

# BOX 4-5-9

1980 A.A. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ISSUE

Vol. 25, No. 4

Theme: *The Joy of Living*

August-September 1980

## Dr. Bob Biography Now Available

Copies of that long-awaited A.A. book "Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers" can be bought in the Superdome this weekend, with a special bookplate—free—to mark each copy as a souvenir of A.A.'s 1980 International Convention.

It is even more than a biography of Dr. Bob (Robert Holbrook Smith, M.D.), co-founder of A.A., the first alcoholic to respond with recovery to Bill W.'s sharing of his  
*(continued on p. 3)*

## Welcome to New Orleans!

NEW ORLEANS, LA., July 4, 1980—What a marvelous place to celebrate "The Joy of Living"! And what an appropriate date for each of us to remember gratefully our own personal day of independence from the bonds of alcohol.

To keep this gift of joy, of course, we know we have to give it away. How better than in the joyous company of new friends and old, met trudging "the Road of Happy Destiny" to this place to-

day, to show our gratitude for our Fellowship's 45th year?

This weekend, we have some 180 A.A. meetings where about 600 members from 30 countries may be heard in at least four languages—panels with distinguished non-A.A. guest experts on alcohol problems—plus thousands of Alateens and Al-Anons led by petite, white-haired Lois W., widow of our co-founder Bill and "First Lady"  
*(continued on p. 2)*



## How A. A. Publishing Circles the Globe

A highlight of the Convention weekend is the Sunday-morning presentation of the first copy of "Alcolisti Anonimi" to Lois W., widow of A.A. co-founder Bill W. The Italian edition is the 11th in an ever-growing collection of authorized foreign-language Big Books.

More emphasis on the importance of literature to the Fellowship will be seen in the decorative theme: blow-ups of existing Big Book translations from all over the world.

Much of the international flavor, as well as the sheer size, of this 45th Anniversary Convention may be credited to the power of the printed word. Historically, A.A.  
*(continued on p. 3)*



Box 4-5-9 is published bimonthly by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, 468 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y.

© Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 1980

Mail address: P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

Subscriptions: Individual, \$1.50 per year; group, \$3.50 for each unit of 10 per yr. Check - made payable to A.A.W.S., Inc. - should accompany order.

## WELCOME TO NEW ORLEANS! (continued from p. 1)

of Al-Anon," who shows no desire at all to slow down in her 90th year!

### What are you reading?

Box 4-5-9 is the bimonthly newsletter the A.A. General Service Office uses to share worldwide A.A. experience with all A.A.'s. It is published in Spanish and French editions, too.

You'll probably want to take this issue home as a Convention souvenir. So you'll have time to read the small print in the box above. It tells how to receive Box 4-5-9 regularly and learn A.A. news you'll find nowhere else.

### Some joys of New Orleans

This is the home of Dixieland jazz—the awesome Superdome—the French Quarter (Vieux Carré, the Old Square)—Mardi Gras parades and balls—Creole gumbo and tons of other delicious food—Canal, Bourbon, and Royal Streets, plus famous St. Charles Avenue—elegantly latticed, two-storied balconies—flower scents from luxuriant, unseen backyard gardens—shops filled with priceless antiques and stunning reproductions.

"When the Saints Go Marchin' In," played by black jazzmen in a funeral procession, is what many of us hear and see in our heads when someone names this beautiful city.

We taste the fresh French crul-  
lers powdered with sugar and  
munched between lazy sips of the

steaming milk, chicory, and coffee blend made fresh down on the levee as the night mists begin to lift. We can see and maybe hear splashes of a stern-wheel riverboat out of the Mark Twain past.

### How did this happen?

But here at the biggest booze-free bash for alcoholics in world history, maybe many more of us want to remember what made all this possible. It began in Ohio 45 years ago, June 10, 1935, when Dr. Bob S., an Akron surgeon, in the presence of Bill W., a New York stockbroker (and alcoholic—sober six months) took his last drink.

They were sitting in an auto outside an Akron hospital as night was changing into dawn. The last drink was a warm beer to steady the surgeon's hands, before he operated on a patient.

If that miracle happened now, could any of us here do as well passing on the gift of sobriety as these men did?

The thousands of us thronging the Queen City of the Delta today can only pray we will do half as well!



Convention focus: the Superdome

In the next issue of Box 4-5-9, there will be a roundup story on outstanding memories of the whole Convention, together with the "official" Convention photograph (preserving anonymity, of course) and information on how to purchase a large print of the photo.

## GREET W.S.M. DELEGATES AT THE CONVENTION

Among new friends Convention-goers have the opportunity to meet are delegates to the World Service Meeting (W.S.M.), which took place June 27-30 at the Harrison Conference Center, Glen Cove, N.Y.

The total of 37 delegates included two from each country with a service structure; each of the two zones of Central America sent one delegate (representing three countries). During the four-day Meeting, the delegates discussed issues vital to worldwide A.A.

When Bill W. first suggested such a meeting, he emphasized the need to share A.A. experience widely among nations. (The First W.S.M. took place in 1969; the next, in 1972; since then, they have been held every two years.) Prominent on the agenda this year was a discussion of a possible reorganization of the W.S.M., to better fulfill the objective suggested by Bill. All delegates consulted a broad spectrum of opinion in their countries and came prepared to report back. The result was a lively and fruitful session.

Reports from the Latin American and European Service Meetings, both held since the 1978 W.S.M., were another feature. The concept of regional sharing in the interim between W.S.M.'s was suggested in 1978, and both regions involved reported good results.

The final *World Service Meeting Report* will contain details of all events and recommendations. Briefly, presentations/discussions included "The Future of A.A. Worldwide" and "Leadership in A.A." In addition, three workshop sections on communications between countries brought together delegates from European, Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking, and other English-speaking nations for a specific look at common concerns.

The four working committees (Agenda, Literature/Publishing,

Policy/Admissions/Finance, and Working With Others) all had packed agendas. One highlight was discussion of ways countries can disseminate information on existing literature for minority language groups.

## ARIZONA AND GEORGIA TO HOST REGIONAL FORUMS

Phoenix, Ariz., and Atlanta, Ga., are sites of the next A.A. Regional Forums. Pacific Region (Phoenix) dates are Sept. 26-28; Southeast (Atlanta), Dec. 12-14.

G.S.O. and Grapevine staff and board members will attend each of these informal, enlightening service sessions. All Third Legacy and central office workers and any other A.A.'s in the region are welcome. They may bring any A.A. questions they wish. Regional members pay their own way, of course.

For more information, ask your group's general service representative (G.S.R.), your area delegate to the General Service Conference, your area's general service committee, or your local intergroup (central) office, or write G.S.O. in New York.

Eastern Canada held its second such Forum in May, in Moncton, N.B. There were simultaneous translations (French and English), three rounds of workshop sessions, and a showing of our new archives filmstrip, "Markings on the Journey."

These gatherings are requested by local members and planned by your regional trustee and Conference delegates in cooperation with G.S.O. So A.A.'s in your region can easily pass along the word on what they want programmed for your Forum.

## A.A. PUBLISHING

*(continued from p. 1)*

growth in any location has taken off when literature has become



*Illustrations (such as Dr. Bob's house in Akron) and cover design are pleasing to the eye.*

For  
the Library of

from the 45th Anniversary  
International A.A. Convention  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
July 3rd-6th, 1980

**AA**

## DR. BOB BIOGRAPHY

*(continued from p. 1)*

message, and to join him in carrying it to others.

The book, approved by A.A.'s General Service Conference, is also a priceless collection of reminiscences and anecdotes from many early A.A.'s in the Midwest. It presents in warmly personal terms the early history of our Fellowship in that part of the world.

Material was gathered partly from A.A.'s archives, but mostly from interviews with older A.A.'s

widely available. (Conversely, when there are too few members to provide a market, production of literature in quantity is difficult.) Italy, with a current total of about 14 groups and an established intergroup, is now in a position to produce its own literature, and can likely look forward to a further spurt of growth in the near future.

## Getting the job done

The interplay of size, structure, and need for literature sets up a

# DR. BOB and the Good Oldtimers



*A biography, with recollections  
of early A.A. in the Midwest.*

and their families in Ohio, Vermont, California, the D.C. area, Florida, New York, and Texas.

You will read how the infant band of nameless drunks survived its separation from the Oxford Group and its controversies over the writing of the Big Book; about St. Thomas Hospital; enormous sudden growth in Cleveland; minority disputes; the wives' role in A.A.; and much more. There are 26 photographs.

The price is \$5.50 retail.

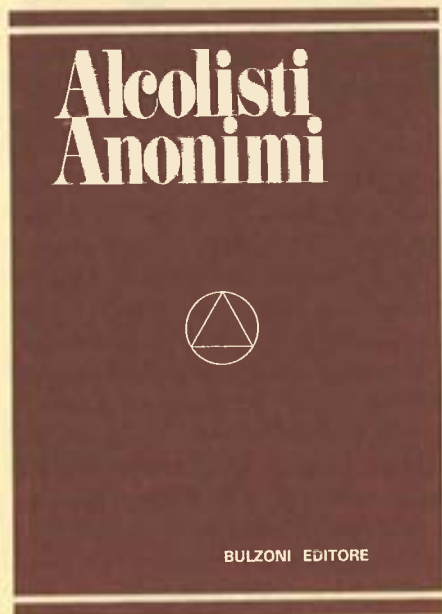
dilemma for A.A. World Services (U.S./Canada), whose board is the guardian of A.A.'s literature. On the one hand, the board is eager to help more countries carry the message through literature; on the other, it has learned that a country must have some A.A. structure capable of taking responsibility for printing, storing, and distribution of that literature. One person or a loosely organized group, no matter how dedicated, cannot car-

*(continued on p. 4)*

## A.A. PUBLISHING (continued from p. 3)

ry the burden of a full-scale publishing operation. Thus, the A.A.W.S. board grants printing permission only to established service entities (general service offices, intergroup/central offices, etc.).

Once a country can produce its own literature, how does the process work? First, permission is requested from A.A.W.S. When this is granted, the translation (always done in the country where the literature will be used, to preserve local nuances) is sent to A.A.W.S. and checked carefully by a bilingual A.A. member. (The Italian version was checked, not only by



an Italian-speaking A.A. in the U.S., but by a well-known Italian writer.)

Of course, there's more to publishing than words. Usually, a country requesting permission has a wealth of enthusiasm, motivation, need, a fine translation—but not enough money to launch a full-scale publishing venture on its own. Always mindful of the Tradition of self-support, A.A.W.S. helps other countries financially without actually giving or loaning any money.

It does this by setting up with foreign countries exactly the same kind of literature operation that exists in the U.S./Canada. Here, the A.A.W.S. board takes A.A. dollars and invests them in literature inventory—hiring a printer, buying paper, and printing, storing, and distributing books, booklets, and pamphlets. As material is sold, the money is immediately recycled into more literature. In other words, it is reinvested in carrying the message.

A.A.W.S. does exactly the same for sister service entities overseas: pays for printing costs, then retains title to the inventory. Each country sells its literature at a sufficient markup to support the service structure, and the rest of the funds come back to the U.S., where they are reinvested in worldwide literature inventory.

A variation is the setup in Central America, where most countries have an established structure but not enough members to justify a separate publishing operation. The exceptions are Colombia, Mexico, and El Salvador, each with its own Big Book. Other countries in the region have pooled resources and established a central printing operation and warehouse. A.A.W.S. contracts for the printer; then, each country sends its orders to G.S.O. Orders are immediately teletyped to the printer and relayed to the Central American service entity.

### Size doesn't matter, but...

A.A.'s generally shy away from statistics, but a look at the extent of A.A. publishing by U.S./Canada alone gives a graphic picture of the health of the Fellowship. G.S.O. estimates that this year about 6,366,000 pieces of literature will be distributed. This will include about 356,000 copies of the Big Book (in English), 360,000 other hardcover books, 150,000 booklets, and 5,500,000 pamphlets.

As we look around at this Convention, it's interesting to speculate how many of us got here "under

the influence" of literature. Many of us know the story of how A.A. in the U.S. burgeoned with the publication of the Big Book, along with several sympathetic articles in the press, such as Jack Alexander's 1941 *Saturday Evening Post* piece.

Less well-known are such segments of history as the growth of A.A. in France, which went slowly until literature became widely available in the 1950's. Another significant push came in 1961 with a series of articles about A.A. in *France Soir*, giving the French a sympathetic picture of A.A. in their own language.

### Needed: more translations

Another sign of the importance of native-language literature is the fact that there are actually more translations of the Big Book than there are formally published editions. Often, a group of alcoholics is large enough to need written material, but too small to warrant an entire publishing operation. In such cases, the Big Book, along with other literature, is often translated and distributed in mimeographed or similar form. Permission from A.A.W.S. simply to translate is not necessary, and thus a real need can be met in a practical way.

At the World Service Meeting last weekend (see p. 2), one discussion topic was the need for greater cooperation and communication among all countries to make literature for minorities available where needed. One delegate wrote: "So far, it seems that a country seeking literature for minority foreign-language groups must search the world in an often haphazard way. For example, I learned that Germany needed some Yugoslav literature, and Belgium expressed a need for Polish translations; neither would probably have thought to approach Australia, where both are available.

"There is such a movement of immigration around the world, and there also seems to be increas-

ing activity in carrying the A.A. message to aboriginal peoples in many countries. I know that South Africa is working on the Xhosa language, New Zealand already has some in Maori, Tongan, Samoan, etc.”

### All it takes is one book!

A phenomenon we see over and over is that once the Big Book arrives, there's no telling what will happen. The first "mail-order group" was formed in the U.S. when a man in Little Rock, Ark., ordered a copy of the Big Book and started A.A. in that city. Then, there is the fascinating way A.A. came to New Zealand, through one man and a book (for details, see the September 1976 Grapevine). And perhaps the most far-reaching movement of all, the Internationalists, started when Captain Jack, a seafaring A.A., went into ports around the world with his lifesaving cargo of books.

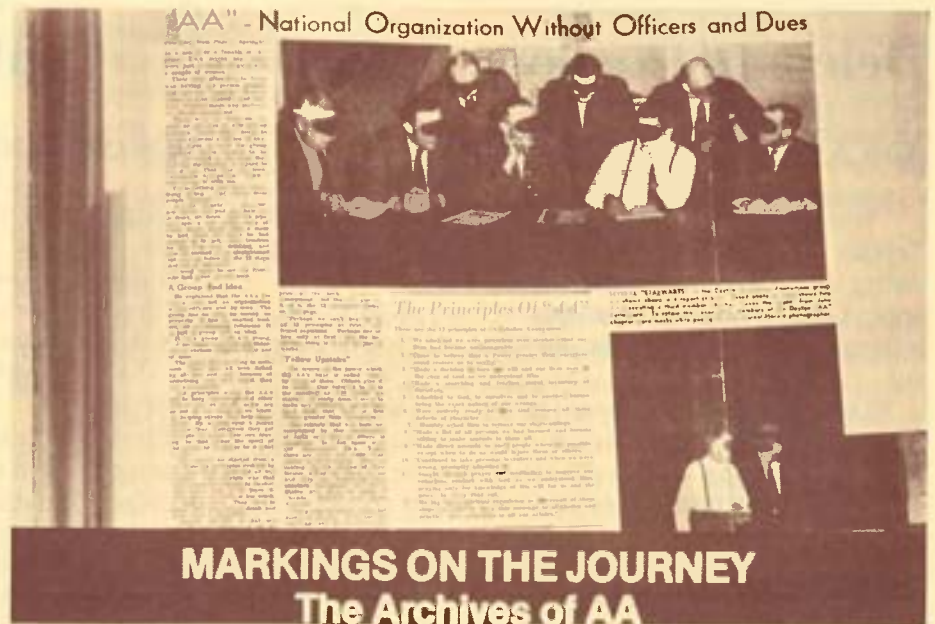
More recently, two Eskimos who had been thrown out of their native village drifted to Seattle, where they stumbled into what they thought was a bar. It was a club for A.A.'s, and the pair went home to their village with the Big Book in hand.

There are probably as many Big Book stories as there are A.A.'s to tell them. What's yours?

### OVERSEAS DIRECTORY REVISED AND EXPANDED

Has your trip to New Orleans whetted your appetite for travel? If it has, you're in luck. A revised edition of the 1980 *International A.A. Directory* becomes available this month. Thanks to the cooperation of A.A. overseas, it contains more ample information; but the price is still 75¢, and the new pocket format (pamphlet size) is retained.

When you order your copy from G.S.O., be sure to let us know you're an A.A. member. *Bon voyage!*



### NEW FILMSTRIP READY — ARCHIVES WORK GOES ON

Packing 45 years of A.A. history into 35 minutes is a major achievement. Yet somehow, the new archives filmstrip, "Markings on the Journey," manages to do it, presenting events and people from the first meeting between Bill W. and Dr. Bob to significant recent trends.

Much historical material usually seen only by those who can get to New York to visit the archives at the General Service Office can now be seen by members anywhere. Rare photos of places and people, A.A. and non-A.A., bring to life the early days of the Fellowship. (Like the filmstrip "P.O. Box 459," this one is designed for use only within A.A.)

As Fernand I., chairperson of the trustees' Archives Committee, said when he previewed the filmstrip at the 1980 General Service Conference: "I believe that it is

important to return to the reality of A.A.'s history and not to some kind of myth that might direct us away from the essentials."

The filmstrip is now available from G.S.O. for \$8.50.

Regular showings of the filmstrip are among the features of this Convention; see your program for the location of film rooms.

Though "Markings on the Journey" has been a cherished project for the Archives Department, exploration of A.A. history goes on. At this Convention, as at Denver in 1975, archivist Nell Wing plans to gather valuable reminiscences on tape.

In G.S.O. headquarters on the Superdome mezzanine, Nell hopes to hear from 35-year-plus A.A. veterans of the U.S. and Canada and from members who have helped A.A. get started in far-flung corners of the world.

### TO G.S.O. VISITORS:

A regular schedule for tours of the A.A. General Service Office (468 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y.) has been set up. On each working day, one-hour tours begin at 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:30 p.m.

Tours are now conducted by an A.A. member, Joan R. When Spanish-speaking visitors arrive, one of G.S.O.'s devoted nonalcoholic employees *de habla Hispana* accompanies Joan. The Grapevine offices are also included in tours.

## Delegate Corner

### HOW A DELEGATE TOOK INVENTORY

"When I was elected delegate to the General Service Conference some years ago," a member writes us, "I had many preconceived ideas about my area, G.S.O., and the General Service Board. And letting go of some of those old ideas was really painful.

"Less than half the groups in my area were in our *World Directory* or even our local roster. And less than half of *those* were truly active in general service or making contributions to support world services.

"My first delegate year, I felt uncomfortable," she says. "So I took the inventory of G.S.O. and the board. Both came out looking pretty bad."

But by the second year, she had done "a complete turnaround. Now, I see that everyone at G.S.O. and the trustees are dedicated, hard workers who respond in an almost uncanny way to the concerns of *all* A.A.!"

"As a result of all this inventory-taking of others—and finally of myself—I think it essential older members do all they can to strengthen A.A.," she adds. "We criticize outside agencies, but do we really live up to what we claim to offer in A.A.?" asks the former delegate.

"I miss not being with all of you at Conference time, but my thoughts are there."

### WHAT IMPRESSES OUR CONFERENCE?



"Where decisions are vital to A.A., let us not agree for the sake of being agreeable; where decisions are not vital, let us not disagree just to be disagreeable; and let us please find the wisdom to know the difference."

With statements like that, nonalcoholic trustee Mike Alexander, New

York attorney, stirred admiration among fellow members of A.A.'s 30th General Service Conference in April. His regard for A.A. and understanding of our Twelve Concepts shone brightly through his  
*(Continued on opposite page)*

## Trustee Corner

## Central Office Corner

### NEW ORLEANS OFFICE MOVES UP

Right next door to New Orleans' tallest building (1 Shell Sq.) is the new location of the A.A. Central Office (C.O.) for Greater New Orleans.

Previously cramped in a seventh-floor room of another building, the C.O. has literally moved up. It is now in three large rooms (Suite 1103) at 333 St. Charles Ave., one of the few local Art Deco buildings left. Convention-goers will find it one short block from Poydras St., which runs between the Superdome and Rivergate Convention Center.



### THE POSITIVE APPROACH WORKS!

"At a monthly district meeting in 1978," writes Helene O., California, "we decided not to fall into our old trap of moaning about the 90 or so missing G.S.R.'s. Instead, we would concentrate on what could be done by those who regularly showed up—five devoted A.A.'s and a visiting area officer.

"The visitor told of a plan another district had tried," she continues. "A little band of turned-on G.S.R.'s would go to the secretary of an unrepresented group and ask for a few minutes before the regular meeting. They would then say a few words about their own experience in general service work, or how A.A. as a whole functions. They stressed the need for good communication among groups, the area, and G.S.O."

Timidly, they started by trying it in six places. "Usually, we got interest and courtesy," Lois writes. "Several times, we sensed electricity in members' questions. Twice, the topic for the meeting being held that night became 'Service in A.A.'"

Two years later, in 1980, 22 devoted A.A.'s regularly attend that district meeting.

## G.S.R. Corner

## TRUSTEE CORNER

(continued)

presentation. This opening-day talk on "The Right of Decision" (given to A.A.'s trusted servants in the Third Concept) set the tone for the week's work, many agreed.

By going right to the heart of the principles involved in the Concepts, Mike made it clear that they can be applied to A.A. service at any level, including your own group.

"There are many ways to serve A.A.," he said. "The decision of another trusted servant may not be our way, but we should not oppose it merely because *we* would have acted differently. The test is whether the decision is a reasonable exercise of the maker's discretion. If it is, we should not interfere."

Longer excerpts from Mike's presentation will be found in the *Final Conference Report*, to be issued this summer.

## NEWLY ELECTED REGIONAL TRUSTEE DIES

Less than one month after the General Service Conference named Aime D. as the new trustee for Western Canada, the devoted A.A. from Kamloops, B.C., died at age 71. It happened on May 19—while Aime was on a Twelfth Step call.

All of us join Aime's region in mourning the loss of this trusted servant.

## TOLL-FREE MESSAGES TO G.S.O. NOW POSSIBLE

Now, A.A. central offices, groups, intergroups, or anyone in the "Lower 48" of the United States knowing our Datagram I.D. number — ID 1704 — can reach A.A.'s General Service Office (G.S.O.) in New York 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Your message is instantly transmitted *in writing* to the teletype-

writer terminal at G.S.O. A Datagram is the equivalent of a toll-free "800 number" call—only better.

All you do is use the nearest phone. First, dial 800-325-6000 (unless you're calling from Missouri, where it's 800-342-6700). A special Western Union operator will answer.

Give that operator G.S.O.'s I.D. number—ID 1704—and your message.

The operator then teletypes that message directly to us.

It saves G.S.O. long-distance phone calls and gives us an accurate record of your message or literature order—at a charge much lower than a G.S.O. "800 number" would require.

## REMINDER FOR TAPE AND CAMERA HOBBYISTS

Out of respect for our anonymity Traditions, Convention-goers are asked to refrain from any picture-taking or tape-recording at Convention events.

But you can still obtain photo and sound mementos. As noted on p. 2 of this bulletin, a wide-angle picture of one of the Big Meetings (with no faces identifiable) may be ordered. And cassette tapes of all events may be either purchased or ordered at the tape booth.



## LETTERS TO G.S.O. ASK FOR AIR CONTACTS, CONDENSED CONCEPTS

### Calling A.A. radio amateurs

Preparing to attend the International Convention, Ed C. of Brandon, Fla., wrote G.S.O.: "I go to sea as a radio officer on a tanker. Also, I am an amateur-radio operator and would like to

meet other amateur-radio participants in A.A."

If you can give Ed any details on airwaves "meetings," please get in touch with Lyla B., who has the Internationalist assignment at G.S.O.

### Make it brief!

Neil NcV. from Ontario, Canada, wrote a while ago asking us to help spark interest in service by reprinting the "short-short" form of the Twelve Concepts that appeared in the *Exchange Bulletin* (forerunner of *Box 4-5-9*).

He tells us: "I know of cases where the convenience of this form of the Concepts has resulted in their being read at open meetings, committee meetings, and group business meetings. What better way to develop an interest in all three Legacies than by making it possible for groups to read, not only the Steps and Traditions, but also the Concepts more easily and frequently?"

Good idea, Neil, and here they are, from the Feb.-Mar. 1966 issue.

1. Ultimate A.A. responsibility and authority belong to the group.
  2. Groups entrust day-to-day operations to the Conference arms.
  3. Right of decision makes effective leadership possible.
  4. Participation is the key to harmony.
  5. "Appeal" and "petition" protect minorities.
  6. Conference acknowledges trustees' responsibility.
  7. Legal rights relate to traditional rights.
  8. Trustees manage and are custodians.
  9. Good personal leadership absolutely necessary.
  10. Authority should equal responsibility.
  11. How to get and keep the people needed.
  12. Where to find the spiritual basis for services.
- Co-founder Bill W. explains all those principles in depth and in clear language in "Twelve Concepts for World Service."



# THE BULLETIN BOARD

August-September 1980

ITEMS AND IDEAS ON AREA GATHERINGS FOR A.A.'S - VIA G.S.O.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### AUGUST

- July 31-Aug. 3 - *Richfield, Utah*. First Annual Fishlake Festival. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 913, Richfield, UT 84701
- July 31-Aug. 3 - *Washington, D.C.* Intl. Doctors in A.A. Annual Mtg. Write: Information Secy., I.D.A.A., 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511
- 1-3 - *Towson, Maryland*. Tenth Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 2858, Baltimore, MD 21225
- 1-3 - *Odessa, Texas*. Sixth Annual W. Tex. Roundup. Write: Ch., 2905 N. Century, Odessa, TX 79762
- 1-3 - *Bristol, Rhode Island*. Fourth Annual Newport Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 612, Newport, RI 02840
- 1-3 - *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Eighth Annual Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1086, Sta. A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2T1
- 1-3 - *Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada*. Sixth Annual Rally. Write: Rally Com., 2026 Dalton Rd., Campbell River, B.C. V9W 5S9
- 1-3 - *Cleveland, Ohio*. 24th Annual State Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 6266, Cleveland, OH 44101
- 7-10 - *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. 40th Annual State Conv. Write: Conv. Ch., 822 W. 7th St., Little Rock, AR 72201
- 8-10 - *Sparks, Nevada*. Third Annual Sierra Nevada Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 72, Reno, NV 89504
- 8-10 - *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. Seventh Annual Conv. (French) of Outaouais Valley. Write: Le Comité du Congrès, P.O. Box 31, Gatineau, Que. J8P 6J1
- 14-17 - *Lubbock, Texas*. Sixth Annual Hub of the Plains Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 6511, Lubbock, TX 79413
- 15-17 - *Dallas, Texas*. Lone Star Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 5112, Richardson, TX 75080
- 15-17 - *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. 11th Annual Cent. W. Ont. Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1201, Kitchener, Ont. N2G 4G8
- 15-17 - *San Luis Obispo, California*. 13th Annual 22nd Dist. Conv. Write: Conv. Ch., 4893 Stuart Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454
- 17 - *Providence, Rhode Island*. First Annual R.I. Roundup. Write: Roundup Secy., 892 Newport Ave. Front, Pawtucket, RI 02861
- 21-24 - *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup III. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005

- 22-24 - *Washington, D.C.* First Metropolitan Area Gay Groups Roundup. Write: Roundup, P.O. Box 24101, Washington, DC 20004
- 22-24 - *Norfolk, Virginia*. 31st Va. Conv. Write: Conv., P.O. Box 8006, Norfolk, VA 23503
- 22-24 - *Chautauqua, New York*. 27th Tri-State Assy. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 96, Meadville, PA 16335
- 22-24 - *Rockford, Illinois*. State Conf. Write: Ticket Ch., P.O. Box 1687, Rockford, IL 61110
- 23-24 - *St. Peter, Minnesota*. S. Minn. Conf. Write: Ticket Ch., P.O. Box 744, Truman, MN 56088
- 28-31 - *Orlando, Florida*. 24th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 20473, Orlando, FL 32814
- 29-31 - *San Antonio, Texas*. VIII National Conv. of Spanish-Speaking A.A. in U.S., Canada, and P.R. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 28096, San Antonio, TX 78228
- 29-31 - *Stettler, Alberta, Canada*. Heartland Group First Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1961, Stettler, Alta. T0C 2L0
- 29-31 - *Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1641, Yellowknife, N.W.T.
- 29-31 - *Chapleau, Ontario, Canada*. 13th Annual Golden Route Group Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 353, Chapleau, Ont. P0M 1K0
- 29-31 - *Penticton, British Columbia, Canada*. 15th Annual S. Okanagan Labor Day Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 524, Penticton, B.C.

## PLANNING AN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER EVENT?

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

Naturally, G.S.O. cannot check on all the information submitted. We must rely on local A.A.'s to describe the events accurately.

## CLOSED MEETING TOPICS FROM THE GRAPEVINE

*August*: Read "I Never . . ." and discuss reservations about our alcoholism that may last into sobriety; use "Not Something I Did—Something We Did" for a meeting on the benefits—group and personal—of A.A. service work; for a Step series, let "Fifth Step" begin a good discussion on effects we notice in our day-to-day lives after taking this Step.

- 29-31 - *North Bend, Oregon*. State Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 312, North Bend, OR 97459
- 30-31 - *Dryden, Ontario, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 9, Group 19, R.R. 1, Dryden, Ont. P8N 2Y4
- Aug. 29-Sept. 1 - *Powell River, British Columbia, Canada*. 33rd Annual Roundup. Write: Roundup Ch., R.R. 2, Malaspina Rd., Powell River, B.C. V8A 4Z3

### SEPTEMBER

- 5-7 - *Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*. 29th E. Ont. Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 9135, Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3T8
- 5-7 - *Vancouver, Washington*. Fifth Annual Columbia R. Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1594, Portland, OR 97207
- 12-14 - *Provo, Utah*. Annual Fall Area Conf. Write: Reg. Ch., 2014 West 550 North, Provo, UT 84601
- 13 - *Breda, Netherlands*. Dutch Conv. Write: Werkgroep C' 80, Postbus 572, 5201 AN, Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
- 19-21 - *Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada*. First-Ever Rally. Write: Secy., 3798 A Morgan S., Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 6B8
- 26-28 - *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*. 36th Annual Man. Conf. Write: Conf. Ch., 521 St. Marys Rd., Winnipeg, Man. R2M 3L3
- 26-28 - *Colorado Springs, Colorado*. State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 6303, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

(Additional events may appear in the regular—July 15—mailing of this bulletin.)

