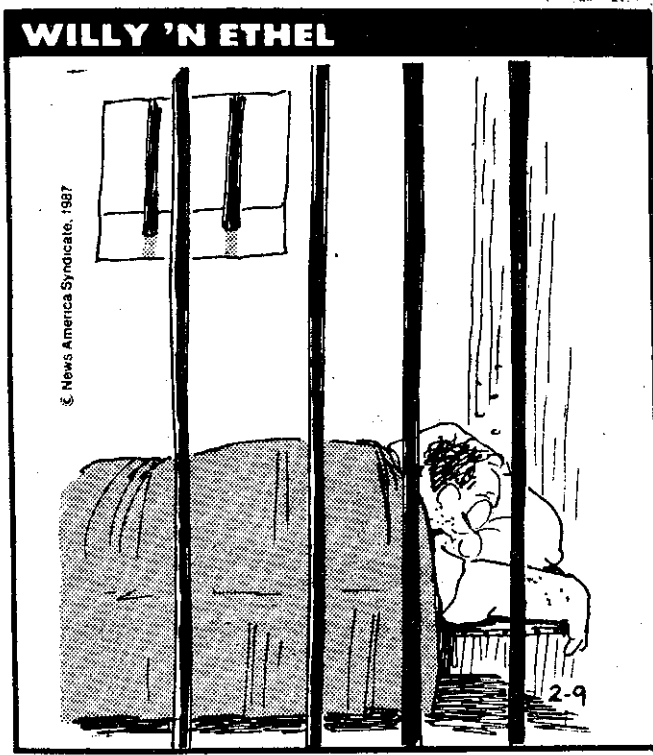
CSO Staff

AA AA

MARCH 1987

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Starlite Birthdays
8 Oscar W. speaks at Club 12	9	10 CSO Admin Board Meeting 7 p.m.	11	12 Medina Valley Birthdays	13	14 Club 12 Dance District 1-A Meeting
15 GSR Meeting at Club 12, 7 p.m. Golliad BBQ at 6 p.m.	16	17 ST. PATRICKS DAY	18	19	20 DEADLINE FOR APRIL NIGHTCAP!	21 Winner's Club Dance. Games Night at Club 12.
22	23	24	25 Park North, 24-Hr. & Northwood Birthdays	26 Southside Group Birthdays & North San Pedro Group Birthdays	27 Birthday Nights at: El Libro Grande, Downtown, Freedom, Colonies North, Brookhollow, Club 12, Schertz, Marymont. Marymont Potluck.	28 Winners Club Birthdays; Lambda Birthdays & Potluck.
29	30 Alamo Heights Birthdays	31 Valley Hi and Windcrest Birthdays				

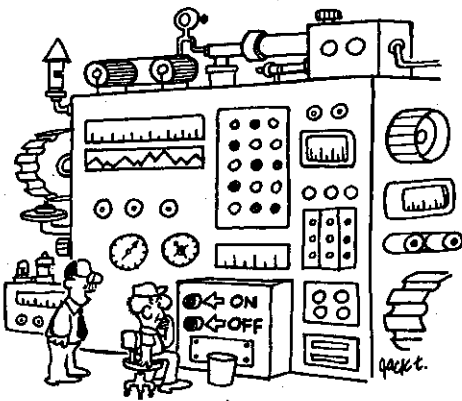
Jokes * * Jokes * * Jokes



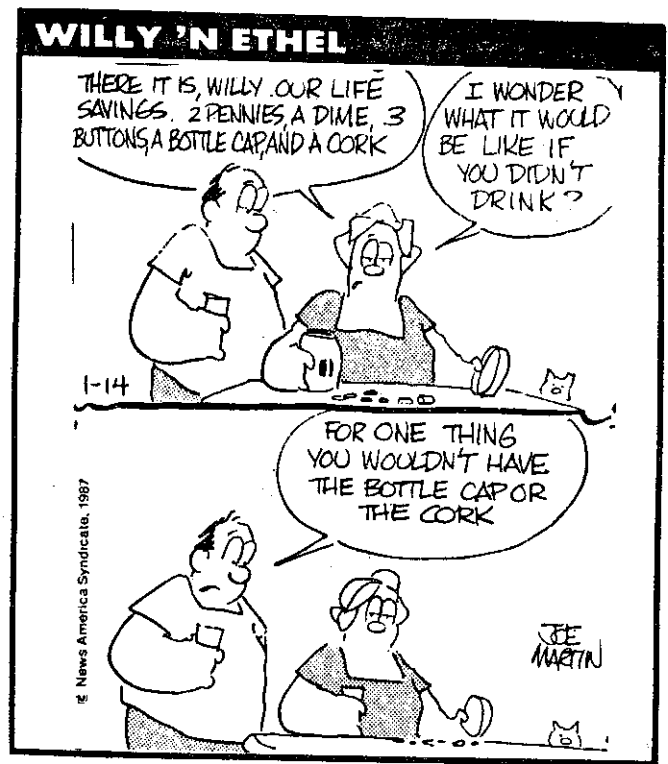
"Hon ... before I even open my eyes, how much trouble am I in for last night?"



"THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LITTLE WOMAN, HERBIE. SHE'S NOT SO LITTLE."



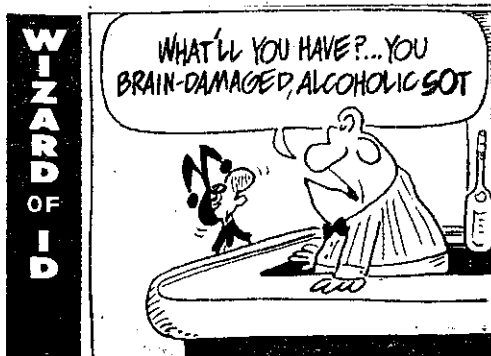
"Remember... Keep It Simple!"



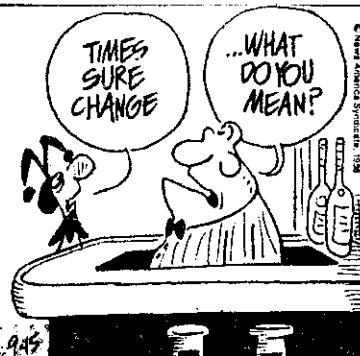
THERE IT IS, WILLY. OUR LIFE SAVINGS. 2 PENNIES A DIME, 3 BUTTONS, A BOTTLE CAP, AND A CORK

I WONDER WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE IF YOU DIDN'T DRINK?

FOR ONE THING YOU WOULDN'T HAVE THE BOTTLE CAP OR THE CORK



WHAT'LL YOU HAVE?... YOU BRAIN-DAMAGED, ALCOHOLIC SOT



TIMES SURE CHANGE

...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



JUST A FEW YEARS AGO I WAS A "REGULAR"

GROUP/INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED JAN 1987

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>DISTRICT 1-A</u>	<u>MO.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
W Abundance Happy Hour		42.05	42.05
W Big Book		3.96	3.96
W Ladies Siesta		12.00	12.00
W Mobud Round Table		23.25	23.25
W Morning After		47.20	47.20
W Sat Night Live		41.44	41.44
W Summit Step Study		24.47	24.47
W Turning Point		26.41	26.41
Villa Rosa		50.00	50.00
	<u>DISTRICT 1-B</u>		
Colonial Hills		16.36	16.36
Oblate		100.00	100.00
Ranger Creek		30.00	30.00
Twelve		120.00	120.00
Dietz Elkhorn		60.00	60.00
	<u>DISTRICT 1-C</u>		
Alamo Heights		36.00	36.00
Brookhollow		26.00	26.00
Freedom		75.00	75.00
Marymont		60.00	60.00
Stahl Road		36.00	36.00
	<u>DISTRICT 1-D</u>		
Northeast		70.00	70.00
Universal City		60.00	60.00
	<u>DISTRICT 1-E</u>		
Fresh Start		19.31	19.31
Goliad		60.00	60.00
Highland		25.00	25.00
Medina Valley		19.80	19.80
	<u>DISTRICT 1-F</u>		
Kingsboro		7.50	7.50
Santa Fe		24.00	24.00
TOTALS		1121.75	1121.75

AREA CONTRIBUTIONS

Hondo	60.00	60.00
-------	-------	-------

W = Winner's Club

* * * * *

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS- JAN 1987

Katie J.
Lolual B.
Henry I.
John H.



Please come in. There is always room for one more!

BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

Dee S. (28 Years) 28.00
Judy R. (1 Year) 1.00

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Jerry McC. for Charles S.
G & J for Michael C.

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

SPECIAL NOTICE

DISTRICT 1-A: A sharing session and business meeting will be held at the Winner's Club on Saturday, March 14th at 4 p.m.

Everyone is welcome and GSR's and their Alternates from District 1-A are encouraged to attend.

Bob B.
DCM, 1-A

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

V O L U N T E E R S
N E E D E D

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

Volunteers are needed to take AA meetings to the Bexar County Jail! Call the Central Service Office at 733-6876 and leave your name and phone number. We'll have an orientation in mid-March and decide on times we can carry in the message of AA. Thanks!

Tom B.

AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA AA

Just a reminder that the NIGHTCAP is a free publication. Just send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list. Our purpose is to keep you aware of what's going on in the "AA world" and to give you the opportunity to share your experience, strength, and hope; to keep up with AA happenings, new groups, new meetings, and upcoming events. Please send us your news by the 20th of the month.

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE
103 RENNER
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201

Address Correction Requested

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
Permit No. 2807
San Antonio, Texas

Let Us Know BEFORE You Move!