

## 50th Anniversary International Convention

*Montreal, Quebec, Canada, July 7, 1985* — I missed the only other International Convention of A.A. held in Canada. That was in Toronto, in 1965, and although I was four years sober, I just didn't go. And when I asked my sponsor about it, he said, "It is impossible to describe an International Convention — you have to *experience* it!"

Well, I didn't miss A.A.'s 50th Anniversary International Convention in Montreal, and when a sponsee of mine asked me about it, I said, "It is impossible to describe it — you have to *experience* it!" And the more than 45,000 members of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon and their families who were there over the July 4th weekend *did* experience the largest gathering of recovered drunks ever held — about twice as many as the largest Convention held before.

We not only filled every hotel in Montreal and its surrounding towns, but we drove in from as far away as Sherbrooke (90 miles) and Burlington, Vermont (75 miles). We literally took over the whole city — overflowing the magnificent, state-of-the-art Convention Centre and the hotel meeting rooms, filling the metro and buses, crowding the restaurants, thronging the sidewalks and underground malls — instead of being invisible and unnoticed, we alcoholics were *everywhere*, and the "civilians" were in the minority!

In this year of our Golden Anniversary, we wallowed joyfully in history and nostalgia. At the Friday night Big Meeting, Bob P., chairperson of the Convention, reminded us, as Bill W. had done, that our roots go back to Dr. Carl Jung, who told Rowland H. that his recovery depended on "a transforming experience of the spirit." Bob also introduced a succession of honored guests who were significant in the beginning days of Alcoholics Anonymous. We presented the five millionth (5,000,000) copy of the Big Book to Ruth Hock, Bill W.'s nonalcoholic secretary, who typed the original manuscript. There was not a dry eye in the huge Olympic Park Stadium!

We looked backward, too, in workshops — on Pioneers in A.A. and on How A.A. Began in the U.S. and Canada, in Europe, and in Latin America — as



well as in A.A. meetings devoted to Golden Oldies and Oldtimers.

As various languages were spoken all around us, we realized, constantly and vividly, that ours is truly an international Fellowship. The feeling began with our arrival in Quebec, where the waitresses, cab drivers, and every local person we met spoke French — and then would switch to English if we were American. Even the traffic signs were in French! At the Convention, the tremendous Flag Ceremony on Friday night, with A.A. members from 54 different countries marching into the stadium bearing their national flags, drove home, with an emotional wallop, the fact of our worldwide reach. The Big Meetings in the stadium were translated simultaneously into four languages — French, Spanish, German, and English, and at the Convention Centre, French-, Spanish-, and German-speaking members held workshops. In the metro, on the buses, wherever we encountered conventioners, there were enthusiastic, loving knots of visitors from New Zealand or Mexico, Scotland or Finland or a dozen other far-off lands, eager to share with us. We hugged and kissed and declared undying friendship with countless



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**Box 459** is published bimonthly by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, 468 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y., © Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 1985.

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

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

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strangers; no, not strangers but friends we had not yet met.

The city of Montreal itself turned out to be one of the most enjoyable features of our International Convention. We didn't have a spare moment during the four days of the huge get-together (we hardly had time to sleep!), but we took a few extra days to go sightseeing and shopping in what must be one of the most interesting and cosmopolitan cities in the world. "Old Montreal," the restored historic section along the St. Lawrence River, is quaint and fascinating, while the rest of the downtown area boasts the most attractive, modern architecture — and everything is *so clean*. We gazed out from Mount Royal and toured Man and His World on its lovely island in the river (i.e., Expo '67 revisited) and stood in line endlessly (and it was worth it) to feast in marvelous restaurants. Many of us took advantage of the Picasso art exhibit and the Ramses II Egyptian exhibition, which happened to be on during A.A.'s time in Montreal. A Jazz Festival attracted throngs of members into the night. We spotted a few prospects for the Fellowship there!

Speaking of "on into the night," we attended the popular Marathon Meeting, which commenced at midnight Thursday night with the lighting of a big candle, and continued without interruption until 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning, at LeGrand Hotel. Marathon Meetings were also held in French. At any hour of the day or night there were members attending these marathons, sipping coffee to stay awake.

All day Friday and Saturday we went from workshop to panel to workshop to alkathon at the Convention Centre and at the nearby hotels. Every one was fascinating and we only wished we could have attended them all! The "A.A. Around the World" call-up meeting was dynamite. The Sponsorship Workshop was standing-room-only. The panels on our relations with the outside

professional world — alcoholism agencies, the medical profession, treatment facilities, industry, and others — gave us an opportunity to be friendly with our distinguished nonalcoholic friends. Bill W. would have been pleased!

We made the mob-scene of the opening dances on Thursday night. Marvelous music! But mostly we people-watched and greeted old friends. What a joy to be sober! We ran in the Fun Run on Sunday morning — maybe a couple of hundred of us streaming through the streets of Old Montreal with the sun barely up. What a contrast with the Bad Old Days! We applauded and cheered at the spectacular entertainment show on Saturday night. Those Mummies were unbelievable! And we choked up with emotion at the final meeting, the final get-together, the great spiritual meeting at the Olympic Park Stadium Sunday morning. Exhausted as we were by the time we stood and held hands and recited the Lord's Prayer in mighty unison that last time, we found ourselves wishing this 50th Anniversary A.A. International Convention could go on . . . and on. . . .

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## Past International Conventions Remembered

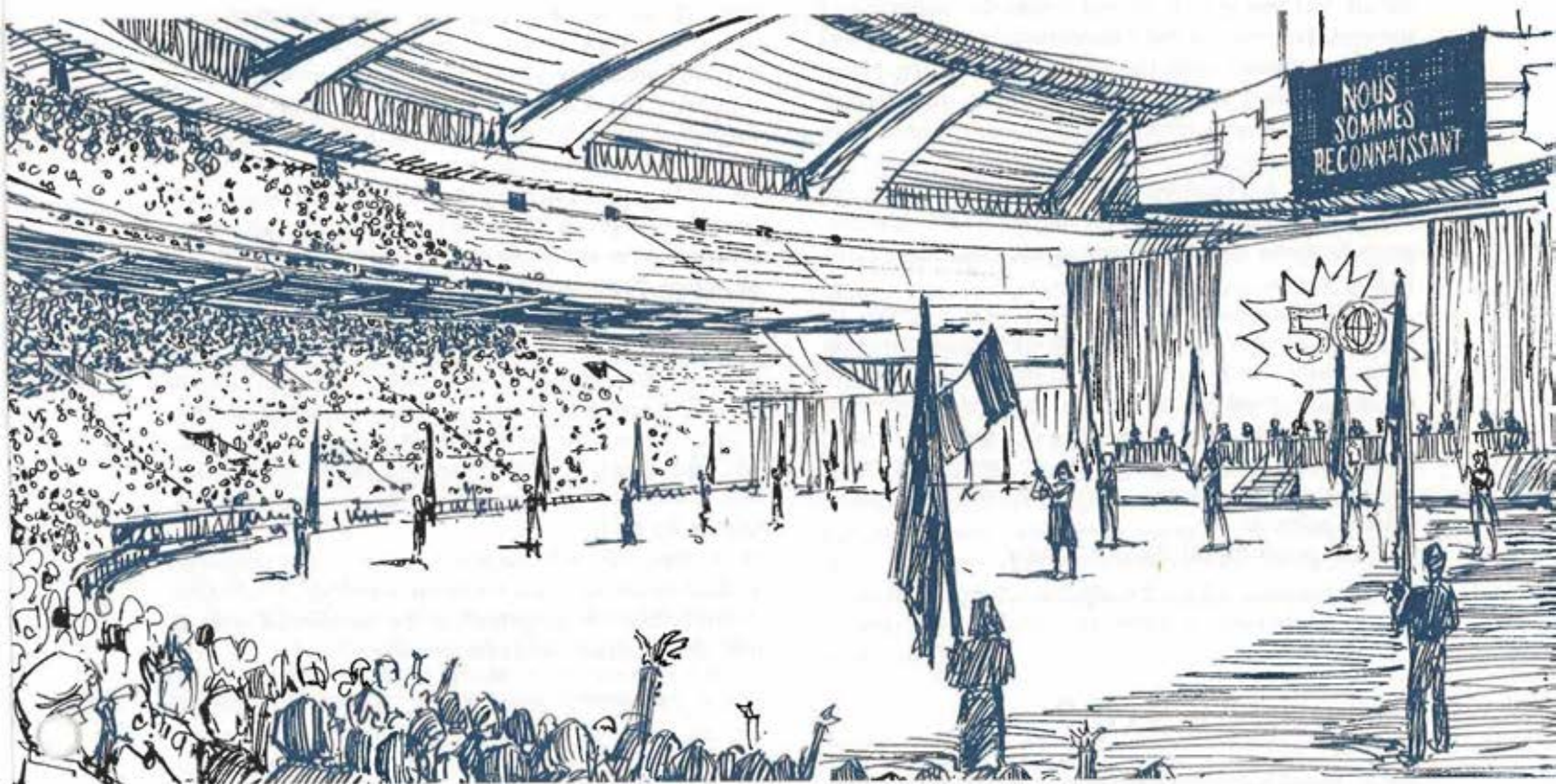
Nell Wing, Bill W.'s long-time secretary and former A.A. archivist, has attended all eight International Conventions — and was involved in the behind-the-scenes preparations. *Box 4-5-9* asked Nell to recall some of her memories of these historic events.

"Prior to 1950 was a period of getting sober, finding unity, and learning to live together in sobriety — a period of mistakes and trial and error. Toward the end of the first decade members began getting together in larger groups and meetings. The first big area meeting I remember," said Nell, "was the Birmingham, Alabama, regional meeting in 1945 — a forerunner and example of other events to follow."

The weekend of July 10, 1945, saw the first big A.A. anniversary meeting in Ohio — three thousand members, from 36 states and Canada, and one member from Mexico. A Cleveland newspaper headline read: Epic Gathering Marks 10th Anniversary. The article went on to say, "this large audience heard Bill W. and Dr. Bob characterize the gathering as an unprecedented outpouring of the grace of God." Bill was quoted as saying "the problems of A.A. are the touchstones of our progress."

"The late 1940's saw the Fellowship flourishing beyond this continent and it was thought that there might be some interest in getting together another





Convention in 1950." At first, Bill and other members were skeptical — it was expensive, and there might be "cries of professionalism," etc. However, as Bill wrote to Dick S. of Cleveland in March of 1950: "Far from proving the exhibitionistic and Chatauqua-like affairs we once feared these meetings might be, the experience everywhere now shows such gatherings as very powerful and unifying and spiritualizing forces indeed."

Thus, 1950 saw 3,000 members attending A.A.'s first International Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, which marked the historic acceptance of the short form of the Traditions. It was the last opportunity to honor Bob, who was in failing health. Bill had his last meeting with Dr. Bob a few weeks later, when Dr. Bob, who had previously been reluctant to do so, gave his approval for the General Service Conference.

Five thousand attended the second Convention, July 1-3, 1955. In this 20th anniversary year, Bill turned over the Fellowship to the movement itself — and the membership accepted the Third Legacy of Service.

The St. Louis Convention stands out in Nell's mind as "being ghastly hot." "The initial reason for holding get-togethers over July 4th weekend," she explains, "was because the heat in a lot of places was too hot to attract

tourists and visitors. So, A.A. was able to obtain the halls and facilities at a cheaper rate."

Dr. Emily, Bill's mother, attended the 1955 Convention — the first time she had occasion to see A.A. honor Bill. Then in her 80's, Dr. Emily responded to remarks of how proud she must be of her son, with: "But, I am proud of all of you."

Long Beach, California, was the site of A.A.'s 25th anniversary celebration, July 1-3, 1960. Held in an open arena, it was as cold as St. Louis had been hot. Nell remembers that Bill was "so busy running around seeing his old friends — especially Gerald Heard and Aldous Huxley — that he was exhausted. He worked on his Traditions speech up to the final moment — dictating to me in the taxi." Nonetheless, Bill talked for two hours — holding his audience despite the cold and wind whipping across the stage. He was to call it, forever after, his "Deep Freeze Talk."

The Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, held 10,500 at the 1965 Convention. It was the year of the I Am Responsible Declaration and "representatives of 30 countries gathered on the stage and each repeated, in his native tongue, 'I Am Responsible.'" Nell remembers an amusing anecdote of a nonalcoholic trustee, wearing his A.A.



badge, going into a bar to order a drink. The bartender refused to serve him.

The 1970 Convention, in Miami, was a difficult time for all. Bill was gravely ill and it was the beginning of the end. For most of the Convention, he was confined to his hotel room with Dr. Ed B. in attendance. Marty M. and Bernard Smith filled in for Bill on the program — but he did make his final appearance at the Sunday morning meeting.

The first International Convention without the co-founders was held in Denver, July 4-6, 1975. Twenty-seven overseas countries were represented among the 19,500 people.

New Orleans's Superdome saw 22,500 in 1980. To Nell Wing, and to many others who remember this 45th Anniversary Convention, the most memorable happening was the drunk on the street who saw the crowd and asked what was going on. Some A.A.'s got hold of him; by the closing meeting he was the most important person in the Superdome — the newcomer with three days of sobriety.

That's what it's all about — really!

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## Planning a Trip?

Bill Z. found sobriety in Philadelphia, Pa., and is now living in Saudi Arabia. The Philadelphia Intergroup's publication *Interviews* included Bill's suggestions for A.A.'s traveling in foreign countries:

1. When planning a foreign trip, besides the travel brochures, consult the *International A.A. Directory*. (Many large foreign cities have English-speaking groups. Then there is the foreign-based, English-speaking Loner who wants to meet and share. It's too good an opportunity to miss.)

2. Write ahead for an English-speaking contact, if you are concerned about a language barrier, or just would like someone who "knows" available.

3. Become familiar with the locale of a foreign meeting place in the *daylight*, if at all possible. (Remember how difficult it was to find a certain church basement when we first came around? While your foreign meeting will probably be upstairs, street signs and building numbers are no fun to find in the dark.)

4. If with a tour group and concerned about anonymity, tell them you are visiting friends for the evening, and go to your meeting. (It will soon be true. Besides, you may surprise others with your worldwide circle of friends. It has happened to me.)

5. Introduce yourself around when you first arrive at a foreign meeting. (Even though your clothes and accent will tell the natives who you are, everyone likes a friendly "foreigner.")

6. Be prepared to have no one say "Hi," when you identify yourself during a foreign meeting, unless it is heavily "Americanized." (Foreign A.A.'s respect what you will have to say, and do not like to interrupt.)

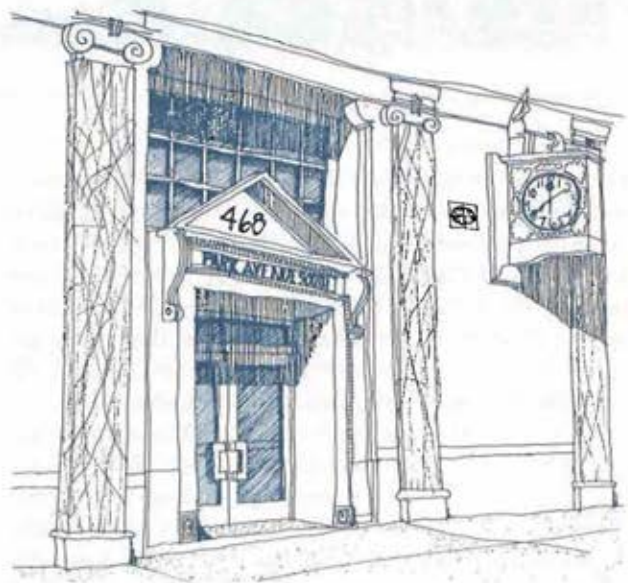
7. If given the opportunity, share your experience, strength and hope clearly and slowly, avoiding slang expressions. (While many foreign A.A.'s speak beautiful English, it is not their mother tongue. In addition, quiet sharing increases our sincerity.)

8. Unless specifically asked, avoid telling foreign A.A.'s how the program is worked back home. Remember each group is autonomous, no matter where. We are all proud of where and how we got sober.

9. When the hat is passed, try to use local currency. U.S. money is difficult for foreign groups to exchange at their local bank. (What would you do with Italian lira, Greek drachmas or Austrian schillings if they showed up in your home group's basket?)

10. While away, maintain the same prayer and meditation pattern used at home. The scene may have changed, but we haven't!

11. Coffee, tea, and cola are the same in any language, so don't be afraid to ask for them in foreign restaurants. (I am constantly surprised at the number of tourists who do *not* drink alcoholic beverages.)



## Open House at G.S.O.

We are happy to announce that the 1985 Open House Day at the General Service Office is scheduled for Saturday, November 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Last year, more than 750 visitors attended our annual Open House — a tour of the General Service and Grapevine offices, followed by an afternoon session on staff functions, including a question and answer period.



Attendees last year came from all over the Northeast region, and some from California, Florida, Canada, and Mexico! All of us look forward to repeating last year's event. See you Saturday, November 16, at 468 Park Avenue South (between 31st and 32nd Streets), New York City.

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## Anonymity — '... the Spiritual Foundation'

During the Sunday morning meeting at the International Convention, the Fellowship reaffirmed the spirit of anonymity as Bill's last message was read. The trustees' Public Information Committee suggests that individual A.A. groups might want to have this message read, too.

"My dear friends,

Recently an A.A. member sent me an unusual greeting which I would like to extend to you. He told me it was an ancient Arabian salutation. Perhaps we have no Arabian groups, but it still seems a fitting expression of how I feel for each of you. It says, 'I salute you and thank you for your life.'

My thoughts are much occupied these days with gratitude to our Fellowship and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God's Grace.

If I were asked which of these blessings I felt was most responsible for our growth as a fellowship and most vital to our continuity, I would say, the 'Concept of Anonymity.'

Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical.

On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes.

A.A. must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we, turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary and enduring safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity we will continue to receive God's Grace.

And so — once more, I salute you in that spirit and again I thank you *for your lives*.

May God bless us all now, and forever.

Ever Yours,  
Bill"

## Upcoming Regional Forum Dates

During the next year, four Regional Forums are scheduled:

West Central	Sheridan, Wyoming	Sept. 13-15
Southwest	Dallas, Texas	Dec. 6-8
	1986	
Western Canada	Regina, Saskatchewan	May 16-18
Pacific	Los Angeles, California	July 11-13

At these sessions, any interested A.A.'s (in addition to those who work with the various service committees) are welcome to meet with trustees, directors, and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members for candid discussions. The agenda is flexible.

If your A.A. group is in one of the regions listed above, or if you are likely to be traveling there at the right time, you'll want to note the date and location for a memorable service experience. To obtain a registration/reservation form for the event you're interested in, write to: Regional Forum Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. Calendars in the appropriate issues of this bulletin will include reminders about all Forums.

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## New Trustees

When three of the newly-elected trustees—trustee-at-large/United States and two regional trustees—met in Montreal it was a reunion. They served together at the 1980 General Service Conference (two from Panel 31 and one from Panel 30), and they consider 1980 to be a "vintage year."

The General Service Board consists of 21 trustees: seven Class A (nonalcoholic) who serve a nine-year term, and 14 Class B (alcoholic) who serve for four years. The 1985 Conference elected new trustees to replace rotating members.

Jack W., of Novi, Michigan, replaces Buck B. as the East Central regional trustee. Jack received the news on the 11th anniversary of his sobriety, when he was in the hospital recovering from surgery—ecstatic, immobilized, and overwhelmed are some of the words he uses to express that moment. An administrative law judge, Jack sees his role as trustee as an expansion of his role as a former delegate (Panel 31)—only covering a wider geographical area and more aspects of service.

Joe P., of Atlanta, Georgia, replaces Joe K. as Southeast



U.S. regional trustee, and his home group and adopted state are more than a little pleased! He is the first trustee from the state of Georgia. Joe, now retired from a career in business and finance, served as chairperson on the 31st Conference Finance Committee (Panel 30). He feels the first order of business is "to stay sober and carry the message; everything funnels through that."

"I have finally worked my way to the bottom," said Don P., of Aurora, Colorado, upon learning that he was elected trustee-at-large/United States. He sees serving as a General Service trustee as a way of discharging some of his debts to the Fellowship—that there is a personal responsibility that Alcoholics Anonymous should be here 50 years hence. Coming from a background of service in institutions work, Don remains very active in sponsorship and believes Twelfth Stepping is the core of A.A.

Don, who replaces former trustee-at-large David A., hoped he would receive some suggestions from his predecessor—all David said was, "Make sure you wear a suit to the trustees' dinner."

## New From G.S.O.

- Archives Scrapbook — an offset reproduction of newspaper clippings about A.A., 1939-1942. 17" by 18½". \$50.
- Twelve Traditions Posters — set of black and white posters, 8½" by 11," based on the drawings in the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated." Suitable for framing. \$5.
- World Service Meeting Report — final report of the Eighth World Service Meeting. 38 pages. Available to A.A. members only; one complimentary copy upon request.

Recently translated Spanish items:

- "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" — illustrated pamphlet presenting the experience of inmates who found A.A. while in prison. 55¢.
- "Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions" — 16mm color film in which Bill W. tells how the principles safeguarding A.A. unity developed. Rental, \$35 per week; write G.S.O. for details.

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## P.I.

### A Journalist's A.A. Experience

During the winter of 1940-41, when Jack Alexander was researching his *Saturday Evening Post* article, which put A.A. on the map, Bill W. and other early members cooperated with Jack in every possible way. Bill said: ". . . we took him in tow for nearly a whole month. In order to write his powerful article, he had to have our fullest attention and carefully organized help . . ."

In 1985, a Hollywood scriptwriter, Michael Bortman, was researching a possible film about Bill W. Working with the P.I. desk at the General Service Office, Bortman, like Jack Alexander before him, was taken to open A.A. meetings. Speaking at the International Convention on "A.A. and the Media," Mike reflects on his experiences:

She is small, sharp eyed, almost bird-like in her movements; a lawyer, she says, for a large firm specializing in real estate. She is here because she confessed to her priest, who recommended she speak to a certain nun, and the nun sponsored her here; they are both now regulars at these Wednesday night meetings. She has made the effort to welcome me, to make me feel comfortable, and now she is curious: am I a first timer?

Yes. When did I have my last drink? I tell the truth: a week ago. I do not say I will likely have one when I leave here tonight, nor do I say I am not an alcoholic, but a writer, doing research for a screenplay. It occurs to me that she would not believe that anyway. She is sympathetic, she knows how hard the first few weeks can be. How are you feeling? she asks. I do not say: like an outsider. Later, it occurs to me that she would have understood that perfectly, even sympathized.

Acutely, I am feeling many things. I once knew a painter who claimed to suffer from a condition he called retinal greed, compulsively stuffing his eyes with sights the way an overeater might attack a refrigerator. Tonight I am retinally greedy. Who are these people, this roomful of alcoholics? Are they different from me? It does not seem so, although I know a woman, the daughter of an alcoholic, who claims that she can go to a party, enter a crowded room, and pick out the alcoholics by sight. What would she say if she saw me here tonight? Could she pick out the writer doing research?

Oddly, in addition to feeling like an outsider, I am also feeling drawn in, welcomed (maybe it is *why* I feel like an outsider), not just by the lawyer before me but by the dozen or so strangers who have held out their hands, introduced themselves, urged me to keep coming back. I cannot recall a single other instance of such aggressive hospitality in my life. It has a powerful effect.



Although I know I will not, I feel that I would like to return.

It is not my first A.A. meeting. I have been to others, in other parts of town. I have occasionally found them compelling, even extraordinary in some way that I can't define. It is the drunkalog, I think, that makes the difference; those intimate glances into the lives of strangers, often captivating, sometimes hair-raising, and once in a great while, mesmerizing.

Perhaps there is an equivalent to retinal greed for writers, only unlike for painters, it is accounts of lives lived, not sights, to which the greed attaches. Listening to them, I am reminded of a quotation from Elie Wiesel, the holocaust writer, which I used to have on my office wall, "God made man because he loved stories."

The lawyer wishes me well, and the meeting comes to order. Soon the stories begin, and once again I am transported. A woman tells of how she danced drunk-ly for years, in bars, in living rooms, gawky, uncoordinated, it didn't matter. She wanted to dance and she could not muster the nerve unless she were loaded. Then she found A.A., sobered up, and discovered she actually had rhythm. The room erupts into laughter, warm and knowing. One senses kinship in this room, experiences shared and hardships overcome. Sitting in the dim light, listening, an odd thought crosses an outsider's mind. It is finally not true, and it would be the blackest sort of humor if it were, but the thought occurs anyway and it makes me laugh: I wish I were an alcoholic.

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## Early P.I. Efforts

The first Public Information Committee in Alcoholics Anonymous was formed by the General Service Board in 1956. The "official" policy of public information was set forth as follows: to inform the general public about the A.A. program; to inform those who work with the active alcoholic; and to keep the A.A. Fellowship well-informed.

In 1937 A.A. could count 40 recovered members and discussions began on how to inform the public that alcoholics could stay sober. Bill W. related, in a 1945 Grapevine article "The Book Is Born," that these early members were by temperament mostly salesmen and promoters. "If 40 alcoholics could recover, why not four hundred—even forty thousand? Publicity? Why of course! Millions of words! Money? Sure! It would take millions naturally. The matter of money and publicity would be a cinch—just a campaign of high-powered selling directed at our American tycoons and editors would settle the question. How could they resist when they saw what we had?"

These ideas were brought to a meeting in Akron

during the summer of 1937. The promoters could think of nothing but getting the glad news of recoveries to a million alcoholics, overnight if possible. A conservative element, led by Dr. Bob, proceeded to make the point that "The man from Galilee had no press agent, no newspapers, no pamphlets, no books—nothing but word of mouth to carry the 'message' from person to person, from group to group." Were we A.A.'s to favor personal glorification in public, in place of quietness, humility, and anonymity?

Out of this discussion, between the promoters and the "go slow boys," came a compromise—the decision to publish the book "Alcoholics Anonymous." Bill W. would say that this meeting led also to the establishment of the Alcoholic Foundation, and the creation of the Central Office in New York, where alcoholics and their families could write for literature and direct help. The rapid and seemingly healthy growth, following the publication of the Big Book, would demonstrate the wisdom of the decisions in Akron in 1937.

The first public promotion of the book "Alcoholics Anonymous," was a *New York Times* ad in April 1939, asking "Have you an alcoholic problem?" But it was the book reviews and, in 1941, the *Saturday Evening Post* article, which helped the sales of the Big Book. Book reviews were carried in various publications by groups such as the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the American Baptist Society, the Scientific Temperance Federation, and the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol.

In 1941, NBC began a thirteen-part syndicated radio program, "Is Alcohol a Problem in Your Home?" Carried around the country, this idea of using the radio was soon utilized by local A.A. groups. A.A. members spoke at local Rotary, Optimist, and other public meetings, telling their stories and the story of Alcoholics Anonymous. Bill W. spoke at medical conventions, regional A.A. meetings, and granted newspaper interviews. It was the local newspaper articles that helped promote A.A. the most during the 1940's—they printed A.A. interviews, open meeting invitations, and phone numbers.

The portrait of an alcoholic in the film *The Lost Weekend* generated many calls from the public to A.A. for information. Also, the March of Time short-subject film, "The Problem Drinker," shown in 1946, traced problems of alcoholism from the "dry" to Alcoholics Anonymous. The publication of anonymous autobiographies by A.A.'s, such as *September Remember* and *If a Man Be Mad*, gathered national attention for the Fellowship.

The 1940's witnessed many public information strategies being developed by A.A. This period was not without its problems and occasional anonymity breaks, but these early A.A.'s had a sense of how to best reach the still-suffering alcoholic that would not become "policy" for years to come.



# C.P.C.

## C.P.C. in the Past

A look at A.A.'s history shows clearly that cooperation with the professional community has been an integral part of the Fellowship since its beginnings. In fact, some A.A.'s think it's ironic that a movement that might never have gotten off the ground without the help of nonalcoholics (Dr. Silkworth, Sister Ignatia, The Rev. Sam Shoemaker) should have waited until 1970 to formally set up committees to do what A.A. members had been doing informally all along.

The early 1940's marked a period of trial and error for A.A., as it attempted to work with professionals in various fields dealing with alcoholics. The guidelines of the Traditions were unavailable to A.A.'s working with the professional community. St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Towns Hospital in New York, and High Watch Farm in Connecticut, were the first facilities to receive prospective members of A.A. for treatment, and to allow A.A. members access to help the alcoholic patient. Although hospitals slowly began to admit alcoholics, various ideas presented to A.A. "headquarters" during the period 1940-1945, were turned down.

In 1942 the Michigan State Liquor Control Commission requested permission to distribute literature and provide money to A.A. so that "there would be an A.A. chapter in every county in the state." A.A. members in Detroit headed off this offer by saying that "this type of work must come from A.A." Bill W. had begun to abandon the idea of A.A. managed or owned hospitals, farms, and nursing homes.

Bill made his point by saying, "The moment any large amount of money touches our group life it inevitably generates the intense fear of commercialism. Just watch any publicity which might link A.A. as a whole with separate outside enterprises; however good, it would let in promoters."

It would take time to form a policy that would be effective in carrying A.A.'s message, through the professional community, to the alcoholic who wished to be helped. A mix of the conservatives and promoters within the Fellowship seemed to produce sound decisions related to working with the professional community.

The October 1944 issue of the Grapevine announced the birth of the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism (N.C.A.), headed by an A.A. member and supported by Dr. E.M. Jellinek and other professionals at Yale University. Guidelines began to take shape for the work of A.A.'s and alcoholism professionals. Initially, the co-founders of A.A. were executive members

of this organization, but it became evident that this type of cooperation was not in the best interest of A.A. as a whole. A.A. members were better suited to act in liaison with the professional organization than to be involved as representatives of Alcoholics Anonymous. Nonalcoholic friends, such as Dr. Harry Tiebout, were helpful in setting up standards on the best way A.A. members could be used in hospital work. By 1945, A.A.'s were helping alcoholics at the Yale Plan Clinics in Connecticut, at the Brooklyn State Hospital, and Bellevue Hospital in New York City.

The period of the early 1940's was a period of "flying blind" as Bill W. said. A.A. and its members, without the guidance of the Twelve Traditions, learned the best and most effective strategies with regard to helping professionals who served alcoholics. As the two groups began to understand each other, respect was established as an appropriate foundation for the mutual cooperation that would best aid the still-suffering alcoholic — a relationship which has endured for the last 40 years, as both groups worked together in the spirit of cooperation without affiliation.

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## News in Brief

### New Committee Experience

Celebrating its first birthday, the Manitoba C.P.C. Committee shares its experiences during the past year and its plans for the next:

"Because this is a new committee in the Manitoba General Service Area, a great deal of time was spent reading and understanding the C.P.C. Workbook. We discussed with more knowledgeable A.A.'s a sequence for establishing a working committee.

"We had several false starts as well as several positive beginnings with professional organizations, and this has led to valuable experience. We discussed our plans with members of the A.A. community who were prepared to actively serve, and a beginning was made in establishing a working relationship among the districts in the area.

"Our committee established liaisons with the Alcoholic Foundation of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Police Academy, the Rail Canada Traffic Controllers Union, and the D.W.I. program of the motor vehicle bureau. We also cooperated with a local A.A. group that sponsored a luncheon for the professional community.

"During the next year, we hope to establish subcommittees to deal with the medical community, unions, courts, and the clergy. If experience has taught us anything, it is simply this: Tread softly, go slowly, and trust in God."



## C.P.C. Local Committee News

North Florida C.P.C. has formed several subcommittees. The business and industry subcommittee is involved with employee assistance programs; another subcommittee has twice addressed probation officers and has taken some of them to an A.A. meeting. Still another subcommittee on education had an A.A. member on a panel at meetings of the county board of education. The medical subcommittee arranged for its members to address 75 physicians at a dinner meeting of the county medical association.

Mid-Southern California C.P.C. reports that "the first 20 letters have been sent to area hospitals inviting any inquiry involving C.P.C. Also, an idea to have court-card recipients receive information about A.A. from the courts, via our committee, is being discussed."

Vermont C.P.C. is arranging to place local A.A. meeting lists in hotels.

District #9, Washington, writes: "Our committee is getting more recognition all the time." The C.P.C. committee was invited to participate at a recent Nursing School Resources Awareness meeting.

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## Correctional Facilities

### 'Inside' Member Attends A.A. Event

An A.A. member who is an inmate recently attended a Southwestern Annual Convention. Guadalupe G., of the Mountain View Group, Gatesville, Texas, shares in *Wynot* as follows:

"Hi, I'm Guadalupe G., by the Grace of God, a very grateful recovering alcoholic. I am a female inmate at the Mountain View Unit serving a 99-year sentence. My natural high began when the warden made the announcement that I was going to the Austin Convention. The second miraculous thing was that the convention was to be held on October 12, 13, and 14, and my birthday was the 12th.

"On October 12th at 7 a.m. my counselor, Dorothy, and I left Mountain View in her car. I was so excited to be wearing chic jeans and a sport blouse with a corduroy blazer—my first time out of 'whites' since 1981! You can imagine how good that felt. For breakfast I even had a hamburger! And enjoyed it too. We proceeded to Austin and, upon arriving, met with Al R.,

our contact at the conference, who had reserved for us a beautiful suite by the pool. Al is a frequent visitor at Mountain View and has supported our group in so many ways, so I felt comfortable and at ease around him—even when he informed me I was to be the first speaker that afternoon.

"We registered at noon and met with the male inmate speaker, Dan T., from Pack I Unit and his counselor, Albert. We fellowshipped and went to lunch there at the inn. We next went to the Tejas Hospitality Room and met with a young man who had one day 'white-knuckle' sobriety, and was there all three days, which was very courageous. He was with others who had eleven years of sobriety and an inmate who had been in and out of the program ten years. I met a gentleman who shared his experience, strength and hope with us, even though he was not only battling a mind-changing chemical disease, but cancer too! He had been sober eleven years.

"What a Fellowship! The meetings and workshops went through the day and we usually went to bed at 1 a.m. and were up by 6 a.m.! During the workshop there were different heads of organizations at our Penal Table asking us questions as to how effective "free world" speakers are to us. They wanted to know if we could relate to them if they came to speak at our prison groups, even if they had never been in prison themselves. I told them they were the backbone of our A.A. program, because it was through 'free world' speakers I personally regained my trust in people and regained the hope I had lost long before I came into the program; by their sharing and caring, through their Twelfth Stepping, I've grown. We need to know that there are people, A.A.'s, who do care about us, who we can see are making it out there, and can take us to a meeting when we get out of prison. There were packets of applications and fingerprint cards given out to those interested in coming to share with us.

"The Al-Anon luncheon was terrific. The speaker, Elizabeth H., a beautiful silver-haired lady, really touched my heart. Her key word was understanding. Steve F., the main speaker, a very handsome gentleman, gave an outstanding talk on the Twelve Steps and the spiritual aspects of the Steps. Marge W. came all the way from Brian, Texas, with four young men and women, in spite of the bad weather, to give me support. She and her husband Willard are friends of the prison A.A.'s and have been for many years. Marge and her daughter, Pat S., are frequent visitors at our Sunday open meeting at Mountain View.

"My counselor and I had a couple of leisure hours we spent going to the LBJ Library and really enjoyed it. That night we attended the dance and a raffle of all the speaker tapes. Guess who won the raffle? I did. My own personal set of tapes of the entire conference. I wish you could have heard the Fellowship applaud and



back me up. Again, I almost fell out of my chair. My Higher Power, God, is wonderful. The experience of the natural high was reinforced during the dance. Everyone was so happy—laughing, dancing and free from mind-changing chemicals. A total natural high.

"The last day of the conference we got up early and went to the closing meeting. Thanks, Evelyn K. and Glenda K., for the A.A. message conveyed to us. Last of all, we went to have a Mexican dinner—thanks, Al R., for taking us. We checked out of the inn and toured the University of Texas, a great big campus. We took a guided tour through the beautiful state capitol with its many memories of brilliant minds. After these three full days of fellowship, fun, and much gratitude, I was on my way back to Mountain View. It was a very memorable experience.

"I want to thank the Southwestern Conference for inviting us, and thank all the people who were so supportive to me, and I particularly want to thank my warden for the trust she placed in me. By God's grace I have an attitude of gratitude."

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## A.A. 'Behind the Walls' — A Look Back

Alcoholics Anonymous members, during the past 45 years, have helped alcoholics in courts, detoxes, jails, and prisons. The idea that A.A. members help maintain their own sobriety by carrying the A.A. message to alcoholics who still suffer is nowhere more evident than in these facilities.

In September 1941, Austin MacCormick, reporting on the Penal and Correctional Aspects of the Alcohol Problem, stated, "The sum total of significant accomplishments by penal and correctional institutions in the treatment of alcoholics must be placed at absolutely zero." He was referring to both the inebriate arrested for public drunkenness and the inmate whose crime was committed after or during a drinking bout.

In the early 1940's, as concern mounted for the drunk driver, the public drunkard, and the alcoholic criminal, Alcoholics Anonymous was called upon for their assistance. In August 1941, Judge Thomas Green of Chicago, ordered six drunk drivers to attend A.A. meetings in lieu of a jail sentence.

The criminal statutes in Connecticut in 1941 were summarized as, "Alcoholism is a crime and if the drunkard be found intoxicated, send him to jail." Judge Lewis Sisson, of the Greenwich Town Court, taking exception to this view, suggested an alternative to this "revolving door treatment" of alcoholic offenders. He

considered alcoholics as suffering from a "sickness" that required proper help. It would not be until 1944 in Connecticut that the Yale Plan Clinics in Hartford and New Haven accepted court referrals for rehabilitation. Volunteer A.A. members and Salvation Army representatives were included in the organization of those clinics, along with a staff of psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers.

Also during 1941 the most extensive program for helping the alcoholic offender was begun in San Francisco. There were community centers and clinics where alcoholics, paroled and discharged from jails, prisons, and hospitals, could go for recreation, guidance therapy, and rehabilitation. A.A. volunteers helped the clinic staff in an effort to stop "the endless stream of habitual alcoholics that bob up repeatedly in police courts."

In 1942, California's San Quentin Prison, under the direction of Warden Clinton Duffy, established an A.A. group. Duffy, speaking at the First International A.A. Convention in Cleveland in 1950, reported on the eight years that A.A. had aided prisoners. "I have watched human derelicts enter the program and become men with a new outlook on life," he said. "I can say with authority that A.A. is the modern miracle of cooperative endeavor."

Duffy related that thousands of prison inmates were there as a result of alcohol. Also, that until A.A. was instituted, thousands of them went out on parole and returned again as the result of the same basic causes. He told of the prison's rehabilitation program and how it was integrated to A.A. if the inmate wanted it. While there may be little drinking in prison, the program sought to condition the person so that on release they had an altered psychological attitude that said, in effect: "Drinking is not for me. To me it is poison."

It would not be until legislation in 1971 that public drunkenness would officially be viewed from a sociomedical point of view instead of a criminal justice perspective. The Uniform Alcohol and Intoxication Act's general policy, briefly stated, is that "alcoholics and intoxicated persons may not be subjected to criminal prosecution because of their consumption of alcoholic beverages, but rather be afforded a continuum of treatment in order that they may lead normal lives as productive members of society." This act has produced an increase in people seeking help for their drinking and increased in numbers those who would avail themselves of the help of A.A.

In the mid-1980's, it is estimated that groups in prisons and jails number in excess of 1,360, with a membership in A.A. of 50,000—an extraordinary growth since the early 1940's. Although A.A.'s have made a considerable contribution in these facilities, and with drunk drivers, there still remains a great deal of work to be done in helping the still-suffering alcoholic—in these facilities and out.



## Calendar of Events

### August

- 1-4 — *Savannah, Georgia*, International Doctors in A.A. Annual Mtg. Write: Secy., IDAA, 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511
- 1-4 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas* 45th "Old Granddad" Area Conv. Write: Treas., Box 2394, Jonesboro, AR 72401
- 2-4 — *Linwood, Nebraska*. A.A./Al-Anon Campout. Write: Ch., Box 147, Alda, NE 68810
- 2-4 — *Indio, California*. 11th Annual Maad Dawg Daze Conv. Write: Ch., 43-095 Warner Trail, Palm Desert, CA 92260
- 2-4 — *Keremios, British Columbia, Canada*. Causton Second Annual A.A. Campout. Write: Ch., Box 4, Keremios, B.C., VOX 1N0
- 2-4 — *Havre, Montana*. Fourth Annual Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2442, Havre, MT 59501.
- 2-4 — *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*. 38th North Carolina / Bermuda State Conv., Write: Ch., Box 18412, Raleigh, NC 28619
- 2-4 — *College Station, Texas*. Second Annual Bryan/College Station A.A., Al-Anon Conv. Write: Conv., Box 2652, Bryan, TX 77805
- 2-4 — *Farmington, Maine*. Eighth Area Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 515, Rumford, ME 04276
- 2-4 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Yukon Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 38, Sta. A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2L8
- 2-4 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. Tenth Annual Windsor and Essex County Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1502, Sta. A, Windsor, Ont. N9A 6R5
- 2-4 — *Sparks, Nevada*. Eighth Annual Sierra Roundup. Write: Reg. Ch., Box 3529, Sparks, NV 89432
- 2-4 — *Mackenzie, British Columbia, Canada*. 12th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1011, Mackenzie, B.C. V0J 2C0
- 6/10 — *Crested Butte, Colorado*. Second Annual Mountain Conf. Write: Ch., Box 477, Dallas, TX 75221
- 7-11 — *Tampa, Florida*. 29th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1811, Lutz, FL 33549
- 9-11 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. 16th Annual Central West Conv. Write: Conv. Ch., R.R. #2, Tara, Ont. N0H 2N0
- 9-11 — *Cowansville, Quebec, Canada*. Fourth Annual A.A. Bilingual Conv. Write: DCM, Dist 87-21, 244 W. Denison St., Apt. 25, Granby, Que. J2G 4E1
- 9-11 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1396, Princeton, B.C. VOX 1W0
- 9-11 — *Pike Lake/Delisle, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Fourth Annual Triple A Campout. Write: Ch., Box 578, Delisle, Sask. S0L 0P0
- 9-11 — *Kent, Ohio*. Sixth Annual Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 285, Kent, OH 44240

- 9-11 — *Washington, D.C. Capital Roundup '85*. Write: Ch., Box 76786, Washington, D.C. 20013
- 9-11 — *Onoway, Alberta, Canada*. Tenth Annual Dist. 9 Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 791 Onoway, Alta. T0E 1V0
- 9-11 — *Squamish, British Columbia, Canada*. 12th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 196
- 9-11 — *Torrance, California*. South Bay Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2876, Torrance, CA 90509
- 9-11 — *Bayview, Idaho*. Rendezvous VIII. Write: Young In Years Group, 1716 Front, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
- 9-11 — *Moorhead, Minnesota*. 12th Annual Red River Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 558, Moorhead, MN 56560
- 10 — *Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada*. Dist. 4 Annual Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., 5 Gwen Ave., Quispamsis, N.B. E0G 2U0
- 10-11 — *Ponoka, Alberta, Canada*. Fifth Annual Family Campout. Write: Ch., Box 937, Ponoka, Alta., T0C 2H0
- 10-11 — *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. Sixth Annual Young People's Roundup. Write: Roundup Com., 13307 110 A Ave., Edmonton, Alta. T5M 2M6
- 14-17 — *Louisville, Kentucky*. 41st Southeastern Conf. Write: Host Com., Box 1232, Louisville, KY 40202
- 15-18 — *Key Largo, Florida*. Fifth Annual Young People's Conv. Write: Ch., Box 3438, Florida City, FL 33034
- 15-18 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup VIII. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005

- 16-18 — *Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada*. Third Annual Maritime Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1026, Moncton, N.B. E1C 8P2
- 16-18 — *Buffalo, New York*. Sixth Annual P.I., C.P.C., Inst. Workshops. Write: Ch., 310 Willardshire Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127
- 16-18 — *Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Secy., 205 Cranbrook St. N., Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 3R1
- 16-18 — *Cartersville, Georgia*. Eighth Annual Allatoona Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 856, Cartersville, GA 30120
- 16-18 — *Okanogan, Washington*. Fifth Annual "Easy Does It" Campout. Write: Ch., 900 S. First Ave., Okanogan, WA 98840
- 16-18 — *Lambert, Montana*. Third Annual Yellowstone Roundup. Write: Ch., 315 E. Valentine St., Glendive, MT 59330
- 17-18 — *Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 21st Annual Roundup. Write: Secy., Box 771, Windsor, N.S. B0N 2T0
- 17-18 — *Grenfell, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Tenth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 68, Grenfell, Sask. S0G 2B0
- 23-25 — *Decatur, Illinois*. 1985 State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 218, Cerro Gordo, IL 61818
- 23-25 — *Columbus, Ohio*. 29th State Conference. Write: Ch., Box 11567, Columbus, OH 43211
- 23-25 — *Chautauqua Lake, New York*. Chautauqua New York 32nd Tri-State Assy. Write: Ch., Box 140, Forestville, PA 16035
- 23-25 — *Richardson, Texas*. 14th Lone Star Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 835112, Richardson, TX 75083-5112
- 23-25 — *Toledo, Ohio*. Third Annual Roundup (hosted by Toledo gays & lesbians in A.A.). Write: Secy., Box 4658, Toledo, OH 43610
- 23-25 — *Richmond, Virginia*. 36th Annual State Conv. Write: Dist. 85 Conv., Box 3311, Richmond, VA 23235
- 23-25 — *San Luis Obispo, California*. 18th Annual 22nd Dist. Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6011, Los Osos, CA 93402
- 23-25 — *Decatur, Illinois*. State Conf. Write: State Conf. Com., Box 2101, Decatur, IL 62526
- 24-25 — *Fort Morgan, Colorado*. Third Annual Brush-Fort Morgan Mini-Weekend. Write: Fort Morgan Life Group, Box 1063, Fort Morgan, Co 80701
- 30-31 — *Westborough, Massachusetts*. First Annual State Conf. of Young People in A.A. Write: MSCYPAA, Box 141, Webster Sq. Sta., Worcester, MA 01603
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Chapleau, Ontario, Canada*. 18th Annual Roundup. Write: Secy., Box 634, Chapleau, Ont., P0M 1K0
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Denver, Colorado*. State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 157, Aurora, CO 80010
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Beaver, Utah*. Tenth Anniv. Campvention. Write: Treas., Great Outdoor Beaver Meeting, Box 563, Beaver, UT 84713
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Juneau, Alaska*. Third Annual Frontier Rally. Write: Ch., Box 1661, Juneau, AK 99802

## Planning an October, November or December Event?

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

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

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

*July* (page 36): gratitude; A.A. and prison; why?; Steps; problems in A.A.

*August* (page 23): sponsorship; self-support; fear; Step Six.

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



- 30-Sept. 1 — *Abilene, Texas*. Fifth Annual Big Country A.A. Conf. Write: Ch., 2850 Southwest Dr., Abilene, TX 79605
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Houston, Texas*. Second Mid-South Young People's Conv. Write: Ch., RCYPAA, Box 45862, Baton Rouge, LA 70395
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Polson, Montana*. Third Anniversary of Hope Camporee. Write: Ch., Box 643, Polson, MT 59860
- 30-Sept. 1 — *St. Louis, Missouri*. Second Annual Fall Classic. Write: Ch., Fall Classic, Box 27483, St. Louis, MO 63141
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Stettler, Alberta, Canada*. Sixth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 473, Stettler, Alta. T0C 2L0
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Norman, Oklahoma*. Eighth Conf. Write: Ch., Box 5024, Norman, OK 73070
- 30-Sept. 1 — *Evansville, Indiana*. Young People's Conf. Write: ICYPAA, Box 6585, Evansville, IN 47714
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Broken Bow, Nebraska*. 11th Annual Pressey Park A.A. Campout. Write: Ch., 316 So. 11 Ave., Broken Bow, NB 68822
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Pohakuloa, Hawaii*. Big Isle Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1323, Paho, HI 96778
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Austin, Texas*. Austin-San Antonio Roundup (gay). Write: Com., Box 49879, Austin, TX 78765
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Palm Beach, Florida*. So. Florida Roundup. Write: Ch., 1728 Latham Rd., Palm Beach, FL 33409
- 31-Sept. 2 — *Powell River, British Columbia, Canada*. 38th Annual Rally. Write: Ch., 6297 Poplar St., Powell River, B.C. V8A 4L3

## September

- Sept. 1 — *Deadline for "Cruise Without Booze," Dec. 7-14*. Cruise from New Orleans to Key West and Mexican Riviera. Write: Ch., 3459 E. 58th St., Tulsa, OK 74135
- 5-8 — *London, Ontario, Canada*. First Canadian Big Book Seminar. Write: Big Book Seminar, Box 4535, Sta. C, London, Ont. N5W 5J5
- 5-8 — *Kingston, Oklahoma*. Second Annual Singles in Sobriety Conf. Write: Ch., Box 835780, Richardson, TX 75083
- 6-8 — *Dunnville, Ontario, Canada*. Dunnville Conv. Write: Secy., Box 163, Dunnville, Ont. N1A 2W9
- 6-8 — *San Diego, California*. First Annual "Feeling Good" Gay Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3999, San Diego, CA 92103
- 6-8 — *Seaside, Oregon*. Oregon Area Annual Conf. Write: Conf. Secy., Box 176, Warrenton, OR 97146
- 7-9 — *Lake Crescent, Washington*. Fourth Annual Camp David Retreat. Write: Ch., North Olympic Celebration, 2420 E. Hwy. 101, Port Angeles, WA 98362
- 13-15 — *Mentor, Ohio*. 37th Conv. Write: Secy., Punderson Park Conf., Box 1032, Mentor, OH 44061-1032
- 13-15 — *Anchorage, Alaska*. Area Assy., Write: DCM, District 7, 1029 N St., Anchorage, AK 99501

- 13-15 — *Ft. Polk, Louisiana*. Annual Western Louisiana Intergroup Conv. Write: Ch., Box 63, Ft. Polk, LA 71459-5000
- 13-15 — *Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada*. 12th Annual Roundup. Write: Secy., Box 165, Medicine Hat, Alta.
- 13-15 — *Sheridan, Wyoming*. West Central Regional Forum. Write: Reg. Forum Coord., Box 459, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163
- 13-15 — *Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Sec., 9209-97th Ave., Grande Prairie, Alta. T8V 5K7
- 13-15 — *Brampton, Ontario, Canada*. Third Annual Brampton-Bramalea Conv. Write: Ch., Box 401, Brampton, Ont. L6V 2L3
- 13-15 — *Los Angeles, California*. 11th Annual Conf. International Lawyers in A.A. Write: Lawyers Forum, 417 S. Hill St., Ste. 305, Los Angeles, CA 90013
- 13-15 — *Repentigny, Quebec, Canada*. Third Congress Dist. 90-08, Francais. Write: Bureau de Services, C.P. 134, Repentigny, Que. J6A 5H7
- 15 — *St. Louis, Missouri*. Greater Area St. Louis Women's A.A. Luncheon. Write: Ch., 6425 Clayton Rd., St. Louis, MO 63105
- 19-22 — *Huntsville, Alabama*. 30th Annual Alabama/N.W. Florida Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5501, Huntsville, AL 35805
- 19-22 — *Des Moines, Iowa*. 42nd Annual Fall Conf. Write: White House, 1400 Penn Ave., Des Moines, IA 50316
- 20-22 — *Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*. 34th Annual Eastern Ontario Conf. Write: Ch., Box 4342, Sta. E, Ottawa, Ont. K1S 5B3
- 20-22 — *Bull Shoals, Arkansas*. Fifth Annual Autumn In The Ozarks Conf. Write: Ch., Box 192, Bull Shoals, AR 72619
- 20-22 — *Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada*. 17th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3266, Revelstoke, B.C. V0E 2S0
- 20-22 — *Bismarck, North Dakota*. State Roundup. Write: North Dakota Roundup, Box 2782, Bismarck, ND 58502
- 20-22 — *Casselberry, Florida*. Autumn Meetings. Write: Autumn Meetings, 1167 Park Dr., Casselberry, FL 32707
- 20-22 — *Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada*. 15e Congres Annuel. Write: C.E.G.E.P. de Sherbrooke 375, rue Parc, Sherbrooke, Que. S1H 5M4
- 27-29 — *Salina, Kansas*. 1985 State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1773, Salina, KS 67402
- 27-29 — *Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada*. 24th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1848, Swift Current, Sask. S9H 4M6
- 27-29 — *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. Third Annual Mini Skip Row Roundup. Write: Greirson Centre Group, 6420 - 98A St., Edmonton, Alta. TGE 3M9
- 27-29 — *Airdrie, Alberta, Canada*. Third Annual Roundup. Write: Secy./Treas. Airdrie Breakfast Group, 32 Mayfair Close, Airdrie, Alta. T0M 0B0
- 27-29 — *Monroe, Louisiana*. We Care Anniv. Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1056, Monroe, LA 71210
- 27-29 — *Harrisonburg, Virginia*. Shenandoah Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., Route 11, Box 186, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
- 27-29 — *Columbus, Indiana*. Southeastern Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 52, Seymour, IN 47274

- 27-29 — *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*. 41st Manitoba Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1084, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 2X4
- 27-29 — *Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*. Annual Autumn Leaf Roundup. Write: Ch., 594 Turner Dr., Burlington, Ont. L7L 2W9
- 28-29 — *Jamestown, New York*. 40th Anniv. Celebration of A.A. in Jamestown Area. Write: Ch., Box 122, Bemus Point, NY 14712

## October

- 4-6 — *Clarksburg, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26301
- 4-6 — *Boyne Falls, Michigan*. The 33rd State Conf. Write: 33rd State Conf., Box 3273, Grand Rapids, MI 49501
- 4-6 — *Rochester, New York*. Fifth Annual Conv. Write: Rochester Conv. Com., 183 E. Main St., Suite 1035, Rochester, NY 14604
- 4-6 — *Butte, Montana*. Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 682, Whitehall, MT 59758
- 4-6 — *Olympia, Washington*. Area Assy. Write: WA Area Assy., Box 4206, Tum Water, WA 98501
- 11-13 — *Schreiber, Ontario, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Secy., Box 201, Schreiber, Ont. P0T 2S0
- 11-13 — *Orillia, Ontario, Canada*. 20th Anniv. of the Georgia Bay Dist. Conv. Write: Host Com., Box 103, Owen Sound, Ont. N4K 6G5
- 11-13 — *Tucson, Arizona*. 1985 Arizona Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5351, Tucson, AZ 85703
- 11-13 — *Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 21st Annual Assy. Write: Ch., Box 554, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6H4
- 11-13 — *Fort Dodge, Iowa*. State Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Fall Conf. '85, Box 268, Fort Dodge, IA 50501
- 11-13 — *North Bay, Ontario, Canada*. 30th Annual Northeastern Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1165, North Bay, Ont. P1B 8K3
- 11-13 — *Santa Barbara, California*. First Annual Conv. Write: Conv., Box 91731, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-1731
- 11-13 — *Stockton, California*. 38th Annual Fall Conf. Write: Conf. Secy., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122
- 11-13 — *Casper, Wyoming*. Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 90207, Casper, WY 82609
- 11-13 — *Prince George, British Columbia, Canada*. 29th Annual Northern Lites Roundup. Write: Ch., 320 N. Ogilvie St., Prince George, B.C. V2M 3H8
- 18-20 — *Buffalo, New York*. 44th Annual Fall Conv. Write: Ch., Rm. 603, Ellicott Square Bldg., 295 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14203
- 25-27 — *Thief River Falls, Minnesota*. Tenth Annual Harvest Festival. Write: Ch., Lot 79, NW Tr. Ct., Thief River Falls, MN 56701
- 25-27 — *Hays, Kansas*. Fourth Annual Northwest Kansas Conf. Write: Ch., Box 326, Hays, KS 67601
- 31-Nov. 3 — *Rogersville, Alabama*. Riverside Roundup II. Write: Ch., 300 Spring Valley Ct., Huntsville, AL 35802