

February

1980

NEWSLETTER OF INTERGROUP OF WESTERN NORTH
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FINANCIAL NEWS

The following groups came to the rescue of the Intergroup Office during the month of January 1980.

Hendersonville, \$37.36; Fletcher, \$62.25; Brevard, \$20.00; Victoria, \$20.00; West Asheville, \$20.00; Canton, \$10.00; Traditional, \$55.20; Tryon, \$25.00; Twelve Step Study, \$3.50; Blue Ridge, \$100.00

This is a total of \$353.31 and represents 10 groups out of a total of 29 in Districts 7 and 8. If we should want to figure the percentage, we would get about 34%.

Individuals helping out the cause were: John A., Ed D., Fred E., Neil D., (Anonymous, Blue Ridge), Cecil D., Anne S., Jim D., Lee H., Mary C., Jean W. and David R. for a total of \$272.00.

G.S.O. suggests that all groups follow the 60-30-10 plan.

AA

SUGGESTION: That each group appoint a person of their respective group to correspond with the Intergroup Office relative to birthdays, group activities, news, etc. This should be in the Intergroup Office by the 25th of each month so that it can be incorporated in the "Mountain Doin's."

AA

NOW, that we have solved some of the difficulties, how would you like to wake up face down on the pavement, or see a 60 minute news team waiting in your office, or you want to put on the clothes you wore home from the party last night and there aren't any, or you turn on the news and they are showing the emergency routes out of the city, or you wake up to discover that your waterbed broke and realize you don't have a waterbed and on your way to work your car horn becomes stuck and you find out that you are following a group of "Hell's Angels" on the freeway, or you call "Suicide Prevention" and they put you on hold.

(Thanks to "Pete G.")

"PARTICIPATION -- The Key to Recovery"

The theme of our November 24/25, 1979, GSR State Assembly in Winston-Salem was "PARTICIPATION -- The Key to Recovery." During the Saturday afternoon session all GSRs present broke off into eight groups to discuss that theme. Next morning, one representative from each group gave a highlight report of his/her group's discussion of this theme to the entire assembly.

There follow, in paraphrase, 15 key observations made by the eight group reporters. Because these observations represent each group's "group conscience" summary findings, they merit further sharing. Here goes:

1. How much an AA member is willing to participate sets the pace of his growth in the program.
2. Keep the newcomer occupied so that he will not feel self-pity.
3. We must rotate responsibilities so that we will not become stagnant or complacent.
4. As a group, we must keep an eye on the quality, not the quantity, of our sobriety.
5. Alcoholics Anonymous is a program of G-R-O-W (acronym for "Gratitude, Responsibility, Openmindedness, Willingness").
6. We are encouraged to visit other groups in our area regularly and maybe borrow from them a few things that we liked and, as we say, let the rest alone.
7. Encourage service to others, especially Twelfth Step work. Carry the message to others, even to nonalcoholics (most know many people who need help).
8. Our quality of sobriety is in direct proportion to our level of participation.
9. Small miracles begin to happen through active participation.
10. If every member would follow our "Penny-a-Day for Sobriety" guidelines, all our AA literature would be free and the Big Book would sell for \$1.50.
11. Some people, either emotionally or temperamentally, are not suited for service work. Some people just aren't comfortable around other people. No matter how long they're sober, that doesn't get better.
12. We talked about losing members -- not the members who have been sober for a year or so, but the new people who come once or twice and don't come back. Simply to be made welcome, we decided, is just about the only thing that would keep these people coming back.
13. How do you decide how many persons are in your group? Suggestion: place a note on the bulletin board which says: "If you consider yourself a member of this group, would you sign here, please."
14. Sometimes we have to learn to say, "Thanks, but no thanks," recognizing our personal limitations, but thereby also giving some other member the opportunity to serve.
15. Some of the key words that came out of our group's discussion were "Gratitude, Trust, Responsibility, Belonging, Pride, Appreciation, Growth, Giving, Opportunity and Rotation."

(Thanks to A. Nonymou

A reporter was interviewing an old man who was celebrating his 100th birthday. "What are you most proud of?" he asked.

"Well," said the man, "I've lived 100 years and haven't an enemy in the world."

"What a beautiful thought. How truly inspirational," commented the reporter.

"Yep," added the centenarian, "outlived every last one of them."

Sunshine Magazine

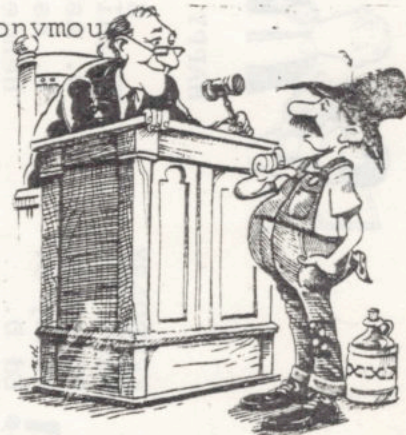
A HUSBAND told his wife that he was adamantly opposed to buying a water bed. "When I get into bed at night," he said, "I'm looking for comfort, not Victory at Sea!"

—The Carol Burnett Show, CBS-TV

LOOK OUT THE WINDOW from the breakfast table, and you see the bird after the worm, the cat after the bird and the dog after the cat. It gives you a little better understanding of the morning's news.

—Bill Vaughan, NANA

A MAN NAMED Joshua Thompson was hauled into court for making corn liquor in the woods. "Joshua," mused the judge with a hint of a smile. "Are you



the Joshua who caused the sun to stand still?"

"No, sir," declared the defendant. "I'm the Joshua that made the moon shine."

—Lloyd C. Ransom in Catholic Digest

IF IN THE LAST FEW YEARS you haven't discarded a major opinion or acquired a new one, check your pulse. You may be dead.

—Geler Burgess

COLLEGE GRADUATES are preparing for job interviews. One young man went into a department store to buy a necktie. He asked if it came with instructions.

—Orben's Current Comedy

A MAN WITHOUT PATIENCE is a lamp without oil.

—Andrés Segovia, quoted by Thomas Collison in The National Observer

YOU'VE REMOVED MOST of the roadblocks to success when you've learned the difference between motion and direction.

—Bill Copeland in Sarasota, Fla., Journal

GOD ASKS NO MAN whether he will accept life. That is not the choice. One must take it. The only choice is how.

—Henry Ward Beecher



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY	GROUP	YEARS
Mary C.	Traditional	9
Ralph M.	W. Asheville	3
Danny B.	W. Asheville	16
Ed D.	Hendersonville	8
Helen D.	Hendersonville	8
Jonnie M.	Tryon	3
Joe G.	Cherokee	3
Eloise Mc.	Brevard	3
Jim D.	Sylva	2
Woodfin P.	Sylva	2
Sam S.	Sylva	4
Chuck M.	Sylva	6
Dick W.	Canton (Easy Does It)	2
Ike O.	Blue Ridge	10



This is the best information we were able to obtain and if there should be a change in the above listing, please give us the word.

AA

CONDOLENCES:

To the family of "Bud" Torrence who departed this circle of friends recently and will be remembered for his sober love for all. We can also think of him as the "coffee man" who never failed us.

AA

There are many people who try to imagine what those miracles of 2,000 years ago were like. In AA, we know. At every meeting of two or more in Alcoholics Anonymous we are witnesses. The blind see; the lame walk; the deaf hear; the sick are made well. Now and then the phone rings - God wants to work another miracle and needs an instrument.

(Anonymous-The New Reporter, D.C.)

AA

CONGRATULATIONS:

To Eleanor and Bud C. on the birth of a son named Christopher who arrived Sunday, January 13, 1980.

AA