

MOUNTAIN DOIN'S

Published monthly by Intergruop of Western North Carolina,
107 Parkway Office Bldg., Asheville, N.C. 28801, Phone (704)
254-8539. June 26, 1975.....Volume II, Number 8.

WAYNESVILLE TO HOST JULY DISTRICT 8 MEET ON SECOND SUNDAY

The Waynesville Grace Group will host the District 8 July meeting at Grace Episcopal Church.

The eating (covered dish) is scheduled to start at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, July 13, & the speaking follows at 2:30 or so.

SMILEY STEPPING DOWN AS FIRST INTERGROUP CHAIRMAN

Smiley Mc of Hendersonville will complete his term of office as the first chairman of Intergruop of WNC on July 1.

At the June meeting in Waynesville, Pete G. was elected chairman succeeding Smiley and Mary C. was elected secretary.

The July Intergruop Council meeting will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church immediately after the District 7 Meeting, July 20.

TELEPHONE LISTING

Intergruop is now listed in the Hendersonville phone book.

ASHEVILLE'S TRADITIONAL SETS JULY 20 DISTRICT 7 MEETING AT TRINITY CHURCH

Bill J. of Raleigh will be the speaker at the July District 7 meeting, set at Trinity Episcopal Church in Asheville.

The district meeting is being held on the third rather than the first Sunday of the month due to a conflict with the 40th International Conference in Denver.

Eating (Covered Dish) is set for 1:30 p.m., speaking between 2:30 and 3. The Traditional Group is host.

MOUNTAIN VIEW GROUP MEETING AT SAPPHIRE

Members in the Highlands-Cashiers-Sapphire Valley area are now meeting at 8 pm Wednesdays in the Sapphire Valley Real Estate Office on U.S. 64 .

UPDATED, NEW INTERGROUP
SERVICES ARE READIED

A new list of meetings for groups in Western North Carolina is currently being prepared by Intergroup.

In addition, Intergroup is updating its telephone list of members willing to make 12th Step calls and is getting up lists of members willing to speak at AA meetings and another list of a Speakers' Bureau in which members will explain AA to the general public including schools and Civic Clubs.

We hope these will be available by the end of July.

A REMINDER

Remember you have a perfect right to tell anyone that you attended an AA meeting. But we have no right to tell anyone who else was there.

Always keep the importance of anonymity in mind.

REMEMBER INTERGROUP DEPENDS
ON YOUR GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL
CONTRIBUTIONS.

WHO'S NUTS?
IT DEPENDS ON YOUR VIEW

For those of us who've spent a little time in institutions or even as a reminder of the Second Step and restoration to sanity, this story is dedicated:

Seems a motorist had a flat outside a mental institution. One of the patients watched from inside the fence as the motorist carefully removed the lugs and set them to one side.

Then accidentally, his foot kicked them into a too-handy storm sewer. As he pondered his situation, the patient called out--

//Why not take one lug off each of the other three wheels to hold the fourth till you can get to a service station.//

//Hey, that's brilliant, the motorist said in awe.

//Well, I may be nuts, but I'm not stupid,// replied our patient.

ATLANTA ROUNDUP

July 18-20, Radisson Olympic Inn. Write Box 7188, Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

BOB TERRELL

40th Birthday

Since man first squeezed the grape, resistance to its spirits has been a problem.

The giddy-headed feeling derived from a bottle has been for some a tranquilizer, and for others a slow but sure death.

How to handle alcohol is one of the burning questions of mankind.

The best way, of course, is to leave it alone — but there are those who cannot.

For them, there used to be little or no hope.

Forty years ago today, things began to change. In Akron, Ohio, a stockbroker named William Wilson and a physician named Robert Smith got together to share their experiences as drunks.

At that meeting was born the organization of Alcoholics Anonymous, and a chain reaction of hope was launched for alcoholics from every walk of life.

Recovery Became Possible

For the first time, recovery from the disease of alcoholism became possible for men and women who had been considered disgraces to their families and in their communities.

At that time — June 10, 1935 — few persons thought alcoholism to be a disease.

An alcoholic was considered to be an incorrigible. Period. "Bill W." and "Dr. Bob," as they became known to alcoholics everywhere, had stumbled upon a miracle. They discovered that they could stay sober by sharing their similar experiences as alcoholics.

They began to spread their knowledge, working with other victims of this disease at Akron's city hospital — and the first A.A. group was established.

In the fall of 1935, word of the good works in Akron spread to New York and a second group of recovering drunks banded together there.



BOB TERRELL

By late summer of 1939, when there was a third group in Cleveland, A.A. had a hundred sober members. In four years, membership had grown by only 25 persons a year.

That same year, 1939, the book, "Alcoholics Anonymous," appeared. Based on the experiences of the first hundred members, this basic text explained A.A.'s philosophy. The core of it was the well-known 12 Steps of Recovery. To the alcoholic, this has become known as the "Big Book." More than a million copies have been sold to date.

The book helped launch A.A. nationwide, but perhaps even more than that, an article that appeared in *The Saturday Evening Post* in 1941 put A.A. on the map.

It Works Fine, Thanks

The magazine story produced thousands of pleas for help, and the tiny A.A. World Service Office in New York was swamped with requests for assistance and orders for the Big Book.

By 1950, a hundred thousand recovered alcoholics were members of A.A. and when they held the first international convention in Cleveland that year, the 12 Traditions of A.A. were adopted.

The organization became global in the years between 1950 and 1960, and it was apparent that the A.A. way of life could transcend barriers of race, creed and language.

The only requirement for membership was that a person be an alcoholic who wanted to recover. One is a member simply by saying so.

The fellowship continues to grow. Today there are 800,000 members in 25,000 groups located throughout the world.

Through A.A.'s efforts, hundreds of thousands of drunks have been restored to useful places in society.

"A. A. is not an achievement, it is a continuing process," said Dr. John L. Norris, chairman of A.A.'s board of trustees. "When asked how A.A. works, an old-timer once said, 'Just fine, thank you!' Abstinence is achieved by not taking the first drink — one day at a time."

Hundreds in Western North Carolina can attest to that. Dr. Bob Smith died in 1950, and Bill Wilson passed away in 1971, but their legacy lives every day in the lives of men and women and children who abstain from the use of alcohol through the efforts of A.A.

A.A.'s 40th anniversary will be observed during its international convention in Denver July 4-6. More than 15,000 have registered already to attend. It will be one of the largest — and really one of the most important — conventions in the nation this year.

I've been
doing this for
35 yrs. And your
my first Sereanty
Prayer!

