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# MOUNTAIN DOIN'S

## DISTRICT EIGHT MEETING IN FRANKLIN JUNE 8

Franklin will host the next District (Area) 8 meeting on Sunday, June 8, at the home of Mack F., across from the Catholic Church.

Eating (covered dish) at 1:30 p.m., speaking at 3 p.m.

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## INTERGROUP SCHEDULES JUNE MEETING IN WAYNESVILLE

Intergroup of Western North Carolina will hold its monthly meeting Sunday, June 15, in Grace Episcopal Church at Waynesville.

Among other key items on the agenda will be the selection of a new chairman and secretary.

Meeting time will be 3 p.m.

Be sure your group is represented.

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## NO DISTRICT SEVEN MEETING

There will be no meeting of District Seven in June.

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## MARION GROUP IS REACTIVATED

Word has been received that the Marion Group is again active and meeting on Wednesday nights at 8 p.m. in the office of the Foothills Mental Health Center above the Service Pharmacy, 218 North McDowell in Marion.

Let's all come out and give them support, remembering "When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, we want the hand of AA to be there and for this we are responsible."

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## EDITORIAL NOTES WORK OF INTERGROUP

The Sunday, May 25, issue of The Asheville Citizen-Times carried an editorial entitled "Solid Ground for Alcoholics" which is reprinted on the back page of this issue of Mountain Doin's, just in case you missed it.

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DON'T FORGET DENVER

Last word we had was that over 17,000 have already registered for the 40th anniversary International Convention in Denver July 3-6. If you plan to go, better get your registration in soon.

Haven't heard whether that charter flight out of Charlotte (See last issue) is filled, but hurry. It's later than you think to sign up for what we guarantee will be a once-in-a-lifetime event.

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TRADITIONAL TO HOST  
JULY DISTRICT SEVEN MEETING

The Traditional Group plans to host a District (Area) Meeting on Sunday, July 20, at the East Asheville Community Center.

The date was selected so that the meeting would not conflict with persons wishing to attend the 40th International Convention in Denver on the first Sunday in July.

More details will be forthcoming later. \*\*\*

TWELVE STEP DISCUSSION GROUP TO REACTIVATE

The 12-Step Study Group at Grace Episcopal, Merrimon Ave., Asheville, will meet Wednesday, 8 p.m., June 4. Y'all come.

SPEAKERS!!!!!!

WHERE ARE YOU???

Since our several appeals to set up a Speakers' Bureau to carry the message to schools and civic groups, the response has been somewhat less than overwhelming.

At last count, there were three volunteers.

We suspect that if we issue an announcement to make public talks, the requests will be more than three can handle.

If you can help, Call Peggy at Inter-group, 254-8539, and give her your name.

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NEW GROUPS REGISTERED

Two new WNC Groups have been registered with GSO, the Hazelwood Prison Camp and the Flynn Home Beginners Group in Asheville which meets Tuesday nights. \*\*\*



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SURE AND IT COULD BE YOUR CONSCIENCE.....

John and Mary Shannon were a fairly happy couple with the exception of this one problem of John's. Seems he was prone to sip a bit too much of the juice and even though Mary was one of the most understanding women in all of Ireland, she finally had enough. Heading for the parish priest, she poured out her troubles, explaining as follows:

'Faith and Father, I love me good husband John but every night he comes home from the mines drunker and drunker. Please talk with him and help him to straighten up.'

So John was summoned to see the good Father and he knew what it was all about. Before the priest could say a word, John gave his side of it: 'Father, I know why you sent for me. I know I've been drinking too much, but this is the way it is. Every night I leave the mines heading home and always I pass this bar and something just seems to pull me into it and there goes another night.'

The good Father nodded understandingly, then said, 'John, tomorrow when you leave the mines, have a word with your good conscience. Tell him to remind you of this talk and not to let you go into the bar tonight.' John agreed and a couple of days past before Mary arrived at the priest's again, crying her eyes out and sobbing, 'Faith and Father, I don't know what ye told me good husband John but he came home last night drunker than ever before.'

Summoned back, John quickly explained. 'Father, I followed your advice to the letter. I left the mines and I said to me good conscience, 'Remember what the good Father told me, don't let me go into that bar tonight.' Then down the street I starts when that same mysterious force starts to pull me. But me conscience, it taps me on the shoulder and says, 'John, John, remember what the good Father told ye.' So with a terrific amount of willpower, I pulls me self back around and heads for home again. Well, Father this happens several times but finally me hand is on the door when me conscience it taps me on the shoulder and says, 'Good job, John, come on back to the bar and I'll buy ye a drink meself.'

# ASHEVILLE CITIZEN - TIMES



*Dedicated to the Upbuilding of Western North Carolina*

LUTHER B. THIGPEN, *Executive Editor*

RICK GUNTER, WILLIAM M. MEBANE JR. and BOB TERRELL, *Associate Editors*

JOHN Q SCHELL, *General Manager*

Sunday, May 25, 1975

## Solid Ground For Alcoholics

Numbers don't tell the real story, but since they stand for people in serious trouble, they are sad enough all by themselves.

Fifteen to 22 million alcoholics. That's the number of people in the United States who can't take alcohol and have to fight a tough battle if they want to leave it alone. One person out of every 10, according to the highest reliable estimates. And with all these millions already among the walking wounded, the number is steadily growing. Increasing alcoholism may be one of the more lasting consequences of the present economic slump.

Unemployed people, with time on their hands and no regular work to provide disciplinary pressure, easily get careless and self-indulgent with alcohol. Even among those with safe and steady employment, a larger amount of leisure time and more money holds perils of its own, with more occasion for "social" drinking and more money to spend on alcohol for private drinking.

One of the most alarming tendencies today, however, is the increase of alcoholism among teenagers. The most immediate cause is probably the casual attitude of drinking parents. A typical remark in such cases, said the Rev. Harry Woggon, director of alcohol and drug programs at Blue Ridge Community Health Center here, is

"I'm glad he's only drunk. I was afraid he was on drugs."

The truth, of course, is that alcohol is as much a drug as any of the others, and by far the most accessible and widely abused.

In Asheville and Western North Carolina the Blue Ridge Center is one of a good many institutions which concentrate intensely on treating alcoholics.

The largest, and most justly famous, of the organizations devoted to fighting alcoholism is Alcoholics Anonymous, and 23 AA groups in Asheville and 14 other Western North Carolina communities are now banded together into an organization called Intergroup, with an office in the Parkway Office Building. Intergroup can be reached by telephoning 254-8539 for information and help.

Peggy, a member of AA and a spokesman for Intergroup, said there are no formal dues for members of Alcoholics Anonymous, but "if we could drum up all the money in the world we could never repay all that AA has done for us." There are 850,000 members of the organization in the country. Clearly there are millions more who ought to be and a growing number standing on slippery ground.