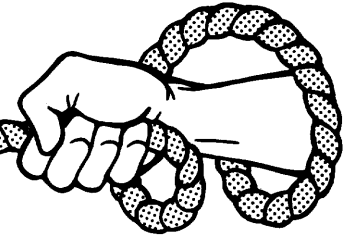


Lifeline

AN INTERGROUP PUBLICATION



FEBRUARY 1982

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

VOL. XX NO. 2 (USPS 312-680)

DOES THE BOOK START AT CHAPTER FIVE?

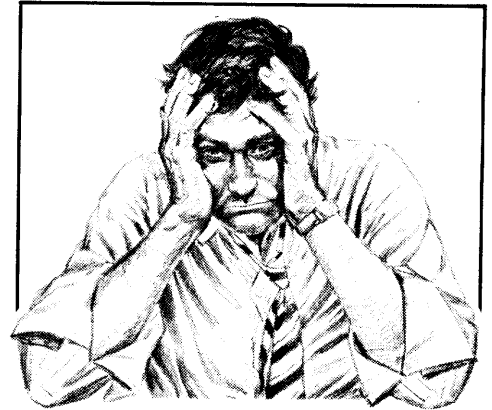
by Joe Q., Laguna Beach

As I enter my thirtieth year of continuous association with the fellowship of Alcoholic's Anonymous, I feel the need to reflect on the things that I have observed over the years, and voice my own personal opinion as to their merits. I will not defend this opinion for an instant... rather state if for just what it is... MY opinion.

I have always been, and hope to continue to be, a staunch advocate of the searching

study of the Big Book, "Alcoholic's Anonymous". I feel that the book was written primarily to augment the already proven method of help for the sick alcoholic, the face to face confrontation which worked when all else failed in the early days of A.A. In fact, because of some publicity that was received from a national publication early on, before there was a book, or meetings, or clubs or de-tox centers, or hospitals ad infinitum, (or ad nauseum), the handful of men and women who were the founders of AA were swamped with inquiries from all points of the compass as to how they had managed to stay sober, and what was their secret??? They realized, with their limited numbers, that they could not have the face to face confrontation with all of these people, so they were literally forced to write the book, in the hopes that it would have the same impact on the lives of these people that the one on one had had on their life. A phrase that I have heard in meetings "Wear your program like a loose garment," may have had it's inception along about this time... because whether by accident, design, or divine intervention, they tried to avoid the pitfalls

(Continued on page 9)



THE HIGH BOTTOM DISADVANTAGE

by Clancy I., Venice

One of the great divisions that sometime seem to occur in our membership is the tired old wheeze "...aw, he (or she) is a high bottom drunk." This usually implies that the subject of the conversation has no real understanding of agony and pain, and is really a dilettante regarding recovery.

This was my opinion in my early days on the program, inasmuch as I had come off skid row and felt that those that had retained families, homes or jobs never really suffered the way I had. After watching, sponsoring and listening to AA's for well over twenty years, I no longer have that opinion.

It's certainly true that the low-bottom drunk has a lot of things going against him. When he's sick, he usually stays sick... when he's hungry, he often stays hungry... when it rains, he gets wet... when he must get across town, he either begs carfare or walks. The list of disadvantages can go on and on.

On the other hand, the high-bottom drunk has certain definite advantages. When he's sick, he can make arrangements to get well...

(Continued on page 3)

RECENT CELEBRITY DEATHS SPARK OPINION

Recently we've seen tragedies in the deaths of two Hollywood stars. In both cases alcohol was involved. Also in both cases there has been strong public criticism of the press for reporting the facts. The argument centers on the statement, "Why bring out that they were drinking? It can only damage their reputation and can serve no good." I disagree.

The two recent deaths are merely unique in emotional destruction public figures. The truth is that similar stories are occurring each and

every day. Alcohol is a mind-altering drug. The fact that it's legal and socially acceptable does not change that truth.

It is not even pertinent whether or not Natalie Wood or William Holden had a "drinking problem." I certainly am not qualified to judge and I'm an alcoholic. I'm fortunate to have been able to stop drinking for some time now. And I'm thankful I've so far survived without killing myself or

(Continued on page 2)

RESEARCHERS SEE EXCELLENT CHANCE FOR YEAR-LONG ABSTAINERS

ATLANTA (UPI) — Alcoholics who can quit drinking for a year stand an excellent chance for continued sobriety, a leading researcher said Sunday.

Dr. Leclair Bissell, president of the American Medical Society on Alcoholism, said that conclusion was reached in the first long-term study ever made of a large group of alcoholics.

She said the study, which she financed herself, shows that a year's abstinence from alcohol and membership in Alcoholics Anonymous leads to sobriety in the ensuing five to seven years in virtually all cases.

Abstinence also apparently helped alcoholics quit smoking, decreased suicidal behavior, reduced encounters with police and drastically cut down on hospital admissions for all reasons.

The study involved 439 alcoholics who were interviewed over a period of five to seven years. Bissell revealed preliminary data from the study in an interview while in

Atlanta to attend the Sixth Southeastern Conference of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

The subjects all were members of AA and had abstained from alcohol a minimum of one year at the time of their initial interviews. More than 90% were interviewed again five to seven years later by other AA members.

Only 15% of the women and 14.7% of the men reported any drinking whatever between the interviews, said Bissell, a specialist who works with alcoholics at Edgehill Newport, a treatment center in Newport, R.I.

The 217 men and 222 women included 98 male physicians, 49 male dentists, 55 male and five female attorneys, 20 male and 30 female social workers, 55 professional women in non-medical fields, 100 female registered nurses and 32 lesbians.

Of the medical people in the study, 26% stopped smoking cigarettes. Of the non-medical people, 49% quit.

Bissell said 32% of the women and 18% of the men had made overt suicide attempts before the initial interview. In the ensuing five to seven years, only 1.8% of the women and 0.5% of the men made such attempts.

Twenty-one percent of the women and 52% of the men reported arrests before the first interview. Only 3.1% of the women and 3.2% of the men were arrested during the followup period.

Before the first interview, doctors, dentists and nurses in the study reported 1,353 alcohol and drug-related hospital admissions totaling 149 years of in-patient care. In the followup period, only 310 admissions for all reasons were reported by this group.

MAKE DRINKING MORE EXPENSIVE

The experts estimate that for every 250 million dollar increase in the cost of drinking, 500 lives on the road would be saved.

CELEBRITY DEATHS SPARK OPINION

(Continued from page 1)

someone else.

What is important is that what happened to them can and does happen to people every day. Anyone who drinks is subject to the same risk. Under the right conditions they could fall, hit their head and die. Or make a bad decision that could jeopardize their lives in some other way, like drowning. Or drive a car! If the true facts were always published, or even included in the death certificate, alcohol-related (or caused) deaths would probably be the country's deadliest killer.

In the same newspaper that reported Natalie Wood with a 0.14 of 1% blood alcohol content also reported that persons with a 0.10 content are legally drunk and if they are responsible for a fatal auto crash they can be charged with murder. Does it follow then that if they kill themselves in the same crash they could be called a suicide? Probably.

I'm not a reformed drunk trying to change the world or pointing an accusing finger because I can't drink. Most of my friends drink and I still serve alcohol in my home, and sometimes I wish I could join them. All I'm saying is that if you're going to play with matches you should at least be aware that they burn. Alcohol is potentially dangerous and people listen when they read that prominent, successful and happy people are subject to the same awesome danger.

It should not be damaging to their reputations unless millions of socially drinking citizens are willing to assume that same taint. Thanks for telling it like it is instead of bowing to public pressure and allowing people to continue lulling themselves into a false sense of security just because "everyone does it."

HARLIE

(Reprinted from L.A. Times, Dec. 28, 1981)

LIFELINE

Orange County
Intergroup Publication

As always thank you to the volunteers it takes to staple, label and mail the Lifeline out monthly.

Walt and Ruth A. (SA)
Sandy M. (Garden Grove)
Gretchen F. (Newport Beach)
Evelyn G. (Irvine)
Colleen C. (Office Manager)

LIFELINE — FEBRUARY 1982 — VOL. XX NO. 2 (USPS 312-680) SUBSCRIPTION \$4.00 PER YEAR. PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE ORANGE COUNTY INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. POSTMASTER SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO: 2712 SO. GRAND AVE., SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA, 92705.

THE HIGH BOTTOM DISADVANTAGE

(Continued from page 1)

When he's hungry, he can eat... when it rains, he can stay inside... when he needs to get across town, he has (or can obtain) wheels to do it. This list also can go on and on.

So far it all seems pretty one-sided. But what is easy to overlook is that nearly all these categories of advantage/disadvantage are physical, dealing with bodily discomfort and pain. There is another side of the coin that is easily missed in the recitation of the lack of creature comforts.

The great advantage of the low-bottom drunk is that he no longer has to pretend he is well. He does not have to look well, nor act well, nor impress people that he is well. Very few men in the line at the blood-bank are worrying about meeting the mortgage payment, or trying to decide what to tell the boss this time, or wondering if the car is totalled out again, or if the lawyer can beat the current 502. The low-bottom drunk lives one day at a time by necessity, perhaps better than anyone in the world. There is no future and little past; the struggle is to get through today.

And, obviously, the great disadvantage of the high-bottom drunk is that he must never be known to be a drunk, that he must get it together every day so that people won't know, that he must keep his "front" no matter how bad he feels. In other words, his major problem is the conflict of attempting to look one way while forced to act another.

It still would seem, perhaps, that the discomforts of the low-bottom drunk outweigh the abstract anxieties and conflicts that afflict his high-bottom brother. But, just for a moment, let's see one example of how they stack up.

The suicide rate on skid row, for example, is almost non-existent. People die brutal deaths there, but these deaths are rarely self-inflicted. Suicide is the province of prolonged and intense emotional conflict. The suicide rate in Beverly Hills is tremendously higher than in any skid row. And not just Beverly Hills, but any "better type" of residential area.

All suicides are not alcohol-related, of course, but a great many alcoholics pass through suicidal depressions... and a number of them act on it. And almost every alcoholic suicide is traced to the same old depression caused by the conflict of no longer being able to sustain the role which the alcoholic feels is essential for him to survive.

So, whether the conflict ends in suicide or nervous breakdown or any of its related emotional destructions, the high-bottom drunk is much more prone than his

DELEGATE'S REPORT

I would like to start with a gentle reminder to be certain you fill out one of the Questionnaires this year from the Mid-Southern California Area.

If you filled out a Questionnaire last year that was generated by the GSO, you might be interested in some statistics. 34% of the people who have joined AA since 1977 (the last survey) are women, and the percentage of young people has risen from 11.3% in 1977 to 14.7%. One of every four newcomers in the past three years is 30 or under; one in 25 is 20 or younger. Respondents ages range from 13 to 85 years. Of all those who start in AA, only about half stay more than 3 months, but members who have remained for one to five years have an 86% chance of staying sober and active in AA for another year, and those with more than five years of sobriety have a 92% chance of another successful year. Anyone interested in complete data may obtain this service material by writing to: Public Information, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

The Conference this year will be on "The Traditions — Our Way of Unity". In the recent issue of Box 459 (a GSO publication) there was an interesting story involving Tradition 7. It seems that a man not a member of AA, left a rather large amount of money to Alcoholics Anonymous when he died. It is our policy not to accept more than \$500 in willed money and then only from alcoholics. One of the Staff members wrote to the trust officer and explained this to him.

He replied "We were amazed that the gift was declined, although we understand the reasons. In our profession, it is unheard of for an organization to decline a gift and to affirm it is self-supporting. Frankly, we admire and applaud your philosophy. It is our responsibility, however, to inform you that the remainder interest to AA amounts to at least \$110,000. We would appreciate your written confirmation that your organization has been informed of the amount payable."

When confirmation was sent, the trust officer was so moved that he called the office, and explained that the brother of the deceased had been an AA member.

When I read this I was moved also. I was extremely proud and grateful to be a member of such an organization as ours that stands on principle when others would not. It makes me even more determined to protect the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Mid-Southern California Area will be having its 13th Annual Symposium of Service on February 27, 1982 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a Pot Luck affair with the Area furnishing the chicken. It will be held in Newport Beach overlooking the back bay. The flyers will be out this month with all of the pertinent information. Mark your calendars now — this is going to be a good one!

If I continue writing I will have to publish my own Newsletter, so I'm going to sign off now — see you all at the Symposium.

Dyanne G.
Delegate MSCA

THE WEEK-END STARTS EARLY

Most drinking and driving accidents are single-car, driver-only accidents, occurring late at night from Thursday through Saturday.

companion who lives a physically-degrading but relatively conflict-free existence. Alcoholism seems to take its toll, whether the patient is up or down, rich or poor. The unifying characteristic for both is desperation.

Or, to put it quite simply, to be an alcoholic of any kind without getting help is just a hell of a way to live!



It's **your** thoughts, information and opinions that give Lifeline its unique perspective.

Please send all written contributions to:

LIFELINE
2712 S. Grand Ave.
Santa Ana, CA 92705

How It Used To Be

by Otis W., Huntington Beach

The beginning of A.A. was a rough time. The first meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous was held in Cleveland, Ohio in 1939 over the objection of Bill W. and Dr. Bob, who wanted to stay in New York. Then came other cities. I came in contact with A.A. thru Dr. D. in Waterloo, Iowa on December 1st of 1942.

There were no meetings to go to, so we formed a group in Waterloo, Iowa. There were 5 of us, 4 men and one woman. The first meeting I went to was on January 10, 1943 and I had been sober since December 1st, 1942. We contacted New York office. The name of the sec. was Bobby Berger. Of the 5 people in the Waterloo group, 4 of the five never drank after the first meeting. We held our meetings in our homes. We put ads in the paper saying anyone who had a drinking problem please contact us. We also

had a P.O. Box. We did not get a new comer until 8 months after our first meeting. But we did answer some letters that were sent to us from the New York office. We also got some letters from Dubuque, Iowa, also Davenport, Iowa, Iowa City asking us to help them start groups on these towns. We also held a Southern Iowa conference in Des Moines, Iowa and our main speaker was Bill W. Then in 1946, Iowa City had their big 1st year party and Dr. Bob was the main speaker. That was one of the great moments in my A.A. life. His topic was one that I have never forgotten. It was "Keep it simple", oh, how I wish all of you could have heard him. One of our problems with new people was the hospitals would not accept drunks, so we had to rent a hotel room if they did not have a home to go to. Someone had to be at the hotel and stay with the drunk 24 hours a day. Can you picture yourself getting up, going to the hotel until the drunk got sober and well enough to talk to and explain what A.A. is all about? Then one of the biggest things in A.A. happened. In 1955, the 12 traditions were given to by Bill W. and Dr. Bob. This

has been the Salvation of A.A. The reasons A.A. has been so successful is that the 12 traditions has stopped any changes in A.A. from outside issues.

In 1947, was my first attempt to help drunks locked up in jails. With the help of Ray H. of Des Moines, Iowa, we started a group in Fort Madison, Iowa. Then in 1948 I started a group at Anamosa Reformatory. It is now known as the Davis Werb group, and it is still going and helping those men. After all those years I am still in contact with A.A. and still get a great deal of pleasure in sticking out my hand and helping another person. It is almost impossible to put into words of all the wonderful people I have met in A.A. It has been the greatest time in my life and I am so grateful to A.A. and the folks who are my friends.

THE GROUP IS THE CORNERSTONE

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

That one sentence pretty much sums up what we are about and why. How we do it is another thing.

An outsider looking at our organization would shake his head with wonder: We look like the most disorganized bunch of people on the face of the earth. But it works.

One of the cornerstones of our organization is the group. That's where it all starts for us, that's where we come in and get sober, that's where our AA social life starts, and that's where we come with our problems and our questions about how we live a life without alcohol.

The group is the beginning and the end for most of us. It is the first and most important link in the chain of AA organization.

What we are trying to say is this: If you don't have a group, join one. If you are a member of a group, support it. If you don't have officers, elect them. If they are not doing their job, give them a push.

AA seems to run by itself; it doesn't. The members keep it going and each and every one of us is responsible.

Dennis S.

The Full Serenity Prayer

God grant me the
SERENITY to accept the things
I cannot change;
COURAGE to change the things I can;
and
WISDOM to know the difference —
Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships
as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things
right if I surrender to His Will;
That I may be reasonably happy in this
life and supremely happy with Him
forever in the next. Amen.

**ORANGE COUNTY INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
December 31, 1981**

| INCOME | DECEMBER | YEAR TO DATE |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS | 5,304.69 | 57,644.47 |
| INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS | 225.00 | 1,503.10 |
| LITERATURE | 3,434.85 | 56,100.08 |
| LIFELINE SUBSCRIPTIONS | 256.00 | 3,974.00 |
| MEMORIUM DONATIONS | | 345.00 |
| SPECIAL EVENTS | 50.00 | 6,025.17 |
| INTEREST INCOME | 1,000.89 | 4,622.66 |
| MISCELLANEOUS INCOME | 24.50 | 362.97 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 10,295.93 | 130,577.45 |
| DISBURSEMENTS | | |
| ACCOUNTING & LEGAL | 75.00 | 1,213.00 |
| AUTO EXPENSE | 42.20 | 509.20 |
| GROUP INFORMATION | 84.75 | 1,017.00 |
| INSURANCE | 147.50 | 1,779.96 |
| MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS & SERVICES | 155.33 | 919.95 |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES & SERVICES | 190.57 | 2,763.53 |
| POSTAGE | 217.55 | 920.42 |
| PRINTING | 17.44 | 391.98 |
| PUBLIC INFORMATION | 37.80 | 578.45 |
| RENT | 396.00 | 4,752.00 |
| SALARIES & WAGES | 2,384.50 | 27,974.80 |
| PAYROLL TAXES | 189.29 | 2,222.23 |
| TAXES & LICENSES | | 84.73 |
| TELEPHONE, OFFICE | 282.68 | 2,979.20 |
| TELEPHONE, T.A.B. | 236.70 | 2,650.92 |
| UTILITIES | 192.51 | 1,540.71 |
| LIFELINE EXPENSE | 879.50 | 8,989.27 |
| COST OF LITERATURE | 3,108.54 | 47,907.91 |
| SPECIAL EVENTS EXPENSE | | 7,070.83 |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | 8,637.86 | 116,266.09 |
| NET GAIN (OR LOSS) | <u>1,658.07</u> | <u>14,311.36</u> |

Upcoming Events

**7TH ANNUAL
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 5, 6 & 7, 1982**
SHERATON UNIVERSAL
30 UNIVERSAL CITY PLAZA,
N. HOLLYWOOD
MUSIC, DANCING, SPEAKERS,
MEETINGS & BANQUET SCHEDULED
FOR TICKETS, WRITE TO:
7th ANNUAL
S.F. VALLEY CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 716
SAUGUS, CA 91350

**19TH ANNUAL
WOMEN'S BANQUET
FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1982**
KNOTT'S BERRY FARM
GARDEN ROOM STEAK HOUSE
DOORS OPEN: 7:00 PM
DONATION: \$8.00
FOR TICKETS CALL:
ELLEN VAN T. - 964-5658
COLLEEN D. - 897-2882

**VALENTINES DANCE
FEBRUARY 12, 1982**
GARDEN GROVE ALANO CLUB
9845 BELFAST DRIVE
10:00 PM TIL 1:00 AM
GOOD MUSIC
AND REFRESHMENTS
MEMBERS: \$2.00
NON-MEMBERS: \$2.50

**11TH ANNUAL
ALL AREA WOMEN'S BANQUET
MARCH 26, 1982**
LONG BEACH ELKS LODGE
(GOLD ROOM)
4101 E. WILLOW ST., LONG BEACH
7:30 PM/COFFEETAILS SERVED
FROM 6:30 PM
DONATION: \$15.00
FOR TICKETS, WRITE TO:
VIRGINIA BAGGETT
3 CRICKLEWOOD PATH
PASADENA, CA 91107

**5TH ANNUAL
SAN DIEGO SPRING ROUNDUP
APRIL 9, 10 & 11, 1982**
TOWN AND COUNTRY
CONVENTION CENTER
MANY ACTIVITIES PLANNED
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
FORMS AVAILABLE BY WRITING TO:
SAN DIEGO SPRING ROUNDUP
P.O. BOX A2529
SAN DIEGO, CA 92112



**10TH ANNUAL
A.C.Y.P.A.A. ROUNDUP
FEBRUARY 12, 13 & 14, 1982**
HILTON INN, OAKLAND AIRPORT
#1 HEGENBERGER RD., OAKLAND
SPEAKERS, MARATHON MEETINGS
& INTERNATIONAL BANQUET
FOR TICKETS, WRITE TO:
ACYPAA '82
P.O. BOX 989
EL CERRITO, CA 94530

GOLF TOURNAMENT COMING SOON

Names like Ed P., Gene D., Charlie M., or John M. won't take the place of Arnold P., Jack N., or Bill M., but they're trying. These are the names of the winning golfers in the almost-monthly Chapter 5 Golf Tournament. Both Ed P. and Gene D. are repeat winners in the Low Gross and Calloway Flight.

The tournaments are great fun, so don't miss the next one on Sunday, February 21 at San Juan Hills C.C. Tee-off begins at 10 AM and the cost of \$25 includes green fees, carts, prizes galore and bragging rights.

Closing date the February Tournament is Feb. 12 at 6 PM. Entries are limited, so get your money in early. Women are invited to attend.

Send checks to: Joe Quinn
916 N. Coast Highway
Laguna Beach, CA 92651
(714) 494-7018

Form your own foursome or we'll set up partners for you. Entries usually close early, so if you want to play, do it today!



**20TH ANNIVERSARY
OPEN HOUSE
FEBRUARY 21, 1982**
ORANGE COUNTY
AA CENTRAL OFFICE
2712 GRAND AVE., SANTA ANA
1:00 PM TO 4:30 PM
AA MEMBERS OF ALL
ORANGE COUNTY
AREAS WILL PARTICIPATE
NEEDED: HOMEMADE COOKIES

Related Facilities

ALANA CLUB

Dance

202 West Broadway
Anaheim

Dancing every Saturday Nite
By Matty Jay!!!

Music for the young at heart of all ages
10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.
Phone: 535-9977

or
535-0900

Last Saturday of the month - LADIES ADMITTED FREE

ALANO of COSTA MESA

Dance

2040 Placentia Ave.
Every Saturday Night
Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

\$3.00 Members - \$4.00 Non-members
Dance: 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

ALANO OF GARDEN GROVE

9845 Belfast Drive
Garden Grove

Dance every Friday Night
10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Members: \$2.00 Non-Members: \$2.50

CANYON CLUB

Sunday Brunch

1945 Broadway
Laguna Beach

Ham-Eggs-Pancakes-Coffee
Adults: \$2.00 / Kids: \$1.50
9:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Followed by meeting
Third Sunday of each month
Next Date: FEB. 21

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

2191 Orange-Olive Road
Orange

Dance every Saturday
9:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
\$2.00

Buffet last Saturday each month
4:00 p.m. to ...
\$2.50

FULLERTON ALANO CENTER

(705 Club) 705 N. Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton

Last Saturday of each month
Afternoon Get-together
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Food & Fun
Adults: \$2.00 / Kids under 12: \$1.00
Next Date: FEB. 27

FULLERTON ALANO CENTER

(705 Club) 705 North Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton

Breakfast every Sunday
7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Food & Fellowship
Two eggs to order-Pancakes-Sausage & Coffee
Adults: \$2.00 / Kids: \$1.00 ea.

Garden Grove Step House

Gilbert & Trask



Serenity Hall

821 S. Brookhurst, Unit #7
Anaheim

SERENITY HALL HAS OVER 18 MONTHS OF OPERATIONS NOW, WITH GROWING PAINS. BUT IT OFFERS MEETINGS EVERY DAY AT NOON, 5:30 P.M., AND 7:30 P.M. A POT-LUCK PIG-OUT IS HELD THE 1ST AND 3RD SUNDAYS AT 4:30 P.M. PRIOR TO THE 5:30 SUNDAY MEETING. A SATURDAY NITE 11:00 P.M. CANDLELIGHT GROUP HAS JUST STARTED. THE HALL IS OPEN WEEKENDS FROM 11:45 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M. FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE; DROP BY.



ORANGE COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE STATISTICAL REPORT

| CENTRAL OFFICE | DECEMBER | YEAR TO DATE |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| REQUEST FOR SPEAKERS, SCHOOLS | 7 | 100 |
| INFORMATION FOR AL-ANON | 233 | 1712 |
| LITERATURE REQUESTS | 26 | 262 |
| INFORMATION REQUESTS | 989 | 11,769 |
| REQUESTS FOR MEETINGS | 1152 | 13,070 |
| AA MEMBERS CALLING C.O. | 611 | 6246 |
| NEW INQUIRY ABOUT SELF | 202 | 1967 |
| 12 STEP CALL: MALE | 67 | 903 |
| 12 STEP CALL: FEMALE | 69 | 851 |
| CALL ABOUT ANOTHER | 201 | 2204 |
| COURT CARD CALLS | 403 | 1112 |
| SCHOOL REPORT CALLS | 10 | 98 |
| VISITORS TO C.O. | 588 | 5110 |
| TELEPHONE ANSWERING SERVICE (T.A.B.) | | |
| TELEPHONE INFORMATION CALLS | 506 | 10,727 |
| AL-ANON INFORMATION CALLS | 189 | 2811 |
| REQUESTS FOR MEETINGS | 299 | 4995 |
| CROSS CONNECT: FEMALE | 11 | 418 |
| CROSS CONNECT: MALE | 19 | 433 |
| TOTAL CALLS T.A.B. & CENTRAL OFFICE | 4994 | 59,678 |
| TOTAL CONTACTS | 5582 | 64,788 |

Speakers List

ANAHEIM TUESDAY
 202 W. Broadway 8:30
 Feb. 2 Ben (Garden Grove)
 9 Special
 16 Ed M. (Garden Grove)
 23 Larry & Ann (Palos Verdes)
 ED A.

ANAHEIM TUESDAY
 202 W. Broadway 8:30
 Feb. 3 Phila Bob (Newport)
 10 Phil P (Newport)
 17 Red A (Buena Park)
 24 Rosemary H. (Chula V.)
 MARGE

ANAHEIM THURSDAY
 202 W. Broadway 8:30
 Feb. 4 Steve S. (Long Beach)
 11 Joan Mc. (Glendale)
 18 Clint H. (Laguna Nig.)
 25 Jerry C.
 DOTTY R.

ANAHEIM FRIDAY
 1830 W. Rommeya (Hosp.) 8:30
 Feb. 5 Cliff W. (Garden Grove)
 12 Cecil N. (Brea)
 19 Bob C. (Anaheim)
 26 Joann O. (Fullerton)
 JO S.

ANAHEIM SUNDAY
 202 W. Broadway 11:00 AM
 Feb. 7 Clancy I. (Venice)
 14 Virginia M. (Canyon Co.)
 21 Virginia T. (L.A.)
 28 Ed C. (Anaheim)
 JEFF W.

BUENA PARK SUNDAY
 8150 Knott Ave. 8:00 PM
 Feb. 7 Ray L. (La Puente)
 14 Elmer S. (Covina)
 21 Brenda R. (San Juan)
 28 Don C. (Costa Mesa)
 AL P.

COSTA MESA SUNDAY
 2476 Newport Blvd. 7:30
 Feb. 7 Diane & Ken (Costa Mesa)
 14 Joe C. (Huntington Beach)
 21 Joe P. (Huntington Beach)
 28 Kitty & Bobbie
 RICHARD K.

GARDEN GROVE MONDAY
 (C)Womens 9596 Garden Grove Blvd. 8:00PM
 Feb. 1 Mary R. (Orange)
 ELLEN V.

FOUNTAIN VALLEY SUNDAY
 10200 Slater Ave. 8:00 PM
 Feb. 7 Chuck C. (Laguna Beach)
 14 Elizabeth E. (Fountain Valley)
 21 Harry M. (Garden Grove)
 28 Martha H. (Irvine)
 SANDY

FULLERTON MONDAY
 101 E. Valencia (Hosp.) 8:30
 Feb. 1 Al W. (Anaheim)
 8 Paul E. (Texas)
 15 Carolyn O'R (Santa Ana)
 22 Maurice Z. (L.A.)
 ARMANDO

FULLERTON FRIDAY
 101 E. Valencia (Hosp.) 8:30
 Feb. 5 Ted H. (Long Beach)
 12 Gene T. (Palos Verdes)
 19 Dr. William T. (Lag. Beach)
 26 Bob D. (Lakewood)
 DALE E.

FULLERTON SUNDAY
 705 N. Harbor 10:30 AM
 Feb. 7 Arlene A. (Clairmont)
 14 Karen M. (Riverside)
 21 John H. (Cypress)
 28 Cal G. (Norwalk)
 ROSIE H.

GARDEN GROVE SATURDAY
 9845 Beleafast Dr. 8:30
 Feb. 6 Nat H. (Anaheim)
 13 Father Frank N. (Hollywood)
 20 Alexis F. (Torrance)
 27 Rose (Huntington Beach)
 CHUCK

HUNTINGTON BEACH THURSDAY
 2000 Main St. Civic Ctr. 8:30
 Feb. 4 Skip M. (Cypress)
 11 Ed F. (Westminster)
 18 Earl C. (Long Beach)
 25 Monica S. (Cypress)
 NOEL

HUNTINGTON BEACH FRIDAY
 16541 Gothard Rm. 113 8:30
 Feb. 5 Cliff R. (Oceanside)

IRVINE SATURDAY
 University & Culver (Ch) 8:30
 Feb. 6 Richard A. (Newport Beach)
 13 Muriel Z. (Laguna Beach)
 20 Ann T. (Irvine)
 27 Georgie K. (Newport Beach)
 RICHARD B.

LA HABRA FRIDAY
 1251 W. Lambert (Hosp.) 8:00
 Feb. 5 Lyn W. (Laguna Beach)
 12 Jerry F. (Huntington Beach)
 19 Hank J. (Palmdale)
 26 Bill H. (Laguna Beach)
 DAVE

LA HABRA SATURDAY
 1251 Lambert (Hosp.) 8:00
 Feb. 6 Jerry C. (Santa Monica)
 13 Kevin B. (Palisades)
 20 Julie C. (Van Nuys)
 27 Jerry W. (Los Angeles)
 LLOYD

LA MIRADA SUNDAY
 14407 Rosecrans 8:00
 Feb. 7 Bob E. (Dana Point)
 14 Bud N. (Santa Ana)
 21 M.A.B. (Mission Viejo)
 28 Jim N. (Tustin)
 GERI L.

NEWPORT BEACH SUNDAY
 1300 Bristol N. 7:30
 Feb. 7 Tom G. (Irvine)
 14 John E. (Tustin)
 21 Carolyn O. (Santa Ana)
 28 Chief (Orange)
 JOHN Mc

ORANGE MONDAY
 2191 Orange Olive 8:30
 Feb. 1 Vern S. (Huntington Beach)
 8 Gordon M. (Costa Mesa)
 15 Philadelphia Bob
 22 Terry M. (Irvine)
 ELDEN P.

STANTON TUESDAY
 10936 Dale 8:00
 Feb. 2 Chuck D. (Santa Ana)
 9 Ralph & Mary H. (North Ridge)
 16 John K. (Chino)
 23 Clancy I. (Venice)
 ADRIAN R.

DOES THE BOOK START AT CHAPTER 5?

(Continued from page 1)

that had been detrimental to earlier attempts to find an answer to the problem of the alcoholic... the political divisiveness, the taking of sides, the personality clashes such as those which had torn asunder the Washingtonian of a hundred years before, and the strict religiosity which made the Oxford movement, with it's four absolutes, untenable for a great many alcoholics. Controversy raged for years as to the causes of the irrational behavior of some people who drank to excess. Some said it was a mental problem, others argued that it was a physical imbalance... but it took a medical man, Dr. Silkworth, to propose the possibility that it MIGHT be a combination of the two. This concept, though radical and revolutionary at the time, has been the very foundation on which the AA program has been based. In writing the book, it's authors realized it must do three things... First, Identify the problem of Alcoholism, and having identified the problem of alcoholism, it's NEXT job was to identify the solution to the problem, which they had found was working for them. THEN, it's third and greatest task was to tell the still suffering alcoholic how to find that solution. The efficacy of that solution is evident when we see the many meetings and groups that abound today. However, there are some areas about the big book which seem to pervade the AA scene... Some people go to meetings, and hear Chapter Five read so often, that they seem to believe that the book **starts** with Chapter 5!!! A lot of them fail to realize that if they do not lay the groundwork for the things they hear in Chapter 5, then the things they hear in Chapter 5 will have little or no effect on their basic problem. They need to know of the physical "allergy" (for lack of another word), the many mental obsessions which drive we alcoholics to drink, the spiritual malnutrition which must be nurtured back to health... without this knowledge, recovery is a hit and miss proposition. The very basic fact, that TOTAL ABSTINENCE is indispensable to continued sobriety must be smashed home again and again and again, to the newcomer to AA.

It sends cold chills up my spine when I hear at a meeting "I'm back in the hospital," or "I'm back in de-tox" or those who want to soft con their way by saying "I'm a retread, heh heh"... Someone, somewhere failed to smash the concept or the delusion that we are like other people or presently may be... Let's all of us, new and old take a crash course in delusion smashing!!! And for the "retread"... If you ever went to a tire store and said "Put a retread on this," and the

man said "There is not enough left on the hull... it goes to the scrap heap" you might have second thoughts about becoming a retread.

When Industry and governments (city, county, state and Federal) decided about 18 years ago to make a concerted effort to salvage some of the people with an alcoholic problem, they lumped them all under the aegis of "Drugs and Alcohol", and further left the monitoring of these various agencies under the heading of mental health. This opened up a PANDORA'S BOX to such a degree that we may never get the lid closed on it again!! This "lumping" brought an influx of people attending AA meetings who had a minimum alcoholic problem, but a maximum problem with drugs, or food, or sexual dysfunctions... so that AA has been inundated with a lot of HYPHENATED Alcoholics... "I am an Alcoholic-Addict", "I am an "Alcoholic-overeater", etc., etc., etc...

Are there any Alcoholic-Alcoholics??? Many of those who came to our meeting with problems other than alcohol were and are considerate enough to show us the common courtesy of following what has to be AA's first rule, if you will, they also don't drink. Many, but not all... and therein lies the rub. I have seen and heard people talking to newcomers at meetings who were loudly proclaiming that since coming to AA for their drug problem they have not had a pill, or smoked a joint, or sniffed coke for X number of weeks or months... but they had a wine breath out to h e r e ! ! ! Shoemaker... Stick to your last!!! Carry a message of Sobriety by the most efficient method known... example.

There is another segment of people who seem to be under the impression that the book ends with "C-God could, and would, if sought", in Chapter Five. I say this in all sincerity, because I have heard these people, and so will you, speaking out at participation meetings or discussion meetings lamenting..." I am having trouble with step three... I don't seem to know how to do it." Yet, immediately following the A-B-C's the book takes two and a half pages, single spaced, black and white, in English, to tell what they meant by step three, and HOW THEY DID IT. I strongly urge anyone to study the **promises** at the **top of page 63**, after steps one and two, and BEFORE step three... If these haven't surfaced in your life, as yet, I submit that you are not yet ready to continue with the working of the steps.

STIN TUESDAY

Dodge & Newport 8:00

- Feb. 2 Chris W. (Anaheim)
- 9 P.K. (Covina)
- 16 Rudy (Fountain Valley)
- 23 Johanna Z. (Costa Mesa)

..... DAVE R.

TUSTIN SATURDAY

401 So. Tustin 8:00

- Feb. 6 Betty A. (Garden Grove)
- 13 Jim S. (Futema Okinawa)
- 20 Alan L. (Mixed Grp.)
- 27 Dottie & Johnny H.

(Lakewood)

..... DUTCH

TUSTIN SUNDAY

Main & Centennial Civic Ctr. 7:30

- Feb. 7 Friends from Chino
- 14 Alabama C. (N. Hollywood)
- 21 Bob & Sue H. (Fullerton)
- 28 Gwen S. (Lomita)

..... JOHN L.

SANTA ANA THURSDAY

3602 W. 5th St. 8:00 PM

- 4 Ben S. (Garden Grove)
- 11 Ed M. (Westminster)
- 18 Joe D. (Anaheim)
- 25 Herb S. (Westminster)

..... CHUCK



WE NEED YOU!

If you are interested and willing to carry the message, speak to Non-A.A. Facilities such as schools, churches, etc., we would love to have you!

A Public Relations meeting will be held March 16th at 7:00 PM at our Orange Central Office.

Elizabeth E.,
P.R. Chairman

