

## ***The Language of the Heart . . .*** **Bill W.'s Grapevine Writings To Be Published in October**

In describing his 1960 visit to A.A. in Europe, Bill W. wrote: "As we journeyed from land to land, we had the same magnificent adventure in kinship over and over . . . [T]his was the communication of heart to heart in wonder, in joy, and in everlasting gratitude. Lois and I then knew that A.A. could circle the globe — and it has."

In the mere twenty-five years that elapsed between the initial meeting of two drunks in 1935 and Bill's overseas visit, the seed of A.A. developed and grew. Much of the story of how that happened is chronicled in the Grapevine's soon-to-be-published book, *The Language of the Heart: Bill W.'s Grapevine Writings*.

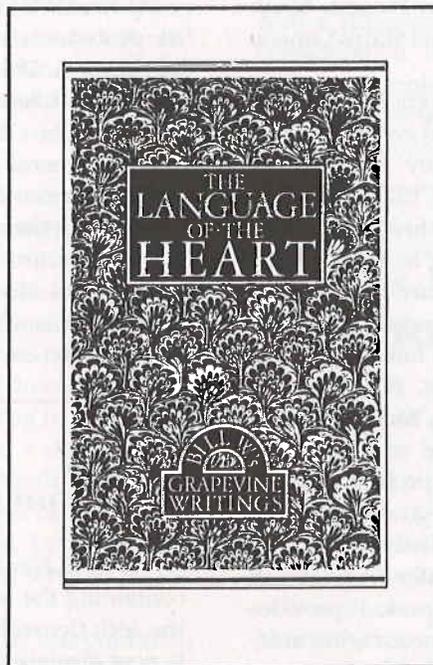
Bill began writing for the Grapevine with its first issue in June 1944, when it was a newsletter for New York City A.A.s, and as the magazine became first national and then international, he remained one of its most prolific contributors. Because of a grueling travel schedule and a copious correspondence, Bill could never respond to all the varied demands of a Fellowship that was still in the process of formation, and in the Grapevine he discovered an ideal vehicle of communication with the members and groups who sought his insights and experience. In more than 150 articles, written over a span of twenty-six years, Bill documented the sometimes agonizing process of trial and error that resulted in A.A.'s spiritual principles of Recovery, Unity, and Service, and articulated his vision of what the Fellowship could become.

*The Language of the Heart* includes virtually all of these historic articles, with the exception of reprints that are readily available elsewhere (for example, the articles that make up the second half of *Twelve Steps*

and *Twelve Traditions*); also omitted are Bill's brief annual holiday messages and some outdated factual material. A general introduction gives the background of Bill's relationship to the Grapevine and sets the context for the book, and brief introductions to each major section describe what was happening in A.A. to prompt the writing of that particular group of articles.

Writings in *The Language of the Heart* are arranged chronologically, and because of Bill's highly focused approach to everything he did, the chronological divisions are also in reality topical divisions. Part One: 1944-1950 brings together the history-making articles in which our co-founder "hammered out" the experience that is now our Traditions. Part Two: 1950-1958 sets forth the growth of A.A.'s service structure and reprints the series of articles entitled "Let's Be Friendly with Our Friends." Part Three: 1958-1970 contains a group of articles on the topic of spiritual growth, along with a section describing the Fellowship's growth and some guidelines for the future. Two additional sections include seven memorials to significant people in A.A. history and Bill's reflections on the Grapevine itself.

If it is true that those who ignore the lessons of history are doomed to repeat it, then *The Language of the Heart* has great significance. Through this historical record of A.A.'s physical and spiritual growth, Bill W.'s insights of the 1940s, '50s, and '60s, may serve as a guide for A.A. members in the 1980s and beyond, reminding us of what it used to be like, documenting what happened and why it happened, and illuminating the present with the wisdom of A.A.'s experience in its first thirty years.



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## 43 Delegates Slated to Attend Tenth World Service Meeting

When the Tenth World Service Meeting convenes at the Roosevelt Hotel, Oct 23-27, it will be the largest ever, with 43 delegates representing 27 countries. Countries sending delegates are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Central America (Northern and Southern zones), Colombia, Finland, French-speaking Europe, German-speaking Europe, Great Britain, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, Trinidad/Tobago, United States/Canada and Uruguay.

This meeting (which is *not* a conference, and is not open to the general membership) is held every two years — alternating between New York City and another country. Delegates are from countries that have their own service structure and/or publish their own literature. The theme of this year's meeting is: A.A. and Its Responsibility. The week-long program will include workshops, presentation/discussion sessions, personal service highlights, and meetings of the four WSM committees: Agenda, Literature/Publishing, Policy/Admissions/Finance and Working With Others. Many delegates will bring samples of their literature to share with others and, perhaps films and special projects.

The World Service Meeting is not a governing body; its primary purpose, like any A.A. activity, is to carry the message to alcoholics who still suffer — wherever they may be, whatever language they speak. It provides a forum for sharing information and encouraging unity and continuity in the Fellowship worldwide.

Delegates will visit the General Service and Grapevine offices Friday; Saturday they will be hosted by Lois W. at Stepping Stones, the home she shared with Bill, and in the evening the delegates will be guests at the New York Intergroup Dinner Dance where they will be seated on the dais. Jack G., Great Britain, and Elsie T., of New Zealand, will be two of the speakers at this annual dinner which commemorates Bill W.'s A.A. anniversary.

## Resumés Due Jan. 1st for Election of New Trustees

Two Class B (alcoholic) regional trustees (from the Southeast and East Central) and the trustee-at-large/U.S. will be nominated at the General Service Conference in April 1989. Resumés must be received at G.S.O. no later than January 1 and must be submitted by delegates only.

The new Southeast trustee will succeed Joe P. of Atlanta, Georgia; the new East Central trustee will fill the post presently held by Jack W. of Sanford, Michigan. The trustee-at-large/U.S. will replace Don P., of Aurora, Colorado.

A sound A.A. background is a basic qualification for Class B trustees. Ten years of continuous sobriety are desirable but not mandatory. Candidates should be active in both local and area A.A. affairs; and, because trustees serve the entire Fellowship, they require the background and the willingness to make decisions on matters of broad policy that affect A.A. as a whole.

Class B trustees serve a four-year term; Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees serve three three-year terms. Area assemblies in each of the regions concerned will make the initial choices of the trustee nominees.

At the 1989 Conference (see *The A.A. Service Manual* for procedures), the regionals and trustee-at-large will be selected. The chosen candidates will be elected by the General Service Board at its meeting immediately following the Conference.

The General Service Board will also appoint two general service trustees and one Class A trustee, after considering the recommendations of the trustees' Nominating Committee. The new general service trustees will replace Shepherd R. and James S., both of New York. The Class A trustee will replace William E. Flynn, M.D., of McLean, Virginia.

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## New from G.S.O.

- *The 1988 Final Conference Report*, a 72-page booklet containing the news, activities and Advisory Actions of the 38th General Service Conference of the U.S./Canada, is now available. Confidential, for A.A. members only: \$2.00.
  - *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*, 1988-1989 edition. As recommended by a 1988 Conference Advisory Action, this edition contains the 1955 Conference Charter in its original form, with footnotes indicating changes to date, and followed by the current version. \$1.55.
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## One Area's Experience In Reaching Out to Native North Americans

An unusual and significant meeting took place in Denver, Colorado on October 24, 1987. A group of approximately 40 A.A.s were there solely to focus on ways to carry the message to Native North Americans, who are known to be at high risk for alcoholism. They put together an eight-member task force, to be known as the American Indian Committee, and made a commitment to follow through in every way possible. Additionally, they appointed a K.I.S.S. person, Sam C., to ensure that the committee keep things simple and not deviate from its mission.

One member of the committee is Don C., of Colorado Springs. "I was on hand just as a sober drunk and a Native American," he says. "A number of us had long been concerned about the rising incidence of alcoholism on the reservations, but we hadn't done much about it. Then our area delegate, Bruce S., spoke at the Colorado State Convention in September 1987. He told us of the General Service Conference's emphasis on providing special literature and other kinds of help, and got us fired up."

The new committee identified numerous ways to carry the message to Native Americans that included the following: set up a contact subcommittee to help with established meetings and to encourage the formation of new ones; organize annual Native American conventions; provide information to treatment centers; start a library featuring audiotapes of Native American speakers; and build a list of A.A. volunteers willing to act as temporary sponsors.

"We further agreed," Don notes, "to ask D.C.M.s to notify us of the Native American meetings within their areas, whereupon we would attempt to publish a list of these meetings through A.A. schedules and other means. At the second committee meeting in November, other means' was clarified to include a newsletter to be published eight times a year, one month before each area assembly and one month after. To be called 'The Four Directions,' it would be edited by committee member Sarah P., who volunteered her services for the sizeable job."

The first issue of "The Four Directions" was published in February 1988. Copies were sent to all D.C.M.s for distribution to their area groups through their general service representatives.

Among other things, the newsletter names contact sources, cites urgent needs, and provides information about upcoming local and state A.A. meetings, workshops and other events. As the committee approaches its first birthday, the results of its work are already

clear. Attendance at meetings of Native Americans in the Denver area, for example, has quadrupled. "There is now a meeting every night of the week in the city of Denver alone," reports Don. "We encourage the Native American A.A.s to commit to a home group, to seek sponsorship, and to become integrated into the Fellowship as a whole. But it all takes time and patience. Furthermore, many Native Americans are leery of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are working one day at a time to explain what A.A. is and to overcome their confusion and distrust."

He cites what happened in British Columbia after the A.A. program was introduced. "In 14 years, they went from 100 percent alcoholism among those over age 12 to 95 percent sobriety in the same age range. In Colorado, where alcoholism is rampant among Native Americans, we'd like to achieve similar results. Thanks to the efforts of many dedicated A.A.s, we feel we're at last on our way."

Importantly, he says, "our committee's efforts do not interfere with the public information or correctional facilities committees. In fact, we work closely together, and we're grateful for their help — we need as much as we can get."

The committee is encouraged by still another development. In 1987, the General Service Conference recommended that a pamphlet specially designed for Native Americans be prepared and brought back for consideration to the 1988 Conference. The approved pamphlet, which will be available from G.S.O. early next year, contains stories of several Native Americans sober in Alcoholics Anonymous.

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## Entries Sought for Daily Reflections Book

Is there a brief passage somewhere in the A.A. Steps or Traditions or in Bill W.'s writings that has a special meaning for you?

Would you like to submit that passage and your thoughts on it for possible inclusion in a proposed A.A. Conference-approved book of Daily Reflections?

You are most welcome to do so! In fact, you are herewith being urged to do so since the deadline for manuscripts is January 1st.

At the 1988 General Service Conference it was recommended that: "Work continue on the Daily Reflections Book and that a request be made for additional manuscripts to be submitted from the Fellowship on any Step, Tradition or writings of Bill W. coordinated through each delegate."

This is an opportunity presently open to all A.A.

members everywhere. Guidelines for members in the United States and Canada are already in the hands of delegates. Simple rules for submission of your selection and thoughts about it are as follows:

1. Choose a passage of no more than five sentences on any Step, Tradition or Bill W.'s writing.

2. Type (double spaced) or hand print your offering using one side of the paper only — and divide your manuscript into two paragraphs together totaling not more than 150 words.

3. In paragraph one present your selection, including source and page number; in paragraph two write out your thought (reflection) concerning that selection.

4. In the upper right-hand corner of the manuscript write your name and address. (This is confidential and for office purposes only.)

Please be advised that if your manuscript is accepted no fee will be paid nor will your full name be acknowledged in print (only your first name, initial and state, province or country in which you live).

If your work is accepted, however, you will be asked to sign an agreement with A.A. World Services, Inc., publisher of the Fellowship's Conference-approved literature.

So, if you have a special passage somewhere in the literature, plus personal feelings about that passage you want to share with others, put that selection and thought together and send them both to: Literature Desk, General Service Office, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

We look forward to hearing from you. Soon!

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## 'An Exquisite Patchwork Quilt of Recovery'

Since much A.A. history resides in the memories of early members, archival committees throughout the Fellowship are working to establish contact with these members, many of them in their 80s and 90s, before it is too late. From Bristol, England, comes the story of how one committee set out to reconstruct our yesterdays — and wound up reaping some unexpected Twelfth Step bonuses for today.

Reports Travers C.: "The first priority of our Archives Committee has been to trace back A.A. origins with surviving members, tape their early recollections and put it all together. It is very much like piecing together seemingly unrelated pieces of material to make what has turned out to be the most exquisite patchwork quilt of recovery."

Tracking down early A.A. members has often been difficult, Travers notes. "Some have died, many are lost

in the mists forever. Thanks to the committees' perseverance, however, a sizable number of vintage A.A.s have been located — many in senior citizen homes or nursing facilities. Nearly all of them prove extremely cooperative," Travers observes. "Using a tape recorder, we just sit with them and gently encourage their recall."

Frequently, he relates, "oldtimers mention the names of A.A.s we've already seen — persons with whom they have lost touch. More often than not, we are able to bring old friends together, and that's when we see miracles happen. Long-forgotten members, so many of them isolated and institutionalized, have been contacted by their old groups. They've become participants once again, an integral part of A.A.'s whole."

Because of physical infirmities and other considerations, some of the oldtimers need help in making direct contact, Travers says. "Consequently, several of them have used me as 'messenger boy extraordinary,' conveying their very special message of experience, strength and hope to each other. Thanks to archival involvement, their vitality has been rekindled as the result of being needed once again. And to preserve our past, we do need them!"

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## Michael Alexander Chairs Board in Tradition of Early A.A. Friend Bernard Smith

"The General Service Conference Charter is a delicate and sensitive balance of interests among all the A.A. elements, allowing each to discharge responsibilities without interference from others. The Charter also is a guard against impulsive and imprudent action in A.A. Each time the Charter prevents a dispute, induces tolerance, or prompts restraint, it is a magnificent moment for A.A."

So spoke Michael Alexander, the new chairperson of the General Service Board, as he delivered the keynote address at the 1985 Conference. A Class A trustee from 1976-1985, he succeeds Gordon Patrick, also a nonalcoholic, who chaired the board from 1982-1988.

Mike is a senior partner in the New York law firm of Smith, Steibel, Alexander and Saskor — established by A.A.'s friend and mentor Bernard B. Smith, who died in 1970, six months before Bill W.

"I joined the firm in 1952 as a fledgling attorney fresh out of Harvard," says Mike. "No one among my family or friends was an alcoholic, but I quickly learned about A.A. — you might say I grew up in it — under the tutelage of Bern Smith. A fine attorney, he was absorbed in Fellowship affairs and chaired the board of trustees

from 1951-1956. In fact, he was very instrumental in establishing the General Service Conference in 1951, even though some of the trustees had expressed grave doubts about its feasibility.”

As Mike watched Bill and Bern Smith struggle with the Charter, which was to make the Conference a permanent fixture, he remembers sensing that he was “a witness to history and, perhaps, in a small way, a participant in it.” The prodigious efforts of these two men, he notes, led to adoption of the Conference Charter and the transfer of functions from the A.A. founders to the Conference in 1955, when the Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service were turned over to the Fellowship by its oldtimers.

Mike readily acknowledges that he is “personally attracted to the principles of A.A. — to its Steps, Traditions, Legacies and, particularly, its Concepts. As Bern Smith pointed out, ‘The still-drinking alcoholic has no monopoly on unhappiness or the feeling that life lacks purpose and fulfillment.’ ” A.A.’s spiritual principles, Mike believes, “offer a way of life for me, a nonalcoholic, and for countless others who want to live and act constructively. Which is probably why it is the most imitated self-help program I know of.”

Over a period of almost 20 years spanning the 1950s and ’60s, Mike came to know Bill W. and his wife, Lois, “and so many others who helped to shape the service structure of A.A.” However, he points out, “I did not relate to them as ‘alcoholics’ per se. In my capacity as a legal advisor, I saw them as solid, sensible, knowledgeable business people.

“Working with Bill, especially, was a rewarding experience, not only because of his extraordinary vision but also because his early training in law provided a common ground for understanding. We forget sometimes that Bill completed the requirements for graduation from Brooklyn Law School in the 1920s — he just never got around to picking up his diploma.”

Mike reports that he had “great reservations” about returning to the General Service Board. “I am a firm believer in the principle of rotation,” he says. “It is the message of A.A. that counts, not the messenger. But I was eventually persuaded that, because of my long association with A.A., I might be able to help during this period of rapid growth and change in Alcoholics Anonymous.”

He smiles. “Besides, I like coffee! One trustee told me, ‘Mike, you’re one of us. You would have made a good alcoholic, though not a great one — you’re not inventive enough in your drinking.’ ”

Just in the past few years, Mike points out, “A.A. has faced numerous challenges. Among these are problems related to proliferating anonymity breaks, court and treatment center referrals, and newcomers who are addicted to drugs other than alcohol. The Fellowship is



*Michael Alexander*

constantly evolving in response to the needs of its worldwide membership and of the suffering alcoholics still out there.”

Recently Mike attended a Regional Forum in Alaska and “was amazed by the broad perspective of those present. They were well informed about the service structure of A.A. and how it works, and their dedication was inspiring.”

“In my years as a trustee,” Mike observes, “there was no single activity other than sleep that engaged so much of my time as A.A.” Knowing that, his wife Claire was mildly surprised when he assumed the responsibilities of board chairperson. “Then she attended the Alaska Forum with me,” Mike relates. “She met the people, heard the talks, and was deeply impressed by the good will and devotion that prevailed throughout the Forum. ‘Now I understand why you’re so committed,’ she told me.”

Looking to the future of A.A., Mike expresses great confidence. “The Fellowship has a stability, a maturity, that I think would have delighted oldtimers such as Bill W. or Bern Smith. I believe that we have no problem we can’t handle. The service structure is excellent; it discharges its basic responsibility, which is to carry the message of sobriety at the organizational level just as individual A.A.s do one-on-one. Each time our hand reaches out to an alcoholic who needs A.A., it is a priceless moment, because we cannot save ourselves without reaching out to save others.”

## Poland Holds Third A.A. General Service Conference

In Wroclaw, Poland, during the several centuries since that city was founded, there have been more than a few events of considerable significance to the people of that nation — and the world. When the history of Wroclaw in the twentieth century is completed, among the happenings in that city to be cited as “events of considerable significance” may well be what occurred there during July 1-3, 1988.

The occasion? Poland's Third Annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous — an event of considerable significance in the history of A.A. as well. Approximately 2,000 attended the conference. Most attended the General Service Conference sessions, while others attended A.A., Al-Anon and Alateen meetings which ran concurrently. In obvious and exciting recognition of the importance of the event, the conference was given radio and television coverage; participating in the opening ceremonies were the deputy mayor of Wroclaw, a representative of the archbishop and representative of the Wroclaw police department.

The theme of the three-day conference was “A.A. Experience, Strength and Hope.” And, seeming to be almost as vital to the spirit and scope of the conference as its theme, an often repeated phrase through session after session (first made when it was suggested that delegates be sober two years) was “there are no rules in A.A.”

Among the visitors and participants from countries other than Poland were Sarah P. of the General Service Office in New York City, Webb J., trustee-at-large, Canada, and Uli Z. from the Central Office of Frankfurt, Germany. In addition there were two other West German A.A. observers, one German Al-Anon member and several Polish-Americans.

A highlight for Sarah and Webb came at the closing ceremonies when they were introduced and asked to say a few words. It gave them the opportunity to bring greetings from the United States/Canada General Service Board and from the A.A. groups in both countries. The remarks were received with both enthusiasm and warmth.

While the spirit of the conference was such that an A.A. member from anywhere would have felt at home, there were a few little technical or operational differences in this Wroclaw Conference as compared to one, for example, in the U.S. As Webb notes, “their delegates in our structure would be general service representatives.” He also relates that “to distinguish conference members from others in attendance, delegates held up a white card as they voted similar to bidders at an auction.”

He reports, too, that there is an A.A. bulletin in Poland similar to the A.A. Grapevine. It's called *The Spring*.

Growth of A.A. in Poland can best be described as phenomenal. Groups over the last year have more than doubled. They now number 230 and many of these are only two or three months old. In many cases delegates (145 voting members) representing these newest groups aren't sober much longer than their groups are old. As a result, when a recommendation was made for a two-year sobriety requirement for Conference delegates the motion was defeated. Why? It would have eliminated two-thirds of the then-voting Conference body!

In spite of the newness of A.A. in the nation, another service motion carried. This was that trustees should be sober a minimum of two years and the term of service extended from two years to three. In Poland the A.A. Board of Trustees is called the Fiduciary Committee and when, in the final session of the conference the seven board members were introduced, two had been reelected and five were serving for the first time.

Immediately prior to the election of the new Fiduciary Committee it was announced that one of the members who had been serving as a trustee had resigned his post because of what was sadly described as “a transgression of sobriety.”

Other special business was a recommendation that Polish-speaking groups in the U.S. and Canada become part of the service structure in Poland. Also, Katrina P., a Polish member living in Massachusetts, was officially appointed the contact between G.S.O. New York and all Polish-speaking groups. Another high point of the three days was the reading of a letter from Poland's only prison group.

As delegates were leaving the hall after the close of the final session a young man put a hand on U.S.-visitor Sarah's shoulder and said “God bless America.” In response, Sarah reports, she instantly thought “God bless Poland” and adds that ever since she has deeply appreciated “what a wonderful country Poland is and what a wonderful people the Polish are.” Still further, she adds, both Webb and she are grateful to the A.A.W.S. Board for appointing them to be observers at this historic event celebrating the growth of A.A. in Poland and the rapid increase of A.A. experience, strength and hope among the Polish people.

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## Eastern Missouri Addresses Needs of Handicapped A.A.s

The Assembly of the Eastern Area of Missouri has formed a special committee in an effort to address and serve the special needs of members who are physically

handicapped or infirmed.

The Special Needs Committee, as it is called, is headed by two A.A.s who are themselves physically handicapped: chairperson Howard W. and co-chairperson Cathy N. They report that the committee has mailed a questionnaire to area groups in order to determine where and when accessible meetings are held. Information received will be tabulated and made available to all state central offices, districts and groups, treatment facilities, community agencies, and the General Service Office.

Some questions contained in the brief form: Is there handicapped parking near the entrance to your meeting place? Is there wheelchair access to an entrance? How many steps, if any? Is there an elevator, and are there bathrooms on the same floor as the meeting room?

Three questions concern the hearing impaired: Do you know of a facility in your area that will teach sign language at minimal or no cost? Would you be willing to learn to sign? Are there any deaf or hearing-impaired persons now in your group?

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## A French 'Happening' in Florida

There is good news for French-speaking A.A. members in South Florida. A French intergroup was just formed in Hollywood, Florida. Why a French intergroup? Here is the story:

For a long time, people from Quebec have taken winter holidays in Florida to escape the snow and bitter cold. Some Quebecers prefer golf courses to ski slopes, and more and more people pass the whole winter in one of the "sunshine states."

Among those who migrate toward the sun every year there are, of course, quite a number of A.A. members. It was only natural then that they would form A.A. groups to ensure their sobriety while away from their home group.

There are now nine French-speaking groups in Florida and at times, almost one thousand members get together to celebrate a group anniversary. Some French-speaking people even managed to find A.A. (and sobriety) there, away from their home — the "geographic cure."

In order that the hand of A.A. be there when an alcoholic reaches out for help, this community of French A.A. members have worked very hard to go a step further and form an intergroup in Florida. Twenty-four hours a day, someone is there to help an alcoholic who is limited by the barrier of language; someone is there to talk to the desperate alcoholic, to give strength,

courage and hope.

So, if you happen to speak French and you want to experience a French meeting while in Florida, by all means, call the French Intergroup at (305) 923-0311 and find out when and where they get together. They will be most happy to welcome you. For more information, write to: French Intergroup of Florida, P.O. Box 22-1063, Hollywood, FL 33022.

You can be sure of one thing: these people speak at least two languages — French and, most important, the language of the heart.

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## From the Mailbag

Our current mailbag touches on several recurring themes of sobriety in A.A.: gratitude, sharing, service, humility, and unity.

• *Helping the Hearing Impaired* — "For some time now," writes Mary G. of Portland, Oregon, "a hearing-impaired individual has attended our Woodstock Group meetings on a regular basis. He pays his interpreter himself. We understand that there is a high rate of alcoholism among the deaf and would like to help, but we have questions: (1) Would it constitute a Traditions break for a group, district or intergroup to hire a non-A.A. interpreter? (2) How have other areas handled this situation?"

*Note:* In Dallas, where A.A.s have had on-going experience in meeting the special needs of the hearing impaired (*Box 4-5-9, Holiday 1985*), non-A.A. interpreters have been brought in to sign at open meetings. Jack C., a veteran volunteer at the central office, says, "For a group to pay for the expense of an interpreter is no different from buying copies of the Big Book for A.A.s in correctional facilities — it's simply another way of providing a service and, to my knowledge, breaks none of the Traditions." The shared experience of other areas would be welcomed.

• *A Valuable Lesson* — Addressing his remarks to "Dear Higher Power," Chas D. of Philadelphia observes: "I believe that You allowed A.A. to lose the copyright to the Big Book so that we might have a chance to slow down and take an inventory of the more important ways in which we may be drifting from the spiritual foundation of our Twelve Traditions — for example, the need to maintain constant vigilance over our Anonymity Tradition."

In Tradition Twelve, Chas points out, "we are told of those who 'had changed from A.A. members into A.A. show-offs.' We also are told that, 'Moved by the spirit of anonymity, we try to give up our natural desires for personal distinction as A.A. members both among

our fellow alcoholics and before the general public.' ”

• *Giving Credit Where It's Due* — Writing from Deerfield Beach, Florida, Frank L. expresses gratitude to A.A.'s forerunner, The Oxford Group, for providing “those basics which can be recognized in our Twelve Steps”: the Four Absolutes — Absolute Honesty, Absolute Unselfishness, Absolute Purity and Absolute Love; and Methods — rigorous self-examination, confessing our personal defects to another human being, restitution for wrongs, giving without thought of return, and seeking guidance from God with prayer.

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## C.P.C.

### Committee Clarifies A.A. Traditions for Colorado Legislature

Cooperation With the Professional Community can encounter some thorny problems, as members of Colorado's vigilant C.P.C. Committee recently learned when the State Legislature unknowingly jeopardized A.A.'s Tenth and Eleventh Traditions.

Reports C.P.C. chairperson Margaret H.: “The problem started when the Legislature proposed a bill designed to permit people who had been fired as a result of drug or alcohol abuse to draw full unemployment benefits if they did three things: ‘admitted they were addicts or alcoholics; had that confirmed by a medical doctor; and agreed to go to a private or public treatment center, or *submitted a plan of active participation in an Alcoholics Anonymous program, as documented by that program.*’ ”

Margaret attended the Rules Committee meeting of the Colorado House of Representatives, where the bill was passed 10-0 after a Labor Department representative testified that “*Alcoholics Anonymous has been contacted and an agreement has been worked out with them.*”

Many phone conversations ensued between Margaret and the director of the Division of Unemployment, to whom the statement had been attributed. Then the C.P.C. committee wrote to all the state representatives, urging them to refrain from using the name Alcoholics Anonymous in the bill and informing them that in no way could A.A. document anyone's participation in the program.

The House did amend the bill by dropping the reference to the documentation, Margaret relates, “but it retained the reference to ‘Alcoholics Anonymous’ programs and sent the bill on to the Senate for ratification. It was back to the drawing board.”

Discouraged but undaunted, the C.P.C. committee again sent letters — this time to all the state senators — urging them to delete any reference to A.A. “Our message was heeded,” says Margaret. “The director of the Division of Unemployment invited me to participate with him in a joint meeting attended by the co-sponsors of the bill and the director of Health and Hospitals. The purpose of the meeting: to create alternate language as an amendment to the bill that would satisfy the requirements of all concerned.”

The C.P.C. committee came up with wording that passed muster all the way around. Now in effect, the amendment calls for “*active participation in programs that would support and maintain the permanent abstinence of the usage of both drugs and alcohol, with the burden of proof of such programs belonging to the claimant.*”

“The final version of the amendment is generic,” Margaret points out. “It safeguards our Traditions and also is acceptable to the sponsors of the bill who wanted to give people an opportunity to seek treatment economically.”

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## P.I.

### A.A. Group Takes Off In Connecticut High School

Carrying the A.A. message to young people inside the public school system has long posed a hydra-headed dilemma, with problems ranging from parental denial to anonymity roadblocks. Now, however, thanks to the dogged efforts of a local P.I. committee, an A.A. group is alive and thriving in a Greenwich, Connecticut high school.

“The group is composed of students 13 to 18 years old,” says Jonathan W., Connecticut P.I. chairperson. “The teenage members have been meeting on the school grounds since October 1987, and their recoveries are heartwarming. Just 30 days after our first meeting, one member celebrated as many days sobriety, and two others had already become deeply involved in the pro-

gram. Our meetings tend to be small but they are regularly attended.”

The P.I. project was sparked by requests from several school systems for A.A. meetings to be held in-house. In a few cases, Jon reports, “the schools were not looking for institutional meetings that normally would be handled by the correctional facilities committee or the treatment facilities committee, so we began to investigate other alternatives. We want to share our experience in the hope that it will benefit other A.A.s. In turn, we would welcome feedback.”

All the schools contacting the Connecticut P.I. Committee had referral systems for getting students into treatment facilities, Jon explains. “But they wanted to make something available that would be less drastic than in-patient treatment. Moreover, if students were referred into treatment, what lifeline to sobriety would be available to them when they got out?”

The P.I. committee explored “all the normal options,” says Jon, such as temporary sponsors to provide rides to outside meetings, and having institutional meetings on school grounds. But the drawbacks were formidable. Many of the students couldn’t get to regular A.A. meetings, either because of timing, transportation difficulties or parental denial. Some parents had stated flatly that A.A. was “unnecessary”; others thought their children were “too young” — too young to be alcoholics or to belong to A.A.?

Jon points to “our biggest problems with institutional meetings as a solution: such meetings would not help to get the group involved with A.A. as a whole; and loss of effectiveness because the schools seek district limitations on outside involvement.”

The committee’s solution was to form self-supporting meetings sponsored by the committee itself. “We have developed a set of guidelines, using the experience of Alateen meetings in schools as a reference,” says Jon. “Our first step was to explain to the Greenwich high school administration, especially the guidance staff, how A.A. works; their subsequent cooperation has been invaluable.”

The school personnel have been particularly cooperative in helping A.A. students to maintain anonymity — “probably the area requiring the greatest amount of flexibility from both the P.I. committee and the school administration,” Jon points out, “because there are so many variables to contend with on both sides. We A.A.s are primarily concerned with protecting anonymity by minimizing the number of people who know where the students are going and giving them privacy. (Even their teachers and parents don’t know they’re in A.A. unless they choose to tell them.) The school has to worry about repeated absence from the same class, having a way to be sure the student attends the meeting, and dealing with such issues as whether attendance at A.A. meetings

is a ‘privilege’ or a ‘right.’ ”

At the Greenwich school, A.A. students are excused from class for “guidance counseling,” then walk by the guidance office to the A.A. meeting room. Like other groups in the Fellowship, this one has rotating officers, passes the basket, and has a name. A regular sponsor — a member of the P.I. committee — is always on hand to provide reassurance and, at the same time, fulfill the school’s need for an adult presence at the meeting. Early on, however, the sponsor started pulling back, with the goal of becoming just another attendee.

It is hoped, says Jon, that getting the youthful members involved in the district service structure will, in time, be accomplished by having the A.A. sponsor act as a temporary general service representative, with a group member serving as alternate, or co-G.S.R. This, he explains, can give the meeting a link with the district from the onset. He cites another method that might be used if the district objects to having a sponsor as a voting G.S.R.: “Have the group appoint a nonvoting representative to attend district meetings and report back to the group.”

The meetings themselves have “limited access,” which means that they are open to all students but closed to anyone outside the school system. Many speakers have been drawn from Young People in A.A. (Y.P.A.A.), “who have shared their experience in recovery generously,” Jon notes, “and the identification of students with members who are essentially their peers has been dramatic.”

The school group has not suffered from lack of volunteer speakers. “In fact, the response has been overwhelming,” according to Jon. “Of course,” he says, tongue-in-cheek, “committee members in their mid-twenties have been used in emergency situations only because of their extreme age.”

What happens when members are dually addicted and want to talk about drugs? Says Jon: “The sponsor, or another member, explains that doing drugs does not exclude anyone from A.A. membership but that our primary purpose is to stop drinking one day at a time. We also explain that it is important at meetings to talk about how it was, how we stopped drinking and what happened in our lives.”

Within the next year, the P.I. committee expects to have meetings in place in one or two more Connecticut schools. “It is our hope,” says Jon, “that this is just the first step toward providing young people with access to A.A. in the same environment in which they seem most tempted to drink. We also hope that some of what works for the young can work for the old; and that we can borrow from what we are learning to help us carry the message to shut-ins who have had the drink taken out of their lives — but have no way to turn ‘forced abstinence’ into comfortable, even happy, sobriety.”

# Correctional Facilities

## Prerelease Contacts Smooth Transition to A.A. on the Outside

The Western and Central Michigan Correctional Facilities Committees have developed a prerelease contact program that effectively smooths inmates' transition from A.A. on the inside to regular A.A. meetings on the outside.

Says Charlie O., alternate delegate and a member of the Western Michigan C.F. Committee: "We came up with a simple information sheet listing the prison resident's name and where he or she will be paroled upon release. Once the person knows the date of release, they fill out the sheet, have their counselor initial it, and turn it over to us. We have a list of all A.A. contacts in the state of Michigan and usually can facilitate contact quickly. Often the release date is known months in advance, a situation that allows the inmate to develop a rapport with their new A.A. contact through visits, correspondence, or both."

The information sheet makes four points: (1) The resident must be within one year of release date. (2) The resident is constantly reminded that A.A. offers sobriety only. (3) The contact person meets the resident as soon as possible after release. Many have found that it is best to have residents select their own sponsors once contact with an outside A.A. group has been made. The initial contact does not necessarily continue to act as sponsor, but does serve as a vital link between the released resident and outside groups. (4) The released resident is reminded that others are waiting for prerelease contacts. It will be up to him or her to ask someone else for continuing sponsorship as soon as feasible after release.

"The system works well," Charlie observes, "and I know from my own experience. In September 1987, a personal friend of mine was released and I acted as his contact sponsor. Today he is an A.A. contact himself. He has already eased the way for a number of ex-inmates."

The Michigan C.F. Committees suggest that A.A. members contemplating contact sponsorship keep the word "temporary" clearly in mind. Also, "the contact lets go when a permanent sponsor has been found. It is a critical time in the member's life."

The committees' comprehensive guidelines on pre-

release contact further suggest that:

- A prerelease contact should be a member of an A.A. group located in the vicinity of the resident's parole if possible.
  - It is better if no emotional or romantic relationship develops.
  - As in all Twelfth Step work, it is wise for two A.A.s (the temporary contact and another member) to meet the former resident immediately after release.
  - It is a good idea to use your group's address, or a P.O. Box number, for contact correspondence.
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## Treatment Facilities

### South Florida Newsletter a Vital Twelfth Step Tool

The South Florida Area Treatment Facilities Committee is excited about its new baby — a quarterly newsletter called "Sharing" that came into the A.A. world in January 1988.

Says Vinny B., editor of the new publication and alternate chairperson of the T.F. committee: "The 1986 A.A. membership survey revealed that at least 36 percent of our new members are coming to us from counseling or treatment facilities, a significant increase over the past. We feel that each A.A. group and individual member should have the opportunity to share in T.F. Twelfth Step work, especially in view of its mounting importance to the Fellowship as a whole. With the publication of 'Sharing,' we're not trying to reinvent the wheel; we're simply aiming to stimulate interest, exchange ideas, and help effect an informed A.A. conscience."

The newsletter carries information about meetings, workshops and other events, "Letters to the Editor," and articles concerning "problems common to all who carry the message into treatment facilities," Vinny reports. It is distributed to district committee members (D.C.M.s) for sharing with groups, individual A.A.s and treatment facility personnel. Copies also are available at South Florida workshops, assemblies and conferences.

"Sharing" is funded by the South Florida Conference. "Fortunately," observes Vinny, "our printer is in A.A. and generously does the work at cost."

*Note:* The Treatment Facilities desk at G.S.O. is still requesting input for our quarterly Treatment Facilities newsletter.

## Calendar of Events

### October

- 1-2 — *Sarasota, Florida*. Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., 7193 W. Country Club Dr. N., #238, Sarasota, FL 34243
- 7-8 — *Tucson, Arizona*. State Convention. Write: Ch., Box 57904, Tucson, AZ 85732
- 7-8 — *Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada*. Fifth Women's Conf., Write: Ch., #1-2314 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6K 2E5
- 7-9 — *Montego Bay, Jamaica, W.I.*. Sixth Annual Discovery Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 138, Reading Post Office, Montego Bay, Jamaica, W.I.
- 7-9 — *Camp Mitchell, Arkansas*. Young Peoples Campout. Write: Ch., Box 5451, North Little Rock, AR 72119
- 7-9 — *Bakersfield, California*. 37th Annual Southern California Conv. Write: Sec., 760 N. Golden Springs, Unit E, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
- 7-9 — *Redding, California*. 41st N.C.C. Fall Conf. Write: Ch., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122-2290
- 7-9 — *Denver, Colorado*. Third Rocky Mountain Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 9659, Denver, CO 80209
- 7-9 — *Coeur d'Alene, Idaho*. Area Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 5176, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
- 7-9 — *Sioux City, Iowa*. State Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1532, Sioux City, IA 51102
- 7-9 — *Lafayette, Louisiana*. Fifth Annual Cajun Country Conf. Write: Ch., Box 3160, Lafayette, LA 70502
- 7-9 — *Monroe, Louisiana*. First Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 14832, Monroe, LA 71207
- 7-9 — *Mackinac Island, Michigan*. Mackinac Island Weekend. Write: Ch., 302 S. Waverly Road, Lansing, MI 48917
- 7-9 — *Brainerd, Minnesota*. Third Minnesota Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 103, Wayzata, MN 55391
- 7-9 — *Bozeman, Montana*. State Round-Up. Write: Ch., 104 W. Main, Bozeman, MT 59715
- 7-9 — *Rochester, New York*. Eighth Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 10 Manhattan Square Drive, Rochester, NY 14607
- 7-9 — *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*. Freedom Roundup (hosted by gays & lesbians). Write: Ch., Box 15987, Philadelphia, PA 19103
- 7-9 — *Spearfish, South Dakota*. Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 378, Lead, SD 57754
- 7-9 — *Clarksburg, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26301
- 7-9 — *Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 24th Nova Scotia, Nfld. & Lab. Assembly. Write: Ch., 39 Cottage Court, Sydney, NS

- B1P 6S2
- 7-9 — *North Bay, Ontario, Canada*. 33rd Northeastern Ontario Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1165, North Bay, ON P1B 8K3
- 7-9 — *Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada*. Kelowna Roundup. Write: Ch., Kelowna Intergroup, Box 2012, Sta. R, Kelowna, BC, Canada
- 7-9 — *Prince George, British Columbia, Canada*. 32nd Northern Lites Roundup. Write: Sec., #104-1840 Spruce Street, Prince George, BC V2L 2R4
- 7-9 — *Geneva Park, Ontario, Canada*. 23rd Georgian Bay Dist. Conv. Write: Ch., RR2, Meaford, ON N0H 1Y0
- 7-9 — *Schreiber, Ontario, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 201, Schreiber, ON P0T 2S0
- 7-9 — *Toronto, Ontario, Canada*. Gratitude Roundup (gay & lesbian). Write: Ch., 275 Withrow Ave., Toronto, ON M4J 1B6
- 8-9 — *Crescent City, California*. Sobriety By the Sea. Write: Ch., 1010 Butte St. Sp. 2, Crescent City, CA 95531
- 13-16 — *Brainerd, Minnesota*. Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 24713, Minneapolis, MN 55424
- 14-16 — *Lunteren, Holland*. 40th Conv. Write: Ch., Box 9680, 3506 GR Utrecht, Holland
- 14-16 — *Montgomery, Alabama*. Alabama-Northwest Florida Area Assembly. Write: P.I. Ch., P.O. Box 761, Panama City, FL 32402
- 14-16 — *Fallon, Nevada*. Fourth Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2274, Fallon, NV 89406
- 14-16 — *Victoria, Texas*. 38th Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2832, Victoria, TX 77902
- 14-16 — *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*. 37th Annual Southern Wisconsin Fall Conf. Write: Tr., 6159 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53110
- 14-16 — *Jackson Hole, Wyoming*. Fall Conv. Write: Ch., Box 2159, Jackson Hole, WY 83001

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

*October* (page 32): Anonymity; Tradition Three; Step Four.

*November* (page 35): The Traditions; A.A. history.

- 14-16 — *Claresholm, Alberta, Canada*. Family Roundup. Write: Sec., Box 45, Claresholm, AB, Canada
- 14-16 — *Red Deer, Alberta, Canada*. Western Canada Regional Forum. Write: Regional Forum Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
- 14-16 — *Merritt, British Columbia, Canada*. 16th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1779, Merritt, BC V0K 2B0
- 20-23 — *Honolulu, Hawaii*. 27th Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 23434, Honolulu, HI 96822
- 21-23 — *Boise, Idaho*. Area Assembly. Write: Ch., 10487 Overland Rd., Suite 187, Boise, ID 83709
- 21-23 — *St. Cloud, Minnesota*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 125, St. Cloud, MN 56302
- 21-23 — *Columbus, Ohio*. Women To Women Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 8277, Westerville, OH 43081
- 21-23 — *Spruce Grove-Stony Plain, Alberta, Canada*. Unity Roundup. Write: Ch., 149 Brookwood Park, Spruce Grove, AB T7X 1A8
- 21-23 — *Brandon, Manitoba, Canada*. Fellowship Grp. Roundup. Write: Ch., 934 8th St., Brandon, MB R7A 3Y6

## Planning a December, January or February Event?

Please send your information on December, January or February events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by *October 10*, the calendar deadline for the December/January 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 — more events listed on reverse side

## October (cont.)

- 21-23 — *Fort Francis, Ontario, Canada*. 16th Roundup. Write: Comm., 500 Front Street, Fort Francis, ON P9A 1A2
- 21-23 — *Montreal, Quebec, Canada*. 29th Bilingual Conv. Write: Ch., 5789 d'Iberville, Montreal, PQ H2G 2B8
- 27-30 — *Rogersville, Alabama*. Riverside Roundup V. Write: Ch., 300 Spring Ct., Huntsville, AL 35802
- 27-30 — *Memphis, Tennessee*. 14th Bluff City Conv. Write: Ch., Box 240831, Memphis, TN 38124
- 28-30 — *Casa Grande, Arizona*. 41st Sahuaro Agape Weekend. Write: Sec., 3200 S. Mann Apt. 1, Tucson, AZ 85730
- 28-30 — *Orlando, Florida*. Celebrate Sobriety II. Write: Ch., 4912 Sun Ray Drive, Orlando, FL 32808
- 28-30 — *New Orleans, Louisiana*. The Big Easy Does It. Write: Ch., Box 51266, New Orleans, LA 70151
- 28-30 — *Shreveport, Louisiana*. 43rd Tri-State Convention. Write: Ch., Box 495, Shreveport, LA 71162
- 28-30 — *Hagerstown, Maryland*. Fourth Annual MCYPAA Fall Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 11405, Baltimore, MD 21239
- 28-30 — *Thief River Falls, Minnesota*. Harvest Festival. Write: Ch., RR 3, Box 248-B, Thief River Falls, MN 56701
- 28-30 — *Buffalo, New York*. 47th Fall Conv. Write: Ch., Box 83, Buffalo, NY 14216
- 28-30 — *Portland, Oregon*. 13th Young Peoples Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1594, Portland, OR 97207
- 28-30 — *Houston, Texas*. Fourth Annual Spirit of Houston. Write: Tr., Box 73461, Houston, TX 77273-3461
- 28-30 — *Bellingham, Washington*. Mt. Baker Roundup. Write: Ch., 638 Old Highway 99 N, Burlington, WA 98233
- 28-30 — *Appleton, Wisconsin*. 48th Annual Fall Conf. Write: Ch., 725A Hazel St., Oshkosh, WI 54901
- 28-30 — *Duncan, British Columbia, Canada*. 19th Annual Dist. 8 Rally. Write: Ch., 5795 Duncan St., Duncan, BC V9L 3W6
- 28-30 — *London, Ontario, Canada*. 35th Annual Western Ontario Conv. Write: Ch.,

- Box 725, London, ON N6A 4Y8
- 29 — *New York, New York*. New York Inter-group Assoc. Bill W. Dinner. Write: Dinner Comm., 175 Fifth Ave., Rm. 219, New York, NY 10010
- 29-30 — *Broken Bow, Oklahoma*. Round Robin. Write: Ch., 202 9th St., Mena, AR 71953

## November

- 3-6 — *Okracoke, North Carolina*. 16th Jam-boree. Write: Ch., Box 355, Okracoke, NC 27960
- 3-6 — *Trujillo, Peru*. Second Nat'l. Cong. Write: Committee, Apartado #986, Trujillo, Peru
- 4-6 — *San Bernardino, California*. Inland Empire Conv. Write: Ch., Box 7297, Loma Linda, CA 92354
- 4-6 — *Enid, Oklahoma*. Northwest Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 609, Lahoma, OK 73754
- 5-6 — *Salt Lake City, Utah*. 44th Utah Birthday & Area 69 Workshop. Write: Ch., Box 511311, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-1311
- 11-13 — *Yosemite National Park, California*. Fifth Summit Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1243, Mariposa, CA 95338
- 11-13 — *Okoboji, Iowa*. Fifth Pre-Winter Rally. Write: Comm., Box 346, Sutherland, IA 51058
- 11-13 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. B.C./Yukon Area Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 76887, Station "S," Vancouver, BC V5R 5T3
- 12-13 — *Fort Smith, Arkansas*. Living Sober. Write: Ch., 8311 Meadow Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 13-16 — *Helen, Georgia*. Ninth Forest Conf. Write: Ch., Box 363, Statesboro, GA 30458
- 17-20 — *Tulsa, Oklahoma*. Second Annual Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., 4019 S. Urbana, Tulsa, OK 74135
- 18-20 — *Jonesboro, Arkansas*. 34th Thanksgiving Celeb. Write: Ch., Box 778, Jonesboro, AR 72401
- 18-20 — *Santa Barbara, California*. 1988 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 91731, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-1731
- 18-20 — *Hyannis, Massachusetts*. 25th Conv. Write: Comm., Box 151, Brockton, MA 02403
- 18-20 — *Ardmore, Oklahoma*. Fifth Red River Valley Rally. Write: Ch., 802 P Street SW, Ardmore, OK 73401
- 18-20 — *Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Fifth Roundup. Write: Ch., 161 Marlborough St., Moose Jaw, SK S6H 0T3
- 24-27 — *Las Vegas, Nevada*. Fourth Hispanic Conv./22nd Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., 2500 Lynnwood St., Apt. 33, Las Vegas, NV 89109
- 24-27 — *Houston, Texas*. Seventh Roundup (hosted by gay men & women). Write: Ch., Box 27703, #339, Houston, TX 77227
- 25-27 — *Danville, California*. Retreat. Write: Ch., 6426 Waldo Ave., #5, Danville, CA 94530
- 25-27 — *Stamford, Connecticut*. State Young Peoples Conf. Write: Ch., CYSPCAA, P.O. Box 4571, Stamford, CT 06907-0571
- 25-27 — *Detroit, Michigan*. 10th MCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 85944, Westland, MI 48185
- 25-27 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Great Plains Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 31306, Omaha, NE 68132-0306
- 25-27 — *Everett, Washington*. Everett Conf. Write: Ch., Comm., P.O. Box 1703, Everett, WA 98206
- 26-27 — *Neosho, Missouri*. Winter Holiday VIII. Write: Tr., Box 213, Exeter, MO 65647

## December

- 2-4 — *Hollywood, Florida*. Southeast Regional Forum. Write: Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
- 2-4 — *Charlotte, North Carolina*. Fourth Annual "Fundamental Festival." Write: Ch., P.O. Box 668927, Charlotte, NC 28266
- 16-18 — *Seoul, Korea*. National Christmas Roundup. Write: Ch., Morning Calm Inter-group, Box 154, 121st Evac. Hosp., APO, San Francisco, CA 96301