

BOX 4-5-9

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE OF A.A.

Vol. 22, No. 5

October-November 1977

TWO REGIONAL TRUSTEES TO BE CHOSEN IN 1978

A.A. trustees for the Eastern Canada and Pacific U.S. Regions will be named for the General Service Board at the 1978 annual meeting of A.A.'s General Service Conference in New York in April. Résumés of candidates must be received at G.S.O., by registered mail, no later than Jan. 1, 1978.

The Eastern Canada Region is composed of the Maritime Provinces, Ontario, and Quebec. The new board member will succeed Pete W., Oakville, Ont.

Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington make up the Pacific Region, currently represented by Stan W., Fairfax, Calif.

All of A.A.'s regional trustees serve four-year terms, without pay. For further information, see "How A.A. Chooses Regional Trustees," pp. 98-99 in the 1977 "A.A. Service Manual," or write G.S.O.

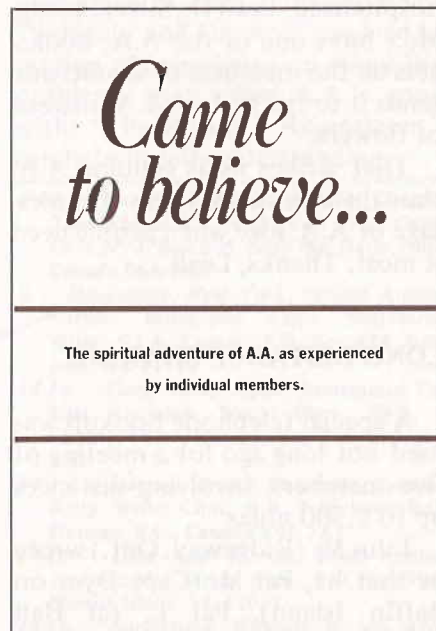
GROUP REACTIONS TO THE DUAL ADDICTION PROBLEM

Letters from Montana and Minnesota about "pill" addicts coming to A.A. meetings prompt G.S.O. to offer free, to anyone who wants it, the little folder "Problems Other Than Alcohol (Excerpts)," by Bill W. It has answered many questions and helped many groups through rough periods. How many can your group use?

Charles M., Great Falls, Mont., says his group welcomes anyone at open meetings, but at closed meetings it insists that any dually ad-

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How the A.A. Booklet 'Came to Believe...' Can Change Lives



How many alcoholics have come to A.A. only to be turned off by talk about God or a Higher Power?

We all know some, of course. And many of us know, too, that many, many such troubled alcoholics have found just the help they need in the A.A. paperback "Came to Believe . . .," subtitled "The Spiritual Adventure of A.A. as Experienced by Individual Members."

The new printing of this 120-page booklet has a brand-new blue and white cover design, shown here. But the important thing is its contents. Seventy-six A.A.'s tell briefly in their own words how they arrived at their own personal meanings for the phrases "a Power greater than ourselves" or "God as we understood Him."

Their outlooks range from outright atheism and agnosticism,

through humanism, to various orthodox religious beliefs.

A recent letter to us said: "By the time I reached my late 20's, I had drunk my way through a variety of roommates, male and female, a variety of jobs and of lifestyles.

"Without a car or a driver's license, I had to rely on a fellow worker for daily transportation. She knew about my hangovers, of course, the days I just couldn't make it at all, and my generally miserable, hopeless condition.

"One day, I idly picked up a booklet from the dash shelf of her car. It was "Came to Believe" I was immediately taken with stories about faith changing people's lives, even though I was a nonbeliever.

"Where did you get this?" I asked her. "What's it all about?"

"She said she once had a drinking problem and was now in A.A., and told me I could take the booklet home if I liked. She asked if I'd like to go to a meeting with her.

"I did both, and that was the beginning of sobriety for me."

Another member, always a faithful churchgoer, has told us he does not care for some of the stories, "but that's not the point. Every newcomer deserves a chance at it. It helps many I cannot personally reach."

Still another correspondent wrote, "I'm not a drinker at all, but I feel how egocentric and separated I am from people most of the time. So I was thrilled by the

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Subscriptions: Individual, \$1.50 per year; group, \$3.50 for each unit of 10 per yr. Check - made payable to A.A.W.S., Inc. - should accompany order.

TWO REGIONS TO HOLD FALL FORUMS

The Eastern Canada and Southwest U.S. Regions will host the sixth and seventh A.A. regional forums.

All service-minded A.A.'s in the Atlantic Provinces, Ontario, and Quebec have received notification of the forum to be held in Ottawa Sept. 30-Oct. 2.

Those in the Southwest (Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) will be notified in late September of the forum to be held in Amarillo Dec. 2-4.

If you need information, contact your delegate or G.S.O.

VINNIE McC. JOINS G.S.O.

Vinnie (short for Vincina, a family name) has been a welcome new face around G.S.O. since June. She's from Long Island (West Islip, N.Y.), moved to Manhattan in 1967, and worked for about nine years in magazine publishing, doing production—the practical end of the business, making sure all material is where it's supposed to be, on time.

Vinnie picked the right company; an A.A. member who also worked there steered her toward the Fellowship when she began to need us. After her last drink, in 1970, she became active first in the Murray Hill Group and then at Lenox Hill, holding various group offices. In her first year of sobriety, she took her turn at phone-answering in the New York Intergroup

office and later spoke to non-A.A. audiences for its Public Information Committee.

An avid reader in leisure hours, Vinnie is also interested in theater and concerts. "Sober, I'd like to do a lot of the things I came to New York to do in the first place!"

A NEW KIND OF A.A. THOUGHTFULNESS

When a member of her group is hospitalized, Leah D., Silver Spring, Md., buys one of the A.A. books, gets all the members to sign it, and sends it to the laid-up A.A. instead of flowers.

That strikes us as genuine A.A. thoughtfulness, carrying the message of A.A. love when people need it most. Thanks, Leah.

LONG-DISTANCE SHARING

A special telephone hookup was used not long ago for a meeting of five members, involving distances up to 2,500 miles.

John M. (Ridgeway, Ont.) wrote us that he, Pat M. (Cape Dyer on Baffin Island), Pat L. (at Hall Beach, 500 miles west of Cape Dyer), Loydd (Winnipeg), and Albert L. (Bar One) had a good 30 minutes of A.A. spirit and feelings together, long-distance.

G.S.O. OPEN HOUSE NOV. 5

All A.A.'s are invited to visit your General Service Office (sixth floor, 468 Park Avenue South, at 31st Street, New York City) during the annual open house Saturday, November 5—day of the annual Bill W. anniversary dinner hosted by the New York Intergroup Association.

We'll be open 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and look forward to seeing all of you. If you're bringing a large crowd, we'd appreciate knowing how many, so plans can be made accordingly.

DOES THE G.S. CONFERENCE REALLY 'BOSS' A.A.?

What if some A.A.'s wanted to rewrite the First Step? Or drop the Eleventh and Twelfth Traditions?

If they happened to be members of your own group's steering committee — or if they belonged to some other A.A. committee or board, or worked in some A.A. service office — would that give them the "right" or "authority" to change our Steps and Traditions without consulting the rest of us?

If we cherish our freedom in A.A., we ought to look into such matters. By reading the Conference Charter, we'd find we are insulated against exactly such power-drivers by our General Service Conference.

Established by our Society in 1955 (after a five-year trial run), the Conference has the obligations and the power that are clearly set forth in this charter. It contains a few simple ideas that make it possible for our unorganized Fellowship to get certain basic tasks for drunks done in an efficient, orderly way, without legalistic folderol.

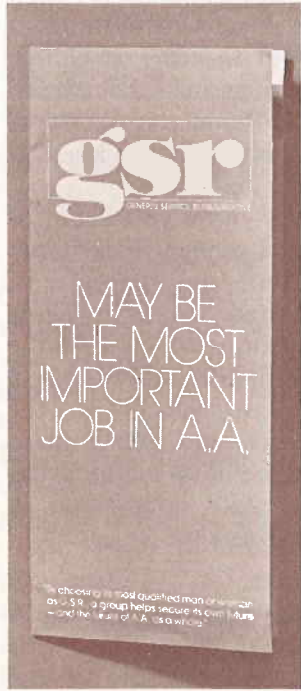
The first section reads: "1. Purpose: The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is the guardian of the world services and of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions The Conference shall be a service body only; never a government"

Like other A.A. ideas, this turns out to concern the heart more than the mind, although it is rooted squarely in practical, down-to-earth common sense.

As we know, many (maybe most) A.A.'s dislike intensely anyone's trying to exercise authority over us. So the ordinary organization style — a hierarchy of power with authority flowing from the top — is turned topsy-turvy in A.A. Given enormous responsibility, the Conference is told it must *serve* the Fellowship, never govern it.

In the next 4-5-9, we'll look at who makes up the Conference and how its sections fit together.

G.S.R. Corner



NEW PAMPHLET READY

“Very few ‘trusted servants’ in A.A. groups feel as unloved and misunderstood as we poor G.S.R.’s,” a general service representative told 4-5-9 recently. “Can’t somebody tell the rest of the group what we do?” he queries querulously.

Yes, somebody can. You. The new G.S.R. pamphlet, now ready, answers practically all the questions anyone can ask about this vital A.A. job. If a group does not have a good G.S.R., it is isolated from the rest of our worldwide Fellowship. G.S.R.’s see some exciting
(continued on next page)

Trustee Corner

AWARD TO DR. JACK

The Gold Key Award, highest honor of the National Council on Alcoholism, was awarded to our own “Dr. Jack” at the opening of N.C.A.’s 1977 Forum and Conference in San Diego, Calif. The citation read: “To John L. Norris, M.D., a physician who has worked long and devotedly in the service of alcoholics throughout the world. He has brought help to suffering alcoholics who regained health and were restored to their families and friends.

“At Eastman Kodak Company, he helped establish one of the nation’s first labor-management collaborations to enlighten and assist working alcoholics in overcoming their illness so that they could
(continued on next page)



MAIL REUNION WITH OLD FRIENDS

All past delegates to the Conference received this year the *Final Report* of the 1977 annual meeting. (*If you are a past delegate and have not received yours – do we have your correct new address?*) When these former “trusted servants” learned they will receive such reports from now on, many wrote heartwarming letters. Some excerpts:

“Good! I still love to hear from all of you!” – J. P. M. (Panel 7, S.E. Tex.), Florence, Miss. “I enjoy everything sent from G.S.O. Being delegate from South Dakota in 1956-7 was one of the greatest things that happened in my life. I’m still active in A.A. after 32 years.” – Dan D., Sioux City, Iowa. “Such mailings give us the feeling of not being forgotten and give us information we can pass on to those not fortunate enough to be delegates.” – Neil McV., Toronto, Ont. “I’m delighted you keep in touch with me. I’m as interested now as in 1968-69.” – Wyn D., Hamilton, Ont. “Nothing gladdens the heart of an ex-delegate more than being remembered. I’m always available to help.” – Ted K., Tacoma, Wash. “How happy I am we’ll be receiving the *Con-*
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Delegate Corner

FOR DEAF A.A.’S

Last summer, this teletyped message arrived in the homes of deaf persons in Los Angeles (via D.E.A.F. Media, Inc.’s “Dial-A-News”): “Alcoholics Anonymous now has a T.T.Y. in their Los Angeles Central Office. If anyone wishes help with their drinking problem, please contact 387-8316 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. during the week.”

The message resulted from the donation of a special teletype machine to the C.O. by the Los Angeles A.A. Deaf Group. Any deaf person who has a T.T.Y. can now communicate with the C.O.
(continued on next page)



The adaptor box (above) enables messages typed on the T.T.Y. (below) to be sent by phone.



Central Office Corner

G.S.R. CORNER (continued)

A.A. activity other members almost never learn about.

Who can be a G.S.R.? How and when should one be chosen? Exactly what does a G.S.R. do for his or her own sobriety? For his or her group? For A.A. worldwide? All these questions and many more are answered in this little leaflet.

Every G.S.R. can have one free, of course. And if some G.S.R. wants to put one on each seat at a group meeting — just tell us how many are needed.

TRUSTEE CORNER (continued)

either remain on or return to the job as productive and fulfilled employees.

“For 16 years, he has served as nonalcoholic chairman of the board of trustees of Alcoholics Anonymous. Known throughout the worldwide Fellowship as ‘Dr. Jack,’ he enjoys the affection of A.A.’s everywhere. His guidance has been invaluable to the Fellowship, which is recognized as a 20th-century miracle.

“The National Council on Alcoholism is profoundly grateful for his ineradicable contribution in making its own task easier and for helping illuminate the disease of alcoholism through his tireless efforts within professional and lay communities.”

The citation was signed by N.C.A. President Thomas J. Swafford.

DELEGATE CORNER (continued)

ference Report!” — Hope S., New Orleans, La. “I love your concern!” — Shorty H., Kennewick, Wash. Plus similar notes from: Mel LeG., Weston, Ont.; Don W., Greenburg, Ind.; Kendall O., Farmington, N.M.; Joe C., Jesup, Ga.; Keet R.,

Springfield, Mo. — and more still arriving as we go to press. Thanks!

C.O. CORNER (continued)

Some “A.A. authorities,” of course, were sure the machine would sit idle a long, long time. But less than 24 hours after installation, it sprang into clattering life. A deaf alcoholic wanted help. A Twelfth Step job was quickly done, and the first user of the new service soon attended his first meeting at the local deaf group.

“Who says there are no miracles?” asks David H., C.O. manager.

FOR ANSWERING SERVICES: NEW HELP NOW READY

Guidelines on A.A. Answering Services have just been published—and are available without charge from G.S.O.

In May, we sent questionnaires to 250 intergroups, central offices, and answering services, and the new Guidelines are a pooling of all that up-to-date experience.

If your local service has any problem, a service elsewhere may have licked it, and now that experience can be shared. Or if groups in your area are considering starting a telephone answering service, you can learn how others have done it, and best methods of operation.

PRAYER AT MEETINGS

“Why do so many A.A. groups use the Lord’s Prayer, a Christian supplication, during meetings? How about the Serenity Prayer?” asks David D., Salem, Va.

Since each group is autonomous (Fourth Tradition), each can decide for itself whether it wants any prayer and if so, which.

The pioneer A.A. members went to Oxford Group meetings, where

the Lord’s Prayer was used, and apparently just carried it over to A.A. In 1941, the Serenity Prayer was introduced into A.A. by a member (see “A.A. Comes of Age,” p. 196).

Some groups use silent prayer; others, none. But isn’t the spirit of prayer more important than the words? At any rate, each group or member is free to make an individual choice.

HOW TO CUT COSTS OF SHOWING A.A. FILMS

Six groups in one Indiana district worked out a joint schedule for consecutive showings in six days of our A.A. film “Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions.”

A total of 191 people thoroughly enjoyed the movie, according to Bill P., Elkhart. The six groups split the one-week \$35 rental, and projectors were rented or borrowed from libraries, schools, or churches.

Maybe other groups near one another would also like to try such a plan, not only for the Traditions film, but also for showings of “Bill’s Own Story” or of the filmstrips “Circles of Love and Service” (new) and “Box 459.” All are professionally produced, in color, with sound.

FOR A.A. CB-ERS

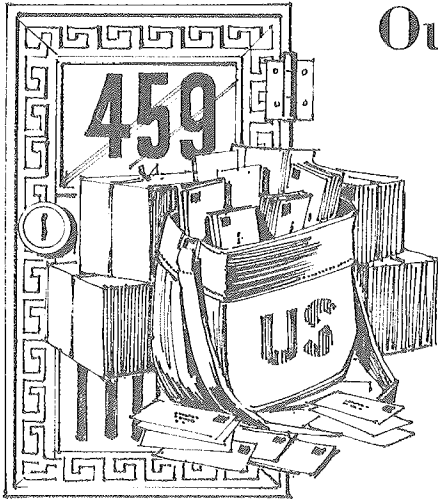
Can A.A. CB-ers (that’s Citizen Band radio freaks, in case you don’t know) reach each other without breaking anonymity on the air?

Bill Y., Willowdale, Ont., asked the question after telling of a fine meeting he accidentally had with a fellow member after CB contact.

Yes, we’ve heard of several ways. One man says, “Any friends of Bill W. and Dr. Bob out there?”

Another broadcasts, “‘Easy Does It’ and ‘Live and Let Live.’ Any takers?”

Both approaches have helped A.A. CB-ers find each other.



Our Office Mail Can Be a Spiritual Trip

G.S.O. has to be a business office, of course. But our daily bags of mail, unlike those of commercial enterprises, often provide a feast for the soul. Here's a sharing of just a tiny sample.

New Kansas City discussion plan

"We just finished a Big Book discussion series led by Ted S.," writes Don G., Kansas City, Mo. "Ted first told the history of A.A. and how the book got its name. We started with the forewords, and on through the chapters, with each person who desired to reading a couple of paragraphs, then stopping for discussion. Then we took three or four weeks on the stories. As many as 70 people were present.

"With years of sobriety, I've read the book many times; but I got more out of these sessions than from all my previous readings," Don says.

Ted has also sent us a uniquely interesting index. He began with the subjects listed in the reader "As Bill Sees It," then showed pages where each of these topics is discussed in the Big Book. "The interest was unbelievable," he says. "Discussion was good during the Big Book meetings, but nothing like the discussions based on these ideas."

Oldtimer has new fun

"If any oldtimers, bleeding deacons, or elder statesmen feel like A.A. has-beens," writes former

trustee Tom M., Pulaski, Tenn., "let me recommend they start a new group. The old original elation, enthusiasm, and plain happiness come back. We cannot assume every suffering alcoholic now finds us.

"In semiretirement, I have a place in Rogersville (900 people). Years ago, I put a Big Book in its library with my phone number on the flyleaf.

"Last summer, paying for a sandwich in a small restaurant, I had change in my hand, including a silver dollar with 25 tiny holes drilled in it. The waitress insisted on knowing what it meant, and I finally said each hole meant a year without a drink.

"My husband is in A.A.!" she exclaimed. It turned out he had retired and, like me, had been trying to start a group there.

"Now we have as many as 33, three of them quite new. We meet in my house, on a boat, or on a dock, and members of other groups visit us.

"Love to all from a happy, grateful drunk with still *another* new way of life!"

California H&I Conference

Senior officials of the State Corrections Department attended the fifth annual meeting of the State Hospital and Institutions Conference in Fresno, Calif., this year, and participated in 12 panels on various subjects. Controversy over sponsorship after release came up, our correspondent notes, with differing opinions. But most agreed there is common ground for compromise.

Glasgow police help

According to G.S.O. visitor Bruce M. (North London Inter-group), the message is being carried on the walls of police stations in Glasgow, Scotland. Hanging next to signs listing prisoners' rights is a sign asking if you have a drinking

problem, and giving the A.A. number.

That's carrying the message to the sick alcoholic right where he is!

So does Korea priest

An Irish priest has been in Sokcho, Korea (five hours by bus from Seoul), many years, Stan B. writes. Father Art's hobby is translating A.A. materials into Korean. Forty A.A.'s went to his place for the July 4 weekend.

Group inventory pays off

"How This Good Group Could Become Better" was the subject of a group inventory meeting of the Step Up to Sobriety Group, Portland, Ore., Bob H. writes.

Three good results occurred: 1. Many Twelfth Step calls came, because members decided to contact their doctors, clergymen, and lawyers about A.A.

2. A man and a woman rotate each month as greeters to newcomers, plus following up with phone calls to encourage questions. The effects are excellent, on both newcomers and rotating greeters.

3. Members rotate the duties of setting up the meeting each month. As a consequence, many more people feel they belong, and are of service to the group.

One in every 60!

Atikokan, an iron-mining town in Ontario, has 6,000 people. The two A.A. groups there have a total membership of 100—which means one in every 60 is in A.A.!

And there's still lots of Twelfth Step work to do, members say. Incidentally, over half of their members are under 35 years old.

Austria, New Zealand, Italy

"Helen and I observed our 47th wedding anniversary in Vienna last year," writes longtime Internationalist Arthur L. "I've been nearly blind for years and have a terminal

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OUR OFFICE MAIL (continued from p. 5)

disease, but A.A. has made our last 20 years beautiful."

Norah C. of New Zealand died of cancer this year, but her last note was "for my family and friends of A.A.," her son Jon says. "She wrote: 'I have been granted the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.'"

"The courage with which she faced her situation was an unforgettable example," says Jon.

A Navy wife in Italy found herself a Loner shortly before leaving that country. Then someone gave her the first copy she had ever seen of the G.S.O. bulletin *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*.

"There was a letter from Shep about the Pearl Harbor Group I attended regularly in Hawaii. I didn't know whether to laugh or cry, I felt so good. It was as if he had already answered my letter!" she writes.

Sober underwater

From a submarine off Italy: "Thank you for putting Will R.'s letter in the April-May *Box* 4-5-9. I was worried about going to Sardinia, because there wasn't a group in 1973 and it was hard staying sober. Now my mind is eased. Anywhere I go, I'll find A.A. waiting for me," writes Randy A.

EXPLAINING THOSE QUARTERLY STATEMENTS

A statement showing the group's contributions for A.A.'s world services goes to each group from G.S.O. every three months.

The quarterly statement is *not* a request for a donation!

It has two meanings: (1) Thank you very much, if you have made any loving gift; and (2) please help us keep our records straight—is this amount recorded for your group correct?

'CAME TO BELIEVE...' (continued from p. 1)

stories in "Came to Believe . . ." I think all of us need such help, not just alcoholics, to be more loving and helpful."

A young agnostic wrote us that he kept his unorthodox views a secret his first two sober years in A.A., afraid he might be ostracized. Then he found this paperback, and "I realized I am not alone. It's quite all right to have my own personal form of faith. I can still be as good a member as I make myself."

Some groups give the booklet to every newcomer. And since its first printing came out, in 1973, it has proved a popular anniversary gift.

It is now priced at \$1.75 (\$1.50 to groups).

WITH THIS ISSUE—

Look for (1) the new order blank listing all Conference-approved A.A. literature, (2) the new catalog describing all A.A.W.S. publications, and (3) the new G.S.O. staff assignment sheet (as of Sept. 1).

MAIL YOU DON'T WANT?

Some A.A.'s occasionally get a catalog or pamphlet peddling publications or trinkets for A.A. members. It is obvious that names from our A.A. directories have been misused in these mailings, despite the warning published at the front of the directories.

When we at G.S.O. hear of such an incident, we immediately contact the offending party and ask that it not be done again.

However, we feel many complaining (but polite) letters from many A.A. members would do far more good. You can ask that your name be removed from the firm's mailing list, and explain the confidential nature of our directories.

But as long as A.A.'s buy from such firms, these outfits will probably keep up their practices.

WORKSHOP PLANNERS? NEW TIPS AVAILABLE

Looking for fresh ideas for A.A. workshops? A new memorandum we've just put together at G.S.O. shares techniques and other experience from Conference and regional forum workshops. Let us know if you want this material.

By the way—have you heard of the Oklahoma service workshops? Past G.S. Conference delegates of the Sooner State rotate in taking service workshops to each of the state's seven districts about once a year. These have been big hits the last five years, and Oklahomans were invited to put on a demonstration at the state convention in Dallas, Tex., this year.

DUAL ADDICTION PROBLEM (continued from p. 1)

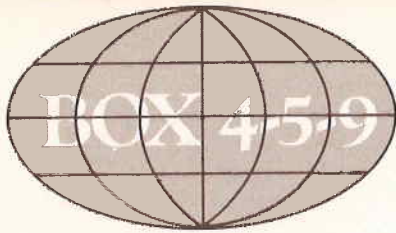
dicted members confine remarks to the one primary problem we all share—alcoholism. "Things seem very good now," he concludes.

From Minneapolis, Minn., Warren W. sends a different viewpoint. "When I came to this program, no one asked me *how* I got loaded, only if I wanted to get better," he recalls.

"We've found the program works only if one refrains from any form of intoxication. It is an extremely rare addict who does not include alcohol in his list of abuses, and if the alcoholic is under 30, a rare alcoholic indeed who has never used anything else to get loaded.

"The problem is compounded by the technicality that many of the most-used drugs are chemically of the alcohol class. I never heard anyone refuse a low-bottom type admission to a closed meeting because some of his alcohol may have been the rubbing variety rather than bottled-in-bond ethanol. Where do we stop if we start drawing lines?" asks Warren.

"We handle the 'problem' as simply as we know how," he declares. "We ignore it."



THE BULLETIN BOARD

October-November 1977

ITEMS AND IDEAS ON AREA A.A. GATHERINGS - VIA G.S.O.

A.A. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 30-Oct. 2 - *Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*. E. Canada Regional Forum; Skyline Hotel. Write: Regional Forum, Box 459, Grand Cent. Sta., New York, NY 10017
- 30-Oct. 2 - *Kenora, Ontario, Canada*. Sixth Annual Roundup. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 463, Kenora, Ont., Canada
- 30-Oct. 2 - *Rapid City, South Dakota*. State Conf. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 3073, Rapid City, SD 57709
- 30-Oct. 2 - *Amarillo, Texas*. Top of Texas Roundup. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 412, Amarillo, TX 79105
- 30-Oct. 2 - *Dumfries, Scotland*. 24th Annual Blue Bonnets Gathering. Write: Secy., Loreburn Hall, Dumfries, Scotland
- 30-Oct. 2 - *Wichita, Kansas*. State Conf. Write: Conf. Comm., P.O. Box 18093, Wichita, KS 67218

OCTOBER

- 1 - *Chesapeake Beach, Maryland*. Fifth Annual Banquet. Write: A.A. Banquet, 20 Ashcroft Court, Arnold, MD. 21012
- 2 - *Waterford, Ontario, Canada*. Tenth Annual One-Day Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 967, Waterford, Ont., Canada
- 6-9 - *Gadsden, Alabama*. 22nd Annual Ala./N.W. Fla. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 231, Gadsden, AL 35901
- 6-9 - *Myrtle Beach, South Carolina*. Ninth Annual Fellowship-by-the-Sea. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 201, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
- 7-9 - *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*. 33rd Annual Conf. Write: Reg. Chm., 177 Lombard St., Winnipeg, Man., Canada R3B 0W5
- 7-9 - *Tumwater, Washington*. Wash. Area Assembly. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 7219, Olympia, WA 98507
- 7-9 - *Prince George, British Columbia, Canada*. Northern Lite Roundup. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 1257, Prince George, B.C., Canada
- 7-9 - *Hartland, Michigan*. Third Great Lakes Agape Weekend. Write: Co-chm., 8663 Whitehorn, Romulus, MI 48174
- 7-9 - *Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 13th Annual N.S./Nfld./Lab. Assembly. Write: Comm. Chm., P.O. Box 694, Dartmouth, N.S., Canada
- 7-9 - *Montreal, Quebec, Canada*. 19th Que. Bilingual Conf. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 470, Stock Exchange Tower, Montreal, Que., Canada H4Z 1S7
- 7-10 - *Miami, Florida*. Ocean Roundup II. Write: Ocean Roundup II, P.O. Box 010882, Miami, FL 33101
- 8-9 - *Cape Town, South Africa*. Second Annual Mini-Conv. Write: Secy., P.O. Box 2047, Capetown, 8000 South Africa

CLOSED MEETING TOPICS FROM THE GRAPEVINE

October: "How Step Four Came to Me" and "Finding Self-Forgiveness" suggest examination of the continuing value of both Four and Five; "Sobriety and Divorce" can lead to sharing of experience on many life problems that sober A.A.'s cope with; "The Roots of Resentment" can help in self-understanding.

- 8-10 - *Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada*. 22nd Annual N.E. Area Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., P.O. Box 805, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Canada P6A 5N3
- 9 - *Hauppauge, New York*. Second Annual Suffolk Intergroup Assoc. Sharethon. Write: S.I.A. Comm., P.O. Box 414, Bellport, NY 11713
- 14-16 - *Camp Tama, Japan*. Semiannual Far East Roundup. Write: Chm., 29-B, 3 Chome, Ebisu, Shibuya-Ku, Tokyo, Japan 150
- 14-16 - *Duncan, British Columbia, Canada*. Rally. Write: Chm., R.R. 3, Hykawy Rd., Duncan, B.C., Canada V9L 2X1
- 14-16 - *Lake Yale, Florida*. Tenth Annual Autumn Mtg. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 996, Merritt Island, FL 32952
- 14-16 - *Springfield, Missouri*. W. Mo. Area Conf. Write: Conf. Treas., P.O. Box G, Ulrich, MO 64788
- 14-16 - *Poconos, Pennsylvania*. E. Pa. Gen. Serv. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., R.D. 1, Box 554, Cresco, PA 18326
- 14-16 - *Buffalo, New York*. 36th Annual Fall Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 747, Ellicott Sta., Buffalo, NY 14205
- 14-16 - *Kerhonkson, New York*. Hudson/Mohawk/Berkshire Area Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 42, Stone Ridge, NY 12484
- 14-16 - *Jamesstown, North Dakota*. Roundup. Write: Roundup Chm., Box 774, Jamesstown, ND 58401
- 14-16 - *Davenport, Iowa*. Fall Conf. Write: Fall Conf., P.O. Box 3103, Davenport, IA 52808
- 14-16 - *Hinton, West Virginia*. 11th Annual Bluestone Roundup. Write: Roundup Comm., P.O. Box 1416, Huntington, WV 25715
- 14-16 - *Bozeman, Montana*. Fall Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 433, Livingston, MT 59047
- 14-16 - *Long Beach, California*. S. Calif. Conv. Write: Reg. Chm., P.O. Box 724, South Laguna, CA 92677
- 14-16 - *New Bern, North Carolina*. 13th Semiannual Tri-Area Roundup. Write: Secy., P.O. Box 304, New Bern, NC 28560

November ("classic issue"—outstanding articles from past GVs): Dr. Bob's views on tolerance can spark a rewarding discussion; Bill W. asks whether A.A. service conflicts with "Keep it simple"; the amusing "On Making Your Group Smaller and Smaller" can be used for a serious group inventory.

- 15-16 - *Merritt, British Columbia, Canada*. Fifth Annual Roundup. Write: Roundup Chm., P.O. Box 1779, Merritt, B.C., Canada V0K 2B0
- 21-22 - *Grenada, Mississippi*. Second Annual N. Miss. Roundup. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 786, Grenada, MS 38901
- 21-23 - *London, Ontario, Canada*. W. Ont. Conv. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 725, London, Ont., Canada N6A 4Y8
- 21-23 - *Santa Rosa, California*. N. Calif. Council of A.A. Fall Conf. Write: Chm., 166 Geary St., Rm. 804, San Francisco, CA 94108
- 21-23 - *Tucson, Arizona*. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Tucson Area Intergroup Association, 840 S. Campbell, Tucson, AZ 85719
- 23 - *Worcester, Massachusetts*. Cent. Mass. Intergroup Roundup. Write: Roundup Comm., 10 Walnut St., Worcester, MA 01608
- 28-30 - *Brownsville, Texas*. S.W. Tex. Area Conf. Write: Chm., Box 2221, Brownsville, TX 78520
- 28-30 - *Las Vegas, Nevada*. 11th Annual Roundup. Write: Gen. Chm., P.O. Box 269, Las Vegas, NV 89101
- 28-30 - *Hartford, Connecticut*. Seventh Annual N.E. Reg. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 11171, Newington, CT 06111
- 28-30 - *Thief River Falls, Minnesota*. Second Annual Harvest Festival. Write: Tkt. Chm., 422 N. Kinney Ave., Thief River Falls, MN 56701

NOVEMBER

- 3-6 - *Memphis, Tennessee*. Bluff City Roundup. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 948, Memphis, TN 38101
- 3-6 - *Shreveport, Louisiana*. 32nd Tri-State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., 2719 Morning-side, Shreveport, LA 71108
- 4-6 - *Twin Falls, Idaho*. Area Fall Assembly. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 65, Gooding, ID 83330
- 4-6 - *Everett, Washington*. Young People's Conf. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 467, Everett, WA 98203

(continued)

Flip up this end of page—more events listed on reverse side

NOVEMBER
continued

- 4-6 - *Tilbury, Ontario, Canada*. First Annual Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., P.O. Box 391, Tilbury, Ont., Canada N0P 2L0
- 4-6 - *Calgary, Alberta, Canada*. 27th Annual Prov. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 6744, Sta. D, Calgary, Alta., Canada T2P 1H7
- 4-6 - *Jasper, Indiana*. 17th Annual Tri-State Conv. Write: Chm., Host Comm., P.O. Box 83, Jasper, IN 47546

- 4-6 - *Rockford, Illinois*. Third Big Book Conf. Write: Big Book Conf., P.O. Box 4989-38, Davis Junction, IL 61020
- 11-13 - *Lillooet, British Columbia, Canada*. Gold Rush Days. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 969, Lillooet, B.C., Canada V0K 1V0
- 11-13 - *Bloomington, Minnesota*. 37th Annual Founders Day Weekend. Write: Banq. Chm., Alano Soc., 2218 First Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404
- 17-20 - *Honolulu, Hawaii*. 16th Annual Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., P.O. Box 22613, Honolulu, HI 96822

- 18-20 - *Lake Whitney, Texas*. Fifth Quarterly Tex. Young People's Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., 2001 Westheimer #21, Houston, TX 77098
- 19-20 - *Jonesboro, Arkansas*. 23rd Annual Mid S. Thanksgiving Party. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 755, Jonesboro, AR 72401

DECEMBER

- 2-4 - *Amarillo, Texas*. Southwestern Regional Forum; Hilton Inn. Write: Regional Forum, Box 459, Grand Cent. Sta., New York, NY 10017

