

Wherever Newcomers Come From, Do We Meet Them 'Where They Are'?

Do the needs of the newly recovering alcoholic who comes to us from prison, hospital, or treatment center vary from those of the newcomer "off the street"? If so, how?

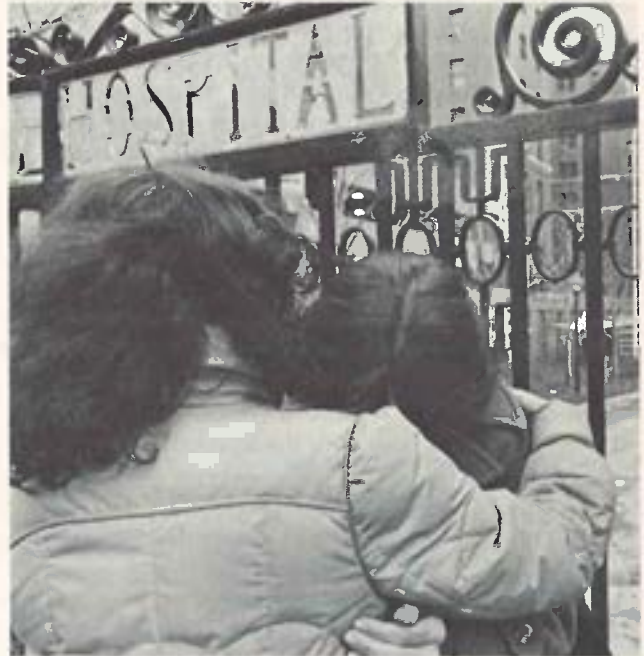
Addressing that vital question, Manitoba delegate Phil C. said, "I believe they need the same patience, love, understanding, example, and information" as any other newcomer. However, he told the Western Canada Regional Forum in Winnipeg, Man., "Some may have been in institutions so long that they can't think for themselves and must be taught to 'walk alone' again, as a new babe.

"More often than not," he noted, the recently institutionalized alcoholic "will be on medication—Antabuse or otherwise—and probably will be part of an ongoing program of outpatient therapy. Here, the patience and understanding of sponsors may be taxed to the limit. I've heard oldtimers, hard-nosers, and others say, 'I won't talk to you while you're on Antabuse.' Or they'll try to be psychiatrist, psychologist, or medicine man, or all three."

Consequently, Phil said, the newcomers are "caught between counselors with whom they have established some communication, who have recommended A.A. to them, and the A.A.'s who admonish them, 'Forget everything they told you; we've got all the answers.'"

Phil's recommendation: "We must be tolerant, cooperate with the counselors, and not work at cross-purposes with them." Later on, he said, when the newcomers "have started to digest the A.A. program, there is ample time to gently suggest that A.A. may have answers to their other problems" — not only their alcoholism, but the ordinary problems of daily life—and "to suggest that the problems may disappear of their own accord as sobriety progresses and they practice the principles of A.A."

Webb J., delegate from British Columbia/Yukon, also stressed the need for tolerance and sensitive sponsorship. "Having been on the Conference Treatment Facili-



The first day out is crucial, whether a newcomer has been a hospital patient or a prison inmate. A.A.'s involved in institutions work have found interim sponsorship can help in the transition.

ties Committee the past two years," he said, "I have become aware of how many dry alcoholics are being sent to us with an abbreviated program. It is necessary that our groups accept these people with a little tolerance while we teach them by example that five Steps in 28 days is not all there is." He suggested that facilities be provided with lists of willing sponsors, to help newcomers find home groups, and that local A.A. committees take meetings into facilities wherever possible.

Carrying the A.A. message to alcoholics in prison was discussed by Ken T., delegate from Alberta/Northwest Territories, who noted that prison A.A. groups in the U.S. and Canada number over 1,100.

Most often, he told the audience, correctional facilities welcome A.A.'s. But he cautioned that "every institution is run by security, and I must respect this or not go—and to not go could mean someone does not get the message. So I've learned that there will always be things the administration does I don't agree with; it's none of my business. I am there only to carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic in custody."

Turning to the special problems of women's prisons, Ken observed that some members "try to identify by using colorful language and street talk. We don't have to change who and what we are," he said. "The women want to hear our experience on how we made the trip back and how they can make it back, too. They will love us for who we are, not for what we've done or whether we've done time."

A vital aspect of prison work, Ken said, is to meet inmates on the first night after their release and get them to a meeting. Various other ways A.A. members can help those in institutions, he pointed out, include: collecting Grapevine copies for donation to institutions groups; serving on institutions committees; writing to inmates through G.S.O.'s Institutions Correspondence Service; writing articles for the Grapevine or local newsletters on A.A. work in custodial centers.

Two Bulletins Where One Grew Before

As recommended by the Conference, the old *Institutions Bulletin* has vanished, replaced by the *Correctional Facilities Bulletin* and the *Treatment Facilities Bulletin*, each of which made its bow with the November 1982 issue.

Three issues a year are scheduled for the bulletin sharing experience on A.A. in correctional facilities; two issues, for that on treatment facilities. Both excerpt correspondence from "outside" A.A.'s; much other material useful in this type of Twelfth Step work appears in both bulletins; and members of prison groups speak up in their bulletin.

The Regional Forum Idea Is Spreading

Do Regional Forums attract only those A.A.'s who are involved in service at the area level? On the contrary, interest among A.A. groups is rising steadily; more and more members want to take part in the Forums' face-to-face communication between local A.A.'s and the visiting trustees, directors, and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members. In acknowledgment of that trend, the trustees' Committee on International Convention/A.A. Regional Forums has recommended that requests for Forums originate "at the grass-roots level." Such a request would go to the area assembly; if approved there, it would be forwarded by the delegate to the regional trustee.

That committee, of course, is part of the U.S./Canada service structure, where A.A. Regional Forums began

But the idea now shows signs of spreading beyond those two countries. Encouraging word has come to G.S.O. in New York from Colombia, which has its own structure. Its first Regional Forum was held August 21-22, 1982, in Bucaramanga, Zone B (Colombian equivalent of a region), which includes Areas 4 and 5.

Colombia's first Forum was hailed as a success, with 76 people attending workshops on "Sponsorship," "How to Improve the Group," "Public Information," "Self-Support," and "General Service." A final report will be sent to the other areas in Colombia and also to G.S.O. in New York, so the shared experience can benefit other countries that may wish to organize Forums.

And in Colombia, too, the enthusiasm reaches to the grass roots. Carlos G., an 18-year-old A.A. participating, said: "It was a marvelous experience. The event gave us a wonderful opportunity to learn, to have a better knowledge of the program, and to grow as individuals and as a fellowship."

Off-Broadway Hit: G.S.O.'s Open House

Our first Open House since 1980, held on November 13, 1982, turned out to be phenomenal. Despite a heavy rain, busloads of visitors began arriving before 9:00 a.m. and continued in an increasing throng until we closed the doors at noon. Most came from Washington, D.C. (a whole busload of Spanish-speaking members from there), Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and, of course, New York. Some had boarded the buses at 1:00 or 2:00 a.m. and ridden all night to get here!

This year, we guided them through the office in a continuous walk-through, with no stops. So the effect, from 10:00 a.m. on, was that of a two-hour receiving line, with the staff members, department managers, and other personnel greeting and shaking hands with the visitors as they streamed by.

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At one time, the crowd backed up from the eighth-floor staff area into the reception area, then filled the building lobby on the ground floor (where the guest-book and badge operation was set up), and then stretched out to the sidewalk and down Park Avenue like a line waiting to get into Radio City Music Hall! (Mercifully, the rain had let up by then.)

A new format was used throughout. Prominent signs were hung to identify the various supporting departments and sections. Lunch was catered by the Southeast New York Area Committee at nearby Norman Thomas High School in a huge, immaculate dining area, and we put on a program in the school auditorium from 1:00 till 3:30 p.m. Both visitors and staff seemed to find the new format a big improvement.

A total of 750 to 800 attended the Open House, at least 550 staying for the afternoon program. Handling a crowd of that size comfortably and on schedule required painstaking advance planning by G.S.O. staff member Betty L., the coordinator, and office manager Tony Osnato (nonalcoholic), who handled the physical arrangements.

Here's one reaction to the revival of our yearly get-acquainted session: Al D., who traveled all the way from George, Iowa, took the trouble to write and "thank all the staff members who supplied me with information that made my trip possible and so enjoyable. What really made it worthwhile was that two weeks before I went to New York City, I was elected G.S.R. of my group (about 18 members). Maybe you will be hearing more from me in the future!"

Replay of a Big Moment In the Story of A.A.

The publication of the article "Alcoholics Anonymous," by Jack Alexander, in the March 1, 1941, issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* turned the then six-year-old pioneering A.A. program into a national institution. There were approximately 2,000 A.A. members when the *Post* article hit the newsstands. Immediately, the Alcoholic Foundation office (now the General Service Office) was deluged with over 6,000 letters, telegrams, and phone calls—pleas for information and help and orders for the Big Book.

That article, which has become a landmark in journalism as well as in the history of A.A., has now been reprinted in the *Saturday Evening Post*, serialized in three issues. The editors decided it was time to reissue "Alcoholics Anonymous" when they received a letter from a

man whose father had gotten sober in 1942 as a result of the story.

The idea for the original article was conceived when Dr. A. Wiese Hammer, a Philadelphia physician who worked with alcoholics and was familiar with the A.A. program, suggested it to the publisher of the *Post*. Jack Alexander was assigned to research the potential for such a story.

Through a Philadelphia A.A., Jimmy B., Alexander was put in touch with co-founder Bill W. in New York and was taken to meetings in New York, Akron, Philadelphia, and other cities. The late journalist became one of A.A.'s greatest and most respected nonalcoholic friends and later was to serve as a trustee (Class A) on the A.A. General Service Board.

In 1950 (when A.A. had 96,000 members) Bill W. wrote to Jack Alexander requesting that he consider doing another article, because of the growth of the Fellowship and public interest. Bill felt that such a story would be "an insurance policy for our future." Alexander had long wanted to do this, and the second *Post* article on Alcoholics Anonymous was published in the April 1, 1950, issue.



Assistant archivist Ron Brenne (nonalcoholic) displays issues containing the first two installments of the Jack Alexander reprint—far from the 1941 original, with its bobby-soxer cover and nickel price.

We can hardly expect the reissue of this historic piece of journalism to cause the stir that the original did 42 years ago. The Fellowship will be 48 years old in June and has grown to over a million members, in 110 countries. "The Jack Alexander Article About A.A." is a familiar pamphlet on the literature tables of A.A. meeting rooms (80,200 were distributed in 1981), and most of today's members have read it or are aware of it. Still, this reprint cannot fail to help carry the message to members of a new generation of still-suffering alcoholics, not yet born when the old *Saturday Evening Post* and a newspaperman named Jack Alexander were household words.

Mailbag: Newcomer Has An Unbirthday Party

Making the newcomer right at home is a talent most A.A.'s develop to a fare-thee-well, sometimes in unexpected ways, as our current mailbag shows:

- Writes Jim M. in *Grass Roots*, the British Columbia/Yukon Area newsletter: "At a meeting of what we'll call 'the Y Group,' member John Doe was to receive a birthday cake and card to mark his first year of sobriety. The chairperson got up and passed out the card, to be signed by each member in turn. The card passed smoothly from one to another until it was placed in the hands of a newcomer still in a hangover daze. He seized it, thanked the chairperson profusely — and dashed out of the meeting. Possibly, he went home and told his folks about the swell gang he'd met, who gave him a special card just for going to their meeting. We hope he'll come to A.A. again."

- Texas member Allen M. writes that his initial A.A. experience was filled with fear, loneliness, confusion, and anger because nobody noticed or offered to help him at his first meeting, even after he mustered up the courage to identify himself as a newcomer. He heard a lot, he says, about "fellowship," and would like to have seen some of it. Yet, despite feeling strange, he kept coming back and is there to bring up the question in his own inventory meetings today, reminding himself and his fellow members that "the newcomer is the most important person in the room."

- One particular type of newcomer is considered in the Los Angeles Central Office newsletter, *Hello, Central*, with a report on the North Hollywood Group's approach to the influx of dually addicted individuals: "At our new members' meetings, we welcome those attending their first time and read a brief statement of policy. It states that these newcomers are truly welcome here, provided that their primary addiction is to alcohol — something they alone can honestly determine."

"We ask only that, when discussing their problems, they confine themselves to those related to their alcoholism. We also welcome those people whose primary addiction is to drugs other than alcohol. We are certainly sympathetic to their problem, but we ask them not to participate in our discussions lest our A.A. meeting be diverted from our primary purpose: to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

- And from Jean R. of South Florida's Easy Does It Group comes still another way to handle the smoking/non-smoking issue: "Because of the small size and poor ventilation of our meeting room, we ask that all refrain from smoking from the opening Serenity Prayer to the closing Lord's Prayer. Any who choose can slip outside for a smoke if they so wish, which apparently they don't. Nobody has left the meeting yet."

After saying how much she enjoyed the sharing of other groups in *Box 4-5-9*, Jean notes that she still refers back to our old publication "Ask-It Basket" (discontinued in 1981 upon Conference recommendation) for suggestions. This, because "the same questions get asked today as then, and the suggested answers still apply. As they have told me in the Fellowship: 'If it works, don't fix it!'"



As assistant to the conference coordinator, Adeline Wilmot (nonalcoholic) is set to start work on the 1983 Conference Manual.

1983 Conference Agenda Spotlights Anonymity

"Anonymity—Our Spiritual Foundation" (Bill W. called it "the key to A.A.'s long-term survival") will be the theme of the 33rd General Service Conference, to be held April 17-23, 1983, at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City.

Ninety-one area delegates from the U.S. and Canada will attend the supersize A.A. business meeting, along with trustees of the General Service Board, staffs of G.S.O. and the Grapevine, and A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors.

Besides anonymity, subjects uppermost among A.A. concerns—from group finances to drug addiction and the Fellowship—will be explored at a series of presentations followed by floor discussions, workshops, committee meetings, and consideration of committee recommendations by the Conference as a whole.

Presentation/discussion sessions are planned on: "The Member, the Group, and Their Monies"; "The A.A. Grapevine"; "Anonymity—When and Why"; "Drug Addicts and A.A."; "How Is the A.A. Member's Voice Heard at the General Service Conference?"; and "The Effect of Anonymity on Personal Recovery." Two workshops will focus on "Communications: Group-G.S.R.-D.C.M." and "Anonymity—When and Why."

Look Out for the *

Enclosed with this bulletin, the new catalog and the accompanying order form for Conference-Approved Literature and Other Service Materials both use asterisks in the margins to indicate such new items as:

* A summary of Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference, beginning with 1951, now updated to 1982.

* "A.A. as a Resource for the Medical Profession" — a brief, informative leaflet for busy doctors.

* Two TV announcements on one tape—"First Meeting" (30 seconds), "Calling A.A." (60 seconds).

A.A. Breaks Through Diplomatic Barriers

The appearance at the Seventh World Service Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, held in Mexico on October 14-18, 1982, of two delegates representing A.A. in South Africa marked the climax of a suspenseful and touching drama. (Last issue, *Box 4-5-9* carried an article on that Meeting in general.)

South Africa had sent delegates to the first six W.S.M.'s, where its shared experience was always most helpful. That was why, in early 1981, after Mexico's invitation had been accepted and preliminary arrangements had been made, it was a shock to learn that the South African delegates could not obtain entry visas. Mexico, it seemed, had no diplomatic relations with the Republic of South Africa and so would not permit its citizens to enter. A distressing development!

Phyllis M., coordinator of the W.S.M. at G.S.O., New York, and her planning committee went into action. The Mexican consul in New York was contacted first. It was pointed out to him that Alcoholics Anonymous was non-racist and nonpolitical and, incidentally, had 4,500 groups and an estimated 100,000 members in Mexico. The consul was cautiously encouraging, but suggested G.S.O. wait until mid-1982 and initiate the matter again.

This was done. But by then, a new official had replaced the original contact — and the new man was decidedly pessimistic. However, he suggested the Mexican G.S.O. contact the central government there to see whether an exception to the policy could be made. With the help of well-placed Mexican A.A. members, the request went all the way to the President of Mexico! He, in turn, referred it to the Foreign Minister.

Weeks and months went by. Phyllis was in frequent touch with the South African delegates, who apologized for the trouble they were causing and assured her they

would, in any case, accept the things they could not change. She was also in constant communication with friends at G.S.O., Mexico, who were trying to change the things they could.

Finally, in September 1982, word came: The Mexican Parliament had passed a special bill to permit the South African delegates to the Alcoholics Anonymous World Service Meeting to enter the country! Everyone concerned breathed sighs of relief and gratitude. Gratitude that the Mexican government saw fit to temper its strict policies with compassion and understanding in this instance — a recognition of A.A.'s primary purpose and its noncontroversial character. Gratitude, once more, for our Traditions, without which the drama would not have had a happy ending.

And a happy ending it was as the two South African delegates walked into the A.A. meeting that opened the Seventh W.S.M. In themselves, they symbolized our Fellowship's universality: John H., of British ancestry; and Suliman E., of Muslim faith and Indian ancestry. They were greeted with warm applause, bear hugs from old friends, and a tear or two.



Save a Seat—Lose a Newcomer?

"Someone had obviously laid claim to blocks of seats," said Merl M. of Los Angeles, Calif., in a 1980 article recently reprinted by *Hello, Central*, newsletter of that city's central office. "What if a newcomer is confronted by this 'reserved seats only' atmosphere? Chances are he or she would be saying goodbye before we had a chance to say hello."

Comments the newsletter added indicated that the seat-saving problem persists at meetings in the city. And it is evidently widespread, for the article has been picked up by other local bulletins.

Solutions that were tried worked only temporarily, the newsletter reported. If seat-saving has been a concern in your area, have you found an answer?

Does Your Group Have a GvR?

Grapevine representatives (GvRs) are increasingly an active and visible part of the service structure—and, some think, a *new* addition to A.A. service. But did you know that the GvR concept originated with an action of the 1952 General Service Conference? That the job has been described in the “A.A. Group” pamphlet since 1963? That renewed activity since 1977 was sparked by delegates’ enthusiastic response to a Conference action in that year?

Like many ideas in A.A., the “primary purpose” (bringing the Grapevine message to every group) has had fringe benefits: for example, one more opportunity for A.A.’s to get into service work. And projects of local Grapevine committees have brought A.A., via our national magazine, to hospitals, libraries, and offices of professionals who work with alcoholics, touching the lives of many who might not otherwise learn about A.A.

Want to know more? Write The Grapevine, P.O. Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

Are We Grateful Enough?

The example of the Bahia (Brazil) Central Office prompts Loner Judy P. to wonder whether A.A.’s back home in the U.S. are “truly grateful enough, sitting in comfortable meeting places with literature and coffee at our disposal and maybe a bus or a car outside for our return.” The small office in Salvador, capital of Bahia State, is staffed by a dedicated A.A. first-named Montenegro, Judy says. For 13 years, he has carried the A.A. message in an area where most members of the ten groups can neither read nor write. Bahia, stricken by drought or flood, famine, and inflation, is a hotbed of alcoholism. The office rent, telephone, and light bills are a heavy burden.

Yet against these odds, the central office continues; Twelfth Step calls are answered; and Montenegro even travels “vast distances into the interior of the state to help start new groups.”

Distances Can Be Conquered

In an area of considerable geographic size, the area committee may seem a remote entity to many groups; it becomes difficult to interest members in general service. The California Northern Interior Area has a practical solution, according to the local bulletin *Good News*. “A few years ago, C.N.I.A. committee officers initiated a plan of traveling to various outlying districts for their meetings. At the time the idea was formulated, attendance at area assemblies was between 25 and 30. Today, it is closer to 100.

“Current officers are still busy traveling, with the hope of reaching new districts not familiar with general service. At Susanville (District 13), we joined their Intergroup Camp-Out at Eagle Lake. What a beautiful A.A. weekend of sharing! Two years ago, the district had not had a D.C.M. [district committee member] in years, and now they have a D.C.M. plus their own intergroup/central office. Congratulations!”

Rotating Out? It Isn’t the End

If you’re a newly elected group secretary, or if you’re regretfully completing your term as chairperson, you have company at the Conference level of A.A. service. There, too, it’s rotation time, as Panel 33 delegates elected at fall area assemblies begin their two-year terms. Many delegates experience rotation as a mixed blessing. For one coming in, there is the uncertainty of being “a new kid on the block,” joining the seasoned second-year veterans of Panel 32 at the April meeting of the Conference. The panel system, with its overlapping terms, was devised to give the Conference continuity within the framework of the rotation system.

And what about Panel 31, now out of office? Just-past delegate Cynthia F. (Connecticut) tells G.S.O., “I’ll miss the Conference. But,” she adds, “it will be good to get back to basics. I’m already on two committees. Everyone’s planning to keep me busy. It’s been an experience I’ll never forget.”

BOX 4|5|9 BULLETIN BOARD

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

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1983

Calendar of Events

February

- 3-6 — *Ocean City, Maryland*. Second Annual Seaside Winter Conf. Write: Conf., P.O. Box 182, Cambridge, MD 21613
- 4-5 — *Akron, Ohio*. Third Winter Conf. Write: Ch., 1219 Barcelona Dr., Akron, OH 44313
- 4-6 — *Overland Park, Kansas*. First Sunflower Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1281, Mission, KS 66222
- 4-6 — *North Hollywood, California*. Eighth Annual San Fernando Valley Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 33213, Granada Hills, CA 91344
- 5-6 — *Imperial Valley, California*. First Annual San Diego-Imperial Area Assy. Weekend. Write: Com., P.O. Box 153, Calipatria, CA 92233
- 10-13 — *Pine Mountain, Georgia*. Pine Mountain Fellowship. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 617, Pine Mountain, GA 31822
- 11-13 — *Greeley, Colorado*. 32nd Annual Stampede. Write: Ch., 1725 5th St., Greeley, CO 80631
- 11-13 — *Hamilton, New Zealand*. Nat. Conv. Write: Secy., P.O. Box 1150, Hamilton, North Island, New Zealand
- 11-13 — *Seattle, Washington*. Ninth Annual Young People's Winter Holiday. Write: P.S.Y.P.C., P.O. Box 3791, Bellevue, WA 98004
- 11-13 — *Louisville, Kentucky*. 32nd State Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 7123, Louisville, KY 40207

11-13 *Elliot Lake, Ontario, Canada*. Second Annual Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 854, Elliot Lake, Ont. P5A 2R6

11-13 — *Camrose, Alberta, Canada*. Third Annual Valentine Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1387, Camrose, Alta. T4V 1X3

11-13 — *Atlantic City, New Jersey*. Tenth Winter Holiday. Write: Ch., 421 Club, 421 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104

11-13 — *Lake Whitney, Texas*. 26th Quarterly Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., 7212 Stonewall Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76140

12-13 — *Colville, Washington*. Annual International Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 14, Colville, WA 99141

18-20 — *Kingsport, Tennessee*. First Annual State Young People's Conf. Write: Ch., T.S.Y.P.C.A.A., 437 High Ridge, Kingsport, TN 37660

Planning an April, May, or June Event?

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

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

Closed Meeting Topics From the Grapevine

February: For the topic "being teachable," the article "There's Always More to Learn" offers a fine springboard; for a Traditions meeting, "What We Do and What We Don't" helps clear away common misconceptions; for a discussion on living a balanced life, see "What Ever Happened to Mom?"

March: On Step Twelve—two articles explore ways we may fail or succeed in trying to carry the message; on special groups—"All of Us Are Special" can help us apply Traditions Three and Ten; on making the most of sobriety—"The Best Me Ever" suggests living in the now.

18-20—*Montgomery, Alabama*. Second Annual Heart of Dixie Fellowship; 39th Anniv. of A.A. in Montgomery. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 601, Montgomery, AL 36100

18-20 — *El Paso, Texas*. 21st Annual Jamboree. Write: Secy., P.O. Box 1405, El Paso, TX 79948

18-20 — *Phoenix, Arizona*. 19th Annual Nat. Women's Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 16252, Phoenix, AZ 85011

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

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PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

February (continued)

- 18-20 — *Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*. Fifth Annual Halifax/Dartmouth Midwinter Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 531, Dartmouth, N.S. B2Y 3Y8
- 18-21 — *Bauang, La Union, Philippines*. First Nat. Conv. Write: Ch., Philippines Conv., c/o Teledyne Ryan, APO San Francisco, CA 96277
- 25-27 — *San Diego, California*. 11th Annual All-Calif. Young People's Roundup. Write: Ch., A.C.Y.P.A.A., P.O. Box 84077, San Diego, CA 92138
- 25-27 — *Ripley, West Virginia*. Third Cedar Lakes Roundup. Write: C.L.R. Com., P.O. Box 2481, Charleston, WV 25329
- 25-27 — *Rosemont, Illinois*. First Annual State Young People's Conf. Write: Conf. Com., P.O. Box 25665, Chicago, IL 60625
- 25-27 — *Sacramento, California*. Sixth Annual Spring Fling. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 801, Sacramento, CA 95814

February Deadline

- June 11-18 — *New York, New York*. Second Annual Sobriety and Beyond Cruise to Bermuda. Deposit deadline: Feb. 20. Write: Ch., 11 Briarwood Dr., Windsor, CT 06095

March

- 4-6 — *St. Albert, Alberta, Canada*. Sixth Annual Roundup. Write: Secy./Treas., 18 Sylvan Dr., St. Albert, Alta. T8N 0G8
- 4-6 — *Sioux Falls, South Dakota*. W. Cent. Reg. Forum. Write: Reg. Forum Secy., P.O. Box 459, New York, NY 10163
- 4-6 — *Eau Claire, Wisconsin*. 24th Annual Alano Club 12 Banq. Write: Ch., 3025 Rudolph Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54701

4-6 — *Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada*. Rally. Write: Cent. Off., 488 Albert St., Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 2V7

4-6 — *Santa Clara, California*. 16th Annual Pac. Reg. Serv. Ass'y. Write: Co-Ch., 109-B Ascot Ct., Moraga, CA 94556

4-6 — *Swan River, Manitoba, Canada*. Swan Valley Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1184, Swan River, Man. R01 1Z0

11-13 — *Calgary, Alberta, Canada*. Fourth Annual Young People's Conv. Write: Ch., #24-1411 Centre St. S., Calgary, Alta. T2G 2E5

11-13 — *Toronto, Ontario, Canada*. 33rd Annual Reg. Conf. Write: Conf. Ch., 272 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto, Ont. M4R 1B2

18-20 — *Corpus Christi, Texas*. 29th Annual Coastal Bend Jamboree. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 3204, Corpus Christi, TX 78404

18-20 — *Fresno, California*. Annual Spring Conf. Write: N.C.C. Secy., 1046 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122

18-20 — *Kiamesha Lake, New York*. Annual Fellowship Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 267, New City, NY 10956

18-20 — *Benton, Kentucky*. Spring Getaway. Write: Ch., 1709 N. Rural, Indianapolis, IN 46218

25-27 — *French Lick, Indiana*. 30th Annual State Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 505, Carmel, IN 46032

25-27 — *St. Paul, Minnesota*. 27th Annual Intergroup Weekend and Banq. Write: Cent. Off., 951 E. 5th St., St. Paul, MN 55106

25-27 — *Courtenay, British Columbia, Canada*. 32nd Annual Rally. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 1337, Comox, B.C. V9N 3Z0

25-27 — *Metairie, Louisiana*. 15th Annual Big Deep South Conv. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 24462, New Orleans, LA 70184

25-27 — *Asheboro, North Carolina*. 11th Annual Piedmont Unity Fellowship. Write: Ch., 221 Greenvale Rd., Asheboro, NC 27203

26 — *Drummondville, Québec, Canada*. Troisième Congrès du Dist. 88-01. Write: Ch., C.P. 432, Drummondville, Qué. J2B 6W3

31-Apr. 4 — *Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*. 23rd Nat. Conv. Write: Secy., P.O. Box 662, South Brisbane Q4101, Australia

April

1-3 — *San Diego, California*. Sixth Annual Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box A2529, San Diego, CA 92112

8-10 — *Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada*. S. Alta. Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 212, Lethbridge, Alta. T1J 3Y5

8-10 — *Appleton, Wisconsin*. Spring Area Conf. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 290, Appleton, WI 54915

15-16 — *Rosetown, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Seventh Annual Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 95, Rosetown, Sask. S0L 2V0

15-17 — *Kaiserslautern, West Germany*. Roundup. Write: Ch., PSC Box 2547, APO New York, NY 09130

15-17 — *Clarksburg, West Virginia*. Jackson's Mill Spring Roundup. Write: Ch., P.O. Box 825, Clarksburg, WV 26301

16-17 — *Montréal-Nord, Québec, Canada*. Quatrième Congrès du Dist. 90-01. Write: Ch., Bureau de Services, B.P. 487, Montréal-Nord, Qué. H1H 5L5

22-24 — *Rockford, Illinois*. Area Spring Conf. Write: Ch., 1629 Greenwood Ave., Rockford, IL 61107

29-May 1 — *Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada*. Annual Roundup. Write: Conf. Ch., 2761 Atkinson St., Regina, Sask. S4N 3Y2

29-May 1 — *Ste. Agathe des Monts, Québec, Canada*. Dixième Congrès des Laurentides, Dist. 90-04. Write: Ch., 18 rue Bruno, Ste. Agathe des Monts, Qué. J8C 2H4

29-May 1 — *Bundoran, County Donegal, Northern Ireland*. All-Ireland Conv. Write: Cent. Serv. Off., 152 Lisburn Rd., Belfast, Northern Ireland BT9 7AE