JUNE R. JOINS  
G.S.O. STAFF

June R., an 11-year-sober member of the St. Nicholas group, joins the G.S.O. staff March 1. To come to work with us, she resigned from an executive position in an international aid organization where she had worked for 22 years.

June has been very active as secretary and treasurer of her group, in institutions work, and volunteering on the phones at N.Y. Intergroup.

We found it difficult to choose June from among many well-qualified applicants, but feel very fortunate in finding her. Unmarried, June lives in Manhattan. Asked about hobbies, she said: “It used to be drinking. Let’s say swimming; even though I can’t do it very well, I surely love it.”

Welcome aboard, June!

NILES P. ASSISTANT  
GENERAL MANAGER

A 15-year-sober member of the Manhattan Group, Niles P. joined the G.S.O. staff early in February as assistant general manager, and we are as delighted as all of Nile’s other friends must be.

Besides doing lots of volunteer work around the N.Y. Intergroup, Niles, over the years, has helped out at G.S.O. in many ways.

He resigned as a trustee of the General Service Board in order to join us at G.S.O. He was chairman of the trustees (now disbanded) International Committee, and has been very active in the intergroup relationship.

HANDSOME NEW RACK  
FOR A.A. PAMPHLETS

The dimensions of the good looking new gold-tone, tabletop rack are 17” x 17” x 12” with 16 spaces to display A.A. pamphlets at meetings. Legend and symbol at front are in blue and white. It’s strong and sturdy, but easily folds flat for storage between meetings.

'73 Conference: Which Will Be Hottest Topic?

- Should an A.A. group have permanent (non-rotating) officers?
- Are we losing our valued one-to-one relationship as A.A. groups get larger.
- Are our Traditions being violated in institutions?

Will one of those topics generate the most interest at the 1973 meeting of A.A.’s (U.S. & Canada) General Service Conference? Or one of the following!

- Is your life worth a penny a day?
- To whom is a delegate responsible for his performance in that office?

What is the most appropriate use of the Bill W. Memorial Fund (now about $40,000)?

When is a newcomer in A.A. long enough to learn about A.A.’s service structure?

When the 90 delegates representing U.S. and Canadian A.A. groups (see list, page 2) gather in New York April 24-29, these are among the major items to be dealt with in workshops, committee meetings, presentation/discussions, and four Ask-It-Basket (anonymous written questions) sessions.

Election of a new general service trustee, U.S.A. (filling the spot left vacant by the late Jim H., Huntsville, Ala.) is also scheduled.

The Conference takes place behind closed doors at the Hotel Roosevelt, mostly in the Terrace Suite under a big banner proclaiming the 1973 Conference theme:

1973 WORLD DIRECTORY

PART I (U.S. and Canada) of the World Directory for 1973 will be available midsummer. Each group in the U.S. and Canada will receive a complimentary copy.

(cont’d. p. 2)
PRESSURE OF GRATITUDE.

into the night over coffee), the A.A. will talk, eat, and share responsibility — our expression of gratitude.

CONFERENCE (cont'd.)

RESPONSIBILITY — OUR EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE.

For five days, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (and then perhaps long into the night over coffee), the 82 men and 8 women delegates, seeking to determine the voice of A.A. will talk, eat, and share experience with trustees, A.A.W.S., and Grapevine board members, G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs. This, the twenty-third annual meeting, will be chaired by Dr. John L. Norris (nonalcoholic) chairman of the G.S.O. Board.

Non-voting trustee committee members and G.S.O. department heads will also be called in for some sessions.

A dinner and regular A.A. meeting climax the opening day, Tues., April 24. The last half-day ends with brunch and an A.A. meeting Sunday, April 29.

New features on the agenda this year as suggested by former delegates include: 1) three workshops sessions (in nine groups), two of which are unstructured, and one of these will be on the very first day; 2) a first-day sharing session on nine topics, one from each one of the workshop topics; 3) meetings of each Conference Committee (each delegate is in one); and 4) free discussion after every presentation. Topics for these include 1) why we have a G.S.O. Conference, 2) election procedure for regional trustees, 3) building an area service structure, 4) the Grapevine, and 5) A.A. in institutions.

The structured workshop subject will talk about “The A.A. Group — sponsorship, newcomers/oldtimers, special purpose meetings, etc.” Also to be discussed are inactive members and the future of the World Directory.

The 45 Panel 23 delegates (those serving the first year of their 2-year terms) will tell about highlights of recent A.A. service action in the areas they represent.
NEW FILMSTRIP ON G.S.O. READY

“Welcome to G.S.O.,” says the voice of Bob H., our general manager. And that introduction is the name of our brand-new sound-and-color filmstrip.

Any A.A. group or committee can have one (as of May 1) for $6.00. The recorded “tour” lasts about 40 minutes and is an entertaining way to acquaint A.A. members with worldwide A.A. service operations.

You see and hear every one of us G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members as we tell some of the things that happen every day here on the 5th and 6th floors at 468 Park Avenue South, New York City.

You need a screen (30-40”) for small audiences, 70” for 100 or more viewers), a projector for the strip of still photos, and a turntable for the 33 rmp record. The Dukane Micromatic Sound Filmstrip Projector, with turntable is ideal. You can rent necessary equipment locally if you don’t already have it.

(Sorry—G.S.O. is not able to provide the viewing equipment.)

ABOUT A.A. AND RESEARCH...

From Taiwan, Republic of China — “You asked our opinion (in the Aug.-Sept. ’72 issue of Box 4-5-9) on research. I owe so much to A.A. as it is that I do not want to endorse anything.

“That does not say that I oppose research,” the letter goes on. “I think we should cooperate with researchers within the limits A.A. outlines for us.”

E.J.Q.

A.A. AMATEUR RADIO GROUP MEETS ALMOST DAILY

Amateur radio operators in A.A. now meet with each other via the airwaves every Monday through Friday.

Those wishing to join in can get international frequencies or call letters from G.S.O.

Hours of the sessions are 11:45 and 18:15 G.M.T. in summer, 12:45 and 19:15 G.M.T. in winter. On another frequency, summer meetings are at 17:00 G.M.T., and 18:00 in winter.

NILES P. (from p. 1)

also been a director of A.A. World Services, Inc., and a member of the Public Information Committee. More recently, he has served as chairman of the Trustee’s Nominating Committee. A former newspaperman, Niles has written the annual Conference Report for several years.

Along the way, in addition to his job as a business and financial writer on the old New York Herald Tribune, Niles has authored several books. He is a very popular A.A. speaker, and his hilarious tales of drunken Navy service may be the funniest you ever heard. We know you will join us in joyfully welcoming Niles to the staff.

Special Gifts to G.S.O.

**CALIFORNIA**
- Eureka: Dist. 80-89,............. 5 34.50
- Pacific Beach: No Shores
  - Breakfast Mtg. .......................... 25.00
- Calif. Northern Costal Area,.... 255.00

**CONNECTICUT**
- District #7,...................... 11.50

**FLORIDA**
- Coral Gables: Gratitude Dinner, Dist. 8,............. 2,900.00
- Ft. Lauderdale: Dist. 7,............. 1,400.00
- Naples: 16th Fla. State Conv,......... 324.08
- Palm Beach County Gratitude Dinner,............. 2,667.18
- Pensacola: Ala./N.W. Fla. Conv. Fund 1972............. 269.69

**ILLINOIS**
- North and South Area Assembly........ 280.00

**INDIANA**
- Marion: Gratitude Dinner,............. 474.86

**KANSAS**
- Larned: Kansas State Assembly............ 250.00

**LOUISIANA**
- Shreveport: Tri-State Conv,............. 100.00

**MARYLAND**
- Maryland General Service Conv,........... 354.42

**MICHIGAN**
- Flint: Mich. State Conv,............. 1,870.00
- Grand Rapids: Kent Co.
  - Cen. Comm,.................. 30.00
  - Area Conv,.................. 200.00
- Pontiac: 14 Combined A.A. Mths,............. 36.97

**MISSISSIPPI**
- Miss. A.A. Assembly.................. 100.00

**MISSOURI**
- St. Louis: E. Missouri Conv........... 1,400.00
  - Fall State A.A. Conf.............. 40.00

**NEVADA**
- Las Vegas: Roundup Comm.............. 410.00

**OHIO**
- N. Madison, Ohio State Gen.
  - Serv. Conf.................. 806.63

**OREGON**
  - Serv. Comm.................. 79.76

**RHODE ISLAND**
- Pawtucket: 2nd Annual Roundup........ 80.00
- Providence: R.I. Assembly............ 200.00

**WASHINGTON**
- Everett: Dist. #12,.................. 31.18
- Pasco: Pacific Region A.A.
  - Assembly................... 610.20
- Seattle: Wash. Assembly............. 20.00
- Seattle: Union Club Luncheon........ 48.00

**CANADA**
- Alberta: Edmonton: Alberta Provincial Conf,........... 800.00
- B.C.-Yukon Conf. Comm............. 1,492.50
- Manitoba: Manitoba Gratitude Dinner............. 150.00
- Ontario: Brant & Erie One-Day Conv............. 40.40
- Ontario: St. Lawrence International Conv........... 298.96
- Ontario: E. Toronto Men’s Mtg............. 50.00
- Ontario: Sun. A.M.
  - Men’s Mtg.................. 50.00
  - Serv. Cte. Roundup.................. 450.00
A.A.W.S. Directors Have Many Responsibilities

Every day, some A.A. newcomers somewhere begin to wonder: How can an outfit as determinedly un-organized as A.A. ever get anything done?

Our 9th Tradition (special committees) tells how. One of the oldest examples which affects every one of us is Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S.)

A.A.W.S. is the legal corporation responsible for the business end of our General Service Board’s worldwide service operation.

When our Fellowship was only three years old, its members already felt sure that A.A. could not be a commercial business, a club or an organization in any usual sense. Instead, it must be a “way of life.”

Necessary Business

But business decisions and actions were urgently needed in A.A., even then, in 1938. The book “Alcoholics Anonymous” was about to be published. Who was to own, sell and distribute it? Contract for the printing? Account for the money taken in? Rent and staff an office? Pay bills? Answer the anguished letters begging for help?

If the still-shaky alcoholics of the young Fellowship tried collectively to do these things, who could stay sober?

Works Publishing

In desperation then, thirty-four years ago, the Works Publishing company was set up – later to become A.A.W.S., Inc.

Today, as A.A. grows and becomes better known, the importance of the business decisions which the directors must make also grows. So does the frequency with which decisions must be made.

The A.A.W.S. Board of Directors meets every month (not quarterly, as we erroneously reported in a previous issue) to deal with such matters as granting formal permission to reprint conference-approved material in English and in other languages (including Lithuanian!); withholding reprint permission if necessary; approval of day-to-day operations as reported by our general manager; choosing new directors when needed; setting the price on new pamphlets and changing the name of an old one; and reviewing reports on finance, the conference, staff activities, Public Information, Professional Relations and the A.A. Grapevine.

Directors Work

Directors are in and out of the office frequently and are responsible for the overall supervision of the office and all its activities.

Obviously the seven directors of the corporation now have to be experienced A.A. men and women who can get to G.S.O. frequently and use their professional or business skills in budget and finance control, publishing, public relations and personnel matters, as well as a broad knowledge of specialized A.A. problems.

Directors are volunteers who serve a four-year term on a rotating basis.

Legal Apparatus

Like the other corporation responsible to the General Service Board – A.A. Grapevine, Inc. – A.A.W.S. is equipped with a proper set of legal bylaws, a corporate seal, and everything else necessary for doing business in the modern world. It is governed, also, of course, by the applicable laws of N.Y. State and federal government.
A member of A.A. in Cape Town, South Africa, died recently, and in the newspaper notice, his widow requested donations to A.A. instead of flowers. What should we do in a case like this?” writes Patricia C., Intergroup Secretary in South Africa.

In reply, we pointed out this happens at G.S.O., too.

In line with our Seventh Tradition of self support, our policy is

Differences between Birthday, Anniversary Contribution Plans

“What’s the difference,” a visitor asked us the other day, “between the Birthday Plan and the Anniversary Fund Plan?”

Not much. Both are ways of contributing to the support of the worldwide A.A. services provided by G.S.O.

Some members and groups honor a deceased member with an in memoriam gift to G.S.O. A bequest in the will of an A.A. is now acceptable, but only in the year of the A.A.’s death and a single $300.00 legacy is the limit.

Regular monthly contributions from group treasuries are still the chief means of keeping A.A. services going. An average of $3.00 per member per year is suggested. But special contributions from conventions, dinners, etc., are getting more and more popular.

Special envelopes for all plans are available free from G.S.O.

Regular Contribution Plan

Ever since 1940 – when the first A.A. “directory” (a two-page mimeographed job) appeared – members everywhere have wanted to participate in the services necessary to keep A.A. alive and growing.

A 120-page collection of A.A. members’ stories of their spiritual experiences – “Came To Believe” – is scheduled to be published this spring.

The new publication is an A.A. first, inaugurating what may well be a new class of A.A. literature – “in between” our hard-cover books and pamphlets in size and price.

Seventy-five contributors tell in their own words what the phrase “spiritual awakening” means to them. Their experiences range from orthodox religious conversions to atheistic or humanistic manifestations of a Higher Power.

The new booklet will be 5-3/8” x 8” and have an unusual and attractive cover which photographically symbolizes its contents.

The booklet has been in preparation since 1969 under the watchful eye of the Trustees Literature Committee and the Conference Literature Committee. It is priced at $1.25.

Coming up in the April GQ

“Remember that we deal with alcohol – cunning, baffling, powerful! Without help it is too much for us.” Where does this help come from? How do we make contact with it? In the section “The Search for Spiritual Experience” (pages 2-17), we find some answers and certainly a wealth of material for discussion.

How many of us come to a God of our understanding through various stages of growth? Can we bring awareness to others or must they find God on their own? Read “That God Could and Would…” (page 2).


What is meant by “The Grace of God” (page 16)? Does it fall at random or can we work with ourselves and God to achieve it?
# A. A. Calendar of Events

## MARCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-1</td>
<td>Sterling County, Colo. Colo. Regional Conf., 1436 Williams #204, Denver 80218.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>San Bernardino, Calif. 15-17 Victoria, B.C. A.A. Conv. Write: Conf. Chmn., Box 2082, Victoria 85201.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-17</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan 1st Annu. Roundup. Write: Chmn., Far East Roundup, CMR Box 591, APO S.F., Calif. 96594.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-21</td>
<td>Victoria, B.C. Annu. Rally of Greater Victoria and District. Write: Chmn., Rally Comm., Box 1, Victoria, British Columbia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-29</td>
<td>Munich, Germany All German Roundup, Leopoldshut 82. Write: Chmn., 6451 Hain Stuhl, Martinstr. 21, W. Germany.</td>
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## APRIL

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<tr>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>Longview, Tex. 4th E. Tex. Roundup, Write: Chmn., Box 2082, Longview 75601.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Clearwater, Fla. 2nd Annu. Suncoast Conv. Write: Conv. Chmn., 11608 Seminole Blvd., Largo 33540.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>San Bernardino, Calif. 2nd Annu. Island Empire A.A. Service Fiesta. Write: Fiesta, Box 189, Colton 92324.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan 2nd Annu. Roundup. Write: Chmn., Far East Roundup, CMR Box 591, APO S.F., Calif. 96594.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-21</td>
<td>Victoria, B.C. Annu. Rally of Greater Victoria and District. Write: Chmn., Rally Comm., Box 1, Victoria, British Columbia.</td>
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## MAY

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bradford, Penn. Annu. Spring Conf. on N.W. N.Y. Write: Lit. Chmn., c/o Kelisam R. Helms, 422 W. Main Street, Snethport 16749.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>Chattanooga, Tenn. 22nd Annu. Tenn. A.A. Conv. Write: Conv. Host Comm., Box 1505, Chattanooga 37401.</td>
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## JUNE

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Marion, Ill. Down State Spring Conf. Meeting. Write: Chmn., Box 217, Benton 62812.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Jackson, Miss. 27th Miss. Conv. Write: 27th Miss. A.A. Conv., Box 429, Meridian 39301.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Trinidad, West Indies Trinidad &amp; Tobago 14th Annu. Conv. Write: Trinidad &amp; Tobago 14th Annu. Conv., Box 65731.</td>
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## ATTENTION: ALL GROUPS

We enjoy listing your conferences and conventions. But please help us provide this information by sending your dates to us in plenty of time for inclusion in the Calendar.

The mailing dates for Box 4-5-9 are: Jan. 15, Mar. 15, May 15, July 15, Sept. 15 and Nov. 15. We need your dates, at the latest, two months in advance of the mailing date.

Re mailing addresses: please keep in mind we cannot use full names in this bulletin; Box numbers are preferable.

A. A.'s BEHIND BARS WRITE GOOD NEWS

From: Jackson, Mich. Two members from here attended the state conference in Flint — first time in this state inmates were permitted to attend A.A. "outside," and thus a day to be remembered, Jim S. writes us. An inmate panel had Pete S., Tom I., Joe B., and Jim on it.

In recent years many reluctant inmates were "sent" to A.A. meetings against their will, Jim says, and their resentment created a negative atmosphere in the group.

To solve the problem, an "Alcohol Information Program" was planned, to which fellows with drinking problems could be referred first. There they could get enough information to decide for themselves if they had a problem, and could join A.A. if they wished.

Many of us interested in A.A. behind bars wait anxiously to hear the results of this plan. Meanwhile, does anyone have another suggested solution?

* * * *