

Committees Set the Stage for the General Service Conference

From April 23-29, when the 39th General Service Conference convenes at the Omni Park Central Hotel, New York City, delegates, trustees, and directors, along with members of the G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs, will go about the business of working toward consensus on matters vital to Alcoholics Anonymous – a task that would be impossible to accomplish in a week without the mounds of advance work done by the 11 Conference committees.

As *The A.A. Service Manual* points out that the 91 delegates, who constitute two-thirds of the Conference, carry the “heavy influence.” They make up the Conference committees, which cover the broad range of A.A. activities. They have free access to the Conference floor for discussion of all actions affecting the Fellowship.

As the Conference has grown in size and influence, the committees’ importance has grown even more. Since 1951, when the first four of them were formed, others have been added. Each committee has been strengthened, and all have ample time during the year to consider the issues before them.

However, no annual Conference is “committee run.” The committees’ recommendations are passed along to

the entire Conference for consideration and/or Advisory Action. The Conference in turn, can refuse a committee’s recommendation; if it does, the matter is discussed and resolved in general session. In typical A.A. fashion, a Conference committee does not represent “authority.” (There are 133 voting members of the Conference. They have the final say.)

On the other hand, as Bill W. stresses in the Second Concept, “the group conscience of A.A. could not be heard unless a properly chosen Conference were fully trusted to speak for it.” Hence the principle of amply delegated authority and responsibility to “trusted servants” must be implicit. In the Third Concept, he is even clearer: “Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other. Therefore, we cannot do less than trust our leaders in service. The ‘Right of Decision’ that we offer them is not only the practical means by which they may act and lead effectively, but is also the symbol of our implicit confidence.”

The theme of the 1989 General Service Conference is “Anonymity – Living Our Traditions.” This is largely what the committee members do. Because there is always room for argument and dissent, they can trust each other. And, unlike members of committees elsewhere, they share a strong singleness of purpose: to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. Following is a capsule listing of the Conference committees and what they do:



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Agenda Committee has the year-round job of communicating with G.S.O. on subjects for the Conference agenda and theme.

Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community seeks to create mutual understanding and cooperation between the Fellowship and professional groups and individuals concerned with alcoholism and the sick alcoholic.

Committee on Correctional Facilities encourages A.A. members to carry the message to alcoholics confined to long- or short-term institutions and reviews services to "inside" groups and institutions committees.

The Finance Committee looks into G.S.O.'s annual budget and concerns itself with income needed to carry out service work.

The Grapevine Committee is a valuable instrument for communication between The Grapevine and the Fellowship. It also brings grass-roots opinions to the Grapevine staff so that they can better serve A.A.

Literature Committee has played a vital role in the development of A.A. pamphlets, books and audiovisual materials.

Policy and Admissions Committee handles all changes in the Conference plan, all steps in the expansion of the Conference, and all procedures affecting its cost. It also reviews requests for additional delegate areas.

Public Information Committee tries to carry the A.A. message and information about the Fellowship to the public. It is also concerned with anonymity breaks and misinformation about A.A. at the public level.

Report and Charter Committee reads drafts of *The A.A. Service Manual* and *Final Conference Report*, checking them for accuracy of content. This committee also receives suggestions for changes in the Conference Charter and A.A. directories and makes recommendations on them.

Treatment Facilities Committee encourages A.A. members to assume responsibility for carrying the message into hospitals and treatment facilities.

Committee on Trustees is concerned with elections, slates of candidates, rotation of directors, and other aspects of A.A. "government."

Trustee emeritus Dr. Jack Norris, who died last Jan-

uary (see page 6), often noted that "committees are made up of people, and so the system will never be perfect. Modification and adjustment are ever necessary to meet changing times within and without A.A." Like so many others, Dr. Jack also believed that an informed group conscience rarely makes a mistake — and that problems will remain minimal so long as we apply the principle of trust that is so basic to the A.A. way of life.

Think 1990! — More on the International Convention

If you're planning to be part of the 1990 International Convention, July 5-8 in Seattle, Washington, here is some more information to help you make your travel plans.

Because approximately 35,000 A.A.s from around the world are expected to attend this Ninth International Convention, marking A.A.'s 55th birthday, the logistics are complex. Some 14,000 hotel rooms in the greater Seattle area are under contract at reduced rates; however, all requests for housing must be processed by G.S.O. together with the registration forms. These, in turn, will be forwarded to the Seattle Convention and Tourism Housing Bureau. As is customary, all the hotels require advance deposits.

Each conventioneer must register and pay the \$55.00 fee *before* the housing request can be processed. Registration forms, listing available hotel accommodations and requesting first, second and third choices, will be sent to A.A. groups worldwide in September 1989. Registrants will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so it would be wise to mail your forms early.

"We realize," says G.S.O. Convention Coordinator Curtis M., "that many of those attending may wish to have their travel agents do all the planning, and we want to cooperate with the agents as fully as possible." However, he notes, "Should you use the services of a travel agent, please be aware that *you* must register and request housing for the Convention directly from G.S.O., even though your agent is handling your transportation, stops en route, etc. If a travel agent's check, rather than a personal check, is received, the entire package and check will be returned unprocessed. We have learned from experience that this procedure best serves and protects the interests of A.A. members."

Similarly, receipts for registration fees, as well as housing information, will be sent directly to you, not to your travel agent. (In the event that you need to cancel arrangements you've made, you can furnish your agent with the receipts and let him or her handle the rest.) Some additional information:

- If members of a group wish to stay at the same hotel,

every effort will be made to accommodate them. However, registration/housing forms for the entire party must be submitted in a single package, not piecemeal.

- If a person wishes to share a room, the names of both occupants should be indicated, with the name of the second occupant in brackets.
- Children under age 12 will be admitted to the Convention at no charge and therefore need not be registered. Nevertheless, their names should be listed on the housing portion of the registration form.

Despite the need for registration procedures amounting to "rules" in smoothing the way for this enormous Convention, the International Convention Committee is ready and eager to cooperate with every registrant, every travel agent, in every way it can.

For further information, or to obtain your form directly (instead of through your home group), please write to: International Convention Coordinator, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

Former Trustee Wayne P. Named G.S.O. Manager

The spirit of rotation is again in the air at the General Service Office as former trustee Wayne P., of Rogers, Arkansas, assumes reins as general manager, effective April 1st, and prepares to join the A.A. World Services Board later this year. In both positions, he will succeed John B., who has served since May 1984.

Noting that Wayne is a seasoned G.S.O. service hand, John points out that "he and I have worked together over the years on both the A.A.W.S. and General Service Boards. He was part of a group that planned some of the major changes introduced at G.S.O. over the past several years, so he is already familiar with the vital aspects of our operations. Turning over responsibilities to him is easy; I know how well he will manage them. We expect the process to be completed by the July 1989 meeting of the board, although Wayne and I have not yet worked out all the details."

On March 21st, Wayne celebrated 20 years of sobriety in A.A. "I wasn't the smartest drunk," he observes. "It took me four years of popping in and out before I finally got the message. The people at the meetings never lost patience. They kept saying, 'Keep coming back' . . . 'You'll make it,' and thanks to their help, I finally did." A member of the Rogers Group in Arkansas throughout his sobriety, Wayne claims he got into service for all the wrong reasons. "I ran for the office of general service representative in order to keep an attorney in the group out," he chuckles. "It was a real case of personality

above principles." Then service work "got into my blood when I found all the good things it did for my sobriety." He served successively as Arkansas area treasurer, chairperson and Conference delegate (Panel 29). In 1983, he was elected southwestern regional trustee. During his four-year term, he was a member of the Finance, Conference, and International Convention/A.A. Regional Forums Committees, and served as chairperson of the Nominating Committee and the A.A.W.S. Board.

Born an only child in Havana, Arkansas - "a town of 93 people" - Wayne holds a B.S. in business administration, with a major in marketing and transportation. Before completing his studies, he saw action in Korea with the U.S. Marine Corps. Upon discharge in 1952, he married "a home state girl," his wife, Marcia. "Over the years, she has been totally supportive," Wayne recalls. "I'm an enthusiastic fellow, always running off to a meeting or an area assembly or a General Service Conference. Hardly ever has she said, 'What, you're going again!' She went to Al-Anon meetings, which I think helped her to understand the anatomy of the sober drunk who happens to be her husband."

The Parks have a daughter, Karen Lee, age 33. "I have been sober since she was 13," Wayne notes, "and I'm grateful for the rapport we have today." He also is close to his mother, who he says is "82 years young."

Wayne has worked variously for Phillips Petroleum Company, Inc., Transcom Freight Lines, Inc. and J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc. He also was general manager of the Moser Manufacturing and Sales Company, specializing in school equipment and, most recently, was owner and operator of a contract and institutional sales firm. He feels that his administrative background, coupled with his extensive contacts with school boards and institutions, will help him in his work at G.S.O.

"I am very interested," Wayne says, "in working with young people and seeing them get into the mainstream of the Fellowship." He is equally concerned about Native North Americans. "Until recently," he points out, "so little was happening on the reservations. Now A.A. is taking hold. Two years ago, I participated in a roundup on a Navajo reservation near the Arizona-New Mexico border, and it was apparent that we had a tremendous amount of work to do in carrying the message. Since then, the groups in that area have grown steadily. It's very exciting."

Wayne says that "A.A. is my life and my hobby. No hunting or fishing for me - I've found that what to do with my spare time has not been a problem." Pondering his new appointments, he comments, "All this just happened. I'm the first regional trustee and the first person outside the New York area to have these posts, but I don't think that makes a difference. Throughout my A.A. life, it has been drilled into me, 'Do what you're asked, the best you can.' I'm just doing what so many other A.A.s have done before me. It's a privilege to serve."

Why Not Turn to an Oldtimer? – A.A. Grapevine Turns 45!

Feeling resentful, confused, or just plain bored? Finally at the end of your rope? Do you need a meeting? Then why not turn to the A.A. Grapevine, an oldtimer in print?

First published in June of 1944, the A.A. Grapevine certainly qualifies as an oldtimer. Yet there are still plenty of newcomers who haven't heard of the Grapevine. For that reason, and at the suggestion of the 1988 General Service Conference, June 1989 will be the first ever "Grapevine Awareness Month." Coinciding with the Grapevine's 45th anniversary of "continuous sobriety," the June issue will be expanded from the usual 48 pages to 64 pages in order to include a retrospective look at the Grapevine's place in A.A. history.

In March, circulation reached over 131,000 – and the magazine is getting to far more people than that as A.A. members pass old copies on from hand to hand and take them into treatment centers, hospitals, and correctional facilities. Yes, along with the Big Book – which celebrates its fiftieth anniversary in April – the Grapevine is actually one of A.A.'s "elder statesmen."

As Bill W. wrote in the historic first issue of the Grapevine – intended originally as a local newsletter for groups in the Metropolitan New York area: "Now comes another lighted lamp – this little newspaper called 'The Grapevine.' May its rays of hope and experience ever fall upon the current of our A.A. life and one day

illumine every dark corner of this alcoholic world."

A.A. in 1944 in many ways was quite different from the A.A. world of the 1980s. The Big Book and one or two pamphlets were the only pieces of published literature and there was virtually no way for groups to communicate with one another across vast geographic distances. Word of mouth was the principal tool in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous, and traveling A.A.s were the prime conduits for moving the message beyond the two early centers of Akron and New York.

The Grapevine, like most oldtimers, has gone through plenty of changes over the year. It has lost pages, gained pages, gone up and down in size, circulation and legibility, yet one thing remains: the Grapevine is A.A.'s international monthly journal. And if you're ever feeling lonely, depressed, confused – or even if you're bursting with that special sort of A.A. enthusiasm and happiness – rest assured that an oldtimer is just a page away, ready to share the experience, strength, and hope of A.A. members worldwide.

Fellowship Unfolds in U.S.S.R.

When G.S.O. general manager John B. returned from the U.S.S.R. in October 1987, after participating in the first phase of a ground-breaking American-Soviet Dialogue on Common Problems, he noted that A.A. in an organized form did not yet exist in the U.S.S.R., although there had been scattered meetings in the past. Two years and several exchanges later, a newly returned A.A. contingent reports the existence of at least four fledgling groups – one in Moscow, two in Leningrad, and yet another in Tallinn.

The A.A. group included three members of the trustees' International Committee – Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee John Hartley-Smith, M.D. and Class B trustees Webb J. and Don P. Accompanied by Sarah P., the G.S.O. staff member on the Overseas assignment, they flew first to Helsinki, Finland, for a "heartwarming" visit with A.A. service workers, then on to the Soviet Union.

"Everyone we visited in the Soviet professional community was familiar with A.A.," the visitors state, "and with our Steps and Traditions as well. Additionally, there has been a fair amount of publicity in the media."

In Moscow, the visitors attended a meeting of the one A.A. group, the Moscow Beginners Group: "It was conducted in the traditional A.A. way, with the Preamble, Steps and Traditions read at the beginning of the meeting. After much sharing, we closed with the Serenity Prayer. Tea and fellowship followed. The approximately 30 group members, whose length of sobriety



Facsimile copy of the first issue. Available from the Grapevine, \$1.50.

seemed to range from two weeks to five months, asked questions on subjects ranging from sponsorship and anonymity to A.A. literature and self-support. They appeared to have no problems with any portion of the program. Before we left, they presented us with a beautiful porcelain teapot which is now in our Archives."

In Leningrad, the American A.A.s were told that "both groups are conducted in the traditional A.A. way, but with differences. A young psychologist sits in on the meetings of the Leningrad Group, but only because of his great interest in our program; he does not participate in any way. The second group, however, is under the wing of a doctor from a hospital that treats alcoholics. In Tallinn, the one group operates under the auspices of a doctor who reportedly is a former member of the Anti-Bacchus Society for nondrinkers." Tom, a newly sober member, gave the visitors a beautiful picture book inscribed, "To our American friends from Estonian A.A., Nov. 15, 1988, Tallinn, Estonia"; this, too, is now in our Archives.

The U.S. contingent met a number of professional people who felt that use of the word "God" in A.A.'s Steps and Traditions represents a great stumbling block to the Soviets because of the antireligious sentiment that has prevailed for so many years. A psychiatrist said that some people have a similar problem with the appellation "Higher Power," which could be confused with "Stalin." Interestingly, adds Sarah P., "a scientific researcher questioned the whole of our Fifth Step - 'Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our wrongs.' He said that although many changes are currently taking place, his countrymen simply have not communicated openly in this fashion for many years. Because of this he felt it was premature to include this Step. Thus, the Soviets are coming to grips with the emotional and spiritual aspects of alcoholism."

Meanwhile, the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, has been translated into Russian, and A.A.W.S. hopes to have it ready for distribution in the near future.

The A.A. Concepts: An Aid to World Service Workers

The Twelve Concepts for World Service are to A.A.'s service structure what the Twelve Steps are to the individual recovering alcoholic, what the Twelve Traditions are to the group.

Written by co-founder Bill W. in 1962, the Concepts are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure. From a historical perspective, they "aim to record the whys of our service structure in such a fashion that the highly valuable experience of the past, and the lessons

we have drawn from that experience, can never be forgotten or lost."

From a philosophical point of view, the Concepts embody principles such as "the Right of Decision," which allows leaders discretion and latitude in their considerations and decisions; and "the Right of Participation," which ensures that each trusted servant has a voting status commensurate with his responsibilities. The "Right of Appeal" protects and encourages minority opinion, and the "Right of Petition" makes certain that grievances can be heard and appropriately acted upon.

Then there are the practical, down-to-earth aspects of the Concepts. These concern "those important traditions, customs, relationships and legal arrangements that weld the General Service Board into a working harmony with its primary committees and with its corporate arms of active service - A.A. World Services, Inc. and The A.A. Grapevine, Inc."

In a discussion of the Concepts some years ago, Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee Joan K. Jackson, of Bethany, Connecticut, spoke of the "spirit of the Concepts." To read any one of them, she said, "is to grasp a way of thinking about the problems we face, one that embodies a unified and integrated philosophy of our organization. It provides for sensitivity to the needs of our members, for faith in the abilities of those who serve to act responsibly for the good of the Fellowship. I feel that Thomas Jefferson would have had a very warm feeling about the Concepts, that he would have appreciated the extraordinary scope of Bill's vision."

Royalties on Bill W.'s Writing

The office has received questions about the disposition of Lois Wilson's royalties.

As authorized by the royalty agreement of 1962 between Bill and the A.A.W.S. Board, and its subsequent amendments, royalties paid to Lois, Bill's widow, during her lifetime could be willed either to individuals who have to be, now, more than 65 years old; or to her Stepping Stones Foundation. In fact, slightly more than half the royalties now go to Stepping Stones for a period of ten years, and will then revert to the Fellowship. Slightly less than half were willed to individuals, and upon their deaths will revert to the Fellowship.

The individuals are, we are told, with one exception, members of Bill's or Lois's family. The foundation, which is not affiliated with A.A. in any way, maintains as a museum the home where Bill and Lois lived from 1940 on, and also engages in support of programs related to alcoholism.

In Memoriam – John L. Norris, M.D. (Dr. Jack)

The life work of Dr. Jack Norris is so entwined with the history of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship he both led and served, that the two are inseparable. At the invitation of co-founder Bill W., Dr. Jack became a trustee of the old Alcoholic Foundation (later renamed the General Service Board) in January 1951. He served as its chairperson from 1961 until 1978, when he stepped down and became trustee emeritus, remaining very active on the board in that capacity until his death on January 13, 1989. Thus his extraordinary service spanned 38 of A.A.'s 54 years of existence.

During those 38 years he attended every General Service Conference ever held; was present at every quarterly board meeting, except when he was ill, which was extremely rare; attended every International Convention; and every Regional Forum and World Service Meeting during the 17 years he was chairperson.

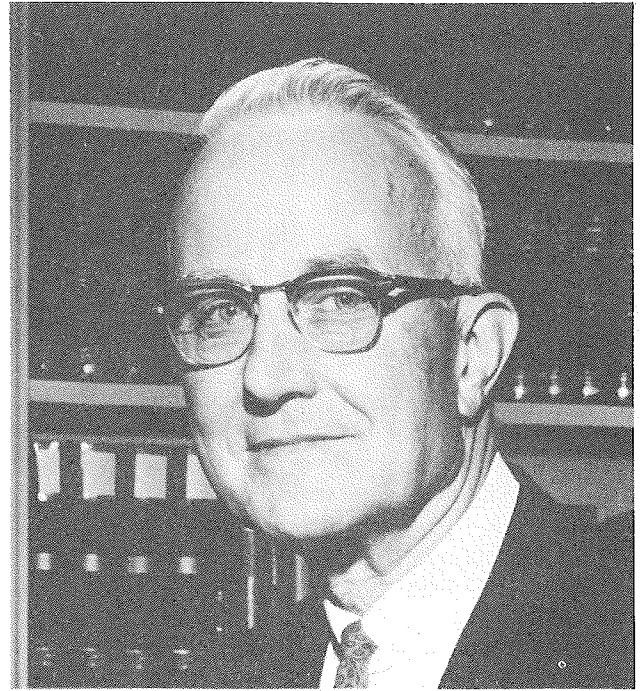
As Bob H., retiring general manager of G.S.O., said of Dr. Jack in his farewell talk at the 1977 Conference, "Cherish him! We shall not see the likes of him again." And A.A. members throughout the world *did* cherish him as long as he lived and will cherish his memory as long as A.A. exists.

John Lawrence Norris was born in Dorchester, Mass., September 24, 1903. He was graduated from Dartmouth College and from Dartmouth Medical School and received his M.D. degree from McGill University in 1931.

The young doctor began private practice in New London, New Hampshire. Around this time Eastman Kodak in Rochester offered him a position as associate medical director for the company and he accepted. Industrial medicine was a new field, in which Dr. Norris became a leader, eventually serving as president of the American Academy of Occupational Medicine, the Industrial Medical Association and the N.Y. State Academy of Preventive Medicine.

In his early days in Rochester, Dr. Jack admitted, he was a prime example of a doctor who "didn't know his alcohol from his ulcer." This was a reference to his first involvement with A.A. in 1941, which he loved to tell about. A Kodak middle-manager named Bert had been referred to him with stomach pains which Dr. Norris diagnosed as an ulcer. For several weeks the patient stayed home, on salary, until a visiting nurse advised the doctor that the "ulcer" was probably a front for what was actually alcoholism.

When Dr. Norris called Bert in, the employee readily admitted his drinking problem. The doctor took a course of action which was revolutionary at the time but be-



John L. Norris, M.D.

came the pattern for company programs thereafter; he said, "Go join A.A. (which Dr. Jack had heard of, but knew little about), get a job somewhere else, and when you think you're ready, come back." Bert did just that, and some seven months later he reappeared in good health saying, "I'm free, free at last." Kodak took him back in a responsible position.

Bert and Dr. Jack became a team, working the same magic on other employees who surfaced with symptoms of alcoholism. "I would diagnose the problem and talk to them like a Dutch uncle," recalled Dr. Jack. "Then I would call in Bert and he would take them over. Our success rate was astonishing!" Bert also became Dr. Jack's "A.A. sponsor," taking him to meetings, including two large public meetings in Rochester in late '40s where Bill W. spoke. Dr. Jack was enormously impressed. And Bill was obviously impressed with the doctor, for he phoned him in 1950 to invite him to become a trustee.

Alcoholics Anonymous has grown twenty-fold in the period since then – from 4,000 groups with about 100,000 members in 1951 to 76,000 groups worldwide and an estimated 1,500,000 membership today – and Dr. John L. Norris was a part of it all. During his tenure on the board, he participated in many major actions. For example, Bill had tried to push through a change in the ratio of alcoholic to nonalcoholic trustees for eleven years, without success. Finally, following a brief, low-key talk by the chairperson, Dr. Norris, the 1966 Conference accepted a majority of alcoholic trustees on the board. Dr. Jack also conceived the Regional Forums as a way of improving trust and communication by regularly taking the board and the staff out to area

service people.

Although Dr. Jack may not have invented the term "bridging the gap" (between active treatment, A.A. membership and sober living), he wrote the definitive paper on the subject in 1978. It is still distributed by G.S.O. as a service piece. He also waged a 40-year campaign to improve knowledge of alcoholism and understanding of A.A. among doctors and other professionals. He constantly urged A.A. members to "sponsor your doctor."

Outside A.A., Dr. Norris achieved recognition as a world authority on alcoholism. Nelson Rockefeller appointed him chairperson of the Governor's Advisory Council on Alcoholism in 1962. He was a member of the board of the National Council on Alcoholism; and in 1977 the National Council on Alcoholism recognized him with its highest honor, the Gold Key Award.

Probably Dr. Norris's greatest gift to Alcoholics Anonymous came immediately following Bill W.'s death in January 1971. Throughout the Fellowship, members asked each other, "What will happen now? Will A.A. survive without Bill?" Dr. Jack's strong, calm, assuring presence – and especially the affection and respect he enjoyed among the membership – were widely credited with reassuring A.A. service workers in that short but critical period. And, a few years later, A.A. entered into an era of unparalleled growth, robust health and unaccustomed harmony.

A memorial service for Dr. John L. Norris was held January 20 at the First Baptist Church in New London. The overflow audience included his widow, Ellie, and his sons David and Richard and their families, including four grandchildren. (A third son, Robert, could not attend.) Also present were representatives of the General Service Board and a large number of A.A.s. Dr. Jack had requested "an A.A.-type service"; it included reflections and memories from A.A. members present, as well as the Serenity Prayer, and his favorite, the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. Across the ages, it speaks of his life: "it is in giving that we receive."

Treatment Facilities

Denver Workshop Stresses Singleness of Purpose

The leading topic of the Treatment Facilities Workshop, held in Denver, Colorado, last fall, was "A.A. and Professional Cooperation . . . Why A.A., N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) and C.A. (Cocaine Anonymous) Are Sepa-

rate and Love It That Way." Sponsored by the Area 10 T.F. committee, the workshop attracted administrators, counselors, therapists, nurses and other interested professionals from around the state.

"Our aim," says then committee chairperson John T., "was to help treatment facilities personnel better understand A.A.'s desire to cooperate with them within the framework of our Traditions. Accordingly, we focused on a number of related questions, including: why alcoholics only are welcome at closed meetings; why A.A. groups are autonomous and self-supporting; why cooperation without affiliation makes sense; and why A.A. endorses no facility and chooses to remain non-professional."

The workshop was well attended, John reports, "probably because we gave people plenty of advance notice." The T.F. committee first sent out a flyer and a schedule of events about a month ahead. Then, as the date of the event drew close, a followup letter was mailed, along with a green "reminder" tag that prospective attendees could put in a prominent place.

A panel composed of members of A.A., N.A. and C.A. discussed what each fellowship is about, what it can and cannot do. The speakers, says Tom, "all emphasized each organization's singleness of purpose as it applies to cooperation with the treatment facilities." Additionally, several representatives of Al-Anon and A.C.A. (Adult Children of Alcoholics) described how alcohol had affected them as family members.

Final discussion centered on the statewide temporary contact program "to help patients/clients bridge the gap between treatment and A.A." Speakers referred to successful approaches that have been used by other A.A.s, including some of those mentioned in the Treatment Facilities Workbook (available from the General Service Office). For example: "One facility holds regular A.A. group meetings at which attending patients have an opportunity to choose a sponsor from among the members of the group." At another facility, the T.F. committee member contacts an A.A. volunteer listed as being available, "giving the name of the patient and date of discharge. Sponsorship starts on an interim basis. Nothing binding on either side. The patient is escorted to his or her first meeting."

After the workshop ended, John notes, "we held an open A.A. meeting which all the participants were welcome to attend. Unfortunately, only the A.A.s came, but we had a good meeting anyhow. (Is there such a thing as a bad one? I doubt it.)" Overall, he observes, "I personally gained a great deal from the workshop. We A.A.s learned a lot from talking to the treatment facility people and gained an appreciation of the problems they face. In turn, they seemed to feel the same way about us."

Correctional Facilities

Cooperation is the Key to Carrying the Message Behind the Walls

"When we take A.A. meetings behind walls, we share our stories, work the Twelve Steps, and utilize the literature just as we do at meetings on the outside. But we don't try to run the show. We cooperate with the officials – after all, they are responsible for prison discipline, security and a good deal more. If we don't follow regulations to the letter, we lose the trust of the administration and make it hard for other A.A.s to carry the message after us."

Speaking from the vantage of 22 years' experience as an A.A. volunteer, Olga M. of Friendswood, Texas stresses the importance of meeting with officials to work out "ground rules" before starting a new A.A. group. "Once these have been spelled out," she says, "it is a good idea to put them in writing for distribution to A.A. groups and individuals who will be involved. We also confirm matters relating to the day, time and place of the meetings, as well as clearance procedures."

Olga calls her Twelfth Step work in correctional facilities today "a piece of cake" compared to the way it was in the 1960s. "Back then," she remembers, "we were not allowed to touch the inmates, maintain contact between meetings or even serve coffee and doughnuts. But now we mingle at meetings, visit individual inmates in between, write letters to them, and make arrangements to serve as their outside contacts. As for refreshments, the inside members provide them with help from the administration. And, at the Mountainview and Riverside Units for women, we are permitted, with prior notice, to bring friends and relatives to the group anniversary celebrations each year."

"One is ever conscious of security regulations," Olga says. For example, outside A.A.s must be cleared in advance by the F.B.I. and the state before entering Texas correctional facilities on a regular basis; to stay on the computerized check list, they are required to attend a minimum of three meetings a year. "We also must check our purses, bags, car keys and such with a guard at the gate before entering," Olga notes, "but it's a small inconvenience. If I can touch just one woman, or one man, with the A.A. message of sobriety, love and hope, that's what counts."

How do inside groups get started? In some facilities, there is informal recruitment by the chaplain or another

official; in others, attendees are singled out by the medical department after review of their case histories. But most often, inmates respond voluntarily to an announcement of the group's formation.

"At the facilities I visit," Olga explains, "the inmates are screened upon arrival. If their records indicate the existence of an alcohol or drug problem, they are encouraged to attend the A.A. meetings. Some difficulties resulting from attendance by people with problems other than alcohol have occurred," she reports. "However, with the help of the A.A. Guidelines on Correctional Facilities Committees we are able to cooperate with the officials, stick to our primary purpose, and even steer these people to the self-help groups that are right for them – often with the help of the local A.A. intergroup or central office, or the National Self-help Clearing House. Where other addictions are involved, we want to give inmates the same shot at the miracle of recovery that we have in A.A. At all times, we consult first with the people in charge before taking action. They have the final say."

Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee Amos Reed, of Salem, Oregon, who chairs the trustees' Correctional Facilities Committee, agrees with the importance of observing institutional protocols. Now retired from his position as secretary of corrections for the State of Washington, Amos has spent 52 years working in corrections, education and public welfare. "There are reasons for doing things you may not understand," he points out. "In correctional facilities, the officials are dealing with troubled and troublesome people. Laws must be observed in a myriad of matters ranging from food preparation and disease prevention to heat and light, safety and security. The warden is like the mayor of a town who takes the overview at all times. He is responsible for any violation of rules that can lead to assault, escape or riot. Thus, it is important to establish and maintain a basis of trust by adhering to regulations, even if you think some of them are restrictive or unnecessary. And keep in mind that A.A. is not the only event in town – there is a constant flow of people from the outside who augment educational, religious and recreational programs. One way or another, the security-clearing process goes on continuously to protect outsiders, prison personnel and the inmates themselves."

"It is a two-way street," affirms Ray McD. of Poughkeepsie, New York. "If we observe the rules laid out by prison officials, they in turn will be supportive of our efforts to carry the A.A. message to inmates." An A.A. member who has worked in the corrections field for more than 20 years, Ray says he can't recall an instance where A.A.s coming in from the outside have violated regulations. "So we must be doing something right," he says. At the same time, he underscores the need for more A.A. volunteers to take meetings into the facilities. "As experience has shown," he says, "the

method of 'one drunk talking to another' can be used very effectively in prisons. A.A.s who act as inside volunteers and outside contacts are a lifeline to the alcoholic inmate who wants what we have but can't go it alone."

Tom I., of Raleigh, North Carolina, an A.A. and long-time prison administrator, says, "Over the past 32 years, I have had the opportunity to look at A.A. programs from both the consumer and volunteer points of view. In my experience, a clear understanding of roles – the custodial institution's and the visiting A.A.s – helps smooth the way. For instance," he explains, "we had an A.A. outside contact who wanted to bring a newly released inmate back in for a meeting. Not understanding security precautions, he resented the fact that his 'sponsee' couldn't be admitted without prior clearance – even though he had been released from the same facility a week earlier."

Tom would like to see officials and inmates assume more direct responsibility for the A.A. effort. "Like kissing, it takes two," he observes. "If the inmates, with help from the administration, have more of a hands-on participation in setting up meetings, furnishing refreshments and ordering literature, it follows that they will actively identify themselves as part of the Fellowship more quickly. If the outside A.A.s do all the work, you wind up with a passive, less interested group. It is not enough for the visiting A.A.s to lay it all out and say, 'Go get it, tiger!'"

What about alcoholic inmates who are segregated from the main prison population and therefore cannot participate in the A.A. meetings? With permission from custodial officials, Tom suggests, "let A.A. Conference-approved literature, audiotapes and films carry the message where our members can't, and enlist the help of volunteers willing to act as institutions correspondents. According to G.S.O., 2,000 correspondents are presently in service in the U.S. and Canada, but many more are needed. Above all," Tom suggests, "keep communicating with the staff to see what options are available and in the best interests of everyone concerned. It's helpful to emphasize that A.A. is a Fellowship of peers, that we learn to help other alcoholics within the framework of our Steps and Traditions, without taking 'credit' for their recovery – that enhancement of our own sobriety is our reward."

In the December 1988 issue of *The Triangle*, the newsletter of Montana Area Allied A.A., Lynn K., area correctional facilities chair, notes that A.A. members who do Twelfth Step work in correctional facilities "carry the message to a group of alcoholics who might never find the program otherwise. The only reason we're there is to help the still-suffering alcoholic stay sober."

Lynn adds that "the A.A. qualifications that helped me the most during my time in the women's prison were those about the sober times. Believe me, we knew

about the drinking, but we really wondered how it would be to function cold sober on the outside. A.A.s coming inside were the only way we had to find out."

(Have you had experience in carrying the message into correctional facilities that you would like to share? Box 4-5-9 welcomes your input.)

C.P.C.

St. Louis Committee Working with Future M.D.s

A.A.s in St. Louis, Missouri are sharing our message with future physicians in a program that is offered as an adjunct to the medical school curriculum, according to Marlene C., former chairperson of the joint committee on Public Information/Cooperation With the Professional Community. In the following Q and A's, she shares the committee's experience with the hope that it will be of interest to other areas that might want to start programs of their own:

Q. How did this project get started?

A. In late 1987, we asked the department of community medicine of a local medical school if we could give a one-hour presentation to some of the students during Grand Rounds. Several months went by without a response; then the director phoned to inquire if we would be willing to expand our presentation into a six-hour mini-course, to be held for first-year medical students during the next two semesters. I almost dropped the phone.

At our next C.P.C./P.I. meeting, we discussed the proposal and voted to go ahead. The preliminary work was time-consuming, but everyone was very enthusiastic and cooperative. Some of the A.A.s involved even arranged to take time off from work in order to participate. At first, the committee members met every week for a month or so to plan our program, to preview possible A.A. Conference-approved films for use with it, and to go through a "dress rehearsal." Then, in fear and trembling, we presented the first Friday morning session.

Q. How have the students responded?

A. The students have been overwhelmingly receptive – and perceptive. They find our qualifications especially helpful. One student said: "I know now that alcoholism can happen to anyone. Meeting real, recovering alcoholics will impact my life." Another commented, "I didn't realize until now that alcoholism is really a disease, and treatable." And from a third: "This program gives me

a totally different perspective about alcoholism. I know it will help me in dealing with future patients.”

After the first three sessions had been completed, a thoughtful young man said, “They spend so many hours in medical school teaching us about rare diseases that we probably will see only once or twice in our lifetimes. Until now, hardly any class time has been allocated to teaching us about something that we’re likely to meet on a daily basis.”

Q. Over time, have you “shifted gears” in your original format?

A. Yes. The first group of students suggested that more time be devoted to our personal qualifications. They felt, as one student put it, that “the stories are very informative and help me to appreciate what alcoholics go through.” Many have asked to see “what really happens at an A.A. meeting.”

Consequently, we have invited the area Al-Anon C.P.C./P.I. committees to cooperate with us in presenting their program. And, owing to the interest in how A.A. meetings work, we now present some of our information in a mock-meeting format.

Q. How has the medical school received the program?

A. A good indicator of the school’s response is that we are now into our second year of the program – and it has been extended to include four two-hour sessions per term.

Shortly after we started the program at the medical school, we received a request to make two presentations for the school of nursing. Both facilities plan to make this program available on a continuing basis. It presently has the highest enrollment of any of the ten mini-courses offered during the same terms.

There is just one problem. As with most service committees in A.A., our committee needs a lot more help. For example: We would like to make the same kind of arrangement with another medical school in our city. But even though we enlist the help of other A.A.s from time to time, there are only nine of us committee members, hardly enough people to go around. As it is, we gave a one-day, six-hour presentation this spring to a group of Catholic seminarians. We are also making presentations to teachers and counselors at several of the local high schools.

Q. Have the C.P.C./P.I. committee members been able to sustain enthusiasm for this commitment?

A. There is no way to describe the high we get from seeing these young medical students pick up on our excitement. It is especially stimulating when they start asking knowledgeable questions that show they have been following almost every word said.

If other members of A.A. can reach the future doctors in their communities on what really amounts to a person-to-person basis, then maybe many of the alcoholics of the future won’t have to reach such a low bottom before starting to recover.

P.I.

P.I. Team In Illinois Is Alive and Cracking

It all started in March 1988 when Mary R., of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, saw the leaflet “A.A. at a Glance.” “After asking questions,” she relates, “I learned that this Public Information piece could be placed in areas available to public view. Then I read our A.A. Conference-approved literature and found out about the P.I. Workbook. I ordered and read it – and couldn’t believe how much could be accomplished by using its guidelines.”

Armed with the Workbook, Mary and her friend Polly S. attended a local intergroup meeting. After discussion, the A.A.s voted to have a P.I. committee and allocated funds for its support. Since then, Mary says, “all kinds of new ideas have been put to work. We’re alive, well and cracking in Bloomington-Normal!” Some results of the 22-member P.I. team’s effort:

- Using material in the P.I. Workbook, they made up an informational packet and mailed it to 425 area doctors, lawyers, members of the clergy, senior-citizen agencies, judges and law-enforcement agencies, schools and treatment centers.
- Work with the area newspaper, the *Daily Pantagraph*, resulted in a story describing the recovery of a local A.A. and his family.
- The team held a Public Information seminar that was well received.
- They set up G.S.O. table-top displays at Illinois Wesleyan and Illinois State universities. Committee members also spoke at an I.S.U. Video Conference on Alcoholism, as well as in campus residence halls.
- They spoke on radio and sent public-service tapes to local TV stations, which have aired them extensively.

“It has been a joy seeing the members of this committee work so hard for the program that has saved our lives,” says Mary. “There’s a saying that ‘you can lead a horse to water but you can’t make him drink.’ Well, with the help of the P.I. Workbook, you surely can let him know where the water is.”

BOX 4|5|9 BULLETIN BOARD

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

APRIL / MAY 1989

Calendar of Events

April

- 1-2 — *Lewiston, Idaho*. Fling in the Spring. Write: Ch., Box 165, Clarkston, WA 99403
- 7-9 — *Ames, Iowa*. Aim For Ames Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2491, Ames, IA 50010
- 7-9 — *Grand Forks, North Dakota*. Sixth Northern Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1262, Grand Forks, ND 58206-1262
- 7-9 — *Seaside, Oklahoma*. Seventh N. Coast Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 727, Seaside, OK 97138
- 7-9 — *Superior, Wisconsin*. 44th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 996, Superior, WI 54880
- 7-9 — *Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada*. Southern Alberta Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 212, Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Y5
- 7-9 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Tenth Annual Celebrate Sobriety Conf. (sponsored by gay members) Write: Ch., Box 718, Station A, Vancouver, BC V6C 2N5
- 8-9 — *Saint Joseph, Missouri*. 46th Anniversary. Write: Ch., 3309 Melody Lane, St. Joseph, MO 64503-1343
- 14-15 — *Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada*. Sobriety Rally. Write: Ch., 1522 Pitt River Road, Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 1P2
- 14-16 — *Flagstaff, Arizona*. Y.E.S. Arizona Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1725, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
- 14-16 — *Palm Springs, California*. Second Annual Greater Palm Springs Conv. Write: Ch., Box 3003, Palm Desert, CA 92261-3003
- 14-16 — *Ventura, California*. "Serenity by the Sea" Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1084, Ventura, CA 93002
- 14-16 — *Rockford, Illinois*. First Annual Area Conf. Write: Ch., Box 4424, Rockford, IL 61110
- 14-16 — *New Orleans, Louisiana*. State YPAA Conf. Write: Ch., Box 10993, Jefferson, LA 70181
- 14-16 — *Kansas City, Missouri*. 48th Anniversary. Write: Ch., 624 E. 63rd St., Kansas City, MO 64110
- 14-16 — *Lincoln, Nebraska*. Lincoln Spring Fling 1989. Write: Ch., Box 30852, Lincoln, NE 68503
- 14-16 — *Cape May, New Jersey*. 22nd Annual Philadelphia Area Intergroup Assoc. Roundup. Write: Ch., 311 S. Juniper St., Rm. 309, Philadelphia, PA 19107
- 14-16 — *Ocean City, New Jersey*. 25th Annual Southern New Jersey General Service Conv. Write: Ch., Box 973, Absecon, NJ 08201
- 14-16 — *Tarrytown, New York*. 26th Annual S.E.N.Y. Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1688, Madison Sq. Station, New York, NY 10159
- 14-16 — *Middleburg Heights, Ohio*. Second National Men Conf. Write: Ch., Box

- 370001, Maple Hts., OH 44137
- 14-16 — *Clarksburg, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Round-Up. Write: Ch., Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26301
- 14-16 — *Lloydminster, Alberta/Saskatchewan, Canada*. Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1742, Lloydminster, AB/SK, S9V 1M6
- 14-16 — *Dauphine, Manitoba, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 453, Dauphine, MB R7N 2V3
- 15-16 — *Lewistown, Montana*. Spring Area Assembly. Write: Ch., 413 E. Benham, Glendive, MT 59330
- 21-23 — *Eureka Springs, Arkansas*. 13th Springtime In the Ozarks Conv. Write: Ch., 211 Spring St., Eureka Springs, AR 72632
- 21-23 — *Ridgecrest, California*. Indian Wells Valley Second Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 6154, Ridgecrest, CA 93555
- 21-23 — *Lake Charles, Louisiana*. Lake Charles Group 36th Annual Conv. Write: Ch., 218 Jefferson Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70605
- 21-23 — *Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 943 Dutkowski Crescent, Regina, SK S4N 6X7
- 22-29 — *Ft. Lauderdale, Florida*. Caribbean Cruise Without Booze. Write: Ch., Box 8201, Buckland Station, Manchester, CT 06040
- 28-30 — *Casa Grande, Arizona*. Fifth Annual Campout. Write: Ch., Box 828, Casa Grande, AZ 85222
- 28-30 — *Harvey, Illinois*. 1989 NIA Spring Conf. Write: Ch., Box 3941, Joliet, IL 60434
- 28-30 — *Ft. Wayne, Indiana*. Ninth Annual Northeast Indiana Conv. Write: Ch., 8306 Schlatter Rd., Leo, IN 46765
- 29-30 — *Manhattan, Kansas*. 12th Anniversary. Write: Ch., Box 1433, Manhattan, KS 66502
- 28-30 — *Scottsbluff, Nebraska*. Panhandle Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 286, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

April (page 23): The Big Book; Step Four.

May (page 27): The spirit of anonymity; emotional sobriety; looking the world in the eye.

- 28-30 — *Stillwater, New Jersey*. G.S.Y.P. Seventh Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 8205, Piscataway, NJ 08855
- 28-30 — *Canandaigua, New York*. Fourth Annual Conf. of the Lakes. Write: Ch., Box 890, Geneva, NY 14456
- 28-30 — *Dayton, Ohio*. 11th Women's Workshop. Write: Ch., 425 Dayton Towers Drive, Apt. 12D, Dayton, OH 45410
- 28-30 — *Fairlee, Vermont*. 22nd Vermont Conv. Write: Ch., Box 546, Chester, VT 05143
- 28-30 — *Banff, Alberta, Canada*. 16th Roundup. Write: Ch., 1536 110th Avenue S.W., Calgary, AB T2W 0E1
- 28-30 — *Grand Centre, Alberta, Canada*. District 3 Round-Up. Write: Ch., Box 141, Grand Centre, AB T0A 1T0

May

- 4-7 — *Miami, Florida*. Birds of a Feather Annual International Conv. Write: Ch., Box 595094, International Airport, Miami,

Planning a June, July or August Event?

Please send your information on June, July or August events, two days or more, in time to reach G.S.O. by April 10, the calendar deadline for the June/July 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

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

May (cont.)

- FL 33159
5-7 — *Grand Rapids, Minnesota*. Iron Range Get-Together. Write: Ch., Box 469, Grand Rapids. MN 55744
5-7 — *Corning, New York*. 38th Central New York Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 459, Corning, NY 14830
5-7 — *Aberdeen, South Dakota*. State Spring Conf. Write: Ch., Box 131, Warner, SD 57479
5-7 — *Oconomowoc, Wisconsin*. Area 75 38th Annual Spring Conf. Write: Ch., Box 2111, Waukesha, WI 53186
5-7 — *Oliver, British Columbia, Canada*. Oliver Roundup & Campout. Write: Ch., RR #1, S/72 C/5 Oliver BC V0H 1T0
5-7 — *Craig, Colorado*. Little Skyline Conf. Write: Ch., Box 123, Craig, CO 81626
5-7 — *Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada*. 23rd N.W.O. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 73, Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4V5
6-7 — *Estevan, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Roundup. Write: Ch., 622 Albert St., Estevan, SK S4A 1R6
6-7 — *Turtleford, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 383, Turtleford, SK S0M 2Y0
11-14 — *Pompano Beach, Florida*. 11th Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 333, Pompano Beach, FL 33061
12-14 — *Laughlin, Nevada*. Fifth Annual Tri-State Round-up. Write: Ch., Box 4683, Bullhead City, AZ 86430
12-14 — *Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada*. 25th Annual Blossom Time Conv. Write: Ch., Box 851, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6V6
12-14 — *Sligo, Ireland*. 32nd All-Ireland Conv. Write: Bord Failte (Ireland West Tourism), Victoria Place, Galway, Ireland
12-14 — *Courtenay, British Columbia, Canada*. 38th Comox Valley Rally. Write: Ch., 205-1252 9th St., Courtenay, BC V9N 1P4
12-14 — *Ann Arbor, Michigan*. East Central Regional Forum. Write: Sec., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
12-14 — *Levelland, Texas*. S. Plains Conf. Write: Ch., Box 1409, Levelland, TX 79336
18-21 — *Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*. 48th State Conf. Write: Ch., Box 850925, Yukon, OK 73099
19-21 — *Rehoboth Beach, Delaware*. 29th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 1628, Wilmington, DE 19899
19-21 — *Pensacola Beach, Florida*. Third Annual District 13 Roundup. Write: Ch., 221 N. Palafox St., Pensacola, FL 32501
19-21 — *Chicopee, Massachusetts*. Western Mass. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 5193, Springfield, MA 01101
19-21 — *Biloxi, Mississippi*. Third Annual Gulf Coast Fellowship. Write: Ch., Box 1553, Gulfport, MS 39502

- 19-21 — *Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., 1040 Dundas, Kamloops, BC
19-21 — *Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada*. 14th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., 18 Dieppe Drive, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3A8
19-21 — *Prince Rupert, British Columbia, Canada*. Pacific NW Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1164, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 3R5
19-21 — *Boise, Idaho*. Spring Assembly. Write: Ch., Box 2096, Boise, ID 83701
19-21 — *International Falls, Minnesota*. 12th Celebration. Write: Ch., Box 412, International Falls, MN 56649
19-21 — *Rome, New York*. East-West Conf. Write: Ch., Box 33, Rome, NY 13440
19-21 — *Little Current, Ontario, Canada*. 19th Rainbow Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 820, Little Current, ON POP 1K0
19-21 — *Brownwood, Texas*. Man to Man Conf. Write: Ch., Box 809084, Dallas, TX 75380
20 — *Ypres, Belgium*. 1989 Flemish-speaking Conv. in Belgium. Write: Sec., P.B. 58, B-8640 WEVELGEM-Moorsele, Belgium
26-27 — *Boyne Mountain, Michigan*. Seventh Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., 10944 Van's Lane, Fife Lake, MI 49633
26-28 — *Lake Bistineau, Louisiana*. 10th Annual Lake Bistineau & Springhill's Lake Party. Write: Ch., Box 385, Cullen, LA 71021
26-28 — *New Orleans, Louisiana*. 21st Annual Big Deep South Conv. Write: Ch., 4041 Tulane Ave., Suite 301, New Orleans, LA 70119
26-28 — *Minneapolis, Minnesota*. Gopher State Roundup XVI. Write: Ch., Box 65295, St. Paul, MN 55165-0295
26-28 — *Castlegar, British Columbia, Canada*. 16th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 127, Genelle BC V0G 1G0
26-28 — *Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada*. NB/PEI Area Business/Round-up Assembly. Write: Sec., Box 9, Site 4, RR 8, Saint John, NB E2L 3W8
26-28 — *Melwood Park/Kerwood, Ontario, Canada*. Strathroy-Watford Area Campout. Write: Ch., Box 203, Strathroy, ON N7G 3J2
26-28 — *Memphis, Tennessee*. Mid-South Spring Fling. Write: Ch., 5176 Drexel Ave., Memphis, TN 38135
26-28 — *Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada*. Campout/Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 503, Lac La Biche, AB T0A 2C0
26-28 — *Bakersfield, California*. 16th Golden Empire. Write: Ch., Box 3489, Bakersfield, CA 93385
26-28 — *San Jose, California*. First Saturday Night Lives Conv. Write: Ch., Box 816, Campbell, CA 95009
26-28 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Roundup (presented by gay and lesbian members). Write: Ch., Box 37573, Omaha, NE 68137
26-29 — *Lihue, Hawaii*. Ninth Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 692, Kapaa, HI 96746
26-29 — *Dallas, Texas*. Big D Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 191174, Dallas, TX 75219

- 26-29 — *Thomaston, Connecticut*. "Back to Basics" Spring Campout. Write: Ch., 101-1 Ridge Rd., Naugatuck, CT 06770
26-29 — *Waitsburg, Washington*. Fourth Annual Touchet River Outdoor Round-up. Write: Sec., Box 638, Waitsburg, WA 99361

June

- 2-4 — *Key West, Florida*. Sunset Roundup '89. Write: Ch., Box 4165, Key West, FL 33041-4165
2-4 — *Lakewood, New York*. Big Book Seminar. Write: Ch., Box 1002, Jamestown, NY 14702-1002
2-4 — *Bronx, New York*. Fifth Annual BOT-WYPCC Conf. Write: Ch., Box 243, Bronx, NY 10461-0243
9-11 — *Mobile, Alabama*. Azalea City Jamboree. Write: Ch., Box 161166, Mobile, AL 36616
9-11 — *Conway, Arkansas*. Second Dist. 5 Summertime Sobriety. Write: Ch., Box 700, Conway, AR 72032
9-11 — *Calgary, Alberta, Canada*. Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 954, Station M, Calgary AB T2P 2K4
9-11 — *Montreal, Quebec, Canada*. Second Montreal Bilingual Conf. of Young People. Write: Ch., Box 1039, Station C, Montreal, PQ H2L 4V3
16-18 — *Brookville, New York*. Long Island Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 539, Smithtown, NY 11787
16-18 — *Akron, Ohio*. Seventh LIM Conf. Write: Ch., Box 360446, Columbus, OH 43236
16-18 — *Cache Creek, British Columbia, Canada*. Cache Creek-Ashcroft 14th Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 558, Cache Creek, BC V0K 1H0
16-18 — *Chatham, Ontario, Canada*. Mid-season Campout. Write: Ch., Box 133, Leamington, ON N8H 3W1
23-25 — *East Canaan, Connecticut*. Fourth Annual Sunday Step Group Campout. Write: Ch., 50 Pleasantview St., Naugatuck, CT 06770
23-25 — *Louisville, Kentucky*. First Fall City Conf. Write: Ch., Box 778, Crestwood, KY 40014
23-25 — *Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. Sixth Area 60 Weekend of Sharing. Write: Ch., 418 Santa Rosa Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
23-25 — *Nanoose Bay, British Columbia, Canada*. 29th Parksville-Qualicum Rally. Write: Ch., Box 234, Errington, BC V0R 1V0
30-July 2 — *Song Tan City, Kyong Ki-Do, Korea*. 10th Annual AAIG-Korea Conv. Write: Ch., PSC Box 1373, A.P.O. San Francisco, CA 96366-0006