

A.A. Comes of [COMPUTER] Age

"Boy, do I need a meeting," I muttered, as I fought my way through the rush hour recently, after a challenging day at the office. But it was Thursday, and it was my wife's A.A. meeting night. I would have to babysit, and make do with a phone call or two, or a reading of some A.A. literature, in order to revive my flagging spirits. Of course, many an A.A. has experienced a similar "need" for a meeting, but, for one reason or another (remote location providing infrequent meetings; temporarily or permanently homebound, and so on), has had to, insofar as possible, utilize the "tools" of the Program to fulfill the "need."

On this particular Thursday, however, I recalled some materials I had read about A.A. meetings on computer bulletin boards. I have owned a computer and modem, at home, for the past several years, but they have been used only for business purposes—certainly not for an A.A. meeting. I applied my computer expertise to the task, and, failing that, I then followed instructions. Very quickly I was perusing bits of A.A. wisdom (Serenity Prayer, and the like), and soon I was in the midst of shared A.A. messages from all over the country—there was straight-forward, traditional, hope-filled, right-out-of-the-Big-Book sharing; there was "dumping"; there was "a-day-at-the-office" sharing—it was all there, just like it would be at my home group. Resentments were revealed, slips acknowledged, and growth in sobriety clearly demonstrated. Principles necessarily prevailed over personalities, because the whole process was so totally anonymous, and I found myself in familiar "surroundings." I was sometimes moved and sometimes amused, as I thought I recognized sharing just like that of "Joe" or "Susan" from my home group. Thus, while there is still no substitute for a real meeting, I felt that I had been involved in a bona fide A.A. experience—likened (for me), perhaps, to reading the Grapevine, only with a much greater sense of on-line, present involvement.

An electronic bulletin board, where most such A.A. meetings take place, is just that—a bulletin board, and

it can be set up on a home computer. Any prospective user of such a bulletin board, who has the requisite hardware (almost any computer), a modem, and the necessary communications software, may participate. First he or she "logs-on," or initiates a connection to the board, and identifies him- or herself by handle (nickname). Thereafter, the user may read messages (sharings) and responses to messages; and may leave his or her own messages, and is free to respond to any messages already on the board. It is more like a meeting-by-mail, rather than simultaneous back and forth sharing, only infinitely faster and involving an unlimited number of participants. One such board requires that the user confirm his or her membership in A.A. by completing a questionnaire prior to being permitted access to the closed meeting section of the board. A number of these A.A. bulletin boards are electronically unified into a national communications network, so

You are cordially invited to
ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE DAY
at
The G.S.O. & Grapevine
Offices
468 Park Avenue, South
New York City
Saturday, November 14, 1987
9 am to 3 pm

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that local users may benefit from the sharings of distant A.A.s, without experiencing the long-distance toll charges, reminiscent (to some of us, at least) of those we might have experienced while still drinking.

Interest has been expressed, by some of those involved in one such bulletin board, in having the local intergroup actually list the meeting along with other A.A. meetings in the locale (in the area where this came up, they say there is precedent, in that a now defunct meeting, which was conducted as a radio broadcast, used to be listed).

Although personal computers permit interactive sharing (that is, direct back and forth communications, typically, but not necessarily, one-on-one—not unlike a two-way radio, but with a keyboard), as far as I know, there is only one computer meeting which is conducted in this manner: one of the large, commercial mainframe databases has an A.A. meeting which takes place on its “CB” section. Any number of members may share, “live,” back and forth, via the keyboard; the number of participants and speed of the communications is limited only by the processing capability of the large computer. However, a user has to be a subscriber to use the services.

Never in his wildest dreams, when he wrote *A.A. Comes Of Age*, in 1957, did Bill W. envision the impact that computers would have on A.A.’s subsequent history—an impact barely noticeable to most A.A.s, even now, but an impact of increasing significance, to be sure. Bulletin boards, as has been noted, merely provide yet another opportunity for A.A.s to do what A.A.s like to do best—share on personal recovery (see, for example, the October 1986 issue of the *A.A. Grapevine* where an A.A. shares his experience in carrying the message, via a non-A.A. bulletin board, to a still-suffering alcoholic, who is sober today). It is not unreasonable to anticipate, then, that as more and more A.A.s become familiar with and own home computers, A.A. bulletin boards will proliferate. And since computers put to such use are simply communications devices, some of the bulletin board activity, even now, fulfills a very definite public information function by reproducing A.A. service pieces which tell “viewers” what A.A. is (and is not) all about.

But the use of computers in helping our rapidly growing Fellowship to function is nothing new. G.S.O. has been using a minicomputer (generally, larger than

a PC, but smaller than a mainframe) for over ten years, in order to keep track of group records and finances, and for other data processing needs (indeed, the adequacy of the existing system, given the growth of the Fellowship, is a matter currently being examined by G.S.O.). Bob P., the recently retired general manager, described the indispensable character of the G.S.O. computer in a presentation during the 1984 A.A. General Service Conference. He also noted that, even at that time, a number of general service areas had already been using computers to handle their data.

In addition to computerized bulletin boards and general data processing, the acceleration of technological advancement, which we have been experiencing, especially in the area of microcomputers, has inspired a number of A.A. members to seek out other new and imaginative ways in which to apply the technology to Twelfth Step or A.A. service activities, or to some other A.A.-related purpose. For example, a few months ago, we received an advertisement for a Big Book finding-aid, or concordance, on computer disk. With it, if you are interested, you can prove, for example, that “must” does appear in the Big Book, and how many times and on which pages. More recently, another member reduced, verbatim, the entire current edition of the Big Book to computer disks. His program permits the user to quickly select any part of the Big Book and highlight any area of the displayed text. He also produced, with the aid of his computer, a word finder which locates every word in the Big Book, regardless of case or context—both these efforts are truly labors of love.

It is clear that, as more and more members become comfortable with PCs, heretofore unthought of computer applications will evolve, as *A.A. Comes of (Computer) Age*.

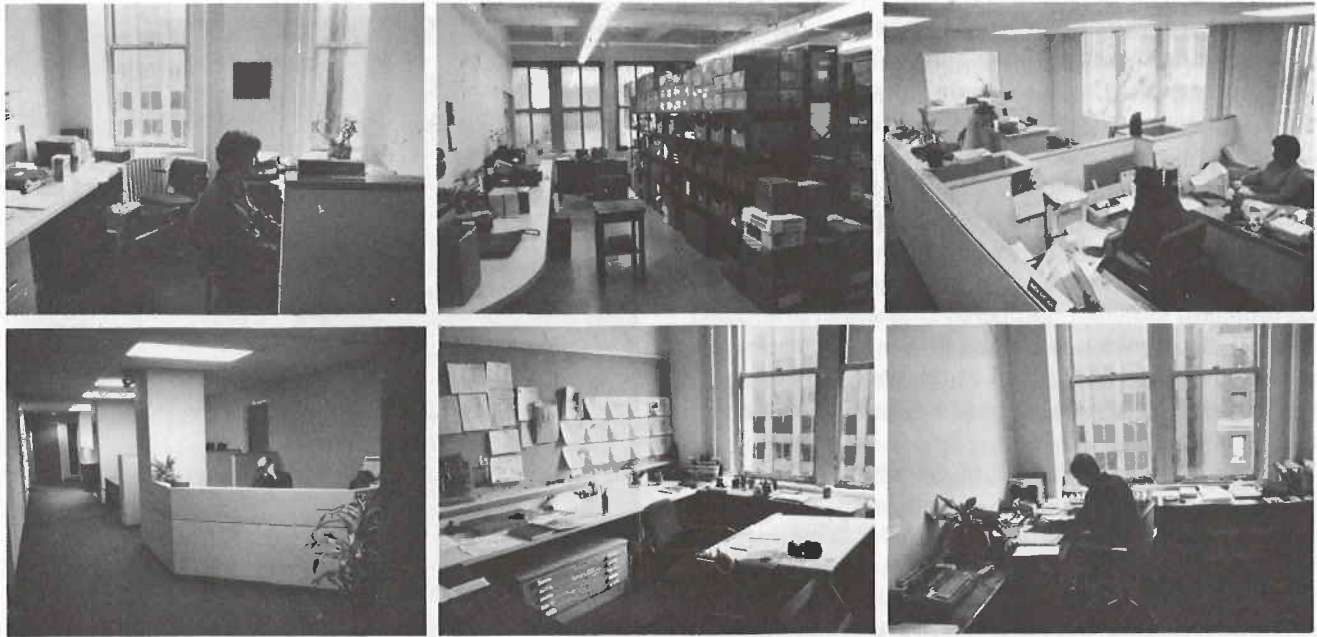
A REMINDER Please identify yourself . . .

When sending a contribution to the General Service Office, or writing to request an A.A. directory, please identify yourself as an A.A. member.

As you know, A.A. does not accept contributions or memorial donations from nonmembers. When a check is received and there is a question about the donor’s membership, a letter must be written and the check returned.

A.A. directories are confidential and for A.A. members only, as they contain full names of A.A.s. If a staff member receiving a request for a directory is not certain that it is from an A.A. member, a letter must also be written.

So, identify yourself; it helps speed up service all around.



The A.A. Grapevine has moved up in the world—from the fifth floor to the eleventh at 468 Park Avenue South. “Our new offices are sunny, spacious and cheerful,” says Grapevine editor Ann W. Best of all, Ann notes, is the ample new mailroom, needed to speed up mailing the 122,000 copies of the Grapevine, plus special items, that go out every month.

How Can We Help Handicapped A.A.s?

In Philadelphia, a blind man needs help getting to meetings. In Detroit, a mother seeks an A.A. group that can provide an interpreter, or signer, for her hearing-impaired son. In Los Angeles, a young, severely disabled woman tries to locate a meeting with wheelchair access.

Many such calls for help are directed to local intergroups or central offices, which do their best to help. At the Washington, D.C. Intergroup, for example, a Special Service Committee conducts a yearly survey to ascertain which groups in the area can accommodate wheelchairs, and whether restrooms have adequate access. It also maintains an up-to-date list of area meetings that provide signing for the hearing impaired. Other intergroups conduct similar surveys and some note which groups provide special services or facilities in their meeting books.

These measures help, but they're just a beginning, says Jim M. of Indiana, Pennsylvania, who served as manager of the Washington, D.C. Intergroup for many years. How, he asks, do the handicapped get themselves and their wheelchairs to the meeting rooms? Who looks out for them once they are there? “Most of us are happy to pick up newcomers to A.A., regardless of their physical condition, and occasionally escort them to meet-

ings,” he observes. “But how many of us are willing to do this kind of Twelfth Step work on a regular, committed basis? Another problem seldom discussed is that a majority of us find it difficult to communicate with the person who is handicapped. Our Big Book says, ‘We are people who normally would not mix.’ This is especially true when the individual is a little different from us.”

Jim M.'s own Friendly Group, which meets twice a week, has found a way to help Jim B., a blind member. The chairperson asked for volunteers to take him to a meeting once a month; the response was immediate and generous, and now he is able to attend all group meetings. The volunteers are assigned specific dates. If they can't take their turn, they are responsible for finding a substitute.

As a result of this twelfth stepping, the group members have drawn closer to their handicapped friend and each other. “In the past,” Jim M. recalls, members would go up to Jim B., shake his hand, drop a few niceties and stroll off. “Now we talk to him, laugh with him. He is a young man filled with gratitude for his sobriety, and we have benefited from his presence.”

Another heartwarming story comes from New York City. “Some years ago,” says G.S.O. staff member Sarah P., “a hearing-impaired man named Mike came to our group with a close friend and interpreter, and asked if they might attend meetings. They would appear every Monday night like clockwork, Mike on the end seat in the front row with his interpreter facing him. We looked

forward to seeing them and made sure that their chairs were set up and ready. Today Mike still comes, as do three other hearing-impaired members who attend regularly and several deaf alcoholics who visit occasionally."

People willingly travel long distances to attend, Sarah notes, simply because so few meetings are geared to the needs of the hearing impaired. However, the situation is changing. A number of groups are working on the problem, although hampered by the cost of a paid signer, which can run as high as \$40 an hour. Recently, an A.A. meeting was formed at the New York Society for the Deaf. It is run entirely by hearing-impaired members.

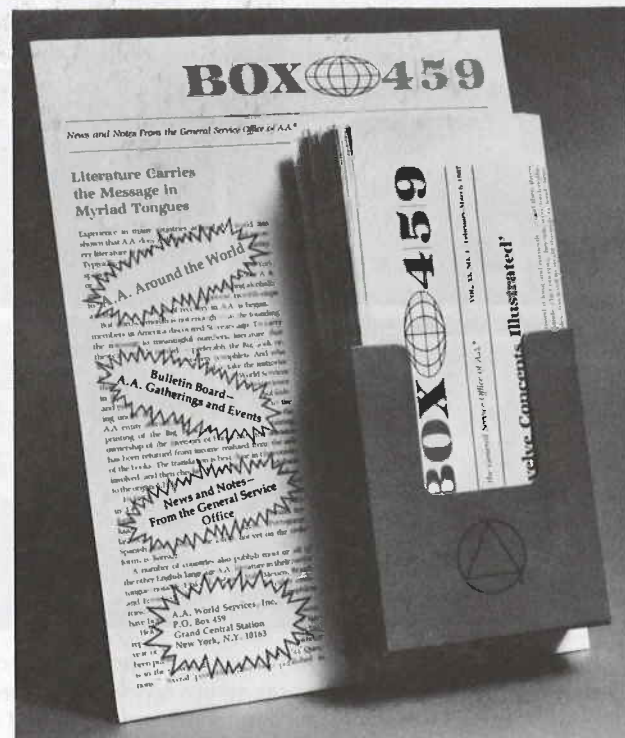
"Helping the handicapped to get what we have requires the ongoing attention of both individual A.A.s and their groups," according to Jim M. "One way is through the Homer's program, which is a part of LIM—the Loners Internationalist Meeting. Homers are housebound or physically impaired A.A.s, who stay sober by corresponding with one another, with Loners (members who have no A.A. groups nearby), and with Internationalists (seagoing A.A.s). Each new Homer receives lists of other Homers, Loners and Internationalists, as well as the alternating bimonthly newsletters *Box 4-5-9* and *LIM (Loners-Internationalists Meeting)*. Many A.A.s serve as Loner Sponsors, sharing their experience, strength and hope with those who are isolated from regular group activities.

As a Loner Sponsor, Jim M. writes to "deaf, paralyzed, blind and other handicapped A.A.s" and feels that he stays sober and happy because of it. "The Homers program has been operating for many years," he says, "but not enough A.A.s know about it. Meanwhile, we need all the help we can get."

If you are interested in helping a Homer stay close to the Fellowship, call your local intergroup or write to the General Service Office.

New from G.S.O.

- Two statements regarding A.A.'s primary purpose are now available from G.S.O. The statements may be read by groups at open or closed A.A. meetings, if desired. This service piece is the result of an Advisory Action of the 37th A.A. General Service Conference.
- *Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous*, an updated summary of Conference recommendations from 1951 to 1986. \$2.50.
- *Final Conference Report*. This detailed report of the 37th General Service Conference (1987) covers every phase of general services and includes financial statements. Confidential; for A.A. members only, \$2.00.



- Group literature chairpersons will be interested in the new easel-style display stand, with a holder for 10 copies of *Box 4-5-9*; free with a group bulk subscription to 4-5-9 (\$3.50 for each unit of 10 [6 issues] per year).

Is Your Group a 'Periodic'???

From time to time, one is bound to hear a speaker at an A.A. meeting describe him- or herself as a "periodic." And it is clear, on these occasions, that the speaker is defining a drinking pattern which is characterized by periods of binge drinking (as compared to nonperiodic alcoholics), preceded and followed by substantial periods of dry time.

Although the nature of the events which precipitate the binges sometimes vary from story to story, it is not uncommon for a periodic alcoholic to frankly admit to being unable to explain just why a binge was triggered. In addition to the uncertainty regarding why the abusive drinking commenced (often against the best intentions of the alcoholic), another attribute of periodic alcoholism seems apparent from the stories: the more or less extended periods of dry time tend to convince the person so affected that he or she does not really have a problem (denial).

While analyzing the 1984 and 1985 contribution patterns of a random sample of A.A. groups in the U.S.

and Canada, it was found that approximately 50% of the groups supported the services provided to *all* groups in a given year. This finding is consistent with the results reported when all groups listed with the General Service Office were examined, and indicated that the random sample was indeed representative of all A.A. groups. Having thus established the validity of the random sample, an interesting phenomenon was observed in the course of further analyzing the sample: approximately 30% of the groups reversed their contribution behavior from one year to the next. That is, 30% of the groups which contributed in 1984 did not contribute in 1985; and 27% of the groups that did not in 1984, contributed in 1985. This phenomenon was also observed, to more or less the same extent, when the contribution patterns of all the groups in several selected general service areas were likewise examined. Thus, approximately 30% of the groups are periodic!

Such groups, because of changing G.S.R.s or other group leadership, because of changing membership, because of forgetfulness, or because of all or none of the above, fail to assume their role in the total self-support picture on a regular, ongoing basis. And it would not be surprising if such groups were under the impression that they were participating, contributing, and fully responsible as an A.A. group. There is a remarkable parallel, then, when such a group is compared to the periodic alcoholic who acts responsibly some of the time (abstains from drinking, for the periodic alcoholic vs. contributes on a regular basis, for the group), and who, for any or no apparent reason, acts without responsibility (goes on a binge, for the periodic alcoholic vs. fails to share the responsibility for self-support, for the group), but who, because of periods when he or she is responsible, enjoys a false sense of being responsible all of the time (denial, both the periodic alcoholic and the periodic group). But, as we have all learned in sobriety, being responsible is a full-time job.

Is Your Group a 'Periodic'???

Box 4-5-9 Asks Readers What They Want to See

In an effort to make *Box 4-5-9* more interesting and helpful to A.A. group members, the editorial committee sent out a questionnaire with the February/March 1987 issue to the 61,639 A.A. groups and individuals on the mailing list.

The 2,505 completed returns indicated that 52 percent of the readership value *Box 4-5-9* for information about the structure of A.A. (articles about G.S.R.s and

the General Service Board and its committees); 42 percent for solutions to group problems; 38 percent for information regarding A.A. around the world; 36 percent for news of new A.A. books and pamphlets; and 18 percent for group, assembly and roundup reports.

What do readers look at first when they receive *Box 4-5-9*? A full 68 percent of respondents named the Calendar of Events; 60 percent, the front-page article; 21 percent, news from G.S.O.; 17 percent, correctional facilities articles; 16 percent, discussions of group problems and resolutions; and 11 percent, stories about treatment facilities. Other topics of interest cited by readers include service, 10 percent; sharing about staff assignments, 9 percent; public information, 8 percent; cooperation with the professional community, 7 percent; self-support, 5 percent; and news from overseas, 2 percent.

What do readers do with *Box 4-5-9* once they have read it? Some 54 percent of respondents place it on their group's literature table; 51 percent also share highlights with the group verbally; 28 percent place it in their personal files; and 5 percent "throw it away."

When asked what kind of articles they would like to see *Box 4-5-9* carry in the future, respondents came up with a variety of subjects, including: archives information; group discussion topics; services to confined alcoholics; working with adolescent alcoholics; and news from G.S.O.

The staff of *Box 4-5-9* extends a warm "thank you" to readers who took the time to fill out the questionnaire. Your opinions and suggestions will be reflected in future issues of the publication.

Soviets Eye A.A. Approach to Recovery from Alcoholism

How many A.A. members are there? What is the role of anonymity? How and why do members diagnose themselves as alcoholics?

These were some of the questions asked by Soviet representatives during a preliminary to an exchange on alcoholism prevention and treatment held in May in Washington, D.C. Organized by the National Council of World Affairs Organizations, the exchange between the United States and Russia is to be the first of a series endorsed by President Ronald Reagan and Premier Mikhail Gorbachev. Subsequent colloquies will concern youth, education, agriculture, the environment, and other challenges of the multi-cultural nation.

"The dialogue was constructive and appeared to give

the Russians a better understanding of how A.A. works," says G.S.O. general manager John B., who was invited to contribute to the discussion as a representative of A.A. World Services, along with representatives of university programs and treatment centers. "Questions were directed to us by former Soviet public relations chief Nikolai Chernykh and the two Russian physicians who attended with him. One of them spoke some English, but most of the discussion was conducted with the aid of an official interpreter."

John reports that he presented Mr. Chernykh with the Russian translations of three basic A.A. pamphlets—"44 Questions," "A Newcomer Asks," and "This is A.A."—noting that these and other A.A. Conference-approved publications have been translated into many languages.

In September, John reports, a representative of A.A. will be invited to join a contingent of American professionals from the field of alcoholism in Moscow, to continue the exchange on alcoholism prevention and treatment. "Within the confines of our Traditions and Concepts," he says, "we will share our experience in recovery with the Russians as part of our carrying the A.A. message of sobriety."

Have You Registered For The Intergroup Seminar?

A.A.s from scores of local intergroups across the U.S. and Canada will convene in the Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel from September 18-20 to share their experience, strength and ideas at the 1987 Intergroup/Central Office Seminar. The first such seminar was held last year in Chicago which, like Los Angeles, was home to one of A.A.'s earliest central offices.

The 1987 seminar is open to intergroup managers, volunteers, steering committee members and other A.A. members and friends. Because of time and space considerations, participation in the seminar is generally limited to one representative per office.

The coordinating committee received numerous responses to its request for suggested workshop topics, and has selected the five most preferred for discussion at the Los Angeles seminar: Literature; Pricing and Distribution; Management Practices of Intergroups/Central Offices; The Seventh Tradition and the Intergroup/Central Office; The Relationship Between the Central Office and G.S.O.; and Intergroup's Role in Relation to A.A. Group Problems.

In addition to the workshops, the seminar will feature a "Red Ball" A.A. meeting hosted by the Los Angeles

Central Office, an Ask-It Basket sharing session, a dinner hosted by A.A. World Services, and much more.

Says G.S.O. staff member and seminar coordinator Curtis M.: "The intergroup or central office is the very heart of A.A. Twelfth Step work. It contacts volunteers on a geographic basis so that sick alcoholics can get help round-the-clock; serves as a communications center for participating groups, and handles a thousand other details that enhance communication both within the Fellowship and with the community at large. This seminar provides a broad forum where those who serve can explore their mutual concerns and help each other to carry the A.A. message more effectively."

If you have not registered for the 1987 seminar and wish to, or if you wish to obtain information about it, please write to: Intergroup Seminar Coordinator, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

G.S.O.'s Most Asked Questions

Q: What are the criteria for listing A.A. conferences, conventions and similar events in *Box 4-5-9* and the *A.A. Grapevine*?

A: We generally try to list all A.A. events of two or more days in length about which we are informed in time. There would not be enough room to list one day events.

Q: Okay, then what is an A.A. event?

A: As far as we are concerned, any event which is run by A.A.s, about A.A., and for A.A.s is an A.A. event. Some are under the auspices of regions, areas, or districts; others of central offices or intergroups or even groups; and still others of a committee of A.A. members. Al-Anons are included in many of the events. Many of the events are service-connected, others are purely for A.A. sharing and fun.

Q: For health reasons, I can no longer sit in the smoke-filled A.A. meeting rooms, and I have stopped attending meetings. Is forming a nonsmoking group within the Traditions?

A: Yes, nonsmoking groups are within the Traditions. Members attending a nonsmoking meeting with a desire to smoke during the meeting can simply step outside for a few minutes. Many groups today have "no smoking" sections. It's not easy to be the first one to suggest a nonsmoking section when some members are resistant, but probably others will support your suggestion. Not attending A.A. meetings is a very high price for an alcoholic to pay, so you might want to think of, and act on, some of the alternatives.

Q: We are putting on an A.A. roundup, and some A.A. members are saying that since we are charging a registration fee for attendance to an A.A. function, we are not acting in accordance with A.A. Tradition.

A: There is a big difference between "no dues or fees for A.A. membership" and a registration fee for an A.A. roundup. The word "free" is a strange one in a self-supporting Fellowship, and someone has to pay the bills! There are many, many A.A. roundups, conventions, and conferences (see the Bulletin Board Section of *Box 4-5-9* or the Calendar of Events in the Grapevine) and in most cases, registration fees are charged to cover the expenses of the event. Often a special event, such as a banquet, is put on for the purpose of raising additional funds to support a central office or the work of an institutions committee.

Depending on the situation, and in the judgment of the planning committee, sometimes special arrangements are made for A.A.s who would like to attend but cannot afford to. There are also events, such as a banquet, which only ticket holders attend, but after the meal, the room is opened up to everyone, with or without a ticket, to hear the speaker. But again, this decision is made by the planning committee as they are the ones responsible for covering costs.

Q: Is it okay to have a raffle as a fund raiser?

A: Past General Service Conferences have asked if raffles are within A.A. Traditions. The Conference has not come forth with a recommendation in regard to raffles. A show of hands usually indicates that about half the delegates think they are all right and about half think they should be discouraged. So the best we can do when asked is to reply that it is up to the group conscience. Of course this reply is referring to raffles within A.A. Selling raffle tickets to people outside A.A. is not within the spirit of the Seventh Tradition, which reminds us that every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Q: We are planning to hold a roundup in our city, and wonder if it's okay to ask the groups for seed money?

A: This can be answered only by the group conscience of the groups concerned. However, if the group agrees to take a collection at its meeting to support the roundup, a separate basket for this specific purpose should be passed for those who wish to give, rather than take money from the group funds.

Q: Is it okay to hold a dance (no meeting) as a fund raiser for an A.A. function?

A: See the answer above regarding raffles as fund raisers. If tickets for the dance are sold within the Fellowship, it's up to the group conscience; if they're sold outside, it's a clear violation of the Seventh Tradition. Dances themselves are a popular feature of A.A. conventions and get-togethers.

International Convention— Name That Theme!

Believe it or not, the time has come to start thinking about the 1990 International Convention. 1990 is just around the corner, and planning for the Convention has been under way for two years. But we need your help!

We're looking for a theme, a central concept that will help focus attention on A.A.'s 55th anniversary celebration in Seattle, Washington, and what it means to all of us in the Fellowship. Please contribute your suggestions before Friday, October 2, 1987. After a careful review of all themes submitted, the trustees' International Convention Committee will make its selection, to be presented to the 1988 General Service Conference. The "winner" will subsequently be announced in *Box 4-5-9*.

To spark your thoughts, here are the themes of past A.A. Conventions: 1965, "I Am Responsible"; 1970, "Unity"; 1975, "Let It Begin With Me"; 1980, "The Joy of Living"; and 1985, "Fifty Years With Gratitude."

Several themes have already been suggested, among them: "Keys to the Kingdom," "Back to Basics" and "Pass It On." Now we're waiting to hear from you—by October 2nd. Send your idea to Convention Committee, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.



Last March, in Seattle, Edward Gordon (right), director of finance of the General Service Office, signed the contract for the Washington State Convention and Trade Center. On the left is Kanellos Astor, president of the Center. Kathy Paxton (standing) is national sales executive with the Convention and Trade Center, where some of the meetings and activities of the 1990 A.A. International Convention will be held.

Going to Baltimore?

Can't find it? On page 78 of the 1987 *Eastern U.S. A.A. Directory*, there is a printer's error near the top of the first column. The name of the city was omitted before the listing of the Alcoholics Anonymous of Baltimore Central Office.

Know Ye the Alcoholic

"Nonalcoholics throughout the ages have watched alcoholics with fascination and puzzlement, just as we have watched back," observes A.A. archivist Frank M. "Neither seems to completely understand the other, but there have always been those who have tried."

Frank points to the following excerpt from the Old Testament: Proverbs 23:29-35, which was brought to the A.A. Archives' attention by A.A. historian Joe McQ. of Little Rock, Arkansas. It offers a profile of the active alcoholic that is as knowing to some as it may be baffling to others.

Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions?
Who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause?
Who hath redness of eyes?

They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

Frank further tells what happened, or didn't happen, when that well-intentioned signer of the Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Rush, sagely wrote in 1784 that "Alcoholism is a disease of a progressive nature and the cure for it is abstinence." Rush offered no real plan for recovery, and his ideas failed to catch hold. The public sternly retained the view of drunkenness as a moral weakness controllable only by legislation banning access to all "spirits."

"Today, as A.A. celebrates 52 years of carrying the message," Frank reflects, "such reminders of how little

hope there once was for the suffering alcoholic bring a sweeping sense of gratitude for our recovery in the Fellowship."

Treatment Facilities

Substance Abusers and A.A. Meetings

One recurring problem faced by A.A.s who carry the message into treatment facilities is the proliferation of nonalcoholic drug addicts in these facilities. Often the guidelines for attendance of these patients at A.A. meetings are unclear, which leads to complications on the part of A.A. members who carry the message. A.A. policy regarding nonalcoholic drug addicts is usually unknown to treatment facilities, and committee members find themselves in the position of having to educate professionals in this matter.

Some treatment facilities are inclined to view all "substance abusers" and alcoholics as having the same common addictions; and they are treated accordingly. Treatment facilities may have sufficient and valid reasons for employing these approaches during the treatment process. However, A.A.s who carry the message into treatment facilities often find that nonalcoholic drug addicts are encouraged by the facilities to attend A.A. meetings within the facilities. In addition, because of the effectiveness of the A.A. program in providing post-treatment support to alcoholics, nonalcoholic drug addicts are often referred to A.A. when they leave treatment facilities. In such cases, the practices of a treatment facility are clearly at odds with A.A. Traditions.

A.A.'s singleness of purpose must be communicated to the administrators and staff of treatment facilities by the A.A. treatment facilities committee. Again, the treatment facilities committees have the task of informing and educating these professionals about A.A. policy and Traditions. A.A. meetings within a treatment facility cannot be "substance abuse meetings"—they are held for alcoholics only (including dually-addicted alcoholics). Although enlightening treatment facilities personnel on the reasons for abiding by A.A. policy on this matter is often difficult and time consuming, experience has shown that the most effective communication by A.A.s is done in a loving manner and in the spirit of cooperation.

Reprinted from *Treatment Facilities Workbook*, p. 83.

Correctional Facilities

Ex-Inmates Carry The Message Back In

Many A.A.s successfully carry the message into correctional facilities, hospitals and treatment centers. But some of them perhaps identify more intensely with the inmates because they have walked in their shoes.

Edwin K., of Granite Falls, Washington, learned about A.A. in 1954 after finding a copy of the Big Book on a prison library cart. Soon afterward, he was transferred to an honor camp in the Los Angeles area, attended his first A.A. meeting, and liked what he saw and heard. Upon release from the camp, he phoned an A.A. contact with a borrowed dime and says "the call changed my life." He was steered to a halfway house, where "thanks to a few of those minor miracles that happen in A.A., I managed to stay sober."

Ed "made it back onto the road as a truck driver—and I trucked and trucked, hauling flatbed machinery across the states and a bit of Mexico. I've been around and now, close to age 70, I'm still capable and documented. Does anyone need a good skinner for an 18-wheeler?"

Ed has headed an established halfway house since 1959 and is the co-founder of three more. Active in a prison ministry, he is "very grateful" for his sobriety—and for his "new love," a short-line railroad in northwestern Washington, which he manages. "We have about a mile of track, three boxcars, two push cars for track maintenance and two motor scooters," he reports proudly. "And we have a plan: to make one of the boxcars into a combination chapel and gift shop."

In Atlanta, Georgia, Pauline B. writes and mails a monthly newsletter to more than 100 inmates and former inmates. They write back and she includes their letters in her publication.

"I attract a lot of people to A.A.," she says, "by telling them that I am an alcoholic who was once incarcerated in a mental hospital. Because of the spiritual A.A. program, I have not had a drink in 25 years and am a responsible citizen now, holding down a good job and trying to help others as I have been helped."

Another former inmate, Bill F., went to his first meeting outside the (Southern) California Men's Colony the day after his release. A week later, he attended a Hospitals and Institutions committee meeting and "once again," he relates, "I was overwhelmed with that same love and caring I have found at meetings. It feels good to start putting back into this program what I have taken from it. Service work will help to keep me sober, and I hope it will enable me to help someone else as well.

From Cornwall, New York, Linda W. wrote the General Service Office two weeks after her release from prison to volunteer as a pen pal to inmates. "I am now capable of savoring life's joyous moments and dealing with life's misfortunes," Linda explained. "I have learned the difference between a hard life and a bad life. Now I would love to help someone else the way I have been helped in A.A."

P.I.

One District's Experience

The Public Information chairperson, Bill, from District 9, Kansas City and Leavenworth areas, wrote to let G.S.O. know that service in the district is "alive and growing!" Excerpts from his report include the following:

"At our first district meeting of the year, we elected chairpersons for Public Information and C.P.C., as well as for H&I committees." Since the committees are small, meetings are held jointly ". . . by combining our meetings, we grew together, avoided overlapping each committee's projects and, by utilizing many minds instead of a few, came up with effective ways to spread the message of A.A."

"We started slowly, as suggested by our workbooks. Our first meetings were used to thoroughly study and discuss the A.A. Traditions, Guidelines, anonymity and speaking at non-A.A. meetings. While this portion of our growth was sometimes tedious, it has proven its value and we can now approach the general public in a knowledgeable A.A. way.

"We have utilized the local newspapers with ads in the 'personal' columns; small bordered display ads; listings in the 'Weekly Calendar' sections; and a front-page story about A.A.. We have also placed several Big Books in public libraries, and placed public service announcements on four radio stations.

"Our Kansas State Public Information chairperson gives us his time and efforts generously. He has a wood-working talent and has made many display racks for us. These racks are filled with various A.A. pamphlets, each pamphlet stamped with our local A.A. hotline telephone number. After obtaining permission, we have placed the filled racks in libraries, courthouses, hospital waiting rooms, schools, medical building lobbies, doctors' offices, senior citizen high-rise lobbies, etc. Each committee member placing a rack checks periodically

to replace literature needed.

"We are self-supporting, but our home groups have pledged their financial assistance if called upon. We feel we had a fruitful and soul-satisfying year. Even though most of us have regular jobs, we are making this service work our job, too. Our pay is a generous amount of peace of mind, knowing we are carrying the message of A.A. We also have job security—there will always be a need for us."

Planning a P.I. Service Workshop?

In response to requests from public information committees, G.S.O. has produced, *for loan only*, a few half-inch V.H.S. combined cassettes of the public service announcements TV-25 and TV-26.

The combined cassette is designed for loan within A.A. to committees having service workshops; return is requested following the event. Cassettes will be loaned on a first-come-first-served basis. Please allow plenty of time before your service event to request a cassette.

C.P.C.

Michigan Judge Learns About A.A. Anonymity

The story in the Western Michigan newspaper read: Judge sentences drunk driver to 60 days in jail and 100 A.A. meetings during the one-year probation to follow.

The judge soon received a letter over the signature of treatment facilities chairperson Sue O. It said in part:

"We of the A.A. community have become concerned over the publication in local newspapers that persons charged with drunk driving offenses are receiving mandatory A.A. as part of their sentences.

"We do appreciate the fact that you are obviously aware of the good that Alcoholics Anonymous can do for the person who has a drinking problem and also has a desire to quit drinking. However, we wish to advise you that A.A. was never meant to be a punishment, nor is it now. Also, when a person's name appears in the newspaper as being sent to Alcoholics Anonymous, where is his anonymity? This is breaking one of our dearest and most treasured Traditions."

Shortly after sending the letter, together with the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated," Sue O. met with the judge, who "responded positively."

He still requires drunk drivers to attend A.A. meetings but sees to it that the ruling appears only in the Probation Office report, not in the newspapers.

"Although we have no C.P.C. committee here in Western Michigan," says delegate Janet W., "our Public Information and Treatment Facilities committees work closely together to cooperate with the professional community and explain to them how A.A. works."

Young A.A.s in Florida Reach out to the Young

Young A.A.s in North Florida are busy carrying the message to young alcoholics who still suffer, and working with members of the professional community who are in a position to extend A.A.'s circle of help and love even further.

Members of Orlando's Young and Free Group met back in January to discuss the possibility of contacting high school guidance counselors in an effort "to carry the message of what A.A. does and doesn't do," reports area C.P.C. chairperson Bobbe L. "While the initial feeling of this group was that they would be talking to students, it soon became clear that the C.P.C. thrust would be directed mainly to the faculty."

This particular C.P.C. project is still in the discussion phase, says Bobbe, simply because "our active Public Information committee has done such a remarkable job of keeping public school educators informed about A.A." However, she adds, as a result of the January meeting, three of the young A.A.s present went on to participate in an "Alcohol Awareness Week" seminar sponsored by all the fraternities and sororities at the University of Central Florida. They shared their experience, strength and hope before a broad, interested audience that included faculty, students and members of their families."

In another development, the C.P.C. committee has responded positively to a call for help from a Brevard County treatment center whose clients are aged 12 to 18. The committee has formed a group of young A.A.s who act as "contact friends." They carry the message in person and via phone, and frequently maintain close contact after the young newcomers are released from treatment.

"The number of young people in A.A. willing and able to do service work is growing in the Orlando area and their enthusiasm is heartwarming." Bobbe observes. "The Young and Free Group now numbers approximately 100 members aged anywhere from 12 to 25, and they are wonderful about welcoming those of us who may be gray-haired but are young in heart."

BOX 4|5|9 BULLETIN BOARD

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

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1987

Calendar of Events

August

- 7-9 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada.* Campout. Write: Sec., c/o Coalmont P.O., Tulameen, B.C. V0X 1G0
- 7-9 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas.* 47th "Old Grandad" Conv. Write: Tr., 3302 Ridge Rd., N. Little Rock, AR 72116
- 7-9 — *Beaumont, Texas.* Ninth District Conf. Write: Tr., Box 2243, Nederland, TX 77627
- 7-9 — *Bismarck, North Dakota.* Weekend With the Fellowship. Write: Ch., B.M.A.S., 311 S. 8th, Bismarck, ND 58501
- 7-9 — *Squamish, British Columbia, Canada.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1504, Squamish, B.C. V0N 3G0
- 7-9 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada.* 18th Annual C.W. Ontario Conv. Write: Ch., 58 Lowrey North, Cambridge, ON N1R 5A3
- 7-9 — *Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada.* 12th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., General Delivery, Great Village, Colchester County, Nova Scotia B0M 1L0
- 7-9 — *Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada.* First Annual Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1298, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 6N1
- 7-9 — *Indio, California.* 13th Annual Maad Dog Daze Conv. Write: Ch., Box 4383, Palm Desert, CA 92261
- 7-9 — *Whitney, Texas.* 44th Quarterly TCYPAA. Write: Sec., 611-8 Laramie I.H., Granbury, TX 76048
- 7-9 — *Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.* Sixth Delisle Triple A Campout. Write: Ch., RR #3, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3J6
- 7-9 — *Cincinnati, Ohio.* State Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 29368, Cincinnati, OH 45229
- 7-9 — *St. Peter, Minnesota.* 30th State Conf., Write: Ch., Box 842, Albert Lea, MN 56001
- 7-9 — *Moorhead, Minnesota.* 14th Red River Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 558, Moorhead, MN 56560
- 7-9 — *Bucks Lake, California.* Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1435, Quincy, CA 95971
- 7-9 — *Lake Pointset, South Dakota.* 16th Annual Serenity Wknd. Write: Ch., 1307 W. 8th St., #15, Yankton, SD 57078
- 7-9 — *Barrhead, Alberta, Canada.* 12th Go and Tell Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1181, Barrhead, AB T0G 0E0
- 8-9 — *Livingston, Montana.* Mini Conf. Write: Ch., Box 383, Livingston, MT 59047-0383
- 13-16 — *Omaha, Nebraska.* Tenth Cornhusker Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 13-16 — *Torrance, California.* South Bay Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1925, Redondo Beach, CA 90278
- 14-15 — *Granby, Quebec, Canada.* Neuvième Congrès Annuel. Écrire: Ch., Box 222, Granby, QC J2G 8E4
- 14-16 — *Dallas, Texas.* 16th Lone Star Roundup. Write: Com., Box 835112, Richardson, TX 75083-5112
- 14-16 — *Universal City, California.* Roundup (Gay Men and Women). Write: Ch., 14755 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1-756, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
- 14-16 — *Kutztown, Pennsylvania.* Second Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 8301, Reading, PA 19603
- 14-16 — *Jackson, Mississippi.* First Annual Old Timers Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 20664, Jackson, MS 39209-1664
- 14-16 — *Tofino, Ucluelet, British Columbia, Canada.* Third Annual West Coast Rally. Write: Ch., Box 15, Ucluelet, B.C., V0R 3A0
- 14-16 — *Clearwater Beach, Florida.* 13th Sun-coast Conv. Write: Tr., Box 5377, Largo, FL 34294
- 14-16 — *Meeker, Colorado.* White River Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 329, Meeker, CO 81641
- 14-16 — *Odessa, Texas.* W. State Roundup. Write: Ch., 9 San Miguel, Odessa, TX 79762
- 14-16 — *Glendive, Montana.* Lower Yellowstone Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 74, 399 South St., Savage, MT 59262
- 14-16 — *Rosemont, Illinois.* 14th State Conference. Write: Committee, 205 W. Wacker Dr., #422, Chicago, IL 60606
- 14-16 — *Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.* Fourth Annual M.S.R.C.Y.P.A.A. Write: Ch., Box 74924, Oklahoma City, OK 73147
- 15-16 — *Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canada.* 23rd Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 771, Windsor, Nova Scotia, B0N 2T0
- 15-16 — *Grenfell, Saskatchewan, Canada.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 68, Grenfell, SK S0G 2B0
- 20-23 — *Richmond, Virginia.* Southeast Regional Conf. Write: Tr., Box 1195, Dublin, VA 24084
- 21-23 — *Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada.* 11th N. Island Rally. Write: Ch., Box 2284, Port Hardy, B.C. V0N 2P0
- 21-23 — *Reno, Nevada.* Sierra Nevada Roundup. Write: Ch., 251 Smithridge Pk., Reno, NV 89502
- 21-23 — *Evanston, Wyoming.* Rebels Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 483, Evanston, WY 82930
- 21-23 — *Cleveland, Ohio.* Fifth Roundup (Gay Men and Women). Write: Com., Box 14775, Cleveland, OH 44114
- 21-23 — *Greenlake, Wisconsin.* Seventh Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 213, Germantown, WI 53022
- 21-23 — *Cartersville, Georgia.* Tenth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 856, Cartersville, GA 30120
- 21-23 — *Auriesville, New York.* Eighth Annual State Informational Workshops. Write: Box 201, W. Winfield, NY 13491
- 21-23 — *Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada.* 10th Roundup. Write: Ch., 206 Fifth Av., Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 2G4
- 22-23 — *Fort Morgan, Colorado.* N.E. Mini Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 1063, Fort Morgan, CO 80701
- 28-29 — *Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.* 40th Anniversary Conv. Write: Ch., Ave. N.S. Copacabana, 435/505, Box 44017, Rio de Janeiro, CEP 22020
- 28-30 — *Tiel, Holland.* First Annual International English Roundup. Write: Box 87959, 2508 DJ, the Hague, Netherlands
- 28-30 — *San Luis Obispo, California.* 20th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 13308, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
- 28-30 — *Stettler, Alberta, Canada.* Eighth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 775, Stettler, Alberta T0G 2L0

Planning an October, November or December 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 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) _____

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

Flip up this end of page — more events listed on reverse side

August (cont.)

- 28-30 — *Dryden, Ontario, Canada*. 10th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 202, Dryden, ON P8N 2Y8
- 28-30 — *Chautauqua, New York*. Tri-State Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 95B, Allegany, NY 14706
- 28-30 — *Mammoth Lakes, California*. 11th Hi-Sierra Campout. Write: Ch., Box 3577, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

September

- 3-6 — *Alliston, Ontario, Canada*. Third Annual Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 4535, Sta. C, London, ON N5W 5J5
- 4-6 — *Beaver, Utah*. 12th Campvention. Write: Ch., Box 1134, Beaver, UT 84713
- 4-6 — *Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*. Renaissance City Roundup (hosted by gay men and lesbians) Write: Ch., Box 90074, Pittsburgh, PA 15224
- 4-6 — *Chapleau, Ontario, Canada*. 20th Golden Route Roundup. Write: Sec., Box 634, Chapleau, ON P0M 1K0
- 4-6 — *Yellowknife, North West Territory, Canada*. 14th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1641, Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2P2
- 4-6 — *High Point, North Carolina*. 14th Central State Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1921, High Point, NC 27261
- 4-6 — *Polson, Montana*. Fourth Ray of Hope Camporee. Write: Ch., Box 1207, Polson, MT 59860
- 4-6 — *Kansas City, Missouri*. Seventh Live and Let Live Roundup (presented by gays and lesbians) Write: Ch., Box 32892, Kansas City, MO 64111
- 4-6 — *Denver, Colorado*. Conv. Write: Ch., 4725 W. Quincy, Denver, CO 80236
- 4-6 — *Abilene, Texas*. Seventh Big Country Conf. Write: Ch., 2850 Southwest Dr., Abilene, TX 79605
- 4-6 — *Penticton, British Columbia, Canada*. 22nd Annual S. Okanagan Labour Day Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 524, Penticton, B.C. V2A 6K9
- 4-6 — *St. Louis, Missouri*. Fall Classic. Write: Ch., 6662 Sutherland, St. Louis, MO 63109
- 4-6 — *St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada*. 23rd Annual Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador Assembly. Write: Ch., Site 81, Box 72, St. John's, NF A1C 5H4
- 4-6 — *Houma, Louisiana*. Seventh Annual Bayouland Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 2251, Houma, LA 70361
- 4-6 — *Saguenay, Quebec, Canada*. 9ième Congrès. Écrire à: Ch., 2259 St. Maurice, Jonquière, Québec G8A 1T3
- 4-6 — *Boston, Massachusetts*. 30th ICYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 1059, General Mail Facility, Boston, MA 02205
- 4-7 — *West Palm Beach, Florida*. Seventh Annual S. Florida Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 885, W. Palm Beach, FL 33402
- 4-7 — *Powell River, British Columbia*. 40th Annual Labour Day Rally. Write: Ch., 5688 Marlatt Av., Powell River, B.C. V8A 4E7
- 10-13 — *Richardson, Texas*. Fourth Singles in Sobriety Conf. Write: Sec., 13911 Preston Valley Place, Dallas, TX 75240

- 10-13 — *Nahunta, Georgia*. Jekyll Island Serenity Wknd. Write: Ch., Box 571, Nahunta, GA 31553
- 11-12 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Fourth Vision for Women Conf. Write: Ch., #49 8740 Forest Grove Dr., Burnaby, B.C. V5A 4C9
- 11-13 — *Seattle, Washington*. Coming of Age Conf. (hosted by gays and lesbians) Write: Ch., Box 552, 600 E. Pine, Seattle, WA 98122
- 11-13 — *Ottawa, Ontario*. 36th Eastern Conf. Write: Ch., Box 4342, Sta. E., Ottawa, ON K1S 5B3
- 11-13 — *Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada*. Eighth Rally. Write: Ch., 5856 Nelson Rd., Port Alberni, B.C. V9A 7G7
- 11-13 — *Many, Louisiana*. 20th W. Louisiana Conf. Write: Ch., 930 E. Main, Many, LA 71449
- 11-13 — *Repentigny, Québec, Canada*. Cinquième Congrés. Écrire à: C.P. 134, Repentigny, PQ J6A 5H7
- 11-13 — *Mentor, Ohio*. 41st Punderson Pk. Conf. Write: Sec., Box 1032, Mentor, OH 44061-1032
- 11-13 — *Warwick, New York*. 12th Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 705, Middletown, NY 10940
- 11-13 — *Angels Camp, California*. First Annual Gold Country Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 355, Angels Camp, CA 95222-355
- 11-13 — *Kenora, Ontario, Canada*. 16th Annual Sunset Country Roundup. Write: Ch., 66 Kay St. W., Kenora, Ontario, P9N 3S5
- 11-13 — *Fargo, North Dakota*. West Central Regional Forum. Write: Coordinator, G.S.O., 468 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016
- 12-13 — *Kettle Falls, Washington*. Fall Little Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 545, Colville, WA 99114
- 12-13 — *El Paso, Texas*. Founders Day — 42nd Anniversary. Write: Box 1405, El Paso, TX 79948
- 17-20 — *West Sacramento, California*. Second Annual Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., 3332 Mather Field Rd., #202, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
- 17-20 — *Mobile, Alabama*. Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 16506, Mobile, AL 36609
- 18-20 — *Arlington, Texas*. 24th NETA Fall Assembly. Write: Ch., 1001 Via Real, Arlington, TX 76013
- 18-20 — *Brampton, Ontario, Canada*. Fifth Getting-to-Know-You Conv. Write: Ch., Box 401, Brampton, ON L6V 2L3
- 18-20 — *Bull Shoals, Arkansas*. Seventh Annual Autumn in the Ozarks Conf. Write: Ch., Box 192, Bull Shoals, AR 72619
- 18-20 — *Anchorage, Alaska*. Area Assembly. Write: Ch., Anchorage Intergroup, 326 H St., Rm. 15, Anchorage, AK 99501
- 18-20 — *Moodus, Connecticut*. 29th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 32 Garden St., New Britain, CT 06052
- 18-20 — *St. Croix, Virgin Islands*. Second Annual Roundup. Phone toll-free: (800) 524-2036
- 18-20 — *Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada*. 17e Congrès Annuel. Écrire à: C.P. 1541, Sherbrooke, PQ J1H 5M4
- 18-20 — *Los Angeles, California*. AAWS/Intergroup Seminar. Write: Coordinator, G.S.O., 468 Park Av. S., New York, NY 10016
- 18-20 — *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*. Int. Lawyers/Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 40063, Philadelphia, PA 19106

- 18-20 — *Salt Lake City, Utah*. Skyline Conference. Write: Ch., 2645 S.400 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84115
- 25-27 — *Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada*. 19th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3266, Revelstoke, B.C., V0E 2S0
- 25-27 — *Harrisonburg, Virginia*. Shenandoah Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., Rt. #11, Box 186, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
- 25-27 — *Columbus, Ohio*. First Annual Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2131, Columbus, OH 43216
- 25-27 — *Salina, Kansas*. State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 408, Chapman, KS 67431
- 25-27 — *Rawlins, Wyoming*. State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1221, Rawlins, WY 82301
- 25-27 — *Taos, New Mexico*. Fourth Annual Mountain Fiesta. Write: Ch., Box 817, Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557

October

- 2-4 — *Rochester, New York*. Conv. Write: Central Office, 183 E. Main St., Rochester, NY 14604
- 2-4 — *Peoria, Illinois*. East Central Regional Forum. Write: Coordinator, G.S.O., 486 Park Av. S., New York, NY 10016
- 7-9 — *Lansing Michigan*. Mackinac Island Weekend. Write: Lansing Central Office, 302 S. Waverly, Lansing, MI 48917
- 9-10 — *Jefferson City, Maryland*. Third Annual Central Maryland Roundup. Write: Ch., 12512 W. Old Balto. Rd., Boyds, MD 20841
- 9-11 — *Whitefish, Montana*. Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1935, Whitefish, MT 59937
- 9-11 — *Montego Bay, Jamaica, West Indies*. Fifth Annual Discovery Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 138, Reading, Montego Bay, Jamaica
- 9-11 — *Prince George, British Columbia*. 31st Annual Northern Lites Roundup. Write: Ch., 1075 Davie Av., Prince George, B.C. V2M 4G5
- 9-11 — *Lafayette, Louisiana*. Fourth Annual Cajun Country Conf. Write: Box 3160, Lafayette, LA 70502
- 9-11 — *Lachine, Quebec, Canada*. Second Bilingual Conv. Write: Ch., 740 18th Av., Lachine, P.Q. H8S 4C4
- 16-18 — *Louisville, Kentucky*. KCYPAA Conf. Write: Ch., The Token Club 3, 4014 Dutchmans Ln., Louisville, KY 40207
- 16-18 — *Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada*. Fall Assembly. Write: Ch., 805 High Meadow Park, Saint John, N.B. E2J 3X3
- 23-25 — *Monterey, California*. Eighth Conf. by the Sea. Write: Ch., 3326 Forbes Av., Santa Clara, CA 95051
- 23-25 — *St. Cloud, Minnesota*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 125, St. Cloud, MN 56302
- 29-Nov. 1 — *Honolulu, Hawaii*. 26th Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 23434, Honolulu, HI 96822
- 30-Nov. 1 — *Wausau, Wisconsin*. 47th Fall Conf. Write: Box 455, Wausau, WI 54401
- 30-Nov. 1 — *Owensboro, Kentucky*. 27th Annual Tri-State Conv. Write: Ch., 302 E. Third St., Owensboro, KY 42301
- 30-Nov. 1 — *Montreal, Quebec, Canada*. 28th Bilingual Conv. Write: Ch., 5789 d'Iberville, Montreal, PQ H2G 2B8