

## 35th Conference Celebrates Gratitude and Responsibility

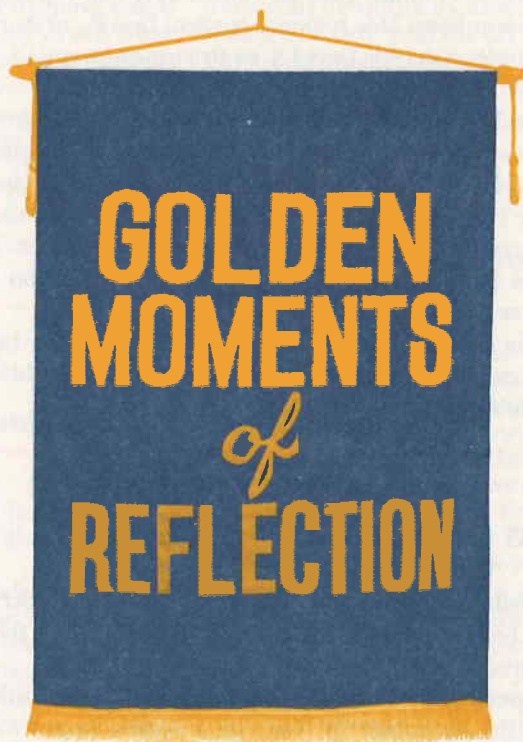
"It was an unbounded expression of faith in the future of A.A." These words, taken from the report of the first General Service Conference in 1951, might as accurately have described the 35th U.S./Canada General Service Conference, which met at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York City, April 14-20, 1985. There was an atmosphere of nostalgia and hope and, with time drawing near for A.A.'s 50th Birthday Party in Montreal, an unmistakable sense of excitement and anticipation.

The highlight of this Conference was the Twelve Concepts, the principles which govern our service structure, and which Bill formulated as his last major work. As the Fellowship has grown, these ideas have become more and more important to the preservation of unity through the proper functioning of the service structure.

The 1985 Conference decided that the Fellowship should return to the practice of publishing the Twelve Concepts for World Service exactly as written by Bill, and that changes or updating be included as footnotes at the end of each article; and approved a related proposal that the Report and Charter Committee of future Conferences have the responsibility of reviewing and recommending as needed any significant additions or changes to the Concepts.

The Conference saw and approved the Public Information Committee's set of three new radio public service announcements aimed at young people. The new tag line, to be included on all p.s.a.'s for young people, will be "Alcoholism is a disease, not an age."

Conference week opened Sunday night with a dinner for the 135 Conference members (delegates, trustees, A.A. World Services and Grapevine directors, and members of the G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs) and their guests. Dinner was followed by an open five-speaker A.A. meeting. Dennis Manders, A.A.W.S.'s nonalcoholic controller, who has been at all 35 Conferences, remembered the Conference dinners of an earlier time in his closing address on Friday afternoon: "We had a wandering accordion player meander from table to table playing requests...The dinner, of course was followed by a wel-



coming talk by Bill. And there were times when this would be followed by a stirring rendition of 'Sweet Adeline' sung by Class A trustees and led by Archie Roosevelt."

The keynote address was given by Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee Michael Alexander, who focused upon major events in A.A.'s history and development, giving special attention to the Conference Charter—"a delicate and sensitive balance of interests among the A.A. elements, allowing each to discharge responsibilities without interference from the others."

At the closing session on Friday, Dr. John Norris, trustee emeritus, gave a presentation on the 1985 Conference theme, "Golden Moments of Reflection," and spoke of A.A.'s future. Posing the hypothetical question: What would happen to A.A. if there were a pill to cure alcoholism? Dr. Jack said, "Without the working of the Steps, there is no relief from the soul-sickness which is the burden of alcoholism. Without the love and service that Dr. Bob talked about, there is no joy. Unless we pass it on with joy we lose it. We never get it by just being dry."

From Monday morning on, Conference week was busy and rewarding — filled with committee meetings, presentations/discussions, workshops, reports, and Ask-It Basket sharing sessions. At the Saturday morning closing brunch there were farewell talks by rotating Class B trustees David A., Buck B., Joe K., and Jackie S., and Class A. trustee Michael Alexander.

Five new trustees were elected to the General Service Board. Jack W., of Novi, Michigan (Panel 31), will replace Buck B. as trustee for the East Central U.S. region. Joe P., of Atlanta, Georgia (Panel 30), will replace Joe K. as Southeast U.S. regional trustee. Don P., of Aurora, Colorado, succeeds David A. as trustee-at-large/U.S. Don was a Panel 31 delegate.

Each board of directors will include a new general service trustee: for A.A.W.S., Shepherd R. (replacing Jacquelyn S.); for the Grapevine, James S. (replacing Mary P.). Shep, an attorney, has served on the trustees' Archives, C.P.C., and International Committees. Jim, Panel 27 delegate, Southeast N.Y., has served on four trustees' committees.

The most significant Advisory Actions appear below in condensed form. A complete list will be published in the *Final Conference Report*.

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## 1985 Conference Advisory Actions

**Agenda**—that the 1986 Conference theme be “Service: Our Legacy to Life,” “The Third Legacy: Hope for the Future,” or “A.A.’s Future: Our Responsibility.”

**Cooperation With the Professional Community**—that the pamphlet “If You Are a Professional . . .” be revised; that a statement regarding A.A. membership be inserted in “If You Are a Professional . . .” and “How A.A. Members Cooperate . . .”

**Correctional Facilities**—that “Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic” be rewritten in a simpler style, with two male stories replaced by female stories.

**Finance**—that a guideline on finance be developed by G.S.O.; that a cartoon treatment on the need for greater group participation and how group contributions carry the message worldwide be approved.

**Grapevine**—that the A.A. Grapevine be recognized by the Conference as an international journal of A.A.; that sections be added to “The A.A. Service Manual” which define the GvR’s role and provide information about The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

**International Convention**—that a TV camera be permitted to film the flag ceremony from afar at the Olympic Park Stadium; that the Convention questionnaire be discontinued.

**Literature**—that a condensed version of the Twelve Concepts be reproduced and distributed by G.S.O. as service material; that cassette tapes of “Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age” be produced.

**Policy and Admissions**—that the 1986 committee study the need to include new states or provinces, U.S./

Canada territories and islands, etc., in the service structure; that the 1986 Conference be held April 20-26; that this committee review dates for the Conference two years in advance.

**Public Information**—that an anonymity reaffirmation be read at the 1985 International Convention; that an anonymity letter be sent to various magazines reaffirming our anonymity traditions.

**Report and Charter**—that the format of the A.A. directories be changed to a three-column page without G.S.R. addresses, zip codes, and membership figures; that “The A.A. Service Manual” be changed to indicate that many groups and districts are financially supporting their G.S.R.’s and D.C.M.’s to attend service functions.

**Treatment Facilities**—that the Treatment Facilities Workbook be approved with minor changes.

**Committee on Trustees**—that all Class B trustees be elected for a four-year term, regardless of when vacancies occur.

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## Estimates of Groups and Members as of January 1, 1985

	Groups	Members
United States	31,754	630,679
Canada	4,286	71,632
Overseas	24,221 <sup>1</sup>	574,681 <sup>1</sup>
Treatment facilities	1,047 <sup>2</sup>	26,175 <sup>2</sup>
Correctional facilities	1,552 <sup>2</sup>	46,560 <sup>2</sup>
Internationalists		555
Lone members		511
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	62,860	1,351,793

1. At the end of 1984, we had reported members from 66 of the 107 overseas countries with A.A. groups. These totaled 20,146 groups and 468,698 members. To establish an estimate for the 41 countries not yet responding, we excluded the eight largest responding and obtained an average of the balance. This average was applied to the 41 and the overall estimate emerged.

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.

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

## General Service Board

### Broad view inspires optimism: Fifty and fine

**Trustees' report:** This has been an active year for the Fellowship. Membership recorded at G.S.O. rose by 8% to about 702,000; literature sales were up 14%, to about \$6 million. Worldwide recorded membership grew 14%, to a total of almost 1.4 million. Big Book sales rose 15% to a total of 622,000 books.

An overview of board activities begins with plans for our 50th Anniversary celebration (our seventh International Convention). We participated in five Regional Forums, continued our revision of some policies and procedures, and participated in the eighth World Service Meeting.

We selected John B. to replace Bob P. as general manager of G.S.O. Bob will continue as consultant-general services with a gradually decreasing involvement of time until he retires in February 1987.

We have been saddened by the loss of General Service trustee and chairperson of the Grapevine Corporate Board, Mary P. Mary, a gentle woman, contributed clarity of thought and incisiveness to board concerns and enriched our lives with her friendship.

Last year, I reported on the recommendations of an ad hoc committee which took the inventory of the General Service Board. Among the most significant recommendations implemented: (1) revision of our bylaws to limit the term of appointed committee members, (2) thorough revision of the responsibilities of the trustees' Nominating Committee, (3) review and revision of documents presenting the history and actions of all trustees' committees, (4) preparation of documents describing the scope and procedures of all trustees' committees, (5) change in emphasis of orientation of new trustees toward their board duties, (6) wider search for candidates for trustees' committees and subsidiary board directors, (7) rescheduling of board weekends to make possible membership by trustees on more committees, (8) change in emphasis at the trustees' sharing session to include in-depth reports of committees' activities, (9) appointment of another ad hoc committee to oversee a revision in our handling of the Twelve Concepts, and (10) inclusion of the short form of the Twelve Concepts in the board's bylaws.

The committee concerned with the Concepts worked toward recommendations which are before the Conference Report and Charter Committee.

Our growth rate has been greater in the past five years than previously; a substantial part of this growth is owed to increased participation of young people and dually-addicted alcoholics. We were introduced to the problems of court and hospital referral, and the solutions that some have found to work. We are talking freely about these problems; there is less anger, more humor, and hope in the discussions. There no longer seems to be any sense that Fellowship unity is threatened, even though problems remain. The resolve of everyone to preserve our singleness of purpose seems undiminished.

*Gordon Patrick (nonalcoholic), chairperson*

## A.A. World Services, Inc.

### Board examines benefits and copyrights

**Directors' report:** This board met 12 times during 1984. The following significant items are noted:

- Reviewed and recommended to the trustees' Finance Committee the 1984 budget.
- Transferred \$524,000 to the General Service Board to cover operating deficits for the year ended December 31, 1983; transferred surplus cash in excess of basic operating requirements, amounting to \$260,000, to the General Service Reserve Fund.
- Engaged Hay Associates to make a study of the costs and value to employees of the A.A.W.S. entire benefits package.
- Bob P. tendered his resignation from this board effective at the close of this Conference. We recommended John B. to the trustees Nominating Committee to replace Bob, effective April 21, 1985.
- Forwarded to the Report and Charter Committee our recommendations regarding the A.A. Directories.
- Agreed to an expenditure of \$3,000 to enable the Central American Literature Committee to produce a newer and better translation of some of their pamphlets. At the time we turned over the literature operation to this Committee, some of the inventory was obsolete. This requested expenditure would be used primarily to make good the deficiencies in the inventory that have been discovered since it was turned over to them.
- Assured Poland A.A.'s that our objective is to get the message carried and we will assist their literature operation.
- Approved prices for 13 items, including one book, two pamphlets, Guidelines and an assortment of service material. "Pass It

On," came off the press December 26, 1984. We granted 62 requests to reprint from A.A. literature and two requests to tape; three were tabled and 13 were withheld.

• This year's meeting with the French Literature Committee was very good. Recently translated literature includes "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" and the C.P.C. workbook. The translation of the film "A.A.—An Inside View" is complete and is on videotape.

*Jacquelyn S., chairperson*

## Archives

### Scrapbook to be reproduced; newsletter revived

**Trustees' committee:** Our 16 volumes of newspaper clippings are undergoing comprehensive indexing. In keeping with the committee's goal — sharing as much material as possible by reproducing any items of interest to members — we have arranged to produce copies of our first scrapbook, 1939-1942.

The committee has approved two issues of our archival newsletter, *Markings*, for distribution to archival centers and other interested parties. The objectives remain the same, viz., to gather a pool of experience in the collection, preservation, and exhibition of early A.A. memorabilia.

We have begun the design of a traveling historical exhibit that will feature panels depicting interesting items from our scrapbooks: old photographs and other documents, and selected artifacts.

Acquisitions this year included the A.A. correspondence of Marty M.; many beautifully prepared area, state and district histories; a large collection of early books and pamphlets from member collectors; and oral histories from early timers.

Permission to review our material was given to many researchers involved in articles celebrating A.A.'s 50th Anniversary.

*Garrett T., chairperson*

**Staff report:** A South Florida member, Pat S., reminds us that "we study the past to enrich the present and assure the future." In that light, it has been a very enriching year as a result of much study by many researchers of our history.

We are selecting significant original documents from the G.S.O. microfiche program, to assure this data for future historians. There are over 40,000 group folders, so this will take some years to complete.

Many visitors passed through the Archives last year (including over 700 on Open House Day), and 858 lingered long

enough to sign our guest book. Not a few of these commented on the aura of reflectiveness that pervades the rooms. That reflectiveness is as palpable as the love in your home group. It's brought by the sojourner/member, of course, and it's a joy to experience.

Frank M., archivist

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## Conference

### Voting procedure to be studied

**Trustees' committee:** Suggestions for the 1985 Conference theme were reviewed, and we recommended to the Conference Agenda Committee that the theme be "Golden Moments of Reflection." We reviewed suggestions received through the Conference Evaluation Questionnaire and the post-Conference sharing session and suggested that:

- Panel 34 and 35 delegates be asked to attend the regional orientation session, and that the session be extended to one hour.
- Regional trustees review the committees system with their delegates.
- Regional trustees remind delegates that some people take offense at tasteless, sexist language and jokes, and that these do not serve the purpose of the Conference.
- That past delegates share information regarding the delegates' dinner and meeting with new delegates.
- Since the voting procedure at the Conference, as described in the Conference Charter (The "A.A. Service Manual," 1983-84 edition, p. 23), is inconsistent with the voting procedure actually used at the Conference, the trustees' Conference Committee asked that the Conference Report and Charter Committee study this matter and consider changing the wording of the Conference Charter.

Natalie S., Chairperson

**Staff report:** The Conference coordinator is a point of contact among all Conference members and all those serving in the 91 United States/Canada areas.

All A.A.'s are encouraged to submit suggestions for the Conference agenda, usually through the delegates. Suggestions are presented to the trustees' Conference Committee and the Conference Agenda Committee for approval, and shared via the *Quarterly Report*, Box 4-5-9. The preliminary Conference agenda is mailed in January.

The Conference coordinator collects ideas for the Conference theme and agenda; serves as secretary of the Conference Agenda Committee and the trustees' General Service Conference Committee; corresponds with delegates in preparation for the Conference; works with the general manager, office manager, and staff in planning and coordinating the Conference; schedules and routes reports and other

material for Conference Manuals, Early Bird Edition of Box 4-5-9, and the *Final Conference Report*; coordinates the Annual Open-House Day at the General Service Office.

Lois F.

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## Cooperation With the Professional Community

### C.P.C. literature reviewed

**Trustees' committee:** The committee has had a busy and productive year. We revised the service piece Memo on Cooperation in Research and Non-A.A. Survey Projects and retitled it Memo on Participation of A.A. Members in Research and Other Non-A.A. Surveys.

We discussed the Conference C.P.C. committee's recommendation that "A.A. at a Glance," "If You Are a Professional" and "How A.A. Members Cooperate" include references to nonalcoholic drug addicts being ineligible for A.A. membership. We forwarded "A.A. at a Glance" to the trustees' P.I. Committee and asked the Conference C.P.C. Committee to review our suggestions regarding "How A.A. Members Cooperate."

We reviewed "If You Are a Professional," and recommended that the Conference C.P.C. Committee review it for possible rewriting to meet today's conditions. "The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs" has been added to the C.P.C. Workbook. The committee also suggested detailed revision of the C.P.C. Guidelines.

Buck B., chairperson.

**Staff report:** In keeping with A.A.'s primary purpose, C.P.C. carries our message to the still-suffering alcoholic through sharing information about our Fellowship with professional groups and individuals. Information is provided, both to A.A.'s and to outside organizations, on ways of cooperating without affiliating.

In 1984 our Professional Exhibit was shown at 25 meetings and resulted in over 2,500 requests for additional information. These exhibits also helped to increase the *About A.A.* mailing list to over 17,000.

The C.P.C. staff member serves as an A.A. liaison on the Advisory Council to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and attends meetings and workshops of organizations dealing with alcoholism.

There are over 400 C.P.C. committees now listed at G.S.O. New committee chairpersons receive the C.P.C. Workbook; new committee members receive selected C.P.C. literature and service material. They also receive *About A.A.* and Box 4-5-9, which now has a section devoted to P.I. And C.P.C. activities.

Curtis M.

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## Correctional Facilities

### Workbook available

**Trustees' committee:** Following a 1984 Conference Advisory Action, this committee has published a Correctional Facilities Workbook. Designed to help A.A.'s involved in corrections' Twelfth Step work by providing new ideas and new ways to implement old ideas, the workbook has been distributed to all correctional facilities chairpersons and is now available for sale.

The pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" has been translated into Spanish and is now available.

The committee has also discussed the feasibility of creating a filmstrip based on the pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell." This suggestion will be brought to the 1985 Conference.

Because communication with the small population of women's prison A.A. groups continues to be sparse, the committee has written to these groups to help keep the channels open. Responses are trickling in.

Consistent with the 1984 Advisory Action, the separate *Correctional Facilities Bulletin* has been discontinued, and correctional facilities news is being included in Box 4-5-9. Updating of the *Correctional Facilities Directory* is underway.

The trustees' Committee on Correctional Facilities has recommended that the pamphlet "Memo to an Inmate Who May Be an Alcoholic" be rewritten in a simpler style, and that a female story be added. This recommendation is being brought to the 1984 General Service Conference for approval.

Jim Estelle (nonalcoholic), chairperson

**Staff report:** G.S.O. provides services to 1,552 A.A. groups in correctional facilities, composed of about 47,000 A.A. members. These groups are also served locally by many of the 365 institution committees.

The staff member on correctional facilities is responsible for answering correspondence from inmates, institutions committees, and "outside" A.A. sponsors, as well as for correctional facility professionals.

A.A. groups in correctional facilities are each sent a new Correctional Facilities Group Handbook, which contains the Correctional Facilities Directory. In addition, each prison groups receives a Big Book, other complimentary literature, and Box 4-5-9. Discount packages of A.A. literature in English and Spanish are also available to "inside" group and institutions committees. Monthly, the Grapevine office donates Grapevines for distribution to inmates, and these are sent one or two at a time to prison A.A.'s, particularly those in solitary confinement.

Six hundred eighty-five "outside" A.A.'s are presently serving on the Institutions

Correspondence Service. Suggested guidelines are sent to all of those on the service, both inmates and free A.A.'s.

*Eileen G.*

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## Finance

### New treasurer cites Concept XI

**Trustees' report:** This committee heard reports on the operations of the General Service Office and the Grapevine, reviewed and approved budgets, supervised the administration of the Reserve Fund, and continued to monitor group contributions as to their sufficiency in relation to the cost of servicing our ever-expanding Fellowship.

The Concepts discuss the responsibilities of the Finance Committee: "The main responsibility of this body is to see that we do not become money-crippled or go broke. This is the place where money and spirituality *do* have to mix, and in just the right proportion."

And, as further stated in the Concepts, "Future committees, therefore, will ponder the difference between real prudence (which is neither fear nor hoarding and which may indeed require us sometimes to run temporary deficits) and that kind of persistent recklessness which could someday result in the severe contraction or collapse of our vital services."

We could never hope to improve on Bill's statements. We will continue to work within the framework of Concept Eleven as it relates to our committee.

*Robert P. Morse*  
(nonalcoholic), chairperson

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## General Sharing Session

### Rotation; Our past and future

**Trustees' committee:** The topic for July was "The Spiritual and Practical Aspects of Rotation." Two presentations were delivered. In the ensuing discussion most agreed that rotation is anonymity in action.

Rotation at the board and Conference level is essential because these entities serve as an example to all others in the service structure. At G.S.O. rotation arose from practical need and later revealed spiritual benefits.

"A.A.'s 50th Anniversary: Where Have We Come From — Where Are We Going?" was the October topic. Provocative and informative presentations were given by Bob P. and John B. Many members commented about how secure they feel about A.A.'s future — A.A. has a self-correcting mechanism; our suffering is our strength.

A new format was used in February in response to the ad hoc committee's recom-

mendation that in-depth reports be given by each of the board's committees in order for the full board to better understand the recommendations they approve on Monday morning of board weekend. Reports were given by the trustees' Nominating, Literature, and Public Information Committees, and a discussion followed.

*William E. Flynn, M.D.*  
(nonalcoholic), chairperson

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## Group Services

### Variety of service material available

**Staff report:** The primary responsibility of this coordinator is to provide communications services to the Fellowship as a whole, and supervise updating and production of all service material, including Guidelines, Group Handbooks, G.S.R. Kits and other pieces.

New groups in the United States and Canada receive a Group Handbook, G.S.R. Kit, complimentary supply of literature, and are placed on the mailing list for *Box 4-5-9* and the appropriate regional A.A. directory. G.S.O. lists more than 1,000 French-speaking and 450 Spanish-speaking groups; the Group Handbook, G.S.R. Kit, and *Box 4-5-9* are available in these languages.

Service material is complimentary. It is produced when G.S.O. correspondence indicates a need for readily available information on a specific subject. Service pieces are prepared from A.A. group experience, and are revised according to Fellowship needs.

The group services coordinator works with the other supporting departments in the preparation of the five A.A. directories and the updating of order forms and literature kits.

*Helen T.*

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## International/Overseas/ World Service Meeting

### Booklet on World Service Meeting proposed

**Trustees' committee:** The International Committee is a focal point for information about A.A. around the world. We try to help A.A. growth in countries where it is just getting started, and we oversee the G.S.O. staff assignment.

The Eighth World Service Meeting was held October 21-25, 1984, in New York City. Thirty-eight delegates attended. U.S. trustee-at-large David A. represented the U.S. and Canadian trustee-at-large Helen H. represented Canada.

We had an evening of sharing among

delegates, board members, Grapevine and A.A.W.S. directors, and staff. The discussion topic was "Non-alcoholic Trustees."

Some recommendations for future World Service Meetings are: that a similar sharing session (W.S.M. delegates and trustees of the General Service Board, U.S./Canada) be held at the Tenth W.S.M. in New York; that a Delegates Only Meeting be put on the agenda of the Ninth W.S.M. to be held in Guatemala in 1986.

We discussed the W.S.M. recommendation that "A.A.W.S. prepare a booklet briefly highlighting the purpose and history of the World Service Meeting and include recommendations from 1969 to the present. Recommendations will be updated as practicable, and information about interim meetings will also be included." We forwarded this recommendation to A.A.W.S. for implementation.

We plan to cover an overseas booth at the 1985 International Convention. We are also reviewing ways to make more foreign language pamphlets available.

The staff secretary attended the Third European Service Meeting in Frankfurt, West Germany, March 1985; the Spanish-speaking staff member will attend the Fourth Ibero-American Service Meeting in Uruguay, July 1985.

The committee had a busy, productive year!  
*David A., chairperson*

### 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. Our Spanish-speaking staff member works closely with the overseas staff member and helps with correspondence.

Here are some highlights about A.A. overseas: In Poland, A.A.'s have formed an intergroup in Warsaw, a national board, and a Translations Literature Committee; The "Twelve and Twelve" in Danish is complete and work is progressing on the Big Book; a Hebrew translation of the Big Book and a service structure are being developed in Israel.

**World Service Meeting**—The theme of the Eighth World Service Meeting was "The World Service Meeting Takes Its Inventory." Simultaneous translations in Spanish and English were provided for the general sessions, committee meetings and workshops. The G.S.O. staff member on the overseas desk coordinated and planned this meeting with the help of a planning committee, agenda committee of W.S.M., and the trustees' International committee. A *Final Report of the Eighth World Service Meeting* is available, upon request.

The World Service Meeting meets biennially at locations alternating between the U.S. and overseas—the next is scheduled for Guatemala in 1986.  
*Susan D.*

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## International Convention/ A.A. Regional Forums

### Convention plans finalized; Forums improve communication

#### Trustees' committee:

*International Convention* — A.A.'s 50th Birthday Party is going to be the biggest and most exciting we have ever had. Registration was so brisk that all of the downtown hotel space was sold out within six or seven weeks after the registration forms were sent out. The downtown public transportation system is excellent and, with the exception of some limited shuttle bus service in the areas near the airports, it will meet our needs. People using housing in the outlying areas will have to provide their own transportation.

We have approved the following additional programs: A French-language Marathon Meeting; a two-day Big Book Study Meeting, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; workshops for "Carrying the Message to Minorities," "Reaching the Handicapped Alcoholic," and "How A.A. Cooperates With Other Self-Help Groups"; special interest meetings for native people, gays in A.A., and Birds of a Feather (airline personnel).

"A.A. and the Armed Forces," "A.A. and Medical and Nursing Schools" and "How Professionals Cooperate With A.A." will be combined into one panel — "A.A. as a Community Resource." Participants for the panel will be from each of the disciplines.

We recommended that area delegates submit alkathon speakers' names to be put in a hat for drawing the necessary number of speakers.

A souvenir booklet, created especially for the Convention, was approved, and will be printed in English and French.

Several of our Fellowship's very early pioneers, both A.A. and non-A.A., will be introduced at the Convention.

*Regional Forums* — Since the Regional Forum concept was introduced in 1975, 39 Forums have been held. Four Regions hosted Forums this past year, and one special Forum was held in Hawaii. Our committee discussed each of these Forums and found that they continue to be well received by service workers and to improve communication within our Fellowship. Attendance ranged from 270 to over 600, with 70-75% of registrants attending their first Forum.

Workshops and presentations on the Concepts were held at some Forums and they were well attended and received.

We recommended that, to be as fair as possible to as many as possible, rotation should become a part of site selection for Regional Forums. *Box 4-5-9* keeps the Fellowship informed of upcoming Regional Forums.

*Kenneth D., chairperson*

#### Staff reports:

*International Convention* — A.A. members from over 30 countries will gather in Montreal, Quebec, July 4-7, 1985, to celebrate the birth of our Fellowship; at the same time A.A.'s all over the world will be celebrating in their home groups. "Fifty Years With Gratitude" is the theme of A.A.'s 50th Birthday Party.

The opening dance will take place Thursday night at the Montreal Convention Centre. A disco dance will be held simultaneously at the Palladium. The English- and French-language marathon meetings will begin at midnight and run through 8 a.m. Sunday morning.

The Montreal Convention Centre will serve as the hub for our daytime activities. Almost all of the panels and workshops will be held there. Special interest meetings, alkathons, and A.A. films will be held in nearby hotels. The flag ceremony and Big Meeting (Friday night), the professional entertainment (Saturday night), and the Spiritual Meeting (Sunday morning) will be held at the Olympic Park Stadium. We are also looking forward to an International A.A. "fun run," starting 6:30 a.m. Sunday.

The International Convention assignment involves working on the Convention with four committees: trustees', Conference, Host, and G.S.O. Planning. The staff secretary coordinates and serves as secretary to these four committees, and is also the liaison to Al-Anon's Convention planning committee.

*Sarah P.*

*A.A. Regional Forums* — This assignment involves organizing Regional Forums, working with the regional trustees, delegates, host-city contact, and the general manager of G.S.O. Since the General Service Board supports four Forums per year and there are eight regions for the U.S. and Canada, each region can host a Forum every two years. Where a Forum is to be held is decided by the regions' delegates at the General Service Conference.

The responsibilities of the Regional Forum coordinator include: scheduling all mailings connected with the Forum; agenda preparation; room and travel arrangements for participants; arrangements with the hotel and host-city contact; and sending display boards, literature samples, and service material; and sending a final report to all attendees, trustees, and present delegates.

*Helen T.*

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## Internationalists, Loners, LIMs

### L.I.M. unites A.A.'s worldwide

**Staff report:** "I'm an alcoholic — I was a drunk. Another voyage ends. Welcome back S.S. L.I.M., and a salute to Home Port 459." So shares an Internationalist member

of our worldwide correspondence group. The *Loners-Internationalists Meeting (L.I.M.)* provides an A.A. meeting for him and for hundreds of A.A. members who live in isolated areas (Loners) where there are no A.A. groups or contacts. In addition, there are housebound members and many active group members who serve as informal Loner Sponsors.

Approximately 2,500 A.A.'s participate in this meeting by mail. International worldwide growth can be attributed largely to Loners in distant lands and Internationalists sailing the seven seas, who carry the A.A. message wherever they are. Through this network, alcoholics are able to find each other in faraway places and frequently start new A.A. groups.

A literature package is sent to each new member, along with lists of Loners and Internationalists, the bimonthly bulletins *Box 4-5-9* and *Loners-Internationalists Meeting (L.I.M.)*—a meeting in print sharing excerpts of letters received at G.S.O.

There are now over 600 Internationalists and Port Contacts, 67 Internationalists groups aboard ships or in ports, 500 Loners and Homers — staying sober by letters, tapes, and "the language of the heart."  
*Phyllis M.*

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## Literature

### Pamphlets reviewed for immediacy

**Trustees' committee:** Since the 1984 Conference we reviewed "The A.A. Group" with an eye toward underscoring the importance of an informed group conscience. We accepted the report of our subcommittee that this subject is covered adequately, and that the pamphlet is as helpful to small groups as it is to large ones.

We forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee: a suggestion to produce cassettes of "A.A. Comes of Age"; a suggestion to add a reference to the Big Book in all recovery literature and in other literature where appropriate; and a condensed version of the "Twelve Concepts."

We regret we did not complete the "Twelve Concepts Illustrated," but the artist was unable to proceed. We are open to artwork from other sources.

Our subcommittee is continuing to review "A.A. For the Woman," and suggests more, briefer stories representing contemporary female A.A. membership. A subcommittee is reviewing texts and illustrations of "Too Young?" and "Young People and A.A.," to determine if the pamphlets effectively carry the message to today's young people. At the request of A.A. members in the armed services, we are looking for stories of military dependents for "A.A. and the Armed Services."

*Helen H., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The literature assignment involves coordinating all phases of copy preparation, editorial supervision, production, and distribution of A.A.'s publications and audiovisual materials.

We distribute *Box 4-5-9* (in English and Spanish) and six other bulletins, with a combined circulation in excess of 100,000 copies, as follows: *Box 4-5-9* (English), 56,582; *Box 4-5-9* (French), 3,400; *Box 4-5-9* (Spanish), 10,521; *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*, 3,718; *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin*, 4,162; *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*, 7,285; *Quarterly Report*, 5,184; *About A.A.*, 17,224; *Treatment Facilities Bulletin*, 5,232.

All bulletins except *L.I.M.* are translated into French and printed by the French Literature Service, Montreal, Que., in cooperation with this office. The literature coordinator also serves as editor of *Box 4-5-9* and works with a small committee of staff members, editorial personnel, and writers. *Vincina M.*

## Nominating

### Four-year term for Class B trustees?

**Trustees' committee:** At the request of last year's Conference we surveyed delegates and trustees on the question of electing all Class B trustees to four-year terms, no matter when vacancies occur. The results of this survey were forwarded to the Conference Committee on Trustees.

We also took the following actions:

- Reviewed and approved the letter, procedure, and resume form for election of candidates for regional trustees from the Southeast and East Central regions, and also for trustee-at-large/U.S.
- Reviewed and approved as eligible for election candidates for East Central and Southeast regional trustees and candidates for trustee-at-large/U.S.
- Reviewed the procedures for election of Class A trustees, and discussed painstaking search for all new Class A trustees.
- Recommended that James S. serve as general service trustee (Class B) on the Grapevine Corporate Board; and Shepherd R. serve as general service trustee (Class B) on the A.A.W.S. Board.
- Reviewed and recommended the slate of trustees, board officers, and A.A.W.S. and G.V. directors for election at the board's April meeting after presentation at the Conference for disapproval, if any.
- Recommended that when a Class B regional or at-large trustee vacancy occurs on the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Board, this committee be responsible for nominating a replacement. This should be a Class B regional or at-large trustee who can serve for two years and has not served on either board.

*Joe K., chairperson*

## Public Information

### P.I. activities spotlight A.A.'s 50th Birthday

#### Trustees' committee:

**Projects completed**—A press release announcing the World Service Meeting was mailed to wire services, major media outlets in the top ten markets, large-circulation dailies in the Northeast U.S., and countries participating in the World Service Meeting. Another press release on the 1983 membership survey was mailed to major dailies; a new anonymity memo, worded so that television would be more specifically addressed, was also sent to the major dailies; the new Preamble 60-second public service announcement has been added to the ¾ inch video cassette of the combined public service announcement.

A press kit, commemorating A.A.'s 50th Anniversary, was sent to all P.I. committee chairpersons, central and intergroup offices, and delegates.

**Projects in progress**—The new radio public service announcements for young people recommended by the 1983 General Service Conference have been completed and will be presented to the Conference for approval. The committee is preparing three new 30-second spots and three new 10-second spots for Conference approval.

Because the 50th Anniversary projects and the 1985 International Convention are so closely related, it was decided that Ed McD., the new press person for the International Convention, will attend all P.I. committee meetings to coordinate media efforts.

*Ralph R., chairperson*

**Staff report:** During 1984 the staff member and two nonalcoholic employees answered more than 10,800 requests for information about A.A. from students, doctors, nurses, family members, members of the clergy, and the public media. We provided the literature for 300 health fairs and processed approximately 7,600 newspaper and magazine stories about A.A. We followed up on approximately 23 anonymity breaks per month, and reviewed 165 TV clips.

There are 750 P.I. committees listed at G.S.O., as well as 700 P.I. contacts. Committee members listed here receive the bimonthly bulletin *Box 4-5-9*, which now has a special section for P.I. news, plus an assortment of public information service material.

We distributed 300 radio and 265 TV p.s.a.'s; the videos of "A.A.—An Inside View" and the combined public service announcements, to over 30 networks, local TV stations, and TV production companies for inclusion in programs about alcoholism and/or commemoration of the 50th Anniversary.

*Lyla H.*

## Spanish Services Coordinator

### A liaison for Spanish-speaking A.A.'s

**Staff report:** The objective of this assignment (created in 1984) is to assist staff members in providing Hispanic A.A.'s with service as equal as possible to the service English-speaking groups receive. The coordinator acts as a liaison between G.S.O. and the Spanish-speaking community. Because of the nature of the assignment, the staff member is nonrotating.

This assignment includes handling correspondence in Spanish (which has nearly doubled over the past year), and greeting Spanish-speaking visitors to G.S.O. The coordinator translates into Spanish literature such as service material, pamphlets, Conference material, and *Box 4-5-9*.

Attending Spanish-speaking events is another facet of this assignment. During the past year there have been opportunities to share at a national convention in Colombia, the U.S./Canada Hispanic Convention of Puerto Rico in Loiza, and others.

The Spanish Services coordinator helps interpret for Spanish-speaking delegates to the World Service Meetings. The G.S.O. U.S./Canada now is a voting member of the Ibero-American Commission for Translation and Adaptation of A.A. literature. The G.S.O. Open House now includes a presentation in Spanish. In regions with substantial Spanish membership, the coordinator participates at the Regional Forums, where two workshops are conducted in Spanish. He will also assist with the Spanish A.A.'s participation at the International Convention in Montreal. *Vicente M.*

## Staff Coordinator

### Staff assignments are multifaceted

**Staff report:** One of the important responsibilities of the 12 G.S.O. staff members is to answer correspondence. In 1984, more than 20,000 letters were answered. Most staff members have specific assignments, some of which involve special projects; most also correspond with A.A. groups in a given geographic region.

Weekly staff meetings keep all informed and provide a forum for discussing problems that need some direction from the group conscience. Staff members are also invited to various areas for A.A. get-togethers. These trips enable us to learn of local service activities and problems, and help us to be a better service office. Additionally, over the past year, we have greeted

about 1,500 visiting A.A.'s from around the world.

The staff coordinator's assignment also involves coordinating all staff activities, chairing the weekly staff meeting, making sure mail is answered without interruption during staff member's absences, and serving as the liaison between the staff and other departments.

Betty L.

## Treatment Facilities

### Draft of new workbook presented to Conference

**Trustees' committee:** The 1984 Conference recommended that this committee develop a Treatment Facilities Workbook. A draft is being presented to the 1985 Conference for approval.

The A.A. Guidelines on Correctional and Treatment Facilities were separated and updated as per the 1984 Conference recommendation. The A.A. Guidelines on Treatment Facilities was printed and ready for distribution in October 1984.

The *Treatment Facilities Bulletin* is published in April and October. The mailing of this bulletin has grown to 5,219. G.S.O. publishes 5,500 at the present but will increase this to 7,000 because the bulletin is also included in special treatment facilities packages and correspondence, and there are many requests for back issues from A.A.'s and professionals.

Joan K. Jackson, Ph.D.

(nonalcoholic), chairperson

**Staff report:** The staff member on this assignment has been busy this past year helping to prepare and coordinate the draft of the workbook. Along with writing the *Treatment Facilities Bulletin* twice a year, the staff member answers all correspondence from A.A.'s and non-A.A.'s requesting shared information concerning the Traditions in relation to how A.A. cooperates with treatment facilities.

A new form letter has been prepared explaining the difference between a treatment facilities meeting and a regular A.A. group in a hospital or facility. The letter is sent with a group registration form and a treatment facility meeting card.

Three new service items were introduced and are available at G.S.O.: Treatment Facilities Meeting Kit, a complimentary package sent to new treatment facilities meetings listed with G.S.O.; Treatment Facilities Committee Kit, sent to new chairpersons of treatment facilities committees; Treatment Facilities Discount Package.

Cheryl Ann B.

## Reports from the A.A. Grapevine

### "Best of the Grapevine" out in June

**Directors' report:** Total income for the 12-month period was \$1,193,000, an increase of \$72,000 over 1983. Net income for 1984 amounted to \$26,000. The overall total subscription picture for 1984 was a good one. With the December 1984 issue, for example, paid circulation was 124,200, an increase of 600 over December 1983.

"Best of the Grapevine," a 288-page hardcover volume of a carefully studied selection of 40 years' worth of Grapevine articles and artwork, will be ready in June, and will be available at the 1985 International Convention. The third Grapevine tape, "Not for Newcomers Only," emphasizes A.A. basics.

Nothing tells the story of the significance, importance, purpose, and well-being of the Grapevine better than this: During 1984, more than 2,000 articles, letters, and jokes were submitted for consideration. Of the 334 articles and items printed in 1984, 301 came from 47 states of the union, 16 came from seven provinces of Canada, and 17 came from 14 foreign countries. That's the input portion of the operation.

As for operation output, you cannot stop at the circulation figure of 124,200 and call that the magazine's readership. Communications experts tell us that you can count better than three readers for every one subscriber to a magazine (even more for a special-interest publication such as ours). This would mean that even conservatively each month we reach 372,600 readers. And if you go with an A.A. membership figure of approximately one million worldwide, it's evident that the Grapevine is today reaching in excess of one third of the total A.A. population.

Ralph R., chairperson

**Staff report:** The Grapevine staff consists of four A.A. members and two non-A.A.'s, with a supporting "crew" of 15 who take care of copy editing, the GvR (Grapevine representative) program, circulation, bookkeeping, and mailing/shipping.

The managing editor has overall responsibility for the operation, oversees the office, and serves as president of the corporation, and thus a member of the corporate board. Much time since the 1984 Conference has been spent in direct communication with the Fellowship through attendance at A.A. events and working with the GvR network.

Our editor evaluates manuscripts (along with the managing editor), selects the content of each issue, corresponds with writers, and makes sure that a new issue appears every month.

Our art editor has charge of layout and design, originates cover ideas and article illustrations, and works with volunteer artists who prepare finished artwork.

Our controller (non-A.A.) is responsible for financial planning and reporting. He serves as assistant treasurer of the corporation, works with printers, the mailing house, and other outside services. Much of his time over the past year was spent working out the endless details of the computer conversion.

The Grapevine team, A.A.'s and nons, has the enthusiasm, dedication, and energy so necessary to fulfill our obligation of service to the Fellowship.

Retha G., managing editor

## Digest of Agenda

### Sunday, April 14

Opening dinner and A.A. meeting

### Monday, April 15

Welcome

Roll call of all Conference members

Conference committee chairpersons

Area delegate chairperson

Keynote

General Service Board report

Presentation/discussion: "Will the Hand of A.A.

Always be There?"

International Convention report

Members of the General Service Board (trustees)

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

Service Meeting committees

Joint trustees' and Conference committee meetings

Workshop: "Will the Hand of A.A. Always be There?"

### Tuesday, April 16

Presentation: "The A.A. Grapevine"

Conference committee meetings

Presentations/discussions: "Finance"; "The

Warranties"

Visit to G.S.O. and Grapevine office

Delegates' meeting

### Wednesday, April 17

Conference committee meetings

Presentation/discussion: "Concept V — The Rights of

'Appeal' and 'Petition'"

Regional trustee elections

Presentation/discussion: "Beyond the Seventh

Tradition — Group Responsibility"

Workshop: "Beyond the Seventh Tradition — Group

Responsibility"

### Thursday, April 18

Conference committee reports and discussion

Presentation/discussion: "The G.S.R. — The Key Role"

Conference committee reports and discussion

Presentation/discussion: "Fifty Years of Caring and

Sharing"

Ask-It Basket

### Friday, April 19

Conference committee reports and discussion

Sharing session: "Last Chance — What's on Your

Mind?"

Presentation/discussion: "Golden Moments of

Reflection"

Closing talk

### Saturday, April 20

Closing brunch

Farewell talks

Closing remarks

Reports on Area Service Highlights: At intervals, Panel 35 delegates shared area experiences.



## 1985 G.S.O. Budget

### A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

**Income:** Sales income has been budgeted at \$7,236,100. Included in this projection is the income from the first year sales of the new book "Pass It On." During 1985, it is anticipated that A.A. W.S., Inc., will distribute 700,000 copies of "Alcoholics Anonymous," 360,000 "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"—regular edition, 62,000 "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"—pocket edition, 27,000 "A.A. Comes of Age," 76,000 "As Bill Sees It," 25,000 "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers," 150,000 copies of "Pass It On," and more than 7,000,000 booklets, pamphlets, and miscellaneous items. After deducting \$3,473,300—the amount representing the cost of printing and producing items sold and the royalties paid on book sales—the gross profit from sales is estimated to be \$3,762,800. Adding interest earned on daily cash flow, the total income from the publishing activity is expected to be \$3,787,800.

**Expenses:** Expenses charged against the publishing operation are budgeted at \$2,283,100, representing an increase of 16% over 1984. Considered in this increase are higher costs related to increased publishing activity, the additional cost of handling, packing and shipping the new book and, to some extent, continuing inflationary pressures. Net publishing income, after operating expenses, is expected to be \$1,504,700.

### GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

**Income:** Contributions from groups and A.A. members have been budgeted at \$2,281,100, an increase of 7.8% over 1984 actual, and interest on cash flow has been budgeted at \$4,500.

**Expenses:** Total expenses, representing the cost of group services that are paid out of contributions, are expected to be \$2,764,100. Included in this portion of the General Service Office budget is the cost of the General Service Conference, totaling \$165,700. The cost of all service expenses is budgeted to be \$478,500 greater than contribution income. This shortfall will be funded from the net income of the publishing operation.

### GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses of the General Service Board are budgeted at \$282,900. 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 \$743,300.

## 1985 Grapevine Budget

**Total income:** Income from magazine and other sales is budgeted at \$1,429,000. This represents an increase of \$236,000 over 1984, on the basis of additional sales income from the sale of the new book "The Best of Grapevine."

**Total expenses:** Expenses are budgeted at \$1,390,800. A net operating income in the amount of \$38,200 has been budgeted for 1985.

Including \$4,000 in interest earned on cash flow, total net income is budgeted to be \$42,200.

## 1985 G.S.O. Budget

The budget for 1985 operations of G.S.O. activities is as follows:

### BUDGET

### A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

#### INCOME

Net sales	\$7,236,100*
Less: Cost of products and royalties	<u>3,473,300</u>
Gross profit from sales	3,762,800
Interest income	<u>25,000</u>
Total income	3,787,800

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

	<u>2,283,100</u>
Net income	<u>1,504,700</u>

#### \*Based on the sale of:

700,000 books	—	"Alcoholics Anonymous"
360,000 books	—	"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" (reg.)
62,000 books	—	"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" (pocket)
27,000 books	—	"A.A. Comes of Age"
76,000 books	—	"As Bill Sees It"
25,000 books	—	"Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers"
150,000 books	—	"Pass It On"
	and	Pamphlets, booklets, and miscellaneous items

### GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

#### INCOME

Contributions	\$2,281,100
Interest income	<u>4,500</u>
Total income	2,285,600

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

	<u>2,764,100**</u>
Net expense	<u>(478,500)</u>

\*\*Includes cost of General Service Conference—\$165,700

### GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

#### TOTAL EXPENSES (NET)

\$(282,900)\*\*\*

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

The publishing activity will contribute \$761,400 toward the budgeted deficits, leaving a net G.S.O. income in the amount of \$743,300.

## 1985 Grapevine Budget

Estimated income from subscription and other sales	\$1,429,000
Total costs and expenses	<u>1,390,800</u>
Net income from operations	38,200
Interest	<u>4,000</u>
Total net income	<u>42,200</u>



## Calendar of Events

### June

- May 31-June 2 — Winchester, Virginia. 31st Annual Spring Four State and D.C. Get-Together. Write: Secy., Rt. 2, Box 164, Boyce, VA 22620
- 1-2 — Drumheller, Alberta, Canada. New Hope Group Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2233, Drumheller, Alta. T0J 0Y0
- 6-9 — St. Simons, Georgia. Golden Isles Family Weekend. Write: Ch., 126 Hardee Dr., Brunswick, GA 31520
- 6-9 — Hagerstown, Maryland. 15th Annual Convention. Write: Conv. Com., Box 336, Sparks, MD 21152
- 6-9 — Austin, Texas. 40th Annual Texas Convention. Write: TX St. A.A. Conv., Box 4610, Austin, TX 78765
- 7-9 — Superior, Wisconsin. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 996, Superior, WI 54880
- 7-9 — South International Falls, Minnesota. Eighth Annual A.A. Celebration. Write: Ch., Box 412, International Falls, MN 56649
- 7-9 — Grand Junction, Colorado. Summer Area Assembly. Write: Ch., 283½ Mountain View, Grand Junction, CO 81503
- 7-9 — Willow Creek, California. Seventh Annual Mini Campout. Write: Ch., Kamp Kimto, Box 631, Fortuna, CA 95540
- 7-9 — Santa Rosa, California. 38th N. California Summer Conf. Write: Ch., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122-2290
- 7-9 — Ames, Iowa. Spring Conf. Write: Spring Conf. '85, Box 1981, Ames, IA 50010
- 7-9 — Lake Yali, Florida. Ninth Annual Spring A.A. Meeting. Write: Ch., 609 Glenview Ct., Winter Garden, FL 32787
- 7-9 — Ft. McMurray, Alberta, Canada. Ninth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., 309 Gregoire Crescent, Ft. McMurray, Alta. T9H 2L6
- 7-9 — Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Annual Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 954, Station M, Calgary, Alta. T2P 2K4
- 7-9 — Swan River, Manitoba, Canada. Northern Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1484, Swan River, Man. R0L 1Z0
- 7-9 — Flagstaff, Arizona. Flagstaff (formerly Sedona) Roundup. Write: Ch., Flagstaff Intergroup, 3 N. Leroux, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
- 7-9 — Jackson, Mississippi. 39th Annual State Convention. Write: Ch., '85 Conv., Box 843, Jackson, MS 39205-0843
- 7-9 — Stallarton, Nova Scotia, Canada. 20th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1694, Stallarton, NS B0K 1S0
- 8 — Missoula, Montana. 50th Birthday Party. Write: Ch., Box 7602, Missoula, MT 59802
- 8-9 — Bombay, India. 50th Anniversary of A.A. Write: A.A. Office, Next to Parish Hall, Christ Church, Clare Road, Byculla, Bombay 400 008, India

- 8-10 — Seattle, Washington. 50th Birthday Celebration. Write: Ch., 1402 11th Ave., Seattle, WA 98122
- 13-16 — Palm Springs, California. Palm Springs Roundup '85. Write: Registrar, 2424 Newport Blvd., Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
- 14-16 — Charleston, West Virginia. 33rd State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 622, Charleston, WV 25322
- 14-16 — Akron, Ohio. 50th Annual Founders Day Weekend. Write: Founders Day Com., Box 12, Akron, OH 44309
- 14-16 — Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Seventh Mid-Season Campout Conv. Write: Ch., Box 113, Sta. A, Windsor, Ont., N9A 6J5
- 14-16 — Willow, Alaska. Mat-Su Blast. Write: Ch., Box 251, Willow, AK 99688
- 14-16 — Bristol, Rhode Island. Ninth Annual Ocean State Young People's Conference. Write: Reg. Comm., Box 677, Pawtucket, RI 02862
- 14-16 — Cache Creek, British Columbia, Canada. Tenth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 588, Cache Creek, B.C. V0K 1H0
- 15-16 — High River, Alberta, Canada. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1032, High River, Alta. T0L 1B0
- 15-16 — Shaunavon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Second Annual Roundup. Write: Com., Box 1473, Shaunavon, Sask. S0N-2M0
- 15-16 — Muenster, Saskatchewan, Canada. 11th Annual Humboldt Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2303, Humboldt., Sask., S0K 2A0
- 21-23 — Vernon, British Columbia, Canada. Annual Roundup. Write: Secy., #32, 5300 25th Ave., Vernon, B.C., V1T 6R4
- 21-23 — Westfield, Massachusetts. Young People's Conference of 1985. Write: W.M.Y.P.C.C., Box 27, Wilbraham, MA 01095

- 21-23 — Fürth/Bayern, W. Germany. Area VII English-speaking Intergroup 3rd Annual Roundup. Write: Treas., Rudolph Breitscheidstr 37, 8510 Fürth/Bayern, W. Germany
- 21-23 — Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. 24th Annual Kawartha District Conf. Write: Treas., 672 Armour Rd., Peterborough, Ont. K9H 1Z6
- 21-23 — Nashville, Tennessee. Fourth Annual Music City Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 173, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
- 21-23 — Casper, Wyoming. 1985 June Jamboree. Write: Ch., 454 Trigood Ave., Casper, WY 82601
- 28-30 — Grand Forks, British Columbia, Canada. 14th Annual Picnic and Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1664, Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0
- 28-30 — Qualicum Beach, British Columbia, Canada. Mid Island A.A. Rally. Write: ABSI Group, Box 1629, Qualicum Beach, BC V0R 2T0
- 28-30 — Susanville, California. Fifth Annual Eagle Lake Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1430, Susanville, CA 96130
- 29 — Conneaut Lake Park, Pennsylvania. First Annual Penn.-Ohio Family Fun Day. Write: Ch., 305 N. Roy St., New Castle, PA 16101
- 29-30 — Minot, North Dakota. Second Annual Dist. II Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., 415-16th St., S.W., Minot, ND 58701
- 29-30 — Bozeman, Montana. Dist. 72 Reg. Conf. Write: Ch., 45 Valley Center Rd. W., Bozeman, MT 59715

### July

- 5-7 — Caldwell, Idaho. First Annual Ida-Ore Roundup. Write: Roundup, Box 722, Caldwell, ID 83605
- 11-14 — Lubbock, Texas. 11th Hub of the Plains Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6511, Lubbock, TX 79413
- 12-13 — Hawkesbury, Ontario, Canada. Secondaire Régional Congrès. Write: Ch., 139 Atlantic St, Hawkesbury, Ont. K6A 1V6
- 12-14 — Tulsa, Oklahoma. Fifth State Roundup of Young People in A.A. Write: Ch., Box 690591, Tulsa, OK 44169
- 12-14 — Tonasket/Oroville, Washington. Third Annual Lost Lake Campout. Write: Ch., Box 31, Tonasket, WA 98855
- 12-14 — Eugene, Oregon. Annual A.A. Summerfest. Write: Emerald Valley Intergroup, 795 Willamette, Suite 216, Eugene, OR 97401
- 12-14 — Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. Lakeshore Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., 1005 Byron St. S., Witby, Ont.
- 12-14 — Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada. Third Annual Area Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 134, Chilliwack, B.C. V2P 6H7

## Planning an August, September or October Event?

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.

- 12-14 — *Sparwood, British Columbia, Canada*. Elk Valley Third Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1184, Sparwood, B.C. V0B 2G0
- 12-14 — *South Pass, Wyoming*. A.A. and Al-Anon Annual Campout. Write: Ch., Afton Group, Box 521, Afton, WY 83110
- 13-14 — *Atikokan, Ontario, Canada*. 21st Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 391, Atikokan, Ont., P0T 1C0
- 19-21 — *Grand Marias, Minnesota*. Lake Superior-North Shore Roundup #1. Write: Ch., Box 981, Grand Marias, MN 55604
- 19-21 — *Silt, Colorado*. Third Annual Harvey Gap Pig Roast. Write: Treas., Box 218, Silt, CO 81652
- 19-21 — *Edison, Alberta, Canada*. Dist. 5 Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 147, Niton Junction, Alta. T0E 1S0
- 19-21 — *Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. West Pennsylvania General Service Weekend of Sharing. Write: W.O.S., 1104 Stevenson Mill Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108
- 19-21 — *Rimouski, Quebec, Canada*. Bas St.-Laurent, Dist. 88-06 Congrès (French-speaking). Write: Ch., C.P. 1178, Rimouski, Que. G5L 7R1
- 19-21 — *Soldotna, Alaska*. 12th Annual Wilderness Jamboree. Write: Secy., Box 2395, Soldotna, AK 99669
- 19-21 — *West Palm Beach, Florida*. Agape Weekend #46. Write: Ch., 16750 S.W. 300th St., Homestead, FL 33030
- 19-21 — *Poughkeepsie, New York*. Second Annual Dutchess County Young People's Closed Conf. Write: D.C.Y.P.C.C., Box 171, Fishkill, NY 12524
- 19-21 — *Lincoln, Montana*. 15th Wilderness Agape Weekend. Write: Coord., 23 Konley, Kalispell, MT 59901
- 26-28 — *Baton Rouge, Louisiana*. 27th Annual State Convention. Write: Ch., Rt. #2, Box 317A, Baker, LA 70714
- 26-28 — *Woodstock, Ontario, Canada*. Fourth Marathon of Unity. Write: Ch., Box 1349, Woodstock, Ont. N45 8R2
- 26-28 — *Casa Grande, Arizona*. 28th Sahuaro Agape Weekend. Write: Secy., Box 40214, Tucson, AZ 85717
- 26-28 — *Toronto, Ontario, Canada*. Fourth Annual Young People's Conf. Write: T.Y.P.C., 272 Eglinton Ave. West, Toronto, Ont. M4R 1B2
- 26-28 — *Columbia, Missouri*. 27th State Convention. Write: Treas., Box 9405, St. Louis, MO 63117

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

*June* (page 30): celebrating sobriety; A.A.'s true message; "nothing short of our very best"; A.A. literature.

*July* (page 36): gratitude; "why?" is an irrelevant question; working the steps; problems in A.A.

## August

- 1-4 — *Savannah, Georgia*. International Doctors in A.A. Annual Mtg. Write: Secy., IDAA, 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511
- 1-4 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. 45th "Old Granddad" Area Conv. Write: Treas., Box 2394, Jonesboro, AR 72401
- 2-4 — *Havre, Montana*. Fourth Annual Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2442, Havre, MT 59501
- 2-4 — *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*. 38th North Carolina/Bermuda State Conv., Write: Ch., Box 18412, Raleigh, NC 28619
- 2-4 — *College Station, Texas*. Second Annual Bryan/College Station A.A., Al-Anon Conv. Write: Bryan College Sta. Conv., Box 2652, Bryan, TX 77805
- 2-4 — *Farmington, Maine*. Eighth Area Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 515, Rumford, ME 04276
- 2-4 — *North Bend, Nebraska*. A.A./Al-Anon Campout. Write: Ch., Box 147, Alda, NE 68810
- 2-4 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Yukon Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 38, Sta. A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2L8
- 2-4 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. Tenth Annual Windsor and Essex County Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1502, Sta. A, Windsor, Ont. N9A 6R5
- 2-4 — *Sparks, Nevada*. Eighth Annual Sierra Roundup. Write: Reg. Ch., Box 3529, Sparks, NV 89432
- 2-4 — *Mackenzie, British Columbia, Canada*. 12 Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1011, Mackenzie, B.C. V0J 2C0
- 7-11 — *Tampa, Florida*. 29th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1811, Lutz, FL 33549
- 9-11 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. 16th Annual Central West Conv. Write: Conv. Ch., R.R. #2, Tara, Ont. N0H 2N0
- 9-11 — *Cowansville, Quebec, Canada*. Fourth Annual A.A. Bilingual Conv. Write: DCM, Dist 87-21, 244 W. Denison St., Apt. 25, Granby, Que. J2G 4E1
- 9-11 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1396, Princeton, B.C. V0X 1W0
- 9-11 — *Pike Lake/Delisle, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Fourth Annual Triple A Campout. Write: Ch., Box 578, Delisle, Sask. S0L 0P0
- 9-11 — *Kent, Ohio*. Sixth Annual Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 285, Kent, OH 44240
- 9-11 — *Washington, D.C.* Capital Roundup '85. Write: Ch., Box 76786, Washington, D.C. 20013
- 9-11 — *Onoway, Alberta, Canada*. Tenth Annual Dist. 9 Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 791, Onoway, Alta. T0E 1V0
- 9-11 — *Squamish, British Columbia, Canada*. 12th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 196, Squamish, B.C. V0N 3G0
- 10 — *Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada*. Dist. 4 Annual Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., 5 Gwen Ave., Quispamsis, N.B. E0G 2U0
- 14-17 — *Louisville, Kentucky*. 41st Southeastern Conf. Write: Host Com., Box 1232, Louisville, KY 40202
- 15-18 — *Key Largo, Florida*. Fifth Annual Young People's Conv. Write: Ch., Box 3438, Florida City, FL 33034
- 15-18 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup VIII. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 16-18 — *Buffalo, New York*. Sixth Annual P.I., C.P.C., Inst. Workshops. Write: Ch., 310 Willardshire Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127
- 16-18 — *Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Secy., 205 Cranbrook St. N., Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 3R1
- 16-18 — *Cartersville, Georgia*. Eighth Annual Allatoona Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 856, Cartersville, GA 30120
- 16-18 — *Okanogan, Washington*. Fifth Annual "Easy Does It" Campout. Write: Ch., 900 S. First Ave., Okanogan, WA 98840
- 16-18 — *Lambert, Montana*. Third Annual Lower Yellowstone Roundup. Write: Ch., 315 E. Valentine St., Glendive, MT 59330
- 23-25 — *Columbus, Ohio*. 29th State Conference. Write: Ch., Box 11567, Columbus, OH 43211
- 23-25 — *Chautauqua Lake, New York*. Chautauqua New York 32nd Tri-State Assy. Write: Ch., Box 140, Forestville, PA 16035
- 23-25 — *Richardson, Texas*. 14th Lone Star Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 835112, Richardson, TX 75083-5112
- 23-25 — *Toledo, Ohio*. Third Annual Roundup (hosted by Toledo gays & lesbians in A.A.). Write: Secy., Box 4658, Toledo, OH 43610
- 23-25 — *Richmond, Virginia*. 36th Annual State Conv. Write: Dist. 85 Conv., Box 3311, Richmond, VA 23235
- 23-25 — *San Luis Obispo, California*. 18th Annual 22nd Dist. Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6011, Los Osos, CA 93402
- 23-25 — *Decatur, Illinois*. State Conf. Write: IL State Conf. Com., Box 2101, Decatur, IL 62526
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Houston, Texas*. Second Mid-South Young People's Conv. Write: Ch., RCYPAA, Box 45862, Baton Rouge, LA 70395
- Aug. 30-Sept. 1 — *Polson, Montana*. Third Anniversary of Hope Camporee. Write: Ch., Box 643, Polson, MT 59860
- 30-Sept. 1 — *St. Louis, Missouri*. Second Annual Fall Classic. Write: Ch., Fall Classic, Box 27483, St. Louis, MO 63141
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Stettler, Alberta, Canada*. Sixth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 473, Stettler, Alta. T0C 2L0
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Norman, Oklahoma*. Eighth Conf. Write: Ch., Box 5024, Norman, OK 73070
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Austin, Texas*. Austin-San Antonio Roundup (gay). Write: Com., Box 49879, Austin, TX 78765
- 31-Sept. 2 — *Evansville, Indiana*. ICYPAA Conv. Write: Ch., ICYPAA, 1908 E. Mulberry, Evansville, IN 47714
- 30-Sept.-2 — *Palm Beach, Florida*. So. Florida Roundup. Write: Ch., 1728 Latham Rd., Palm Beach, FL 33409