



# 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

VOL. 17

MAY 1987

NO. 5

## Convention Clipboard

### DISTRICT 1-F COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORT

MAY 22-25: Big D Roundup, Dallas Hilton Inn, 5600 N. Central Expressway at Mockingbird, Dallas, TX 75206 (214) 827-4100. Write Registration Chairman, Big D Roundup, P. O. Box 191174, Dallas, Texas 75219.

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

JUNE 5-7: Wholeness Retreat-Workshop, St. Joseph's Retreat House, 127 Oblate Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78216 (512) 349-4173. This retreat-workshop is for AA's, Al-Anon, and ACA's. Cost is \$40 plus \$20 registration fee.

(For more detailed information on any of the above, please call your Central Service Office: 733-6876 or 733-7562.

On the 8th of March, at 1 p.m., a meeting was held at the Intergrupal Hispano to organize the first District Workshop which was held on April 5th from 1 to 5:30 p.m. at 3210 W. Commerce. The theme of the workshop was "I AM RESPONSIBLE."

The Intergrupal Hispano Newsletter, BOLETIN EL SOL, has again been re-started. Copies are sent to Dallas, Houston, and El Paso Intergrupales Hispanas. I would like to thank those members of the District who have worked so hard to re-new the newsletter.

The District also had a meeting for "Old Timers," 10 years and older, at Christ the King Church on March 29th with refreshments being served after the meeting and had lots of FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!!

Linda G., DCM

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### APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

Don't be a "wall-flower"--come to the Winners Club at 5719 Mobud, on Saturday, May 16th. This will be our last chance to dance until further notice! Come one, come all--but watch this space for an important announcement in the June issue!

The dance will be held from 9 p.m. till 1 a.m.; cost is \$3.00 for advance tickets--\$3.50 if purchased at door!

NOTE: The Saturday Night Live speakers meeting will be held from 7:30 to 8:30 on this night only.

Call 680-5496 for more information.

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### DISTRICT 1-A MEETING

District 1-A will hold a sharing session on Saturday, May 16, 1987 at the Winners Club at 4 p.m.

All GSR's and Alternate GSR's are urged to attend.

Fred D., DCM

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### CHANGE IN HOURS AT CSO

WE WILL NO LONGER BE OPEN ON SATURDAYS!!

N O T I C E

The Spanish Intergroup will be open Monday through Friday from 10:45 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The address is 3210 West Commerce, telephone 434-1628.

Ramon

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NEW GROUPS+++NEW MEETINGS+++CHANGES

THE CANTERBURY GROUP (NEW) meets at San Antonio College (SAC), 315 W. Dewey, in the Episcopal Student Center. The meetings are held on Mondays at 2 p.m. and are open discussion.

+ + + + + + +

THE SUNDAY MEETING OF THE COME BACK GROUP which met at the VA Hospital has been cancelled.

+ + + + + + +

A WOMEN'S MEETING has been added to the DOWNTOWN GROUP. This meeting is held on Monday Nights at 8:15 p.m. and is a closed discussion.

+ + + + + + +

THE LAMBDA GROUP has added three new meetings to its schedule:

Monday thru Friday, 5:30 p.m., Open Discussion

Saturday, 11 a.m., Open Discussion and Brunch

Sunday, 11 a.m., Open Discussion

+ + + + + + +

THE WANDERERS GROUP will be camping out at Inks Lake State Park on May 8, 9, and 10. Come and join us for campfire meetings and lots of fun!

For more information contact Monica T., 684-1971, or call Joan & Jim, in Austin, at 1-250-1417.

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The Downtown Group is moving from 110 McCullough to the old Reuss Restaurant on the corner of Commerce and Hackberry. On May 1 the regularly scheduled meetings will resume in a bigger and better place. WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!

# In Memoriam

JOE Q., died Thursday, March 26, 1987 in San Antonio, of a heart attack. He will be missed by his many AA friends.

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

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THE FIRST TEN YEARS ARE THE HARDEST

Looking back, I can now see that my progress in AA was painfully slow. In fact, after a few years, I complained to my sponsor that I didn't see much progress at all. He assured me I was mistaken and that he could see lots of positive changes in me.

"Like what?" I asked. "Just look back 3 years. Compare your life then to what it is now. What is better now?" he challenged. So, I sat down and tried to remember how I was when I joined AA. For starters, I was broke. I still had a job, but that was it: and my health was in sad shape--hypertension, blood clots, you name it. My life at that point was unmanageable and had no purpose. My boss was trying to fire me. My wife had evicted me and divorced me. So, things were not too great.

After 3 years, I had a new job, my health was much better, my life was being managed pretty well, I had a few bucks in the bank and, most important, I was sober and had purpose in life.

But, it took another 3 years before I felt comfortable in AA--before I could accept you as you are. I did not trust you because I did not know you and I am a slow learner in many ways. As time passed, I began to understand that spiritual progress is my goal, not spiritual perfection. (The Big Book tried to tell me something about this.) Finally after 10 years, I reached a turning point, a milestone. At that point, I realized I was now able to accept myself as I am, strengths and weaknesses, warts and all! What a relief! Since then, my life has been richer in serenity, peace of mind, and freedom.

It took a long time, but the first 10 years were the hardest!!

Anonymous

# May Birthdays

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

29 Years

Bob R.

17 Years

Jen Rose W.

22 Years

Tom B.

19 Years

John R.  
Polly W.

17 Years

Harold "Dutch" D.  
Les P.

15 Years

William B.

14 Years

Grant S.

13 Years

Jean B.

12 Years

Maury H.  
Theda S.  
Dick T.  
Evelyn W.

11 Years

Clara H.

10 Years

James W.  
Steve C.

9 Years

Joyce H.  
Orville M.

8 Years

Alberto M.  
Kathy P.  
Larry Y.

7 Years

Margaret M.  
Steve R.  
Jackie J.

6 Years

Kim C.  
William M.

5 Years

M. P. "Nard" T.  
Joe R.

4 Years

Patrick C.  
Stephanie F.  
Tommy W.  
Donald H.  
Joan H.  
Clinton W.

3 Years

Carol M.  
Liz H.  
Liz L.  
Carol C.  
David G.  
Lylas W.  
Gary L.

2 Years

Sharon R.  
Bill H.  
Michael K.  
John C.

1 Year

Jerry P.  
Franca D.  
Tom H.  
Patrick K.  
Andria P.  
Kevin C.  
Eris M.  
Michael K.  
Carl R.  
Brett C.  
Donna D.

BELATED MARCH  
BIRTHDAY:

1 Year

Vincent E.



Happy Birthday  
Feliz Cumpleaños

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

## BIRTHDAY PLAN

*Many thanks to those who contributed to the Birthday Plan last month!*

*If you have not donated to the Birthday Plan, just send \$1.00 for each year of sobriety, or 1¢ for each day of sobriety to CSO, 103 Renner, San Antonio, TX 78201.*

*Remember to note on your check that the donation is for the "Birthday Plan."*

*Any contribution is welcomed!!!*

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*KEEP UP YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE NIGHTCAP WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE TO YOU AT NO COST!*

MARYMONT GROUP announces that Wally G. has assumed treasurer duties from Arn G. They are grateful to Arn for his service as secretary/treasurer.

# MAY 1987

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
						Starlite Birthdays
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		CSO Admin Board meeting 7 p.m.		Medina Valley Group Birthdays		Club 12: Chili Cook-off & Dance. Winners Club: Last chance to dance.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
GSR Meeting at Club 12, 7 p.m. Goliad Barbecue 6 p.m.			DEADLINE FOR NEWS FOR JUNE NIGHTCAP.			Club 12: Games.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED CSO CLOSED Alamo Heights Birthdays	Valley Hi & Windcrest Birthdays	Park North, Group 24, & Northwood Birthdays	North San Pedro & Southside Group Birthdays	Birthdays at: Club 12, El Libro Grande, Downtown, Freedom, Colonies North, Brookhollow, Marymont & Schertz. Marymont Potluck.	Audubon & Winners Club & Lambda Birthdays; Lambda Potluck.
31						

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 18, 1987

MINUTES

The meeting was opened by Gary L., Acting Chairman, with the Serenity Prayer. The CSO Guidelines were read by Candy E. Mae W. read the Twelve Traditions. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Gary L. and approved as read.

The Administrative Board Report was presented by Fred D. Fred gave the details of the CSO financial picture as Wayne B., Financial Chairman, was out of town. He explained that we lost \$1,000 this month but as of this year to date we were ahead about \$3K. He said that CSO was in good financial health as long as contributions from the groups stayed at the present level and the groups kept on making literature purchases at the present level.

Fred then delivered a glowing report on the efforts made by Wayne B. in giving freely of his time and talents in keeping an accurate and orderly financial record.

Cindy B., H&I Committee Chairman asked for groups to take meetings to the following places during the month of May. Also shown are the results of her request:

MONDAY DETOX	GOLIAD GROUP
HILL COUNTRY HOSPITAL	OBLATE GROUP & DISTRICT 1-B
STATE HOSPITAL	LAMBDA GROUP
HUMANA METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL	YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
CHARTER REAL	VILLA ROSA GROUP
SALVATION ARMY	NEW ACCEPTANCE GROUP
SAMMS SHELTER	CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER
THURSDAY DETOX	WINNERS CLUB HAPPY HOUR GROUP
CASA DEL SOL	DOWNTOWN GROUP
CHEST HOSPITAL	SOUTHSIDE GROUP
PARKSIDE RECOVERY HOSPITAL	FREEDOM GROUP
ARC	SOUTHWEST LOOP GROUP
OUR LADY OF THE SPIRIT	GROUP 12 HAPPY HOUR GROUP

At this point, Cindy B. announced her resignation from the H&I Committee due to the lack of support from the AA community.

Mailing Chairman--Vacant, no report.

PI Chairman--Jerri McC. present, no report.

CPC Chairman--Gordon M. present, no report.

Penal Chairman--John R. reported that he had \$380.00 in Penal Funds including an \$84 donation by the Northwood Group. In the past month there have been visits to five different prisons and they delivered one case of Big Books. Next month he hopes to deliver three cases of Big Books. At the present time there are only nine men qualified to make visits to the prisons. There have been several men taken off the list because of inactivity. Anyone wanting to visit the prisons can apply at CSO. He then requested that the CSO Committee approve sending 24 Hour books to the prisons because of the number of requests he has had for them. Danna G. made a motion to approve sending 24 Hour books to the prisons. The motion was then seconded. Bob B. pointed out that using groups' money to buy non-approved AA literature would be supporting an outside agency and therefore in conflict with the Sixth Tradition. Danna G. withdrew his motion.

Editorial Chairman--Vacant, no report.

Fred D. then read the minutes of the CSO Administrative Board meeting on April 14, 1987. They were approved as read.

Fred D. then presented a discussion on CSO Office Manager. He pointed out that in comparison to New York's pay scale our rate of \$6.00 per hour was low. He stated that we would soon need a new office manager as Richard P. would be leaving soon. He also expressed that losing Dee S. was a great loss. At the present time volunteers are needed to assist in CSO phone duties. Anyone interested can contact Al D.

# The Fifth Tradition

*Each group has but one primary purpose  
... to carry its message to the alcoholic  
who still suffers.*

Every newcomer learns (some of us the hard way) that the business of staying sober must have top priority. If we fail at that, we can't succeed at anything else. The Fifth Tradition tells us that groups should remember *their* "one primary purpose."

Often, unthinking enthusiasm puts a group off the main track. One, for instance, offered an "expanded A.A. program" that included helping newcomers to find jobs. Tradition Five doesn't frown on the individual A.A. who tells another about a good opening. But when the group turns itself into an employment agency, newcomers may get confused about *their* primary purpose. A.A.'s function is to help them get sober—then they can find work for themselves.

Using discretion, a member may lend a few dollars needed for a meal or a hotel room, or may even invite a broke alcoholic to be a temporary houseguest. But the A.A. group as a whole is not a friendly finance company, nor a welfare department, nor a housing bureau.

Even when acting on their own, as individual members, A.A. lay people certainly shouldn't award themselves honorary medical degrees and hand out diagnoses and prescriptions and amateur analyses of other people's neuroses. Exactly because this personal failing is so common, the A.A. group in all its dealings should be extra careful to emphasize that it is not invading the medical field. Through the personal experiences of its members, it is qualified to carry only one message: how an alcoholic can recover in A.A. That's all.

Yet one group recently felt itself equipped to set up an "alcoholism information center." The temptation is understandable; it was even stronger at the time this Tradition was written, because public ignorance about alcoholism as an illness was more widespread than it is now. Since then, other agencies have sprung up to assume the task of educating the general public on alcoholism. That is not A.A.'s purpose, but these agencies also are trying to help the active alcoholic. They are our friends—and Tradition Six marks the boundaries of the relationship. . . .

No matter how different  
our own

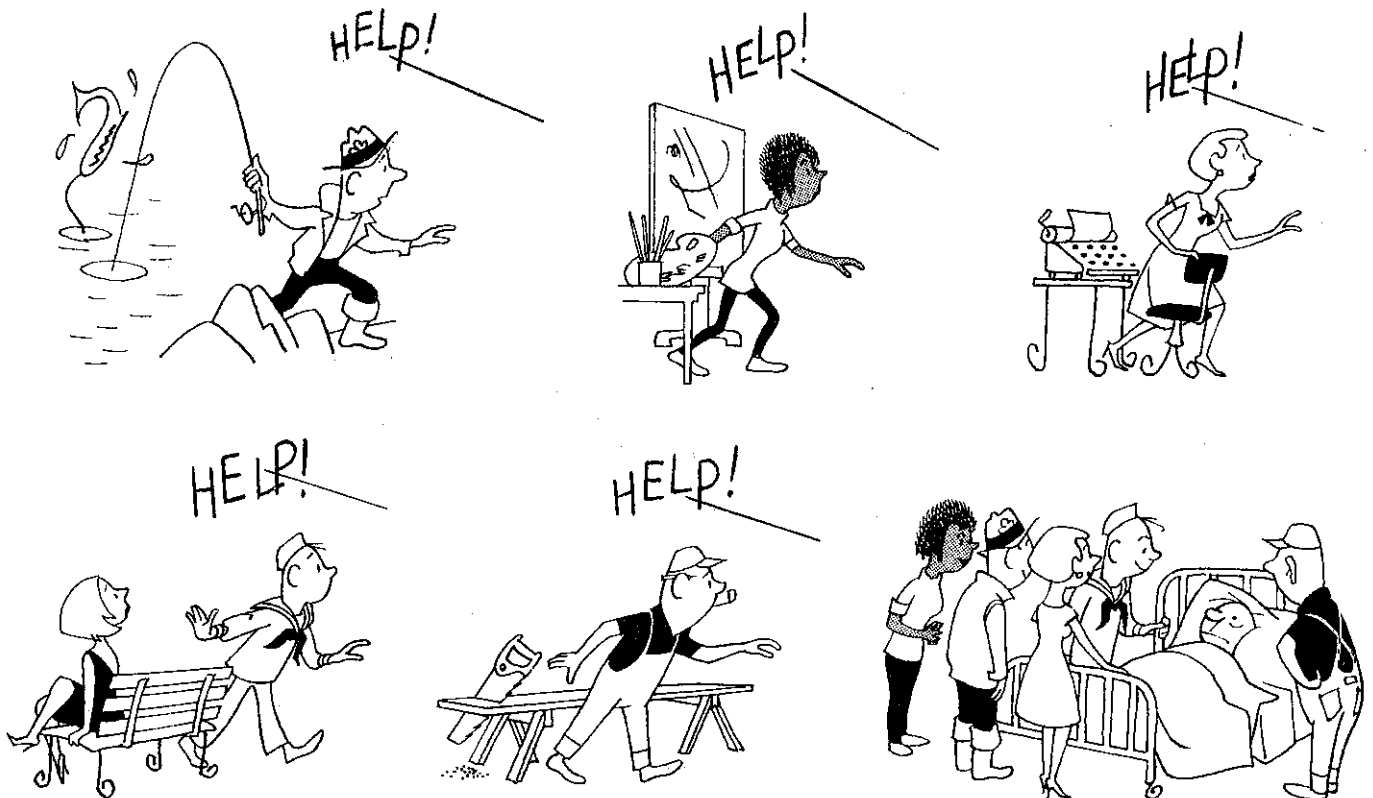
personal concerns,

we are all bound

together

by one common **RESPONSIBILITY**

... to carry the message  
to the suffering alcoholic.



# Jokes \* \* Jokes \* \* Jokes



AA AA AA

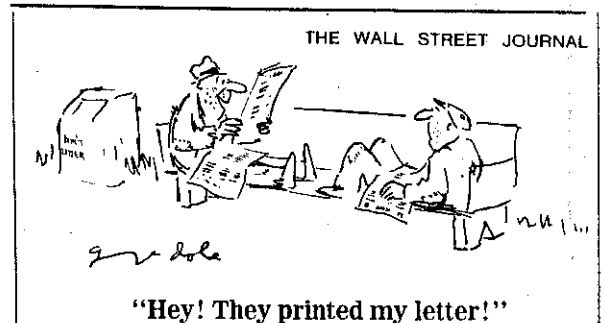
## ALCOHOLISM - HOW IT WORKS:

In approximately the following order, the alcoholic encounters attempts to help him or her:

- The psychiatrist tries to help and gives up.
- The employer warns and then gives up.
- The wife-husband tries and tries, finally gives up.
- The mother tries, she never gives up, of time makes it worse.
- The social worker works and works, but finally gives up.
- The parole officer gives up.
- And after the third or fourth admission, the hospital gives up.

YOU SEE, NOTHING REALLY HAPPENS UNTIL THE ALCOHOLIC GIVES UP!

"THIS IS NOTHING. YOU SHOULD SEE THE DOOR HE BUMPED INTO."



"Hey! They printed my letter!"

## WILLY 'N ETHEL



"I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU'D COUNT THIS AS A PARA-NORMAL EXPERIENCE, BUT WHEN I COME HOME LATE, WITH THE SMELL OF ALCOHOL ON MY BREATH, OBJECTS SEEMINGLY THROWN BY MY WIFE CATAPULT ACROSS THE ROOM AT ALARMING SPEEDS "

Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them, the rest of us could not succeed.

Mark Twain

This is no joke!  
We need MORE  
JOKES!

Please send  
us yours!

This is no joke  
either --

CSO will be CLOSED on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, for Memorial Day!!



CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED MARCH 1987

GROUP	DISTRICT 1-A	MO	YTD	GROUP	DISTRICT 1-E	MO	YTD
Northwest		30.00	30.00	Fresh Start			19.31
W Abundance		46.50	135.28	Frontier		19.58	32.80
Bandera			26.56	Goliad		60.00	240.00
W Mobud Big Book			3.96	Highland		25.00	50.00
W Mobud Roundtable			45.50	Medina Valley			29.80
W Morning After			105.00	SASH			150.00
Reality			2.00	Serenity			30.00
W Sat Night Live		40.54	81.98	Southwest Loop		20.00	20.00
W Siesta Ladies		10.00	22.00	Valley Hi		10.00	10.00
W Summit Step Study			24.47	Wilford Hall		60.00	60.00
W Turning Point			26.41	New Acceptance			25.00
Villa Rosa			50.00				
	DISTRICT 1-B				DISTRICT 1-F		
Boerne			96.00	Grupo Unidad			20.76
Callaghan Road			80.00	Kingsboro			18.20
Colonial Hills			16.36	Santa Fe			24.00
Dietz-Elkhorn			60.00				
Laurel Heights		66.00	175.50	TOTALS		806.56	4,480.83
Oak Hills			480.00				
Oblate			100.00				
Ranger Creek			30.00				
Twelve		120.00	360.00				
	DISTRICT 1-C						
Alamo Heights		36.00	108.00				
Brookhollow			48.00				
Easy Does It			28.00				
Freedom		5.94	164.94				
Marymont		60.00	180.00				
Northwood			60.00				
Reliance		20.00	53.00				
Stahl Road			36.00				
St. Paul		38.00	38.00				
Tejas			25.00				
Windcrest			40.00				
	DISTRICT 1-D						
Fort Sam Houston			180.00				
Downtown		20.00	40.00				
New Life			25.00				
Northeast		54.00	124.00				
Schertz			60.00				
Universal City		60.00	180.00				

W=Winners Club

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ON HUGGING

NOTICE: The Surgeon General has determined that hugging is good for your health!

HUGGING IS ALL NATURAL: Organic, naturally sweet, no pesticides, no preservatives, no artificial ingredients, 100% wholesome!

GROUP	DISTRICT 1-E	MO	YTD
Fresh Start			19.31
Frontier		19.58	32.80
Goliad		60.00	240.00
Highland		25.00	50.00
Medina Valley			29.80
SASH			150.00
Serenity			30.00
Southwest Loop		20.00	20.00
Valley Hi		10.00	10.00
Wilford Hall		60.00	60.00
New Acceptance			25.00
	DISTRICT 1-F		
Grupo Unidad			20.76
Kingsboro			18.20
Santa Fe			24.00
TOTALS		806.56	4,480.83

AREA CONTRIBUTIONS

Hondo	20.00	80.00
Marble Falls		60.00
TOTALS	20.00	240.00

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Judith R. for Michael C.

BIRTHDAY DONATIONS

L. J. H. (1 Year)	3.65
Frank L. (17 Years)	17.00
John C. (18 Years)	36.00
Dale B. (11 Years)	11.00
Total	\$67.65

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Bill R.  
Mark B.  
Ben A.  
Olivia C.  
Edward H.  
Elves S. and Myrl H.  
Debbie G.

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

HUGGING IS PRACTICALLY PERFECT: No movable parts, no batteries to wear out, no periodic checkups, low energy consumption, high energy yield, inflation proof, non-fattening, no monthly payments, no insurance requirements, theft proof, non-taxable, non-polluting, and of course, fully returnable!

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