



The Nightcap

THE NIGHTCAP IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE
103 RENNER, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201 PHONE NUMBER 512-733-7562/6876
OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM MON-FRI 24 HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM SATURDAY

VOL. 16

SEPTEMBER 1986

NO. 9

CONVENTION CLIPBOARD

- SEP 4-7: Third Annual Singles in Sobriety AA Conference (all ages), Lake Murray, Ardmore, OK. Write Box 810029, Dallas, TX 75381. Call 214-528-7559 for more information.
 - SEP 5-7: Young Minds in AA Conference at Lake Whitney, TX. For cabin reservations, call Redwood Lodge 817-694-3412.
 - SEP 19-21: 23rd Fall Assembly and AA Convention; Flagship Inn, write Chairman, 2121 Airport Freeway, Suite 300, Irving, TX 75062.
 - OCT 10-12: Southwest Texas Area Conference, Inn of the Hills, Kerrville, TX.
 - NOV 27-30: 20th Annual Las Vegas AA Round-up. Write The Round-up Committee, P.O. Box 43177, Las Vegas, Nevada 89116.
 - JAN 9-11: Thirteenth Annual Lower Rio Grande Valley AA Jamboree, Ft. Brown Motor Hotel, Brownsville, TX. Write Chairperson, Box 5453, Brownsville, TX 78520.
- (For more detailed information on all of the above, please call CSO.)

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WANTED: VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSON

Position: Chairperson for Hospitals and Institutions Committee, Central Service Office Administrative Board.

Qualifications: Willingness to grow plus 2 years continuous sobriety.

Duties: Monthly attendance at GSR meeting and Administrative Board meeting; obtains volunteers to take meetings and making sure somebody shows up for all H & I meetings.

Benefits: Being a part of service work in Alcoholics Anonymous.

If interested, please contact Sylvia O. through your Central Service Office.

ANONYMITY

"The words powerful enough to describe the spiritual substance of anonymity all are used in our daily AA lives--love, sacrifice, honesty, service and the elusive ingredient necessary to practice these principles--humility." So wrote delegate Charles F., of Central Michigan, in a presentation delivered by another delegate in Charles' absence. "Anonymity as we perceive it in AA always has spiritual substance. It begins with protecting the trusting disclosure of a fellow member's identity. It has to do with the reverent, mutual confidentiality given to our moments and hours of sharing our experience, strength and hope as well as our weaknesses....It is found in the anonymity abounding at every tier of the AA structure. From the individual member through the group, district, area and central office, this spiritual substance flows, uniting our society, pulling us together to serve a common cause: Helping the still-suffering alcoholic."

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NEW EMPLOYEE AT CSO

We welcome Gene H. as our new employee at your Central Service Office. Come by and get acquainted with him. His hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday.

NEW COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

We welcome Al D., Chairman of our new CSO Volunteers. This is a new committee, but Al is certainly not new to CSO! If you can spare a few hours a week to help out at your Central Service Office, please let Al know--call 733-7562 or 733-6876.

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NEW GROUPS--NEW MEETINGS

THE KINGSBORO GROUP has a new meeting! It is held on Tuesday at 8:15 p.m. and is "Closed." This is a discussion meeting where the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions are the topics for discussion. The Kingsboro Group meets at 3210 West Commerce in the Unity Club.

THE WANDERER'S GROUP of AA is in the process of forming and is looking for input and interest. This new group plans to have "camp-out" meetings every second weekend of the month. The meetings for the month of September will be held at a campsite just this side of Bandera. The site is free of charge and also has free bathroom and shower facilities. Interested parties may contact any of the following for particulars:

- Al H. 432-0403
- Monica T. 684-1971
- Will T. 523-1865

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MARYMONT AA GROUP has asked that we announce that they meet at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays AND Fridays (except for the last Friday of the month when the Potluck Dinner begins at 7 p.m.--however, the meeting starts at 8 o'clock).

THE CHAPTER NINE--FAMILY AFTERWARD--BIG BOOK STUDY Group meets at 7 p.m. on Sundays, is open and welcomes singles and couples. "We have been meeting for 8 months now and our group continues to grow in love and laughter. This meeting welcomes AA, Al-Anon, and Alateen, all of whom are interested in creating a greater understanding in recovery and in building healthier relationships for themselves with their loved ones. All of us look forward to sharing this special meeting with you."

THE SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE speaker's meeting will be held from 7:30 to 8:30 on September 20, because of the dance at the Winner's Club that night. The Night Owls meeting will not be held that night, for the same reason.

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COME DANCE WITH US AT THE WINNER'S CLUB

Come "kick up your heels" sober--at the Winner's Club! On Saturday, September 20, the first dance of the fall and winter season will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

If you purchase your ticket in advance it will only cost \$3.00--at the door they will sell for \$3.50--you can't beat a deal like that!

Mark your calendar for an evening of fun and come on out--let's dance!

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I N M E M O R I A M

LEE K. died in San Antonio on August 4, 1986. She was active in AA for over 8 years in this area and will certainly be missed by her many friends, family, and the Fellowship.

JOY H. passed away in August 1986, in San Antonio, after a lengthy illness. She was a member of the Goliad AA Group and will be missed by her family and many friends and, of course, the Fellowship.

TO THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, WE EXTEND OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY AND OUR PRAYERS THAT YOUR BEREAVEMENT MAY BE TEMPERED BY REFLECTIVE THOUGHT UPON THE HAPPINESS SHARED.

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GSR Meeting Minutes

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETING
CLUB 12, AUGUST 17, 1986

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chairperson, Donna T. Thirty-four members were present and new GSRs were introduced: John C., Wilford Hall Group; Donna H., Audubon Group; Darlene B., Friday-Saturday Night-Owls Group; Bill M., Unity Group.

Donna T. reviewed the literature at the head table followed by Sylvia O. reading the GSO Guidelines. Bernard read the 12 Traditions. The minutes were read from the last meeting and were approved.

Dave S. conducted the Administrative Board reports as follows: Financial--Wayne B. reported the monthly loss of \$2500 was due to a decrease in literature sales, a large purchase of literature, and extra wages. He also reported that Alice C., employed at CSO, will attend a training workshop in Chicago in September for AA World Services and Intergroups. Hospitals and Institutions--Sylvia O. reported that AA is currently being asked to service nine weekly meetings which is down from last winter. Editorial--Dee S. reported a dramatic increase in circulation of THE NIGHTCAP with an added 500 since the free announcement. Circulation is now over 1,000. Mailing--Wl M. reported in absentia that he will be needing volunteers to help with folding and labeling of THE NIGHTCAP. Public Information--absent, no report. Penal--absent, no report.

Old Business: Gene H. has been hired as the third employee at Central Service Office.

New Business: The Administrative Board Chairman, Dave S., has been appointed as the liaison between the CSO and the Southwest Region.

A complete library of General Service literature is now available at the Central Service Office.

Announcements: The Marymont AA Group and the Marymont Al-Anon Group meet at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The Eisenhower Group meets at 8:15 on Thursdays for 12-Step Study using the book, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions.

DCM Reports: 1-A--Bob B. present, no report.
1-B--Absent.
1-C--Fred D. present, no report.
1-D--Fred D. present, no report.
1-E--Jim D. present and reported that he has plans for more meetings of all GSRs in his district.
1-F--Absent.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS MEETINGS--SEPTEMBER

SASH: District 1-D Groups
Charter Real: Laurel Heights Group
Thursday Detox: Abundance Happy Hour Group
Casa del Sol: Comeback Group
Brookwood: Unity Group

Monday Detox: Goliad Group
Salvation Army: Audubon Group
Chest Hospital: Summit Step Study Group
ARC: Freedom Group

AFTER-HOURS TELEPHONE DUTY--SEPTEMBER

Aug 25-Sep 01: _____	Sep 01-Sep 07: Callaghan Road Group
Sep 08-Sep 14: Northeast Loop Group	Sep 15-Sep 21: Park North Group
Sep 22-Sep 28: _____	Sep 29-Oct 05: Brookhollow Group

(NOTE: Anyone who can fill in the blank times shown above, please call the CSO.)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dennie K., Secretary

Information on Alcoholics Anonymous

FOR ANYONE SENT TO A.A.,
FOR ANYONE REFERRING PEOPLE TO A.A.

This information is both for those who may themselves have a drinking problem and for those in contact with persons who have, or are suspected of having, such a problem. Most of the information is available in more detail in literature published by A.A. World Services, Inc., and a list of recommended pamphlets and Guidelines is given on the back of this paper. This paper tells what to expect from Alcoholics Anonymous. It describes what A.A. is, what A.A. does, and what A.A. does *not* do.

WHAT IS A.A.?

Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who once had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, nondenominational, multiracial, apolitical, and almost omnipresent. There are no age or educational requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem.

WHAT DOES A.A. DO?

1. A.A. members share their experience with anyone seeking help with a drinking problem; they give person-to-person service or "sponsorship" to the alcoholic coming to A.A. from any source.
2. The A.A. program, set forth in our Twelve Steps, offers the alcoholic a way to develop a satisfying life without alcohol.
3. This program is discussed at A.A. group meetings.
 - a. Open speaker meetings — open to alcoholics and nonalcoholics. (Attendance at an open A.A. meeting is the best way to learn what A.A. is, what it does, and what it does not do.) At speaker meetings, A.A. members "tell their stories." They describe their experiences with alcohol, how they came to A.A., and how their lives have changed as a result of A.A.
 - b. Open discussion meetings — one member speaks briefly about his or her drinking experience, and then leads a discussion on any subject or drinking-related problem anyone brings up.
(*Closed meetings are for A.A.'s or anyone who may have a drinking problem.*)
 - c. Closed discussion meetings — conducted just as open discussions are, but for alcoholics or prospective A.A.'s only.
 - d. Step meetings (usually closed) — discussion of one of the Twelve Steps.
 - e. A.A. members also take meetings into correctional and treatment facilities.
 - f. A.A. members may be asked to conduct the informational meetings about A.A. as a part of A.S.A.P. (Alcohol Safety Action Project) and D.W.I. (Driving While Intoxicated) programs. These meetings *about* A.A. are *not* regular A.A. group meetings.

MEMBERS FROM COURT PROGRAMS AND TREATMENT FACILITIES.

In the last few years, A.A. groups have welcomed an influx of many new members from court programs and treatment facilities. Some have come to A.A. voluntarily; others, under some degree of pressure. In our pamphlet "How A.A. Members Cooperate," the following appears:

We cannot discriminate against *any* prospective A.A. member, even if he or she comes to us under pressure from a court, an employer, or any other agency.

Although the strength of our program lies in the voluntary nature of membership in A.A., many of us *first* attended meetings because we were forced to, either by someone else or by inner discomfort. But continual exposure to A.A. educated us to the true nature of the illness. . . . Who made the referral to A.A. is *not* what A.A. is interested in. It is the problem drinker who is our concern. . . . We cannot predict who will recover, nor have we the authority to decide how recovery should be sought by any other alcoholic.

PROOF OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

Sometimes, courts ask for proof of attendance at A.A. meetings. The following methods have proved to be satisfactory:

1. With the consent of the prospective member, the A.A. group secretary signs or initials a slip furnished by the court.
2. The court furnishes envelopes available to anyone at the close of an A.A. meeting. The individual mails the envelope to the court with his or her name and address, as proof of attendance.
3. Some A.A. groups have sheets of paper with the name and address of the group. Anyone wishing to sign the sheet may do so at the end of the meeting. The secretary mails this in an envelope provided by the referring court, clinic, employer, or other agency sending people to A.A.

This reporting of attendance is *not* part of A.A. procedure. Each attender reports on himself or herself, *at the request of the referring agency*. Thus, no A.A. member is revealing another's A.A. membership, and none of this information is available for publication.

THE NONALCOHOLIC ADDICT

Many treatment centers today combine alcohol and other drug addiction under "substance abuse" or "chemical dependence." Patients (both alcoholic and nonalcoholic) are introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend A.A. on the "outside" when they leave. As stated earlier, *anyone* may attend *open* A.A. meetings. But only persons with a *drinking* problem may attend *closed* meetings or become A.A. members. Dually or multiply addicted people are eligible for A.A. membership *only* if one of their addictions is to *alcohol*.

Dr. Vincent Dole, a pioneer in methadone treatment for heroin addicts and for several years a trustee on the General Service Board of A.A., made the following statement: "The source of strength in A.A. is its single-mindedness. The mission of A.A. is to help alcoholics. A.A. limits what it is demanding of itself and its associates, and its success lies in its limited target. To believe that the process that is successful in one line guarantees success for another would be a very serious mistake." Consequently, we welcome the opportunity to share A.A. experience with those who would like to develop self-help programs for the nonalcoholic addict using A.A. methods perhaps, but using the *experience* of the nonalcoholic addict during drug addiction and recovery.

WHAT A.A. DOES NOT DO

A.A. does not:

1. Furnish initial motivation for alcoholics to recover
2. Solicit members
3. Engage in or sponsor research
4. Join "councils" of social agencies
5. Follow up or try to control its members
6. Make medical or psychological diagnoses or prognoses
7. Provide drying-out or nursing services, hospitalization, drugs, or any medical or psychiatric treatment
8. Offer religious services
9. Engage in education about alcohol
10. Provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money, or any other welfare or social services
11. Provide domestic or vocational counseling
12. Accept any money for its services, or any contributions from non-A.A. sources
13. Provide letters of reference to parole boards, lawyers, court officials

CONCLUSION

The primary purpose of A.A. is to carry our message of recovery to the alcoholic seeking help. Almost every alcoholism treatment tries to help the alcoholic maintain sobriety. Regardless of the road we follow, we all head for the same destination—rehabilitation of the alcoholic person. Together, we can do what none of us could accomplish alone.

RECOMMENDED MATERIAL AVAILABLE FROM A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC.

Pamphlets:

"A Member's-Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous"
"How A.A. Members Cooperate With Other Community Efforts to Help Alcoholics"
"The A.A. Member"
"If You Are a Professional, A.A. Wants to Work With You"
"Problems Other Than Alcohol"

"Understanding Anonymity"
"Let's Be Friendly With Our Friends"
"Is A.A. for You?"
"A.A. in Treatment Centers"
"A.A. and Occupational Alcoholism Programs"
"A.A. As a Resource for the Medical Profession"

Guidelines:

For A.A. Members Employed in the Alcoholism Field
Forming Local Committees on Cooperation With the Professional Community
Public Information
Cooperating With Court, A.S.A.P., and Similar Programs

For copies, write to: A.A. World Services, Inc.
Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

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SEPTEMBER 1986

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 CENTRAL OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY LABOR DAY	2	3	4	5	6 Starlite Group Birthdays
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 CSO Admin. Board meeting, 7 p.m.	16	17	18	19	20 District 1C Break Fast. Dance at Winner's Club. DEADLINE FOR OCT. NIGHTCAP:
21 GSR Meeting, Club 12, 7 p.m. Goliad BBQ at 6 p.m.	22	23	24 Park North, North- wood, 24-Hr Group Birthdays.	25 No. San Pedro Grp. Birthdays; South- side Group Birth- days.	26 El Libre Bando, Downtown, Freedom, SW Loop, Colonies North, Brookhollow, Group 12, Schertz Birthdays; Marymont Potluck & Birthdays	27 Winner's Club Birthdays; Club 12 Games Night; Lambda Potluck & Birthdays.
28 24-Hr. Club Dinner 4 p.m.	29 Alamo Heights Birthdays.	30 Valley Hi, Wind- crest Birthdays.				

AUGUST 1986
S M T W T F S
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

OCTOBER 1986
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

September Birthdays

(These are the ones reported to CSO by various AA Groups-- if yours isn't here, and should be, complain to your Group Secretary!)

40 Years

Harold P.

36 Years

Dade R.

27 Years

Charlie M.

24 Years

Roger D.

23 Years

Vic O.

22 Years

Mary A.

Lila S.

20 Years

Wallace G.

19 Years

Nick M.

18 Years

John De A.

14 Years

Julian F.

Ed H.

George M.

13 Years

Horace A.

John H.

Marion H.

12 Years

Larry C.

Al C.

Jennie W.

11 Years

Dennis D.

10 Years

Margaret G.

Ann M.

Mae W.

9 Years

Bill H.

8 Years

Sara R.

7 Years

Lloyd B.

Kris G.

6 Years

Gene B.

Lloyd C.

Janis N.

Will T.

5 Years

Dan B.

Gerry N.

Peggy S.

4 Years

Marilyn E.

Rudie F.

Henry S.

Donna T.

3 Years

J. Pat B.

Richard "Sonny" H.

Sylvia O.

2 Years

Fran F.

Diane J.

Reid L.

Mary McH.

Robert S.

Ray V.

Jerry W.

1 Year

Les B.

Bob H.

Helen H.

Dennis K.

Gordon L.

Patsy McG.

John Bob P.

Michele P.

Scott R.

Eric, Sr.



Happy Birthday

Feliz Cumpleaños

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL!

Your Central Service Office has lots of items for sale that are very appropriate for AA Birthday gifts. Come in and browse around--you may find just what you are looking for to give to that special person on your birthday list!

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BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

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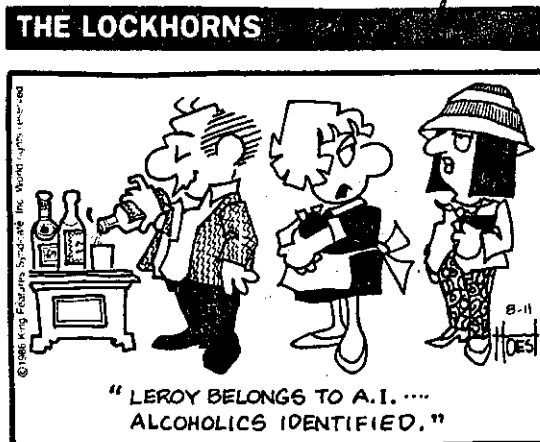
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CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED JULY 1986

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>DISTRICT 1A</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>DISTRICT 1E</u>	<u>MO</u>	<u>YTD</u>
W Abundance		135.36	434.21	Frontier		15.37	59.72
Bandera		80.70	129.90	Goliad		60.00	277.66
Fri-Sat Night Owls			122.74	The Haven			100.00
W Generic			34.00	Highlands		20.00	141.40
W Ladies Mon Night			36.00	Lambda			151.86
W Mens Mon Night			38.08	SASH			100.00
W Mobud Big Book		15.66	68.20	Serenity		30.00	90.00
W Mobud Roundtable		9.88	73.01	Southwest Loop			75.00
W Morning After		83.71	621.45	Valley Hi			351.25
Northwest			54.00	Wilford Hall		63.00	73.00
Reality			35.74	Kelly Special			40.00
W Sat Night Live			128.46	<u>DISTRICT 1F</u>			
W Siesta Ladies		11.56	82.35	Grupo del Sol		8.50	51.35
W Summit			109.66	Grupo Unidad			26.00
W Turning Point		21.00	89.66	Kingsboro			28.75
Villa Rosa		50.00	100.00	La Nueva Vida		7.00	11.00
W Young People		62.29	62.29	Santa Fe		16.00	52.00
	<u>DISTRICT 1B</u>			Wesley			10.00
Audubon			90.00				
Bluemel Oaks			42.00	<u>TOTALS</u>		1,673.03	10,110.56
Callaghan Road			240.00				
Colonial Hills			200.00	<u>AREA CONTRIBUTIONS</u>			
Colonies North			124.57	New Braunfels			24.00
Laurel Heights		60.00	458.00	Kingsland			55.00
Louis Pasteur			57.00	Bulverde			60.00
Medical Prof			260.00				
Park North		60.00	255.00	<u>TOTALS</u>			139.00
Ranger Creek			18.00				
Twelve		120.00	840.00				
Twenty Four Hour			50.00				
	<u>DISTRICT 1C</u>						
Alamo Heights		84.00	252.00				
Alpha House			50.00				
Broadway			60.00				
Brookhollow		25.00	172.00				
Eisenhauer		30.00	30.00				
Freedom		100.00	840.25				
Marymont		180.00	480.00				
North San Pedro			225.00				
Northwood		60.00	120.00				
Stahl Road			95.00				
Tejas			125.00				
Windcrest			35.00				
	<u>DISTRICT 1D</u>						
Ft Sam Houston		150.00	450.00				
Downtown			30.00				
New Life			25.00				
Northeast		54.00	162.00				
Schertz		60.00	245.00				
Universal City			180.00				
Universal City Sunday			41.00				

MANY THANKS to the individual supporting members who donated during the month of July:

- Buddy W.
- Vangie H.
- Hod C.
- Wanda K.
- Jerry B.
- Janis H.
- Gene (Marble Falls)

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Just a reminder that the NIGHTCAP is a free publication. Just send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list. Our purpose is to keep you aware of what's going on in the "AA world" and to give you the opportunity to share your experience, strength, and hope; to keep up with AA happenings, new groups, new meetings, and upcoming events. Please send us your news by the 20th of the month.

✓ = Groups meeting at Winner's Club

AA AA

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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103 RENNER DRIVE
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