

Conference Sessions Reflect Group Concerns And Group Conscience

Potentially explosive topics confronted the 33rd General Service Conference (U.S./Canada) during its meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt April 17-23, 1983. But the Conference theme, "Anonymity — Our Spiritual Foundation," kept Conference members ever-mindful of A.A.'s Twelfth Tradition. In the humility it counsels, they found unifying strength. Stan C., trustee-at-large/Canada, stated in the keynote talk: "The principle enshrouded with our Tradition of anonymity is salvation from self—the assurance, the guarantee, of our continued usefulness to God and our fellows." Various aspects of anonymity were considered in two groups of presentations, each followed by enlightening discussions, and in a workshop.

The Conference got off to a fresh start as Gordon Patrick, nonalcoholic (Class A) trustee and chairperson of the General Service Board, chaired the annual meeting for the first time, succeeding Dr. Milton Maxwell, who retired last year.

Many vital issues came to the Conference floor. Perhaps most critical among them was the widespread group concern about the increased attendance of nonalcoholic drug addicts at A.A. meetings. The question of "problems other than alcohol" again arose in committee recommendations affecting the pamphlet "The A.A. Member and Drug Abuse."

Another key issue was the disposition of a leaflet directed to homosexual alcoholics. Discussion on area financing of trusted servants' expenses also revealed much diversity in approach.

The ability of A.A.'s to achieve unity from diversity, harmony from discord, was evident throughout Conference week. An informal opening sharing session on



The present chairperson of the General Service Board, Gordon Patrick, is flanked by two predecessors: "Dr. Jack" Norris (left), chairperson from 1961 to 1978; Milton Maxwell (right), 1978-1982. In Gordon's report (page 3), he conveys A.A.'s gratitude for their continuing help.

Sunday was followed by a dinner and an A.A. meeting that night. The nitty-gritty work began on Monday morning, however, with committee meetings, presentations/discussions, workshops, reports, Ask-It Basket sessions, and a "What's on Your Mind?" sharing session. On Thursday and Friday, committee recommendations came to the Conference floor for discussion and vote.

A highlight was Nell Wing's closing talk on Friday afternoon. Nell, a nonalcoholic, retired from her position as A.A.'s archivist in 1982, after 35 years of service to A.A., but was unable to attend last year's Conference. On Saturday, the closing brunch wound up a week of hard work and tireless dedication.

Some outstanding Conference Advisory Actions follow, in condensed form. (A complete list will be published in the *Final Conference Report*.)

Conference theme

Anonymity—Our Spiritual Foundation

1983 Conference Advisory Actions

Floor Action—that we invite a member of Al-Anon to share with us spiritually on Sunday morning at the 1985 International Convention.

1983 Advisory Actions (continued)

Agenda—that the 1984 Conference theme be “Our Primary Purpose,” or “The Frontier for A.A.’s Future—The Group,” or “Gratitude—The Language of the Heart”; that 1984 Conference presentations include “How Does A.A. Respond to a Changing World?”

Cooperation With the Professional Community—that the statement “A.A. does not provide letters of reference to parole boards, lawyers, court officials, social agencies, employers, etc.” be included in three more pamphlets, a flyer, and a Guidelines.

Correctional Facilities—that a workbook be developed; that “It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell” and “Carrying the Message Inside the Walls” be translated into Spanish.

Finance—that flyers in English, French, and Spanish, showing a cartoon illustration of the Regular Contribution Plan, plus an article by Bill, supplement the pamphlet “Supporting the A.A. Support System.”

Grapevine—that a trial tape cassette of articles from Grapevine classic issues be made available, with future taping to be considered by the 1984 Conference.

Literature—that distribution of “The A.A. Member and Drug Abuse” be continued until it is revised for consideration by the 1984 Conference; that the word “suggested” not be reinstated in the title of the Twelve Steps; that the draft of the pamphlet for homosexual alcoholics be approved for distribution among all Conference members, so an informed policy decision may be made in 1984.

Policy/Admissions—that this committee and the Conference Report and Charter Committee consider, at their 1984 meetings, the possibility of combining the functions of the two committees.

Public Information—that a membership survey be undertaken in 1983, to be conducted on a random basis by area; that a reference to photographs be added to the Anonymity Card.

Report and Charter—that the reinclusion in “The A.A. Service Manual” of past experiences of G.S.R.’s and D.C.M.’s be on the 1984 committee’s agenda, to add experience on their financial support.

Treatment Facilities—that the *Treatment Facilities Bulletin* be sent to alcoholism treatment facilities, with a cover letter suggesting they get in touch with A.A.; that delegates ask local committees to help in compiling a G.S.O. mailing list of facilities to receive the bulletin.

Committee on Trustees—that the General Service Board study the practice of rotation in our two corporate boards and committees.

created by Milton Maxwell’s resignation last year. Her background is well suited to our binational structure: Canadian-born, she became a U.S. citizen in 1958; in the fields of sociology and psychiatry, she has earned degrees and taught on university faculties in both countries, where she has also served on many committees and councils concerned with alcoholism.

There has been no Southwest regional trustee since LaVelle C. died, a little more than a year before the end of her four-year term. Wayne P. of Rogers, Ark., now steps in for the Southwest. The new Northeast regional trustee, Garrett T. of Washington, D.C., replaces Dick D. And Helen H. of Melita, Man., is Stan C.’s successor as trustee-at-large/Canada. All three of those A.A. newcomers to the board are, as usual, former Conference delegates—by chance, on consecutive panels: Garrett, 27; Helen, 28; Wayne, 29.

Succeeding John R. as a general service trustee is Mary P. of New York, N.Y., a Grapevine director.

Estimates of Groups and Members— Spring 1983

	Groups	Members
United States	26,608	518,790
Canada	3,948	66,344
Overseas	20,669 ¹	412,418 ¹
Treatment facilities	1,030 ²	25,750 ²
Correctional facilities	1,321 ²	40,951 ²
Lone Members		515
Internationalists		531
	<hr/> 53,576	<hr/> 1,065,299

1. A.A. activity was reported in 108 overseas countries. Among them, 38 supplied no estimates of groups and members; estimates for figures there were obtained by taking an average among 62 countries that did respond (eight others responding—the largest—were excluded).

2. U.S. and Canada only.

The estimated group counts in the U.S. and Canada include only those that ask to be listed at G.S.O.; thousands do not.

Among listed groups in the U.S. and Canada, many do not report membership figures. For each nonreporting group, an estimate of membership is arrived at by taking an average among reporting groups within the Conference area concerned. Even among reporting groups, membership figures include only those now active and attending meetings; there is no way to count sober members who no longer have a home group.

New Trustees Include First Woman Class A

Till now, all of A.A.’s invaluable nonalcoholic trustees have been male. On the slate presented for election at the April 23, 1983, meeting of the General Service Board was Joan K. Jackson, Ph.D., nominated to fill the vacancy

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Reports From G.S.O., the General Service Board, and Trustees' Committees

General Service Board

Records set by Big Book symbolize 'amazing' growth

Trustees' report: This is my first report to you as chairperson. During almost eight years on the board, I have had the privilege of serving under the leadership of both Dr. Jack Norris and Dr. Milton Maxwell. Together, they have a depth of experience with A.A. that is beyond price. How grateful we are they still attend board meetings and the Conference, in an emeritus capacity, so we may draw on their wisdom.

It has been a tremendous year for A.A. In 1982, over 4,000 new groups were listed at G.S.O.—only a portion of those actually formed, we know. Deducting the 1,500 groups deleted or deactivated leaves a gain of some 2,500—about 9%—to a new high of over 30,500 regular groups in the U.S. and Canada, over 51,000 worldwide. And membership is booming in existing groups.

We published and distributed over 7,000,000 pieces of A.A. literature last year. In the summer, we shipped out the 3,000,000th copy of the Big Book. It took 35 years to sell the first million; five, to sell the second; three and a half, to sell the third; and in one month—January 1983—we sold as many Big Books as in all of 1970!

Expansion, construction, and refurbishing of G.S.O. and Grapevine quarters, begun in 1980, was completed last year. All costs were paid with income from literature sales, plus monies transferred from the Reserve Fund; none was paid with group contributions. Visiting A.A.'s have been enthusiastic. The initial reaction of other visitors is usually surprise that A.A. offices are so clean and attractive. Obviously, negative stereotypes of A.A. still abound.

An amazing phenomenon is the spread and growth of A.A. in countries overseas, evidenced by those participating in the 1982 World Service Meeting. Last year also saw the completion of an A.A. overseas membership survey. Great Britain, France, Belgium, Finland, Brazil, and New Zealand sent completed forms to our G.S.O., which compiled the data and had them analyzed. Most findings correlated with U.S./Canada figures, but some striking differences emerged. The proportion of women members ranged from 35% in one European country to 6% in a South American nation; and the proportion of people 30 or younger ranged from 8% to 15%.

I continue to be enthusiastic about Regional Forums. Each one I attend—and I participated in all four held last year—I think is the best yet!

Gordon Patrick (nonalcoholic), chairperson

A.A. World Services, Inc.

New literature translations 'sponsored' by our board

Directors' report: Among actions we took at our 12 meetings in 1982 were the following. . . .

- Authorized the transfer of \$423,252 to the General Fund to cover 1981 G.S.O. operating deficits. With no surplus cash, no money was transferred to the Reserve Fund.
 - Approved the request of Japan A.A.'s for \$9,000 to assist them with their second printing of the Big Book, under the same terms as with the first; lent them \$7,000 to help in their first printing (2,000 copies) of the "Twelve and Twelve." Japan has been conscientious in meeting its obligations.
 - Received the \$9,000 promised by Italy as payment toward our financial aid of the Italian Big Book—and their assurance that we will receive payments on the inventory (\$17,000) as their books are sold.
 - In response to requests from some 1982 World Service Meeting delegates, agreed to publish "Twelve Concepts" separately in a limited printing (\$1.50 each) for countries that have their own service manuals.
 - After long discussion and thought by this board, as well as the trustees, accepted Lois W.'s proposal that our 1963 royalty agreement with Bill be amended to permit her to bequeath a portion of her royalties to a foundation for at least ten years after her death, and also a portion to her nephew.
 - Approved prices for literature, audio-visual items, and service material; repriced a discount package to include "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers"; approved a new dust jacket in blue for that book.
 - Granted 77 requests to reprint and ten to tape our literature; denied five requests to reprint and one to tape; tabled one request.
- Dick D., chairperson*

Archives

Visitors can hold early A.A. history in their hands

Trustees' committee: Since last year's Conference . . .

- Two additional scrapbooks of early newspaper clippings on A.A. (1939-61) were completed. Clippings in these 19"x19" bound volumes have been de-acidified and encapsulated in mylar to ensure long life.
- Gifts to the archives included: a ninth printing of the first edition of the Big Book; early pamphlets; correspondence with Bill W. and other G.S.O. personnel; financial re-



Set up for researchers, this room also fascinates visitors. A scrapbook of early clippings absorbs Bill Daly, nonalcoholic from the neighboring Grapevine offices.

ports; pictures of Henrietta Seiberling, who introduced Bill to Dr. Bob; out-of-print Oxford Group texts used by A.A.'s before the Big Book was written; a tape of the 1960 Vermont Convention.

- We decided not to issue a set of International Convention photos for archival centers, because we haven't the rights to the pictures (taken by independent agents).
- Instead of adding texts of some talks (difficult to hear) to the filmstrip "Markings on the Journey," it was suggested that a brief memo on ways to enhance hearing be enclosed with the filmstrip—plus copies of the talks if needed.

Al H., chairperson

Staff report: After living the last few years "out of boxes," we have settled comfortably into a four-room suite on the fifth floor, where pictures and other artifacts are again on view for the many A.A. visitors. Before retiring, Nell Wing held seminars for Ron Brenne, Kathy Scheidel (both nonalcoholics), and me to smooth the transition.

Growth in local archival centers was reflected in more area histories, rising circulation of our newsletter, *Markings: Your Archives Interchange*, and more incoming correspondence on historical matters.

Clippings on early A.A. reveal the same problems we hear in our own groups today. But the high sense of adventure is undiminished. The miracle goes on.

Frank M.

Conference

How one region helps new delegates arrive prepared

Trustees' committee: We reviewed suggested 1983 themes and sent our recommendation to the Conference Agenda Committee for final selection.

After reviewing results of the post-Conference sharing session and Conference questionnaire, the committee recommended that:

- Delegates be informed of one region's custom of holding a pre-Conference orien-

tation meeting for new delegates, in which second-year and past delegates review the last Conference Manual and answer any questions.

- Victor E. badges be sent to all delegates in advance, so they can be worn in the hotel lobby as an aid to meeting one another before the Conference.

- Staff members send rosters of corresponding trustee committees to Conference committee members, who should also be advised that rosters of *all* trustees' committees are available upon request.

- The method of determining a two-thirds majority and the number constituting such a majority be announced at the beginning of the Conference.

- We continue sending some trustees and staff members to the opening dinner of the Al-Anon Conference; but reconsider if Al-Anon again holds its conference outside New York City.

Topics submitted for Conference consideration were reviewed, discussed, and referred to the appropriate Conference committee, presentation/discussion, workshop, or Ask-It Basket session. A list of Conference members to participate in the various sessions was reviewed and accepted.

Dick D., chairperson



After about 30 Conferences, the creel is an oldtimer.

Staff report: The Conference coordinator serves as focal point for all Conference members and all members of area committees. Now on our mailing list: 811 past delegates, 93 area committee chairpersons and alternates, 84 area secretaries, 77 area secretary/treasurers, 2,416 district committee members and alternates.

We receive minutes of most area assemblies and committee meetings. Circulated among the G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs, they help us stay in touch with U.S./Canada A.A. activities.

Delegates and other A.A.'s in the service structure are encouraged to send in Conference agenda suggestions, which are passed on to the trustees' Conference Committee and the Conference Agenda Committee for approval, then shared in the *Quarterly Report*, Box 4-5-9, and the preliminary agenda mailed to delegates in January.

The Conference coordinator collects items for the theme and agenda; handles correspondence with delegates in prepara-

tion for the Conference; works with the general manager, the office manager, and the staff in planning and coordinating the Conference; schedules and routes reports and other material for Conference Manuals, Early Bird Box 4-5-9, and the *Final Conference Report*; reviews communications from area committees and D.C.M.'s.

Betty L.

Cooperation With the Professional Community

Approaches to law and education fields pondered

Trustees' committee: In 1982, we focused on the relationship between A.A. and the legal system, especially lawyers' increasing use of A.A. to help with court problems. A subcommittee, chaired by an attorney, explored this situation. Available literature directed to the legal profession appears to be adequate; communication and distribution of this material are the difficulty.

We also discussed the readability, direction, and readership of *About A.A.* A questionnaire was developed, and preliminary results indicate that the bulletin is used, not only by professionals seeking to learn about A.A., but by members seeking answers to group problems and even group discussion topics.

Preliminary discussion on A.A.'s relationship to the educational profession underscored our role: We are not educators about alcoholism or its treatment—only about A.A. A committee member who is an educator is reviewing literature.

The committee is eager to be sure that the C.P.C. Workbook is available in Spanish and French to C.P.C. committees desiring it. The increasing visibility of A.A. and the influx of people from all referral sources place growing importance on effective C.P.C. committees in every area.

William Flynn, M.D.

(nonalcoholic), chairperson

Staff report: In 1982, our Professional exhibit was shown at 25 conferences of national professional organizations. Result: over 2,000 requests for additional information. These exhibits, staffed by C.P.C. or P.I. committees in the areas, are successful in carrying the message to the professional public. They also help increase the *About A.A.* mailing list, now over 12,000.

Staff or board members attend some annual meetings of national organizations dealing with alcoholism. The C.P.C. staff member serves as A.A. liaison on the Advisory Council to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. A.A. is also asked to conduct workshops at such annual meetings as the National Council on Alcoholism Forum.

Over 230 C.P.C. committees are now listed at G.S.O. New committee chairper-

sons receive the C.P.C. Workbook free; additional copies cost \$7 each. Committee members receive literature, service material, the *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin*, and *About A.A.*

As recommended by the 1982 Conference, the pamphlet "A.A. as a Resource for the Medical Profession" was published.

Helen T.

Correctional Facilities

Ideas for better service rise from questionnaire response

Trustees' committee: Some completed projects and others in progress follow.

- As recommended by the 1982 Conference, the statement "A.A. does not provide letters of reference to parole boards, lawyers, court officials" was added to "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" and "Memo to an Inmate."

- The Institutions Discount Packages of literature for correctional facilities committees were reduced from four packages to two, one for men and one for women. The pamphlet "Memo to an Inmate" was published in Spanish.

- The *Institutions Bulletin* was separated into two bulletins, for correctional and for treatment facilities.

- A questionnaire, "A.A.'s Role in Correctional Facilities," was sent to delegates and institutions committee chairpersons. The results—very revealing—will be reported to the Conference committee and in the July *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*. Suggestions to improve our services—drawn from those results—will go to local committees.

- Letters were sent to correctional administrators in 50 states and several provinces regarding the value of regular A.A. meetings in prisons and our willingness to cooperate.

- Letters to delegates, with forms enclosed requesting more A.A.'s to write inmates, brought close to 100 responses.

Jim Estelle (nonalcoholic), chairperson

Staff report: There are 1,321 A.A. groups in correctional facilities, and 277 institutions committees serving them.

We list A.A. groups meeting in correctional facilities in G.S.O. records and send each a Group Handbook, a Big Book, other complimentary literature, *Directory of A.A. Groups in Correctional Facilities*, Box 4-5-9, *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*, and *Treatment Facilities Bulletin*.

Discount packages of A.A. literature (English, French, and Spanish) are available to "inside" groups and institutions committees. The Grapevine gives us back issues, which we pass along to those groups. Films and filmstrips are lent free.

The staff member writes about 500 letters a month; writes the *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*, gathering material from inmate and area correspondence. When an

inmate is to be released, she informs the nearest committee, intergroup, or group.

Though more A.A.'s are becoming involved with institutions work and about 400 are willing to write to inmates, we've reached only a small percentage of the prison population; for instance, 99% of the letters from inside are from male A.A.'s. We have suggested guidelines to send to A.A.'s who write to inmates.

Susan D.



Call this one the "Answer-It Basket." It's a regular at most A.A. meetings, giving members the opportunity to help answer our Fellowship's need for self-support.

Finance

Tradition Seven looms larger than actual sums contributed

Trustees' committee: December proved to be exciting. At the beginning of the month, contributions were behind budget; by the end, we were 2.5% ahead, exceeding the 1981 total by \$195,000. Unfortunately, this wonderful support still comes from only slightly more than half the groups.

Literature sales in 1982 were flat, compared with 1981. The net increase, after a 6% discount to A.A. groups, was 5.5%.

Exclusive of construction and refurbishing costs, most variations in expenses were in line with the budget and were caused by A.A. growth and also by inflation.

Grapevine expenses were slightly higher than budgeted, and income was lower, resulting in an operating loss for 1982. Interest on investment of deferred subscription income was transferred from the General Service Board Reserve Fund to partially offset that loss.

For the 1983 G.S.O. budget, sales are expected to increase by 8%; contributions, by 10%; operating expenses (adjusting for construction and refurbishing costs), 8.8%. For the Grapevine budget, income is expected to be 11.5% higher than 1982; expenses, 9% higher (allowing for non-recurring in-house computerization of the subscription operation).

We realize that high unemployment may account for lack of participation by half the groups; we neither want nor expect large contributions from depressed areas. Rather, we are more interested in these and other groups' giving *something* than in how

much they give. We would then feel that Tradition Seven was working for everyone.

Frank Smeal (nonalcoholic),
chairperson, board treasurer

General Sharing Session

Service, session format, and drug addicts draw attention

Trustees' report: In July, our topic was "How Do We Keep the Spirit of Service Alive?" Most sharing concentrated on guiding new members into group service by example and support from the older members. The older member can step back, but not out, and should also introduce the newcomer to the larger picture of A.A. through literature and sharing service experience.

In October, the topic was "The General Sharing Session Takes Its Inventory." After a discussion on the format and content of these meetings, the consensus was: Small tables, with intimate sharing, were much more conducive to group dynamics; a balance of trustees, directors, GV and G.S.O. staff, and nontrustee/nondirector committee members should be seated at each table; seating arrangements should not be fixed from session to session; the job of "table reporter" should be rotated. As to the choice of topics, it was felt that the most stimulating were issues rousing controversy within A.A.

In January, the topic was "Problems Other Than Alcohol — Cooperating With Other Self-Help Groups." We cannot be all things to all people and perhaps jeopardize our sobriety, it was agreed; but we can help other organizations by sharing with them the methods we use. We might also share the fact that the basic "cement" of A.A. is the commonality of experience in drinking. People unable to relate to a drinking experience may not benefit by our meetings.

We might both fulfill our primary purpose and cooperate with others if A.A. members, *acting as individuals*, encouraged and supported the development of fellowships patterned after A.A.

The Fellowship will grow in an adaptive manner if we have patience, thoughtfulness, and simplicity of purpose, and do not overreact to changing times. These problems will ultimately be resolved at the group level.

John R., chairperson

Group Correspondence

Careful planning ensures answering of all letters

Staff report: Because of the heavy work load of some staff assignments, a regional correspondence function was developed in 1981. The regional correspondent replies

to letters on general group problems and concerns from the S.E. and S.W. U.S., two of our larger regions.

During the past year, there was increasing concern about the number of people with no addiction to alcohol who attend closed meetings; dually addicted members who share little, if any, alcohol experience at discussion meetings; anniversary celebrants who abstained from alcohol but used other mood-changing substances; sale of non-A.A. literature at A.A. meetings.

The staff is divided into units, so there is always full coverage of service assignments. The regional correspondent works closely with staff members in the unit composed of the Loners/Internationalists, Regional Forums/Box 4-5-9, and overseas assignments. She also frees other staff members for work on special projects by assisting them with regional correspondence.

June R.

Group services coordinator

Current directory procedure meets with delegates' approval

Staff report: This coordinator supervises production of all service material, updating of Guidelines and listings, Group Handbooks, literature displays, G.S.R. Kits, and other material. She also works with staff members on literature and Conference.

New groups in the U.S. and Canada receive a Group Handbook, a G.S.R. Kit, complimentary literature, Box 4-5-9, and the appropriate A.A. directory. We list more than 1,000 French-speaking and 350 Spanish-speaking groups; handbook, kit, and Box 4-5-9 are available in those languages.

The 1974 Conference recommended that delegates assume responsibility for all directory information in their areas. In August, letters to delegates ask when they would like to receive printouts (starting September 1) and whether they want one or two sets. In the future, they will also be asked where they want printouts sent, if to someone other than the delegate. Delegates are asked to return only printouts with changes. The deadline for directory information is January 15.

To improve the directory procedure, delegates were asked questions about it, and the response has been positive.

Beth K.

International

Links among A.A. structures are strengthened worldwide

Trustees' committee: After discussions, we recommended that . . .

- The matter of the Latin-American Translations Commission, which has had

difficulties, be referred to the Seventh World Service Meeting. (W.S.M. delegates in turn recommended that this matter be on the agenda of the next Latin-American Zonal Meeting, in Brazil in 1983.)

- We continue to include the names of W.S.M. delegates in the *International A.A. Directory* unless directed otherwise.
- We explore the feasibility of incorporating the Questionnaire for Traveling A.A.'s in the *International A.A. Directory*.

The committee reviewed and discussed results of the overseas membership survey. It was pointed out that the value of these surveys in each country is that they answer questions about the A.A. population asked both within and outside A.A.

Stan C., chairperson

International Convention/ A.A. Regional Forums

Computer will speed 1985 Convention registrations

Trustees' committee:

International Convention—For 1985, Al-Anon has elected to hold its own separate International Convention, at the same time and location as A.A.'s. The two Fellowships will work together to iron out details.

A.A. now has over 13,300 hotel rooms committed to our 50th Anniversary Convention. The Convention Center in Montreal has a cafeteria that can serve 600, a garden restaurant that can serve 250, and a convention-floor kitchen equipped to serve 5,000. The center has underground parking and a Metro exit. The Olympic Park Stadium, a short ride away, will be the site of our Big Meeting, entertainment, and Spiritual Meeting.

We have hired a bilingual consultant to provide expertise needed in the planning and execution of our Convention, and we plan to hire a computer registration service to handle the work that G.S.O. did for past Conventions. Growth in attendance over the years made the job unwieldy.

In beautiful, clean Montreal, public transportation is excellent. The food? From soup to pastry wagon, *c'est magnifique!*

Regional Forums—Since the last Conference, four regions have hosted Forums: Pacific (Las Vegas, Nev.), W. Canada (Winnipeg, Man.), S.E. (Nashville, Tenn.), W. Cent. (Sioux Falls, S.D.).

The topic discussed most often during Ask-It Basket sessions, workshops, and sharing sessions was problems with drug addicts coming to closed A.A. meetings. Other favorite topics: finances of A.A.W.S. and the Grapevine; ways to carry the service message; sponsorship of A.A.'s leaving correctional and treatment facilities.

During 1982, the committee recommended that the term "mini forum" no longer be used; four Regional Forums be scheduled per year, with one more, if needed for special geographical reasons, being available for a bid; acceptance or rejection of such a bid be up to this committee; requests for Forums and selection of a host-city contact person originate at the grass-roots level; these requests be referred to the regional trustee by the delegate after the approval of the assembly.

John R., chairperson

Staff report:

Regional Forums—They are held at the invitation of the region. The fourth round is soon to be completed. Plans for Forums are made with the regional trustee, the region's delegates, and the G.S.O. staff coordinator. Board personnel attending have included: trustees, G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members, A.A.W.S. and GV directors. The board pays expenses of board and staff personnel; expenses of service people in the region are covered by the areas if possible; if not, by the individuals.

The coordinator plans Forums with the regional trustee, delegates, and G.S.O. general manager; makes arrangements for the host-city contact and hotel; arranges travel and hotel for board personnel; puts together agendas, formats, etc. at the request of the regional delegates and trustee; handles mailings to delegates (asking for agenda suggestions), G.S.R.'s, D.C.M.'s, area committee officers, past/present delegates and trustees, and central offices; and is responsible for displays of literature and service material. Reports of Forums are sent to all participants, trustees, and current delegates.

Lyla B.

Internationalists, Loners, LIMs

What's 'the largest A.A. group' now in existence?

Staff report: It is an exciting day in this office when a Loner writes that a group has been formed and he or she is no longer

a Loner. There are 515 Loners, in 87 countries. LIMs are A.A.'s housebound by long-term illness or physical disability; 56 participate in the Loners-Internationalists Group. There are 531 Internationalists (seagoing A.A.'s) and Port Contacts, with 26 Internationalists groups meeting aboard ships or in ports.

Each new Loner, LIM, or Internationalist receives lists of members of those types, literature, and the bulletins *Box 4-5-9* and *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*. A growing number of A.A.'s serve as Loner Sponsors, sharing group activities and their personal experiences with Loners, LIMs, and Internationalists. With a total of some 2,200 A.A.'s active in all this correspondence, it might be thought of as the largest A.A. group existing.

A.A.'s sweeping worldwide growth can largely be credited to Loners in distant lands and Internationalists carrying the A.A. message wherever they sail.

Lois F.

Literature

Progress continues on history booklet and Bill W. biography

Trustees' committee: Since the 1982 Conference, we have . . .

- Received a progress report on the proposed booklet "A.A.—the First 50 Years."
- Recommended that the Conference committee consider a proposal for a gift edition of the Big Book similar to that of the "Twelve and Twelve."
- At the request of the 1982 Conference, developed (with the aid of a subcommittee) a draft of a pamphlet for alcoholics who are homosexuals, for consideration by the 1983 Conference.
- Received progress reports on the Bill W. manuscript: another draft to be available in the latter part of 1983; publication expected in 1984, after Conference approval.
- Received a report from the subcommittee reviewing literature and forwarded it to the Conference committee.
- Appointed a subcommittee to review the pamphlet "A.A. for the Woman" for possible revision.

*Michael Alexander (nonalcoholic),
chairperson*

Staff report: This assignment involves preparation, production, editorial supervision, and distribution of publications and audiovisual materials, and working closely with the group services coordinator on service material.

We have nine periodical bulletins with a combined circulation of 90,671, as follows: *Box 4-5-9* (English), 47,050; *Box 4-5-9* (French), 2,410; *Box 4-5-9* (Spanish), 9,645; *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*, 3,394; *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin*, 3,580; *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*, 6,013; *Quarterly*



Report, 4,636; *About A.A.*, 12,243; *Treatment Facilities Bulletin*, 1,700.

All bulletins except *L.I.M.* are translated into French and printed by the French Literature Service in Montreal in cooperation with this office.

The coordinator works with editors on updating and revising old pamphlets and with writers, artists, editors, and printers in preparing new pamphlets, displays, leaflets, and other service materials.

He corresponds with A.A. groups and individuals requesting specific information about our literature and sends a semiannual letter to all central/intergroup offices and literature distribution centers to inform them of new A.A. materials.

Curtis M.

Nominating

Groundwork laid for election of five new trustees

Trustees' committee: We took the following actions during the past year:

- Reviewed and approved the August letter—enclosing written election procedures and résumé forms—to delegates and area officers in N.E. and S.W. U.S. and Canada.

- Tried to meet a number of possible Class A trustees, prior to recommending Joan Jackson.

- Recommended Mary P. as a general service trustee—conditional upon the board's decisions re legal aspects of the Grapevine Corporate Board and By-Laws.

- Recommended that the History and Actions of the committee include the outcome of its recommendations to the Conference Committee on Trustees.

- Recommended that the Conference Committee on Trustees review the format and handling of Class B résumé forms.

- Reviewed and recommended slates of trustees, board officers, and A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors for election at the board's April meeting, after presentation to the Conference for disapproval, if any.

- Rescinded an earlier action recommending that the election of a trustee-at-large be the first at Conferences, to allow more time for staff and clerical preparations.

John B., chairperson

Overseas, World Service Meeting

For A.A., 'Where there is structure, there is growth'

Staff report:

Overseas—The staff member on this assignment corresponds with 31 G.S.O.'s and literature distribution centers outside the U.S. and Canada.

Recent highlights about A.A. overseas: Permission to print the Big Book was

granted by A.A.W.S. to the Dutch G.S.O.; at the Second European Service Meeting, in Frankfurt, West Germany, first-time participants came from Poland (we learned there is more Polish A.A. activity than we knew about), Denmark (which has opened a National Service Office), and Malta.

We see that countries *can* sponsor countries into service and that World Service Meetings and interim zonal meetings contribute to the growth of A.A. worldwide—where there is structure, there is growth.

World Service Meeting—The seventh was held in October in San Juan Del Rio, Mexico. On Sixth W.S.M. recommendation, simultaneous translation (Spanish/English) was provided for general sessions.

The theme was "Carrying the Message," and it was apparent that "the language of the heart" transcends all barriers. There were 37 delegates, from 27 countries—including, for the first time, Uruguay, Trinidad/Tobago, and Italy. A *Final Report* on the Meeting is available to A.A. members.

Phyllis M.

Public Information

Move to place the Big Book in more public libraries

Trustees' committee:

Projects completed—A press release announcing Gordon Patrick's election as chairperson of the board was sent to major media outlets; another, announcing the World Service Meeting, went to wire services, major media outlets in the ten top markets, and large-circulation dailies in the S.W. U.S.; the annual anonymity memo was sent to major dailies (circulations over 50,000), with copies to public information committees for smaller, local newspapers; a feature story on A.A. help for the hearing-impaired alcoholic was released to local committees; two more TV public service announcements, approved by last year's Conference, became available, and 57 have been distributed; background material on the Big Book was sent to about 3,500 public librarians in the U.S. and Canada (we think many librarians would like to order copies but may not know how).

The committee recommends that the board undertake a membership survey in 1983, conducted on a random basis, by area—an agenda item for the Conference P.I. Committee.

Project in progress—Spanish translations of our press feature stories should be available within the next few months.

Project for the future—We will discuss preparing a new feature story about A.A. help for the Lone Member, of interest to smaller publications in remote areas.

Jacquelyn S., chairperson

Staff report: In five years, the number of

local P.I. committees has more than doubled (232 in 1977, 575 in 1982). We also list 429 P.I. contacts—and suspect there are many more. We distributed 1,538 P.I. Workbooks, and we supplied literature and displays to 200 health fairs, which are more and more popular in the U.S. and Canada.

At G.S.O., the staff member and two nonalcoholics cover P.I. correspondence. In 1982, we answered over 10,000 written requests for information about A.A.—and an incalculable number of phone calls; processed clippings of almost 6,000 newspaper and magazine stories about A.A.; and wrote thank-you notes to publications that ran fine articles about our Fellowship.

Our clipping service showed about ten anonymity breaks each month; we followed up with the delegates.

In 1982, we distributed 149 radio and 275 TV public service announcements through local committees. G.S.O. has placed the TV P.S.A.'s with the major U.S. networks; cable networks are interested.

Vincina M.



Thousands of visitors were greeted by Muriel Elias (nonalcoholic), our receptionist. She retired at the end of March after 15 years of service at G.S.O.

Staff coordinator

G.S.O. has a spiritual task—and businesslike operation

Staff report: An important responsibility of the 11 G.S.O. staff members is to answer correspondence. In 1982, about 20,000 letters were answered. Most staff members have specific assignments, some of which involve preparation of bulletins; most also correspond with A.A. groups in a given region.

Weekly staff meetings keep us informed and allow discussion of problems needing direction from the group conscience. Invitations received from the areas for A.A. get-togethers enable us to learn of local activities and thereby help us to be a better service office. In the past year, we greeted about 1,500 visitors from around the world, come to tour G.S.O.

The coordinator looks after staff coverage, makes sure mail is answered without interruption during vacations, sickness, or absences, and also serves as the liaison between the staff and other departments. *Sarah P.*

Reports From the A.A. Grapevine

Profitable half year—and a turnabout in circulation

Directors' report: Income for 1982 increased by \$129,000, as a result of the subscription price increase effective with the January issue. However, that increase was \$42,000 less than in the budget, because of circulation lower than anticipated—a monthly average of 121,458, compared with 122,952 in 1981. Either economic conditions or resistance to the price increase may be the cause. We believe the current price is fair and provides for the Grapevine's future economic health. The Canadian subscription price was adjusted because of the postage differential.

Expenses for the year increased by a modest 1%, thanks chiefly to the 24% reduction in printing costs. Good news: The Grapevine showed a profit for the third and fourth quarters of 1982 — the first profitable quarters since 1979. The relatively modest 1982 net loss of \$27,000 resulted from the declines in circulation and, surprisingly, in the popularity of calendars.

Plans to tie in the Grapevine subscription data base with the G.S.O. computer will require an investment of about \$75,000, but will enable us to control our own lists. We may have lost some subscriptions in 1981-82 because of problems caused by the company then providing that service. Eventually, this investment could save \$50,000 per year.

The staff's concern about circulation has caused it to turn to the Fellowship for information and help, through reader surveys and a poster for use at conferences.

The editorial staff, with the support of the Editorial Board, is intent on finding more articles on A.A. history and news of the Fellowship. One member of that board will write historical articles; we might appoint interested A.A.'s as editorial representatives, to send us area news.

The staff has prepared guidelines (available on request) for writing GV articles.

Favorable response has greeted our first 1983 covers: January's "ticket to the Serenity Theater"; February's black family (a first for the GV); March's photographic treatment (another first).

Donald D., chairperson

Staff report: In January 1982, over the noise and dust from renovation and rebuilding, we heard a loud voice from readers indicating that our computer problems were almost insurmountable. Now, in our new offices, all employees are excited about the prospect of having our own computer operation and assuming responsibility for accuracy ourselves.

We were aware of the downward trend in circulation—but with the GvR network's help and the responses to our Christmas gift subscription offer, the December circu-



Victor E. left those swinging doors to star on a poster.

lation was 121,800, showing a turnabout.

Since February, we have been concentrating on two readership surveys: the first, to find out who our readers actually are; the second, a group survey of those who *don't* read the Grapevine. Early returns promise interesting information.

Retha G., managing editor

Digest of Agenda

Sunday, April 17

Opening dinner and A.A. meeting

Monday, April 18

Welcome

Roll call of all Conference members

Conference committee chairpersons

Area delegate chairperson

Keynote

General Service Board report

Presentation/discussion: "Anonymity—When and Why"

Members of the General Service Board (trustees)

Reports of Grapevine, A.A.W.S., and trustees' committees

Joint trustees' and Conference committee meetings

Workshop: "Anonymity—When and Why"

Tuesday, April 19

Presentation/discussion: "Usefulness of G.S.O.

Filmstrip"

Conference committee meetings

Presentation/discussion: "The A.A. Grapevine"

Visit to G.S.O. and Grapevine office

Delegates' meeting

Wednesday, April 20

Conference committee meetings

Ask-It Basket

Report: "Seventh World Service Meeting"

Regional and at-large trustee elections

Presentation/discussion: "The Member, the Group, and Their Monies"

Presentation/discussion: "A.A. and Drug Addicts"

Thursday, April 21

Conference committee reports and discussion

Ask-It Basket

Presentation/discussion: "How Is the A.A. Member's

Voice Heard at the General Service Conference?"

Sharing session: "What's on Your Mind?"

Friday, April 22

Conference committee reports and discussion

Presentation/Discussion: "Anonymity in Personal Recovery"

Closing talk

Saturday, April 23

Closing brunch

Farewell talks

Closing remarks

Reports on Area Service Highlights: At intervals, Panel 33 delegates shared area experiences.

Treatment Facilities

References to medication use are studied critically

Trustees' committee: After reviewing a subcommittee's report on "The A.A. Member and Drug Abuse," we recommended to the Conference Literature Committee that the pamphlet no longer be printed or circulated, because of its inaccuracies. The subcommittee is compiling material for a brief pamphlet on the question of A.A. members' giving advice regarding prescribed medication; it would include A.A. experience on the subject. The subcommittee also reviewed Chapter 21 in "Living Sober."

We supported the concept of A.A. groups' providing Grapevine subscriptions to local treatment centers.

On the topic of the *Treatment Facilities Bulletin*, it was recommended that: it be a regular agenda item at future committee meetings; an announcement about the availability of this bulletin be made in *Box 4-5-9*; the Grapevine reprint "What A.A. Meetings Taught a Non-A.A. Counselor" be sent with the April 1983 issue. We referred to the Conference committee a recommendation about sending a copy of the bulletin with a cover letter to alcoholism treatment facilities—the letter to suggest getting in touch with local A.A. committees, groups, or members.

We also suggested that the Conference committee discuss the best mechanism for referring new alcoholics from treatment centers to the local A.A. community.

Kenneth Williams, M.D.

(nonalcoholic), chairperson

Staff report: Carrying the message into treatment centers continues to grow. Service material has been prepared by G.S.O. sharing how some areas cope with the influx of new alcoholics from these centers.

The flyer "Where Do I Go From Here?" is still being used in large quantities.

G.S.O. provides the following services to those in treatment facilities: correspondence with the staff member on this assignment; a list of "outside" A.A.'s wishing to correspond with confined members; for new groups, the treatment facilities handbook and complimentary literature; for all such groups, *Box 4-5-9* bimonthly and the *Treatment Facilities Bulletin* twice yearly; a discount package of A.A. literature ordered by the group; Guidelines on Correctional and Treatment Facilities Committees.

Beth K.

1983 G.S.O. Budget

A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

Income: Sales income has been budgeted at \$4,856,100. Following a relatively flat year, net sales income is conservatively projected to show an 8% increase over 1982. During 1983, it is anticipated that A.A.W.S., Inc., will distribute 500,000 copies of "Alcoholics Anonymous," 255,000 "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"—regular edition, 53,000 "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"—pocket edition, 22,000 "A.A. Comes of Age," 59,000 "As Bill Sees It," 25,000 "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers," and more than 7,000,000 booklets, pamphlets, and miscellaneous items. After deducting \$2,328,100—the cost of printing and producing the items sold and the royalties paid on book sales—the gross profit from sales is estimated to be \$2,528,000. Adding interest earned on daily cash flow, the total income from the publishing activity is expected to be \$2,538,000.

Expenses: Expenses charged against the publishing operation are budgeted at \$1,866,400, representing an increase of 10% over 1982. Considered in this increase are higher costs related to increased publishing activity and, to some extent, continuing inflationary pressures. Net publishing income, after operating expenses, is expected to be \$671,600.

GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

Income: Contributions from groups and A.A. members have been budgeted at \$1,936,100, an increase of 10% over 1982 actual.

Expenses: Total expenses, representing the cost of group services that are paid out of contributions, are expected to be \$2,222,500. Included in this portion of the General Service Office budget is the cost of the General Service Conference, totaling \$145,600. The cost of all service expenses is budgeted to be \$286,400 greater than contribution income. This shortfall will be funded from the net income of the publishing operation.

GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

Less interest earned on cash flow, other expenses of the General Service Board are budgeted at \$272,100. Included in this category of expense are such items as the cost of quarterly trustee meetings, the expenses of the Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community, the cost of Regional Forums, legal and auditing fees, the expense of the archives, and the costs of filmstrips and displays. These expenses will be offset by net income from the publishing operation.

Net income for the General Service Office has been budgeted at \$113,100.

1983 Grapevine Budget

Total income: Income from magazine and other sales is budgeted at \$1,061,500. This represents an increase of \$109,900 over 1982. The basis of this increase is the result of higher subscription rates and prices.

Total expenses: Including nonrecurring expenses for in-house computerization, expenses are budgeted at \$1,111,200. A net operating deficit in the amount of \$49,700 has been budgeted for 1983.

1983 G.S.O. Budget

The budget for 1983 operations of G.S.O. activities is as follows:

BUDGET

A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

INCOME

Net sales	\$4,856,100*
Less: Cost of products and royalties	<u>2,328,100</u>
Gross profit from sales	2,528,000
Interest income	<u>10,000</u>
Total income	2,538,000

TOTAL EXPENSES 1,866,400

Excess of income (expense) 671,600

**Based on the sale of:*

500,000 books	—	"Alcoholics Anonymous"
255,000 books	—	"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" (reg.)
53,000 books	—	"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" (pocket)
22,000 books	—	"A.A. Comes of Age"
59,000 books	—	"As Bill Sees It"
25,000 books	—	"Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers"
	and	Pamphlets, booklets, and miscellaneous items

GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

INCOME

Contributions \$1,936,100

TOTAL EXPENSES 2,222,500**

Excess of income (expense) (286,400)

***Includes cost of General Service Conference—\$145,600*

GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

INCOME

Interest \$ 5,000

TOTAL EXPENSE 277,100***

Excess of income (expense) (272,100)

****Board meetings, P.I.C. expense, C.P.C. expense, legal and auditing fees, Regional Forums, archives, filmstrips, etc.*

The publishing activity will contribute \$558,500 toward the budgeted deficits, leaving a net G.S.O. income in the amount of \$113,100.

1983 Grapevine Budget

Estimated income from subscription and other sales	\$1,061,500
Total costs and expenses	<u>1,111,200</u>
Net income (loss) from operations	<u>(\$ 49,700)</u>

1982 Contributions From Groups—by Delegate Area

General Service Conference Area #	Total # of Gps.	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Total Group Contrib.	No. of Members	Contrib. per Capita	General Service Conference Area #	Total # of Gps.	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Total Group Contrib.	No. of Members	Contrib. per Capita
1. Ala./N.W. Fla.	233	139	59.7%	\$ 9,959.83	2,634	\$3.78	63. S. Dak.	123	72	58.5	5,702.57	2,269	2.51
2. Alsk.	100	50	50.0	3,211.46	1,095	2.93	64. Tenn.	251	160	63.7	10,751.61	3,644	2.95
3. Ariz.	431	214	49.7	18,609.58	7,012	2.65	Tex.						
4. Ark.	142	90	63.4	4,304.71	2,096	2.05	65. N.E.	251	146	58.2	19,015.67	6,927	2.75
5. Calif.							66. N.W.	159	88	55.3	7,997.56	3,501	2.28
6. N. Coastal	1,075	460	48.6	50,441.71	28,978	1.74	67. S.E.	279	173	62.0	16,406.25	8,489	1.93
7. N. Int.	400	203	50.8	16,544.89	8,144	2.03	68. S.W.	277	167	60.3	16,157.54	4,941	3.27
8. San Diego	356	213	59.8	15,990.96	9,528	1.68	69. Utah	126	71	56.3	5,158.69	1,859	2.77
9. Mid-S.	824	472	57.3	39,221.00	23,276	1.69	70. Vt.	101	53	52.5	4,560.27	1,560	2.92
10. Colo.	388	220	56.7	21,312.09	7,469	2.85	71. Va.	620	399	64.4	31,865.86	11,749	2.71
11. Conn.	710	410	57.7	32,389.05	14,704	2.20	72. Wash.	713	420	58.9	41,160.85	12,306	3.34
12. Del.	90	69	76.7	6,201.43	1,434	4.32	73. W. Va.	149	99	66.4	6,470.50	1,514	4.27
13. D.C.	280	164	58.6	22,090.96	8,615	2.56	Wis.						
14. N.	271	169	62.4	15,623.10	4,104	3.81	74. N.Wis./Upper Pen. Mich.	420	223	53.1	19,160.21	6,228	3.08
15. S.	727	462	63.5	51,071.96	11,551	4.42	75. S.	426	234	54.9	18,744.15	6,530	2.87
16. Ga.	415	288	69.4	23,608.48	7,138	3.31	76. Wyo.	79	49	62.0	2,409.09	1,079	2.23
17. Haw.	127	94	74.0	7,011.79	2,110	3.32	77. P.R.	101	62	61.4	2,928.86	1,320	2.22
18. Idaho	115	62	53.9	3,673.39	1,274	2.88	78. Alta./N.W.T.	408	171	41.9	17,632.22	5,193	3.40
19. Chicago	576	300	52.1	33,317.10	12,067	2.76	79. B.C./Yukon	500	257	51.4	23,602.49	7,060	3.34
20. N.	616	295	47.9	24,458.53	11,482	2.13	80. Man.	141	76	53.9	6,532.65	3,183	2.05
21. S.	244	119	48.8	9,165.91	3,760	2.44	81. N.B./P.E.I.	186	115	61.8	6,813.73	2,582	2.64
Ind.							82. N.S./Nfld./Lab. Ont.	215	112	52.1	6,493.43	2,447	2.65
22. N.	344	172	50.0	14,950.85	4,812	3.11	83. E.	421	195	46.3	21,043.98	9,640	2.18
23. S.	208	125	60.1	12,249.38	3,646	3.36	84. N.E.	152	58	38.2	4,053.91	1,772	2.29
24. Iowa	436	245	56.2	16,206.95	8,077	2.01	85. N.W.	70	31	44.3	3,159.27	1,134	2.79
25. Kans.	256	173	67.6	12,719.76	5,125	2.48	86. W.	383	193	50.4	20,830.89	5,959	3.50
26. Ky.	299	168	56.2	21,401.02	4,175	5.13	Que.						
27. La.	313	178	56.9	15,035.84	4,529	3.32	87. S.W.	465	400	86.0	12,346.07	12,401	1.00
28. Me.	222	126	56.8	7,788.05	2,881	2.70	88. S.E.	215	215	100.0	2,773.81	3,016	.92
29. Md.	441	242	54.9	24,613.46	5,666	4.34	89. N.E.	270	270	100.0	4,993.18	5,243	.95
Mass.							90. N.W.	255	255	100.0	10,906.63	4,227	2.58
30. E.	714	380	53.2	40,333.09	19,256	2.09	91. Sask.	294	189	64.3	10,633.73	3,589	2.96
31. W.	123	61	49.6	4,417.09	2,538	1.74	Total U.S./ Canada	30,542	17,628	57.7%	\$1,520,852.67	584,866	\$2.60
Mich.							Bahamas	7	2	28.6	150.00	124	1.21
32. Cent.	278	163	58.6	24,494.80	5,454	4.49	V.I. of U.S.	7	3	42.9	539.63	144	3.75
33. S.E.	283	142	50.2	16,142.51	7,213	2.24							
34. W.	222	124	55.9	12,617.53	4,597	2.74							
Minn.													
35. N.	391	204	52.2	13,814.25	6,349	2.18							
36. S.	711	370	52.0	31,097.92	21,948	1.42							
37. Miss.	150	86	57.3	4,850.89	1,794	2.70							
Mo.													
38. E.	320	208	65.0	18,015.17	5,228	3.45	Individual, in-memoriam, & special meetings				49,390.79		
39. W.	154	90	58.4	8,323.88	2,785	2.99	Specials				160,032.43		
40. Mont.	202	97	48.0	6,413.65	2,417	2.65	Total for U.S. & Canada				\$1,730,965.52		
41. Nebr.	455	284	62.4	28,615.13	7,790	3.67							
42. Nev.	142	69	48.6	5,439.32	1,614	3.37	FOREIGN AND OTHER						
43. N.H.	204	114	55.9	6,941.06	2,663	2.61	Birds of a Feather				422.00		
N.J.							Correctional facility groups				171.00		
44. N.	720	379	52.6	37,995.48	15,609	2.43	Foreign				11,754.64		
45. S.	187	114	61.0	13,807.54	2,842	4.86	International Advisory Council for Homosexual Men and Women in A.A.				230.00		
46. N.M.	144	105	72.9	7,641.44	2,036	3.75	International Advisory Council of Young People in A.A.				9,726.68		
N.Y.							International Lawyers in A.A.				753.20		
47. Cent.	364	176	48.4	15,775.84	4,906	3.22	Internationalists				541.70		
48. H./M./B.	296	141	47.6	8,534.77	3,708	2.30	Internationalists groups				67.00		
49. S.E.	1,004	540	53.8	66,949.78	25,752	2.60	Treatment facility groups				4,673.24		
50. W.	164	88	53.7	6,757.37	2,171	3.11	Grand Total				\$1,759,304.98		
51. N.C./Ber.	469	295	62.9	20,322.97	6,869	2.96							
52. N. Dak.	124	84	67.7	6,314.61	2,007	3.15							
Ohio													
53. Cent. & S.E.	268	105	39.2	6,931.65	3,660	1.89							
54. N.E.	555	195	35.1	13,444.79	13,719	.98							
55. N.W. Ohio/ S.E. Mich.	142	82	57.7	8,326.33	2,016	4.13							
56. S.W. Ohio/ N. Ky.	226	119	52.7	7,692.23	3,566	2.16							
57. Okla.	265	213	80.4	19,912.88	3,476	5.73							
58. Oreg.	374	208	55.6	13,196.45	4,933	2.68							
Pa.													
59. E.	584	343	58.7	34,542.97	12,281	2.81							
60. W.	366	217	59.3	18,044.97	5,211	3.46							
61. R.I.	144	86	59.7	7,722.84	2,108	3.66							
62. S.C.	161	126	78.3	8,931.57	2,150	4.15							

CONTRIBUTION COMPARISON — 1982-1981

	#Gps. re- ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	Amount of Contrib.	Member- ship	Contrib. per Capita
U.S. & Canada 1982	30,556	17,633 ^①	57.7%	\$1,521,542.30 ^②	585,134	\$2.60 ^①
U.S. & Canada 1981	28,074	16,170 ^①	57.6	\$1,381,824.60 ^②	519,749	2.66 ^①
Increase (Decrease)	2,482	1,463	.1%	\$ 139,717.70	65,385	(\$.06)

① Reflects not only those groups that contributed directly to G.S.O., but also those groups that contributed to G.S.O. through their Conference areas (per lists submitted by areas).

② Group contributions reported on this schedule do not include contributions received as specials, individual, in-memoriam, and special meetings.

Calendar of Events

June

- 2-5 — *Palm Springs, California*. Desert Roundup. Write: Roundup Com., P.O. Box 42629, Los Angeles, CA 90042
- 2-5 — *Albany, Georgia*. First Annual Sowega Roundup. Write: Ch., 1301 Eager Ave., Albany, GA 31707
- 3-5 — *Huntington, West Virginia*. 31st State Conv. Write: Conv. Com., P.O. Box 8142, Huntington, WV 25705
- 3-5 — *Sedona, Arizona*. 29th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 3070, West Sedona, AZ 86340
- 3-5 — *Mobile, Alabama*. Azalea City Jam-boree. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 16631, Bel Air Sta., Mobile, AL 36616
- 3-5 — *Leonardtown, Maryland*. Eighth Annual S. Md. Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 229, Leonardtown, MD 20650
- 3-5 — *Kearney, Nebraska*. State Reunion. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 34494, Omaha, NE 68134
- 3-5 — *Montréal, Québec, Canada*. Huitième Congrès du Dist. 3, de Lanaudière (French-speaking). Write: Prés., C.P. 368, Montréal, Qué. H2A 3M1
- 3-5 — *Somerset, New Jersey*. N.E. Reg. Forum. Write: Reg. Forum Secy., P.O. Box 459, New York, NY 10163
- 3-5 — *Red Rock Canyon, Oklahoma*. First Annual Canyon Conf. Write: Ch., 1341 Regent St., Norman, OK 73069
- 3-5 — *Redding, California*. N. Calif. Council of A.A. Annual Summer Conf. Write: Ch., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122
- 3-5 — *Rome, New York*. 17th Annual E.-W. Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 33, Rome, NY 13440
- 4-5 — *Drumheller, Alberta, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 2233, Drumheller, Alta. T0J 0Y0
- 9-12 — *St. Simons Island, Georgia*. Golden Isles Family Weekend. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 527, Statesboro, GA 30458
- 9-12 — *Cincinnati, Ohio*. 26th Intl. Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 42085, Cincinnati, OH 45242
- 10-12 — *Susanville, California*. Third Annual Summer Serenity Camp-Out. Write: Cent. Off., P.O. Box 1430, Susanville, CA 96130
- 10-12 — *Superior, Wisconsin*. 38th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 996, Superior, WI 54880
- 10-12 — *Vernon, British Columbia, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., #1 3703—32nd Ave., Vernon, B.C. V1T 2N2
- 10-12 — *Calgary, Alberta, Canada*. Second Annual Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 954, Sta. M, Calgary, Alta. T2P 2K4
- 10-12 — *Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 19th Provincial Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1314, Truro, N.S. B2N 5N2
- 10-12 — *Seattle, Washington*. Sixth Annual Conf. (sponsored by gay groups and members in A.A.). Write: Secy., 10226 62nd S., Seattle, WA 98178
- 10-12 — *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*. Big Book Group Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 244, St. Vital, Winnipeg, Man. R2M 4A5
- 10-12 — *Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada*. Seventh Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 5670, Fort McMurray, Alta. T9H 3G6
- 10-12 — *Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada*. 26th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 111, Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 4P2
- 10-12 — *Lake Yale, Florida*. Seventh Annual Spring Mtgs. Write: Ch., 605 Ivanhoe Way, Casselberry, FL 32707
- 10-12 — *Hagerstown, Maryland*. 13th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 345, Hagerstown, MD 21740
- 11-18 — *New York, New York*. Second Annual Sobriety and Beyond Cruise to Bermuda. Write: Ch., 11 Briarwood Dr., Windsor, CT 06095

Planning an August, September, or October Event for A.A.'s?

Please be sure to send your information on August, September, or October events in time to reach G.S.O. by June 15. This is the calendar deadline for the August-September issue of *Box 4-5-9* (to be mailed July 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

June: "Liberation" — finding freedom through surrender — can open up a good discussion of Step One; "The Kid With the Strawberry Hair" invites us to examine our reactions — group and individual — to changes in A.A.; "Boredom" suggests a session on turning that unpleasant feeling into a learning experience.

July: Use the four articles in the annual section on "A.A. and Prison" to explore our group's and our own responsibility to A.A.'s "inside"; for a different sort of Big Book meeting, read the article on p. 16 and talk over the insights gained through the personal stories in the "back of the book."

- 16-19 — *Knoxville, Tennessee*. State Conv. Write: Host Com., P.O. Box 3505, Knoxville, TN 37917
- 17-19 — *Bristol, Rhode Island*. Seventh Annual Ocean State (formerly Newport) Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 677, Pawtucket, RI 02862
- 17-19 — *Snow Lake, Manitoba, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 118, Snow Lake, Man. R0B 1M0
- 17-19 — *Southern Pines, North Carolina*. Fifth Annual Sandhills Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Drawer 148, Southern Pines, NC 28387
- 17-19 — *Cache Creek, British Columbia, Canada*. Eighth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 558, Cache Creek, B.C. V0K 1H0
- 17-19 — *Akron, Ohio*. 48th Founders Day Conf. Write: Conf. Com., P.O. Box 12, Akron, OH 44309
- 17-19 — *Laurel, Mississippi*. 37th State Conv. Write: Ch., Rte. 7, Box 519, Laurel, MS 39440
- 17-19 — *Iowa City, Iowa*. State Spring Conf. Write: P.I. Com., P.O. Box 2113, Iowa City, IA 52442

June (continued)

- 17-19 — *Lancaster, California*. Tenth Annual Antelope Valley Roundup. Write: Roundup, 43249 N. 17th St. W., Lancaster, CA 93534
- 18-19 — *Muenster, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 178, Lake Lenore, Sask. S0K 2J0
- 23-26 — *San Cristóbal, Venezuela*. 19th Nat. Congress. Write: Congreso Nacional, Oficina Central, Apartado No. 69, San Cristóbal, Venezuela
- 23-26 — *Houston, Texas*. 38th Annual State Conv. Write: Treas., 3914 Roseland, Houston, TX 77006
- 24-25 — *Casper, Wyoming*. Eighth Annual Jamboree. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1811, Casper, WY 82602
- 24-26 — *Madison, Minnesota*. Seventh Annual Freedom Fest. Write: Ch., P.O. Box P, Dawson, MN 56232
- 24-26 — *Wawa, Ontario, Canada*. Third Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1609, Wawa, Ont. P0S 1K0
- 24-26 — *Akron, Ohio*. Loners Internationalists Mtg. (L.I.M.) Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 19814, Columbus, OH 43219
- 24-26 — *Parksville, British Columbia, Canada*. Mid-Vancouver Island Rally. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 516, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V0R 2T0
- 24-26 — *North Conway, New Hampshire*. Area Assy., 18th Annual Conv. Write: Function Com., P.O. Box 4253, Manchester, NH 03108
- 24-26 — *Nashville, Tennessee*. Second Annual Music City Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 541, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
- 24-26 — *Peterborough, Ontario, Canada*. 22nd Annual Kawartha Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., 625 Cameron St., Peterborough, Ont. K9J 3Z9
- 25 — *Lima, Ohio*. Third Annual Fellowship Day. Write: Treas., 1143 Crestwood Dr., Lima, OH 45805

July

- 1-3 — *Quesnel, British Columbia, Canada*. 16th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 4301, Quesnel, B.C. V2J 3J3
- 1-3 — *Prince Rupert, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 132, Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 3P5
- 1-3 — *St. John's, Newfoundland*. Forum. Write: Reg. Forum Secy., P.O. Box 459, New York, NY 10163
- 1-3 — *Wurzburg, West Germany*. First Annual Family Fest, Area 7. Write: Ch., Sonnen Strasse #22, 8800 Schalkhausen, West Germany
- 1-3 — *Bloomington, Minnesota*. Gopher State Roundup X. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 3295, St. Paul, MN 55165
- 2-3 — *Chicago, Illinois*. State Conv. (Spanish-speaking). Write: Ch., 8529 S. Kingston, Chicago, IL 60617
- 8-10 — *Willow, Alaska*. Second Annual Mat-Su Camp-Out. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 78, Willow, AK 99688
- 8-10 — *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*. 36th State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 18412, Raleigh, NC 27619
- 8-10 — *Grand Forks, British Columbia, Canada*. 12th Annual Picnic and Camp-Out. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1259, Grand Forks, B.C. V0H 1H0
- 8-10 — *Eugene, Oregon*. Sixth Annual Summerfest. Write: Ch., Suite 216, 795 Willamette, Eugene, OR 97401
- 8-10 — *Toronto, Ontario, Canada*. Second Annual Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., T.Y.P.C., 272 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto, Ont. M4R 1B2
- 14-17 — *Duluth, Minnesota*. Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 6274, Duluth, MN 55806
- 15-17 — *Baton Rouge, Louisiana*. 25th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., 15561 Summerwood Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70816
- 15-17 — *Oshawa, Ontario, Canada*. Lakeshore Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 2003, Sta. A, Oshawa, Ont. L1H 7N2
- 15-17 — *Columbia, Missouri*. State Conv. Write: Treas., Box 496, Shelbina, MO 63468
- 15-17 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Great Plains Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 31812, Omaha, NE 68131
- 15-17 — *San Francisco, California*. Living Sober '83 (hosted by gay A.A.'s). Write: Ch., P.O. Box 974, San Francisco, CA 94101
- 16-17 — *Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada*. Third Annual Okanagan Young People's Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 926, Sta. A, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7B5
- 20-24 — *Tarpon Springs, Florida*. 27th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 622, Clearwater, FL 33517
- 21-24 — *Lubbock, Texas*. Ninth Annual Hub of the Plains Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 6511, Lubbock, TX 79413
- 22-24 — *Lincoln, Montana*. Seventh Wilderness Agape Weekend. Write: Coord., 23 Konley Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901
- 22-24 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. Eighth Annual Essex Co. Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1502, Sta. A, Windsor, Ont. N9A 6R5
- 22-24 — *Farmington, Maine*. Sixth Annual Area M Roundup. Write: Reg., P.O. Box 206, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918
- 22-24 — *Cincinnati, Ohio*. 27th State Conf., Eighth E. Cent. Reg. Conf. Write: Conf. Treas., P.O. Box 275, St. Henry, OH 45883
- 22-24 — *Rimouski, Québec, Canada*. Congrès du Bas St-Laurent, Dist. 6 (French-speaking). Write: Com. de Pub., C.P. 1178, Rimouski, Qué. G5L 7R1
- 22-24 — *Edson, Alberta, Canada*. Dist. 5 Roundup. Write: Dist. 5 Book Cent., P.O. Box 147, Niton Junction, Alta. T0E 1S0
- 29-31 — *Elbow, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Fifth Annual Family Camp-Out. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 173, Elbow, Sask. S0H 1J0
- 29-31 — *Amherst, Massachusetts*. 20th State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 239, Tewksbury, MA 01876
- 29-31 — *Hull, Québec, Canada*. Dixième Congrès de la Vallée de l'Outaouais (French-speaking). Write: Com. de Pub., 57, rue Lois, Hull, Qué. J8Y 3R5
- 29-31 — *Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada*. Ninth Annual Rally. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 652, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 6J3
- 29-31 — *Kerrville, Texas*. Fifth Annual Hill Country Roundup. Write: Reg. Com., P.O. Box 2153, Kerrville, TX 78028

August

- 4-7 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Intl. Doctors in A.A. Annual Mtg. Write: Info. Secy., 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511
- 4-7 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. 43rd Annual State Conv. Write: Treas., 10901 Yosemite Valley Dr., Little Rock, AR 72212
- 5-7 — *San Jose, California*. Santa Clara Valley Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 7786, San Jose, CA 95150
- 5-7 — *DeKalb, Illinois*. State Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 541, DeKalb, IL 60115
- 12-14 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. Camp-Out. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1396, Princeton, B.C. VOX 1G0
- 12-14 — *Dallas, Texas*. Lone Star Roundup. Write: Reg. Ch., P.O. Box 5112, Richardson, TX 75080
- 12-14 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. 14th Annual Cent. W. Ont. Conv. Write: Ch., 112-A Dolph St. N., Cambridge (P), Ont. N3H 2A4
- 12-14 — *Granby, Québec, Canada*. Second Bilingual Conv. Dists. 20-21. Write: Conv., 1068 Denison St. W., R.R. 1, Granby, Que. J2G 8C6
- 18-21 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup VI. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 19-21 — *Lambert, Montana*. First Annual Lower Yellowstone Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 243, Sidney, MT 59270
- 25-28 — *Atlanta, Georgia*. S. Reg. Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 13888, Atlanta, GA 30324
- 26-28 — *Cleveland, Ohio*. First Annual Ohio Roundup (sponsored by gay men and women in A.A.). Write: Ch., P.O. Box 91251, Cleveland, OH 44101
- 26-28 — *Norfolk, Virginia*. 34th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 8249, Norfolk, VA 23503
- 27-28 — *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. Fourth Annual Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., #107 10745 83 Ave., Edmonton, Alta. T6E 2E5