

## A.A.s From Around the World Head for San Diego

The 10th International Convention theme, "A.A. Everywhere—Anywhere," will come alive when, in celebration of A.A.'s 60th Birthday, members from about 75 countries around the world converge on San Diego from June 29 through July 2, 1995.

With San Diego Bay as the stunning backdrop, an anticipated 60,000 plus members, many with their Al-Anon partners in attendance, will enjoy a weekend jam-packed with special events in a spectacular setting, and meetings, meetings, meetings.

Thursday night kicks off with a Harbor "Block Party" right outside the Convention Center and all along the waterfront to the Seaport Village area. And, beginning at midnight, continuous Marathon Meetings, in English and in Spanish, start up and run until the Convention ends on Sunday.

During the day on Friday and Saturday, the Convention Center and adjacent Marriott and Hyatt hotels will be the hub of activity, with an array of meetings, workshops, panels, regional meetings, mini-marathons, and more (see insert for titles). Friday night is the first big event, at the Jack Murphy Stadium, where those countries represented at the Convention will be identified in a Parade of Flags, followed by a giant A.A. Meeting. All meetings at the Stadium will have simultaneous translation into Spanish, French, German, and maybe more, as well as ASL, (American Sign Language). On Saturday night at the Stadium it will be the Oldtimers Meeting, with names taken from the

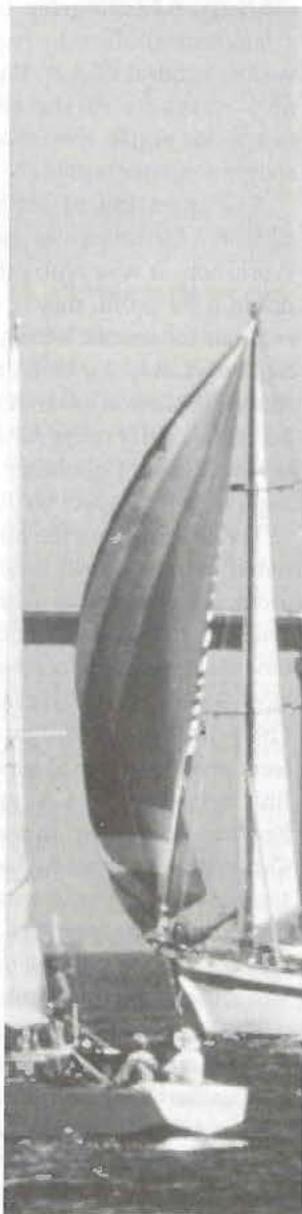


Photo Courtesy of James Blank/San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau

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hat of those with 40 years or more of sobriety; and on Sunday, the Stadium is the setting for the Closing A.A. Meeting. Complimentary shuttle bus service is available from all of the Convention hotels to and from the Stadium, the Convention Center, and Marriott and Hyatt Convention sites.

An army of local A.A. Host Committee volunteers, about 6,000 in all, will be everywhere throughout San Diego to help arriving A.A.s and their loved ones feel welcome and comfortable—at the airport, at the Convention hotels in all of the areas, including the university dormitories, at the Stadium, along the waterfront and on the streets of the city. They will also provide entertainment around the Convention Center waterfront area all weekend.

When it's time to take a break from meetings, A.A.s can walk out into the paradise that is San Diego, a city that abounds with beautiful neighborhoods—from La Jolla, the jewel of the Pacific, twelve miles north, to Tijuana and Rosarita Beach and the experience of Mexico, twenty-seven miles south, available direct on San Diego's bright red trolley. Other interesting areas are the historic Mission sites and Mission Valley, Pacific Beach (surfers, take note), Old Town, Mission Bay Park, Balboa Park, Sea World, the Zoo, and Shelter, Harbor and Coronado Islands, with their Navy ships and leisure yachts. The Embarcadero of the San Diego Bay is the site of the Convention Center Marriott and Hyatt meetings, and the Seaport Village Mall, where ice cream strollers and coffee drinkers can breathe sea air before walking to the Horton Plaza shopping mall just minutes away. Everyone, everywhere—anywhere in San Diego will be warmed by the sun and cooled by the Pacific Ocean breezes, greeting old friends and meeting new friends. The International Convention will be a shining example of gratitude and the language of the heart and a beacon of hope for those to come.

*Preregistration is \$65. Deadline is May 15, 1995. On-site registration is \$70—and hours of in-line waiting. So, write or call G.S.O., your intergroup/central office or your delegate now for a registration form.*

## Ninth Intergroup/ Central Office Seminar

Unity is the glue that holds the U.S./Canada intergroups and A.A. together, but it is communication that jump-starts their mutual cooperation and harmony. This was certainly apparent at the Ninth Annual Intergroup/Central Offices Seminar, held last November 11-13 in Vancouver, Canada.

Says General Service Office staff member Lois F.: "There was a great feeling of comradery; it felt like a class reunion as longtime associates and friends greeted one another. At the same time, more than half of the attendees were excited about being at their first seminar."

The weekend of workshops, panel presentations, sharing and fellowship brought together 110 intergroup/central office managers and delegates. Together with a handful of A.A. World Service trustees/directors and members of the General Service Office and Grapevine staffs, they shared common problems and sought solutions within the spirit of the Traditions.

The question of selling non-A.A. Conference-approved literature was discussed in a Seventh Tradition Workshop. It was noted that most offices doing so are not in it for profit; they're simply trying to satisfy group requests for specific items unavailable through A.A. And in a workshop on court referrals to A.A., there was much discussion of a trend that reportedly is taking hold: the courts using A.A. as a sentence that inevitably is viewed as a "punishment." It was felt that this is having a negative impact on public perception of A.A.

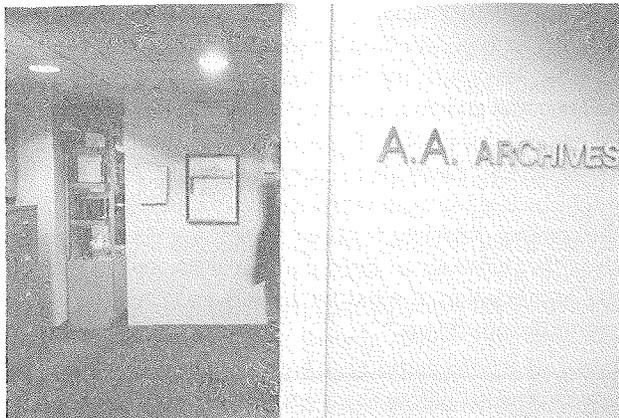
For several years the intergroup seminar was coordinated by A.A. World Services. Then, in 1992, the intergroups assumed full responsibility for the annual event. This arrangement symbolizes the relationship between the intergroups and central offices and A.A. general service—independent but close. As *The A.A. Service Manual* (1994-1995 ed., p. S98) explains: "Central offices provide local services; general service committees maintain the link between the A.A. groups and the A.A. General Service Board by means of the General Service Conference. So these two separate but vital service structures coexist in many areas in mutual cooperation and harmony, to the benefit of the entire Fellowship."

The Final Report of the 1994 seminar is available from the Vancouver and Lower Mainland Intergroup, 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver, BC V5R 5L5. Please include \$5.00 to cover production and mailing costs.

The next Intergroup/Central Office Seminar will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, Oct. 5-8, 1995. For information, contact: Central Office, 161 Spring St., Suite 720, Atlanta, GA 30303. Tel: (404) 525-3178.

## A.A. Archives: Cherishing the Past to Protect the Future

A.A. members seem naturally interested in history, perhaps because our personal history becomes the basis of renewal: we “keep the memory green” in order to keep today’s sobriety in place. In the same way, the history of the Fellowship as a whole is important because it keeps us close to our origins—keeps the source clear, the message ungarbled, the purpose primary.



*Welcome to the Archives.*

A.A. Archives at G.S.O. is a central source for that history. In five rooms in G.S.O.’s offices, and in a storage center in New Jersey, Archives collects and preserves documents, memorabilia, and artifacts pertaining to the history of Alcoholics Anonymous. Long before Nell Wing, Bill W.’s nonalcoholic assistant, became A.A.’s first official archivist in 1971, she and Bill gathered historical materials; Bill believed strongly that A.A. needed to keep aware of how we began and where we came from. Archives holdings now include 500,000 pieces of correspondence, early group records, area histories, original manuscripts, books and pamphlets, newspaper files, and a few photographs — “Though not many, of course,” explains Frank M., A.A. Archivist for twelve years, “because A.A. members are anonymous.”

The physical care of such works is the first responsibility of the Archives staff. Old paper, such as all early correspondence, may be particularly fragile because of its high acid content. These documents are first deacidified: the acid in the paper pulp is neutralized by spraying with a deacidifying solution, then the documents are placed in acid-free folders. Some are also encapsulated in Mylar for further protection. Many files can be viewed on microfilm so that handling and photocopying are kept to a minimum; when the originals are read, researchers are required to wear gloves.

Advanced technology has entered the Archives; a projected computer scanning system will soon be in

place. With a scanner, Frank M. explains, all documents are “imaged” and stored on an optic disc. Not only would the contents be preserved, but access to them would be much easier and faster; what takes half a day now may take only minutes because a computer can run a fast subject or word search through stored material. That capacity would be enormously helpful in using, say, the correspondence from and to Bill W., a collection which totals 10,000 letters and requires an index of 370 pages. A sophisticated scanning system isn’t cheap, however—about \$30,000—and inputting could take two to three years for the correspondence files alone.

A.A. members, as well as nonalcoholic researchers, turn to Archives to understand some point of A.A. history. Every day, Archives gets five to ten requests for information on subjects as diverse as A.A. itself: for example, Bill’s “dry date,” the history of open versus closed meetings, the date of the first group in a specific locale, the Washingtonians, changes in various editions of the Big Book, Reinhold Niebuhr (author of the Serenity Prayer), the Oxford Group, High Watch Farm, the Third Step Prayer, and books that early A.A.s read for spiritual growth.

Materials are acquired from a variety of sources, chiefly from individuals and personal collections. Recent acquisitions include a group of articles on A.A. in Ireland, six tapes of the 1955 St. Louis Convention, a 1939 magazine article on the Oxford Group, a first edition third printing of the Big Book, two original long-playing recordings of Bill W. and Dr. Bob at the 1950 “Big Meeting,” and a book called *Vermont in the World War 1917-1919*, in which a reference can be found to Bill W.’s military service.



*The Archives’ temperature- and humidity-controlled storeroom houses hundreds of acid-free cartons of early correspondence, pamphlet, book manuscripts and audio tapes of our co-founders on 600 feet of shelving.*



Judit Santon, holding a first edition of the Big Book. The dust jacket, bright red and yellow, was known as the "circus cover."

The assistant archivist is nonalcoholic Judit Santon. Judit arrived in the United States four years ago from Hungary, where she majored in English in high school and received two BA degrees—one in library and information science and one in teaching world history. She is now studying for a masters' degree in library and information science at the Pratt Institute. Judit hadn't heard of A.A. in Hungary (the first A.A. groups were just being formed in Hungary in 1990). She explained, "I go to open meetings to have a better understanding of A.A., and I read the literature, like the Big Book—though it's really not enough to read the Big Book only once. I've also read Williams James's *Varieties of Religious Experience*, and there are some lectures by Reverend Shoemaker (early nonalcoholic friend of Bill's and later of the Fellowship) that give excellent advice on how non-alcoholics can relate to A.A. I'm still learning a lot from visitors, staff and A.A.s who call and write." Has this job affected her in any personal ways? "Spiritually, yes. In A.A., I see how each individual opinion is important and has a right to be heard."

The Archives is on the tour given to G.S.O. visitors. Noela Jordan, nonalcoholic research assistant who has worked for Archives for five years says, "A.A.s who come to New York City want to see Archives—it's like going to see the Statue of Liberty." The visitor sign-in book has names from around the world, including Brazil, China, South Africa, Norway, Russia, Spain, Ireland, Mexico, and Australia.

Visitors to the Archives first enter a gallery in which they can see dozens of photographs from A.A.'s early days, like one of Bill with his sponsor, Ebby T., or the Akron home of Dr. Bob and Anne. Also displayed are the

1961 letter from Carl Jung to Bill, another letter from John D. Rockefeller Jr., old postcards of Akron, all printings of all three editions of the Big Book—totaling over 80 copies—as well as all printings of such A.A.W.S. literature as *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* and *Living Sober*. There's also Bill's original office sofa (now reupholstered).

Frank M. is thoughtful about the purpose of history in the life of A.A.; it is, he says, not to blindly worship the past but to make the past relevant to the present. And he's encouraged by the fact that archives committees are proliferating throughout the service structure and keeping A.A. history alive and well at the local level: "As recently as 1980, we didn't have many area archives."

Now, he points out that "collecting A.A. memorabilia has become enormously competitive. We live in a material society, and collectibles—whether they're baseball cards or A.A. pamphlets—are a big item. I'm afraid we might be beginning to worship *things* and losing sight of the *content*. Archives is about something else—to make clear the relevancy of history to our lives, and to deepen our appreciation of what we have been given. It's about gratitude, not things."

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## 1995 Conference to Address the Legacies

"At my first General Service Conference, in 1993, I was given a report about controversial problems to 'read, discuss and pray' on, and I thought, 'Oh, m'God, how could they ask *me* to do this.' Then I realized that it was *we*, all 130-odd Conference members, not just me, who were being asked not only to ponder this one problem but to act for the whole Fellowship."

Adds Burke D. of Seattle, immediate past Washington delegate: "Being a part of the Conference for two years was overwhelming, I've carried the A.A. message in several capacities, but never at that level of service. As the late Bernard Smith (nonalcoholic trustee, 1944-1956) said at the 1954 meeting, 'We may not need a General Service Conference to insure our own recovery.... we do need it to insure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room....'" (*The A.A. Service Manual*, p. S42).

Burke's experience evokes the theme of the 1995 Conference: "Pass It On—Our Three Legacies." Like a three-way mirror, these Legacies—Recovery, Unity and Service—clearly reflect every facet of A.A.'s primary purpose. The U.S./Canada delegates to the 45th General Service Conference, to be held from April 30 through May 6 at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza in New York

City, will join with the trustees, directors and the staffs of the General Service Office and Grapevine in holding up potential recommendations to the ultimate test—the mirror of the Legacies.

As they take inventory of where A.A. is now and where we are headed, the delegates will borrow heavily from the experience of the past. “No matter what the problem, there always seems to be some precedent that we can look to in finding a solution,” comments Burke. “And there’s the tremendously positive ripple effect taking place all around. In my time, I marveled at the amount of help proffered by the trustees, G.S.O. staff and the delegates themselves. Importantly, not one person told me how to think on an issue. They simply let me know they were there if I needed them. And often I did.”

The term served by a delegate is two years. Asked if he found it too short, Burke emphatically answers “no.” Were the term extended to three, four or more years, he believes, “the delegate might be more efficient but, at the same time, less effective. First of all, being delegate involves tremendous effort; your personal life is on hold, and most delegates have already served long days and nights as area chairperson and other offices in which you go, go, go. Importantly, there would be problems of politics and cliques; the delegate would know too much. As things are now, there is a level of innocence, of



*The Conference generates a myriad of paper. In the reference room at G.S.O. Frank Segui (left), staff assistant on the Conference assignment, and Miguel Rodriguez (both nonalcoholics), who coordinates the copy room, prepare Conference committee background material for mailing to delegates.*

naivete if you will, in which the principles of A.A. are better expressed.”

Here Burke notes that “arriving at a group conscience in matters big and small at the Conference is an amazing process. Members may start out at totally opposite ends of an issue. Then, after hours of patient discussion, one suddenly senses that the polarized factions are moving into a more central position, which is the precursor of consensus. I often had the feeling that a power greater than the sum of the body of people present was at work—and, of course, they were probably getting tired! Seriously, though, where else is the minority, or dissenting view of each person, considered absolutely essential as it is in A.A.?”

While no one can speak for A.A. officially, the Conference comes close to being A.A.’s voice. After recommendations are made by any of the 12 Conference committees, the entire assemblage considers them. To become a Conference Advisory Action, a recommendation must be approved by a two-thirds majority. The 45th General Service Conference has 134 voting members. Of these, delegates comprise 67.91%; trustees and directors, 20.15%; and G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs, 11.94%.

Burke, refers to himself as “a fresh has-been, which is better than a never-was.” He says it is no exaggeration to say that his service experience was a major factor in salvaging a disappointing professional career. “I am amazed that today I am retired from a professional career that in the last 13 years exceeded any expectation I could have had for my personal success. Thanks primarily to my learning to work *with* others for the benefit of the majority—a skill that you taught me. Isn’t it amazing that I couldn’t figure that out as a practicing drunk! My experience tells me that each individual will do some things better; and, perhaps, some other things not quite as well. I think that it is very important to understand that each will do the best job that they can for Alcoholics Anonymous—and that is all any of us can ever do!”

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## Sun Valley Group Gives ‘till It Helps

In Idaho the Sun Valley Group has innovated a successful concept in the spirit of A.A.’s Seventh Tradition of self-support.

“Over the years,” says former G.S.R. David F., “we had found that rising costs and an increased desire for group representation at A.A. events were depleting our prudent reserve and straining our ability to cover expenses, with enough left over to send contributions to

intergroup, the General Service Office and our area committee (the 60-30-10 plan). Then in 1992, the theme of the General Service Conference was 'A.A. Takes Its Inventory'; our group chose to participate, and as part of the process, we included a financial review.

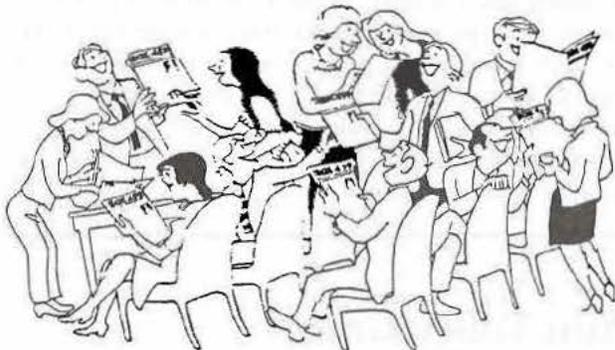
"We had spoken many times about putting the cost of our last drink in the basket, but it was obvious that a dollar didn't buy what it used to. Our steering committee did some calculating and returned with the fact that, conservatively, we needed 15 cents more for every dollar we had been receiving in order to be self-supporting. This gave us an attainable goal. We put up signs in the meeting room and adopted the motto '15 cents more to be self-supporting.'"

The group's response was immediate, David reports. "Consequently we are back to our desired financial flow. The group needs are met, the literature library is stocked, we're contributing to local and world services, and we're well-represented at A.A. events.

"We have removed the signs, but they're in the group archives for resurrection when needed. Who knows? Next time it might be 5 cents or even 50 cents more; but, whatever the amount, I do believe our group will respond with whatever it takes to be self-supporting and carry the A.A. message."

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## Box 4-5-9 Takes Its Inventory



Is *Box 4-5-9* "one of the best-kept secrets in A.A."? That's what one reader told us in response to our appeal in the October/November 1994 issue. We wanted to know whether the newsletter is meeting the needs of its readers, and how it can do its job better. From about 75,000 copies distributed—62,000 to individuals and 13,000 bundled into packs of ten—we got 80 responses.

Here are the questions we asked, and some highlights from the responses.

1. Do *Box 4-5-9* articles serve your group's needs and the needs of newer members?

Most respondents said "yes" to this question. One group wrote that *Box 4-5-9* provides a better connection "to the A.A. spiritual pipeline," while another A.A. said, more practically, "It shows where the money goes that we put in the baskets." A chairperson of a special needs committee said, "I have reprinted the articles on large-print literature and the deaf meeting-by-mail." A few A.A.s said they subscribe as a basic part of their recovery program; one said, "I've taken *Box 4-5-9* as one way for me to support A.A." Another wrote, "I never knew how much I missed *Box 4-5-9* until my term as G.S.R. was up and it was no longer being sent. I now have my own subscription, along with the Grapevine."

Some respondents thought that *Box 4-5-9* could be useful to newer members, but this seemed due to a trickle-down effect: the newcomer benefits in general ways when a group's understanding of local, as well as international, A.A. is increased. From South Africa came the comment that the newsletter shows "newcomers that they don't stand alone." Most respondents, however, thought that the newcomers are concerned with getting sober and not with the "big picture" of service. One person wrote, "Newer members, quite frankly, could care less about this or any other newsletter.... It's not until after you get a little sobriety that information like this makes any sense."

2. How do you share *Box 4-5-9* with your group?

*Box 4-5-9* reaches the individual A.A. in a number of ways: Its contents are shared at business meetings—especially when topics are relevant to the discussion at hand; it's set out on the literature table; it's posted; highlights are given in the G.S.R. report, or read to the group at the secretary's break; G.S.R.s or D.C.M.s talk about it informally to other A.A.s; it's circulated to other group officers; it's brought into prisons.

3. How can *Box 4-5-9* better reflect news and notes from G.S.O.?

Most respondents said that the newsletter does a good job "as is." One person said, "I've gotten great ideas from *Box 4-5-9*"; another wrote, "I appreciate inside reports on staff—it makes me feel I know them better." Some suggestions or ideas for improvement include using more graphics to present statistics, publishing profiles of Class A trustees, providing more specific details of agendas presented at forums and regional meetings, discussing how A.A. entities handle and resolve controversial issues, and publishing more articles on the *Loners-Internationalists* network. Several respondents wanted to see more articles on Spanish-speaking groups in the U.S. and Canada.

4. Are there new and different kinds of articles or features that you would like to see in *Box 4-5-9*?

Some ideas: "Give highlights of jail and prison programs that support and carry A.A.'s message; cover how different areas handle elections; provide "more factual A.A. information—for example, membership growth in different areas"; publish "an updated version of 'signed Court Slips'"; "emphasize the Traditions and relate them to specific issues."

To those interested in giving *Box 4-5-9* more visibility in their group, these suggestions may be helpful:

- Give a subscription to newcomers, or to those on their first or second A.A. anniversary.
- Take out a bulk subscription and pass out the "extra" copies for loan or for keeping.
- Make a regular announcement that the newsletter is displayed on the literature table or posted on the bulletin board.
- Keep a "reference library" of back copies available in a three-hole binder for use at business meetings.

A *Box 4-5-9* order form is enclosed with this issue.

## What Are the Twelve Concepts?

Every A.A. knows A.A.'s Twelve Steps, they help to keep us sober, and the Twelve Traditions—the glue that holds our group and the entire Fellowship together. But what about the Twelve Concepts for World Service? What are they and what is their purpose?

In the introduction to *Twelve Concepts for World Service* co-founder Bill W. wrote:

"The 'Twelve Concepts for World Service'...are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure. They reveal the evolution by which it has arrived in its present form, and they detail the experience and reasoning on which our operation stands today. These Concepts therefore aim to record the 'why' of our service structure in such a fashion that the highly valuable experience of the past, and the lessons we have drawn from that experience, can never be forgotten or lost."

The Twelve Concepts were born in much the same way as the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions—through trial and error. Some of the questions that confronted our co-founders were the form of structure that A.A. should have and the kinds of general services that structure ought to provide. From this beginning, they developed the Conference plan, or as it is sometimes called, the Third Legacy plan.

The first General Service Conference, in 1951, was the formal "test" of whether the concept of world services was realistic. That Conference was a big success. The

Concepts had been born, the general service structure was in place, and it only remained for Bill W. to commit to paper the principles and procedures that make the Conference work. So, in 1962, *Twelve Concepts for World Service* was published.

*G.S.R.s and the area delegate:* A question sometimes asked is whether the Concepts can be useful in the A.A. group. In his Introduction to *Twelve Concepts*, Bill comments that certain of the principles have long been in use "throughout our entire structure." That comment plus the common sense spirit of the Concepts would seem to indicate that the Concepts, with their very practical underlying principles, are a set of guidelines that home groups might do well to study.

Groups choose their general service representative (G.S.R.) with care because the G.S.R. is the link between the group and A.A. as a whole. Having a G.S.R. is the group's assurance that it is actively participating in the group conscience decision-making process of A.A. as a whole.

G.S.R.s, through the area assembly, elect an area delegate to represent the groups at the annual General Service Conference, which convenes every April in New York. G.S.R.s inform the delegate of the area's group conscience, and the delegate passes it along to the Conference. A delegate's primary concern at all times is for the overall good of A.A. as a whole. The duties of that trusted servant are many, and G.S.R.s and district committee members (D.C.M.s) lend their active assistance throughout the delegate's two-year term. At all



From the pamphlet,  
"The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated."

times the delegate's operational responsibility is matched by an equal authority to do the job.

*The Rights:* The "Right of Decision," "Participation," and "Appeal" belong to every trusted servant and service entity, starting with the home group. One of the aims of the "Rights" is to assure the continuing democracy of our Fellowship.

*Concept III:* In the Second Tradition, the provision for trusted servants sets the stage for the exercise of the "Right of Decision" in the election of group officers. This "Right" is of paramount importance as the group moves forward in its primary purpose of carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. The stage is also set for G.S.R.s and district committee members (D.C.M.s) to exercise the "Right of Decision."

The G.S.R. will "determine exactly what a group needs [and] what a group thinks about a situation." (*The A.A. Service Manual*, p. S43). In the area committee meeting, the G.S.R. participates in discussion and debate and, fully informed on a given subject, is then capable of voting for what is in the best interests of the group and, more to the point, the best interests of A.A. as a whole.

The D.C.M.s, as leaders of their district committees, pass along the conscience of the groups in their districts, as reported by the G.S.R.s, to the area committee and thence to the Conference delegate. The D.C.M.s, like the G.S.R.s, "interpret and apply their... authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises." (Concept III, p. 15)

In Conference meetings and workshops, and after full discussion and debate on the Conference floor, the delegate is in the best position to make decisions. And for that reason, groups in his or her area ought to be especially mindful not to tie the delegate's hands by previous instructions on how to vote. The delegate should be free to decide what issues he or she and their committee will dispose of themselves and what issues will be considered at another time or by others. The delegate's decision-making is always done with an eye to ultimately enhancing the unity of A.A. as a whole, and to improving and expanding its ability to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

*Concept IV:* The principle of "Right of Participation" is built into the General Service Conference through the Conference Charter. Voting members include not only delegates, but also the trustees, and the directors and staff members of A.A. World Services (i.e., G.S.O.) and the A.A. Grapevine. They must be free to vote based on the full facts.

*Concept V:* The "Right of Appeal" and "Petition" assure that minority opinion will always be heard at the Conference and that a forum will always be available for the airing of grievances and the redress of wrongs, real or perceived. This is more than merely the *right* of a minority opinion to be heard. When a minority believes

that their position is correct and proper, it becomes their *duty* to exercise the "Right of Appeal."

*The General Service Board:* (Concepts VI-XI): In Concept VI Bill wrote, "...the conduct of our world services is primarily a matter of policy and business. Of course our objective is always a spiritual one, but this service aim can only be achieved by means of an effective business operation. Our trustees... must have ample authority to really manage and conduct A.A.'s business."

No one could expect 7 nonalcoholic and 14 A.A. trustees, by themselves, to conduct A.A.'s business. In keeping with the Ninth Tradition, most of the General Service Board's routine work is done by "underlying committees." The trustees' committees are opposite numbers of Conference committees, most of them staying in constant communication throughout the year; all of them in complete cooperation during Conference week.

The Concepts describe and delineate the diverse duties of the trustees, plus the procedures for their nomination and election.

Other Concepts and the Warranties will be covered in a future issue of *Bar* 4-5-9.

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## Correctional Facilities

### Virginians Extend Hand of A.A.

It was seven years ago that the Virginia Area Correctional Facilities committee first courted the confidence of local prison officials through a series of orientation workshops. "The response was tremendous," recalls immediate past chairperson Preston V. "Until then most of them—the wardens, administrators, counselors—knew very little about A.A. and were wary and skeptical. As one counselor in the Department of Corrections (DOC) told me, 'We thought of A.A. as a disruption, not a tool to help. When you came, I thought you'd share your story, and as counselors we hear lots and lots of stories. But this is the first time someone's come and told us what A.A. is really about.'"

Additionally, Preston notes, "the institutions had an erroneous view of us as down and out and irresponsible. This perception grew out of misunderstandings, such as when some A.A.s balked at using their full names in filling out required clearance papers; they mistakenly thought this constituted a violation of Tradition Eleven—which addresses the need to maintain anonymity at 'the level of press, radio and films.'"

Preston, who peppers his conversation with references to A.A.'s Traditions, which he regards as old and dear friends, says, "Looking back from where the program is now, it might appear to have been easy. But the fact is, it took the C.F. committee three years of work to get a regular meeting into a prison. With help from a lot of people, we opened channels of communication and used them to keep feeding information about A.A. to the Department of Corrections and the Virginia Association of Drug and Alcoholism Programs (VADAP), which has staff members involved with inmates. And, reinforcing Tradition Eight, which says A.A. 'should remain forever nonprofessional,' we constantly stressed, and still do, that *they* are the professionals. We are the guests, and all we do is offer A.A.'s program of recovery through the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

The facilities soon discovered that "we don't bite," Preston notes, and today the DOC has a community resource person—usually the assistant warden or a grievance counselor—who serves as liaison between the C.F. committee and the administration to clear up minor problems or misunderstandings before they have a chance to escalate.

Pinpointing the origins of the C.F. committee program, Preston recalls that "early in sobriety I had to spend time in an institution. There were no A.A. meetings available, and I asked why. It turned out there was zero communication between A.A. and the facility, and not enough A.A. volunteers around to make a difference. When we started the workshops we were carrying the message into about 20% of the approximately 50 jails and prisons in this area; today, conservatively speaking, we're in more than 50% of them on a regular basis, and we're still pushing for 100% saturation."

Preston explains that the day-long workshops—conducted twice a year, once for staffers at DOC and again for those at VADAP—"discuss more about A.A. than they'd ever need to know," including the addresses and locations of area intergroups and central offices, and information about the C.F. committee's temporary sponsorship program for newly released inside group members.

"The question most asked," he says, "is, 'What does A.A. do about newcomers who have problems with drugs?' We tell them about Tradition Five—our Primary Purpose—and Tradition Three, which says that 'the only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.' We give them the pamphlet 'Problems Other than Alcohol' and tell them that it's up to the individual to decide if he or she has a problem with alcohol. Another frequently asked question: 'Is signing court cards against the Traditions?' We cite Tradition Ten and tell them that A.A. 'has no opinion on outside issues.' Our groups are autonomous, however, and each decides for itself whether or not to sign."

Word of the Virginia program's success has spread, and the C.F. committee has been asked to take it into other states. "When the requests started coming in, our egos really flared," Preston says with a rueful laugh. "I know that I personally was flying. So we declined, but, at the same time, we've made it known that we welcome the chance to share what we've learned and help wherever possible. For me, this project has opened the door to humility and spiritual growth. It has reinforced how important A.A. is and what I share through the Twelve and Twelve. My connection with other alcoholics—that is my experience, strength and hope."

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## C.P.C.

### Plant the Seeds—Even if You Can't See Them Grow

In the sprawling area west of Denver, Colorado, the district committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community never leaves the A.A. message to chance. Says chairperson Deborah D., of Arvada: "We pass on the message every which way we can; but that doesn't mean we get instant feedback—we rarely do, and we don't expect to. We plant the seed, hope for the best, and keep going."

One recent C.P.C. project saw the distribution of a set of varicolored fliers, or handouts, to groups in the district. "The first flier states in simple terms that C.P.C. is the link between professionals who work in the field of alcoholism and A.A.," explains Deborah. "The second gives a capsule history of C.P.C., which came into being in 1970 as an entity separate from the Public Information committee. The remaining fliers explain the Twelve Traditions in brief, simple terms taken from the C.P.C. Workbook published by G.S.O."

Deborah believes that doctors, lawyers, social workers and other professionals don't need to understand exactly what makes A.A. tick in order to refer alcoholics to us. "People on the outside often as not have a view that's inaccurate; they can't identify as we do because they haven't drunk themselves sick, traveled through the Steps and become committed to A.A. But they still can be instrumental in helping the alcoholic to get to us."

For example, she says, "my nonalcoholic aunt went to some substance-abuse classes because she was thinking of becoming a counselor. She didn't really understand A.A. but she'd heard it praised by her teachers. So, when she saw me sinking deeper and deeper into alcoholism, she'd ask, 'Why don't you go to A.A.?' That's all she said, but she kept on repeating it. Finally her words rang a

bell in my ears, and I went to A.A. and stayed. I celebrated five years of sobriety in January. Now my 19-year-old daughter asks, 'How's your A.A.?' She's foggy about how the program works, but she knows I'm physically healthier and that I act better. So in her young mind, a seed has been planted. And who knows? Some day she may help an alcoholic she's yet to meet."

The A.A. message to professionals, Deborah feels, is in the Steps and Traditions. "It's all there," she says. "This program is not about money or relationships. It's about how to help alcoholics stop drinking and save their lives."

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## P.I./C.P.C.

### 'Let the Games Begin'— A.A. Meetings Held Daily

From Helsinki, Finland, to Buffalo, New York, and Southern Ontario, Canada, A.A. this past year has been immediately available to athletes and visitors at a number of international sporting events.

Says Reijo K., a member of Spiritual Sponsor, an English-speaking A.A. group in Helsinki, and chairman of the area Public Information committee: "When we learned early last year that the 1994 European Championships of Track and Field would be held here in August, our P.I. committee wanted to carry the message effectively but hardly knew where to begin. So we turned to the P.I. committee of Norwegian A.A. that had organized a support system at the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer. We are grateful for their help and, in turn, would like to share our experience with the General Service Office and other A.A.s throughout the world."

Noting that 36 A.A. volunteers from 25 groups in the greater Helsinki area participated in the P.I. committee project, Reijo says that English-language A.A. meetings were held every night during the Games, in addition to those in Finnish. The "interoffice," or general service office, and a club for A.A.s also had people standing by to serve as foreign-language translators.

"Although we understand that A.A. has participated for many years in international sporting events by offering extra meetings to the visitors," Reijo notes, "we probably made A.A. history by offering a 24-hour A.A. phone service to visitors. The P.I. committee had acquired a hand-held cellular phone that was handed over like a baton from one A.A. volunteer to another for 24 hours a day during the nine days of special service. As one of our

members observed, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, 'Since Finland is a forerunner of this technology in the world, we figured only the best would do.'

The P.I. committee printed 1,500 fliers. Several hundred of them were given to the organizers of the games; the others, Reijo says were "hand-and-foot delivered" by A.A. members into more than 60 hotels, along with a cover letter requesting display space. One member who delivered fliers told Reijo, "My legs were shaking when I entered a large hotel lobby, and my voice was trembling when I introduced myself to the manager and explained why I had come. But it was a wonderful experience to find that every place I went I was taken in with a smile. Serving the Fellowship this way was a new and invigorating way to guarantee myself one more sober day."

Back home in North America, A.A.s enjoyed a similarly rewarding experience at about the same time. Says Arthur B., past chairperson of the Western New York Area's committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community: "When we heard, at our general assembly last February, that close to 100,000 people would be coming to town for the World University Games in July, we knew there had to be scores of alcoholics among them; and we wanted the hand of A.A. to be at the ready in the three service areas where the Games would be held—Western and Central New York and Southern Ontario."

For starters, the assembly formed an ad hoc committee with Art as chairman. Then he and past assembly chair Mike E. met with a representative of the Games' organizing committee. They discussed what A.A. does and does not do; and, in the spirit of cooperation, they agreed to: (1) place information in the Official Games Guide, to be distributed free of charge to all participants and published, with a circulation approaching 1 million copies, in the U.S./Canada; and (2) provide information to the 55 hotels providing accommodations.

Importantly, Art notes, "an information piece was published only after endorsement and funding by all of our three service areas as well as some intergroups and groups, which concluded that we would not be violating A.A.'s Eleventh Tradition, stressing that 'Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion.'"

Under the heading "Alcoholics Anonymous," the flier listed the phone numbers of the six offices in the U.S./Canada Games corridor where meetings and other information could be obtained. With minor revisions, Art says, it was later recycled successfully as a handout at the C.P.C. committee's booth at a county fair.

"Overall," he says, "there was 100 percent support from all those who gave of their time, strength and wisdom to this project. I was amazed by the willingness of A.A.s from as far as 90-odd miles away to come and help. It was a wonderful experience."

## Calendar of Events

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office. For any additional information, please use the addresses provided.

### April

- 7-9—*Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.* Southern Alberta Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 212, Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Y5
- 7-9—*Sacramento, California.* 15th Annual Woman to Woman Conf. Write: Ch., Box 654, Fair Oaks, CA 95628
- 7-9—*San Bernardino, California.* XX Convención Hispano Estatal. Write: Ch., Oficina Intergrupala de San Bernardino, 1083 W. 2nd, Ste. B, San Bernardino, CA 92410
- 7-9—*Marietta, Georgia.* Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., 2244 Surrey Ct., Marietta, GA 30067
- 7-9—*Ft. Wayne, Indiana.* 15th Annual Northeast Indiana Conv. Write: Ch., Box 11545, Ft. Wayne, IN 46859
- 7-9—*Wichita, Kansas.* 20th Annual Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1814, Wichita, KS 67202
- 7-9—*Cape May, New Jersey.* SEPIA Roundup. Write: Ch., 1218 Chestnut St., Ste. 1004, Philadelphia, PA 19107
- 7-9—*Westchester County, New York.* 31st SENY Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1688, Madison Square Garden, New York, NY 10016
- 7-9—*Grand Forks, North Dakota.* Northern Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 14121, Grand Forks, ND 58208-4121
- 7-9—*Clarksburg, West Virginia.* Jackson's Mill Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26302
- 8-9—*St. Joseph, Missouri.* 52nd Anniv. Write: Ch., Box 1024, St. Joseph, MO 64502
- 13-16—*Arlington, Virginia.* SERCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 17765, Arlington, VA 22216
- 14-15—*Poros, Greece.* First Conv. in Greece. Write: Ch., Parthenon Conv. Group, 13, Eratosthenous St., Pangrati, Athens 116 35 Greece
- 14-15—*Orlando, Florida.* Celebrate VII. Write: Ch., 2538 Hansrob Rd., Orlando, FL 32804
- 14-16—*Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada.* 12th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 6041, Williams Lake, BC V2G 3W2
- 14-16—*Chandler, Arizona.* Third Annual ASCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 905, Mesa, AZ 85201
- 14-16—*San Diego, California.* Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 420967, San Diego, CA 92142-0967
- 14-16—*Atlantic Beach, Florida.* Spring Break Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 51225, Jacksonville, FL 32240
- 14-16—*New Orleans, Louisiana.* 27th Big Deep South Conv. Write: Ch., 4041 Tulane Ave., Ste. 301, New Orleans, LA 70119
- 14-16—*Tulsa, Oklahoma.* Fifth Annual Oklahoma Indian Conv. Write: Ch., Box 675, Tulsa, OK 74101

- 14-16—*Port Elizabeth, South Africa.* 46th National Conv. Write: Ch. Area Services, P.O. Box 7604, Newton Park, 6055, Port Elizabeth, South Africa
- 21-23—*Banff, Alberta, Canada.* 22nd Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 6744, Station D, Calgary, AB T2P 2E6
- 21-23—*Bonnyville, Alberta, Canada.* Dist. 3 Roundup. Write: Ch., #301-4122-50 Ave., Bonnyville, AB T9N 1C3
- 21-23—*Dauphin, Manitoba, Canada.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 453, Dauphin, MB R7N 2V3
- 21-23—*Gananoque, Ontario, Canada.* 30th Anniv. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 81, Brockville, ON K6V 5T7
- 21-23—*Phoenix, Arizona.* Spring Break Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 36366, Phoenix, AZ 85067
- 21-23—*Eureka Springs, Arkansas.* 19th Annual Springtime in the Ozarks. Write: Ch., Box 1261, Rogers, AR 72757
- 21-23—*Modesto, California.* N. Calif. H&I Conf. Write: Ch., 3848 McHenry Ave., Ste. 155-133, Modesto, CA 95350
- 21-23—*San Jose, California.* 1995 Conf. Write: Ch., 2222 Walnut Grove Ave., San Jose, CA 95128
- 21-23—*Manhattan, Kansas.* 18th Anniv. Write: Ch., 1501 Humboldt, Manhattan, KS 66502
- 21-23—*Lake Charles, Louisiana.* 42nd Conv. Write: Ch., 2629 Aquarius Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70615
- 21-23—*Lincoln, Nebraska.* Spring Fling. Write: Ch., Box 30785, Lincoln, NE 68503
- 21-23—*Reno, Nevada.* Reno Spring Festival. Write: Ch., Box 72, Reno, NV 89504
- 21-23—*Erie, Pennsylvania.* Erie Area Spring Conf. Write: Ch., Box 3833, Erie, PA 16508
- 21-23—*Lancaster, Pennsylvania.* Third Annual Tri State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 189, Rising Sun, MD 21911
- 21-23—*Provo, Utah.* Utah Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 538, Spanish Fork, UT 84660
- 21-23—*Superior, Wisconsin.* 50th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 996, Superior, WI 54880
- 28-30—*Ketchikan, Alaska.* 13th Annual First City Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 9595, Ketchikan, AK 99901
- 28-30—*Oliver, British Columbia, Canada.*

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

April (Page 27): Self-support.

May (Page 12): The General Service Conference

- 11th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1154, Oliver, BC V0H 1T0
- 28-30—*Flin Flon, Manitoba, Canada.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 848, Flin Flon, MB R8A 1N7
- 28-30—*Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada.* Northwestern Ontario 29th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 73, Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4V5
- 28-30—*Scottsbluff, Nebraska.* 40th Annual Panhandle Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 553, Scottsbluff, NE 69361
- 28-30—*Roswell, New Mexico.* 11th Roadrunner Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2768, Roswell, NM 88202
- 28-30—*Richmond, Virginia.* Third Primary Purpose Conf. Write: Ch., Box 12475, Richmond, VA 23241

### May

- 5-7—*Ventura, California.* Roundup. Write: Ch., 111 S. Catalina St., Ventura, CA 93001
- 5-7—*Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1742, Lloydminster, AB T9V 0J7
- 5-7—*Maui, Hawaii.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1735, Kihei, HI 96753
- 5-7—*Grand Rapids, Michigan.* 25th Iron Range Get-Together. Write: Ch., Box 469, Grand Rapids, MI 55744
- 5-7—*Greenville, Mississippi.* Fourth Annual Delta Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1653, Cleveland, MS 38732
- 5-7—*Laughlin, Nevada.* 11th Annual Tri-State Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 21809, Bullhead City, NV 86439
- 5-7—*Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.* Big Book

## Planning a Future Event?

Please send your information on June, July or August events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by April 10, the calendar deadline for the June-July issue of Box 4-5-9.

For your convenience and ours — please type or print the information to be listed on the Bulletin Board page, and mail to us:

Date of event: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

Name of event: \_\_\_\_\_

Place (city, state or prov.): \_\_\_\_\_

For information, write: (exact mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone # (for office use only): \_\_\_\_\_

Flip up this end of page - for events on reverse side

Cut along dotted line, and post this page on your group's bulletin board

Study. Write: Ch., Box 7231, Moore, OK 73153

5-7—*Delaware Water Gap, Pennsylvania*. Big Book Bed & Breakfast Weekend. Write: Ch., 54 Pocono Wild Haven, E. Stroudsburg, PA 18301

5-7—*Greensburg, Pennsylvania*. 44th Laurel Highlands Conf. Write: Ch., Box 6, Bovard, PA 15619

5-7—*Stoux Falls, South Dakota*. Area 63 Spring Conf. Write: Ch., District 5, Box 1872, Sioux Falls, SD 57101

6-7—*Turtleford, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Turtle River Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 383, Turtleford, SK S0M 2Y0

12-14—*Campbellton, New Brunswick, Canada*. NB/PEI Roundup. Write: Ch., Pt. La Nim, NB, R.R. 2, Box 2, Site 8, Campbellton, NB E3N 3E8

12-14—*Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada*. 31st Annual Blossom Time Conv. Write: Ch., Box 851, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6V6

12-14—*Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada*. 20th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 4000, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5M6

12-14—*Clearwater, Florida*. Sobriety in Action Conv. Write: Ch., Box 2571, Pinellas Park, FL 34664

12-14—*Marquette, Michigan*. 46th Annual Spring Conf. Write: Ch., 1110 High St., Marquette, MI 49855

12-14—*Watertown, New York*. Area 47 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 495, Great Bend, NY 13643

12-14—*Ontario, Oregon*. Idaho Spring Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 40, Caldwell, ID 83605-0040

12-14—*San Antonio, Texas*. Weekend in SA. Write: Ch., Box 791995, San Antonio, TX 78279

12-14—*Rock Springs, Wyoming*. Wyoming Spring Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1301, Green River, WY 82935

18-21—*Guntersville, Alabama*. Mountain Top Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 836, Ashville, AL 35953

19-21—*Rehoboth Beach, Delaware*. 35th Annual State Conv. Write: Secy. Conv. Comm. '95, 39 Duchess Circle, Dover, DE 19901

19-21—*Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 186, Tumbler Ridge, BC V0C 2W0

19-21—*Port Blandford, Newfoundland, Canada*. 37th NF and Labrador Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 7155, St. John's, NF A1E 3Y4

19-21—*Little Current, Ontario, Canada*. Rainbow Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 820, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

19-21—*Bloomington, Illinois*. 32nd BNAA Roundup. Write: Ch., 520 E. Washington, Ste. 103, Bloomington, IL 61701

19-21—*Hammond, Louisiana*. Spring

Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 4040, Slidell, LA 70459

19-21—*Holyoke, Massachusetts*. Western Mass. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 6161, Springfield, MA 01101

19-21—*Warwick, New York*. Orange County Conf. Write: Ch., Box 210, Middletown, NY 10940-0210

19-21—*St. George, Utah*. Spring Rally. Write: Ch., 1218 E. 2550 North, N. Ogden, UT 84414

19-21—*Bolton Valley, Vermont*. 1995 Vermont Conv. Write: Ch., Box 95, Wallingford, VT 05773

26-27—*Lindsay, Ontario, Canada*. Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 176, Lindsay, ON K9V 4S1

26-28—*Castlegar, British Columbia, Canada*. 22nd Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Site 19, Comp. 14, R.R. 2, Castlegar, BC V1N 3I4

26-28—*Kerwood, Ontario, Canada*. Strathroy-Watford Early Bird Campout. Write: Ch., Box 203, Strathroy, ON N7G 1J2

26-28—*Laval, Quebec, Canada*. 17th District Congress. Write: Ch., 1502 Station Chomedey, Laval, QC H7V 1A0

26-28—*Koloa, Kauai, Hawaii*. Kauai Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3310, Lihue, HI 96766

26-28—*Boyme Mountain, Michigan*. Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 838, East Jordan, MI 49727

26-28—*Bloomington, Minnesota*. Gopher State Roundup XXII. Write: Ch., Box 65295, St. Paul, MN 55165-0295

26-28—*Lake Metigoshe, North Dakota*. Hands Across the Border Roundup. Write: Ch., 110 10th St. S.W., Rugby, ND 58368

26-28—*Dallas, Texas*. Gathering of Eagles. Write: Ch., Box 35865, Dallas, TX 75235

26-28—*San Angelo, Texas*. Concho Valley Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1341, San Angelo, TX 76902

27-29—*Blue Ridge, Georgia*. Sobriety Run. Write: Ch., Box 865, Blue Ridge, GA 30513

27-29—*Stony Point, New York*. NYC Young Peoples Conf. Write: Ch., 213 E. 34th St., #2B, New York, NY 10016

## June

2-4—*Flagstaff, Arizona*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 86002, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

2-4—*Angel Fire, New Mexico*. 38th Annual Area 46 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1045, Taos, NM 87571

3-0—*Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, Canada*. Rocky Recovery Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 478, Rocky Mountain House, AB T0M 1T3

5-11—*Alberta Beach, Alberta, Canada*. First Annual Campout Roundup. Write: Ch.,

Box 536, Alberta Beach, AB T0E 0A0

9-11—*Calgary, Alberta, Canada*. 14th Annual Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 954, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

9-11—*Burns Lake, British Columbia, Canada*. Red Road Warriors Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 967, Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

9-11—*Vernon, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., R.R. 7, Site 12A, Camp 27, Vernon, BC V1T 6L7

9-11—*Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Provincial Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 461, Bridgewater, NS B4V 2X6

9-11—*Utica, New York*. New York State Information Workshop. Write: Ch., 14 Panesi Ave., Rome, New York 13440

9-11—*Akron, Ohio*. 60th Founder's Day Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 12, Akron, OH 44309

16-18—*Blenheim, Ontario, Canada*. 17th Annual Midseason Campout. Write: Ch., Box 5, Chatham, ON N7M 5K1

16-18—*Bristol, Rhode Island*. Ocean State Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 41091, Providence, RI 02940

23-25—*Coombs Rodeo Grounds, British Columbia, Canada*. 35th Annual Rally. Write: Ch., 715 Ermineskin Ave., Parksville, BC V9P 2L4

23-25—*Moodus, Connecticut*. Soberfest 1995. Write: Ch., 64 Greenview Lane, Milford, CT 06413

23-25—*Peoria, Illinois*. Peoria Area Intergroup Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 9096, Peoria, IL 61614-9096

23-25—*New Orleans, Louisiana*. 11th Annual LASCYPAA. Write: Ch., 4041 Tulane Ave., Ste. 301, New Orleans, LA 70119

## July

21-23—*Wichita, Kansas*. Central Office Summer Roundup. Write: Ch., 2812 E. English, Wichita, KS 67211

21-23—*Eugene, Oregon*. Summerfest '95. Write: Ch., Box 1172, Eugene, OR 97440

28-30—*Bethel, Maine*. 18th Maine Area Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 488, Brunswick, ME 04011-0488

28-30—*Lima, Ohio*. 50th Anniv. Write: Ch., 11246 Shelby-Freyburg Rd., Wapakoneta, OH 45895

28-30—*Tulsa, Oklahoma*. 15th Annual OSRYPAA Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 471331, Tulsa, OK 74147