

## Literature Projects Crowd the Schedule of The 1984 Conference

A rich collection of new literature was presented for approval to the 34th U.S./Canada General Service Conference, which met at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York City, April 15-21, 1984. Thorough consideration was given to each piece, for previous Conferences had expressed unease about proliferation of new A.A. literature. That very caution emphasized the value placed by this Conference on the items that were given the go-ahead — indicated in the Advisory Actions on page 2 of this bulletin.

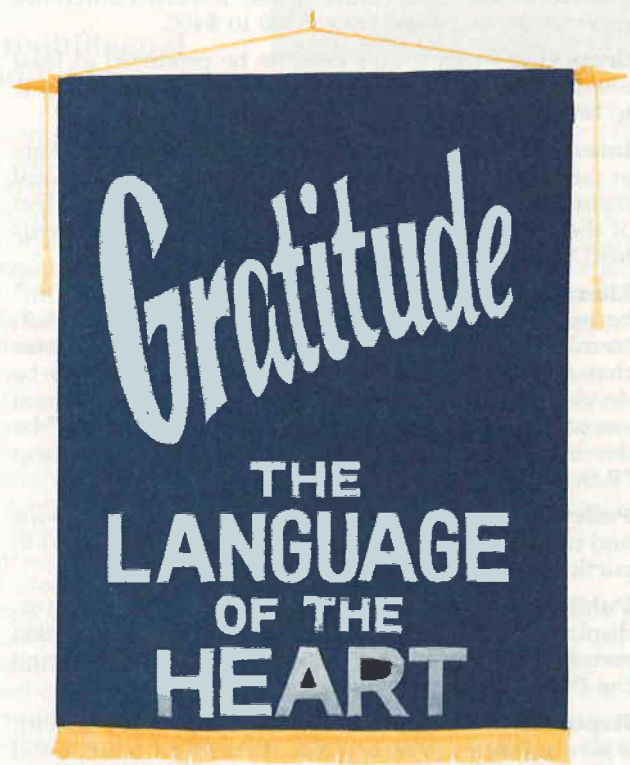
Perhaps the most important work approved by the 1984 Conference was the long-awaited biography of A.A.'s co-founder Bill W., entitled "Pass It On" and intended as a companion volume to "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers." "A.A.—The First Fifty Years," an illustrated history, was discussed at length.

Also considered by the 1984 Conference were revisions of the pamphlets "The A.A. Member and Drug Abuse" and "The A.A. Group"; the draft of a pamphlet for the homosexual alcoholic; a plan for "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated," a pamphlet similar to that on the Traditions; and an updated version of the G.S.O. filmstrip, "P.O. Box 459."

A proposal originating with the trustees' Nominating Committee centered on the length of the terms to be served by Class B trustees elected to replace trustees who die or resign before completing their allotted years of service on the board.

The overall Conference theme, "Gratitude—The Language of the Heart," was highlighted in the keynote address given by regional trustee Al H.: "Perhaps even more than respect, I have acquired a sense of gratitude for those who kept the Fellowship alive and vital, so it would be there one more time for a drunk like me. Along with this sense of gratitude, I have become aware of a growing sense of my responsibility to preserve this Fellowship intact for those who will need it in the future."

As Conference week progressed, each day became a testament to gratitude, exemplified in the love and service demonstrated by the 133 Conference members themselves: area delegates, trustees, A.A. World Services



and Grapevine directors, and members of the G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs.

On Sunday night, a dinner and an inspiring A.A. meeting provided a convivial atmosphere and a "relaxer" for all Conference members and guests. The work began on Monday morning, when Conference members settled down to rigorous daily schedules of committee meetings, presentations/discussions, workshops, reports, an Ask-It Basket, and a "What's on Your Mind?" sharing session. Each year, trustees leaving the board say their farewells at the closing brunch on Saturday morning: in 1984, general service trustees John B. and Don D. and regional trustees Al H. (Western Canada) and Joan S. (West Central U.S.). It was rotation time for the last three, but John left to prepare for a new type of service (see the General Service Board report, page 3).

Conference committee meetings and subsequent floor discussions, of course, were the heart of the Conference work. The most significant Advisory Actions follow, in condensed form. (A complete list will appear in the *Final Conference Report*.)

## 1984 Conference Advisory Actions

**Agenda**—that the 1985 Conference theme be “Service—The Golden Key,” “Love and Service,” or “Golden Moments of Reflection.”

**Cooperation With the Professional Community**—that C.P.C. news be included in *Box 4-5-9*, eliminating the *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin*.

**Correctional Facilities** — that the Correctional Facilities Workbook be approved; that correctional facilities news be included in *Box 4-5-9*, eliminating the *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*.

**Finance**—that area contributions toward Conference expenses be increased from \$300 to \$400.

**Grapevine**—that a tape cassette be produced at least annually; that the “About Alcoholism” section continue to be published, with the disclaimer.

**International Convention**—that all principal speakers at the major A.A. meetings be A.A. members; that local convention committees be alerted to the possible effect of the International on attendance at other A.A. events held between May 10 and August 23.

**Literature**—that the Bill W. biography, “Pass It On,” be approved; that the pamphlet replacing “The A.A. Member and Drug Abuse” be approved with revisions; that a pamphlet for the homosexual alcoholic not be developed; that “The A.A. Group” pamphlet remain essentially as is; that “Twelve Concepts Illustrated” be developed; that the updated version of the filmstrip “P.O. Box 459” be approved.

**Policy/Admissions** — that Spanish-speaking groups and committees be encouraged (in six specific ways) to participate in the general service structure.

**Public Information**—that “The A.A. Member” flyer, display, and poster be updated with results of the 1983 membership survey; that a 60-second TV spot featuring the Preamble be developed.

**Report and Charter**—that the A.A.W.S. Board appoint a subcommittee to review A.A. directories’ content and format; that “The A.A. Service Manual” clarify the Third Legacy procedure.

**Treatment Facilities**—that the 1978 Conference action on forming an A.A. group in a treatment facility be reaffirmed; that a workbook be developed; that there be separate Guidelines on treatment facilities and on correctional facilities.

**Committee on Trustees**—that the trustees’ Nominating Committee survey delegates and trustees on the question of electing all Class B trustees to four-year terms, no matter when vacancies occur.

---

## Five New Trustees Bring Wide Experience To U.S./Canada Board

The A.A. service lives of the two new regional trustees named by the 1984 Conference are converging for the second time. Jack F. of Vancouver, B.C., replaces Al H.

for Western Canada; Dan B. of Marion, Iowa, succeeds Joan S. for West Central U.S. Both Jack and Dan were Conference delegates on Panel 29. In 1980, both chaired Conference committees: Jack, Finance; Dan, Literature.

Rotation and resignations brought three other new trustees before the Conference. Elected to replace — as board treasurer — Class A trustee Frank Smeal, who resigned, Robert P. Morse has financial expertise gained during more than 15 years in the investment business; he has been a member of the board’s Finance Committee for two years.

Each board of directors includes a new general service trustee: for A.A.W.S., Thomas J. (replacing John B.); for the Grapevine, Ralph R. (replacing Don D.). Tom is an attorney, often general counsel to nonprofit organizations. Ralph, a veteran in advertising and a former radio/TV writer, has been serving as a GV director and member of three trustees’ committees.

---

## Estimates of Groups and Members as of January 1, 1984

	Groups	Members
United States	29,827	585,823
Canada	4,197	69,931
Overseas	22,156 <sup>1</sup>	466,897 <sup>1</sup>
Treatment facilities	1,052 <sup>2</sup>	25,899 <sup>2</sup>
Correctional facilities	1,344 <sup>2</sup>	42,336 <sup>2</sup>
Lone Members		508
Internationalists		522
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	58,576	1,191,946

1. At the end of 1983, we had reported members from 58 of the 107 overseas countries with A.A. groups. (A.A. activity was reported in 112 overseas countries.) These totaled 18,089 groups and 387,081 members. To establish an estimate for the 49 countries not yet responding, we excluded the eight largest responding and obtained an average of the balance. This average was applied to the 49, and the overall estimate emerged.

2. U.S. and Canada only.

The estimated group counts in the U.S. and Canada include only those that ask to be listed at G.S.O.; thousands do not.

Among listed groups in the U.S. and Canada, many do not report membership figures. For each nonreporting group, an estimate of membership is arrived at by taking an average among reporting groups within the Conference area concerned. Even among reporting groups, membership figures include only those now active and attending meetings; there is no way to count sober members who no longer have a home group.

---

**Box 4-5-9** is published bimonthly by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, 468 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. © Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 1984

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

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

---

# Reports From G.S.O., the General Service Board, and Trustees' Committees

## General Service Board

### Our board of trustees takes its first Fourth Step

**Trustees' report:** This has been a turbulent year for the board — but a watershed year as well. The board has, for the first time, taken its own inventory. The results have been salutary. For example, the exercise has sharpened up the *servant* role of the trustees and thrown new light on the *responsibility* that goes with that role.

Just before the 1983 Conference, I appointed an ad hoc committee to examine the rotation practices of the two subsidiary boards (A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine) and the trustees' committees, and their consistency with the bylaws. Pertinent Advisory Actions of that Conference were added to the mission. The study led to milestone recommendations. The committee relied heavily on "Twelve Concepts for World Service," written by Bill W. in 1960-61. Since then, as the Concepts have been reprinted, innumerable changes have been made to reflect current practice. I have appointed a study committee to examine these changes.

The board has also spent a great deal of time and thought in a search for a successor to the general manager of G.S.O. Bob P., who intends to retire March 31, 1987, at the latest, requested that a successor serve in tandem with him for two to three years. The board concurred; so the Nominating Committee examined a number of candidates and presented two names to the board. John B. was selected.

Now, I turn to my "State of the Fellowship message." Despite recurring problems being discussed at this Conference, A.A. has never been in better shape. Over 4,300 new groups listed themselves with G.S.O. (not counting the thousands that do *not* bother to list themselves). After we deduct groups that became inactive, there was a net increase of about 3,500 in 1983.

A.A. literature sales continue to boom. Last year, more than 543,000 copies of the Big Book alone were published and distributed — 18% more than in 1982. For the other books and the pamphlets, the total was up 12.5%; 8,900,000 pieces of A.A. literature were distributed in 1983.

Our two operating corporations are both running in the black. I am particularly delighted to report this for the Grapevine; it is a remarkable turnaround.

At this season, exactly the same kind of A.A. General Service Conference is being held autonomously and separately in many parts of the world. This beautiful Fellowship and way of life has leaped across na-

tional borders, cultural boundaries, and language differences.

*Gordon Patrick (nonalcoholic), chairperson*

## A.A. World Services, Inc.

### Active year sees multilingual literature, staff additions

**Directors' report:** Among actions we took during 1983 were the following. . . .

- Transferred \$655,900 to the General Service Board to cover 1982 operating deficits; transferred \$200,000, surplus cash in excess of basic operating requirements, to the Reserve Fund.
- Approved lending Holland up to \$36,500 to publish 4,000 Big Books in Dutch.
- Signed an agreement with the Central American Literature Committee in Costa Rica, which has now assumed complete responsibility for publishing and distributing A.A. literature in Central America.
- Hired a new staff member, Eileen G., to replace Beth K., who retired; hired another, Cheryl Ann B., for the position vacant since June R.'s death; hired Vicente M. to serve Spanish-speaking groups.
- Opened a new warehouse in Minneapolis, Minn.; are examining the feasibility of opening a warehouse in Western Canada for faster literature service there.
- Approved prices for the Spanish translations of six leaflets; granted 68 requests to reprint A.A. literature and one to tape-record; denied four.

At the annual meeting of representatives from G.S.O. with the four French-speaking delegates, the French Literature Committee, and the Eastern Canada trustee, a proposal by the Quebec French Literature Service to produce a French translation of "A.A. — An Inside View" was discussed. The committee will soften the English voices and have two narrators (male and female) do a voice-over in French.

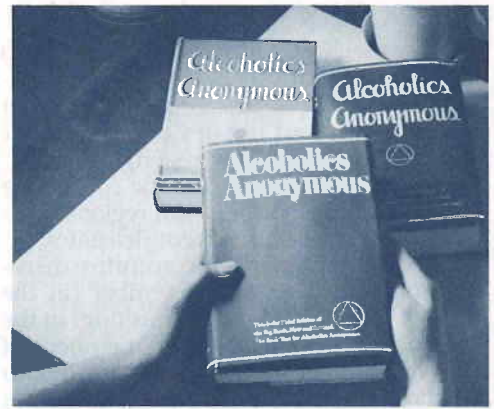
*Joe K., chairperson*

## Archives

### The first Big Book's colorful dust jacket draws attention

**Trustees' committee:** At one of our three meetings since the last Conference, a policy of handling early Latin American group files was formulated. Important items, selected with the aid of a Spanish-speaking A.A., will be microfilmed; the rest, sent to the G.S.O. in the country concerned.

The Archives Department helped to re-



*In the archives, three Big Books trace 45 years of A.A. history. The 1939 edition (top left) wore a bright jacket to attract drunks to the then-obscure Fellowship.*

search a record number of books and TV shows including elements of A.A. history. It has also repaired and restored 19 original yellow, red, and black dust jackets from various printings of the first edition of the Big Book. Rarer than the book, they are a favorite with visitors.

Considerable discussion centered around using video-cassette recorders in obtaining oral histories, a plan proposed by a Midwestern archival center. The consensus was that the advantages of these VCRs were heavily outweighed by the risks to our anonymity Traditions.

*Al H., chairperson*

**Staff report:** "When a society or civilization perishes, one condition can always be found," Carl Sandburg wrote. "They forgot where they came from." With the happy growth of interest in *where we came from*, it appears that Sandburg's dire prophecy cannot be applied to A.A. The ranks of archival centers continue to grow, and from the fewer changes in our mailing list, it appears that our group of centers has stabilized.

Many rare books and over 90 cassette tapes of a historical nature were acquired through donations. Important private papers of early members have been added to our files on early groups. Catalogs of our holdings prepared during 1983 include those on our collections of photographic cassettes and of magazines.

*Frank M., archivist*

## Conference

### Value of Conference committee system gains new emphasis

**Trustees' committee:** Suggestions for the 1984 Conference theme were reviewed, and we recommended to the Conference Agenda Committee (which makes the final selection) that the theme be "Gratitude — The Language of the Heart." We reviewed ideas from the Conference Evaluation Questionnaire and the post-Conference

sharing session and suggested that:

- The delegate chairperson be asked to outline the committee system in a pre-Conference mailing to delegates, pointing out how to make best use of Conference floor time via the committee system.
  - Regional trustees discuss the committee system with new delegates at regional conferences of past and current delegates.
  - Selection of Conference committee members take place in mid-December (at the time of the A.A.W.S. Board meeting) in the presence of two trustees or members of this committee, thereby gaining a month in communication time with Conference committee members.
  - We encourage presenters (in presentation/discussion sessions) to pose questions on their subjects, to stimulate discussion.
- Natalie S., chairperson*

**Staff report:** The Conference coordinator is a point of contact among all Conference members and all those serving on the 91 U.S./Canada area committees, many of which have grown to include alternates at all levels of service. A.A. growth has led to an increase in the number of districts and to innovative ways of dividing districts into smaller units.

We receive minutes of most area assemblies and committee meetings and many district meetings. Circulated among the G.S.O. and Grapevine staffs, they help us keep up with U.S./Canada activities.

All A.A.'s are encouraged to submit suggestions for the Conference agenda, usually through delegates. Suggestions are presented to the trustees' Conference Committee and the Conference Agenda Committee for approval, then shared via the *Quarterly Report*, Box 4-5-9, and the preliminary Conference agenda mailed to the delegates in January.

The Conference coordinator collects ideas for the theme and agenda; handles correspondence with delegates in preparation for the Conference; works with the general manager, the office manager, and the staff in planning and coordinating the Conference; schedules and routes reports and other material for Conference Manuals, *Early Bird* Box 4-5-9, and the *Final Conference Report*; reviews communications from area committees and D.C.M.'s.

*Lois F.*

---

### Cooperation With the Professional Community

#### Contacts with N.A. may help guard A.A.'s Traditions

**Trustees' committee:** The subcommittee that evaluated literature for the legal profession reported that there is already enough; it suggested that a guide letter be included in the C.P.C. Workbook for the use of local C.P.C. committees in informing

those professionals about A.A. as a resource. We accepted the letter written by the subcommittee. Another subcommittee studied literature for educators and came to the same conclusions.

We discussed the 1972 letter that G.S.O. sent to treatment facilities, and recommended updating and incorporation of information about Narcotics Anonymous (N.A.) for referral purposes.

N.A. representatives attended two of our meetings; we heard of this group's organizational and development problems — and growth in recent years. A G.S.O. staff member attended N.A.'s World Service Meeting; the importance of A.A.-N.A. cooperation and the gratitude that N.A.'s felt for the sharing of our experience led to a beneficial exchange.

We are discussing revision of the service piece Memo on A.A. Cooperation in Research and Non-A.A. Survey Projects. A subcommittee is examining it for possible updating and reducing restrictions.

Upon hearing a proposal to expand Box 4-5-9 with the inclusion of the *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin* in that publication, to reach a wider readership, we were hesitant and cautioned that it be done on a trial basis.

*William Flynn, M.D.*  
*(nonalcoholic), chairperson*

**Staff report:** In 1983, our Professional Exhibit was shown at 25 meetings and resulted in over 2,000 requests for additional information. These exhibits, staffed by C.P.C. or P.I. committees in the areas, carry the message to the professional public; also help increase the *About A.A.* mailing list, now almost 13,500.

The C.P.C. staff member serves as A.A. liaison on the Advisory Council to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. A.A. is asked to conduct workshops at such annual meetings as the National Council on Alcoholism Forum.

Over 300 C.P.C. committees are now listed at G.S.O. New committee chairpersons receive the C.P.C. Workbook free; additional copies cost \$7 each. Committee members receive literature, service material, *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin*, and *About A.A.*

*Curtis M.*

---

### Correctional Facilities

#### New workbook prepared as an aid for local committees

**Trustees' committee:** The 1983 Conference asked this committee to develop a Correctional Facilities Workbook. A draft is being presented to the Conference committee for approval.

We sent delegates and correctional facilities chairpersons a letter explaining the Institutions Correspondence Service and asking for A.A. volunteers to write to individual inmates.

"Carrying the Message Inside the Walls" is now available in Spanish; the Spanish edition of "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" is in production. We have prepared a draft of suggested minor changes in "A.A. 1 Prisons," being presented to the Conference committee.

The list of inmates wishing correspondence on the Institutions Correspondence Service has been updated and mailed to the 605 interested "outside" A.A. members.

*Jim Estelle (nonalcoholic), chairperson*

**Staff report:** As of March 1, there were 1,344 A.A. groups, comprising more than 42,000 A.A.'s in correctional facilities (U.S. and Canada) listed on the G.S.O. computer. They are served locally by 278 institutions committees.

Each such group is sent a Prison Group Handbook, other complimentary literature, *Correctional Facilities Bulletin* three times a year, and Box 4-5-9 bimonthly.

Discount packages of A.A. literature (English, Spanish, and French) are available to "inside" groups and institutions committees. The Grapevine donates back issues, which we pass along to those groups. Films and filmstrips are available to them on loan, without charge.

The staff member writes about 500 letters a month; stays informed by reading local committee minutes and newsletters, as well as prison newsletters; writes the *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*, utilizing inmate and area sharing; works with local committees, central offices, groups, and prison sponsors to obtain prerelease contacts for confined A.A.'s, easing their transition into "regular" A.A. groups; on request, also uses local contacts to help A.A. inmates find "outside" A.A. speakers for prison meetings.

*Eileen G.*

---

### Finance

#### Contributions rise, but percent participating lags

**Trustees' committee:** Though contributions ran behind budget for the first nine months of 1983, they finished up pretty much on target; contributions from groups and A.A. members exceeded the 1982 total by \$168,700. But this wonderful support still comes from little more than half of the groups.

After reviewing G.S.O. publishing operations, it was noted that sales finished up a strong 12.7% over 1982. After a 6% discount to A.A. groups, sales showed an increase of \$567,100. Expense increases were as anticipated, reflecting growth and to some extent, continuing inflation. Total operating expenses were slightly under budget, \$49,300 or 1%.

The A.A. Grapevine reported that total income was \$59,500 over budget; expenses,

\$3,900 under. This resulted in a net income of \$19,000, compared with a budgeted deficit of \$49,800.

Budgets were reviewed in depth, and 1984 budgets were approved. For G.S.O., sales have been budgeted to show an increase of 10%; contributions, 11%; operating expenses, 9.5%. For the Grapevine, income is expected to be 5.7% higher than 1983; expenses, 4.9%. A net income of \$27,200 is budgeted for 1984.

The committee will continue its effort to encourage broader group support of general services. The new flyer stressing the Regular Contribution Plan, as recommended by the 1983 Conference, will help. *Dennis Manders (nonalcoholic), assistant treasurer, General Service Board*



The new filmstrip previewed at the Conference gives us a glimpse of Dennis (center row, left) as G.S.O. controller, with other nonalcoholics who track A.A. funds.

## General Sharing Session

### Focus on leadership, committee system, and central offices

**Trustees' report:** In July, our topic was "What's on Your Mind?" Two presentations were given, on "Leadership" and "Principles Before Personalities." In the ensuing discussion, most felt that leadership is not promoted but evolves by example; that it emerges from the group conscience.

"The Committee System" was the October topic. Excellent presentations on "The History of the Committee System" and "The Committee System — Its Problems" were followed by a lively discussion. It was felt that regional trustees might get across to delegates during the pre-Conference orientation session the purpose of the committee system, its vital importance, and the necessity to trust these committees; that delegates should be encouraged to read the Concepts prior to the Conference; that staff, trustees, and delegates might each do their inventory regarding their implementation of the system. All concluded that no alternative to the committee system could get as much work done.

In January, the topic was "Should Central Offices Become a Part of the General Service Structure?" Most participants felt

that some kind of communication system needs to be set up between central offices and the general service structure. Some felt that the two service entities serve different functions: General services respond to A.A. as a whole; central offices, to specific local issues. Overlaps may cause divisiveness; it was noted that competition exists in some areas now between the two entities. The idea might be discussed at Regional Forums. One discussion group observed, "Cooperation carries the message better than territorialism."

*Joan S., chairperson*

## Group services coordinator

### Services meet higher demand as groups increase in numbers

**Staff report:** The coordinator supervises production of all service material, updating of Guidelines and listings, Group Handbooks, G.S.R. Kits, and other material; works closely with staff members on literature and Conference; works with the other departments in preparing directories.

The 1974 Conference recommended that delegates assume responsibility for all directory information in their areas. Beginning in 1983, all delegates received two sets of printouts and were asked to return printouts with changes only. Loners' contributions will no longer be listed in the directories by state and country, but will be totaled and listed on the statistics page.

In 1983, 4,343 new groups in the U.S. and Canada were listed and processed at G.S.O.; 847 were inactivated. New groups receive a Group Handbook, a G.S.R. Kit, complimentary literature, *Box 4-5-9*, and the appropriate directory. We list over 1,000 French-speaking and 400 Spanish-speaking groups; offer handbooks, kits, and *Box 4-5-9* in those languages.

There are now 13 Guidelines, the newest being Carrying the A.A. Message to the Hearing-Impaired Alcoholic. Three pamphlets and the Twelve Steps have been rewritten in easier language for hearing-impaired alcoholics who have difficulty in reading; anyone with a reading disability might find this material helpful.

*Helen T.*

## International

### Committee prepares to welcome Eighth World Service Meeting

**Trustees' committee:** This committee serves as a link between the World Service Meeting and the General Service Board; as host to the W.S.M. when it convenes in New York; as a focal point for information about A.A. around the world; and as overseer of the overseas assignment at G.S.O.

We discuss how to help A.A. growth in countries where it is just getting started. But now, with the proliferation of growth and structure of A.A., countries overseas are sponsoring other countries, and G.S.O.'s around the world are sharing their experience with all of A.A.

Phyllis M. attended the Second European Service Meeting, in West Germany; Susan D., the Third Ibero-American Service Meeting, in Brazil.

We discussed our concern about countries that cannot afford to come to the W.S.M., and recommended that the W.S.M. discuss the possibility of setting up a special fund, under its own administration and control, and that the General Service Board U.S./Canada support this fund, pending approval by the Eighth W.S.M., in October 1984. We also recommended to our board that we invite the W.S.M. delegates to be our guests at the New York Intergroup dinner on October 27, so they might meet our trustees the day before at an informal reception and a planned sharing session. *David A., chairperson*

## International Convention/ A.A. Regional Forums

### Convention plans take shape; Forums test changes in format

#### Trustees' committee:

**International Convention** — After reviewing 34 suggestions, we recommended that the theme of our 50th A.A. Anniversary International Convention be "50 Years With Gratitude."

We discussed additions or changes in the topics of workshops, panels, and special meetings held at the 1980 Convention, and recommended that in 1985 we add a workshop on dual addiction.

The 1983 Conference recommendation of Al-Anon participation at the A.A. Sunday-morning Spiritual Meeting was reviewed; some delegates had belatedly expressed concern. We recommended referring this action to the 1984 Conference for further discussion.

We reviewed the preliminary Convention budget and approved the recommendation that the registration fee be \$30 and that the Canadian dollar be accepted at par. In regard to the Canadian dollar, we recommended that A.A. pick up that share of Al-Anon's net loss, if any, related to their share of the registration.

We will continue to think about topics for Convention sessions; any suggestions from the Fellowship would be welcome.

**Regional Forums** — To date, 33 have been held, each region now having hosted four. There have been additional Forums for a few areas where, because of special circumstances (e.g., climate, geography), members were unable to attend the Forum

in their regions. In 1983, Forum registrants indicated that at any given Forum, over one-half attending are at their first.

Clearly, Forums help stimulate service in areas where it has been somewhat lacking. For example, P.I. and C.P.C. committees were formed in one area after a Forum.

We discussed the increasing costs of hotel meeting-room space and felt that if no way to solve this problem can be found, then we have to go with higher rates. At a special meeting, we discussed changing the format to make Forums more informal; some suggestions will be tried out. We also discussed the importance of rotation of sites in a region, to be as fair as possible to as many members, as possible, and to reduce requests for "special" Forums.

*Kenneth D., chairperson*



*We'll be seeing you, Montreal! It's a city constantly changing and growing, yet clinging to its traditions.*  
(Photo courtesy Quebec Government House)

#### Staff reports:

**International Convention** — Our 50th Anniversary Convention will be celebrated in Montreal, Thursday, July 4, through Sunday, July 7, 1985. Four A.A. committees are working on the Convention: trustees', Conference, Host, and G.S.O. Planning. The staff secretary coordinates and serves as secretary to the four committees; also acts as liaison with the Al-Anon committee on the First Al-Anon International Convention, in Montreal at the same time.

Major events will be held at the Olympic Park Stadium, a Metro ride from the Convention Center. The modern, three-floor center is convenient to major hotels. Registration will be on the bottom or Exhibition Floor. The next, the Convention Floor, seats over 9,000; panels and workshops will be held there. The top floor houses a cafeteria and bar-restaurant.

Registration forms, to be mailed to all groups around the world in September 1984, will contain a list of hotels and motels, prices, and a map of locations.

No matter where our members will be coming from, they will find that getting to Montreal is a breeze. The city has two international airports, with connections throughout the world. It also has easy rail and bus connections.

*Sarah P.*

**A.A. Regional Forums** — The coordinator plans Forums with the regional trustee, delegates, host-city contacts, and G.S.O. general manager; makes arrangements with the host-city contact (local liaison) and the hotel; arranges travel and lodging for board personnel; handles mailings to the region's delegates (asking for agenda suggestions), G.S.R.'s, D.C.M.'s, area committee officers, central offices, past delegates, and past trustees; puts together agendas, formats, etc., at the request of the regional delegates and trustee; and is responsible for displays of literature and service material. Reports of Forums are sent to all participants, trustees, and current delegates.

Forums are held on the invitation of the region. Board personnel who have attended include: trustees, G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members, and A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors. The board pays hotel, meal, and travel expenses of all its personnel; expenses for the region's service people are the responsibility of either the individuals or area committees.

This year, a special Forum will be held for Hawaii. We sometimes begin working on Forums a year in advance.

*Helen T.*

#### Internationalists, Loners, LIMs

#### Worldwide meeting-by-mail links 2,500 A.A. members

**Staff report:** "... I want the hand of A.A. always to be there ..." A Loner from Israel writes: "When I first started writing contacts through the Loners program, I got only one reply. After you printed my request for letters in the *L.I.M.*, I got 52!"

Loners (A.A.'s living where no groups are nearby), LIMs (A.A.'s housebound because of long-term illness or physical disability), and Internationalists (seagoing A.A.'s) all stay sober reading A.A. literature and sharing with other A.A.'s around the world through letters and tapes. There are now over 500 Loners, in 87 countries, 65 LIMs, and about 600 Internationalists and Port Contacts; 42 Internationalist groups meet aboard ships or in ports.

Each new Loner, LIM, or Internationalist receives a literature package, lists of Loners, LIMs, and Internationalists, and the bimonthly bulletins *Box 4-5-9* and *Loners-Internationalists Meeting (L.I.M.)* — a discussion meeting in print.

A growing number of A.A.'s serve as Loner Sponsors, sharing group activities and personal experience with Loners, LIMs, and Internationalists. Altogether, about 2,500 A.A.'s participate in this meeting-by-mail. A.A.'s worldwide growth can largely be attributed to Loners in distant lands and Internationalists carrying the message across the seven seas.

*Phyllis M.*

#### Literature

#### It's a busy year for carrying the message through print

**Trustees' committee:** Since the 1983 Conference, we have reviewed the following: *Projects completed* — We forwarded to the Conference committee "Pass It On" (draft of Bill W.'s biography), "A.A. — The First 50 Years" (draft of an illustrated history, to be distributed first at the 1985 Convention), an updated G.S.O. filmstrip, and a revision of "The A.A. Member and Drug Abuse." As the 1983 Conference recommended, a draft of a pamphlet for the homosexual alcoholic went to all 1984 Conference members.

*Projects in progress* — Following up on a 1983 Conference recommendation to revise "The A.A. Group," we find that abridging it may not be helpful after all; we asked the Conference committee to review this further. A subcommittee will review a possible revision of "A.A. for the Woman" and obtain additional stories. For the proposed pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated," we reviewed an artist's sample drawings and will ask the Conference committee to approve this project for consideration by the 1985 Conference.

*Joan S., chairperson*

**Staff report:** This assignment covers preparation, production, editorial supervision, and distribution of publications and audiovisual items, and work with the group services coordinator on service material.

We have nine periodical bulletins, with a combined circulation of 104,914, as follows: *Box 4-5-9* (English), 55,481; *Box 4-5-9* (French), 3,341; *Box 4-5-9* (Spanish), 10,306; *Loners-Internationalists Meeting*, 3,303; *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin*, 3,991; *Correctional Facilities Bulletin*, 6,453; *Quarterly Report*, 4,965; *About A.A.*, 13,474; *Treatment Facilities Bulletin*, 3,600.

All bulletins except *L.I.M.* are translated into French and printed by the French Literature Service in Montreal, Que., in cooperation with this office.

This has been a particularly busy year at the literature desk, with major projects at various stages. The coordinator works with editors on updating and revising old pamphlets and with writers, artists, editors, and printers in preparing new pamphlets, books, displays, leaflets, service materials, films, and filmstrips.

Letters from A.A. groups and individuals requesting specific information about our literature come to this desk. Central offices, intergroups, and literature distribution centers are informed of new materials.

The coordinator serves as *Box 4-5-9* editor, with a committee of staff members, editorial personnel, and writers.

*Vincina M.*

---

## Nominating

### Altered election schedules and procedures contemplated

**Trustees' committee:** We took the following actions during the past year.

- Reviewed and approved the August letter, procedure, and résumé form for election of candidates for Western Canada and West Central regional trustees.
- Reviewed a possible inequity in the same-year election schedule for trustees-at-large and Southeast and East Central regional trustees; referred it to the Conference Committee on Trustees.
- Reviewed and recommended slates of trustees, board officers, and A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors for election at the board's April meeting, after presentation to the Conference for disapproval, if any.
- Recommended that, when a regional trustee vacancy occurs on the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Board, this committee be responsible for nominating a replacement, naming a trustee who can serve two years and has not served on either board; recommended that Wayne P. replace Joe K. on the A.A.W.S. Board.
- Favoring the election of all Class B trustees for four-year terms regardless of when vacancies occur, we recommended to the Conference Committee on Trustees a specific revision in procedures.

*John B., chairperson*

---

## Overseas, World Service Meeting

### A.A. growth accelerates from Warsaw to Rome to Bombay

#### Staff report:

*Overseas*—The staff member on this assignment corresponds with 31 G.S.O.'s and literature distribution centers outside the U.S. and Canada. When letters are received from groups and individuals in those countries, they are encouraged to write to their own G.S.O.'s. Letters from countries having no service center or office are answered at this desk. Those in a foreign language are translated and answered in that language.

Here are some overseas highlights: In Poland, 13 A.A. groups have begun and are working on forming an intergroup in Warsaw and a translations committee; Italy's request for permission to print all A.A. books and pamphlets in Italian was granted by A.A.W.S.; India asked for information to start a G.S.O. in Bombay.

*World Service Meeting*—The Eighth W.S.M. will be held October 21-25, 1984, in New York City at the Hotel Roosevelt. Simultaneous translations in Spanish and English will again be provided for the general sessions. The theme is "The World

Service Meeting Takes Its Inventory." The Meeting will be attended by over 37 delegates from 27 countries.

*Susan D.*

---

## Public Information

### P.I. activity planned for survey results and W.S.M.

#### Trustees' committee:

*Projects completed*—The annual anonymity memo to the press was mailed to dailies with circulations over 50,000, to over 1,100 treatment centers and hospitals, and to local P.I., C.P.C., and treatment facilities committees, for use in smaller newspapers. Three press feature stories have been completed and sent to local P.I. committees: on the four-millionth copy of the Big Book; on A.A.'s help for the Lone Member; on A.A.'s primary purpose. All 12 of our press feature stories and all of our TV public service announcements are now available in Spanish.

The returns of the 1983 membership survey have been tabulated; rough results will be discussed at the Conference. The detailed analysis will be ready by summer.

*Project in progress*—We discussed new ways to distribute the film "A.A. — An Inside View" and suggested investigating the possibility of making it available to TV networks. We recommended that the Conference committee explore ideas for wider usage of the film.

*Projects for the future*—A press release announcing the World Service Meeting will be sent October 1 to wire services, major media outlets in the top ten markets, large-circulation dailies in the Northeast U.S., and all countries participating in the W.S.M. A press release on the fully analyzed results of the 1983 survey will be sent to major city dailies and to local committees.

*Jacquelyn S., chairperson*

**Staff report:** At G.S.O., the staff member and two nonalcoholics answered over 9,000 requests for information about A.A. during 1983, from students, doctors, nurses, family members, members of the clergy, and the public media; processed about 6,000 newspaper and magazine stories about A.A.; wrote letters of gratitude to over 50 publications a month for good articles about our Fellowship; followed up on about 20 anonymity breaks a month; and sent about 20 letters of thanks monthly for good work done by local committees.

There are 678 P.I. committees and 539 P.I. contacts listed at G.S.O. Committee members receive *P.I.-C.P.C. Bulletin* and P.I. service material. Committee chairpersons receive the Public Information Workbook; additional copies cost \$7 each; and 713 were sent this year. A Literature Display Container, filled with 100 copies of "A.A. at a Glance" and designed to be



placed in professional offices, is now available for \$1.50.

In 1983, we distributed 266 radio public service announcements and 252 TV P.S.A.'s through local committees. A film on the "Nova" series used clips from "A.A. — An Inside View," and a video cassette was presented to our archives. We have worked with the writers and co-producer of an upcoming NBC prime-time TV movie about Bill W. and early A.A.

*Lyla B.*

---

## Staff coordinator

### Two-way contact with local A.A. improves staff services

**Staff report:** One of the important responsibilities of the 11 G.S.O. staff members is to answer correspondence. In 1983, more than 20,000 letters were answered. Most staff members have specific assignments, some of which involve the preparation of special service bulletins; most also correspond with A.A. groups in a given region.

Staff meetings held weekly keep all of us informed and allow discussion of problems that need attention from the group conscience. Another aspect of our work is the invitations received from the areas for A.A. get-togethers, which enable us to learn of local activities and so help us to be a better service office. In the past year, we greeted about 1,500 visitors at G.S.O.

This assignment involves coordinating all staff activities, chairing the weekly staff meeting, making sure mail is answered without interruption during vacations, sickness, or absences, and serving as the liaison between the staff and other departments.

*Betty L.*

---

## Treatment Facilities

### Trend toward specialized committees makes an impact

**Trustees' committee:** We approved a subcommittee's outline draft of "The A.A.

Member and Drug Abuse" and referred it to the trustees' Literature Committee.

As a result of the 1983 Conference action recommending that delegates ask treatment facilities committees to compile a list of treatment centers in their areas for the *Treatment Facilities Bulletin* mailing list, we have received about 1,500 new names.

We considered a suggestion that a treatment facilities workbook be developed. At that time, the G.S.O. mailing list reflected 248 institutions committees and 69 treatment facilities committees. To get a more accurate picture, a letter was sent to area committee chairpersons, institutions (correctional and treatment) committee chairpersons, and intergroup offices to determine whether institutions committees met as one committee or as two separate committees. Nearly half the replies indicated that institutions committees had separated into correctional and treatment.

We explored the possibility of combining material for treatment facilities with the Correctional Facilities Workbook now in preparation, then met with the trustees' Committee on Correctional Facilities to discuss its ideas. Members of that committee felt that separate workbooks would be addressing the practices of the future, not the past. That was the final consensus of both committees; the question was referred to the Conference Committee on Treatment Facilities.

*Kenneth Williams, M.D.*  
(nonalcoholic), chairperson

**Staff report:** We still receive many listings for groups meeting at treatment facilities; but more and more of them are self-supporting regular groups open to A.A. members in the community, as well as to patients. So more and more newcomers in such facilities are experiencing regular A.A. meetings firsthand.

Because of the separation of hospital and institution (H. & I.) committees into two committees, all G.S.O. services to H. & I. committees will be reviewed by the Conference committee, to consider separating more service material.

Mail on this assignment indicates continuing confusion over the role of A.A.'s working in the alcoholism field and their relationship to the groups that meet at their facilities — especially if such an A.A. member also "runs" the group at the center, perhaps because H. & I. committees do not have enough volunteers.

G.S.O. provides the following services to those in treatment facilities: correspondence with the staff member on this assignment; a correspondence service to put outside A.A.'s in touch with confined members; for new groups, complimentary literature; for all such groups, Box 4-5-9 bimonthly, *Treatment Facilities Bulletin* twice a year, *Correctional Facilities Bulletin* three times a year; filmstrips and films on loan, free.

*Sarah P.*

## Reports From the A.A. Grapevine

### At the 40-year mark, our magazine has a bright outlook

**Directors' report:** In 1983, for the first time in the Grapevine's 40-year history, revenues exceeded \$1,000,000, and the operating profit of almost \$14,000 was in sharp contrast to the deficits of the previous few years — thanks to an increase in subscriptions, proper pricing for the magazine and special items, and a sharp eye on production costs. The year also saw the first use of photographs on the cover and, for December, a four-color cover. The editorial staff again succeeded in presenting a broad array of vital issues to the Fellowship.

But the first quarter of 1984 ended on a note of sadness, with the sudden loss of art editor Tom N. He was at work until three days before his death, on March 16. His creativity and love for the Grapevine added immeasurably to the magazine from the day he joined the staff in 1978.

The Grapevine made important progress on its project of switching from outside fulfillment-service contractors to its own in-house computer service for recording subscriptions and delivering the magazine.

The cassette tape of stories produced at the suggestion of the 1983 Conference has been greeted with overwhelming enthusiasm; the staff has suggestions for additional tapes, hoping that will be the decision of the 1984 Conference.

*Donald D., chairperson*

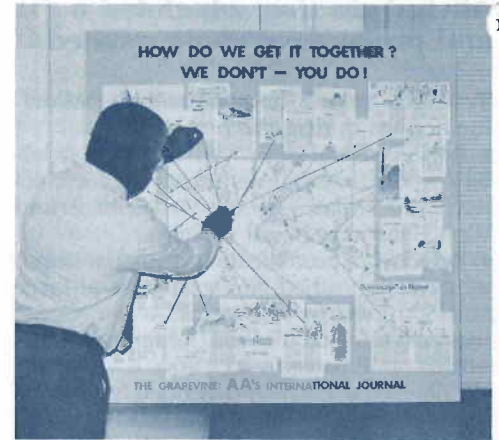
**Staff report:** Circulation has been steadily on the rise since March 1983; with the April 1984 issue, it reached 126,000. A survey taken early in 1983, with results reported in the July issue, asked whether the Grapevine was needed or wanted by the Fellowship, and the answer was unanimously positive. In that same issue, we carried an order form for "Sponsor a Newcomer With a Grapevine Subscription"; more than 1,200 subscriptions resulted.

A brochure developed in 1983 has been effectively carrying the Grapevine message. Consisting of a 1981 Conference presentation, it is offered free of charge for all A.A. events listed in the Grapevine calendar. Staff, too, has brought the Grapevine message to all areas in the U.S. and Canada through attendance at local A.A. events.

Since the trial cassette tape of articles from "classic" issues was announced in the October issue, over 8,000 have been sold. "Best of the Grapevine" (laid aside in 1981 when a moratorium was placed on new special items) is again under way; we plan to have this book ready for the 1985 International Convention.

The GvR (Grapevine representative) network never falters in enthusiasm and support for our magazine.

*Retha G., managing editor*



*Gene A., the Grapevine's new art director, works on a Conference display of GV articles' far-flung sources.*

## Digest of Agenda

### Sunday, April 15

Opening dinner and A.A. meeting

### Monday, April 16

Welcome

Roll call of all Conference members

Conference committee chairpersons

Area delegate chairperson

Keynote

General Service Board report

Presentation/discussion: "The Informed Group

Conscience — My Obligation"

Members of the General Service Board (trustees)

Reports of Grapevine, A.A.W.S., and trustees'

committees

Joint trustees' and Conference committee meetings

Workshop: "The Informed Group Conscience"

### Tuesday, April 17

Presentation: "International Convention"

Conference committee meetings

Presentation/discussion: "The District Committee

Member — The Essential Link"

Visit to G.S.O. and Grapevine office

Delegates' meeting

### Wednesday, April 18

Conference committee meetings

Presentation/discussion: "A.A. World Services"

Presentation: "New G.S.O. Filmstrip"

Regional trustee elections

Presentation/discussion: "How Are We in A.A.

Responding to a Changing World?"

Workshop: "Responding to Everyday Problems in A.A.

in a Changing World"

### Thursday, April 19

Conference committee reports and discussion

Presentation/discussion: "Sobriety — What Is It? Can

It Be Defined?"

Ask-It Basket

### Friday, April 20

Conference committee reports and discussion

Presentation/discussion: "Gratitude — The Language

of the Heart"

Sharing session: "Last Chance — What's on Your

Mind?"

Closing talks

### Saturday, April 21

Closing brunch

Farewell talks

Closing remarks

Visit to Stepping Stones, home of Bill and Lois W.

Reports on Area Service Highlights: At intervals, Panel 34 delegates shared area experiences.



## 1984 G.S.O. Budget

### A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

**Income:** Sales income has been budgeted at \$5,565,000. Net sales income is projected to show an increase of 10% over 1983. During 1984, it is anticipated that A. A. W. S., Inc., will distribute 598,000 copies of "Alcoholics Anonymous," 295,000 "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"—regular edition, 57,000 "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"—pocket edition, 24,000 "A. A. Comes of Age," 65,000 "As Bill Sees It," 27,000 "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers," and more than 7,000,000 booklets, pamphlets, and miscellaneous items. After deducting \$2,754,600—the amount representing the cost of printing and producing items sold and the royalties paid on book sales—the gross profit from sales is estimated to be \$2,810,400. Adding interest earned on daily cash flow, the total income from the publishing activity is expected to be \$2,827,400.

**Expenses:** Expenses charged against the publishing operation are budgeted at \$1,993,200, representing an increase of 6% over 1983. Considered in this increase are higher costs related to increased publishing activity and, to some extent, continuing inflationary pressures. Net publishing income, after operating expenses, is expected to be \$834,200.

### GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

**Income:** Contributions from groups and A.A. members have been budgeted at \$2,141,000, an increase of 11% over 1983 actual, and interest on cash flow has been budgeted at \$4,000.

**Expenses:** Total expenses, representing the cost of group services that are paid out of contributions, are expected to be \$2,444,500. Included in this portion of the General Service Office budget is the cost of the General Service Conference, totaling \$153,500. The cost of all service expenses is budgeted to be \$299,500 greater than contribution income. This shortfall will be funded from the net income of the publishing operation.

### GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses of the General Service Board are budgeted at \$318,300. Included in this category of expense are such items as the cost of quarterly trustee meetings, the expenses of the Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community, the cost of Regional Forums, legal and auditing fees, the expense of the archives, the cost of the World Service Meeting, and the costs of filmstrips and displays. These expenses will be offset by net income from the publishing operation.

Net income for the General Service Office has been budgeted at \$216,400.

## 1984 Grapevine Budget

**Total income:** Income from magazine and other sales is budgeted at \$1,185,000. This represents an increase of \$64,000 over 1983, on the basis of higher subscription rates and prices and a projected rise in circulation.

**Total expenses:** Expenses are budgeted at \$1,161,800. A net operating income in the amount of \$23,200 has been budgeted for 1984.

Including \$4,000 in interest earned on cash flow, total net income is budgeted to be \$27,000.

## 1984 G.S.O. Budget

The budget for 1984 operations of G.S.O. activities is as follows:

### BUDGET

### A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. — PUBLISHING

#### INCOME

Net sales	\$5,565,000*
Less: Cost of products and royalties	<u>2,754,000</u>
Gross profit from sales	2,810,400
Interest income	<u>17,000</u>
Total income	2,827,400

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

	<u>1,993,200</u>
Net income	834,200

#### *\*Based on the sale of:*

598,000 books	—	"Alcoholics Anonymous"
295,000 books	—	"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" (reg.)
57,000 books	—	"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" (pocket)
24,000 books	—	"A. A. Comes of Age"
65,000 books	—	"As Bill Sees It"
27,000 books	—	"Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers"

and

Pamphlets, booklets, and miscellaneous items

### GENERAL FUND — GROUP SERVICES

#### INCOME

Contributions	\$2,141,000
Interest income	<u>4,000</u>
Total income	2,145,000

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

	<u>2,444,500**</u>
Net expense	(299,500)

\*\*Includes cost of General Service Conference—\$153,500

### GENERAL FUND — OTHER EXPENSES

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

	<u>\$(318,300)***</u>
--	-----------------------

\*\*\*Board meetings, P.I.C. expense, C.P.C. expense, legal and auditing fees, Regional Forums, archives, filmstrips, World Service Meeting, etc.

The publishing activity will contribute \$617,800 toward the budgeted deficits, leaving a net G.S.O. income in the amount of \$216,400.

## 1984 Grapevine Budget

Estimated income from subscription and other sales	\$1,185,000
Total costs and expenses	<u>1,161,800</u>
Net income from operations	23,200
Interest	<u>4,000</u>
Total net income	<u>27,200</u>



## Calendar of Events

### June

- May 31-June 3 — Pompano Beach, Florida. Sec. Spring Big Book Seminar. Write: Seminar, Box 333, Pompano Beach, FL 33061
- 1-3 — Kearney, Nebraska. State Reunion. Write: Ch., Box 806, Fremont, NE 68025
- 1-3 — Burlington, Vermont. State Conv. Write: Conv., Box 84, Wallingford, VT 05773
- 1-3 — Albany, Georgia. Sec. Annual Sowega Roundup. Write: Ch., 1301 Eager Ave., Albany, GA 31707
- 1-3 — Leonardtown, Maryland. Ninth Annual S. Md. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 229, Leonardtown, MD 20650
- 1-3 — Sedona, Arizona. 13th Annual Roundup. Write: Roundup, Box 3070, West Sedona, AZ 86340
- 1-3 — Qualicum, British Columbia, Canada. Parkville Rally. Write: Ch., Box 516, Qualicum, B.C. V0R 2T0
- 1-3 — Hinton, Oklahoma. Sec. Annual Canyon Conf. Write: Ch., 1302 Vine St., Norman, OK 73069
- 1-3 — Smithers, British Columbia, Canada. First Buchley Valley Roundup. Write: Roundup Com., Box 4016, Smithers, B.C. V0J 2N0
- 1-3 — Rome, New York. 18th Annual E.-W. Conf. Write: Ch., Box 33, Rome, NY 13440
- 1-3 — Winchester, Virginia. 30th Annual Spring Four-State & D.C. Get-Together. Write: Secy., Four-State, 315 E. Cork St., Winchester, VA 22601
- 1-3 — Chevilly-Larue, France. Seventh Reg. Conv. (French-speaking). Write: Alcoo- liques Anonymes, B.P. 42, 92320 Chatillon, France
- 2-3 — Drumheller, Alberta, Canada. Roundup. Write: Ch., 310 — 16th St., N.W., Drumheller, Alta. T0J 0Y0
- 2-3 — Decatur, Illinois. Area Conf. Write: Conf. Com., Box 388, Decatur, IL 62525
- 7-10 — St. Simons Island, Georgia. 20th Golden Isles Family Weekend. Write: Ch., Box 257, Statesboro, GA 30458
- 8-10 — Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Gratitude Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 954, Sta. M., Calgary, Alta. T2T 2K4
- 8-10 — Hagerstown, Maryland. 14th Annual State Conv. Write: Conv. Com., Box 441, Joppatowne, MD 21085
- 8-10 — Mexico City, Mexico. Third National Conv. Write: 5 de Mayo #39, Apartado Postal 2970, Mexico 1, D.F., Mexico
- 8-10 — Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada. 27th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 111, Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 4E9
- 8-10 — Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada. Eighth Annual Roundup. Write: Co-Ch., 309 Gregoire Cres., Fort McMurray, Alta. T9H 2L9
- 8-10 — Willow Creek, California. Sixth Annual Camp-Out. Write: Ch., Box 75, Cutten, CA 95534

- 8-10 — Neepawa, Manitoba, Canada. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 67, Neepawa, Man. R0J 1H0
- 8-10 — Des Moines, Iowa. State Spring Conf. Write: Ch., 1731 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309
- 8-10 — Mobile, Alabama. Third Annual Azalea City Jamboree. Write: Jamboree, Box 16631, Bel Air Sta., Mobile, AL 36616
- 8-10 — Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Summer Area Assy. Write: D.C.M., Box 5018, Aspen, CO 81612
- 8-10 — Lake Yale, Florida. Eighth Annual Spring Mtgs. Write: Ch., 609 Glenview Ct., Winter Garden, FL 32787
- 8-10 — Superior, Wisconsin. 39th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 996, Superior, WI 54880
- 8-10 — Gallup, New Mexico. 27th Annual Area Spring Conv. Write: Ch., Box 2080, Gallup, NM 87301
- 8-10 — Chatham, Ontario, Canada. Mid-Season Camp-Out. Write: Mid-Season Camp-Out, Gen. Del., Sta. A, Windsor, Ont. N9A 6J4
- 8-10 — Somerset, New Jersey. 28th Annual Area Conv. Write: Reg. Ch., 24 Portland Ave., Fanwood, NJ 07023
- 14-17 — Fort Worth, Texas. 39th State Conv. Write: Reg. Ch., Box 51057, Fort Worth, TX 76105
- 14-17 — Palm Springs, California. Ninth Annual Roundup (hosted by gay people in A.A.). Write: Reg., 2424 Newport Blvd., Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
- 15-17 — Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada. 20th Annual Roundup. Write: Roundup, Box 1489, Wolfville, N.S. B0P 1X0
- 15-17 — Cache Creek, British Columbia, Canada. Ninth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 558, Cache Creek, B.C. V0K 1H0
- 15-17 — Bristol, Rhode Island. Ocean State Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Rte. 1, Box 105, Sterling, CT 06377
- 15-17 — Akron, Ohio. 49th Founders Day Conf. Write: Com., Box 12, Akron, OH 44309
- 16-17 — Humboldt, Saskatchewan, Canada. Tenth Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2643, Humboldt, Sask. S0K 2A0
- 22-24 — Casper, Wyoming. Ninth Annual June Jamboree. Write: Ch., 2801 S. Coffman, Casper, WY 82604

## Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

For more detailed suggestions, see the pages noted.

June (page 35): anonymity; "people, places, and things"; sober vacations; coping with illness.

July (page 30): acceptance; A.A. and prison; complacency; Step Seven.

## Planning an August, September, or October Event for A.A.'s?

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

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

- 22-24 — North Conway, New Hampshire. 19th Annual Conv. & Area Assy. Write: Function Com., 139 Middle St., Manchester, NH 03101
- 22-24 — Madison, Minnesota. Eighth Annual Freedom Fest. Write: Ch., Box 44, R #2, Dawson, MN 56232
- 22-24 — Lancaster, California. 11th Annual Antelope Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., 43249 N. 17th St. W., Lancaster, CA 93534
- 22-24 — Vernon, British Columbia, Canada. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Site 2, Comp. 17, R.R. 6, Vernon, B.C. V1T 6Y5
- 22-24 — Westfield, Massachusetts. Area Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 27, Wilbraham, MA 01086
- 22-24 — Seattle, Washington. Seventh Annual N.W. Reg. Conf. (sponsored by gays in A.A.). Write: Ch., 801 E. Harrison, Suite 105, Box 552, Seattle, WA 98102
- 22-24 — Nashville, Tennessee. Third Annual Music City Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 173, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
- 22-24 — Akron, Ohio. Loners/Internationalists Conf. Write: L.I.M. Conf., Box 19814, Columbus, OH 43219
- 22-24 — Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. 23rd Annual Kawartha Dist. Conf. Write: Ch., 625 Cameron St., Peterborough, Ont. K9J 3Z9
- 22-24 — Val d'Or, Quebec, Canada. Sixth Cong. Dist. 6 (French-speaking). Write: Pres., Com. du Cong., C.P. 3, Rouyn, Que. J9X 5C1
- 22-24 — Riviere-du-Loup, Quebec, Canada. Tenth Cong. Dist. 5 (French-speaking). Write: Cong., C.P. 951, Riviere-du-Loup, Que. G5R 3M1
- 22-25 — Bogotá, Colombia, South America. IV Conv. Nacional (Spanish-speaking). Write: Conv., Apartado 49730, Bogotá, Colombia, S.A.
- 23 — Washington, D.C. 42nd Annual Inter-group Banquet. Write: Ch., W.A.I.A., 4530 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Rm. 111, Washington, DC 20008

## June continued

- 23 — *New York, New York*. Queens Co. Share-a-Day. Write: Ch., Box 205, Whitestone, NY 11357
- 29-July 1 — *Grand Forks, British Columbia, Canada*. 13th Annual Picnic & Camp-Out. Write: Com., Box 1664, Grand Forks, B.C. V0H 1H0
- 29-July 1 — *Quesnel, British Columbia, Canada*. 17th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 4301, Quesnel, B.C. V2J 3J1
- 29-July 1 — *Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. Area Weekend of Sharing. Write: Com., Box 11296, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
- 29-July 1 — *Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Native Prov. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 263, Shubenacadie, N.S. B0N 2H0
- 30-July 1 — *Willow, Alaska*. Mat-Su Blast. Write: Ch., Box 873931, Wasilla, AK 99687
- 30-July 1 — *Bombay, India*. First World Hello Live Conf. Write: Ch., H/17 Everard Nagar, Sion Bombay 400022, India

## July

- 5-8 — *Rosemont, Illinois*. 27th Intl. Conf. of Young People. Write: P.I. Com., Box 25665, Chicago, IL 60625
- 6-8 — *Fort Nelson, British Columbia, Canada*. 11th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1221, Fort Nelson, B.C. V0C 1R0
- 6-8 — *Boise, Idaho*. Pac. N.W. Conf. Write: Ch., 2814 Regan, Boise, ID 83702
- 6-8 — *Greenville, Mississippi*. 38th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5397, Greenville, MS 38704
- 6-8 — *Ansbach, West Germany*. Sec. Annual Fest (English-speaking). Write: Ch., Sonnen Strasse 2, 8800 Schalkhausen, West Germany
- 11-15 — *Crested Butte, Colorado*. First Annual Conf. Write: Ch., Box 477, Dallas, TX 75221
- 13-15 — *Lansing, Michigan*. 32nd State Conf. Write: Conf., 133 Howard, Caro, MI 48723
- 13-15 — *Baton Rouge, Louisiana*. 26th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., 15561 Summerwood Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817
- 13-15 — *Honolulu, Hawaii*. Reg. Forum. Write: Reg. Forum Coord., Box 459, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163
- 13-15 — *Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada*. Sec. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 134, Chilliwack, B.C. V2P 6H7
- 13-15 — *Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Seventh Annual Midsummer Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 112, Great Village, N.S. B0M 1L0
- 13-15 — *Tonasket/Oroville, Washington*. Sec. Annual Lost Lake Camp-Out. Write: Ch., Box 31, Tonasket, WA 98855
- 13-15 — *Woodstock, Ontario, Canada*. Third Annual Marathon of Unity. Write: Ch., 4 Bernadette Pl., Woodstock, Ont. N4S 8M5
- 13-15 — *San Luis Obispo, California*. 22nd Dist. Conv. Write: Reg. Ch., Box 6011, Los Osos, CA 93402
- 18-22 — *Boca Raton, Florida*. 28th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 5991, Lake Worth, FL 33466
- 19-22 — *Lubbock, Texas*. Tenth Annual Hub of the Plains Conv. Write: Ch., Box 6511, Lubbock, TX 79413
- 20-22 — *Cleveland, Ohio*. 28th Annual State Conf. Write: Conf., Box 14548, Cleveland, OH 44114
- 20-22 — *Edson, Alberta, Canada*. 24th Annual Roundup. Write: Book Ctr., Box 147, Niton Junction, Alta. T0E 1S0

- 20-22 — *Poughkeepsie, New York*. First Annual Dutchess Co. Young People's Conf. Write: Conf., Box 171, Fishkill, NY 12524
- 20-22 — *Soldotna, Alaska*. 11th Annual Wilderness Jamboree. Write: Secy., Box 783, Soldotna, AK 99669
- 20-22 — *Lincoln, Montana*. 11th Wilderness Agape Weekend. Write: Coord., 23 Konley, Kalispell, MT 59901
- 20-22 — *Susanville, California*. Fourth Annual Eagle Lake Camp-Out. Write: Secy., Box 1430, Susanville, CA 96130
- 20-22 — *Santa Clara, California*. N. Calif. Council of A.A. Summer Conf. Write: Ch., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122
- 20-22 — *Niagara Falls, New York*. 20th State Conv. Write: Ch., 6380 W. Quaker, Orchard Park, NY 14127
- 20-22 — *Columbia, Missouri*. 25th State Conv. Write: Treas., Box 9405, St. Louis, MO 63117
- 21 — *Northridge, California*. Fourth Annual Country Western Jamboree & Fair. Write: Cent. Off., 767 S. Harvard Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90005-9990
- 27-29 — *Kerrville, Texas*. Hill Country Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 2153, Kerrville, TX 78028
- 27-29 — *Casa Grande, Arizona*. 24th Sahuaro Agape Weekend. Write: Secy., Box 40214, Tucson, AZ 85717
- 27-29 — *Windsor, Ontario, Canada*. Ninth Annual Windsor & Essex Co. Conv. Write: Conv., Box 1502, Sta. A, Windsor, Ont. N9A 6R5
- 27-29 — *Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada*. Sec. Maritime Conf. of Young People. Write: Conf., Box 2246, Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 8B9
- 27-29 — *Rifle, Colorado*. Sec. Annual Harvey Gap Pig Roast. Write: Ch., 4488 City Rd. 237, Rifle, CO 81650

## August

- 2-5 — *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. 44th Annual State Conv. Write: Treas., Box 27, Maysville, AR 72747
- 3-5 — *Rochester, New York*. Fifth Annual State P.I., C.P.C., Inst. Workshop. Write: Area Com., Box 184, Elmira, NY 14902
- 3-5 — *Sparks, Nevada*. Seventh Annual Sierra Nevada Roundup. Write: Reg. Ch., Box 3529, Sparks, NV 89432
- 3-5 — *Clyde, Alberta, Canada*. Ninth Annual Dist. 9 Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1264, Westlock, Alta. T0G 2L0
- 3-5 — *Hull, Quebec, Canada*. 11th Cong. Vallee de l'Outaouais (French-speaking). Write: Com. de Pub., C.P. 24, Hull, Que. J8Y 6M7
- 4-5 — *Bryan/College Station, Texas*. Annual Conf. Write: Reg., Box 2652, Bryan, TX 77805
- 4-5 — *Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada*. Tenth Annual Rally. Write: Ch., Box 652, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 6J3
- 8-11 — *Atlanta, Georgia*. 40th S.E. Conf. & 31st State Conv. Write: Conf., Box 90306, Atlanta, GA 30364
- 9-12 — *Minneapolis, Minnesota*. Intl. Doctors in A.A. — Annual Mtg. Write: Secy., 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511
- 10-11 — *Guelph, Ontario, Canada*. Cent. W. Ont. 15th Annual Conv. Write: Reg. Ch., 42 Blueridge Dr., Kitchener, Ont. N2M 4E1
- 10-12 — *West Hartford, Connecticut*. First Annual Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 10547, West Hartford, CT 06110
- 10-12 — *Rosemont, Illinois*. Ninth E. Cent. Reg. Conf. Write: Conf. Com., 205 W. Wacker Dr., Suite 408, Chicago, IL 60606
- 10-12 — *Indio, California*. Tenth Annual 9th Dist. Conv. Write: Ch., 42-940 Delaware, Palm Desert, CA 92260
- 10-12 — *Dallas, Texas*. Lone Star Roundup. Write: Reg. Ch., Box 835112, Richardson, TX 75083
- 10-12 — *Cowansville, Quebec, Canada*. Third Bilingual Conv. Write: Ch., Box 222, Granby, Que. J2G 8E4
- 10-12 — *Moorhead, Minnesota*. 11th Annual Red R. Valley Roundup. Write: Conf. Ch., Box 558, Moorhead, MN 56560
- 10-12 — *Tulameen, British Columbia, Canada*. Third Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Box 1396, Princeton, BC V0X 1W0
- 16-19 — *Omaha, Nebraska*. Cornhusker Roundup VII. Write: Ch., Box 425, Bellevue, NE 68005
- 17-19 — *Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*. Area Conv. Write: Ch., Box 38, Sta. A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2L8
- 17-19 — *St. Peter, Minnesota*. 36th Area Conf. Write: Tkt. Ch., 105 Jaybee La., Box #56, Mankato, MN 56001
- 17-19 — *Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., #35 1916—8th St. N., Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 3N3
- 17-19 — *Meeker, Colorado*. White R. Roundup. Write: Ch., Box J, Meeker, CO 81641
- 17-19 — *Roanoke, Virginia*. 35th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 8532, Roanoke, VA 24014
- 17-19 — *Cartersville, Georgia*. Seventh Annual Allatoona Roundup. Write: Roundup, Box 856, Cartersville, GA 30120
- 24-26 — *Chautauqua, New York*. 31st Tri-State Assy. Write: Ch., 231 Butler St., Mercer, PA 16137
- 24-26 — *Winston-Salem, North Carolina*. 37th State Conv. Write: Ch., Box 18412, Raleigh, NC 27619
- 24-26 — *Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Mini-Roundup. Write: Roundup, Box 2047, Windsor, N.S. B0N 2T0
- 25 — *Milton, Ontario, Canada*. Fifth Annual Roundup. Write: Prog. Ch., 434 Mountainview Dr., Milton, Ont., L9T 1W2
- 25-26 — *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. Fifth Annual Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., 11715—94 St., Edmonton, Alta. T5G 1J1
- 25-27 — *Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada*. Second Annual Young People's Rally. Write: Ch., 649 Lilac Ave., Kamloops, B.C. V2B 3S1
- 30-Sept. 2 — *Baton Rouge, Louisiana*. Four-State Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., Box 45862, Baton Rouge, LA 70895
- 31-Sept. 2 — *Portland, Oregon*. Area Conf. Write: Conf. Com., 4470 S.W. Hall Blvd., Box 204, Beaverton, OR 97005
- 31-Sept. 2 — *San Francisco, California*. XII Spanish Conv. U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico (Spanish-speaking). Write: Secy., 100 Valencia St., Suite 252, San Francisco, CA 94103
- 31-Sept. 2 — *Chapleau, Ontario, Canada*. 17th Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., Golden Route Group, 93 Elgin St., Chapleau, Ont. P0M 1K0
- 31-Sept. 2 — *Corner Brook, Newfoundland, Canada*. Area Conv. Write: Ch., 35 Tudor St., Corner Brook, Nfld. A2H 6R9
- 31-Sept. 2 — *Polson, Montana*. Sec. Ray of Hope Camporee. Write: Ch., Box 643, Polson, MT 59860
- 31-Sept. 3 — *Palm Beach, Florida*. Fourth Annual Area Roundup. Write: Ch., 1728 Latham Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33409