



# The Nightcap

THE NIGHTCAP IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE  
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VOL. 11

NOVEMBER 1983

NO. 11

Editor's Desk: P E R S P E C T I V E

A.A.'s Way of Unity - The Traditions - The month of November is (and have been) considered "Traditions' month".

The need for unity within the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous was clear from its beginnings. The co-founders, Bill W. and Dr. Bob S., both realized that they would have to find other alcoholics and share the sobriety they had found or they would probably lose theirs. As A.A. grew, it became increasingly apparent that individuals and groups needed to work together in harmony to meet our purpose as a fellowship - staying sober and caring the A.A. message to still-suffering alcoholics.

The early days of A.A. taught our founders that certain actions, however worthwhile, might endanger the unity of the Fellowship. All the experience of the early years - the consciousness of limits, understanding our individual foibles, and the need for personal and collective humility - led to the formation of the principles incorporated in A.A.'s Twelve Traditions. Reflecting a spirit of self-sacrifice, the Traditions have proved vital both for personal recovery in A.A. and for the preservation of the unity of the Fellowship, which is indispensable for personal recovery.

Additional information on the A.A. Traditions may be found in the pamphlets, A.A. Tradition - "How it Developed" and the 12 & 12 book.

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"Most of us will never do great things; but we can do small things in a great way". -  
Let's make it a "topic" and/or subject of discussion - our Traditions, that is. Who knows where another human being may have some real doubts about this life-giving program and we have those answers from the experiences reflected in our Traditions. (Ed.)  
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## 33rd SOUTHWEST AREA CONFERENCE -Report -Report -report -rep.....

The Editor expresses our recognition and appreciation to Knut H., for the following information;

Area Delegate	Jim R.	(2nd ballot)
Alternate	Jack L.	(1st ballot)
Area Comm. Chairman	Edelle E.	
Alternate	Larry Y.	
Area Secretary	Wilson P.	
Area Treasurer	Mike M.	

### Report from outgoing Area Officers:

Treasurer.....	Group Contributions.....	\$1,756.40
	Area Expenses.....	683.10
	Delegates Expenses.....	1,443.68
	Cash on Hand.....	917.70

(2) \$1,000.00 CD's with 6% interest & Savings account with \$314.15  
Total (assets) \$3,291.85

Area business.....highlights only...next issue will have complete information.

"The Triangle...was voted as the name of our Area Newsletter

Not only the name was voted on, but the Newsletter -per se- was approved. It will be 'quarterly' and will cover reports (area), actions, ideas & problems, etc..

Originally will be financed by Area Committee and will be mailed to 340 groups.

FOR MEMBERS ONLY:

'Sinking Down the Pour'

.....I had TWELVE bottles of whiskey in the house, and my husband told me to empty the contents of each bottle in the sink, or else; so I proceeded with the unpleasant task. I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I withdrew the cork from the second bottle and did likewise, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I withdrew the cork from the third bottle, and poured the whiskey down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

I pulled the cork from the fourth sink and poured the bottle down the glass, which I drank. I pulled the bottle from the cork of the next and drank the sink out of it, and threw the rest down the glass. I took the sink out of the glass, bottled the drink, and drank the pour.

When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand, and with the other four hands, I counted the bottles, corks, glasses, and sink, and as the house came by, I counted them again. I finally had all the houses in one bottle, which I drank.

I'm not half so thick as you might think, but I fool so foolishly that the drunker I stand here the longer I get.....

(from Nov. 1963 Grapevine)

Alcoholic Ziuq .....? A Ziuq, as its name implies, is a Quiz in reverse. Here are ten answers to questions. If you can't guess the questions that prompted the answers, you'll find them below. But don't look now!

1. A thousand nights in a barroom.
2. (a) Pernod, (b) Sterno.
3. Twelve steps.
4. The first drink.
5. A sponsor.
6. (a) Fried, (b) boiled, (c) stewed, (d) crocked, (e) plastered, (f) in the bag.
7. Twenty-four hours at a time.
8. Scotch, rye, bourbon, gin, brandy, wine, beer, vanilla extract, perfume, hair tonic.
9. The Big Book.
10. Because its disguises his breath.

//////////////////////

1. What is the average initiation fee paid by A.A. members?
2. (a) How does many a drunk start? (b) How does many a drunk wind up?
3. What do six steps look like to a guy who has had eleven martinis?
4. Besides Latin and Algebra, what do many high school students take?
5. What is the common need of a TV performer and a drunk?
6. State one way (a) oysters, (b) potatoes, (c) tomatoes can be prepared, (d) prunes kept (e) bedroom ceilings finished, and (f) peanuts sold.
7. How is the best way to live to be 100?
8. Name the ten items a drunk would choose to have with him on a desert island.
9. What would you call a 2,000-page volume about mythological giants?
10. Why does a staggering, disarrayed, wild-eyed, incoherent drunk prefer Vodka?

ADVENTURE IN SOBRIETY.....A few years ago I heard a very successful prominent and respected business man and community leader say - "Living the A.A. program is 90 percent of the job, staying sober is only 10 percent". At the time I thought it a rather ridiculous statement. Now I believe otherwise. Yes, he was an alcoholic too, and had been sober for a number of years at the time. He took that first step toward a new adventure, he wasn't concerned about the first pitfall.

Up to that time, my life had been a series of adventures. Many of them exciting, enjoyable and rewarding. Too many others, though, were ending disastrously with my hand clutching an empty booze bottle and staring into nothingness and complete defeat. How could this man, sitting across the room, have an answer to my problems? Despair is a very strong incentive. I went ahead and asked.

His answer came as smoothly and strongly as his convictions and actions were; it is simple, but is not easy. "Any trip of thousands of miles begin with the first step"...This made me think that maybe the adventure into sobriety could be approached the same way. Jerry said "The responsibility is first to ourselves in not allowing our immature 'conscience be our guide'. To face the simple everyday problems of life as mature adults, forgetting the fun we had in doing as we darn well pleased.

The first step toward this new adventure seems more a step into a new way of life than that of promising myself and others that I will never take another drink. The first step is in honestly believing that I am, then he added, for myself I know that I had to be entirely ready to have my boss remove all these defects of character."

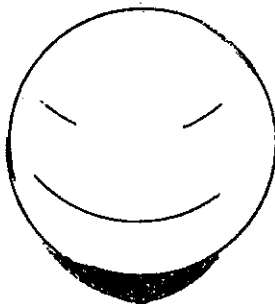
Jerry has joined his boss, as of two years or so ago, but he left me with a n experience to be lived, not a sentence to be served.

Thru the program of action that he had, I have found this life-giving fellowship with its guidelines to sober living, that guarantees me an everyday adventure in living. Now a new adventure is ahead. One that I at least have some idea where it can finally lead (or better yet, where it won't lead). The one opportunity that this brings to our community here in San Antonio is that we will need a new Editor to take my place, since time is already being short and new commitments are being made.

Thanks to all of you for letting me get involved and work as your Editor for the last year. (Jose L.)

CHIT CHAT.....On the road to recovery.....

...Tom was telling us the other night that when his friend Ralph was 'a suffering patient', he had looked at his doctor and asked, "Are you certain I'll pull through? I heard of a man you treated for ulcers and he died of diptheria." "Don't be silly," said the doctor. "When I treat you for ulcers, you die of ulcers!" .....After his recovery, Ralph was telling of his travels, and said "We've been everywhere and we've seen everything." Tom came around and asked, "Have you ever had delirium tremens?",,No!...well..."Then you've never been anywhere and you haven't seen anything yet." --HANGOVER....Something to occupy the head, that wasn't used the night before. And, remembering the good-old-days, when we had trouble going forth, without a fifth!...Ben said to Ralph, "Did you ever taste moonshine whisky?"..."Certainly not!", replied Ralph. "Anybody who can't swallow fast enough to keep from tastin' it has no business tryin' to drink the stuff."



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LOCAL

A date to remember....  
Nov. 7th, the 14th ANNIVERSARY of  
THE NORTHWEST GRP. Time 8:15 pm  
Speaker: Helen M. -6110 NW Loop 410  
St. Andrews Episcopal Church.....

STATE HOSP...DANCE!!! Dec. 12th.  
Time -8:00 till 10:00 pm  
SASH Band -Donations can be mailed  
to: 4622 Clark, apt.24, SA 78223

THANKSGIVING TURKEY TROT DANCE !\*\*\*\*\*  
Club 12...102 Thames St.  
SATURDAY - Nov. 19th 8:30/12:30 am  
Country Western Theme with music by  
the Western Union Band  
+also+  
Traditional FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER,  
at Club 12..Thursday Nov. 24th  
Serving starts at 1:00 pm

Don't BE A TURKEY, come trot  
across the dance floor with your  
Alanon & A.A. friends..Dues pay-  
ing members \$4.00, non-members  
\$5.00  
ADVANCE NOTICE - NEW YEARS DANCE  
Sat., Dec. 31st..7:30 til 1:00 am  
Hemisphere Convention Center...  
Host -Club 12...ask for tickets!

WINNERS CLUB

5719 Mobud St. Tel. 680-5496

San Antonio, TX 78238

CURRENT MEETINGS LIST

Young Peoples - O/D  
Abundance (non-smoker) - O/D  
Turning Point - O/D  
Summit Step Study (Open step study)  
Weekend Winners - O/D

6:00 pm SUNDAY  
5:30 pm TUESDAY  
8:15 pm WEDNESDAY  
8:15 pm THURSDAY  
8:15 pm SATURDAY

November's HOSPITAL MEETINGS

STATE HOSP.....Marymont Grp.  
SALLY.....Universal City Grp.  
DETOX.....Oblate Grp.  
A.R.C.....Downtown Grp.  
Casa del Sol\*....Unidad Grp.  
Friday -4th & 11th  
Alberto M\*.....18th  
Jose L\*.....25th

VILLA ROSA

November 1,....Young peoples Grp.  
" " 8,....Marymont Grp.  
" " 15,....Downtown Grp.  
" " 22,....Santa Fe Grp.  
" " 29,....Alamo Heights Grp.  
Hosp. Chairperson Linda G.  
Tels. Home 225-6898  
Office 924-5761

+-"ADIOS" to an old-timer +-  
Our good friend and fellow member,  
Jim B., died Oct. 4, 1983.  
Our condolences to his wife Mary  
Helen and his family.

WHITNEY, TEX...29th T.C.Y.P.!!  
Nov. 4,5, & 6th. -Three days of  
caring, sharing, giving & grow-  
ing. =call C.S.O. for info.=

NEW GROUP

Correctional Com. Group  
502 W. Mistletoe  
-O/D..Meets on Tuesday

NEW GROUP

4th Street Group  
205 - 4th Street  
-O/D, Meets Tuesday

# NEW STEP STUDY GROUP

THURSDAYS — 8:15 P.M.

STARTING-10/20/83

HELEN M., CHAIRPERSON FOR  
OCTOBER + NOVEMBER

SUMMIT STEP STUDY GROUP

WINNERS CLUB-5719 MOB D

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE-SAN ANTONIO, TX.  
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED  
SEPT 27 - OCT 27, 1983

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Alamo	-0-	100.00	Reliance	-0-	-0-
Alamo Heights	42.00	378.00	Sahara	-0-	20.00
Alpha House	-0-	25.00	Santa Fe	-0-	20.00
Audubon	-0-	-0-	SASH	-0-	50.00
Bluemel Oaks	-0-	-0-	Schertz	-0-	240.00
Boerne	-0-	80.00	Serenity	15.00	150.00
Broadway	-0-	190.00	Southwest Loop	-0-	135.00
Callaghan	80.00	440.00	Stepping Stones	75.00	150.00
Coker	-0-	50.00	Summit	-0-	60.00
Colonies North	-0-	1070.00	Sunset	10.00	150.00
Downtown	-0-	70.00	Tejas	120.00	420.00
Eisenhauer	-0-	140.00	Turning Point	17.76	17.76
Ft Sam Houston	50.00	500.00	Twenty-Four Hour	20.00	70.00
Freedom	50.00	150.00	Universal City, Mon	36.00	96.00
Frontier	-0-	10.00	Universal City, Sun	-0-	60.00
Goliad	25.00	320.00	V.A. Hospital	-0-	150.00
Group 12	-0-	1400.00	Valley-Hi	25.00	320.00
Grupo Unidad	-0-	80.00	Villa Rosa	-0-	248.00
Haven	-0-	200.00	Weekend Winners	-0-	-0-
Highland	20.00	200.00	Wesley	-0-	20.00
Kingsboro	-0-	20.00	West Ashby	-0-	-0-
Lambda	18.00	116.00	Wilford Hall	20.00	150.00
Laurel Heights	20.00	220.00	Windcrest	18.00	78.00
Lytle	6.00	14.00	Young People	-0-	93.00
Marymont	50.00	160.00			
New Life	-0-	30.00			
North San Pedro	50.00	250.00			
Northeast	-0-	235.00			
Northwest	-0-	160.00			
Northwood	200.00	425.00			
Oblate	-0-	80.00			
Open Door	-0-	60.00			
Park North	-0-	130.00			

AREA

Bandera	-0-	95.00
Cameron-Rockdale	-0-	63.00
Canyon Lake	-0-	40.00
Floresville	-0-	65.00
New Braunfels Home	-0-	15.00
Uvalde	-0-	44.00
Yoakum	-0-	45.00

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
( Oct 1983 )

District 1	\$ 967.76
Area	-0-
Buck-A-Month	132.00
Individual	20.00
Memorial	10.00
	<u>\$ 1129.76</u>

District 1    Active Groups    61

New Groups Reported                    2  
Correctional Com.  
4th St. Grp.

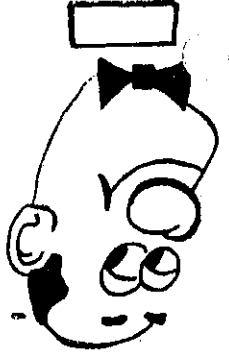
Discontinued Groups                    0

60% to: Central Service Office  
103 Renner  
San Antonio, Tx 78201

60-30-10 Plan  
30% General Service Office  
P.O.Box 459  
Grand Central Sta.  
New York, N.Y. 10163

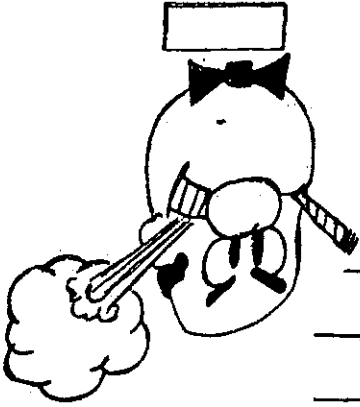
10% SW Tx Area Fund  
P.O.Box 5901  
San Antonio, Tx  
78201

Yes, Delivery service has started & service is good



—Customer Reply Card—  
Thanks for your order!

No. Delivery service has not started. Please check into my problem.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "NIGHTCAP"  
MAIL TO: CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE 103 Renner Dr., San Antonio, Tx. 78201  
(Checks payable to: Central Service Office)

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

103 RENNER DRIVE  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 2807  
San Antonio, Texas