



AA EXCHANGE BULLETIN

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

July-August 1964

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• 305 East 45th Street, New York 17 • Mail address: Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York 17 •

TWO NEW A.A. TRUSTEES ELECTED TO BOARD

Our Nonalcoholic Trustees



L. IVAN
UNDERWOOD



PROF.
HARRISON M.
TRICE



BERNARD B.
SMITH



JUDGE
JOHN M.
MURTAGH



DR. HARRY
TIEBOUT

Five men who serve A.A. on the General Service Board are: L. Ivan Underwood, formerly head of export activities for Republic Steel Corp.; Harrison M. Trice, Ph.D., Professor at Cornell University; Bernard B. Smith, attorney and author, who joined the Board in 1944; Judge John M. Murtagh, Administrative Judge of the Criminal Court of New York; and Dr. Harry M. Tiebout, the first psychiatrist to recognize A.A. publicly.

— AND THESE FOUR NON-ALCOHOLICS NOT SHOWN —

MR. LEONARD V. HARRISON, who joined the Board in 1941, was chairman 1956-61. Formerly Commissioner of Welfare, N.Y.C., and a director of the Community Service Society of New York.

MR. AUSTIN H. MacCORMICK first joined the Board in 1949. He is Professor Emeritus of Criminology, Univ. of Calif.

at Berkeley, and Director of the Osborne Association.

DR. JOHN L. NORRIS, joined the Board in 1951, has been chairman since 1961. (See his picture in the April-May Bulletin.)

MR. ARCHIBALD B. ROOSEVELT joined the Board in 1953, and is now its Treasurer. He is a partner in the investment firm of Roosevelt and Cross, Inc.,

What Are Trustees, Anyway

Right after the first A.A. members put their experience on paper (the Big Book) so it could be shared with far-away alcoholics, they entrusted it to a non-profit foundation.

The foundation is now called the General Service Board, and its members, "trustees." Ten of them are nonalcoholics, nine are A.A. members.

Each of these "trusted servants" spends about 14 days in New York every year to do his A.A. jobs. All

serve without pay. (This is truly minimum time.)

They are directly responsible to the A.A. Groups, to whom they report each year at the G.S. Conference.

As "trustees" they are expected to see that A.A.'s world center of communication, G.S.O., really serves the Groups and other alcoholics on the up-and-up. They are custodians of funds received, of the Twelve Steps and Traditions, and are the "legal

One Nonalcoholic Spot Yet to be Filled

Bruce M., Akron, Ohio, and Murray W., New Canaan, Conn., were elected to the General Service Board at its Annual Meeting April 27.

Bruce, a member of the King School Group, was nominated at the General Service Conference by Delegates from his region. His A.A. sobriety started in 1945. He has been active in his Group and in Akron Intergroup affairs.

Murray joined A.A. in 1952, has been a director of A.A. World Services, Inc. for the past two years, and a member of G.S.O.'s Public Information Committee.

These selections bring to a total of nine the A.A. members now on the Board. The resignation of Dr. Harvey Cruickshank, Toronto, because of ill health, leaves nine nonalcoholic members serving and one nonalcoholic vacancy to be filled.

New trustees who attended their first Conference this year include Judge John M. Murtagh, New York, nonalcoholic, and Eugene K., member of the Manhattan A.A. Group.

Fred W., formerly of the Chelsea-Riverside, now of the Baldwin, L.I., Group in New York, was elected a director of A.A.W.S., Inc., in April. He joined A.A. in 1950.

guardians" of the name *Alcoholics Anonymous*. They have no power over any A.A. member or Group. They endeavor to keep the A.A. name from being drawn into public brawls, and to protect the anonymity of A.A. members everywhere.

NEW GRAPEVINE EDITOR

Tom W., of the Middletown, N.Y. Group, has been elected editor of the *Grapevine*, A.A.'s international monthly journal.

Accepted with deep regret was the resignation of Gurney W., of the Chappaqua, N.Y. Group, editor and humor editor since 1960. He was also editor of the *Grapevine* book, "A.A. TODAY," and will continue to edit the "Anecdote Bin" and humorous features.

Tom joined A.A. in Chappaqua, in 1959. He works for a trade magazine, and is a teacher.

OLD GRAPEVINES AND A.A. PAMPHLETS URGENTLY NEEDED

Groups in hospitals and prisons are badly in need of more A.A. literature, according to Waneta N., Staff Member now handling requests from institutions.

All members and Groups are urged to gather this material and get it to Institutional Committees or Groups. Groups can buy packets of literature for institutions at a special rate. Write Waneta for information.

AGAIN - WE NEED MANY ANSWERS QUICK, PLEASE

Will you - and this means you, whoever you are in A.A. - please jot down your ideas on these subjects and mail them to us quickly, please?

We need to have your "experience" so we can share it with Groups who raise these questions.

1. Should young A.A.'s join Young People's Groups?
2. Should non-A.A.'s be permitted to attend closed meetings?
3. We want to have some meetings on A.A. services - in the Group, on Inter-group, G.S.O., etc. Do such meetings "carry the message." Should they be at regular meetings?
4. Should a Group follow up on 12th-Step calls for help made by a family member, clergyman, doctor, or someone other than the alcoholic?

THE GROUPETERIA - HELP

RINGS AND TOKENS. In Tampico, Mexico, any member who brings in 12 new ones who stay sober gets a ring from the Group. In San Diego, Central Office furnishes a token (Serenity Prayer) which home Group presents to new member sober 3 months. It encourages people to join a Group, writes Johnnie M., Central Office Secretary.

"I HAVE NOT DONE AS MUCH MAN-TO-MAN 12th-STEP WORK AS I SHOULD HAVE ... so I'm delighted to be G.S.R. and *Grapevine* Rep. (we send subscriptions to doctors). I regard these jobs as important as personal contact," writes Ford H., River Oaks Group, Houston, Texas. Well put.

TAPE CORRESPONDENTS? Joe C., Que., Wes P., Fla., and Jim H., Ala., are interested in "tape correspondence" with other members. Any takers?

EIGHT AREA MEETINGS have just been held by the G.S. Committee of Northern California, Coastal Panel No. 1, writes Avice A. They needed 200 Sharing Session pamphlets! Great going. Bill G., Delegate, mailed his mimeographed Conference report to each Group.

The Conference Takes a Sharp Look

A sharp view of some A.A. activities was reflected in the "Conference Takes Its Inventory" session presented by Delegates at the 1964 G.S. Conference.

Bob R. told of a county in which 25 Groups used many different telephone-answering services and in 19 years had never worked together.

The area G.S. Committee, using the pamphlet "Partners in A.A.," helped organize a Central Office, now manned by A.A. volunteers, Bob reported.

Outside Agencies

Bill C. pointed out that "when non-A.A. agencies move ahead on issues that involve A.A., it is frequently because A.A. itself does not, or has not tried to, provide certain services for alcoholics."

"Blinded by misinterpretation of traditions and lack of knowledge, we have sometimes seemingly stood by idle while others helped alcoholics."

Helping New Groups

"We are not doing the job we should in helping new Groups," said Everett K.

A new Group, he said, can be helped to select capable officers, to avoid "high rent" meeting places, to take 12th-Step calls and to participate in Central Office and other service work.

Increased Services

Clyde D., suggested that Delegates should be better informed for the Annual Meeting of the Conference.

Outgoing Delegates should brief their successors, and each Delegate should study the background material sent to him, Clyde declared.

He said more stress should be laid on the increase in services to Groups by G.S.O.

"A meager 15 per cent of G.S.O. expense is for administration, while 85 per cent goes directly into services rendered," he noted.

Any member who asks will be sent a copy of these four talks presented at this Conference session.

HOW CAN YOU TELL WHO'S AN ALCOHOLIC?

When the General Service Board filed for its legal charter, the Secretary of State noticed that some trustees were nonalcoholics, others alcoholics.

"How can you tell the difference, legally?" he asked Attorney Bernard B. Smith, who filed the papers.

It took lots of doing, but Mr. Smith finally came up with an answer that satisfied the legal experts.

"Sit them all down at a table," "Bern" Smith said, "and put a Scotch-and-soda down for each man. The ones who *don't* take it are the alcoholics."

It worked. The Board got its charter.

YOURSELF TO THESE NEWS NOTES

EVEN A LONE MEMBER CAN HOLD A MEETING. An A.A. in New Mexico sets aside time each week, reads some A.A. literature to himself, practices Step 10 aloud, closes with the Lord's Prayer. Many Groups have started this way, with local newspaper announcement of a weekly meeting and a phone number.

EX-DELEGATE MAKES HIS OWN JOB Jim H., Huntsville, Ala., has prepared his own exhibit of A.A. service materials, uses it when he speaks. "We are falling down on our responsibility of carrying the complete message unless we pass on all we can about our Third Legacy," he writes.

"DON'T YOU DARE let my subscription to 'Exchange Bulletin' expire," writes Bud C., San Francisco. Thanks, Bud. We wouldn't dare!

PLEASE, PLEASE. If your Group has a new mailing address, let us know of it quickly. Otherwise you can miss important news, letters, and 12th-Step calls.

"WE ARE HAVING OUR ANNUAL Open Meeting for the public in City Auditorium... We had so much success last year," writes Tom W., Clarksdale, Miss. Sounds like a swell idea, Tom.

SPECIAL GIFTS TO G.S.O. MARCH - JUNE 1964

ARIZONA: Arizona State Committee	\$ 238.99
BELGIUM: 13 Groups of Belgium	30.00
CALIFORNIA: District #3	10.00
Los Angeles Women's Dinner Committee	100.00
Fresno Combined Groups	50.00
Southern Coastal Area G.S.R. Workshop District #6-12	5.00
CANADA: Saskatchewan - North Battleford Round-Up Committee	60.00
GEORGIA: Tri-State Meeting	132.90
IOWA: Eastern Iowa Conference	100.00
KENTUCKY: Kentucky State Conference	400.00
LOUISIANA: Louisiana Convention	100.00
MICHIGAN: Central Michigan Intra-Area	100.00
NEW MEXICO: New Mexico State Conference	240.90
NEW YORK: S.E. Area Service Committee	1,002.00
OHIO: Central - S.E. Ohio - G.S. Area	50.00
WYOMING: Wyoming Spring Conference	60.00

SUMMER TOURIST MEETINGS

Every Saturday night, 8:30 p.m., Waterton Lake Lions Community Hall (near International Peace Park) in Alberta, Canada, an "International Holiday Group" meeting for A.A. travelers, is put on by 13 nearby Groups, writes Chuck M., Coutts, Alberta.

ALSO: Check the World Directory for other vacation spot meetings, or write G.S.O.

ATTENTION ALL INSTITUTION COMMITTEES AND GROUPS. Group information cards will be mailed to you soon. Please return as soon as possible so we can list all Groups in Hospital and Prison Directories. Please!



NEW PRISON PAMPHLET

"A.A. in Prisons" is the title of our newest pamphlet (15¢) just published after much work by the Conference and Board Literature Committees.

ESKIMO GROUP. "I'm an alcoholic and very lonely among my Eskimo people. I translate the 12 steps into Eskimo, and if I keep on there will be a Group," writes John F.

ABOUT A.A. OVERSEAS

GERMAN EDITION OF READER'S DIGEST will soon carry "The Mysterious Medicine of A.A." It appeared in English and Spanish in 1960, still brings in calls for help.

FROM PAKISTAN: A "Postal Group" with widely separated members is now looking for more, writes Terry S. Shabbir H., Haseens H., Bill, Bob, Bilqis, Ghulam, Abdul, and Archie would welcome letters.

A.A. INFORMATIONEN, bulletin put out by Der Deutschsprachigen Gruppen, says (in German, of course) "many A.A.'s do not like to read." Anybody know why?

FOUR NEW PAMPHLETS IN ITALIAN NOW READY, International Committee reports - which makes A.A. literature available in 15 languages. Write for information.

NEW MEETINGS IN BORDEAUX!

"This is the region of wine and cognac and there are many drunkards," writes Pierre C.B. of Bordeaux, France.

So, he continues, "we have found a meeting place downtown, for three meetings a week."

He also sent the names of French doctors who want to hear from American doctors about A.A. Any takers?

"IF EVERYTHING IS DONE OPENLY AND FRANKLY," writes Joe S., Bombay, India, "and the Groups are informed at every stage what is being done, there can be no room for disputes." Amen, Joe. Thanks for news about your U.S. visitors.

1964 CONFERENCE REPORT READY

Final report of the 1964 Conference was mailed to General Service Delegates and Committee members. Copies are available at \$1.00 through your Group.

TORONTO - ONE YEAR AT A TIME

Just a year from now - July 2, 3 and 4, 1965 - we'll hope to be seeing all of you in Toronto at the 30th Anniversary International Convention.

"You hear talk of it at every Canadian gathering of A.A.'s," reports Dave B., G.S. Board member, and advance Canadian registrations are pouring in, he says.

Advance registrations for non-Canadians and *all hotel reservations will be accepted starting February 1, 1965* - but maybe now is the time to start planning financially, one day at a time.

REPEAT: No hotel reservations are being made now for ANYBODY. Hotel reservations will be accepted only after February 1, 1965.



DIRECTORY: Getting the Record Straight

The following corrections should be made in your 1964 "World Directory." Some contributions were incorrectly credited or not listed. The corrected listings follow:

CALIFORNIA: The Belmont Hills Group should have been credited with \$25.55 in the World Directory. The Hillsdale Group should only be credited with \$30.00.

FLORIDA: Melbourne — Credit was given to wrong Group: Melbourne Group — \$125.00; Downtown Group — \$90.00.

INDIANA: Credit was given to wrong Group: South County Group, Lowell — \$5.00; Crown Point Group, Crown Point — \$54.00.

IOWA: Oelwein — Contribution of \$51.00 credited to Oelwein Independence Group in error. Should have been credited to Oelwein Group.

KANSAS: Contribution of \$15.00 credited to Topeka Home Group in error. Should have been credited to the New Hope Home Group.

MICHIGAN: Grosse Pointe — Contribution of \$315.00 credited to Grosse Point Blvd. Group in error. Should have been credited to Memorial Group.

NEW JERSEY: Contribution of \$20.00 credited to Bridgeton Group in error. Should have been credited to Brigantine Group.

Contribution of \$65.00 credited to Woodridge Group in error. Should have been credited to Woodbridge Group.

NEW MEXICO: Credit was given to wrong Group: should be La Loma Group, Taos — \$9.00; Deming Group, Deming — \$70.00; State Conf. Committee, \$30.00.

NEW YORK: Gouverneur — Contribution of \$15.00 credited to Gouverneur Group in error. Should have been credited to Church Street Group.

"Odds Are 3 to 1 in Your Favor"

That's the headline on a flier distributed in one state hospital. It challenges patients to try A.A. — or try it again.

George S., Western New York Delegate, says a social worker in the hospital wrote it ("we cannot work from the inside as he can") but "we cooperated by letting him put the A.A. Group's name on it."

OREGON: The Round Table Group of La Grande should be credited with \$35.00 not \$22.00.

VERMONT: Contribution of \$30.00 credited to Mt. Anthony Group in error. Should have been credited to Southern Vermont Group.

GROUP IDEAS

A booklet with names and phone numbers of all Group members was printed up by a California Group three years ago. To

protect anonymity, the name of the Group was spelled backwards.

It was so useful the Group has now unanimously decided to make up a new up-to-date book.

"Free Toronto Tickets"

One Group will give a free pair of roundtrip tickets to the 30th Anniversary International A.A. Convention in Toronto at a drawing next year.

Group puts aside \$3.00 from each collection to buy the tickets.

"Introductions"

In one Group newcomers and out-of-town visitors are introduced by the Secretary at each meeting. "They are shy, but grateful," writes Art B.

All three ideas come from the Maritime Group in Long Beach. No wonder such a lively Group had to order 700 copies of the new pamphlet, "You, Your Group, and A.A. Worldwide!"

A.A. CALENDAR

JULY

- 3-5 Pacific Northwest Conference, Chinook Hotel, Yakima, Washington. Write: P. O. Box 938, Yakima, Washington
- 10-12 International Doctors in A.A., Writers' Manor, 1730 South Colorado Blvd., Denver, Colorado. Write: Chairman, 1950 Volney Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44511
- 17-19 Louisiana State Convention, Capitol House, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Write: P. O. Box 3275, Baton Rouge, La.
- 17-19 Ohio State Conference, Sheraton Cleveland Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio 44113
- 24-26 First Annual New York State Conference, Syracuse, N.Y. Randolph House, Exit 37, Syracuse, N.Y. Write: Chairman, 1213 E. 88 St., Brooklyn 36, N.Y.



AUGUST

- 2 Seventh Annual A.A. Summer Roundup. Keeley Campus, Dwight, Illinois.
- 7-9 Twenty-fourth Annual Arkansas State A.A. Convention, Little Rock, Arkansas, Marion Hotel, Little Rock, Ark. Write: 306 East 10th St., Little Rock, Ark.
- 13-15 Twentieth South Eastern Conference, Arlington, Va. The Marriott Motel-Hotel, Twin Bridges, Highway #1, Arlington, Va. Write: P.O. Box 796, Alexandria, Va. 22313

- 28-30 Eleventh Annual Tri-State Assembly of A.A. Chautauqua, N.Y. Chautauqua Institute, Chautauqua, N.Y. Write: Tri-State Assembly, P.O. Box 96, Meadville, Penn.

SEPTEMBER

- 5-6 Twelfth Annual European Roundup of A.A. Wiesbaden, Germany. Write: Wiesbaden A.A. Group, Lindsey AG. Wiesbaden, Germany.
- 11-13 Twenty-Seventh Cook Forest Conference, Cooksburg, Pa. Write: Cook Forest Conference, Box 265, Verona, Pa.
- 11-13 Fifth Annual Statewide A.A. Convention, Moodus, Conn. Banner Lodge, Moodus, Conn. Write: Conv. Chairman, Rm. 310, 179 Allyn Street, Hartford, Conn.
- 18-20 Eighth Annual Roundup of A.A., North Eastern Manitoba. Chateau Theatre, Pine Falls, Manitoba. Write: Roundup Chairman, Box 13, Pine Falls, Manitoba.
- 25-27 Twelfth Michigan State Conference of A.A., Detroit, Michigan. Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Mich. Write: Twelfth Michigan Conf., P.O. Box 181, Pontiac, Mich.
- 25-27 Southern Area Fall Conf., Downstate Illinois, Urbana, Ill., Urbana-Lincoln Motor Inn; 509 S. Broadway, Urbana, Ill.
- 25-27 New England Conference, North Conway, New Hampshire, Eastern Slope Inn, North Conway, N.H. Write: Conf. Chairman, Eastern Slope Inn, North Conway, N.H.
- 25-27 Georgia's Eleventh State AA Convention, Augusta, Ga. Augusta Town House, Augusta, Ga. Write: P.O. Box 3412, Augusta, Ga. 30904