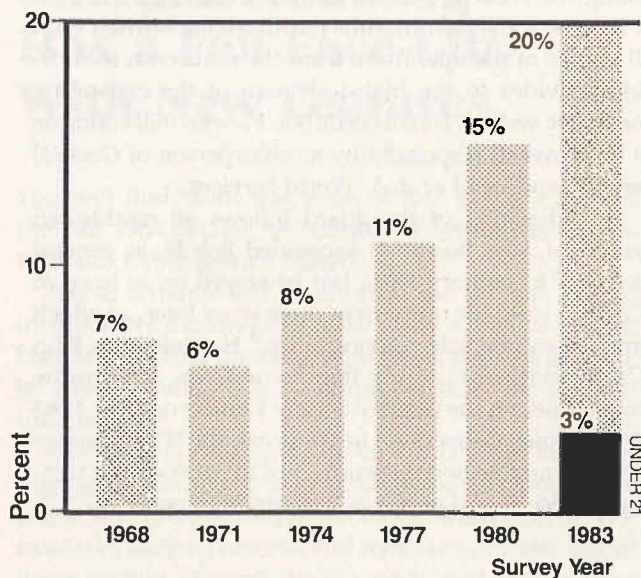


More of the Young and Cross-Addicted Now in A.A., Survey Reveals

If your group is fast becoming a garden of young people, then know you're very trendy. According to results of the 1983 survey of A.A. members in the U.S. and Canada, the percentage of young people (aged 30 and under) entering the program has continued to rise, hitting a new high of 20% of the survey sample in 1983. This is a marked increase over the 15% noted in 1980.

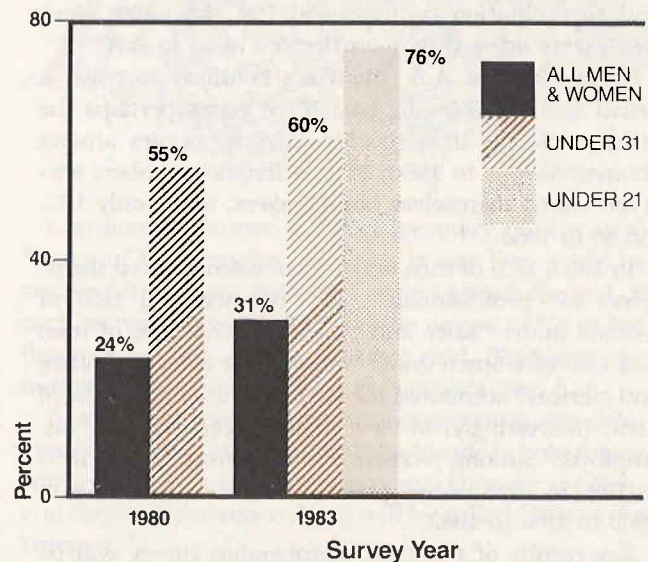
Percentage of Respondents under 31 years of Age



In contrast, the percentage of women, which climbed steadily from 22% in 1968, the first year surveyed, to 31% in 1980, appears to have stabilized in 1983 at 30%. The survey notes that "the ratio of one woman to every two men has been with us for quite a while." Although past surveys have indicated an upward trend in the number of women entering A.A., the 1983 survey results do not.

Significantly, the percentage of members addicted to other drugs as well as to alcohol continues to climb: from 24% in 1980 to 31% in 1983. Among those under 31 years of age, the incidence is much higher: 58% for men and 64% for women in 1983. And the figures for those under 21 years of age — the first time this group has been examined separately — show 74% of men and 78% of women to be dually addicted.

Percentage Addicted to Drugs



These surveys have been conducted every three years since 1968. Last year, questionnaires went out for distribution in July to U.S./Canada Conference delegates representing a total of 33,000 groups — 7,000 more than the 26,000 listed with G.S.O. in 1980. Since 1968, A.A. membership in the U.S. and Canada has tripled, with the greatest numerical increase occurring between 1980 and 1983.

The average sobriety of those surveyed was 45 months, about the same as measured in previous years. Questions covered personal statistics (age, sex, nature of job, dates of first meeting and last drink); A.A. activity (frequency of meeting attendance, group membership,

sponsorship); factors that attracted the person to A.A. in the first place (A.A. members, family, etc); and "outside" considerations (cross addiction, experience with treatment centers and the medical profession). While quantitatively smaller than the 1980 survey of 25,000 members, the 1983 survey maintains a validity of results that is "at least as high," the surveyors report, "because of the carefully designed, random sampling techniques used." Some interesting findings:

- As previous studies have shown, the longer we stick around, the better our chances of staying sober. Of those who come to A.A., about 60% remain after three months, the 1983 survey shows — 10% more than noted in 1980.

- How are newcomers coming in contact with A.A.? The survey makes it clear that the one-to-one approach is still most effective: 37% were attracted by an A.A. member, as compared with 42% in 1980; 27% "came on my own," as in 1980; 20% were encouraged or pressured by family members, down 1% since 1980. A significant 31% — reflecting a steady upward trend since 1977 — joined as a result of guidance from counselors and rehabilitation centers. And 7%, down 2% since 1980, were advised by their doctors to go to A.A.

- Occupations of A.A. members continue to cover a broad spectrum. In the past three years, perhaps the greatest change in a specific category occurs among "homemakers": In 1980, 25% of female members surveyed called themselves homemakers, while only 19% did so in 1983.

In 1983, 18% of men and 19% of women listed themselves as "professionals"; 20% of men and 12% of women under "sales and business"; and 29% of men and 12% of women under "labor." The category "office and clerical" accounted for 12% of women, only 1% of men. Interestingly, in view of the recession, the "unemployed" among women rose only from 9% in 1980 to 10% in 1983; among men, it climbed from 7% in 1980 to 10% in 1983.

Key results of the 1983 membership survey will be presented in the updated version of the illustrated leaflet "The A.A. Member," in a tabletop display of the same title, and in complete report form. All are now in preparation, and *Box 4-5-9* will let you know when these new items become available.

Use of VCRs Deemed Threat to Anonymity

At a meeting of the trustees' Archives Committee earlier this year, considerable discussion centered around the

pros and cons of using video-cassette recorders to capture and preserve the characters and personalities of early A.A. members, many of them already recorded on audio cassette tapes.

The idea seemed appealing except for one huge and sticky wicket: the very real threat to anonymity, which Bill W. again and again called "the key to A.A.'s long-term survival." In the end, the committee turned thumbs down on the proposal.

The temptation to use VCR units for the purpose of carrying the messages of A.A. members into treatment centers evoked similar debate several years ago. At the 1980 General Service Conference, the matter was deliberated at some length by the Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community, which wound up recommending against their use for that purpose.

'Rotation' Is Gradual For Two A.A.'s in Management at G.S.O.

A seasoned G.S.O. service hand and past trustee before taking the reins as general manager on August 1, John B. has spent the past months familiarizing himself with all phases of the operation, from the mailroom to staff-side activities to the high-tech area of the expanding computer system. He succeeds Bob P., who will continue to hold overall responsibility as chairperson of General Services and head of A.A. World Services.

This changing of the guard follows an established precedent, says Bob P. "I succeeded Bob H. as general manager in January 1975; but he stayed on as head of A.A.W.S. until his retirement three years later, at which time I assumed sole responsibility." He welcomes John B.'s appointment, noting that "now I can concentrate my energies on the General Service Conference, the 1985 International Convention in Montreal, the World Service Meeting, and Regional Forums, not to mention the General Service Board and A.A.W.S. matters generally."

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New York, NY 10163

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Sober in A.A., both in New York City and in the Albany (N.Y.) area, since 1966, John early involved himself in service. He served in various offices and was also an intergroup volunteer, working mainly on the hospital desk. He became a member of the trustees' Public Information Committee, served as an A.A.W.S. director for four years, then was elected a trustee (Class B) of the General Service Board in 1981.

Although music was his first love — he played saxophone and clarinet and became a full-fledged member of the musicians' union at a young 14 — John went on to earn a doctorate in physics. He served on submarines in the Pacific during World War II, then proceeded to carve out a career as an industrial scientist. He has received ample personal support along the way from his wife, Mary, and their four children.

Among other posts, John has served as corporate director of research and development of large industrial companies and was co-founder of a consulting firm. In addition to expertise in managing large-company operations, he is familiar with technologies basic to modern communications and office automation.

Literature Catalog Has a Fall Face-Lift, With New Features

You will find, with this issue of *Box 4-5-9*, a copy of the Fall 1984 catalog on "Conference-Approved Literature and Other Service Materials."

Red as a maple leaf in autumn, the 12-page catalog incorporates a convenient order form at the back of the book, for the first time in several years. It also is indexed, by category and book or pamphlet title, for the first time ever.

Published spring and fall by G.S.O., the literature catalog lists, among other things: books; booklets; pamphlets on A.A. recovery; directories; Unity and Service manuals, leaflets, reports, and reprinted articles; special items such as placards, wallet cards, and Twelve Steps window-shade displays; and audiovisual materials.

Available to A.A. groups only are three different Literature Discount Packages, containing a broad selection of A.A. pamphlets and/or books on recovery, unity, and service. Discounts are also available on literature packages earmarked for sale to institutions committees and public information committees and contacts only.

French-Speaking Quebec Workshop Helps Inform The Group Conscience

The concept of the mini-conference may not be new; but the way the first such workshop in Sherbrooke, Que., Canada (Area 88), was conducted last spring opens new perspectives on an informed group conscience.

Held just before the General Service Conference convened in New York, the French-language mini-conference addressed itself to topics on the Conference agenda. D.C.M.'s, G.S.R.'s, and other interested A.A.'s, some of them coming from as far away as 600 miles, shared candidly in round-table discussions.



Comments Maurice R., past secretary of the area: "Many of the everyday problems in our lives could be resolved if only our members were better informed, if each servant better understood the nature of his or her function in A.A. As one member said, 'Problems are nothings that we work hard at complicating.'"

So successful was the first mini-conference, says delegate Rosaire V., that plans are being made to hold future "days of study" twice yearly in preparation for the General Service Conference. Each will be called "Day of the Delegate."

Following are random comments on just a few of the topics discussed at the all-day session in April:

- "Group opinion": "A group opinion is not the same as the group conscience, for the group opinion may follow a simple discussion on a subject without reflecting the voice of conscience."
- "How does a loving God express Himself through the group conscience?": "The loving God cannot manifest Himself where there is no group unity. If this happens, the group will die."
- "Young people in A.A.": "We should have more faith in them—believe in them."
- "Drug addicts": "Keep an open mind in dealing with them, in collaborating with those who are trying to help them."
- "The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions": "We may

interpret and apply them as we wish, but we cannot deny them—they are the way the co-founders and first A.A. members became sober.”

• “Carrying the message”: “If speakers really want to carry the A.A. message, they should tell how they received it themselves, how they see the Steps and apply them in their own lives. They should share their experience, not recite their biographies.”

Sobriety Will Sing Out In Many Ways at A.A.’s 50th Birthday Party

A festival of free communication awaits A.A.’s who will gather at our 50th Anniversary International Convention, July 4-7, 1985, in Montreal, Que. In the program now being worked out in detail, provision is being made for wider sharing than at any previous Convention.

There will be an ample selection of workshops where French-speaking A.A.’s may exchange their views; more in Spanish than usual; two in German; and two that will be “signed” for the hearing-impaired. At some of the alkathons, inspiring stories of recovery will be heard in Spanish and French. And at both of the big meetings conducted in English, simultaneous translation will be available in French, Spanish, or German.

Communication through the printed word will be broadened, too, as A.A. World Services offers a souvenir booklet tracing the first half century of Fellowship history, and the Grapevine draws upon its own 40 years of “meetings in print” to present the anthology “Best of the Grapevine.” (Still in effect is the 1973 Conference recommendation that A.A.W.S., Grapevine, and Al-Anon may offer only one item each for sale at International Conventions. There will be no other sales connected with the 1985 Convention.)

During September, registration and housing forms — in English, French, or Spanish — are being mailed in a steady stream to destinations all over the world. In the host city, excitement is rising. When Montreal welcomes us to that golden weekend in 1985, wherever A.A.’s come from, whatever our native languages may be, we’ll understand one another perfectly as we celebrate “50 Years With Gratitude.”

Correction (of a Convention note in the last *Box 4-5-9*): If a cancellation of hotel reservation is necessary, *you* must contact the hotel *directly* — *not* through your travel agent.

Assemblies Alerted to Seek Candidates for Three Trusteeships

Two new regional trustees (from Southeast and East Central U.S.) and a trustee-at-large/U.S. will be nominated at the General Service Conference in April 1985.

Résumés must be received at G.S.O. by January 1, 1985. (There would be insufficient time to circulate later arrivals for full consideration before the Conference.)

The new Southeast trustee will succeed Joe K. of Lawrenceburg, Tenn.; the new East Central trustee will replace Buck B. of Indianapolis, Ind.; and the trustee-at-large/U.S. will fill the post presently held by David A. of Dallas, Tex. Trustees in both categories serve four-year terms.

Area assemblies in each of the two regions concerned will make the initial choices for the regional trustee; all assemblies in the U.S., for the trustee-at-large. At the Conference (see “The A.A. Service Manual,” pp.98-101, for procedures), the assemblies’ lists will be narrowed down, and the candidate chosen by the Conference for each trusteeship will be elected by the General Service Board at its meeting immediately after the Conference.

¿Habla Español? Hable a Vicente, Nuevo en la G.S.O.

His mother tongue is *Español*; he is a proficient translator; and he has a warm spot for people in general and for Spanish-speaking A.A.’s in particular. Vicente M.’s appointment to the G.S.O. staff in March 1984 has come as welcome news to many a Hispanic member struggling to stay sober in a confusing American culture where rules of grammar seem made to be broken.

Though Vicente will be a nonrotating staff member, his assignment is multi-pronged. He helps the staff handle all correspondence in Spanish; translates pamphlets and bulletins; develops new service material as the need arises; represents G.S.O. at various meetings, forums, and conventions; helps individual Hispanic groups and their G.S.R.’s wherever he can.

Meeting an important need, Vicente acts as interpreter for the G.S.O. staff at business meetings of the Ibero-American Commission for the translation and adapta-

tion of literature, something close to his heart.

Born in Bahía de Caráquez, Ecuador, Vicente grew up in Guayaquil, Ecuador, graduating as an officer from the Naval Academy there. After serving in World War II, he joined the merchant marine and became captain of a banana boat that commuted between Ecuador and New Orleans.

In 1950, he recalls, "I came to the States, to Los Angeles, and I brought my alcoholism with me. It was a 'geographic cure,' I guess—I thought I'd live a different kind of life; after all, I was a married man at the time, with two children." He went to work as a draftsman for Sears Roebuck, then learned to be a designer of air conditioners. In 1960, he switched careers once again and opened his own office for the purpose of "helping people translate their immigration forms, other government documents, letters, etc."

In 1976, on his birthday, March 15, Vicente put down the bottle, and "I've not had a drink since," he says. "I was active in service immediately, and became Spanish liaison for the Southern California Area. I worked for creation of Spanish District 33, which came to pass in 1979. I was coordinator of the Hispanic intergroup office in Los Angeles, a G.S.R., then D.C.M. serving in the Mid-Southern California Area."

Vicente counts himself lucky in having two home groups, one on each coast. *Grupo Nuevo Español* in Paramount, Calif., is where he sobered up; today, he also is a member of *Grupo Alfa y Omega* in Queens, N.Y., not far from his home in Woodside.

In talking about his G.S.O. assignment, Vicente says that his goal is to improve communication with the Hispanic community. At his office, the welcome mat is always out to A.A. visitors, especially the Spanish-speaking kind.

Grapevine Tape #2 Answers 'Encore!' Cry

Now, with release of the second tape cassette featuring selected articles from classic issues of the Grapevine, you can continue to bring the sounds of sobriety into your living room.

Issued as a companion piece to the popular Tape #1, Tape #2 likewise features readings by A.A. members, professionals in the theater and related arts who enthusiastically volunteered their talent and time for a project close to their hearts. Exclaimed one, "It sure beats the heck out of making beer commercials!"

Ideal for the blind (with labels in Braille), the handicapped, and the housebound, the tapes are useful for



informal A.A. meetings at home or on the road, and as discussion starters. They contain the following recordings:

Tape #1. Side One: "What Is Acceptance?" by Bill W.; "From the Quiet Successes" (anonymity); "Those Stupid Slogans!"; "Are You Unappreciated?"; "Slips and Human Nature," by Dr. William D. Silkworth. **Side Two:** "The Fundamentals in Retrospect," by Dr. Bob; "Me and My Traditions"; "Sponsor Relationships"; "On Getting the Program"; "Those Marvelous Twelve Steps," by Harry Emerson Fosdick; "Reality Can Be Uncomfortable."

Tape #2. Side One: "The Language of the Heart," by Bill W.; "Today Is the Tomorrow You Worried About Yesterday"; "What Happened to Them Could Happen to Me"; "The Two Phases of Sobriety"; "Where the Words Come From." **Side Two:** "The Whisper of Humility"; "Positively Negative"; "Those Depressions"; "What — No Work?"; "A Lush in the Halls of Ivy"; "When the Big 'I' Becomes Nobody," by Dr. Harry M. Tiebout.

Both Tape #1 and Tape #2 are available singly, at \$5.50 each, or together as a collector's package at \$10 a set. Please make your check payable to The Grapevine and mail to: P.O. Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

Bob H. Guided G.S.O. In Time of Transition For the Fellowship

When Bob H., former head of A.A. World Services and general manager of the General Service Office, died on June 26, 1984, at age 76, he left a bountiful legacy that touches A.A.'s world over.

"Bob guided G.S.O. activities during a most dramatic

period of growth," recalls his successor, Bob P. "The Fellowship doubled; the publications operation burgeoned. When Bill W. died in 1971, many people doubted that A.A. could get along without its charismatic co-founder. But A.A. never faltered during this sensitive time of transition, and Bob was a key factor in its success."

Raised in Baltimore, Md., Bob H. completed premed courses at Johns Hopkins University. ("He was a frustrated doctor all his life," says Bob P., "and was forever offering medical advice.") He earned his B.A. degree from McGill University; after serving as a first lieutenant in the Army during World War II, he made his way into pharmaceutical advertising, soon becoming an agency vice-president and head of creative projects.

His drinking history was brief but intense. He sobered up in A.A. at age 34 and would have celebrated his 42nd anniversary on June 28, given two more days.

Bob was one of a handful of surviving A.A.'s sponsored initially by Bill W. He was an oldtimer at the Manhattan Group, served in all group offices, and for a time, headed New York Intergroup. He became volunteer head of G.S.O. and president of Works Publishing Company (predecessor of A.A.W.S.) in 1952; he was elected a trustee in 1966 and, a year later, was named general manager upon the retirement of Herbert M. Bob himself retired in 1977.

"Bob was the kindest man I've ever met," remembers Bob P. "He firmly believed that the general manager should not attempt to act as a 'spiritual leader' or as a 'successor' to Bill W. Yet he was always ready to shoulder responsibility when things went wrong. Like President Harry Truman, he believed that 'the buck stops here.' Meticulous, tough-minded, intense, he didn't exactly wear life as a loose garment. But he had empathy for the other guy, for the still-suffering alcoholic as well as the sober one, and was always there to pitch in and help. Importantly, he was ever aware of the need in A.A. to refrain from using and abusing power."

A devoted family man, Bob lived most of his sober life on Long Island with his wife, Elaine, and their children, Thomas and Anne.

Plagued by emphysema and heart trouble in his later years, Bob H. had a premonition of oncoming death last December. "He phoned me," recounts Bob P., "and said he would not be around this world much longer. Would I please deliver his eulogy? he asked—'Nothing flowery and keep it short, say no more than four or five minutes.' I agreed, of course—he was my service sponsor and a best friend. But when time came to give the eulogy, I thought, 'Bob wrote the scenario in advance like a true alcoholic. But I'm an alcoholic, too, and I'm going to take as long as I need to talk about what a truly great guy he was.' And I did."

Report Reflects the Gratitude and Humor Marking '84 Conference

The *Final Report* on the 1984 General Service Conference is in; it makes clear that "Gratitude — The Language of the Heart" not only themed the April session but pervaded it throughout. It also shows that A.A.'s are no slouches when it comes to humor, to the ability to laugh at ourselves.

Even before it started, archivist Frank M. of the G.S.O. staff remarked on the general anticipation of the week ahead: "One wink, and it will be Wednesday — another, and we'll all be crying in our cups at the closing brunch!"

The two-wink week commenced with a welcome address by Gordon Patrick, nonalcoholic chairperson of the General Service Board. He said that, for him, gratitude "is trying to give away to my area what God, through you all, has so freely given to me." Echoing Gordon's sentiments, keynote speaker Al H., Western Canada regional trustee, told the assembled delegates that "I believe we are here to do the work that must be done to preserve our Three Legacies for the still-suffering drunk." Other highlights of the Conference:

- At an "icebreaker" sharing session for new and old delegates, "Dr. Jack" Norris, nonalcoholic trustee emeritus, described A.A. Conferences as "an island of sanity in a world gone mad."
- At a Conference presentation/discussion session, delegate Ralph Van K. of Central New York declared that "we use, abuse, and overuse the word 'tool'. . . yet the Traditions are the hammers, wrenches, pliers, and maybe even the grease that keeps the spirit and trust of A.A. ready for the drunk still drinkin' or the dry still thinkin'."
- During a floor discussion, some delegates expressed feelings of being "awed" by computers. Delegate Lloyd H. of Central Michigan delighted all when he commented drily, "I was awed when they took running boards off cars, too."
- "In my opinion," said delegate Myron G. of Virginia, "Bill W. would have made a terrific D.C.M. He was willing to go to any length and to accept group conscience. He understood the necessity of two-way communication."

Copies of the report, which is illustrated with sketches that capture the spirit of the Conference, may be ordered from G.S.O. for \$2 each. This is a confidential publication, available to A.A. members only, since it uses full names (as recommended by the 1975 Conference) to enhance communication within the Fellowship.

BOX 4|5|9 BULLETIN BOARD

Items and Ideas on Area Gatherings for A.A.'s — Via G.S.O.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1984

Calendar of Events

October

- 4-7 — *Pompano Beach, Florida*. Fall Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 333, Pompano Beach, FL 33061
- 5-7 — *St. Louis, Missouri*. First Annual Fall Conv. Write: Ch., Box 904, St. Louis, MO 63017
- 5-7 — *Amarillo, Texas*. Top o' Texas Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 412, Amarillo, TX 79105
- 5-7 — *Clarksburg, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Roundup. Write: Roundup, Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26301
- 5-7 — *Rochester, New York*. Fourth Annual Conv. Write: Conv., 183 E. Main St., Suite 1035, Rochester, NY 14604
- 5-8 — *Mentor, Ohio*. 35th Punderson Pk. Conf. Write: Conf., Box 1032, Mentor, OH 44061
- 5-7 — *Toronto, Ontario, Canada*. Fourth Annual Lesbian & Gay Conf. Write: Ch., 45 Dunfield Ave., Suite 2220, Toronto, Ont. M4S 2H4
- 5-7 — *Prince George, British Columbia, Canada*. 28th Annual Northern Lites Roundup. Write: Ch., 2707 Lillooet St., Prince George, B.C. V2L 1S9
- 5-7 — *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*. Third Freedom Roundup (sponsored by lesbians & gay men in A.A.). Write: Reg., Box 15978, Philadelphia, PA 19103
- 5-7 — *Montego Bay, Jamaica*. Discovery Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 138, Reading Montego Bay, Jamaica, West Indies
- 5-7 — *Pasco, Washington*. — Area Assy. Write: Host Com., Box 1506, Pasco, WA 99301
- 5-7 — *Yuma, Arizona*. 34th State Conv. Write: Conv., Box 4446, Yuma, AZ 85364
- 5-7 — *Sudbury, Ontario, Canada*. 29th Annual Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 605, Sudbury, Ont. P3E 4P8
- 5-7 — *Geneva Park, Ontario, Canada*. 19th Georgian Bay Dist. Conv. Write: Host Com., Proton Sta., Ont. N0C 1L0
- 5-7 — *Spearfish, South Dakota*. Fall State Conf. Write: Ch., 950 Main, Sturgis, SD 57785
- 5-7 — *Zion, Ill.* Conf. Write: Ch., 12224 S. 44th Pl., Alsip, IL 60658
- 6-8 — *Columbus, Indiana*. Sec. Annual Men's Workshop. Write: Ch., Box 644, Columbus, IN 47202
- 12-14 — *Brainerd, Minnesota*. First Minn. Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 103, Wayzata, MN 55391
- 12-14 — *Kalispell, Montana*. Fall Roundup. Write: Dist. 91 Intergroup, Box 1728, Whitefish, MT 59937
- 12-14 — *Wichita, Kansas*. State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1895, Wichita, KS 67201
- 12-14 — *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. 34th Annual Prov. Conf. Write: Cent. Off., #1103, 10235—124 St., Edmonton, Alta. T5N 1P9
- 12-14 — *Cedar Rapids, Iowa*. State Fall Conf. Write: Conf. Ch., Box 153, Marion, IA 52302
- 12-14 — *Merritt, British Columbia, Canada*. 12th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1779, Merritt, B.C. V0K 2B0
- 12-14 — *Redding, California*. N. Calif. Council of A.A. 37th Annual Fall Conf. Write: Conf. Secy., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122
- 12-14 — *Claresholm, Alberta, Canada*. 11th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 45, Claresholm, Alta. T0L 0T0
- 12-14 — *Hinton, West Virginia*. 18th Annual Bluestone Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3744, Charleston, WV 25337
- 13-14 — *Mountainburg, Arkansas*. Sec. Annual Conf. of Young People. Write: Conf., Box 55331, Little Rock, AR 72205
- 19-21 — *Lafayette, Louisiana*. Cajun Country Conf. Write: Conf., 136 River Rd., Lafayette, LA 70501
- 19-21 — *Beaverton, Oregon*. Columbia R. Young People's Roundup. Write: C.R.Y.P.R., Box 1594, Portland, OR 97207
- 19-21 — *Hyanis, Massachusetts*. 21st State Conv. Write: Conv. Com., Box 5044, Billerica, MA 01822
- 19-21 — *Williston, North Dakota*. Annual State Roundup. Write: Roundup Com., Box 1641, Williston, ND 58801
- 19-21 — *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*. Area Conf. Write: Conf. Treas., Cent. Off., 238 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 1200, Milwaukee, WI 53203
- 19-21 — *Warren, Ohio*. Fourth Annual State Roundup of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 2171, Warren, OH 44484

Planning a December, January, or February Event?

Please be sure to send your information on December, January, or February events for A.A.'s in time to reach G.S.O. by *October 15*. This is the calendar deadline for the Holiday issue of *Box 4-5-9* (to be mailed November 15).

Naturally, G.S.O. cannot check on all the information submitted. We must rely on local A.A.'s to describe the events accurately.

Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

October (page 23): acceptance; Step Nine; growth through pain; self-support.

November (page 13): getting through the holidays; "First Things First"; mental sobriety; Step Eleven.

20-21 — *Fort Frances, Ontario, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 544 3rd St. W., Fort Frances, Ont. POW 1C0

20-21 — *Brandon, Manitoba, Canada*. Fellowship Gp. Anniv. Write: Ch., 24 Argyle Cts., Brandon, Man. R7B 2C7

25-28 — *Honolulu, Hawaii*. 23rd Annual Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 23434, Honolulu, HI 96822

25-28 — *Memphis, Tennessee*. Tenth Bluff City Conv. Write: Ch., Box 240831, Memphis, TN 38124

26-28 — *London, Ontario, Canada*. Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 725, London, Ont. N6A 4Y8

26-28 — *Casa Grande, Arizona*. 25th Sahuaro Agape Weekend. Write: Secy., Box 40214, Tucson, AZ 85717

26-28 — *Hays, Kansas*. Third Annual N.W. Kans. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 326, Hays, KS 67601

26-28 — *Harrisonburg, Virginia*. First Annual Shenandoah Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., Rte. 11, Box 186, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

26-28 — *Bossier City, Louisiana*. Tri-State Conv. Write: Conv. Ch., Box 5395, Shreveport, LA 71105

26-28 — *Beaumont, Texas*. Ninth Dist. Mini-Conf. Write: Treas., Box 2243, Nederland, TX 77627

26-28 — *Red Deer, Alberta, Canada*. Annual Dist. Roundup. Write: Ch., 4017—39 St., Red Deer, Alta. T4N 0Y8

26-28 — *Downingtown, Pennsylvania*. Young People's Conf. Write: Conf. Com., Box 180, Morton, PA 19070

26-28 — *Pittsfield, Massachusetts*. 33rd Annual Hudson/Mohawk/Berkshire Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1814, Pittsfield, MA 01202

27 — *New York, New York*. Intergroup Dinner-Meeting and Dance in Honor of Bill W. Write: Dinner Com., 175 5th Ave., Rm. 219, New York, NY 10010

Flip up this end of page—November and December events listed on reverse side

November

- 1-3 — *Ocracoke, North Carolina*. 11th Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 355, Ocracoke, NC 27960
- 1-4 — *Lincoln, Nebraska*. Fall Frolic. Write: Ch., Box 2334, Lincoln, NE 68502
- 2-4 — *Monterey, California*. Fifth Annual Young People's Conf. by the Sea. Write: Ch., Box A-211, 177 Webster, Monterey, CA 93940
- 2-4 — *Taos, New Mexico*. First Annual Taos Mt. Fiesta. Write: Ch., Box 1209, Taos, NM 87571
- 2-4 — *Greeley, Colorado*. Fall Area Assy. Write: Ch., 1725 5th St., Greeley, CO 80631
- 2-4 — *Rogersville, Alabama*. Riverside Roundup I. Write: Ch., 300 Spring Valley Ct., Huntsville, AL 35802
- 2-4 — *Lincoln, Montana*. 12th Wilderness Agape Weekend. Write: Coord., 23 Konley, Kalispell, MT 59901
- 2-4 — *Pocatello, Idaho*. Fall Area Assy. Write: Fall Assy., Box 1642, Pocatello, ID 83204
- 2-4 — *Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina*. 11th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Drawer 68, Sanford, NC 27330
- 3 — *Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Gratitude Night. Write: Ch., 2836 Grant Rd., Regina, Sask. S4S 5G2
- 8-11 — *Las Vegas, Nevada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 43177, Las Vegas, NV 89116

- 9-11 — *Minneapolis, Minnesota*. 44th Annual Founder's Day Weekend. Write: Banq. Ch., Alano Soc., 2218 First Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404
- 9-11 — *Kiamesha Lake, New York*. 14th N.E. Reg. Conv. Write: Ch., Box 364, Glenwood Landing, NY 11547
- 9-11 — *Branson, Missouri*. Annual Area Conv. Write: Conv. Treas., Box 311, Rockaway Beach, MO 65740
- 9-11 — *Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada*. Sec. Annual Roundup. Write: Roundup Com., 3807 54th St., Wetaskiwin, Alta. T9A 2S8
- 16-17 — *Amelia, Louisiana*. Mid-S. La. Alkathon. Write: Ch., Rte. #1, Box #524A, Gibson, LA 70356
- 16-18 — *Yosemite National Park, California*. First Annual Summit Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1243, Mariposa, CA 95338
- 16-18 — *Jonesboro, Arkansas*. 30th Annual Thanksgiving Party. Write: Ch., Box 755, Jonesboro, AR 72401
- 23-25 — *Hamilton, Bermuda*. Conv. Write: Conv. Com., Box DV 736, Devonshire 4, Bermuda
- 23-25 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Great Plains Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 31306, Omaha, NE 68132
- 23-25 — *Wichita, Kansas*. Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 18093, Wichita, KS 67218
- 23-25 — *Ann Arbor, Michigan*. Sixth Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., C.Y.P.A.A., Box 362, Belleville, MI 48111

December

- 7-9 — *Charleston, South Carolina*. S.E. Reg. Forum. Write: Reg. Forum Coord., Box 459, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163
- 29-30 — *Neosho, Missouri*. Winter Holiday TV. Write: Ch., Box 43, Neosho, MO 64850