



The Nightcap

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NO. 11

AREA CONFERENCE REPORT

The 32nd Annual Southwest Texas Area Assembly was held in Victoria, Texas, October 8, 9, & 10, 1982 at the Holiday Inn. District 7 (Beeville, Cuero, El Campo, George West, Palacios, Port Lavaca, Victoria, Yoakum & Yorktown) hosted the event. We of District 1 want to thank the hosts for the bang-up job they did. It was easy to tell that a lot of planning and coordination was done because everything went smoothly and all the comments were good. One of the speakers didn't show but I was kinda glad, otherwise I wouldn't have heard Tex R. speak. Now I have a better understanding of the definition of "rationalization". Four words about District's 7 hospitality room, "IT WAS JUST GREAT".

District 1 attendance consisted of:

1A
Jose G., GSR Grupo Unidad
Rudy F., GSR Twenty-Four Hour
Bobbie G., Alt GSR Haven

1B
Don C., GSR Boerne
Sunny M., GSR Callaghan

1C
Marion H., DCM
Lee F., Alt GSR Alamo Heights
Jeanne W., Alt GSR Marymont

1D
Wilson P., DCM
John P., GSR Northeast
Bill B., GSR Stepping Stones

1E
Larry Y., DCM
Roger C., GSR Lytle
Desi G., GSR SW Loop
Bob B., GSR Valley-Hi
Jim A., Alt GSR Wilford Hall
Bill F., Alt GSR Goliad

Visiting AA'S
Raul M., Past Delegate
Hod C., Past Alt Delegate
Yolanda F.
Travis H.
Margaret W.
John J. P.
Jim D.
Al D.

Al-Anons & Alateens
Quite a few.....

Mary L. L., Treasurer Jack L. Alt Chairman

M. D. "Skeeter" S. of Port Lavaca was selected as a nominee to represent the SW TX AREA as a trustee to be elected for the Southwest U. S. Region (Colo, Kan, Mo, N. Mex, Ark, Okla & Tex). The Nominating Committee on Trustees of the General Service Conference, April '83 will select the one nominee to be presented to the General Service Board and that candidate will be elected by the General Service Board at its meeting immediately after the conference.

Other business attended to was to set aside the last two weekends in February for DCM-GSR Workshops, one in the north and one in the south. The Pre-General Service Conference will be held in Victoria, March 26 & 27. The October '83 conference will be held in Corpus Christi and it will be in Austin in '84.

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CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE HALLOWEEN DANCE

If everything goes right, which is highly unlikely, you should receive this newsletter before the scheduled HALLOWEEN DANCE. It will be at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 758 Ramsey at Blanco, Saturday Nite, Oct 30, 1982. Live music by the MEDINA MUD BAND. See your GSR for tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door. \$5.00/person.

CSOC (GSR) REPORT

The Central Service Office Committee met at Club 12 on October 17, 1983. All districts (5) were represented by DCM'S. 30 of the 56 groups were represented by their GSR'S and all committee chairmen were present. The turn-out keeps getting better but, as usual, there is room for improvement.

Bill F., Alt DCM for District 1-B moved up to DCM due to the resignation of Cal W. Raul M. was elected as Chairman, CSOC due to the resignation of Ann W. Mary & Woody W have been selected as Co-Chairpersons, Mailing and Jose L. was selected as a member of the Editorial Committee due to the resignation of Al D.

Jack L., Chairman of the Public Information Committee submitted his resignation due to a change in his working conditions. We need a replacement for this very important position. This is urgent. Any volunteers?? We thank you, Jack, for the time and effort you have put into this program.

One other resignation--Martha C., Secretary of the CSOC. We need a replacement.

The ad hoc committee appointed to look for ways to improve the 12-step call procedures after office hours is still working hard and will have a more detailed report at the next meeting.

According to Linda G., Chairperson for Hospital & Institutions, ~~the Sally meetings have been discontinued~~ and the State Hospital (SASH) now comes under Hospital & Institutions. This means that we will be needing groups to volunteer to take meetings to SASH. (The Sally Meeting are back on.)

It has come to our attention that the old Twenty-Four Hour Group which changed its name to the Phoenix Group has now changed its name back to the Twenty-Four Group. Oh, well....I guess they only have one coffee pot.

The Nominating Committee for the four members to be elected to the Administrative Board of the Central Service Office will present the nominees at the next meeting, November 14, 1982. Nominees will also be accepted from the floor. **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF ALL GROUPS SHOULD MAKE IT THEIR BUSINESS TO SEE THAT THEIR GROUP IS REPRESENTED AT THIS MEETING BY THEIR GSR OR ALTERNATE GSR.**

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The following is in reply to the article concerning RECOVERING? RECOVERED?

I am an alcoholic and have not found it necessary to drink any alcoholic beverage or use drugs since February 17, 1946.

In reading your article in the Sep 82 NIGHTCAP regarding recovered alcoholics, I referred to my issue of the Big Book and discovered it did not have a page xiii. My book was published in 1945. However there is a reference to the word recovered in the first paragraph of Chapter 2, in a sentence which reads, "All have recovered".

I am not all that smart. I choose to think that God made me blot out that sentence when I first read it, because I always thought of my alcoholism as being arrested, not recovered. My thought has always been: "If you take a drink you probably will never again go through the agonies of that one withdrawal from drinking."

A danger of interpreting the word recovery to mean that we may drink again in moderation could lead to our downfall and an early death.

There are many people suffering from other diseases, such as tuberculosis and diabetes who have learned they can live with it by simply living carefully and with proper medication.

We arrested alcoholics can live with our diseases simply by refraining from that first drink! I shall never consider myself recovered from the disease of Alcoholism!

Arthur C.

NOTE: Arthur also submitted an article from the Jul 82 issue of NEWSWEEK titled "Should an Alcoholic Ever Have a Drink?" We will try to run it later. Of course, it is copyrighted but that hasn't slowed us down too much...

WHAT'S GOING ON

SASH AA GROUP will have their annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 13th, for the alcohol & drug abuse patients. All members of AA and their families are invited. Meeting from 7:00 - 7:30 PM, followed by the usual excellent food and refreshments. Then there will be a dance to the music of the SASH Band. Anyone wishing to contribute for this party, please mail your check to: SASH AA GROUP
4622 Clark Ave #240
San Antonio, Tx 78223

THE HAVEN has discontinued their monthly bar-b-cues for the winter. Will fire up again in the spring. Please announce to your group.

GROUP 12 AA's & Al-Anons are sponsoring a TURKEY DINNER with all the trimmings on Saturday, November 6th at 7:00 PM. The Al-Anons are going to do all the work and the AA's are going to take all the credit. Speaking of credit, the cost is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12. Cash-no credit. Games to follow... 102 Thames.

8TH ANNUAL BORDER CONFERENCE, Del Rio, Tx, Dec 3, 4, & 5, 1982. Registration Headquarters, Ramada Inn. Meetings in the Wardlaw Agr. Complex. Box 1442, Del Rio, Tx 78840.

The ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD of the Central Service Office will meet at the CSO, 103 Renner, on Wednesday, Nov 10, 1982. at 7:00 PM.

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE COMMITTEE (GSR) meeting will be held at Club 12, Sunday, November 14, 1982 at 7:00 PM.

GOLIAD GROUP will have a Bar-B-Que the 3rd Sunday of each month (Nov 21), cost \$3.00. Serving time - 6:00 PM, meeting to follow at 7:30 PM. 537 Avondale.

21st ANNUAL SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE, Jan 14, 15, 16, 1983 Spindletop Sheraton, Beaumont, Texas. Flyers at Central Service Office.

VILLA ROSA MEETINGS

Nov 2 - Young People Nov 9 - Marymont
Nov 16 - Downtown Nov 23 - Santa Fe
Nov 30 - Alamo Heights

Dec 7 - 24 Hour Dec 14 - Santa Fe
Dec 21 - Alamo Heights Dec 28 - 24 Hour

SALLY MEETINGS

Nov 3, 10 - Haven Nov 17, 24 - V.A. Hosp

DETOX MEETINGS

Nov 4, 11, 18, 25 Carol

FRONTIER (ARC) MEETINGS

Nov 6, 13, 20, 27 Dntown
Dec 4, 11, 18, 25 Summit

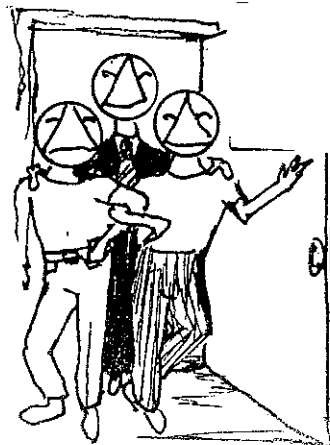
SASH MEETINGS

Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Marymont
Dec 6, 13, 20, 27 Lytle

OUR AILING FRIENDS

Gene D., Leon W., Gayle McA., Blackie C., Charlie C., and John B.

Take a minute to give these members a call or drop by to see them. They'll appreciate your thoughtfulness!



HI!
READY FOR A
MEETING?

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
4	Helen M.	30		15	Nelda T.	4	Group 12
6	Don N.	2	Haven	15	Gladys H.	14	Haven
6	Johnnie N.	13	Haven	15	Al D.	16	Valley-Hi
9	Sibyl R.	22		25	Monroe H.	6	Haven
11	Joe P.	3	Windcrest	26	"Big T" H.	9	Haven
13	Roland R.	8	Downtown		John G.	9	Lytle
13	"Woody" W.	5	Open Door		Rita S.	4	SW Loop

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GRATITUDE...IN ACTION!
(November is Gratitude Month)

How many times have we heard people say "I'm a grateful alcoholic"? Frankly, I'm pretty tired of hearing it myself.

Sure, it's a nice feeling to be grateful. But, in my opinion, that's all it is--just a word describing a feeling. Feelings never kept me sober. On the contrary, my uncontrolled feelings were what kept me drunk. Resentments, anger, envy, passion, pride, selfishness. You name it--I had it.

So, I personally believe gratitude to be helpful, needs to be followed by ACTION. Gratitude, I think, is love in action.

I am delighted that my compulsion to drink has been removed. I am overjoyed that I have been restored to sanity. I am "grateful" for all the benefits of our fellowship.

What I feel (and know) I must do is to show my gratitude in a dynamic way by working the 12 steps painstakingly, helping other alcoholics and doing service work in our fellowship.

Gratitude for me is love in action!
CHARGE!

SACSO

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A crooked gambler in a Las Vegas casino laid down a \$100 bet, but unfortunately he'd had a few drinks too many, and when he threw the dice, a third one fell out of his sleeve.

The operator of the game wasn't ruffled. Putting one of the dice in his pocket, he handed the other two to the gambler and said, "Shoot again. Your point is seventeen.

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DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS...

The other day a newcomer asked, "How can I know for sure what God's will is for me?"

"What exactly did you have in mind?" I inquired cautiously.

"Well," he replied, "I'm thinking of changing jobs and I don't know if it is God's will or not."

I thought for a moment. Then I launched out with my opinion. "The way I see it is this--the Higher Power allows me to make any decision I want which, hopefully, is based on my needs and my experience. I believe there is no right or wrong decision (with the possible exception of suicide or drinking) if my motives are good. And I will learn from any decision I make because it is a learning experience."

"What do you mean?" he pursued.

"Well," I responded, "I really believe God does not care whether I get married or not, whether I change jobs or not, if I buy a new car or not, and so on. What I do believe is that my Higher Power wants me to accept the results of any decision I make. And He wants me to put forth a sincere effort to live with those results. That's the key."

"So you think God's will has nothing to do with my changing jobs, right?"

"Yes and no. I have to use good judgment. It would probably not be wise for an alcoholic to take a job as a bartender, do you think?"

"No. Of course not. Or some job that would interfere with my attendance at meetings," he observed.

"Right on! The main thing, in my opinion (and this is in the Big Book) is to consider my needs and my motives, ask for guidance from God, then charge ahead with energy and enthusiasm, leaving the results up to God." He seemed impressed.

"Sounds good. But what if I find out later that I made a mistake?" He probed.

I looked him straight in the eye. "I don't know if you're ready for this or not but, if my motives are good, I cannot make a mistake. I sometimes make decisions that turn out to be uncomfortable or painful but if I learn from that, it was not a mistake--it was a learning experience. Most of us gain thru pain. Decisions are not right or wrong, in my opinion, but different kinds of opportunities to learn and grow." I tried to drop these ideas on him gently.

"But," he protested, "all my life I have been taught to try to choose the right path--that life would be better if I am a good guy."

"Sure," I agreed, "morally speaking, I think that's right. I do need to try to practice honesty and love in all my affairs. But when it comes to non-moral decisions such as changing jobs, I believe God leaves that up to me. The most important thing for me to remember is that almost every decision that I make will become a learning experience. I will either learn from the difficulties it brings or from the satisfaction and comfort it brings. In each case, it's my acceptance of results that helps me grow."

My friend still looked puzzled. "I guess I'll have to think about this for a while. Is that a right or wrong decision?"

I gave up. Trying to answer his question was certainly a new learning experience for me. Maybe for both of us!

Life's a puzzle palace. Live and learn.

I've decided never to discuss God's will again!

Is that a right or wrong decision???

SACSO

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MEMORIAL MEETING

Group 12 will host a Memorial Meeting for all members who died in 1982. This is the 11:00 AM meeting the 3rd Sunday in January 1983. Groups and individuals are requested to notify Nelda T. 826-5012 or Louis Van D. 341-6443 of deceased members. Or notify the Secretary of Group 12, 344-8981.

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE - SAN ANTONIO, TX
 CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED
 SEP 24 - OCT 24, 1982

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Alamo	\$ -0-	\$40.00	*Open Door	-0-	\$170.00
*Alamo Heights	42.00	397.00	*Park North	-0-	170.00
Audubon	-0-	20.00	Reliance	-0-	-0-
*Boerne	-0-	25.00	Sahara	-0-	-0-
Broadway	-0-	395.00	*Santa Fe	-0-	40.00
*Callaghan	40.00	300.00	*SASH	-0-	300.00
Coker	-0-	-0-	Schertz	-0-	120.00
Colonies North	350.00	900.00	*Serenity	15.00	150.00
*Downtown	-0-	-0-	Southwest Loop	-0-	130.00
Eisenhauer	-0-	50.00	*Stepping Stones	-0-	125.00
El Libro Grande	-0-	-0-	*Summit	-0-	78.00
El Milargo Del Siglo	-0-	-0-	Sunset	-0-	180.50
*Fort Sam Houston	50.00	420.00	Tejas	-0-	300.00
*Frontier	-0-	30.00	Twenty-Four Hour	-0-	-0-
*Goliad	-0-	95.00	*Universal City	-0-	30.00
Group 12	100.00	900.00	*Universal City, Sun	-0-	60.00
Grupo Del Sol	-0-	10.00	V.A. Hospital	-0-	100.00
*Grupo Unidad	-0-	80.00	*Valley-Hi	25.00	250.00
*Haven	40.00	286.25	Villa Rosa	-0-	135.00
Helotes	-0-	10.00	Wesley	-0-	36.00
*Highland	20.00	200.00	West Ashby	-0-	60.00
Kingsboro	-0-	25.00	*Wilford Hall	5.00	95.00
Lambda	-0-	20.00	*Windcrest	-0-	120.00
*Laurel Heights	20.00	225.00	*Young People	52.08	52.08
*Lytle	-0-	37.20			
*Marymont	-0-	179.57			
*New Life	15.00	15.00			
North San Pedro	50.00	230.00			
*Northeast	-0-	105.00			
*Northwest	50.00	274.00			
*Northwood	-0-	200.00			
Oblate	-0-	25.00			

* Attended the CSOC (GSR) meeting Oct '82

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SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS
 (SEP 24 - OCT 24, 1982)

District 1	\$874.08
Area	-0-
Buck-A-Month	119.00
Individual	118.00
Memorial	-0-
	<u>\$1111.08</u>

District 1 Active Groups	56
New Groups	0
Discontinued Groups	0
Name Change	1
Phoenix to Twenty-Four Hour	

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LATE FLASH: The DOWNTOWN GROUP started a new meeting--Brown Bag Lunch, Thursdays, 12:00 to 1:00 PM, Open Discussion. Also a new meeting on Fridays at 8:15 PM O/D.

9TH ANNUAL LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY JAMBOREE, Jan 7, 8, & 9, 1983, South Padre Island Hilton Resort Hotel. Hotel reservation must be in by December 11, 1982. Registration AA or Al-Anon \$7.50, Alateen \$1.00, Al-Anon Brunch \$10.00, AA Dinner \$15.00 Pre-registration before November 1, 1982 is \$5.00. Mail to: JAMBOREE SECRETARY, P.O. BOX 5453, BROWNSVILLE, TX 78520. 512-542-4874.

The NORTHWEST GROUP is having their 13th Anniversary on November 8, 1982, St Andrews Episcopal Church, 6110 NW Loop 410, at 8:15 PM. Speaker will be Bil B.

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"JOYS" OF SOCIAL DRINKING

There seems to be a trend toward attempts to modify alcoholic drinkers into social drinkers. Two questions comes to mind:

1. Why is it important to drink at all?
2. Did anyone ever ask an alcoholic if he wanted to be a social drinker?

Dr. William D. Silkworth told us simply, "Alcoholics drink for effect." By definition, social drinkers drink for conviviality and sociability; drinking itself is and remains secondary.

I have observed social drinking, and this is about as exciting as watching grass grow. I was never a one- or two-drinker and have no desire to become one. But if I could drink all I wanted whenever I wanted and not have it interfere in any area of my life, I would be drinking this minute.

Beyond this, however, the mere idea of trading the fellowship in Alcoholics Anonymous for social drinking is so preposterous, it deserves no further comment.

GRAPEVINE, May '76

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Man said he had steak & sex about the same way. Very rare.

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The First Ninety Days



"'Easy Does It,' 'First Things First,' 'Let Go and Let God,' and 'Think.'"