



The Nightcap

AA IN SOUTHWEST TEXAS

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REPORT OF THE CSOC MEETING

District 1 G. S. R.'s and D. C. M.'s met at Club 12 on September 13, 1981. Redistricting was approved as proposed (see September Nightcap) to take effect January 1, 1982 with the approval of the SW TX Area Committee.

This is election time--new G.S.R.'s, new D.C.M.'s and new Area Officers are to be elected. All groups in District 1 should elect new G.S.R. prior to Area Conference in Brownsville on Oct 16-17-18, 1981. IMPORTANT: Please elect alternates for each service position!

Can a D.C.M. or G.S.R. be reelected? This question arises occasionally. Of course, the answer is yes--at a regular election where there is every opportunity for presenting all available candidates. Fact is, though, A.A.'s generally feel that rotation keeps the committee more vital and productive.

As soon as your G.S.R. and alternate are elected, notify your area committee and G.S.O. Be sure to include: (1) Your group's name and, if possible, service number; (2) the new G.S.R.'s name, address and telephone number; (3) the previous G.S.R.'s name (so it may be removed from mailing lists). G.S.O. will send the new G.S.R. a kit containing many useful items.

As it turned out, the 36th Annual Texas State Convention was also a huge financial success. The receipts, after expenses, were divided 60-30-10. The Central Service Office received a check for \$4081.00; Convention Fund for \$2041.00 and GSO for \$680.00. This information was received with stunned silence. Unbelievable, surely there is a mistake somewhere. Jeanne W expressed her feelings about this most pleasant happening. She shed tears of joy for all of us. The message was carried at the convention and will continue to be carried afterwards. Thanks to all members of A.A. and Ai-Anon.

The October 11 CSOC meeting will be held at the CSO, 103 Renner Drive. We are going to try it and see how it turns out.

Other items discussed were the needs of a Financial, Penal and Mailing Chairman or woman. If you would like to volunteer for any one of these positions, please call the Central Service Office. 733-7562

Due to redistricting, District 1 D.C.M.'s will not be elected until after the Area Conference. (The Area Conference Committee should approved the proposal first)

Attendance consisted of 20 G.S.R.'s, 3 D.C.M.'s and 4 visitors. 20 out of 55 isn't too good. The majority of the groups are not being represented. Maybe that is why A.A.'s generally feel that rotation keeps the committees more vital and productive.

RUSSIAN ROULETTE AA STYLE

"Hey, maybe I'm not an alcoholic," I thought one day. "Maybe I can drink again like other folks."

But how to find out for sure. That was the problem. "I know what I'll do. I'll ask an expert on the odds that I am or am not an alcoholic." So I went to a computer analyst who is the best oddsman in the country.

"Mr. Oddsman, I want to know for sure if I am an alcoholic."

"Fine," he said. "If you will write down all the facts about your drinking habits, I can help you."

I did this and he put all the data into the computer. Lights began to flash, green smoke poured out, bells began to ring and then a piece of paper came out.

He looked at the paper and said: "It looks like you have a 50-50 chance of being an alcoholic. That's one out of two chances."

"What does that mean from a practical point of view?" I asked, trembling.

"Well," he replied, "if you take a revolver that holds six bullets and put three bullets in the cylinder, leaving three chambers empty, spin the cylinder, put the muzzle to your head and pull the trigger, you have a 50-50 chance of dying."

"That doesn't sound too great," I said. "How about some more data for the computer?"

"OK. Write it down." I did and he put it in. More lights, smoke and bells.

"What does it say this time?" I inquired fearfully.

"Much better. Now you have about one chance in three of being an alky."

"What does that mean?"

"Well, this time you put two bullets in the revolver and leave four chambers empty. Spin the cylinder, aim it at your head and pull the trigger. You might survive, if you're lucky."

"That still sounds pretty darned risky. How about some more information?"

He put the new data in and out came the third paper.

"Well, this time your chances are one in six that you're a rummy. That means you would put only one bullet in the cylinder and leave the other five chambers empty. Then spin the cylinder, aim it and pull the trigger. You could probably beat the odds for several hours."

"That sounds like Russian Roulette, doesn't it?"

"Exactly! And I've never heard of anybody playing that game for very long without suddenly appearing as a statistic in the obit column of the morning paper."

"Gee, thanks a lot, Mr. Oddsman, you have been a great help to me. I don't think I want to play Russian Roulette with my life at stake. I think I'll stick with AA."

"You're a smart man, my friend. That'll be fifty dollars."

SACSO

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A "SUGGESTED" PROGRAM?

From the beginning, I have been aware that ours is but a "suggested" way of life. Once, in fact, I cited that modifier in discussion with an old-timer.

In response, he recalled having overheard the briefing of a novice sky-diver. The instructor, he said, demonstrated the operation of a parachute and pointed out, inscribed alongside the rip cord, the letters "PULL". "This, of course," the teacher added quietly, "is just a suggestion."

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GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALAMO HEIGHTS GROUP will celebrate their 25TH Anniversary, Monday, October 12TH. Meeting will start at 8:00 PM with Tom F as chairperson. Speakers will be Sue C and Sean O'M. 25 years of history will be presented by Gene D. The meeting will be held in St. Lukes Parish Hall and refreshments will be served.

EISENHAUER GROUP will celebrate their 2ND Anniversary, Thursday, October 22ND. Open speakers meeting at 8:15 with refreshments served afterwards. St Stephen's Presbyterian Church-4115 Eisenhower Road.

GROUP 12 holds a covered dish dinner and games on the 2ND and last Saturdays of each month from 7:00 PM until ?. In October, it will be the 10TH & 31ST.

GOLIAD GROUP will celebrate their 17TH Anniversary, Sunday, October 11TH, 5:00 PM. History of A.A. in San Antonio and of the GOLIAD GROUP will be presented by some of the old-timers as well as they can remember it. Food! Drinks! Fellowship!!!

FRONTIER GROUP will observe Halloween, Saturday, October 31, with their regular Open speakers meeting to start at 7:00 P.M. followed by a special bonfire meeting at 8:00 P.M. Bring all of your old and new defects and burn 'em up. Prize will be awarded for best costume. Refreshments after bonfire for survivors.

MARYMONT GROUP'S last meeting of each month will be an "Eating Meeting"--covered dish supper starting at 7:00 P.M. followed by an Open speakers meeting at 8:15. In October the meeting will be on Tuesday, 27TH. If you are looking for great A.A. fellowship, this is the place to go-Annex Bldg, behind Church of Reconciliation (Episcopal), 8900 Starcrest.

KINGSBORO GROUP has a new meeting every Sunday at 6:00 P.M. Normally, a closed discussion except for special occasions when the meeting will be open. Open discussion meetings will continue to be held on Wednesdays at 8:15 P.M. Meeting place is 3210 W Commerce. (This group also celebrates its' 3RD Anniversary on Sunday, 27TH September. It may be too late to attend by the time you read this.)

TEJAS GROUP has the following meetings at Villa de Tejas, 8301 Speedway:
Open discussion, Tuesday & Thursday at 8:15 P.M.; Alateen, Tuesday, 8:15 P.M.; Al-Anon, Thursday, 8:15 and the NEW Al-Anon Beginners Group, Thursday, 8:15.

HAPPY HOUR for A.A. & Al-Anon complete with snacks and coffee every Wednesday at 5:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. Get off work and come by and enjoy the fellowship. Group leadership will be shared. This is a new meeting--first meeting was held September 23, 1981. Location: St. Pauls Episcopal Church, 1018 E Grayson St.

GOLIAD GROUP holds a regular monthly barbeque on the 3RD Sunday of each month at 6:00 P.M. Fun & fellowship..the food is good too!

TWENTY-FOUR HOUR GROUP will hold their regular monthly dinner on Sunday, October 25TH at 5:00 P.M. A \$2.50 donation is requested. Meeting to follow at 6:30 P.M. Other meetings include an open discussion daily from noon to 1:00 P.M. and an open discussion each Friday at MIDNIGHT. 1203 Fredericksburg Rd.

COLONIES NORTH GROUP has the following meetings at House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Corner of Ironside and Wurzbach: Closed discussion, Mondays, 8:15; Closed Step Study, Wednesdays, 8:15; Open discussion, Fridays, 8:15 and Al-Anon, Mondays, 8:15.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

DOWNTOWN GROUP has started a new Closed Step Meeting for Thursdays, 8:15 P.M. This is in addition to their regular Tuesday Open Discussion meeting. CAM Bldg, basement entrance by Grace Lutheran Church, 110 McCullough.

SCHERTZ GROUP (update your area directory!) holds the following meetings at 401 Oak St, Schertz, Tx: Tuesdays, 8:15 P.M., Closed Discussion; Wednesdays, 8:15 P.M., Open Discussion or Step Meeting and Fridays, 8:15 P.M., Closed Discussion.

GROWING TOGETHER GROUP (This is a new group.) will have their first meeting, Tuesday, October 6, 1981. A.A. & Al-Anon Open Discussion at 8:15 P.M. Castle Hills Christian Church in the rear educational building, 6209 West Avenue. This is just outside Loop 410 next to the AGGIE PARK. (leave the Aggies alone--they are doing the best they can) Everyone is invited to attend so this new group can get off to a whiz bang start.

LYTLE GROUP is sponsoring camping trips as follows: 1st weekend in October - Cotulla KOA Park; 1st weekend in November - Falcon State Park; 1st weekend in December - Lake Amistad, Del Rio, Tx. For information call Roger C 512- 772-3413. Yeah, thats right, they said Cotulla.

GRUPO UNIDAD has a FREE breakfast on the first SUNDAY of each month at 10:00 A.M. followed by a Spiritual Meeting at 11:00. The next one is October 4th. The group is located at 3210 W Commerce St.

HAVEN GROUP has an Open Discussion meeting Tuesday at 8:15 P.M.; Open Speakers meeting Saturday at 8:15; and Open Speakers meeting Sunday afternoons at 5:00 P.M. Come and enjoy lots of good A.A. fellowship with us. 1640 W Woodlawn.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS AREA 31ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held at the Valley Inn & Country Club, Brownsville, Tx on October 16, 17, 18, 1981. Contact Howard C., Conference Chairman, P.O. Box 4856, Brownsville, Tx ZIP 78520.

7TH ANNUAL BORDER CONFERENCE will be held in Del Rio, Tx December 4, 5, & 6th, 1981. Write to Chairman, Box 1442, Del Rio, Tx 78840.

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SALLY MEETINGS	VILLA ROSA MEETINGS	ARC MEETINGS
OCT 7, 14, 21, 28 John S	OCT 6 Northeast	OCT 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
NOV 4, 11, 18, 25 VA Hosp Gp	OCT 13 Colonies North	Stepping Stones
	OCT 20 Marymont	NOV 7, 14, 21, 28
	OCT 27 Downtown	Tejas
	NOV 3 Young People	
	NOV 10 Marymont	
	NOV 17 Downtown	
	NOV 24 Santa Fe	

The Central Service Office Board meeting for October is cancelled. CSOC (GSR) Meeting will be held at the CSO, 103 Renner Dr, on October 11th at 7:00 P.M. Park across the street (Vance Jackson) at the Post Office.

HOW DID YOU BREAK YOUR LEG?

I was over at the hospital visiting a friend who had broken his leg on a ski trip to Aspen. He was all pinned up in a cast and complaining about his bad luck. Right near him were two other guys, also with broken legs but for quite different reasons.

I asked one man what happened. He told me he had fallen off a scaffolding on the job but it wasn't his fault. Someone else had goofed.

The other man said he had been hit by a hit-and-run driver who had not yet been caught by the police. He threatened to kill the guy who hit him if he got a chance.

Here were three people, all with the exact same symptoms, but for entirely varied reasons. Take my friend who went to ski--he was injured while doing something he really enjoyed, one of his favorite sports. Some of us in AA became alcoholics under the same conditions. I, for example, was a happy, singing, dancing drunk who never got into fights or arguments. I was a joyous, jubilant, jovial jerk who thought I was the life of the party. But the booze finally got the best of me and I ended up with the DT's wearing a snug little canvas suit and riding in an ambulance.

Then, like the man who fell off the scaffolding, some of us were workaholics who let our work become our masters and eventually led us down the path toward destruction. The beer and martini lunches then started in order to face the afternoon, followed later by happy hour to soothe the pain of occupational stress of the day.

Others among us seem to have innocently been led to drink by family environment. Their parents drank, their brothers drank, their friends drank, so they drank too. But these hit-and-run people were not around (in most cases) to render aid when the drinkers hit bottom and were fractured emotionally and spiritually.

So---these three folks with broken legs all have the same symptoms but for totally different reasons, the same as we in AA are sharing the same symptoms but for very different reasons.

But---happy day! The Big Book says on page 17 that we have a "common solution" which works for all of us just like the casts worked for all the fractured legs. And that solution is our suggested 12-Step recovery program.

The Big Book continues "We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree, and upon which we can join in brotherly and harmonious action." Action is the magic word. And the action is: working the steps regularly.

I don't have to know WHY I became an alcoholic; I just need to take action to correct the problem through the grace of God and my willingness to accept it.

By the way, if you're going to Aspen, please be careful. The 12 Steps won't mend a busted leg!

SACSO

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ALCOHOLICS ARE THE MOST INTELLIGENT PEOPLE IN THE WORLD!

Are alcoholics the most intelligent people in the world? No, it only seems that way. The ones you come in contact with in AA are the smart ones. The others are dead or dying. They don't join.

Grapevine

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE-SAN ANTONIO, TX
RECEIVED AUG 24-SEP 23, 1981

GROUP	SEP	TO DATE	GROUP	SEP	TO DATE
Alamo Heights	\$30.00	\$120.00	OPEN DOOR	\$ -0-	\$ 80.00
Audubon	-0-	-0-	Priest & Religious	-0-	-0-
Broadway	-0-	137.00	Park North	50.00	250.00
Callaghan	-0-	200.00	Randolph	-0-	-0-
Coker	-0-	108.00	Reliance	-0-	35.00
Colonies North	250.00	900.00	Sahara	-0-	-0-
Downtown	-0-	-0-	Sally	-0-	-0-
Eisenhower Step	-0-	30.00	Santa Fe	-0-	10.00
First Step	-0-	-0-	SASH	-0-	30.00
Ft Sam Houston	40.00	360.00	Schertz	-0-	60.00
Frontier	-0-	55.00	Serenity	15.00	135.00
Goliad	-0-	160.00	SW Loop	20.00	100.00
Group Twelve	100.00	900.00	Spiritual Awake	-0-	-0-
Growing Together	-0-	-0-	Spiritual Life	-0-	-0-
Grupo Del Sol	10.00	18.00	Stepping Stones	-0-	195.00
Grupo Unidad	-0-	29.00	Summit	60.00	180.00
Haven	40.00	160.00	Sunset	20.00	170.00
Helotes	-0-	7.00	Tejas	-0-	550.00
Highland	20.00	180.00	Triangle	-0-	-0-
Kingsboro	-0-	20.50	24 Hour	-0-	19.20
Lambda	-0-	35.00	Universal City	-0-	240.00
Laurel Heights	20.00	145.00	VA Hospital	-0-	30.00
Lytle	-0-	36.00	Valley-Hi	40.00	220.00
Marymont	-0-	55.00	Villa Rosa	40.00	167.00
Northeast	-0-	150.00	Wesley	30.00	46.00
North San Pedro	40.00	180.00	Wilford Hall	-0-	10.00
Northwest	-0-	128.00	Windcrest	-0-	130.00
Northwood	-0-	225.00	Young People	-0-	120.00

AREA CONTRIBUTIONS

Bandera	-0-	60.00	Kerrville	21.20	65.62
Canyon Lake	-0-	20.00	Starlight Village	-0-	15.00
Floresville	30.00	60.00	Kerrville Round-Up	-0-	10.12
Poteet	-0-	15.00	Cameron-Rockdale	-0-	13.00

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS		MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS WERE RECEIVED FOR	
District 1 Groups	\$825.00		Mother of George S
Area Groups	51.20		Walter L
Buck-A-Month	103.00		Kate R
Individual	52.85		Richard C
Memorial	45.00		
	<u>\$1077.05</u>		

District 1 Active Groups 56 New Groups 1 Discontinued Groups 0
Growing Together

If you would like to receive the NIGHTCAP, please fill out the form below.....

TO: CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE - 103 RENNER DRIVE - SAN ANTONIO, TX - 78201

Please enter my subscription to Buck-A-Month for _____ months. Date _____

NAME _____ STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____