

The NIGHT CAP

Published monthly by the San Antonio Central Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in the interest of greater unity of members in local and Southwest Texas area groups.

Address all communications to: "THE NIGHT CAP" Lexington Building 109 Lexington Ave., Suite 215 San Antonio, Texas 78205 Phone 226-2523

VOLUME THREE

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NUMBER FIVE

A DECLARATION OF UNITY

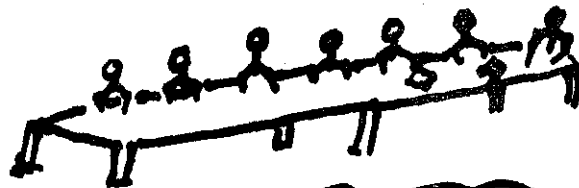
This we owe to A.A.'s future;
To place our common welfare first;
To keep our Fellowship united.
For on A.A. Unity depend our lives,
And the lives of those to come.

Service In Action

24th Annual Conference

A.A. Workshops

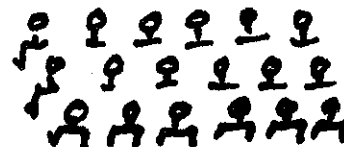
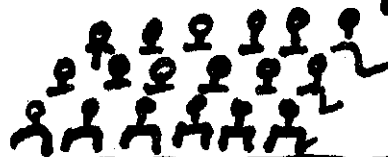
SW Texas Area A.A.



Special



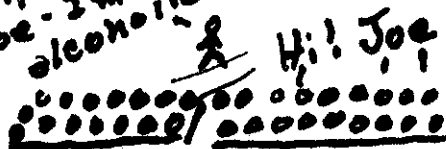
Meetings



Sharing - The A.A. Way

My name is Joe - I'm an alcoholic

Hi! Joe!



El Tropico Motel



IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW

"Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship" -- designed and administered by a bunch of ex-drunks whose only qualification for membership is that they can't hold their likker and don't want to learn how. It has no rules, dues or fees -- no nothing that any sensible organization seems to require. At meetings the speakers start on one subject and end up talking about something entirely different, concluding by saying "I don't really know anything about the program except that it works."

The groups are always broke but always seem to have money; they are always losing members, but always seem to grow; they claim AA is a selfish program but always seem to be doing things for others. Every group passes laws, rules, edicts and pronouncements which everybody blithely ignores. Members who disagree with anything are privileged to walk out in a huff - quitting forever - only to return as though nothing had happened, and to be greeted accordingly.

Nothing is ever planned more than 24 hours ahead - yet great projects are born and survive magnificently. Nothing in AA is according to Hoyle - how can it survive? Perhaps it is because we have learned to laugh at ourselves. God made man - He made laughter too. Perhaps He is pleased with our poor efforts and makes everything right no matter who pushes the wrong buttons. Maybe He is pleased not with our perfection but with our sincerity; maybe He is pleased because we are trying to be nobody but ourselves.

We don't know how, but it works: and members keep receiving their dividend checks from AA investment. IT'S SMART TO STAY SOBER.

* * * * *

BUCK - A - MONTH

All of us in A.A. are quite aware of the "fringe benefits" that we hear talked about in the meetings, but did you know that the Night Cap is also a fringe benefit?

We cannot sell subscriptions, as such, to the Night Cap, but we do send a copy to each person who belongs to the Buck-A-Month Club. The money contributed to Buck-A-Month is used in many ways to help the still suffering alcoholic, to have literature and information available to your groups, and to supply the community needs for Public Information.

Now that vacation season is ending, and our fall activities in A.A. are picking up, why not call one of the numbers listed below and start receiving your copy of the Night Cap which will list all the important functions in the area.

Central Service Office - 226-2164

Herb P., Buck-A-Month Chair. - 927-4368



GROUP NEWS

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

Sunday, Sept. 1: DOWNTOWN GROUP, Sahara Club, 809 E. Euclid, Monthly Dinner 1 PM.

Sunday, Sept. 15: GOLIAD GROUP, 1004 Avondale, Monthly Bar-B-Q, 6 PM followed by a meeting at 7:30 PM. On other Sundays the meeting will be at 8:15 PM.

Saturday, Sept 28: GROUP 12, Club 12, 102 Thames: Monthly dinner, 7 PM.

Sunday, Sept 29: 24 HOUR GROUP, 24 Hour Service, 1203 Fredericksburg Rd. Monthly dinner, 1 PM.

Every Saturday: DOWNTOWN GROUP, Sahara Club, 809 E. Euclid: 8 PM.

The regular monthly Bar-B-Q at THE HAVEN, 1604 W. Woodlawn, has been canceled until further notice, but you can still attend their regular open meeting at 5 PM.

NORTHEAST GROUP

A second anniversary meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 8:15PM. Location: John Calvin Presbyterian Church, 8102 Midcrown.

ALAMO HEIGHTS

The Alamo Heights Group will celebrate their 18th anniversary at their regular meeting on Monday, October 14 - 8:15 PM.

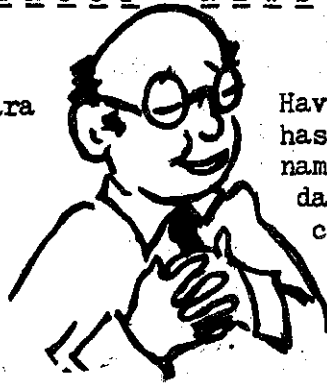
Place: Basement at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, No. 11 St. Luke's Lane. Speakers will be: Ed T. of Marble Falls, Tx. and Bill J. An openhouse will follow the meeting, refreshments will be served.

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Should the space above have been used for a special function that your group has planned? Don't you wish you had called SO - 226-2164 before 4:00 PM, or your editor at 735-3242 after 5:30 PM so we could have helped to get the word around?

NEW GROUPS

Have word from Uvalde that a new group has been started there. Not sure of the name, but meetings are at 8:00 PM, Tuesdays, at the First Baptist Church - corner of High & Oak St. The group has 10 members. Let's stop and see them when we are over that way.



I'M A NEW MEMBER

I see you at the meetings, but you never say hello- You're busy all the time you're there with those you already know-

I sit amongst you fellows and I'm such a lonesome guy- The new pigeons are all strangers, old timers pass me by-

But, hang it all, I'm one of you, you talk of fellowship- You could step across the room but you never make the trip-

Why can't you nod and say hello or stop and shake my hand? Then go and sit among your friends- now, that I'd understand-

Now I'll be at your next meeting, an hour or so to spend- Please, stop...introduce yourself- I want to be your friend; (author unknown)

GRUPO SANTA FE - 1108 Brunswick

NOCHE MEXICANA. Se va a celebrar el 16 DE SEPTIEMBRE el día 13 de Septiembre. Comienza a las 7:00 PM con una junta, seguidе de tamales y comida Mexicana y luego música con Mariachis. Todos estan invitados.



SANTA FE GROUP - 1108 Brunswick

16 DE SEPTIEMBRE celebration on Friday the 13th (good luck day) at 7:00 PM. A short meeting, followed by tamales and all sorts of goodies and all this with mariachi music. Everybody is invited.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

"A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die." (from the book, AS BILL SEES IT, page 13)

Many thanks to volunteers who help put out the Night Cap, take 12 step calls from the office and stamp incoming literature: Glenn A., Chris H., Liska L., Raul M., Charly B., Imogene U., Marge S., Gerry O., and Fred G.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

The Community Education Sub-Committee of the PIC reports another very active month. On Aug. 2, B.R.S. & Carl H. spoke to the Health Class at St. Mary's University. Charley B. & Allen T. Spoke before 180 students at San Antonio College. Alice C. was the speaker at a group of approximately 20 nurses at the Lutheran General Hospital. Rick C. & Ann C. carried the message to a class of 50 counselor trainees at Lackland AFB.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Are we adequately supplying our A.A. members with opportunities for 12 STEP calls? The question is uppermost in our thoughts. At the September General Service Representative's meeting the Central Service Office will supply the GSR's with 12 STEP cards to take back to the groups. Fill out these cards and mail them to Central Service Office of A.A., 109 Lexington AVE., Suite 215, City, 78205.

After office hours the Answering Service takes the calls and sends them to three places interested in helping the still sick alcoholic and members of the family. In talking with these persons, we have found that they need AA's who are willing to take 12 STEP calls in the afternoon and night. Your Central Service Office especially needs AA's, men and women, who are available to help during the day . . . at work or at home. Can you be reached at work? What hours are available?

These requirements are especially needed: Name - address (North, South, East, West, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, in town, central) - zipcode - group and time available to take calls. The Central Service Office, Answering Service, The Haven, 24 Hour Service Group and Club 12 want to do the BEST they can to help the still suffering alcoholic. Without YOU we are helpless!!

J.W.

Ever wonder just what the dollar you give to BUCK-A-MONTH, or the contribution that your group sends to the Central Service Office is spent for? The following report, which is given at the regular CSO Board meeting each month, will give you some idea of one of the many services that CSO gives each month. From the calls received for information pertaining to alcoholism, the following referrals were made during the months of July and through Aug. 21:

<u>AA</u>	<u>ALANON</u>	<u>PIC</u>	<u>STUDENTS</u>
July 69	July 53	July 6	July 11
Aug <u>64</u>	Aug. <u>31</u>	Aug. <u>4</u>	Aug. <u>3</u>
133	84	10	14

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting will be held Sunday, September 8, 1974, at 7 PM - Club 12, 102 Thames.

GSR's let's be there, and bring some of your group members with you.

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M A N

That member of creation who takes full credit for most of the good things in life and the world, and promptly labels any disaster -- AN ACT OF GOD

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GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

so that we may continue to serve you and the alcoholic who still suffers, we will be including a statement of the groups' contributions to the Central Service Office in each monthly publication of the Night Cap. We wish to remain effective in serving and fulfill the responsibility that we feel in our hearts as sober alcoholics. There are many groups who have made contributions on a quarterly basis and will not show a contribution in the month of July; however, their contributions will be shown in the To Date figure column. For example, if a group contributed \$40.00 in March for the months of March, April, May and June, their contributions would not be shown as being made in June; however, it would be shown in the To Date figure column.

<u>Month</u>		<u>To Date</u>
March	\$40.00	\$40.00
April	0	40.00
May	0	40.00
June	0	40.00

In keeping with our legacy of service, we believe having you informed in all matters will perpetuate and insure the unity of AA for all time. Please refer any discrepancy to Dick E. 532-4528 or Sandy L. 341-2925.

Yours in AA, The Financial Committee

Dick E.
Chairman

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>JULY 1974</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>JULY 1974</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
ALAMO HEIGHTS	\$50.00	\$200.00	OPEN DOOR	\$ 6.05	\$ 66.05
AUDUBON	30.00	120.00	PILGRIM	0	50.00
BREES	0	100.00	ROBSTOWN	0	15.00
BROADWAY	25.00	80.00	REALITY	0	60.00
BRIDGE	10.00	50.00	SASH	50.00	100.00
GROUP 12	50.00	350.00	SANTA FE	0	80.00
DOWNTOWN	0	90.00	SEGUIN	5.00	35.00
EL CARMEN	0	10.00	SAN MARCOS	0	12.00
FRONTIER	0	65.00	SERENITY	5.00	35.00
FT SAM HOUSTON	17.50	130.00	ST. AGNES	0	10.00
GOLIAD	0	75.00	STEPPING STONES	0	37.50
HARMONY	0	10.00	SUNSET	0	85.00
HAVEN	0	40.00	TRINITY	10.00	30.00
HIGHLANDS	20.00	140.00	GRUPO UNIDAD	0	5.00
KILLEEN	6.00	18.00	UNITY GROUP	20.00	20.00
LAUREL HEIGHTS	20.00	120.00	(MONTERREY, MEX)		
GRUPO MONTANA	3.00	19.00	UNIVERSAL CITY	0	18.00
NEW BRAUNFELS	0	10.00	VALLEY HI	15.00	105.00
NORTHEAST	15.00	60.00	VILLA ROSA	50.00	175.00
NORTHWEST	15.00	85.00	WESLEY	0	5.00
NORTHWOOD	25.00	115.00	WINDCREST	10.00	80.00

I AM RESPONSIBLE.....

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

IN MEMORIAM

Dale H., husband of Mayme H. - August 5, 1974
Dorothy A.H. - August 9, 1974

The old timers, as well as all A.A., lost a great friend in the passing of Dorothy A.H. at age 81.

She is believed to have been one of the oldest A.A. members in the area, with a sobriety date back to June 1947.

Many of her friends will remember her activities in the early days of the Downtown Group. We know they will all be saddened by the loss of one who helped lead so many down the wonderful path of happy sobriety.

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S T A R R

The Southwest Texas Area Round Robin will be held on Sunday, September 8, 1974, at 8:15 PM, at Club 12, 102 Thames. The Kerrville Group will be in charge of the meeting, with Andre A. as Chairman.

These meetings are the combined efforts of all the groups in the area. It's a great way to see old friends from other areas, and meet new ones, while you help to "carry the message".

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SOMEBODY ELSE

There's a clever fellow named "Somebody Else". There's nothing this fellow can't do. He's busy from morning till way late at night, just substituting for you! You are asked to do this or asked to do that, and what is your ready reply? "Get Someone Else to do the job; he'll do it much better than I."

There's so much to do in this weary old world, so much and workers so few; and "Somebody Else" is weary and worn just substituting for you!

Next time you're asked to do something worthwhile, just give this ready reply: "If Somebody Else can give time and support, by golly then so can I."

Gerald M.

(Reprinted from The Retriever Log, Summer '70)

FROM BOX 459

General Service Office of A.A. would like to know if groups would be interested in a display size poster of the Unity Declaration voiced at the 1970 International convention in Miami Beach. It would be similar to the A.A. Preamble and would probably be the same price. (Refer to page 1 of this Night Cap for wording) Perhaps you can let your GSR know if you would be interested in having this printed, and they could pass the word along to N.Y.

We received a letter from General Service Office announcing a change in the sale price of the book "CAME TO BELIEVE". Formerly it was \$1.50, now the price is \$1.25. GOOD NEWS.

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FOOD - FUN - FELLOWSHIP

THE FRONTIER GROUP will host Labor Day weekend meetings at the ARC, Southton Road, on Sept. 1, and Sept 2.

Meetings will be at 2:00 PM with BAR-B-Q dinners at 3:30 PM.

Speakers for Sept. 1 is C.W.S. of Austin and for Sept. 2, Matt R. from Arlington, Va.

Price for the dinner: \$2.00 for adults
\$1.00 for children

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24TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE SOUTHWEST TEXAS AREA AA

DID YOU KNOW? You still have until Sept. 1, to get your Early Bird Registration (Complete Packet) for just \$21.00. This packet includes Registration, Dance, Banquet, Al-Anon Luncheon and Continental Breakfast.

Scott L. and his crew are doing a bang-up job. There are always expenses that have to be met in advance on Conferences. The sale of Early Bird tickets are vital, so lets help out. O.K.?

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MINNESOTA GREETES THE
NATIONAL AA WOMEN
11th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Feb. 21, 22, & 23, 1975

Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Mn.

Mail Registration To: Conference Committee,
1301 Cambridge St. Apt 207, Hopkins, Mn. 55343

TO OUR READERS:

Thanks to all of you who made my appointment as your Night Cap editor possible. Especially the Central Service Board and the GSRs who gave their "stamp of approval".

Your former editor Pat F. gave you a very interesting and informative paper every month. It's not going to be an easy job following in her footsteps. But with all the back-up material that she passed on to me, and with the support and help she has given me, I hope the Night Cap will continue to be what you, the readers, will be interested in receiving. THANKS PAT.

My thanks also go to Gladys H., your group reporter, who has agreed to continue on, and to patient, tolerant, Jeanne W., who has spent hours answering all my questions. Also to Marion B. & Dorman K., who helped with the research, composing, typing, and coffee pouring.

As Grateful as I am to serve as one of your trusted servants, I know that I can't do the job that I should without your help. This newsletter is for and about YOU. It would be nice if Gladys, Jeanne, or myself could visit your group each month and ask questions, but this is impossible. So, we depend on you and your group to keep us informed. (By the 20th of the month, please). You can mail your news items, or any other articles you would like to see in print, to:

THE NIGHT CAP
Lexington Bldg.
109 Lexington Ave., Suite 215
San Antonio, Texas 78205

OR PHONE: CSO 226-2164
Gladys H. 822-1958
Charlene D. 735-3242

C.D., Editor

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ONE MAN'S WAY OF CARRYING THE MESSAGE

He goes by the name of "Gentle Ben", but this man believes in action. If given half a chance, he will bowl you over.

He believes in the 11th Tradition, which states our belief of attraction rather than promotion, but seems to have the ability to promote the attraction. As a postal worker, he has seen many fellow employees suffer the hell that only another alcoholic can understand.

In his searching for a way to carry the message, he received permission to put a short article in the Post Office Dispatch, a union paper. He headed his article "A Thought for a Day." It was short and to the point, always pointing to A.A. as the most successful way to get and stay sober.

In July, the Postal Profile, which is a newsletter to approx. 6,000 employees started printing the same article.

Due to his tireless effort and help from several other A.A. members, he was able to arrange the following meeting.

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You are cordially invited, along with your family and friends, to a "Community Meeting" on Alcoholic Anonymous.

TIME: September 19, 1974, 8:00 PM

PLACE: Post Office Bldg., Alamo St. and Travis St., Rm 641

SPEAKERS: Bob G. - Pat O. - Doc O.

CHAIRMAN: Gentle Ben

Admission is FREE

Coffee and cookies will be served

