



The Nightcap

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NO. 9

FORMER CSO SECRETARY DIES

Beth Jones, former executive secretary for the Central Service Office, died here August 3, 1984. Her many friends remember her as a dedicated member of our fellowship who lived the principles of the twelve Steps as she sought victory over her personal difficulties.

Her example bore witness to her undaunted faith in the existence of a higher power. Beth helped many others in their quest for sobriety.

We shall miss her very much.

Our sincere condolences are extended to her friends and family.

PRESENT CSO SECRETARY BACK HOME

Janis H., executive secretary of the Central Service Office, has returned home from her "vacation" at Methodist Hospital.

She is doing fine (what else?) and we wish her a speedy recovery. Her doctor suggested she recuperate for at least six weeks but what do doctors know... Excuse me, Jack.

We love you, Janis!

DCM 1-E INJURED IN CAR WRECK

Jim B. was struck from behind and was unable to control his vehicle on the 17th of August as he was going to work. The car that caused the accident did not stop.

Jim is in the Northeast Baptist Hospital with his hip broken in five places, broken shoulder and leg.

INFO ON EIGHT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

If you are planning to join in the celebration of A.A.'s 50th anniversary, Jul 4-7, 1985, in Montreal, Que., Canada-- as thousands of other A.A.'s are-- then the time to make your travel plans is NOW.

The logistics of such a huge gathering are complex. About 13,000 hotel rooms are under contract, at reduced rates, for attendees from around the world. In order to obtain these lower rates, all requests for housing must be processed by G.S.O., together with registration forms; these, in turn, will be forwarded to the Greater Montreal Convention Bureau.

Each conventioneer must register and pay the \$30 fee before the housing request can be processed. Registration forms, listing available hotel accommodations and requesting first through fifth choices, will be sent to A.A. groups worldwide in September 1984. Registrants will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is wise to mail your completed forms early.

Should you use the services of a travel agent, please be aware that you must register and request housing for the Convention directly from G.S.O., even though your agent handles your transportation. If a travel agent's check, rather than a personal check, is received, the entire package and check will be returned unprocessed.

Similarly, receipts for registration fees, as well as housing information, and bill for one night's lodging will be sent directly to you, not to your travel agent. (in the event you have to cancel arrangements you've made, you can furnish your agent with the receipts and let him or her handle the rest.)

See "INFO" on next page for additional information...

GSR Meeting Minutes

CLUB 12 - SUNDAY - AUGUST 19, 1984 - 7:00 PM

Fred D. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Tracy W. was introduced as the new GSR for Bluemel Oaks Group. Pat R., Turning Point Group and Elias S., Grupo Unidad acted as alternate representatives of their respective groups.

Fred D. explained the handouts and read a portion of the CSO Guidelines. Will Ann H. read the 12 Traditions.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD REPORT - A1 D.

FINANCIAL REPORT - JACK E. - Statements for June & July were handed out and approved. Small deficits noted for both months.

PUBLIC INFORMATION - BOB W. - Two speaking engagements handled in July, one at GIRLSVILLE and one at VILLA ROSA HOSPITAL. As usual, volunteers are needed to speak at schools, etc. GSR's are encouraged to report this to their groups.

PENAL REPORT - DON S. (absent) - A1 D. reported that Don and Pete H. made an overnight visit to TDC participating in several meetings in several different units during their two-day stay. The director of Half-Way Houses, Inc has decided not to have A.A. meetings at this time. The county jail is now having A.A. meetings and the city jail has requested meetings. Don is working to consolidate these meetings. As usual, volunteers are needed to work with the Penal Committee.

HOSPITAL & INSTITUTIONS REPORT - SYLVIA O. - Sylvia thanked all the groups for their cooperation in taking meeting to hospitals and institutions. The volunteer groups for the month of September are:

SASH- - - - - MARYMONT & COLONIES NORTH
 ARC (FRONTIER GROUP)- - LYTLE
 SALLY - - - - - WEEKEND WINNERS
 DETOX MONDAY - - - - - SOUTHWEST LOOP
 DETOX THURSDAY - - - - - MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S
 CASA DEL SOL - - - - - WESLEY
 HAVEN - - - - - DOWNTOWN
 DAKOTA - - - - - GOLIAD

MAILING COMMITTEE REPORT - AL M. - A1 reported that the mailing list is now fully computerized and every thing is O.K.

EDITORIAL REPORT - JANIS H. - (absent) A1 D. reported that Janis completed about half of the NIGHTCAP before she checked in to the hospital. The editorial committee will try to complete on time.

OLD BUSINESS:

The 12 Step list is now computerized and being updated as information becomes available.

A handout copied from BOX 459 was made available concerning the latest information about the International A.A. Conference. If you follow these instructions, you can do it right the first time.

Plans for the CSO mini-conference to be held November 3, 1984 are continuing. As usual, volunteers are needed. Please call the Central Service Office if you wish to volunteer...

GSR MEETING MINUTES (continued from page 2)

NEW BUSINESS:

Four new members are to be elected to the Administrative Board of the CSO at the November GSR meeting. A nominating committee consisting of James P., Donna G., and Bob G. were selected.

Request for the mailing list of the NIGHTCAP subscribers was discussed. After some discussion, a motion was made by Jack E. that this information should be kept confidential. The motion carried unanimously.

Each group will be allocated $\frac{1}{2}$ page in the NIGHTCAP to advise of special activities of their club or group. The editorial committee discourages full page flyers. M.G. made the motion to accept this suggestion and the motion was approved.

Nick N., GSR of the Frontier Group, reported that some people were unhappy about the caliber of speakers taking meetings to the ARC. He said the director of the ARC wanted the speakers to have at least six months sobriety. Al D. said that members of A.A. do not screen or make rules for groups or individuals speakers to follow.

The groups responsible for after-hours telephone answering service are as follows:

5:00 PM	AUG 27--9:00 AM	SEP 3	VALLEY-HI
5:00 PM	SEP 3 --9:00 AM	SEP 10	HIGHLAND (note: Cancelled out, Aug 23, 1984)
5:00 PM	SEP 10--9:00 AM	SEP 17	VILLA ROSA
5:00 PM	SEP 17--9:00 AM	SEP 24	ALAMO HEIGHTS

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORT:

DISTRICT 1-A - James P. requested his district GSR meet with him after the meeting.

1-B - Gloria M. (absent)

1-C - Jack E. reported everything O.K.

1-D - Ann H. (absent)

1-E - Jim D, alternate DCM, called on Jim A. to report on CPC activities in their district. Jim A. is in the process of notifying all the churches of the availability of A.A.

Respectfully submitted,

RP:bd

Richard P.

INFO ON EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION (continued)

**All hotels require an advance deposit for one night's lodging. **If members of a group wish to stay at the same hotel, every effort will be made to accommodate them. However, registration/housing forms for the entire party must be submitted in a single package, not piecemeal. **If a person wishes to share a room, the names of both occupants should be indicated and bracketed. **Children under 12 will be admitted to the convention at no charge and therefore need not be registered. However their names should appear on the housing portion of the registration form.

Despite the need for registration procedures amounting to "rules" in smoothing the way for this enormous Convention, we are ready and eager to cooperate with everyone in any way we can.

FROM BOX 459, Aug-Sep 1984

WINNERS CLUB

1ST YEAR ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY--OCTOBER 21, 1984

10:00 AM

FELLOWSHIP WITH COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

11:00 AM

SPEAKER: BUDDY R., FORT WORTH, TX

FOLLOWED BY FREE LUNCH

AFTER LUNCH

SPEAKER: ALBERT M., DALLAS, TX

THE FOURTEEN A.A. GROUPS AND THE AL-ANON GROUPS THAT MEET IN THE WINNERS CLUB INVITES YOU TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 1ST ANNIVERSARY. A FEW IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE OUR FIRST MEETING. COME SEE FOR YOURSELF. WE ARE LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF LOOP 410 AND BANDERA ROAD AT 5719 MOBUD--BEHIND JIM'S COFFEE SHOP. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 680-5496.

UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY!

The ABUNDANCE GROUP that meets in the WINNERS CLUB is now the ABUNDANCE HAPPY HOUR GROUP and has 0-DISC meetings each day MONDAY-SATURDAY at 5:30 PM. Also the non-smoking provision is deleted. That means you can smoke if you so desire...

September Celebrities

BILL B.	1 YEAR	LOUISE M.	9 YEARS
STEPHANIE W.	1 YEAR	MARY ANN F.	9 YEARS
VINCENTE	1 YEAR	JENNIE C.	10 YEARS
JIM C.	2 YEARS	BOB H.	10 YEARS
DONNA T.	2 YEARS	HORACE A.	11 YEARS
JIM W.	2 YEARS	JIM M.	14 YEARS
JANICE W.	4 YEARS	RICHARD P.	18 YEARS
FLOYD Y.	5 YEARS	PATTY H.	19 YEARS
DAVID B.	6 YEARS	MARY A.	20 YEARS
DORCAS M.	7 YEARS	LILA S.	20 YEARS
BONNIE H.	8 YEARS	BOB B.	20 YEARS
CHARLES R.	8 YEARS	FLO S.	21 YEARS
CHARLIE M.	25 YEARS		

I may not be perfect, but parts of me are excellent. GRASSROOTS

WHERE IS THE HAVEN??

The following is extracted from a letter received by the Central Service Office.

I would like to take this opportunity to express The Haven's thanks for the support the Central Service Office gives to us in bringing the meetings to the men who stay at The Haven. It is working out beautifully. As you know since we have moved to our new location, attendance by A.A. members has dropped off considerably. I spoke at one of our groups last Sunday and invited them to visit us and the answer I received was, "I don't know how to get to your place." I have been told this by other A.A. members from other groups. I'm wondering if you could possibly put a little note somewhere in the NIGHTCAP asking that A.A. members drop by, especially the SATURDAY NIGHT meeting.

Sincerely,
Charlotte M.

In Memoriam

ELLEN H. passed away in July.

--VOLUNTEERS--

The Administrative Board of the Central Service Office extend our thanks to the volunteers who have pitched in to take up the slack since Janis H. has been recuperating from surgery.

John H. is working 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Mon, Wed & Fri and Bobby G. Tue & Thur. Al M. on Mon, Amelia P. on Wed. and Helen M. on Thur afternoons (you didn't expect her to come in the morning, did you?) We have been trying to keep Helen from laughing when she answers the phone but we are beginning to believe it is a lost cause. THANKS-THANKS-THANKS or is that THINK-THINK-THINK?

Neighbor: "Have you got a bottle opener?"
Parent: "Yes, but he's away at college."

LIFE IS TOO IMPORTANT TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

SEPTEMBER 1984

Your Local A.A. special event calendar

For information on events listed, contact sponsoring group or the Central Office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>AUGUST 1984 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>OCTOBER 1984 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>S W Tex Conference, Area Austin</p>			<p>AUGUST 31</p>	<p>1 Starlite Group birthdays</p>
<p>2 -----Roundup continues-----</p>	<p>3 LABOR DAY</p>	<p>4 Central Office Administrative Board Meeting, 7 pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Downtown Group, pot-luck dinner, birthdays</p>	<p>8 Grupo Unidad game night Club 12 evening get-together</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Cafeteria meeting, Wyatt's, 410 & Babcock, 6 pm</p>
<p>16 Gollad BarBQ GSR meeting, Club 12, 7 pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 North San Pedro Group birthdays</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Club 12 dinner, bingo</p>
<p>23 24-Hour Group 30 Dinner</p>	<p>24 Alamo Group birthdays</p>	<p>25 Marymont pot-luck & birthdays, Valley-Hi, Windcrest birthdays.</p>	<p>26 24-Hour Group, Northwood, Park North birthdays</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Group 12 birthdays Colonies North pot-luck, birthdays</p>	<p>29 Winners pot-luck, birthdays</p>

Convention Clipboard

Aug. 30-Sept. 2: Four-State Regional Young People's Conference, Bellemont Motor Hotel, Baton Rouge, La.

Aug. 31-Sept. 2: 4th annual Big Country A.A. Conference, Abilene Civic Center, Abilene, Tex.

Aug. 31- Sept. 3: Texas Roundup (gay), Downtown Marriott, San Antonio.

Sept. 6-9: Singles in Sobriety, Texoma Lodge, Lake Texoma.

Sept. 28-30: 33rd Southern California A.A. Convention, Town and Country Hotel, San Diego.

Oct. 4-7: Top 'O Texas Roundup, Amarillo.

Oct. 12-14: Southwest Texas Area Assembly, Quality Inn South, Austin.

Oct. 27: Alkathon, University of Texas Joe C. Thompson Conference Center, Austin.

Nov. 3: A Day in S.A. With A.A., San Antonio Convention Center.

Nov. 16-18: First Yosemite Summit Conference, Yosemite National Park; call 209/966-3423.

Nov. 8-11: 18th annual Las Vegas A.A. Roundup, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

June 6-9, 1985: State Convention, Austin.

July 4-7, 1985: International Convention, Montreal.

June 1986: SAN ANTONIO will host the state AA convention. SUNNY M. is at work on it. WATCH THIS SPACE for details!

The San Antonio-Austin TEXAS ROUNDUP
Sponsored by the gay men and women of San Antonio and Austin A.A.
Everyone is welcome.

Labor Day Weekend -- Aug. 31-Sept. 3
At the Marriott Hotel on the River
Downtown San Antonio

Friday, Aug. 31

5-10 p.m.: Registration
8:15 & 10:15 p.m. A.A. & Al-Anon meetings

Saturday, Sept. 1

10:15 a.m. to 10:15 p.m.: A.A. meetings
10-11 a.m.: The Texas Welcome: Henry R., Joel P.; podium participation.
11:15-12:30: Togetherness panel.
12-2 p.m.: Historic tour of city.
2-3 p.m.: Workshops: Adult Children of Alcoholics by Charlie L. and Ray K.; Sponsorship of the Gay Alcoholic by Vangie H. 3:15-4:15 p.m.: Workshops: Adult Children of Alcoholics in Sobriety, Charlie L. and Ray K; Incest, Rape and Alcoholism, Bill B. & Ginny B.
7-8 p.m.: Banquet.

8-9 p.m.: Speaker--Bob C. of Houston
9-10:30 p.m.: The Austin, Texas Floor

Sunday, Sept. 2:

10-11 a.m.: In Harmony with "God as we Understand Him," Jim W.
11:15-12:15: Women Together -- Lou S. Men Together -- Jim W.

12:30-3 p.m.: Historic tour of city.
2-4:15 p.m.: Workshops
6:30-8 p.m.: Buffet
8-9 p.m. Speaker: Marsha M. of Houston

Monday, Sept. 3

9:30-10:30 a.m.: A.A. meeting
10:30-11 a.m.: Continental breakfast
11-noon: Speaker's meeting
Noon-12:30: Conference closing; announcements.

The credit belongs to the man actually in the arena whose face is marred by sweat and dust and blood, who knows the great enthusiasms and the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause.

Who at best if he wins, knows the thrill of high achievement, and if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly so that his place will never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

--- ARE YOU AVAILABLE FOR 12 STEP DUTY?
ARE YOU WILLING TO TRY? GET ON THE
12 STEP LIST AT THE CENTRAL SERVICE
OFFICE . . . DON'T BE AMONG THOSE
COLD AND TIMID SOULS WHO KNOW NEITHER
VICTORY NOR DEFEAT!

A.A.'s Beginnings Here: Collected Correspondence

In 1954, long-time San Antonio A.A. Central Service Office secretary Doc Biles also served as secretary of the Texas State A.A. Conference, held that year in Fort Worth. Doc wrote the following letter to Bill Wilson:

Dear Bill:

It will be "bluebonnet" time at the convening of the ninth annual Texas State Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous June 11, 12, and 13th at Fort Worth. The vast landscape with its canopy of bluebonnets, the state flower, and the fragrant honeysuckle vine with its yellow, red and white flowers will entwine the trestle of the poor man as well as the rich man.

The assembly will include many men and women who have a few months or days of sobriety, and those who have long since accepted the A.A. way of life, attesting the program as sound and workable to all.

I believe it to be timely and fitting that you personally appear during the conference, if convenient to you and yours, for one reason that time and tide waits for no man.

So mote it be.

Sincerely,
Otto L. "Doc" Biles

- - -

Bill sent his regrets that he would be unable to attend. Wife Lois had been hospitalized with a coronary, and Bill was reluctant to commit himself to the June date.

- - -

Also in 1954, Jim Secrest of San Antonio wrote a letter to Bill:

Dear Bill --

During the past two years we have had an alarming number of older members (with from five to ten years on the Program) who have slipped. It seems as though we might be giving too much of our time and attention to the newer members and not enough to the older ones. We have dis-

cussed the idea of forming a group of the older members, say "Five and Over Group" or some such name, to meet once or twice a month, with the hope that it might help the older members to stay on the Program.

Personally, I can see both good and bad results in this idea and would like to have your frank opinion about it. Among other things, what do you think would be the reaction, if any, from the newer members? Would they think the older ones were getting snooty?

Sincerely,
J.E. Secrest

- - -

With Bill unable to answer correspondence since Lois was in the hospital, a member of the New York General Service staff wrote a reply:

Dear Jim,

You are quite right. With the passing of years, the special problems of the "older" member in A.A. are becoming increasingly apparent. This is not only a problem in your group, but in many others as well.

Groups such as you suggest -- five and over group -- have been tried before. I personally saw two such groups come into being, go along for about 6 months, and then disband. I'm sure they did some good while they met, and I don't know why they didn't keep going. It may be that the lack of "newcomers" caused the meetings to seem flat after awhile. How often have you heard it said that "the newcomer is the heart's blood of A.A."?

Yes, I think a few members would be inclined to say that such a group was "snooty", but I feel that they are the ones who criticize the way every group is run. I personally don't think the majority would object. I think that they would be more inclined to think that anything was good which helped a member stay sober and broaden and deepen his interpretation of the Steps."

WELCOME GENE & MERLE

(from AA in the Rio Grande Valley)

We read the item in the "Nightcap"..... saying - San Antonio A.A. was sorry to lose them and wishing them happiness in their new home Well

YOU LOST'EM - WE GOT'EM - and
- WE'RE GLAD!
Thanks a bundle, San Antonio!

From AA. in the R.G.V.

NOTE: The above memo is self-explanatory with the possible exception of "FROM THE DESK OF". Any semi-intelligent human being knows that GOD lives in Alamo Heights.

FROM THE DESK OF



THE HAVEN - 1000 HARRIMAN
PHO NUMBER 223-4819

IH 10 (hwy 90)

THE HAVEN

ACCESS ROAD

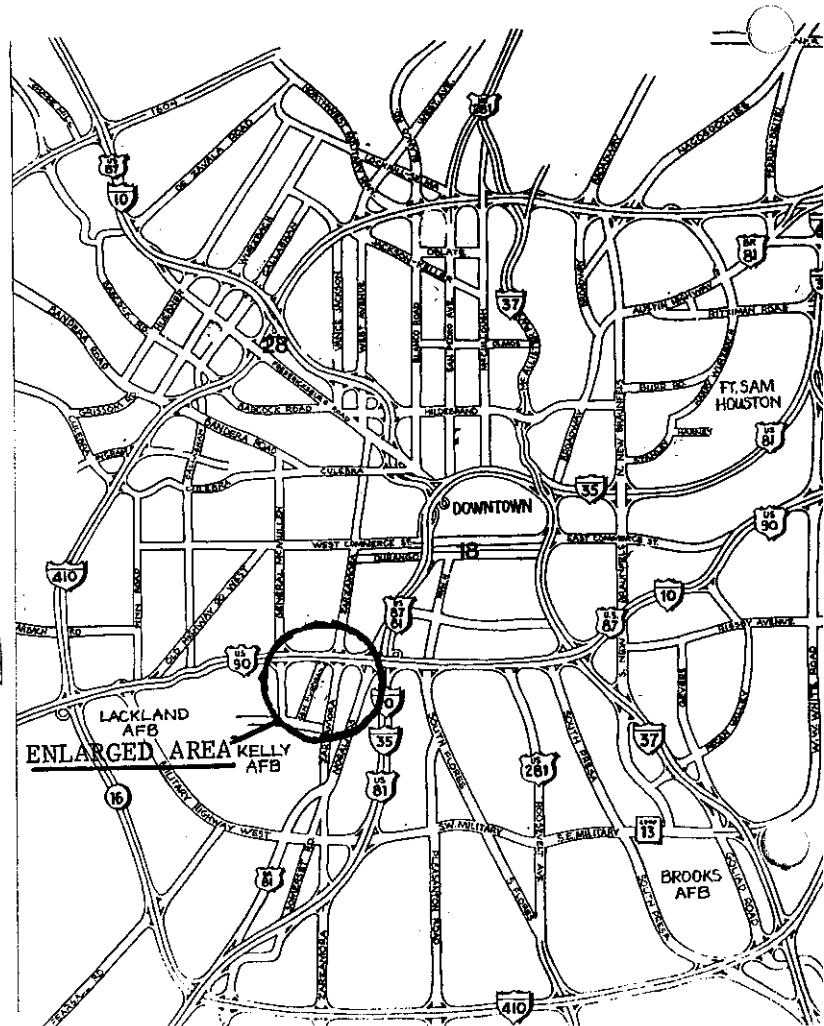
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HARRIMAN

S. ZARZAMORA

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