

The Home Group: Heartbeat of A.A. Is New Grapevine Booklet

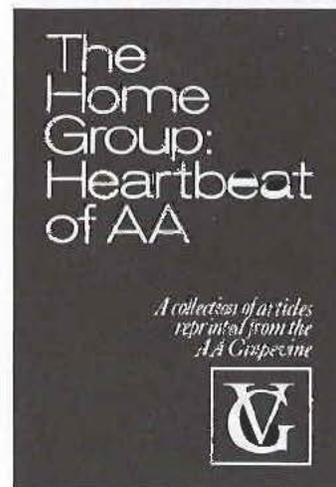
One Tuesday night a lonely, confused woman walks through the doors of Alcoholics Anonymous. She knows she will never be accepted or loved again, so she slips cautiously in and sits in the far right chair in the very back row. Every Tuesday night she returns, because she doesn't want to die and has nowhere else to go. . . . She is given a meeting schedule, and begins to feel a part of something for the first time in her life. . . . A year passes, and she is secretary of the group. She sees another lonely woman sneak quietly in and sit down in the very last row. She walks over and tells the woman she is home, and can begin to belong now.

In *The Home Group: Heartbeat of A.A.*, thirty-four articles reprinted from the A.A. Grapevine illuminate the power of the A.A. home group, through the personal stories of A.A. members who have shared their experience, strength and hope in the magazine over the years.

The home group is where recovery begins; it is where A.A. members grow up in sobriety by the time-honored process of trial and error, to discover that they can be loved, "warts and all." It is where they learn to put the needs of others, especially the needs of the group and the unity of the Fellowship, ahead of their own desires. It is where they first have the opportunity to serve others, and where they learn of opportunities to serve beyond the group. It is where they begin to adopt the guiding principles of Alcoholics Anonymous as working realities in their own sober lives.

Four main sections—"Where Recovery Begins," "The Joys of Service," "The Lessons of Experience," and "The Traditions at Work"—cover all these aspects and functions of the group. Why have a home group in the first place? What to do when you feel as if you can't live and can't die? (Answer: Make coffee!) How do we keep a "dying" meeting alive? How autonomous can one group be? What is an informed group conscience? How do we take a group inventory?

For nearly 50 years, the A.A. Grapevine magazine has served as a repository of the insights of A.A. members as they stay sober and work the A.A. principles in



The Home Group: Heartbeat of A.A. is available from the A.A. Grapevine, P.O. Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-1980; \$6.50 each (orders of ten or more, \$6.00 each). The 128-page, softcover booklet is the same size as Living Sober and other A.A. booklets.

their daily lives. This collection of articles focuses on the very basic unit of Alcoholics Anonymous, and describes—through the experiences of individual members—the many and varied ways it works to carry the A.A. message to the suffering alcoholic.

1992 Survey Paints Picture of 'Typical' A.A. Member

Results of the 1992 Membership Survey are in and confirm a stabilizing of some positive and interesting trends tracked over the past decade. The typical A.A. member is 42 years old, has been sober more than five years, attends two-and-a-half meetings a week, has a sponsor (78%), and belongs to a home group (83%).

Anonymous surveys of the Fellowship, which have been conducted by the General Service Office every three years since 1968, offer an overview of current trends in membership characteristics as measured against the

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results of previous surveys. Their main purpose is to provide A.A. with more information about itself so that members worldwide can better help the inestimable numbers of alcoholics who still suffer. The ongoing efficacy of the surveys, in the context of A.A.'s singleness of purpose, will be studied by the trustees' Public Information Committee, which will report its findings to the General Service Conference.

The 1992 survey questionnaires were distributed last summer to U.S./Canada Conference delegates representing 53,920 groups. Of approximately 24,000 questionnaires, 6,917 were completed by A.A.s and returned to G.S.O.

Questions covered personal statistics (age, sex, nature of job, dates of first meeting and last drink), A.A. activity (frequency of meeting attendance, group membership, sponsorship), factors that attracted the person to A.A. in the first place (A.A. members, family, etc.), and "outside" considerations such as experience with treatment facilities and the medical profession. From preparing and mailing the questionnaires to tabulating the results, all work was handled by G.S.O. employees and the Electronic and Data Processing Department, working closely with the Membership Survey subcommittee of the trustees' P.I. Committee.

Interestingly, the survey reveals that the percentage of women in A.A., which climbed steadily from 22% in 1968 to 35% in 1989, remains the same. This means that there is about one woman to every two men in A.A., and confirms that the sharp increases of the past have stabilized. Among A.A.s age 30 and under, the percentage of women continued to climb slightly, from 40% in 1989 to 43% in 1992. Some other findings:

Length of sobriety—35% of the respondents have been sober for more than five years, reflecting an increase of 6% over the 1989 statistic; 34%, between one and five years; and 31%, less than one year.

Sponsorship—A full 78% of members surveyed have a sponsor. Of these, 72% connected with their sponsors within the first 90 days of their recovery in A.A.

Introduction to A.A.—The survey shows that the one-to-one approach is still effective: 34% were attracted to the program by an A.A. member; 29% knew about

A.A. and came on their own; 27% cited guidance from treatment facilities (down from 30% in 1989); and 21% were guided by one or more family members. Still others were influenced by the courts (8%), by a doctor (7%), and by an employer or fellow worker (6%).

Relationship with doctors—74% of respondents report that their doctors know they are in A.A.

Additional help—After coming to A.A., 56% of the respondents received some type of treatment or counseling or medical, psychological and/or spiritual help. Additionally, 87% of those members who had received such treatment or counseling said that it played an important part in their continuing recovery from alcoholism.

Ages of members—The average age of members has risen one percentage point since the 1989 survey, from 41 to 42. According to the latest survey, 32% are age 31-40; 25% are 41-50; 17%, 21-30; 14%, 51-60; 8%, 61-70; and, at either end of the age spectrum, like matching bookends, those groups under 21 and over 70, each comprise 2% of the respondents.

Members' occupations—These continue to cover a broad spectrum. Nineteen percent listed their jobs as Professional/Technical. Two categories had 11% each: Managers/Administrators and Unemployed—a group that has nearly doubled since the 1989 survey. Homemakers remain the same as three years ago at 5%, after decreasing steeply through the last decade from a high of 25% in 1980. Some others: Laborers, 10%; Retired, 9%; Sales Workers, 6%; Craft Workers, 5%; Educators, 3%; and Doctors, 2%.

Key findings of the 1992 Membership Survey are available from G.S.O. in an updated version of the leaflet "Alcoholics Anonymous (1992) Membership Survey," (P-48, 15¢ each) and a tabletop display (M-13, \$22.00).

SERVICES AT G.S.O.

Being Friendly With Our Nonalcoholic Friends

If by 1958 our co-founder, Bill W., was already applauding the great benefits to the alcoholics' cause from an increased public awareness of the disease, it's not hard to imagine how gratified he'd be to see the mountain of information requests to G.S.O.'s Cooperation With the Professional Community desk.

In a recent three-month period, for example, inquires for information about A.A. have come from: Native American reservations, inner-city schools and programs, probation departments, lawyers' assistance programs, medical, nursing or social work schools,

teachers' conferences and training meetings, community outreach programs, school athletic programs, family programs, military personnel, family therapists, judges, and correctional, clergy and Employee Assistance Program (E.A.P.) professionals. And this is not even a complete list, according to Valerie O., the current C.P.C. staff member.

"Every request receives a personal reply, along with profession-specific literature," Valerie explains, adding that each request is relayed to area C.P.C. committees so that a second response from a local C.P.C. member can offer local A.A. information, service and support."

The literature sent to those who request it is two-tiered—on one level directed to the individual's particular profession and information on the second level focused on recovery. For example, say a nursing school director requests information. The individual will be sent professionally-oriented pamphlets, such as "A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional," "Problems Other than Alcohol," "A.A. at a Glance," "If You are a Professional" and "The A.A. Membership Survey"; and also recovery-oriented pamphlets, such as "Do You Think You're Different?," "A Newcomer Asks," "Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?," and "44 Questions." Literature sent in response to a request from a member of a labor union or the clergy would be tailored to that individual's need.

"The purpose of the C.P.C. assignment is to provide consistent and accurate information about A.A." Valerie says. The information provided to this varied audience by G.S.O. and C.P.C. committees does *not* deal with public education or prevention. This is the role of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence and other similar organizations.

If you've ever attended a national professional conference chances are you might have come across an Alcoholics Anonymous exhibit. These conferences range from the American College Health Association to the American Correctional Association. "Part of this assignment entails coordinating exhibits," Valerie says. "There are dozens of these conferences every year, providing us with an opportunity to answer questions and offer A.A.'s resources to many professionals in a very short period of time.

"The exhibits are handled jointly by the local C.P.C. committees and the General Service Office. G.S.O. ships C.P.C. exhibits around the country as needed. The Fellowship exhibited at 42 conferences in 1992 and, judging from the number of requests so far this year, this number may rise to 60 events in 1993," Valerie predicts.

As a result of professional conference participation, G.S.O. received 1,800 requests for literature and the *About A.A.* subscription list (a triannual newsletter for the professional community) increased by 4,500—a total of 15,500.

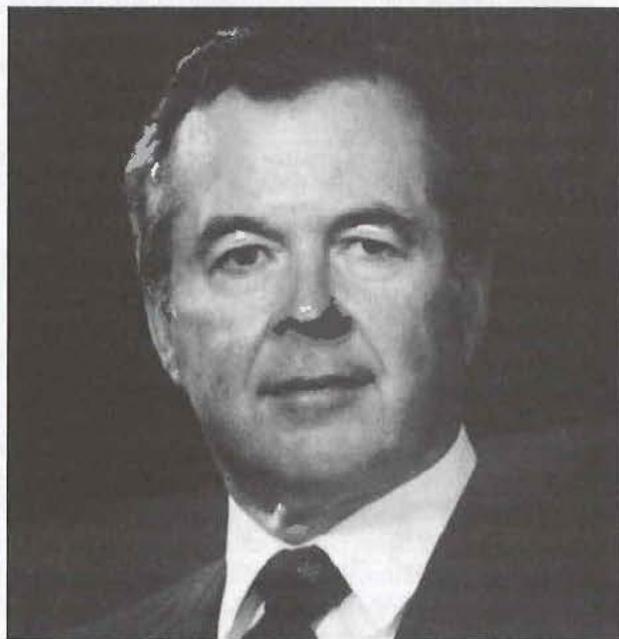
Annual increases in these numbers are very hearten-

ing, of course. But no one can second-guess the true effect of the dissemination of all of this material. "The work of C.P.C. committees and their commitment to get out the A.A. message to nonalcoholics is really a great act of faith," Valerie says. "You don't see the results." That just brings out "the spiritual aspect of her own assignment," Valerie adds. "All this office can do is put the information in the hands of C.P.C. committee members who anonymously carry the A.A. message to an ever-growing number of professionals who work with alcoholics."

Conversations with the Incoming and Outgoing Chairmen of the Board

W.J. (Jim) Estelle, who was elected chairman of the General Service Board at the 1993 annual Conference, and who served as trustee (Class A, nonalcoholic) from 1977 to 1986, replaces Michael Alexander. Mike's rotation this year, brings to a close a hands-on relationship with the Fellowship for 40 years. Long-time associates in service, both the incoming and outgoing chairmen served as trustees together in the 1970s and 1980s.

Jim says he looks toward A.A.'s future as holding many opportunities for growth. He is concerned, however, about special challenges facing the Fellowship in two areas: first, A.A.'s continued commitment to support itself; and second, an increasing need to reach out



W.J. (Jim) Estelle

to suffering alcoholics among *all* cultural groups. Regarding the former, he says, “the Fellowship—individually and collectively—needs to take inventory . . . we have a responsibility to take on the discipline of providing that support.

“There are increasing needs concerning alcoholics who still suffer, and response to these needs are met in large part through the services of intergroups and G.S.O.,” Jim adds. “There’s still a tendency to assume that the time when a dollar in the basket was sufficient is still with us, and it isn’t. This has to do not only with Tradition Seven, but ultimately with the spiritual foundation of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

Secondly, Jim says, are we really “reaching out to all alcoholics. We need to find effective ways of meeting these needs in a culturally diverse society and I’m not sure we’re meeting our responsibilities in those areas right now.”

If more thought is given to these growing challenges on the group level, Jim contends, “where the creative juices of the Fellowship flow strongest, then we’ll be able to reach the many out there who are not being served.”

Jim retired two years ago from a long career in correctional institutions in California, Texas and Montana. A recipient of the E.R. Cass Award, the highest honor bestowed by the American Correctional Association, he has also been a correctional consultant and had as clients the California Department of Corrections, the Republic of Egypt and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He was director of the Texas Department of Corrections in the 1970s, and has lectured and taught courses in corrections and administration of correctional systems.

But it was Jim’s father—“He was in the prison business before me”—who introduced Jim to A.A. when he was a young boy. His father was designated staff sponsor of A.A. groups by the prison warden. This was a short while after the well-known liberal, prison warden Clinton T. Duffy, allowed the first A.A. group to be established in San Quentin prison in 1942. But it wasn’t until Jim entered the field of corrections himself that he “realized more and more how valuable the A.A. program could be to prison inmates,” Jim says.

In the early 1960s and through the 1970s, when Jim was associate superintendent in charge of 17 conservation camps in California, he saw to it that there was “an A.A. group in each camp.” How effectively inmates “bridge the gap” when they’re released depends on the help that is offered them. One of the most inspiring examples of that help he has personally witnessed is a Texas halfway house for released inmates, established by two married couples. (Three out of the four A.A.s had done time). “It was a pioneering effort. Those two couples have touched literally thousands of people,” Jim says.

Jim now lives in El Dorado Hills, California. A 1993

Conference Advisory Action stipulates that the chairman serve for four years, and he says he’s “very excited about being back in service.”

Mike Alexander, the outgoing board chairman, recalled his early association with A.A.’s founders in a moving farewell address at the annual Conference. He recounted that as a young attorney in the early 1950s, he joined the law firm of Bernard Smith, who was then chairman (Class A, nonalcoholic) of the General Service Board. Mike was assigned some routine corporate work for what was then the Alcoholic Foundation. “I sensed I was a witness to history and perhaps, in a small way, a participant in it.” Bill W.’s, and Bernard Smith’s “prodigious efforts led to the Conference Charter and the transfer of functions from the A.A. founders to the A.A. Conference of 1955,” he explained.

“Nothing I had learned at law school prepared me for my first encounter with A.A.,” Mike told his Conference audience. “I saw a Conference that had responsibilities but no legal authority, a Foundation that had legal authority but no one against whom it could be enforced (the A.A. groups were autonomous), a fellowship whose members, not the fellowship, decided whether they were eligible for membership, a membership in which members were not required to pay dues or register or abide by what anybody in authority had to say . . . and a charity organized for noble purposes but without any money to speak of and a tradition that would not permit it to accept money from the general public.” He added, “It was a most unusual sight,” but because Bill W. and Bernard Smith “had given their lives over to A.A., that was good enough for me.”

When Bernard Smith died, Mike succeeded him as general counsel to the General Service Board and, in 1976, Mike began his long service as a trustee. Between them, over a span of half a century, he and Bernard Smith served as trustees for forty years, Mike said.

The experience has filled him with gratitude, Mike said, “I am a different person because of A.A. and, I believe, a better person. . . . God bless Alcoholics Anonymous for all it does for humanity and for what it does for me spiritually.”

A.A.’s Other New Board Members

Gary A. Glynn, a New York financial analyst and portfolio manager, was elected Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee at the General Service Board meeting following the 43rd Conference. He will serve for six years as board treasurer, following the rotation of Robert Morse. Gary has an extensive background in finance and has, since

1985, been president and chief investment officer for the United States Steel and Carnegie Pension Fund.

About 14 years ago a close relative of Gary's became sober in A.A.—and stayed sober, a fact which inspired Gary and filled him with gratitude, he says. In 1985, a Class B (alcoholic) trustee, who knew of Gary's interest in the Fellowship, asked him if he would be interested in serving. So he became a consultant to the A.A. World Services Board and the trustees' Finance Committee and Employees' Retirement Committee.



Gary A. Glynn

Looking at A.A.'s financial picture in the years ahead, Gary says that "obviously the current results raise some questions because sales and contributions are weaker than a lot of us would like. But certainly A.A. is in a sound financial position because of the Reserve Fund." He says he wants to wait for the economy to improve to see "how much of what we're looking at now is the result of the recession and how much is related to something more fundamental.

"A.A. is going to get the services it's willing to pay for," Gary says. To do this, G.S.O. and the trustees need to communicate with the Fellowship, and vice versa, "to find out what we're not doing that they'd like us to do."

Gary adds: "I don't just view A.A. as a financial organization—obviously finances need to be controlled properly—that's my job and I'll take it very seriously. But that's not really the purpose of A.A., and it isn't for me, either. I'm really interested in the Fellowship. I believe in it; it's the only thing that works for alcoholics."

Wednesday of Conference week, three new Class B (alcoholic) trustees were elected to fill the vacancies of rotating regionals. The new Southeast regional trustee, Gay G., of Decatur, Georgia, says that she has always

"loved service work and this just gives me an opportunity to learn and serve some more at a different level. I never cease to be overwhelmed by this program, it's still as exciting and awesome as it was in the beginning." Gay adds, "We in the Fellowship need to be very vigilant. My passion in service has always been that people keep informed, read the literature—an informed member will carry a far better message."

Donald W., of Kalamazoo, Michigan, says he is not only "very grateful, but in total shock" over his election as the new East Central regional trustee. As the "third person in the state of Michigan in succession to be elected trustee, as well as the second in a row to be elected from the western area—now that wasn't supposed to happen!" he says. He adds, "I definitely feel inadequate, as I do for anything that I do for A.A. But I'm looking forward to the challenge and the experience and to the growth it will bring."

Larry N., of Imperial Beach, California, elected trustee-at-large/U.S., says he was "overcome with awe" when he heard the news. "I felt the awesome love of God and A.A. and I felt humble too, particularly in view of the fact of the closeness of the election." Like Gay G., Larry's election was from the hat, according to the Third Legacy Procedure. He says he hopes to see the Fellowship become "truly self-supporting, with an ever-increased energy and focus on more effectively reaching the alcoholic who still suffers."

Michael McP., of New York City, who was elected general service trustee, has been serving as an A.A.W.S. director. The other general service trustee, Jane S., also of New York, formerly served as a director on the Grapevine Board.

Newly elected nontrustee directors are: Richard R., Washington, D.C., and Jacques F., Pointe Claire, Quebec, who will serve on the A.A.W.S. Board. Chuck C., Gresham, Oregon, and Tom McG., Natchez, Mississippi, will serve on the Grapevine Board.

'Letting Go' of the Circle and Triangle As A Legal Mark

A triangle, enclosed within a circle, has long been recognized as one symbol of Alcoholics Anonymous. Yet, both the triangle and the circle are among the earliest spiritual signs known to man. To ancient Egyptians, the triangle was a sign of creative intellect; to the Greeks, it meant wisdom. In general, it represents an upward yearning after higher knowledge or spiritual realm.

At the International Convention celebrating A.A.'s 20th anniversary, a circle enclosing a triangle was accepted as the symbol of Alcoholics Anonymous. "The circle," Bill told the A.A.s gathered in St. Louis, "stands for the whole world of A.A., and the triangle stands for A.A.'s Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service. Within our wonderful new world, we have found freedom from our fatal obsession. . . ."

The symbol was registered as an official A.A. mark in 1955, and was freely used by various A.A. entities, which worked very well for a while. However, by the mid-1980s, there was a growing concern by the members of the Fellowship on the use of the circle and triangle by outside organizations. In keeping with A.A.'s Sixth Tradition, that Alcoholics Anonymous ". . . ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise . . .", A.A. World Services began efforts in 1986 to prevent the use of the circle and triangle by outside entities, including novelty manufacturers, publishers and treatment facilities. The policy was undertaken with restraint, and only after all attempts at persuasion and conciliation had failed were legal actions considered. In fact, of approximately 170 unauthorized users contacted, only two suits were filed, both of which were settled at a very early stage.

By early 1990, some members of the Fellowship seemed to be saying two things: "we want medallions with *our* circle and triangle," while others were saying, "we don't want our symbol aligned with non-A.A. purposes." The desire of some A.A. members for anniversary chips was addressed by the A.A. World Services and Grapevine Boards in October 1990, when they considered the possibility of producing medallions. The boards felt that tokens and medallions were unrelated to our primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message, and that the matter should be given a thorough airing at the Conference in order to seek a group conscience from the Fellowship. The essence of this decision was relayed to the 1991 General Service Conference in the A.A.W.S. Board's report.

The 1992 General Service Conference began to confront the dilemma by hearing presentations on why we should or should not produce medallions, and the responsibility of A.A.W.S. to protect our trademarks and copyrights from uses that might suggest affiliation with outside sources.

The result was a Conference Advisory Action for the General Service Board to undertake a feasibility study on the possible methods by which sobriety chips might be made available to the Fellowship, followed by a report to an ad hoc committee of 1993 Conference delegates.

Following lengthy considerations, the ad hoc committee presented their report and recommendations to the 1993 Conference. After discussion, the Conference ap-

proved two of five recommendations that: 1) the use of sobriety chips/medallions is a matter of local autonomy and not one on which the Conference should record a definite position; and 2) it is not appropriate for A.A. World Services or the Grapevine to produce or license the production of sobriety chips/medallions.

Among the considerations in the ad hoc committee's report were the implications of continuing to protect A.A.'s trademarks from use by outside organizations through legal means.

Coincidentally, the A.A.W.S. Board had begun to consider recent developments, culminating in recognition that the prospects of increasingly costly and lengthy litigation, the uncertainty of success, and the diversions from A.A.'s primary purpose were too great to justify continuing the protection effort of the circle and triangle.

During the post-Conference meeting of the General Service Board, the trustees accepted A.A.W.S.'s recommendation to discontinue protecting the circle and triangle symbol as one of our registered marks.

By early June, the General Service Board reached substantial unanimity in support of A.A.W.S.'s statement that, consistent with our original purpose to avoid the suggestion of association or affiliation with outside goods and services, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. will phase out the "official" or "legal" use of the circle and triangle symbol. A.A.W.S. will continue to resist unauthorized use of our other marks and any attempts to publish A.A. literature without permission.

The triangle within a circle will, of course, always have a special meaning in the hearts and minds of A.A.s, in a symbolic sense, just as do the Serenity Prayer and slogans, which have never had any official status.

New from G.S.O.

- *Final Conference Report*. Detailed report of the 1993 General Service Conference, including all phases of general services and financial statements. Confidential; for A.A. members only. (M-23) \$2.00.
 - *A.A. Directories*: Canadian (MD-2); Western U.S. (MD-3); Eastern U.S. (MD-4). Confidential and available to A.A. members only. Please order through your group. \$3.60 each.
 - *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* (Ukrainian), (SUK-2), \$7.95.
 - "Speaking at non A.A. Meetings" (Spanish), (SS-85) \$.55.
 - "It Happened to Alice" (Spanish), (SS-86) \$.65.
- 20% discount applies to all above.
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1993 Intergroup Seminar

The Baltimore Intergroup Council will host the eighth annual Intergroup/A.A.W.S. Seminar from September 17-19 at the Omni Inner Harbor Hotel. The weekend of workshops, panel presentations, sharing and fellowship will bring together intergroup/central office managers and employees from across the U.S. and Canada.

Together, with a handful of general service delegates, trustees of the General Service Board, A.A.W.S. directors and G.S.O. employees, they will focus on the spirit and substance of service as embodied in Traditions Eight and Nine.

Susan K., administrator of the Baltimore Intergroup and coordinator of the host committee, says that "all intergroups and central offices are encouraged to send a representative to the seminar."

The registration fee is \$20. To guarantee a room at the special-event rate, reservations should be made by August 15th. For more information or to register, write: Baltimore Intergroup Council, 5438 York Road, Suite 202, Baltimore, MD 21212; or call 410-433-4843.

Update on Spanish Translations

There are a number of new and revised translations of books, pamphlets and videos which may be of interest to you, your group or area. This material has been added to the new Spanish literature catalog, which may not reach local service offices for some weeks. However, all titles, briefly described below, are available from G.S.O.; 20% discount applies.

Books: *Alcohólicos Anónimos*, the Big Book, in hard-

cover edition (SS-101), \$5.00. The Spanish version of our basic text, reviewed and revised by the Iberoamerican Commission of Translations and Adaptations of A.A. Literature, has been available in softcover for some time now. However, according to Danny M., G.S.O. staff member on the Spanish Services desk, "a hardcover edition has been in demand by the Fellowship around the world for some time."

Como Lo Ve Bill (As Bill Sees It) (SS-5), \$2.50. This new softcover edition replaces an earlier one, originally printed in 1967. All references have been corrected and the text completely reset. The new edition is identical in format to the English-language version.

Transmítelo ("Pass It On") (SS-99), \$14.15. This translation was published by Mexico's G.S.O. about a year ago. "Not too many people know about it," Danny says, but adds, that "wherever copies have been put on display interest has been high."

Pamphlets: "Le Sucedió a Alicia" ("It Happened to Alice") and "Hablando en Reuniones no-A.A." (Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings), are new additions to Conference-approved material in the Spanish language.

Video cassettes (1/2" VHS): *Markings on the Journey* (SS-100), \$16.00, is converted from film strips. The video also includes "rare material from G.S.O. archives and depicts forty-five years of A.A. history," says Danny.

Bill's Own Story and *Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions* cassettes are also available for long- or short-term lease, write or call for information. Because of A.A.'s Tradition of anonymity at the public level, these cassettes are available to A.A. members only.

Audio cassette: *Sonidos de Sobriedad (Sounds of Sobriety)* is compiled from a number of articles originally printed in the Grapevine. "This is the only tape available in Spanish," says Danny. It may be ordered from the Grapevine, Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-1980. (TP-40) \$5.50 each, \$5.00 for two or more.



nonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions. Please respect this and treat in confidence who you see and what you hear.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE GRAND CENTRAL STATION BOX 459 NEW YORK, NY 10163

This Anonymity Statement Card, approved by the 43rd General Service Conference, is suitable for display on group meeting room tables, and literature and speakers tables. 7 1/2" x 4 1/2", tent-fold, copy on both sides. Available in English (M-61) and Spanish (SS-98), \$20 each.

We Need Your Help

Are There A.A. Meetings In Your Local Schools?

From time to time here at the General Service Office, we are asked for sharing about A.A. meetings for students at local schools. What is your experience? Is this a successful way of carrying our message? Have you had any problems you can share with us? All letters are confidential. Please let us know how you are involving young people in A.A. meetings in your community. Thanks for this opportunity to help us pass along your experience. Please send information to the C.P.C. desk at G.S.O.

Russian Correspondents Needed

If you read and write Russian, we need your help. Occasionally, the General Service Office receives requests from A.A. groups or Lone members in Russia, who want to correspond with A.A.s in the U.S. and Canada. We currently have a short list of Russian-speaking "sponsors." If you are interested in serving in this manner, please contact the International desk at G.S.O.

Correctional Facilities

Areas Help Each Other To Ease the Way of Court Referrals to A.A.

After years of wrestling with a Pandora's Box of problems caused by a plethora of court-ordered referrals to A.A., the Correctional Facilities Committee of the Dallas, Texas Intergroup has implemented a constructive plan with help from friends at the Chicago Area Intergroup Office.

Explains Mary B., director of the Dallas Intergroup Association: "Our local groups were deluged with probationers and parolees who were being sent to A.A. meetings whether they were alcoholic or not. Many were openly angry and hostile, meetings were disrupted,

anonymity was broken, and ordinary newcomers were getting short shrift."

At the same time, Mary says, "we were getting calls daily from irate nonalcoholics who had been sentenced by the courts to 'go to A.A.' and just assumed that we were a punitive arm of the law." Typically, she notes, the conversation would go like this:

Intergroup: "... A.A. is not affiliated with the courts in any way and we are sorry this has happened to you. However, would you like to do something about your drinking?"

Caller: "Hey, you don't understand. I don't drink!"

Intergroup: "Do you use drugs?"

Caller: "Lady, the only thing I do is rob convenience stores. Sometimes I use a little crack, but, no, I ain't got no problem with drugs neither."

Two years ago, Mary reports, "we contacted the Chicago Area Intergroup Office, which generously shared details of C.R.I.P.—their successful Court Referral Information Program that we have made our own and that A.A.s in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, have been implementing as well. Strictly an informational program, C.R.I.P. depends on A.A. volunteers to inform court referrals that help is available in A.A. if they have a problem with drinking."

Each "class" of 20–40 people attends a series of six sessions held over a six-week period. A probation officer and/or bailiff is on hand to sign any papers, answer questions related to the judicial court system and, notes Mary, to make sure that none of the participants is "under the influence" of alcohol or drugs.

Whenever possible, a member of Narcotics Anonymous is there to explain the N.A. program to those whose primary problem is with drugs. Additionally, members of Al-Anon and Alateen share information about their respective Twelve Step programs. Importantly, Mary stresses, "the class belongs to the court system, not A.A., and is held in a judicial building. We cooperate with the court but do not affiliate with it."

Each session opens with a statement from the court officer, who then turns the meeting over to an A.A. volunteer. The schedule calls for showings of the films "Young People in A.A.," "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" and "Hope"; talks after each by a couple of A.A.s sharing their experience, strength and hope; and a discussion period. A variety of A.A. literature is available free of charge.

"Basically," Mary observes, "we follow the Guidelines issued by the General Service Office. These cover, among other things, what A.A. is and is not; our singleness of purpose; the importance of anonymity and A.A.'s Tradition of self-support; types of meetings; the conduct of newcomers at meetings; sponsorship; help for the families of alcoholics; and A.A.'s position on addictions other than alcohol."

The success of C.R.I.P. cannot be substantiated by

statistics. But after attending the orientation classes, Mary says, "the court-mandated referrals tend to show up at A.A. meetings with a different attitude. Those who come are more apt to have a primary problem with alcohol and so can identify with the A.A.s. They are less apprehensive and disruptive because they have an idea of what to expect, and they understand that A.A. is a program of recovery from alcoholism, not a law-enforcement agency."

Over the past decade, A.A. service committees from Connecticut to California have been developing programs to smooth the way of court referrals into the Fellowship, and sharing the details with each other. As Mary points out, "the emphasis is on communication—with the courts, with the offenders, with each other. The more we talk and work with each other, the better are our chances of carrying the message to a group of alcoholics long considered 'unreachable'—something A.A. experience clearly shows they're not."

Treatment Facilities

Service in Sobriety Is More than the Icing on the Cake

In the minds of some, general service in A.A. is a "do-good" adjunct to the business of staying sober. But, as Tom S. of Michigan has discovered, "service isn't just the icing on the sobriety cake—it's baked right into it."

Tom first became aware of the breadth and depth of service while sobering up in a local treatment center. "Upon entering," he recalls, "I had absolutely no intention of participating in A.A. I expected the staff to 'fix' and return me to a sober and happy lifestyle. But my counselor immediately started talking about A.A. and I found myself at a meeting in no time flat."

"Sitting there filled with fear and resentment, I nevertheless began listening to the 'outside' A.A. who was leading the meeting. She told us how alcoholism had almost destroyed her physically, mentally and spiritually. She talked about how working the Twelve Steps had enabled her to put her life in order and regain her health—and she looked and sounded as if every word were true. Thanks to her, I left a lot of despair in that meeting room."

After completing his treatment, Tom says, "I con-

tinued to attend that particular A.A. meeting as well as many others. Eventually I became a member of the district Treatment Facilities Committee and chaired the meeting myself. Being active in service has proved a major factor in my staying sober. From my new friends on the committee, I've learned about responsibility, and carrying the message has raised my self-esteem several notches. It has freed me not only to care about others but to show them that I care in constructive ways."

Tom still thinks often of "my introduction to A.A. and how that woman gave me hope for the future. At the time, she didn't know how profoundly she had helped this alcoholic, which is how service works. It pays dividends we may never be aware of."

C.P.C.

Taking A.A. to Professionals Can Be A Twelfth-Step High

Carrying the A.A. message to professionals at the conferences where they gather is an important form of Twelfth Step service that John P. of Laurel, Maryland, wouldn't miss for the world.

As coordinator of his area's committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community, John participated in no fewer than 15 conventions last year. One that he especially remembers was the large annual conference of the American Psychiatric Association. "Of the hundreds of psychiatrists who stopped by our booth," he recalls, "it was amazing how many of them expressed respect for the A.A. program. As I learned quickly, psychiatrists tend to ask few questions but they're big on comments. One of them told us that, for alcoholic patients subject to panic attacks or manic depression, the best treatment is A.A. Another said that he refuses to treat alcoholic patients unless they sober up in A.A. and go to at least three meetings a week."

Utilizing the C.P.C. professional exhibit maintained by the General Service Office, John and his fellow volunteers took turns at the booth over the three-day convention. "The portable 4' x 7' unit weighs only 50 pounds, case included, and is easy to handle," he notes.

"We distributed two full cartons of pamphlets, newsletters and listings of local A.A. meetings. The most popular item probably was the pamphlet 'The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs.' In fact, I understand that it was mentioned at two of the conference workshops."

In the midst of all their praise for A.A., a number of psychiatrists did sound a caveat, John reports. "Alarmed because some older members had criticized newcomers taking doctor-prescribed medications, they warned that some manic-depressive A.A.s tend to deteriorate rapidly when off medication and strongly advised restraint. We at once referred them to our literature which states in no uncertain terms that 'we A.A.s are sober alcoholics, not physicians,' and explained that most of us understand the hazards of dispensing medical advice."

According to John, exhibiting at conventions "is a unique Twelfth Step experience. Of course it involves a lot of time and energy and organization, but the rewards are enormous. It gives us the opportunity to connect with hundreds of professionals who are in a position to guide more suffering alcoholics into A.A. As has always been the case with our professional friends, 'we can do together what we can't do alone.'"

P.I.

New Mexico A.A.s Look, Listen and Share Before They Leap

Close communication between the New Mexico Area Public Information Committee and other service entities is nothing new, and chairperson Dennis C. of Albuquerque says he took it for granted until what might be called the January '93 challenge to the Anonymity Tradition (and a couple of others as well). He no longer does!

The P.I. story began last Christmas Eve with a tragic car accident involving a drunken driver and a young family cut down while celebrating the holiday. Public outrage peaked at "the last straw" in a long series of drunk-driving accidents which had given sparsely populated New Mexico one of the highest fatality rates in the country. Pushed to take action, the state legislators scheduled a full day's session to hear everyone from judges to Mothers Against Drunk Driving air their views—the Speaker of the House invited the P.I. committee to participate on behalf of A.A.

"I was very excited," Dennis admits. "Making a personal appearance obviously could be seen as A.A. having an opinion on the issues discussed. Also, it would be a breach in anonymity because the hearings were being carried on television. But the alternative of submitting

a written statement from the area committee seemed like a fine idea. Here was a great opportunity to put A.A. information into the hands of 200 influential legislators without having to take a position on alcoholism."

Dennis sought input from the P.I. staff person at the General Service Office, who "was a great guidance resource on the Traditions throughout." And, as he does regularly about most A.A. service matters, Dennis shared with Skitch F., chairperson of the Area Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community. The two A.A.s have worked together for several years, ever since they served simultaneously on committees of the central office, where another A.A. friend in service, Duke D., is the coordinator.

"So far as I was concerned, it was systems go," Skitch recalls. "I'm a natural promoter, the guy whose enthusiasm to jump out into public has to be tempered. I've learned the hard way to call and check with somebody more reality-based, somebody gifted with the cool hand of reason." Adds Duke: "Dennis calls me, I call Skitch or our delegate or a district committee member. Communication's the name of the game, and it was the prime mover and shaker when the thorny DWI matter came up."

Working with C.P.C., the P.I. committee drafted a statement for review by the area committee. A one-page missive, it wrapped around the A.A. Preamble, explained that "the Tradition of anonymity and A.A.'s nonposition on outside matters prevent us from having one of our members address a legislative session," added some facts about the size and composition of A.A., and explained how to find us.

Then it was the area committee's turn to eye the statement. After spirited discussion, Dennis relates, "the group conscience determined, on one hand, that technically it would not violate Tradition Ten, which states that 'Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.' On the other hand, it was felt that the statement would not be in A.A.'s best interest because the media might interpret it as A.A.'s taking a position on DWI-related legislation.

"So our assembly turned it down and, in its place, sent a brief letter of 'no thanks' that retained the declaration of anonymity from the original statement and concluded, 'We would not want our presence to be misinterpreted as supporting or opposing specific legislation or opinions. Our single purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.'"

Dennis is frank in saying that he "personally disagreed with the decision of the area committee and was disappointed at the time. But soon I realized that I must put my faith in the wisdom of the Second Tradition, and in the ability of the group conscience to see more clearly than one individual."

BOX 4|5|9 BULLETIN BOARD

Items and Ideas on Area Gatherings for A.As — Via G.S.O.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1993

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.

August

- 4-8 — *Scottsdale, Arizona*. 44th International Doctors Meeting. Write: Ch., Box 199, Augusta, MO 63332
- 4-8 — *Orlando, Florida*. 49th S.E. Conf. & 37th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 536784, Orlando, FL 32853-6784
- 5-8 — *Augusta, Georgia*. SERCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 3382, Augusta, GA 30914
- 6-8 — *Darwin, Australia*. Darwin Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 40760, Casuarina, N.T. 0811, Australia
- 6-8 — *Indio, California*. Dist. Conv. Write: Ch., Box 4383, Palm Desert, CA 92261
- 6-8 — *Redwood Creek, California*. H.C.I. 15th Annual Campout. Write: Ch., Box 6872, Eureka, CA 95502
- 6-8 — *Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky*. Rule 62 Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 62, Covington, KY 41012
- 6-8 — *Rosemont, Illinois*. 20th State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 597439, Chicago, IL 60659-7439
- 6-8 — *Havre, Montana*. Mini-Conf. Write: Ch., 1620 Juniper, Havre, MT 59501
- 6-8 — *Tiel, The Netherlands*. Seventh Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Marga Klompesstraat 25, 2401 MG Alphen a/d Rijn, The Netherlands
- 6-8 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. Central West Ont. Conv. Write: Ch., 89 Westwood Rd., Unit 102, Guelph, ON N1H 7J6
- 6-8 — *Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada*. Algoma District Campout. Write: Ch., 4-602 East St., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W9
- 4-6 — *St. Cloud, Minnesota*. West Central Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
- 6-8 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. 12th Summer Campout. Write: Ch., 3C Comp. C3, Tulameen, BC V0X 2L0
- 6-8 — *Ucluelet, British Columbia, Canada*. Ninth Annual Rally. Write: Ch., Box 15, Ucluelet, BC V0R 3A0
- 6-8 — *Richmond, Virginia*. 44th Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1121, Midlothian, VA 23113
- 7-8 — *Ft. Morgan, Colorado*. 14th NE Mini-Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 1063, Ft. Morgan, CO 80701
- 12-15 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. Old Grandad Conv. Write: Sec., 242-A Madison Ave., Camden, AR 71701
- 13-15 — *Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 110 21st Avenue S., Cranbrook, BC V1C 3H4

- 13-15 — *Squamish, British Columbia, Canada*. 20th Anniv. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1213, Squamish, BC V0N 3G0
- 13-15 — *Bismarck, North Dakota*. Dist. 7 Campout. Write: Ch., Box 426, Bismarck, ND 58502
- 13-15 — *Claire, New Brunswick, Canada*. Third Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Salle. Chevalier de Colomb, Rue des Erables, Clair, NB GOP 1M0
- 13-15 — *Edmond, Oklahoma*. 10th MSRVPAA. Write: Ch., Box 1103, Edmond, OK 73083
- 13-15 — *Kutztown, Pennsylvania*. Reading Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1334, Reading, PA 19603
- 13-15 — *Scranton, Pennsylvania*. Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 482, Dunmore, PA 18512
- 13-15 — *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. Vallee de L'Outaouais. Write: Ch., C.P. 24, Succursale A, Hull, QC J8Y 6M7
- 14-15 — *Mankato, Minnesota*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3172, Mankato, MN 56001
- 14-15 — *Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 29th Mini-Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 907, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
- 19-22 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup XVI. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 20-22 — *Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada*. 17th Rally. Write: Ch., Box 1324, Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0
- 20-22 — *San Luis Obispo, California*. 22nd District Conv. Write: Ch., Box 13308, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
- 20-22 — *Oakhurst, California*. Summer Serenity in the Sierras. Write: Ch., Box 23, Oakhurst, CA 93644
- 20-22 — *Saltspring Island, British Columbia, Canada*. Rally. Write: Ch., RR 3, Comp. #31, Crofton Rd., Ganges, Salt Spring Island, BC V0S 1E0
- 20-22 — *Glendive, Montana*. Soberfest.

Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

August (page 30): Hard times in sobriety; taking inventory—the A.A. Grapevine.

September (page 30): A.A.—past, present and future; has Twelfth-stepping changed?

- Write: Ch., 2724 W. Towne St. #13, Glendive, MT 59330
- 20-22 — *Oshawa, Ontario, Canada*. Lakeshore Conf. Write: Ch., 200 Thornton Rd. N., Oshawa, ON L1J 6T7
- 20-22 — *Beaumont, Texas*. 12th Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1969, Vidor, TX 77670
- 20-22 — *Seafac, Washington*. Sponsorship Conf. Write: Ch., Box 3858, Federal Way, WA 98063
- 27-29 — *Madison, Indiana*. Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 502, Greensburg, IN 47240
- 27-29 — *Overland Park, Kansas*. KCACYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 3254, Shawnee, KS 66203
- 27-29 — *Livonia, Michigan*. Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 871077, Canton, MI 48187
- 27-29 — *Jackson, Mississippi*. Seventh Old-timers Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 68662, Jackson MS 39286-8662
- 27-29 — *Flathead Lake, Montana*. Ray of Hope Camporee. Write: Ch., Box 1515, Polson, MT 59860
- 27-29 — *Chautauqua, New York*. 40th Tri-

Planning a Future Event?

Please send your information on October, November or December events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by **August 10**, the calendar deadline for the October/November 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

August (cont.)

- State Assembly, Write Ch., Box 758, Derby, NY 14047
- 27.29 — *Cleveland, Ohio*. 11th Ohio Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 94068, Cleveland, OH 44101-6068
- 27.29 — *Montmagny, Quebec, Canada*. 1st Congrès District 88-09. Write: Ch., Ecole Polyvalente Louis Jacques Casault, 141 Boul Tache Est. Montmagny, PQ G5V 2S7
- 27.29 — *Chattanooga, Tennessee*. The Choo Choo Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 24584, Chattanooga, TN 37422-4584
- 27.29 — *Jackson, Tennessee*. Area 64 Conv. Write: Ch., 1243 Lot 30 Whitehall, Jackson, TN 38301
- 27.29 — *Green Lake, Wisconsin*. Green Lake Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 368, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

September

- 2.5 — *San Francisco, California*. The Spirit of San Francisco. Write: Ch., Box 42382, San Francisco, CA 94142
- 3.5 — *Juneau, Alaska*. Frontier Rally. Write: Ch., Box 34493, Juneau, AK 99803
- 3.5 — *Penticton, British Columbia, Canada*. South Okanagan Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 20036, Penticton, BC V2A 7E5
- 3.5 — *Monterey, California*. Area Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 222358, Carmel, CA 93922
- 3.5 — *San Diego, California*. Feeling Good '93. Write: Ch., Box 3999, San Diego, CA 92163
- 3.5 — *Houma, Louisiana*. 13th Bayouland Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 4202 Highway 24, Gray, LA 70359
- 3.5 — *Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 29th Annual Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Labrador Assembly. Write: Ch., 10 Wentworth St., Apt. 5, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2S5
- 3.5 — *Chapleau, Ontario, Canada*. Golden Route Group 26th Anniversary. Write: Ch., Box 634, Chapleau, ON P0M 1K0
- 3.5 — *Abilene, Texas*. Big Country Conf. Write: Ch., 2850 Southwest Dr., Abilene, TX 79605
- 3.5 — *Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1641, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P2
- 3.6 — *Miami Beach, Florida*. FCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 570-970, Miami, FL 33257-0970
- 3.6 — *Tampa, Florida*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 262545, Tampa, FL 33685
- 4.6 — *Powell River, British Columbia, Canada*. 46th Labour Day Rally. Write: Ch., 6898 Kamloops St., Powell River, BC V8A 1M4
- 9-12 — *Ardmore, Oklahoma*. 10th Annual Singles in Sobriety. Write: Ch., Box 835788, Richardson, TX 75083
- 10-12 — *Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada*. Medicine Hat Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 165, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7E8
- 10-12 — *Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada*. 34th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 85, Grande Prairie, AB T8V 3A1
- 10-12 — *Ft. Bragg, California*. Third Serenity Conf. Write: Ch., 311 N. Corry, Ft. Bragg, CA 95437
- 10-12 — *Oxnard, California*. 15th Conv.

- Write: Ch., 3707 Township, Simi Valley, CA 93063
- 10-12 — *Cromwell, Connecticut*. 35th State Conv. Write: Sec., 33 Wakefield Circle, East Hartford, CT 06118
- 10-12 — *Many, Louisiana*. 26th Annual Conf. of W. Louisiana. Write: Ch., Box 195, Rosepine, LA 70659-0195
- 10-12 — *Park Rapids, Minnesota*. Third Annual Heartland Roundup. Write: Ch., Rt. 1, Box 18, Park Rapids, MN 56470
- 10-12 — *Wilmington, North Carolina*. Quest '93. Write: Ch., Box 5211, Raleigh, NC 27560
- 16-19 — *Sacramento, California*. Eighth Annual Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 661522, Sacramento, CA 95866
- 17-19 — *Bull Shoals, Arkansas*. Autumn in the Ozarks. Write: Ch., Box 495, Mammoth Springs, AR 72554
- 17-19 — *San Francisco, California*. L/SM Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 425547, San Francisco, CA 94142
- 17-19 — *Santa Maria, California*. District 52 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5626, Vandenberg Airforce Base, CA 93437
- 17-19 — *Spreckels, California*. 11th Coastal Rally. Write: Ch., 9 West Gabilan St., Ste. 11, Salinas, CA 93901
- 17-19 — *Waianae, Hawaii*. Fourth Woman-to-Woman Conf. Write: Ch., Box 29713, Honolulu, HI 96820
- 17-19 — *Des Moines, Iowa*. Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend — 1993. Write: Ch., 3020 Casco Point Rd., Wayzata, MN 55391
- 17-19 — *El Prado, New Mexico*. 10th Annual Taos Mountain Fiesta. Write: Ch., Box 253, El Prado, NM 87529
- 17-19 — *Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*. 25th Autumn Leaf Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 91021, Effort Square Postal Outlet, Hamilton, ON L8N 4G3
- 17-19 — *Ft. Worth, Texas*. NETA Fall Assembly/Conv. Write: Ch., 220 Valley Lane, W'ford, TX 76086
- 17-19 — *St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands*. Promises in Paradise. Write: Ch., Box 750, St. John, USVI 00831
- 18-19 — *Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 245 10th Avenue, NW, Swift Current, SK S9H 1B4
- 24-26 — *Brooklyn Center, Minnesota*. First Minnesota Traditions Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 300121, Minneapolis, MN 55403
- 24-26 — *Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada*. Southwest Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
- 24-26 — *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. 42nd Eastern Ontario Conf. Write: Ch., 1581 Bank St., Suite 2, Ottawa, ON K1H 7Z3
- 24-26 — *Harrisonburg, Virginia*. Shenandoah Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., Rte. 2, Box 187-B, Broadway, VA 22815
- 24-26 — *Winchester, Virginia*. 39th Four State/DC Fall Get-together. Write: Ch., Box 2032, Winchester, VA 22604
- 24-26 — *Ashland, Wisconsin*. Area 74 Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 485, Ashland, WI 54806
- 24-26 — *Muscatine, Iowa*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 415 Pine St., Muscatine, IA 52761
- 25-26 — *Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada*. 14th Rally. Write: Ch., #15-4777 Maitland St., Port Alberni, BC V9Y 7V7
- 30-October 1 — *Bastrop, Texas*. Fellowship in the Pines. Write: Ch., Rte. 1, Box 525, Cedar Creek, TX 78612

October

- 1-3 — *Crescent City, California*. Seventh Sobriety by the Sea Rally. Write: Ch., Box 871, Crescent City, CA 95531
- 1-3 — *Burley, Idaho*. Area 18 Fall Assembly. Write: Ch., 1717 E. 1700 S, Gooding, ID 83330
- 1-3 — *Lincoln, Nebraska*. Big Red Roundup. Write: Ch., 2840 70th St., Ste. 127, Lincoln, NE 68506
- 1.3 — *Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada*. 18th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., 236-408 Broad St., Regina, SK S4R 1X3
- 1-3 — *Somerset, New Jersey*. New Jersey Area 44 General Service Conv. Write: Ch., Box 952, Green Brook, NJ 08812-0952
- 1.3 — *Weston, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Roundup. Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26302-0825
- 7.10 — *Augusta, Georgia*. 40th Prepaid Conv. Write: Ch., 2142 Faircrest Ave., Augusta, GA 30906
- 8-10 — *Montgomery, Alabama*. Alabama/NW Florida Area Assembly. Write: Sec., 4621 Bridgedale Rd., Pensacola, FL 32505
- 8-10 — *Lafayette, Louisiana*. 10th Anniversary Cajun Country Conf. Write: Box 3160, Lafayette, LA 70502
- 8-10 — *Grenada, Mississippi*. 18th Annual North Mississippi Roundup. Write: Ch., Rt. 1, Box 219A, Pittsboro, MS 38951
- 8-10 — *Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada*. 23rd Conv. Write: Ch., C.P. 1541, Sherbrooke, QC J1H 5M4
- 15.17 — *Duerstadt, Germany*. European Roundup (sponsored by gay & lesbian members). Write: Ch., Postfach 420 821, 1000 Berlin 42, Germany
- 15-17 — *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*. 1993 Freedom Roundup (sponsored by gay & lesbian members). Write: Ch., Box 794, Bensalem, PA 19020
- 22-24 — *Reno, Nevada*. Third Annual Northern Nevada H & I Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2406, Reno, NV 89505
- 29-30 — *Harvey, Illinois*. Second Big Book Study. Write: Ch., Box 3018, Country Club Hills, IL 60478
- 29-31 — *San Ysidro, California*. Fourth Baja Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 435280, San Ysidro, CA 92143
- 29-31 — *London, Ontario, Canada*. 40th Annual Western Ontario Conv. Write: Ch., 388 Dundas St., London, ON N6B 1V7

November

- 5-6 — *Trois Rivières, Quebec, Canada*. 20th Congrès. Write: Ch., 80, Rue Notre-Dame, Nicolet, QC J0G 1E0
- 5.7 — *Victoria, Texas*. First Annual Crossroads Soberfest. Write: Ch., Box 4491, Victoria, TX 77903
- 11-14 — *Ft. Walton Beach, Florida*. Gulf Coast Roundup. Write: Ch., 5964 West Shore Dr., Pensacola, FL 32526
- 26-28 — *Diamondhead, Mississippi*. Fourth Annual Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 7851, Gulfport, MS 39506