

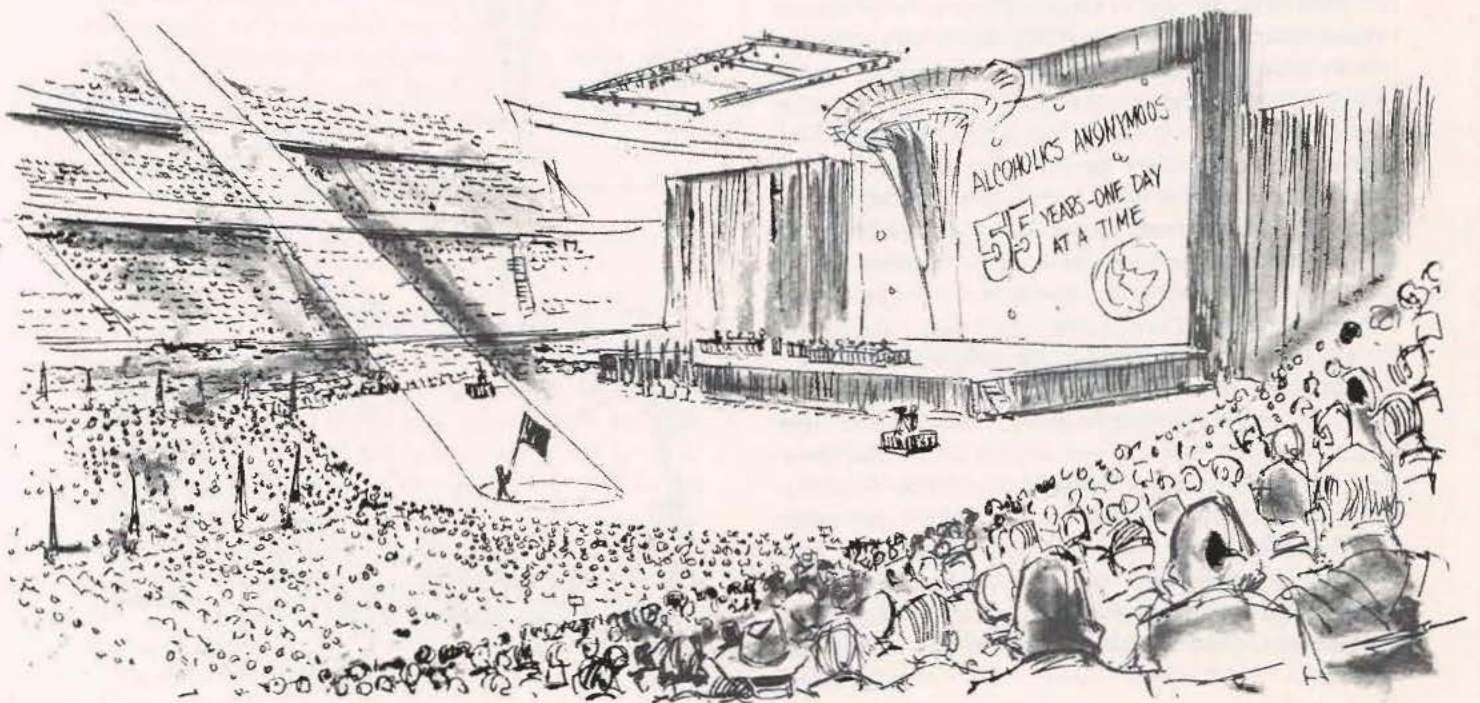
48,000 A.A.s Meet in Seattle

As people throughout America celebrated July 4th, U.S. Independence Day, and several hundred non-A.A. people gathered at the International Fountain, in the middle of Seattle Center, to be sworn in as American citizens, 48,000 A.A.s and Al-Anons converged on Seattle, Washington, to celebrate 55 years of freedom from the bondage of alcoholism through Alcoholics Anonymous.

A.A.'s Ninth International Convention—"Fifty-Five Years - One Day at a Time"—July 5-8, far exceeded expected attendance. At one point the fire marshal considered closing the Exhibit Hall, where registration was being held. The hall was bursting at the seams with not only the preregistered (there to pick up their Convention kits), but with an unprecedented 15,000 who registered on-site.

Over 250 meetings and workshops, on a variety of topics, were held around the city—at hotels, in the various buildings at Seattle Center—and always to standing room only. But the most important sharing and fellowship may have been at the informal meetings that cropped up everywhere; under a tree on the lawn at Seattle Center (where a sign read "Meeting Tree"); in the back of a bus waiting to leave the Kingdome after the Friday evening meeting; in the many hospitality suites throughout the city. Even Seattle's local A.A. meetings were packed to capacity.

Not only was this A.A.'s largest Convention to date, it was also the largest convention ever hosted by Seattle. Stores sported signs "Welcome Friends of Bill W." The monorail, between downtown Seattle and the Center, was constantly packed (one of the drivers was a "friend of Bill's"). Hotels set up coffee bars and ice cream bars in lobbies and made sure the coffee supply kept up with our consumption. The driver of a coffee distributor truck stuck his head out the window and shouted to a group of passing A.A.s, "Thanks, people!" And every-



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where A.A.s went native Washingtonians and merchants commented on what a great and orderly bunch we were (and if that is self-serving, so be it).

Everywhere you looked there were men and women in bright green vests, cowboy hats and different colored neckerchiefs. They were members of the Seattle A.A. Host Committee, ready to help Convention goers in any way imaginable. Three thousand or more strong, they trained and prepared for a year—and it was not possible to stump them with any question or request for directions.

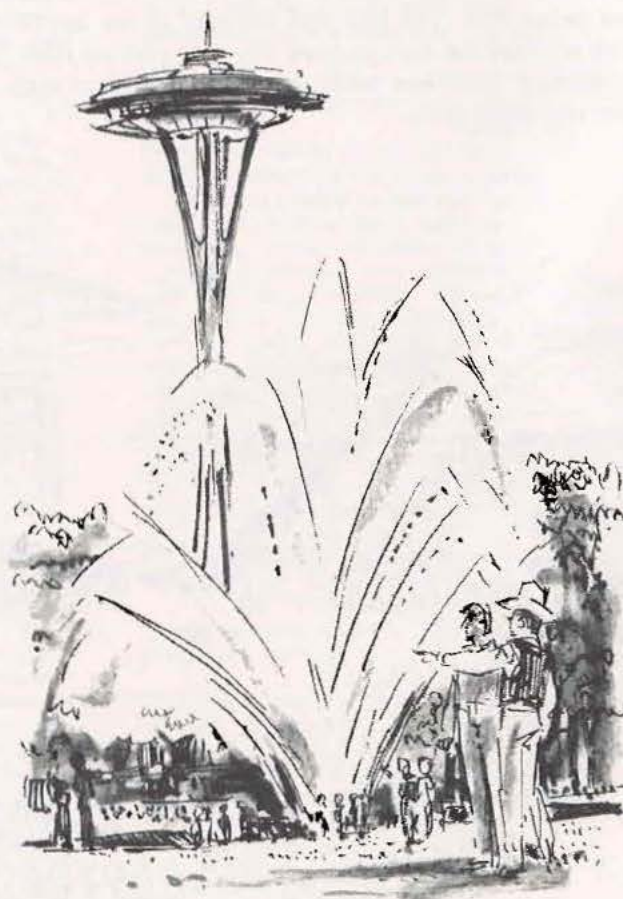
Human interest stories abound. Joe C. arrived at the Convention by bicycle, having left his Bradford, New Hampshire group last September, stopping to winter in Florida and celebrate his 60th birthday in California. One A.A. celebrated his 20th anniversary by traveling from Maine to Seattle in a covered wagon. Ron A. of Tacoma, and Tim S., San Francisco, met face-to-face for the first time at the Computer Workshop—yet they have been sharing via computer meetings for four years.

The opening meeting was held Friday evening in the Kingdome stadium, where a banner, "Unity in Action," had been hung over the Budlight sign on the mezzanine behind what would be home plate. Many have seen the membership figures; we know there are approximately two million A.A. members and close to 88,000 groups worldwide today; we know that A.A. activity exists in 134 countries. But these figures come alive when you witness the flag ceremony. Seventy-five countries were represented, a few from such seemingly unlikely places as Bulgaria, Cuba, and Romania. When the Soviet Union was announced the crowd came to its feet as one, with a deafening cheer. Each person, each flag, represented the awesome, binding trust of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The opening meeting was moderated by Michael Alexander, chairman of the General Service Board. Also on the dias were the widows of past board chairmen Dr. John Norris and Dr. Milton Maxwell; Sue Windows and Bob S., children of A.A. co-founder Dr. Bob; and Nell Wing, Bill's long-time secretary and A.A.'s first archivist. Nell was presented with the ten millionth copy of the Big Book. Speakers for the meeting were Raymond M., Scotland; June G., California; and Jack F., British Columbia.

At midnight on Thursday a marathon candle—to light the way for the still-suffering alcoholic—had been lit by a mother and son; Sunday morning it was brought to the podium and extinguished by a father, sober 18 years, and his daughter, sober two years. G.S.O.'s general manager Wayne P. opened the Sunday morning spiritual meeting and introduced Eric B., of the Seattle Host Committee, who chaired the rest of the meeting. Speakers were; Jaime H., Colombia; Eve M., Florida; and Don P., Colorado. The meeting closed with an interpretation of "Amazing Grace" by a local singer, and, in the usual manner, with the Lord's Prayer.

It was a great party! "Bill W.'s and Dr. Bob's Family Reunion" is held every five years—but, until they meet again in San Diego in 1995, clusters of sober drunks will gather everywhere—in large groups, medium-sized gatherings, one-on-one. They will meet every hour of the day and night, around the globe—in church basements, on telephones and computers, by letters and tapes, in large regional assemblies and conferences—to celebrate the freedom of another day. And, of course, to carry A.A.'s message. For, as Don P. said Sunday morning, "As wonderful as this is, there are thousands out there we haven't talked to yet."



A Food Stamp Symbolizes What Money Alone Can't Buy

It was the Fellowship's co-founder Bill W. who pointed out that there's "a place in A.A. where spirituality and money can mix . . . in the hat." The Seventh Tradition of self-support through our own contributions is the keystone to our spiritual survival, to our ability to carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Knowing this, members worldwide contribute what they can—and often what they can not.

From Lafayette, Colorado, comes the story of one member whose unique contribution symbolizes the spirit of the Seventh Tradition and its ripple effect on all A.A.s. Writes district treasurer Roy K.: "Our district recently hosted a Traditions workshop. Afterward, I was sitting there counting the money in the basket we'd passed and feeling sorry for myself because I had to stay alone and work. Suddenly, among the bills and change there appeared a stamp, a solitary \$5.00 food stamp.

"My eyes opened wide as I examined the small square, and then my tears began to flow. There was a time in my drinking years when a \$5.00 food stamp meant the difference between starvation and survival. For a moment I just sat there, remembering."

What the food stamp gave Roy, he says, "was a realization of the great personal sacrifices people have made for this Fellowship. It made me feel very proud to be able to serve in the company of those who love it so much."

After finishing his treasurer's work, Roy headed home and phoned his sponsor. "I thanked him for encouraging me to serve the Fellowship in whatever ways I can, as it has so graciously served me. May we never forget those who have gone before us. They have made whatever sacrifices were necessary so that A.A. will remain unchanged and undiluted for generations to come."

New Trustees

There is rejoicing among A.A.s in Hawaii, as the new Pacific U.S. regional is the first trustee from the 50th state. New trustee Greg M., of Kaneohe, was a Panel 37 delegate. Greg, who is an executive of a commercial construction company, says, of course, he is gratified and overwhelmed, but the real joy comes from seeing the reaction of the people of Hawaii, as this lets them know "the structure of the Fellowship is real, and they are a part of it."

Marc P., of Iberville, Quebec, is the first French

Canadian in 12 years to represent the Eastern Canada region. An engineer and former Panel 36 delegate, Marc says it "came as a surprise. I just left my name and said, 'God help me; let me know what I should be doing,' and the answer came."

New general service trustee Jean S., an executive of a New York publishing firm, has been a director on the A.A. World Services Board since 1987. Serving on the board and the various trustees' committees has given Jean the "opportunity to bring together all the parts of my sober life and become involved in things I care deeply about." She looks forward to more of that as a trustee.

Are We Getting the A.A. Message Across To the Newcomer?

"Last night I confidently escorted a frightened newcomer to the meeting room where I had sobered up some years ago. The speaker was a young woman who qualified for roughly 40 minutes about her childhood, her teens, her parents, and her experiences with cocaine, sex and more sex—and nearly every word was prefaced by a choice expletive. The only thing a newcomer could have taken away from that room was an expanded four-word vocabulary and the resolve to stay away from A.A. meetings."

Writing to both her local intergroup and the General Service Office, East Coast A.A. Peggy B. concluded, "I am very upset. Maybe there weren't any candidates for a mental health award at that group when I got sober; but we shared the pain and agony of the disease of alcoholism and our joy in recovery. A.A. is not about parental failings or drugs or fornication—it's about living sober instead of dying from alcoholism. Help the newcomer, please, and tell me how I can help, too."

Responding to Peggy's letter, a G.S.O. staff member shared her own experience in carrying the message as follows:

"When I joined my present group some ten years ago, I encountered problems similar to yours. Wanting to help, I volunteered to act as program person for our closed Step meetings and, during the next year, brought in speakers with solid lengths of sobriety. We attracted newcomers and oldtimers alike, and attendance at our meetings tripled.

"Another point you may find helpful: Our Step meetings are preceded by an announcement to the effect that, insofar as possible, comments should be confined to the Step under discussion. We also ask our speakers

to qualify in relation to the Step rather than embark on a long drunkalog. These measures have met with good response for some time now.

"This doesn't mean that we never hear a full drug qualification—we occasionally do. However, each time it happens, I register a complaint with a group officer, or at a group sharing session. If nothing else, the young people in our group have talked enough about this issue to have an elevated consciousness about it.

"What I've described is not always easy or popular, Peggy, but it seems to work. And remember, if each of us carries the message of recovery to just one alcoholic, we can make a tremendous difference."

G.S.O. and *Box 4-5-9* would like to hear of similar experiences and positive solutions.

Final Conference Report Covers Many Subjects

The *Final Report* of the 40th A.A. General Service Conference contains a wealth of up-to-date information on many aspects of the Fellowship.

Presentations cover topics such as the Home Group; Sponsorship; Finance; Self-support and the General Service Trustee. There is a last minute update on the International Convention; thumbnail sketches of trustees and names of delegates. For those with a bent toward figures there are 11 pages of financial information. Reports from trustees' and staff members clarify the various assignments at G.S.O. and the committee work throughout the year, as well as similar reports from the Grapevine.

This is a *Confidential Report*—for A.A. Members only. Available now from G.S.O. the *Final Conference Report* (M-23) is \$2.00. Later in the year it will also be available in Spanish and French.

The Group Conscience Emerges In Unanimity

Examples of how an informed group conscience is reached abounded during the 1990 General Service Conference. Early in the week, the spotlight was on the Ad Hoc Committee's report on group registration and the A.A. directories. A 1989 Conference Floor Action established this committee in response to general dissatisfaction with the handling of group directory listings, which often included inaccurate and outdated information.

In giving the initial presentation, committee chairperson Joyce Y., delegate from Nevada, reviewed the purpose of the domestic directories as an aid for Twelfth Step work and in contacting local central offices/intergroups and the general service committee. The Ad Hoc Committee members acknowledged that our directories represent a visible, tangible object, which reflects in a symbolic sense *what* and *where* we are.

Last year, this committee had mailed questionnaires to all Conference members asking for input on the problems and solutions. Those responding indicated several concerns with the present A.A. directory information: non-A.A. groups listed as A.A. groups, some groups listed incorrectly, outdated information and misuse of directories.

To address the problems within the group registration process, the committee initially recommended that the group information forms contain the "definition" of an A.A. group, including the six points, as reflected in "The A.A. Group" pamphlet. The recommendation also stated that G.S.O. delay processing new A.A. group information listings for 30 days to allow the local A.A. structure to participate in the process.

As the Conference addressed these recommendations, it became clear that it was not possible for there to be unanimity on these recommendations. A major

BOX 4|5|9

Order Form

Individual:

Single one-year subscriptions (\$3.50) Please send _____ individual subscriptions \$ _____

Special Group Rates:

Bulk subscriptions (\$6.00 each unit of ten) Please send _____ units of ten \$ _____

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City _____

State (Prov.) _____ Zip (P. Code) _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

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and make payable to:
A.A. World Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, N.Y. 10163

concern was with the six point definition of an A.A. group, the origin of which has never been established. Many felt that the six points are too rigid and stripped the spirituality out of the Traditions. The impasse resulted in the Ad Hoc Committee being asked to reconvene and continue considerations in light of the floor discussion.

The committee returned to deliberations and achieved a consensus to recommend using the Long Form of the Third and Fifth Traditions, along with a quote from Bill W.'s discussion of the Ninth Tradition, as a gauge in the group registration process.

Recognizing that the Conference Committee on Literature was considering a major revision to "The A.A. Group" pamphlet, including the "definition" of an A.A. Group, the Ad Hoc Committee invited that committee to meet with them to hear their revised report before presentation to the full Conference. Subsequent to that meeting, the Literature Committee decided to not adjust the wording at this time. (A later Floor Action recommended that the trustees' and Conference Literature Committees address this subject and return to the 1991 Conference with a recommendation.)

When the revised Ad Hoc Committee report was presented to the Conference body, the recommendations were accepted with substantial unanimity. Those participating felt they had witnessed the *spirit* of our Traditions in action. Joyce Y. expressed it well when she said that this "demonstrated once again our process of becoming fully informed through discussion and research of our history; hearing the minority voice and responding to it is truly the spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous."

Do We Have Your Correct Address?

If your mail box is empty when you are expecting *Box 4-5-9* (or correspondence and other communications from this office), perhaps you need to let us have your *current* address.

Each week the G.S.O. mail averages 150 letters and mailings that are returned without forwarding information. In addition, there are about 100 pieces of "returns" that pass along *new* addresses for those who neglected to let us know of their relocation.

In each case, there is a significant expense involved in receiving the returns, whether forwardable or not. All of us can be a part of our continuing need to control the costs of our services, if each member will remember to let this office know when you move.

Please help us to serve you: Give us your *full name*, *new and former address* (and *zip code*), and current service responsibility, if any.

1989 Membership Survey Reflects Trends

Last summer, confidential questionnaires were distributed to U.S./Canada Conference delegates representing the 1989 total of 45,552 groups (the figure has since climbed to 47,973)—reflecting a total of nearly 5,000 more groups than were listed with the General Service Office in 1986.

The 1989 survey respondents report an average sobriety length of 50 months, a figure slightly lower than the 52-month average noted in 1986, but greater than the 45-month mean of 1983. Questions covered personal statistics (age, sex, nature of job, dates of first meeting and last drink), A.A. activity (frequency of meeting attendance, group membership, sponsorship), factors that attracted the person to A.A. in the first place (A.A. members, family, etc.), and "outside" considerations (experience with treatment facilities and the medical profession, drug addiction in addition to alcoholism).

Of approximately 12,000 members reached by the questionnaires mailed to U.S./Canada groups, 9,394 were completed and returned. Some interesting findings:

- The typical member in the 1989 survey attends approximately four meetings a week, the same as reported in the 1986 survey.
- How are newcomers coming in contact with A.A.? The survey shows that the one-to-one approach is still effective: 34% were attracted by an A.A. member. About 40% of all respondents cited guidance from counselors and rehabilitation facilities (an increase of 4% over the 1986 figure). Others were influenced by a family member (19%); a doctor (7%); or were self-motivated (27%).

Preliminary results of the 1989 survey of A.A. members (from teenagers to octogenarians) mirror a number of trends evidenced in the 1986 survey.

As anticipated, the percentage of members under 31 years of age shows a minor change—up one percentage point over 1986 to 22% of the membership. This is in contrast to an increase of 15% to 20% found between 1980 and 1983. The percentage of those under age 21 in 1989 was 3%, the same as in 1986.

Similarly, the percentage of women in A.A., which climbed steadily from 22% in 1968 to 34% in 1986, rose only one percentage point. This means that there is about one woman to every two men in A.A., and confirms that the steep increase of the past has slowed during the 1980s.

One continuing trend reflected by the survey is that, in addition to their alcoholism, 46% of the A.A.s responding indicated they had also been addicted to drugs. This is an increase over the 38% noted in 1986, and the

continuation of a development which was first tracked in 1977, when the percentage was 18%. As before, about three-fourths of young people report such addiction, as do a greater percentage of women than men.

Anonymous surveys of the Fellowship, which have been conducted every three years since 1968, comprise an expanding record of the composition of A.A. and the effectiveness of the program. They further provide a basis for inventory by A.A. members, and a description of the Fellowship for the public and professional community.

An encouraging note is the rise in the percentage of people with more than a year's sobriety—a substantial increase over the experience of the past. As previous surveys have shown, the longer we stay around A.A., the better are our chances of staying sober.

Complete findings of the 1989 Membership Survey will be presented in an updated version of the illustrated leaflet "A.A. Membership Survey," in a tabletop display of the same title, and in complete report form.

Betty L. Looks Back at 18 Years on G.S.O. Staff

"So many changes have occurred in A.A. since I joined the General Service Office in 1972," says retiring staff member Betty L., "although the powerful message we carry remains the same. The meetings are larger, the people are younger. Their enthusiasm is heartwarming, and what makes them special is that they are the future of A.A."

Betty reflects on another change: "Until the early 1980s, we maintained a mid-Victorian card-file system at G.S.O. By then, there were close to 20,000 groups in the U.S. and Canada alone, and keeping our records straight was virtually impossible. But now everything's up-to-date. With our computerized system, we're able to provide vital services for the nearly 48,000 A.A. groups in U.S./Canada, and track the 38,000 groups overseas for the International Directory as well." (Overseas groups are primarily served by nearby general service offices or central offices.) All this, she notes, "with a staff that has increased by a handful."

Raised in Floral Park, New York, Betty says she "ran away from home at age 27. My drinking brought me to my knees in 1963, and I became an active member of the Northport, Long Island A.A. group." Nine years later, she joined the G.S.O. staff.

Looking back on her assignments, she says, "I enjoyed all of them. That's the great part of rotation—you never get bored. I was particularly fond of the Overseas assignment. In 1974, it took me to England for the World

Service Meeting, and I made a side trip to Ireland, that magical place I'd heard about as a child at my grandmother's knee. After visiting the A.A. office in Dublin, I went on to her birthplace in Cork and got in touch with my roots."

Other assignments Betty recalls with special pleasure include working on the 1980 International Convention in New Orleans and on the Public Information Workbook when it was first issued in 1979. "It has since been translated into several languages including Spanish, French and Finnish," she reports. "Additionally, G.S.O. now has workbooks for other trustees' committees—Treatment Facilities, Correctional Facilities, and Cooperation With the Professional Community."

With characteristic zest, Betty looks to retirement as a fresh beginning. She is presently moving from her longtime home in Brooklyn Heights to Asheville, North Carolina, where she plans "to work, though not nearly as hard, and have fun—visiting nearby relatives, playing duplicate bridge, rooting for the Class-A Asheville Tourists (the farm team of the Houston Astros), and gazing at the sunset a peak up the Blue Ridge Mountains."

And G.S.O.? "I'll miss the office and everybody there," Betty muses. "But now it's time to rotate out. For 18 years, I've been able to work professionally as well as personally for this wonderful Fellowship that gave me my life back. I am very grateful."

Grapevine Has New Controller

First it was bad news, but now it's good news at the Grapevine office. In November 1989, Don Meurer (nonalcoholic), GV controller/business administrator, moved to a different form of A.A. service when he accepted the position of A.A. World Services controller, which had been vacant for some time. Don, who was not only an integral part of the Grapevine staff for nine years but had been one of the corporation's auditors before that, left a real "hole" in the Grapevine's management structure. Happily, Don stayed on at the Grapevine part-time through the 1990 Conference, which left ample time to seek a well-qualified replacement.

Seek the Grapevine did and—ironically—turned the tables on its sister corporation by finding just the right person in Robert E. Scherer, an experienced controller of several corporations who was working on a temporary basis in the A.A.W.S. accounting department. Bob's most recent position was controller of Eastern Steel Barrel Corporation, and his prior experience includes financial responsibilities for several large corporations

and two years as a public accountant.

Bob joined the Grapevine on March 19, 1990, and only a month later had the opportunity of being an observer at the 40th Conference—an experience that impressed and moved him deeply. He speaks of the dedication of all Conference members, demonstrated especially by the fact that all had spent weeks preparing for the annual meeting. He enjoys the A.A. spirit of working together at the office also, and having seen among friends and relatives some of the results of the A.A. message, he has been touched by alcoholics and by the Fellowship. So much so, in fact, that already he is using the principles of the Twelve Steps in his own life, and looks forward to learning more about A.A. and making his own contribution of service.

Bob lives with his wife, Pat, in Ewing Township, New Jersey, where in his spare time he enjoys Irish folk dancing and spending time with his family of four children and four grandchildren.

Register Now for Intergroup Seminar

The Fifth A.A.W.S./Intergroup Seminar will be held September 7-9, 1990, at the Radisson Hotel, Newark, New Jersey.

Central office/intergroup managers, steering committee chairpersons and others will meet in a weekend designed to widen communication and share experience through workshops and presentation/discussion sessions. Space limitations dictate that the seminar be limited to *one* representative from each office.

To register, please write: Central Office/Intergroup Seminar Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. Closing date for hotel reservations is August 16.

A.A.s and Their Service Entities 'Keep in Touch' At Regional Forums

Regional Forums, those large and meaningful weekend sharing sessions of A.A. that have been held since 1975, are the brainchild of the late Dr. John ("Jack") Norris, trustee emeritus (Class A—nonalcoholic) of the General Service Board. Speaking at the Northeast Regional Forum in Maine, last year, Class A trustee Robert P. Morse said, "Dr. Jack believed that the burgeoning growth of A.A.

could result in a loss of communication among our service entities—the General Service Office, its board, the Grapevine staff, and the Fellowship at large. Thus, Regional Forums were designed to keep us in touch.

"Since those early Forums, we have made gigantic strides together, both in advancing our shared experience and in fostering wider understanding about how each A.A. member has an opportunity to serve our beloved Fellowship in varied but equal ways."

A Regional Forum is not a decision-making body, so no formal actions result. Rather, the Forums provide a unique opportunity to share valuable A.A. experience, ask questions, and spark new ideas concerning ways to carry the message to alcoholics. They are especially helpful to A.A.s living in remote areas. Says Canadian Loner Phil B.: "The nearest meetings are more than 125 miles away, and I do 'go to any lengths' to get to them occasionally. But I really look forward to the regional conferences in this area—they help me renew my commitment to my sobriety and make me feel a part of A.A. as a whole."

Representative trustees, along with G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members, district committee members, delegates and general service representatives are on hand for every Forum to share their A.A. service experience, discuss the functions of G.S.O., and describe their areas of activity. At a dozen or more workshops, attending A.A.s share on subjects varying from group problems and solutions to self-support and sponsorship. Workshops also focus on the work of group, district and area service committees, and their relationship to their counterparts at G.S.O.: Archives, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Correctional Facilities, Public Information and Treatment Facilities, to name some.

Four Regional Forums are held each year. Since our U.S./Canada structure is comprised of eight regions, a Forum is held every other year in a particular region, and on a rotating basis. In 1989, for example, the East Central Regional Forum convened in Ann Arbor, Michigan; the Northeast, in Portland, Maine; the West Central, in Billings, Montana; and the Southwest, in Wichita, Kansas.

The 1990 schedule lists the following Regional Forums: Pacific, in San Diego, California, August 17-19; Western Canada, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 28-30; Eastern Canada, in Niagara Falls, Ontario, November 16-18; and Southeast, in Shreveport, Louisiana, December 7-9. There was an "extra" Forum in the huge Western Canada Region, which was held May 18-20, in Yellowknife (N.W.T.).

There is no registration fee for a Regional Forum. Any A.A. member is welcome, whether they are directly involved in service work or not. The General Service Board covers the expenses of hotel meeting rooms as well as transportation and lodgings for its board and staff personnel. Many areas, districts and individual

groups fund the traveling and hotel room expenses of the service people representing them at a particular Forum.

The location and agenda for a Forum are worked out jointly by the regional trustee, area delegates and G.S.O. Responsibility for direct contact with the hotel, ahead of time, is assumed by a local A.A. host contact, who works closely with the Regional Forum coordinator and the regional trustee. The Regional Forum coordinator at G.S.O., currently Pat R., coordinates and follows through on all the details.

T.F.

'Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous' Now Available



The long-awaited film, "Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous" was approved by the 40th A.A. General Service Conference and is now available for distribution.

The project, resulting from an Advisory Action of the 1988 Conference Committee on Treatment Facilities, was conceived as a means of introducing the basic principles of the A.A. program to treatment facilities patients and personnel. It was written and produced by Karen and David Crommie, who have long experience with A.A. films, having previously produced three films and a number of television public service announcements for the General Service Office.

Beginning with a disclaimer and observing our Traditions of Anonymity, no faces are shown and the characters represent a realistic racial and ethnic mix. The film depicts a man preparing for and driving to his first A.A. Anniversary. In flashback form, he reviews what "it used to be like" and the early days of sobriety and becoming rooted in the program and a home group. Through this process, what A.A. is, what it isn't, our primary purpose, sponsorship, slips, the importance of a home group, the Steps and Traditions, and the basic recovery tools are all revealed.

The film is available in both 16mm and video cassette, with closed captions for the hearing impaired, at \$15.00. It will later be available with a Spanish and a French soundtrack.

What began as a project for use in treatment facilities has emerged as a wonderful basic film that will be useful in all areas: P.I., C.P.C. and correctional facilities work; at area conferences and assemblies; and in our home groups.

At one point the main character says, "It's [A.A.] something that you can feel, better than something I can articulate." —And so is the film!

Correctional Facilities

What Goes Around Comes Around

"Tantrums are dangerous," says Bern L. "I know because I recently had some whoppers. I skipped A.A. meetings, threw away all the books and pamphlets freely given to me by the General Service Office, and cursed our founders in their graves. I had all the gratitude of a snapping turtle."

Writing to G.S.O. from a correctional facility in Butner, North Carolina, Bern continues: "After a couple of months' misery, I went back to my meetings and

found the courage to send you a letter (typed 30 times), telling what I'd done and asking for more literature. Well, a week or so later I was standing on the edge of the crowd at mail call, just as sure as new paint that I wouldn't get a letter. Then, like a bullet shot, the guard held a manila envelope high, as if to auction it off, and called my name. I shouted, 'Here, Captain!' and he handed it over to me in what seemed like slow motion. The envelope contained a letter from G.S.O., welcoming me home. Complimentary literature was enclosed, with the promise of more to come."

Noting that he "used to be a popular fellow at our A.A. meetings," Bern explains: "It was because I fetched cake in huge pans for the guys to chow down as much as their hearts desired—but I lost that spot to another man the day I quit the program. When I came back, the meeting topic was 'denial.' A few men spoke, then I threw up my hand and told my story, which was one of super-denial. At the end of the meeting, it seemed that the new cake man had disappeared, so I hefted the pan in my arms and took the leftovers back to the kitchen. My old job came back and so did my sense of belonging."

Looking back on his "impulsive break with the program," Bern marvels at the good things that have happened to him since his return: "Through participation and honest sharing, I have regained a handle on my sobriety, on myself. And when I humbled myself enough to tell you people at G.S.O. about my destroying the literature you'd sent, you gave me replacements and A.A. love. What goes around has a way of coming around back home."

P.I.

Canadian District Takes A Wide-Angled View of P.I.

Three years ago, the joint committee on Public Information/Cooperation With the Professional Community of District 42, British Columbia, Canada, set about the task of reorganization. Says chairman Tom M.: "We decided to pursue two main objectives: to attract as many A.A. members as possible to service work; and to make an all-out effort to carry the A.A. message to a greater number of alcoholics."

The P.I./C.P.C. committee was not interested merely in achieving short-term goals. "We felt it essential," Tom stresses, "to take a long view of our P.I. efforts and work toward slow but lasting progress."

The committee began by changing the format of the district's outreach program, which until then had been limited to A.A. presentations given before groups of about 50 assorted professional people at one or two luncheons a year. "Instead," Tom explains, "we pinpointed specific groups of people to be reached on a separate basis. Out of this exercise emerged no fewer than 12 subcommittees: police; firemen; the clergy; doctors; youth groups; the press; Native North Americans; seniors; courts; employee assistance programs; schools; and hospital workers."

The new committee structure, Tom observes, "has encouraged an ever-increasing number of A.A.s to become involved in P.I. endeavors, many of them through their A.A. sponsors. It has proved to be more effective than we had imagined."

Giving an example of how the various committees function, he cites the activities of those working with seniors in clubs and homes. The members first did their homework. Demographics reveal that the population is aging, and that a significant percentage of people—the large Baby Boom generation—will be over 55 by the year 2010, so the need for P.I. efforts with this age group will escalate in the future.

The main thrust of the committees has been "to get older A.A. members involved in P.I.," Tom explains. "This calls for contact with all seniors' clubs, usually identified by a central agency that can furnish the names of key officers and personnel. Committee members then follow a prescribed step-by-step procedure: make the contact; leave pamphlets ('Time to Start Living' and 'Is A.A. for You?'); arrange times for speakers; and take one or two other A.A.s along, either to share speaking duties or to learn to speak at non-A.A. meetings."

Within the seniors' clubs, Tom points out, "there tends to be a turnover of contact people. Therefore, this committee requires at least one member with organizational skills, plus the time and patience to be in frequent touch with the senior clubs in our district."

The P.I./C.P.C. committee working with seniors in homes is much smaller, he relates, but its work is equally important. Members find the locations of seniors' homes, then mail key personnel a letter adapted from the appropriate Guide Letter included in the public Information Workbook. It opens: "Today we hear a great deal about alcoholism among young people. Far less is said about the alarming increase in alcoholism among older persons—a fact that is causing concern to everyone involved with alcoholism, and with recovery from this serious illness."

The letter then mentions that A.A. speakers are available upon request, as well as literature and further information about A.A. The pamphlet "Time to Start Living" is enclosed. Mailings are followed up with phone calls—and, invariably, the committee receives requests for Twelfth-Step calls in addition to speakers and literature.

The seniors' committees are notably active, Tom says. "Five of the members are in their 70s, and two are 80-odd years young. Last year, the various members spoke at 26 functions held in seniors' clubs and homes."

All the committees are doing exciting work, he reports. "Our members number about 50 in all; and, from the 14-year-old A.A. on the youth committee to our octogenarians in the service of seniors, they transmit a wonderful energy and sense of excitement. Why not? They're fulfilling A.A.'s primary purpose—to stay sober and carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Funding for the committees' efforts is derived from three Service Days held annually. Each of these well-attended events features an A.A. service meeting, followed by a dance. According to Tom, the last one netted a total of \$1,800.00. "Of course," he observes, "the money seems to go out faster than it comes in. We purchase a lot of literature from G.S.O., type and duplicate thousands of letters and notices, lick a lot of stamps—but somehow we manage to foot the bills."

The District 42 P.I./C.P.C. Committee, which encompasses the townships of Delta, Surrey and White Rock, has shared its experience with other districts in British Columbia, and they are now generating similar programs. "Once A.A.s become involved in this rewarding form of service work," Tom says, "they feel like they're in A.A., not just around it."

C.P.C.

Committee Reaches Out To Native Alaskans at Substance Abuse Workshop

A workshop—the first of its kind to address the widespread substance-abuse problems of Alaska's native population—was held in Fairbanks last February. Sponsored by Doyon, Ltd., the Alaska Native Corporation, the workshop drew people from an area encompassing 20,000-30,000 miles or, explains Alaskan delegate Clark D. (Panel 40), "roughly the equivalent of all the states between Maine and Washington, D.C."

A.A., Al-Anon and similar organizations participated in the workshop, which was called DAAGA (meaning "get up"). It came about, relates Paul C., C.P.C. chairperson of Interdistricts 1 and 2, "when the native communities, pressed by their concerns, asked Doyon to gather together the elders and those who understand

the depth of the substance-abuse problem—village health care people, teachers, public-health officers and other professionals from all over the North Slope and up and down the Yukon River, so they might get some ideas about what they could do to help. Doyon offered to fly these people from outlying areas to Fairbanks for the workshop."

When asked to participate, Paul relates, "we C.P.C.s galvanized. Having had little personal experience or understanding about village life, but knowing that some Alaska natives, especially those living in remote villages, have a deep distrust of 'outsiders,' we realized that natives who were members of A.A. would communicate our message best."

"Our requests at meetings for help from such members met with an incredible response. Everyone was excited about the opportunity to carry the message of A.A.'s Twelve Steps, and to explain how much better their lives were because of them."

Before the meeting, the C.P.C. committee met several times to orient the new volunteers. "I was surprised," says Paul, "that many people who had been around the program awhile really didn't understand the Traditions as they relate to public speaking. So we brushed up and talked about what we could do as outlined in the pamphlet 'Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings' and the Information Sheet on A.A. We also shared on a number of other questions, ranging from the problems of getting to outlying communities to the possibility of raising money through interdistrict to fund requests as they came to us. In the end, that was the suggestion we passed on at the workshop."

The day of the workshop arrived. In turn, the six C.P.C. representatives present distributed A.A. literature, read the Preamble, discussed anonymity, and shared their personal experiences with the Twelve Steps. Says Paul: "One of our speakers, Maynard E., elicited especially strong response when he spoke of how the principles of A.A. seem rooted in the depth of the human spirit and are not just the 'white man's way.'"

Writing to G.S.O. after the workshop, Alaska Area C.P.C. chairperson Jon R. enclosed the personal comments of many participating village elders and leaders, compiled by Doyon, Ltd. Said one: "I found the personal testimonies most influential in forming my ideas." Observed another: "Now I understand more about alcoholism, spirituality and sharing. I just wish everybody else in the villages knew what I know now."

"With this type of effort on the part of our C.P.C. committee's ongoing area program, and of all our members," says Jon, "ever-better methods of helping the still-suffering alcoholics in remote areas of our huge state can perhaps be found. These people are hungry for help in their own areas and in their own cultural setting."

Calendar of Events

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office. For any additional information, please use the addresses provided.

August

- 1-5 — *Daytona, Florida*. 34th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 4730, S. Daytona, FL 32121
- 3-5 — *Arcata/Willow Creek, California*. Kampout. Write: Ch., Box 751, Eureka, CA 95501
- 3-5 — *Bronx, New York*. New York State Informational Workshop. Write: Ch., 354 Remsen Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11212
- 3-5 — *Toledo, Ohio*. 34th State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1334, Toledo, OH 43603-1334
- 3-5 — *Arlington, Virginia*. 1990 Virginia Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6356, Alexandria, VA 22306-0356
- 3-5 — *Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada*. 16th Rally. Write: Ch., 105-377 Dogwood, Campbell River, BC V9W 2Y1
- 3-5 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. 15th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 1608 Wyandotte St., W., Apt. 2, Windsor, ON N9B 1H7
- 3-5 — *Casa Grande, Arizona*. Sahuaro Agape Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 42470, Tucson, AZ 85733
- 3-5 — *Elbow, Saskatchewan, Canada*. 12th Campout. Write: Ch., Box 173, Elbow, SK S0H 1J0
- 3-5 — *Odessa, Texas*. 16th W. Texas Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2346, Odessa, TX 79760
- 4-5 — *Laronge, Saskatchewan, Canada*. 15th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1024, Laronge, SK S0J 1L0
- 4-5 — *Fort Morgan, Colorado*. Annual Mini-Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 1063, Fort Morgan, CO 80701
- 6-10 — *Crested Butte, Colorado*. Mountain Conf. Write: Ch., Box 797186, Dallas, TX 75279
- 9-12 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. Arkansas Conv. Write: Ch., Box 11001, Ft. Smith, AR 72917
- 10-12 — *Sierra Vista, Arizona*. Area Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 454, Bisbee, AZ 85603
- 10-12 — *Chicago, Illinois*. 17th State Conf. Write: Ch., 205 W. Wacker Dr., Suite 422, Chicago, IL 60606
- 10-12 — *Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*. 10th Annual State Roundup of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 780053, Oklahoma City, OK 73178
- 10-12 — *Lake Poinsett, South Dakota*. Serenity Weekend. Write: Ch., RR4, Box 21, Yankton, South Dakota 57078
- 10-12 — *Beaumont, Texas*. District Conf. Write: Tr., Box 2243, Nederland, TX 77627

- 10-12 — *Princeton, British Columbia, Canada*. Campout Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1396, Princeton, BC VOX 1W0
- 10-12 — *Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada*. Annual Campout. Write: Ch., 581 John St., Sault Ste Marie, ON P6L 3K6
- 10-12 — *Tiel, Holland*. Fourth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2279, 2301 CG Leiden, The Netherlands
- 10-12 — *Squamish, British Columbia, Canada*. Campout. Write: Ch., Box 5520, Squamish, BC V0N 3G0
- 10-12 — *Mankato, Minnesota*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 3172, Mankato, MN 56001
- 10-12 — *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. 17th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 24, Hull, PQ J8Y 6M7
- 10-12 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. 21st CW Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1118, Cambridge, ON M1R 5Y2
- 11-12 — *Grenfell, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 5, Grenfell, SK S0G 2B0
- 11-12 — *Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canada*. 26th Mini Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2083, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
- 15-18 — *Charleston, South Carolina*. 46th Reg. Conf./43rd State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 31105, Charleston, SC 29407
- 16-19 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup XIII. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 16-19 — *Lexington, Kentucky*. Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 24471, Lexington, KY 40524
- 16-19 — *Washington, D.C.* Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 767861, Washington, DC 20013
- 17-19 — *Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada*. 14th N. Island Rally. Write: Ch., Box 789, Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0
- 17-19 — *Lake Isabella, California*. Campout. Write: Ch., Box 1225, Weldon, CA 93283
- 17-19 — *San Diego, California*. Pacific Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

August (page 29): Amateurs Anonymous; A.A. in prison; character defects?

September (page 23): Old-timers; "Great suffering and great love"; getting started

- 17-19 — *Meeker, Colorado*. White River Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1036, Meeker, CO 81641
- 17-19 — *Havre, Montana*. Mini-Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2442, Havre, MT 59501
- 17-19 — *Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Eighth MCYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 291, DMPS, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Y3
- 17-19 — *Columbia, Missouri*. 1990 State Conv. Write: Ch., 1721 Ellison Way, Independence, MO 64050
- 17-19 — *Red Deer, Alberta, Canada*. Red Deer Roundup. Write: Ch., 14 McBlane Close, Red Deer, AB T4R 1W6
- 17-19 — *Cowley-Crowsnest Pass, Alberta, Canada*. Campout. Write: Ch., Box 861, Blairmore, AB T0K 0E0
- 17-19 — *Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada*. Second Atlantic Conf. Write: Ch., 9 Tiffany Court, Moncton, NB E1G 1M3
- 24-26 — *San Luis Obispo, California*. 23rd Annual 22nd District Conv. Write: Ch., Box 13308, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
- 24-26 — *Sarasota, Florida*. Sponsorship Weekend. Write: Ch., 3951 Sawyer Rd., Box 112, Sarasota, FL 34233

Planning a Future Event?

Please send your information on October, November or December events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by August 10, the calendar deadline for the October/November issue of Box 4-5-9.

For your convenience and ours — please type or print the information to be listed on the Bulletin Board page, and mail to us:

Date of event: from _____ to _____, 19____

Name of event: _____

Place (city, state or prov.): _____

For information, write: (exact mailing address) _____

Contact phone # (for office use only): _____

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

August (cont.)

- 24-26 — *Joplin, Missouri*. Third Annual Summer Hummer. Write: Ch., Box 2075, Joplin, MO 64803
- 24-26 — *Farmington, New Mexico*. NMCYPAA 1990. Write: Ch., Box 922, Farmington, NM 87401
- 24-26 — *Chattanooga, Tennessee*. Third Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2554, Chattanooga, TN 37409
- 24-26 — *Oakhurst, California*. Fifth Annual Oakhurst Fellowship. Write: Ch., Box 23, Oakhurst, CA 93644
- 24-26 — *Bryan/College Station, Texas*. Seventh Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5232, Bryan, TX 77805
- 24-26 — *Mission, British Columbia, Canada*. Third Annual Mission Rally. Write: Ch., 32966 Arbutus Ave., Mission, BC V2V 2R8
- 24-26 — *Lwonia, Michigan*. Big Book Study. Write: Ch., Box 184, Warren, MI 48090
- 24-26 — *Jackson, Mississippi*. Fourth Old-Timer's Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 20664, Jackson, MS 39289
- 24-26 — *Chautauqua Lake, New York*. 37th Tri-State Assembly. Write: Ch., 2188 Woodward Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107
- 24-26 — *Craftsbury, Vermont*. Third Green Mountain Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 248, Randolph, VT 05060
- 24-26 — *Kettle Falls, Washington*. Campout. Write: Ch., 890 N. Lincoln, Colville, WA 99114
- 24-26 — *Green Lake, Wisconsin*. 10th Roundup. Write: Ch., N. 108 W. 18147 Lilac La., Germantown, WI 53022
- 25-26 — *Milk River, Alberta, Canada*. Corn Roast. Write: Ch., Box 565, Milk River, AB T0K 1M0
- 29-September 1 — *Stettler, Alberta, Canada*. 11th Roundup. Write: Ch., 6115-51 Ave., Stettler, AB T0C 2L2
- 31-September 2 — *Portage, Indiana*. IN-CYPAA. Write: Ch., Box 5883, Portage, IN 46368
- 31-September 2 — *Houma, Louisiana*. Bayouland Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 2251, Houma, LA 70361
- 31-September 2 — *Kansas City, Missouri*. 10th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 32401, Kansas City, MO 64111
- 31-September 2 — *Abilene, Texas*. Big Country Conf. Write: Ch., 2850 Southwest Drive, Abilene, TX 76095
- 31-September 2 — *Worcester, Massachusetts*. Sixth Annual State Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., 40 Evergreen Street, #16, Framingham, MA 01701
- 31-September 2 — *Reno, Nevada*. Sierra Nevada Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 5874, Sparks, NV 89432
- 31-September 2 — *Norman, Oklahoma*. Labor of Love Conf. Write: Ch., Box 5716, Norman, OK 73070
- 31-September 2 — *Nashville, Tennessee*. Ninth Annual Music City Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 17312, Nashville, TN 37217
- 31-September 2 — *Penticton, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 524, Penticton, BC V2A 6K9
- 31-September 2 — *Corner Brook, Newfoundland, Canada*. Nova Scotia-Newfoundland-Labrador Assembly. Write: Ch., 24 Johnsons Ave., Corner Brook, NF A2H 1V8

- 31-September 3 — *San Antonio, Texas*. San Antonio-Austin Roundup. Write: Ch., 216 West Cypress, San Antonio, TX 78212
- 31-September 3 — *San Francisco, California*. 15th Annual Conf. (hosted by gay & lesbian members) Write: Ch., Box 974, San Francisco, CA 94101
- 31-September 3 — *Tampa, Florida*. Fourth Annual Tampa Bay Fall Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 360185, Tampa, FL 33673
- 31-September 3 — *Powell River, British Columbia, Canada*. 43rd Rally. Write: Ch., C38 RR#3 Donkersley Rd., Powell, BC V8A 5C1

September

- 6-9 — *Ardmore, Oklahoma*. Seventh Singles in Sobriety Conf. Write: Ch., Box 835788, Richardson, TX 75803
- 7-9 — *Angels Camp, California*. Fourth Gold Country Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 355, Angels Camp, CA 95222
- 7-9 — *Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*. 22nd Autumn Leaf Roundup. Write: Ch., 17 Highridge Ave., Hamilton, ON L8E 2R9
- 7-9 — *Kenova, Ontario, Canada*. 19th Sunset Country Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 547, Kenova, ON P9N 1W5
- 7-9 — *St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands*. Caribbean Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1122, St. Thomas USVI 00804
- 7-9 — *Colorado Springs, Colorado*. State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 10114, Colorado Springs, CO 80932
- 7-9 — *Hodges Gardens, Louisiana*. 23rd Annual Western Louisiana Conf. Write: Ch., Route 3, Box 799, Many, LA 71449
- 7-9 — *Boston, Massachusetts*. International Lawyers 16th Annual Conf. Write: Ch., 427 Main Street, Waltham, MA 02154
- 7-9 — *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*. Commitment '90. (sponsored by gays & lesbian members.) Write: Ch., Box 92794, Milwaukee, WI 53202
- 7-9 — *Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 165, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7E8
- 7-9 — *Dunville, Ontario, Canada*. 24th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 163, Dunville, ON N1A 2X5
- 13-16 — *Pensacola, Florida*. 35th Alabama/NW Florida Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 701, Pensacola, FL 32593
- 14-16 — *Bull Shoals, Arkansas*. Autumn in the Ozarks. Write: Ch., Box 238, Vellville, AR 72687
- 14-16 — *Jamestown, North Dakota*. 1990 State Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1030, Jamestown, ND 58402
- 14-16 — *Brampton, Ontario, Canada*. Eighth Annual Brampton-Bramalea Conv. Write: Ch., Box 401, Brampton, ON L6V 2L3
- 14-16 — *Richmond, British Columbia, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 5400 River Rd., Richmond, BC V7C 1A4
- 14-16 — *Hobbs, New Mexico*. 10th Tumbleweed Conf. Write: Ch., Box 961, Hobbs, NM 88240
- 20-23 — *West Sacramento, California*. Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 223, Fair Oaks, CA 95628
- 21-23 — *Columbus, Ohio*. Fourth Area 53 Conv. Write: Ch., Box 2131, Columbus, OH 43216

- 21-23 — *Ogden, Utah*. Fall Assembly. Write: Ch., 4746 S. 100 E., Ogden, UT 84405
- 21-23 — *Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada*. Sobriety: The Shared Gift. Write: Ch., 4949 Maitland Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 3W2
- 21-23 — *Schreiber, Ontario, Canada*. Terrace Bay/Schreiber Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 613, Terrace Bay, ON P0T 2W0
- 21-23 — *Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Round-up. Write: Ch., Box 127, Tompkins, SK S0N 2S0
- 21-23 — *Grand Junction Colorado*. Color-Daze 90. Write: Ch., 523½ Main St., Grand Junction, CO 81501
- 21-23 — *Taos, New Mexico*. Seventh Mountain Fiesta. Write: Ch., Box 253, El Prado, NM 87529
- 21-23 — *Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*. 39th Fall Conf. Write: Ch., Box 4342, Ottawa, ON K1S 2L0
- 21-23 — *Arlington, Texas*. Fall Conv. Write: Ch., Box 121742, Arlington, TX 76012
- 28-30 — *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. Second Roundup (hosted by gay & lesbian members). Write: Ch., Box 8614, Station "L," Edmonton, AB T6C 4J4
- 28-30 — *Eatonton, Georgia*. Third Biannual Women's Workshop. Write: Ch., 3072 Poplar Springs Dr., Gainesville, GA 30501
- 28-30 — *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*. Western Canada Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.
- 28-30 — *Reno, Nevada*. Biggest Little Conf. (hosted by gay & lesbian members) Write: Ch., Box 5266, Reno, NV 89513
- 28-30 — *Winchester, Virginia*. 36th Four State/DC Fall Get-together. Write: Ch., Box 593, Winchester, VA 22601
- 28-30 — *Wichita, Kansas*. State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1773, Salina, KS 67402-1773.
- 28-30 — *Rochester, New York*. 10th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 10 Manhattan Square Dr., Rochester, NY 10467

October

- 5-7 — *Austin, Texas*. Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 180639, Austin, TX 78718
- 5-7 — *Clarksburg, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26302-0825
- 5-7 — *Sudbury, Ontario, Canada*. 35th Northeastern Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 605, Sudbury, ON P3E 4P8
- 12-14 — *Lafayette, Louisiana*. Seventh Annual Cajun Country Conf. Write: Ch., Box 3160, Lafayette, LA 70502
- 12-14 — *Claresholm, Alberta, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 45, Claresholm, AB T0L 0T0
- 19-21 — *Salinas, California*. Eighth Annual Coastal Rally. Write: Ch., Box 6418, Salinas, CA 93912
- 19-21 — *Novi, Michigan*. Third Annual Tri County Conf. Write: Ch., Box 595, Union Lake, MI 48085
- 19-21 — *Montreal, Quebec, Canada*. 31st Bilingual Conv. Write: Ch., 5789 d'Iberville Street, Montreal, PQ H2G 2B8
- 26-28 — *London, Ontario, Canada*. 37th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 725, London, ON N6A 4YB