



MOUNTAIN DOIN'S

Central Office Newsletter
DECEMBER 1995



Published by the North Carolina Mountain Central Office (Districts 70, 71, & 80). Address: 107 Park Place Offices, 70 Woodfin Place, Asheville, NC 28801. Phone: Buncombe County: 254-8539. Elsewhere in WNC: 1-800-524-0465



Happy Holidays

District GSR Meetings in December:

District 71 Sunday, December 3, 4.30 p.m.
at Moore's Grove United Methodist Church, Hwy 64
at Howard Gap Rd., Hendersonville

District 80 Sunday, December 10, 2 p.m.
at Bureau of Indian Affairs Bldg., Cherokee
(Elections will be held at this meeting)

Seasonal Good News—

Our A.A. Literature to be Reduced in Cost

Here's good news for all groups in our Central Office area. At our Central Office meeting, held in Hendersonville in October, a proposal was made for a price reduction for all Conference-approved literature sold to A.A. Groups and individuals. As you will see in the minutes of the meeting, published on page 3 of this issue of *Mountain Doin's*, the price reduction proposal was approved.

Beginning in January, all A.A. literature will be sold at the prices listed in the GSO catalog. Previously, Central Office was selling at cost, and our cost included tax and shipping. With the new price reduction lit-

erature will be sold at a small loss, as a service to the A.A. groups in our area. This price reduction applies to GSO approved literature only and the price includes state sales tax and the cost of shipping from our office to your Group. Non-conference approved literature, chips and medallions will continue to be sold at the same price as before.

Central Office will be sending an order form to the Groups, with prices listed. The order forms will list only the most frequently ordered literature with space for you to add other literature listed in the GSO catalog.

continued on next page

Mountain Doin's is published monthly as an informational service to all A.A. members in Western North Carolina Districts 70, 71, and 80. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. nor does publication of any feature imply endorsement by A.A. or by the N.C. Mountain Central Office. Material reprinted from A.A. World Services Incorporated, or from *The Grapevine* is published with permission.

Literature Cost reduced continued from page 1
 The order forms will also list chips and medallions. If you need a current GSO catalog, please call to request you be sent one. The order forms are intended to be marked up with your order, folded and stapled, a stamp placed on the form and mailed to Central Office. Or you may prefer to phone in your order at the number listed at the end of this article. In the meantime, a full list of all literature, chips, and medallions listed above will be included in the January issue of *Mountain Doin's*.

The long range goal of the Central Office is to make A.A. literature available to the suffering alcoholic at the lowest possible price. If prices can be further reduced in the future, they will be. It has been announced that GSO may soon publish a new price reduction list for most literature. If so, prices will again be changed to reflect the new GSO prices.

Central Office reminds you that state sales tax is prepaid on all literature sold to you. If you do not mark up the price we charge you, you have no obligation to pay sales tax to the state. This could save groups some grief if the state ever decides to start collecting sales taxes from A.A. Groups (as some states have done).

Central Office keeps samples of most Conference approved literature that apply to the groups served (for example, the pamphlet that applies to A.A. in the Armed Forces is not stocked). Feel free to drop in when the office is open to see the samples. Office

hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Our phone numbers are 254-8539 (inside Buncombe County) and 1-800-524-0465 (outside Buncombe County).

The Finest Gift of All

The following was Bill W's Christmas Message published in the December 1955 Grapevine.

Each of us in A.A. has received the gift of sobriety. All of us have found a new usefulness and most of us have found a great happiness. This adds up to the gift of life itself—a new life of wondrous possibility.

What then are we going to do with this great gift of life?

Because our experience has taught us, we are quite sure that we know. We shall try to share with every fellow sufferer all that has been so freely given us. We shall try to carry A.A.'s message to those who need and want it, wherever in the world they may be. We shall daily dedicate ourselves to the God-given truth that "It is by self-forgetting that one finds; it is by giving that one receives."

For us of A.A., this is the Spirit of Christmas. This is the finest gift of all.

Lois joins me in our warmest greetings. May the New Year of 1956 be the greatest time of giving and receiving that we in A.A. have ever known.



Fellowship News

Meeting Location Change: The Sylvan Valley Group now meets on Wednesdays and Saturdays at noon at The Sharing House in Brevard.

Time change: T.G.I.F. Group, which meets at Unity Center, Airport Road., off Rte 25, has changed its Friday meeting time from 6.30-8.00 p.m. to 7.00-8.30 p.m. The meetings are open, nonsmoking.

The information given to *Mountain Doin's* and published last month regarding the new Burnsville **Firehouse Group** was incorrect. The correct information is that the Firehouse Group meets at Yancy Learning Center, in the Firehouse, Main Street, Burnsville, on Tuesday at 8.00 p.m. (open, discussion); Friday, 8.00 p.m. (open, 12 & 12); and Sunday, 8.00 p.m. (Big Book Study).

Meeting Cancellation: The Avery Creek Group has canceled its meetings that were held on Thursdays at 8.00 p.m. in Arden at Avery Creek United Methodist Church.

New Meeting: The Ridgerunners II Group now meets on Tuesdays, at 8.00 p.m. at Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Black Mountain. The meetings are closed, nonsmoking.

Central Office Phone Log



"I am responsible . . .
 When anyone, anywhere,
 reaches out for help, I
 want the hand of A.A.
 always to be there.
 And, for that, I am
 responsible."

Phone Log 10-2-95—11-3-95

Answering Service Calls	185
General Information	5
A.A. Help	12
Family Help (Al-Anon)	17
Meeting Information	88
Central Office Business	79
Medical Help (Hospital, Detox, etc.)	6
P.I. Calls	0
Others	12
Visitors	76



Happy Birthdays

Acceptance Group

Lorraine B.	11-3-83	12 years
Dan T.	11-21-92	3 years
Kay T.	11-23-78	17 years
Dave A.	11-24-85	10 years
Edith S.	11-27-92	3 years
Richard Q.	11-1-93	2 years
Janet L.	11-2-93	2 years
Kathy L.	11-2-92	3 years
Tom W.	11-15-82	13 years
Peggy H.	11-23-86	9 years
Scott R.	11-8-57	38 years
Dick W.	11-1-94	1 year
Laurie	11-27-90	5 years
Threcia	11-11-92	3 years
Harry H.	11-23-94	1 year
Deborah S.	11-12-94	1 year
Eric K.	12-4-92	3 years
John O.	12-4-87	8 years
Celia H.	12-15-88	7 years
Mike M.	12-31-84	11 years
Karen C.	12-28-87	8 years
Kim R.	12-10-94	1 year
Ronnie M.	12-2-93	2 years
Monica	12-6-94	1 year

Brevard Group

Steve H.	12-28-90	5 years
Sandy W.	12-29-88	7 years
Woody P.	12-26-81	14 years
Sharon H.	12-18-80	15 years

Cumberland Group

Lee D.	11-14-94	1 year
Sue	12-15-85	10 years
Teresa A.	12-15-94	1 year

Hendersonville Happy Hour Group

Richard M.	12-18-94	1 year
Kelly B.	12-14-93	2 years

Hendersonville Group

Norma H.	12-11-89	6 years
Ted A.	12-7-88	7 years

Hendersonville Midday Group

Mike S.	12-2-92	3 years
Anne A.	12-24-91	4 years
John P.	12-3-90	5 years
JoAnn P.	12-31-90	5 years
Carol C.	12-11-85	10 years
Brian	12-12-73	22 years

Minutes of Central Office Meeting October 15, 1995

The Quarterly meeting of the N.C. Mountain Central Office was held at Hendersonville Group meeting room on Sunday 10-15-95.

In attendance were: Owen C., Hendersonville Group, Chairperson; Ray D., Hendersonville Group, District 71 Rep.; Bob V., Acceptance Group, Office Manager; John B., Tuesday Night Men's Group, C.O. Treasurer; Beth H., Thursday Afternoon Women's Group, C.O. Secretary; Alan W., Midday Group, Editor, *Mountain Doin's*; Allan H., Roundtable Group, G.S.R.; Jack D., Grace Group, Visitor; Jan H., Grace Group, C.O. Rep.; Dave A., Acceptance Group, G.S.R.; Norma H., Hendersonville Group, G.S.R.; JoAnn P., Midday Group, C.O. Rep.; Ron P., Happy Hour Group, Visitor.

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Owen C. and opened with the Serenity prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting, published in the September issue of *Mountain Doin's*, were passed.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by John B. September was a good month with balanced books, which compared well with last year's figures.

Bob V., Central Office Manager, reported on the Central Office Seminar in Atlanta, which he attended. Our office is one of the smaller offices and therefore we have less problems than the larger ones. Bob V. also reported that we will soon have a new 800 phone number.

Chairperson Owen C. reported that a Vice Chairperson was needed. The V.C. does P.R. work, such as speaking at Schools. The question was shelved until the next Central Office meeting to be held in District 80 in January. This will make it possible for a candidate from District 80 to be selected.

Some discussion centered around a new type of *Where and When* that could be more easily read if it were arranged by county instead of by town. Owen C. suggested that it is difficult for a visitor to find locations of meetings when he or she does not know where some of the small towns are located. A committee was appointed to work on the problem. The committee will consist of Owen C., Ray, D., and Alan W. The committee will bring possible solutions to the next meeting.

Volunteers to help fold *Mountain Doin's* were asked for and Allan H. and Jan H. responded.

It was reported that the copier in the office will not produce good, clear copies until a new roll is installed. Bob V. and Owen C. will negotiate with the company that provides the services. The company has a new owner and the transition has interfered with our service.

A motion was made that Central Office reduces
continued on page 4

Treasurer's Report



N.C. Mountain Central Office, Inc.
Financial Report for the month
of October 1995

INCOME

Group Contributions

Acceptance Group	\$60.00
Black Mountain Group	\$21.00
Candler KISS Group	\$50.00
Day By Day Group	\$45.00
Early Bird Group	\$40.00
Experience Group	\$16.50
Firehouse Group	\$1..25
Franklin Group	\$30.00
Grace Group (Asheville)	\$550.00
Hendersonville Group	\$77.08
Hendersonville Happy Hour Group	\$50.00
Hendersonville Midday Group	\$100.00
Just For Today Group	\$8.00
Marshall Group	\$50.00
Pathfinders Group	\$10.00
Serenity Service Group	\$25.90
Sylvan Valley Group	\$25.00
Unity group	\$10.00

Total Group Contributions \$1,169.73

(Central Office wishes to thank all the Groups listed above for their October contributions).

Other Income

Literature and Chips sales	\$1,655.90
Mtn. Doin's and Where and When sales	\$32.00
Other Income	\$6.50
Total Income	\$2,864.13

EXPENSES

Rent	\$109.00
Telephone	\$198.59
Payroll and Payroll Taxes	\$592.61
Cost of Mtn Doin's & Where & When publication and distribution	\$271.12
Cost of Literature and Chips Sales	\$1,123.04
Other Expenses	\$295.70
Total Expenses	\$2,590.06

Net Income \$274.07

Financial Status, end of September \$3,138.79

Operating Bank Balance Oct 31	\$3,292.47
Cash and Checks on hand Oct 30	\$43.41
Accruals	(\$223.02)
Transfer to Reserve	\$300.00

Financial Status, end of October \$3,112.86

C.O. Meeting Minutes continued from page 3

the cost of literature to aid all groups within the Central Office area. The motion was passed, and the steering committee will make the decision on how much to reduce costs.

There was a question of how to get *Where and Whens* to the groups. It was explained that a group member may phone the Office or go there and pick them up. The cost is 10¢ per *Where and When*.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Beth H., Secretary.

(Note: The next C. O. meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 14 in Cherokee. Full details will be published in January *Mountain Doin's*).

District 80 Business Meeting

The quarterly business meeting for District 80 General Service was held on October 8. Twelve groups were represented.

Among matters discussed was the announcement

that "thank you" notes had been mailed to all newspapers running A.A. spots, that some radio stations had lost tapes and that these would be replaced; and a suggestion was made that groups should contact local radio stations and newspapers to inquire if they would run spots on A.A. matters (as radio station WLOS has done)

A motion was made and passed that GSRs should discuss with their groups the matter of support of a committee system at the Area level.

A motion was made and passed that, beginning in 1996, business meetings would be held on the second Sundays of January, April, July, and October, and that they would be held at the B.I.A. building in Cherokee for another year.

Eating meetings for 1996 were scheduled for March: Sylvia Mission; June: Cashiers (combined); September: Bryson City; December: Grace Group, Waynesville.

Elections are to be held at District 80's next meeting. Eligible are DCMs—past or present GSRs or Alternates; Treasurer—same as DCM; Committee Chair—anyone having served as committee chair at group level.



Calendar of Events

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office or by the North Carolina Mountain Central Office. For any additional information please use the addresses or phone numbers provided.

Sandlapper Roundup IV. The Landmark Resort Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC, November 30—December 3, 1995. The Sandlapper Roundup is dedicated to bringing to the Grand Strand each year the finest A.A. and Al-Anon speakers available.

For more information, call Dennis or Linda at (803) 238-2694, during normal business hours.

32nd International A.A. Women's Conference.

The "language of the heart" will be spoken in Salt Lake City, Utah, Salt Lake City Marriott, February 8—11, 1996. For more information, call Molly W. (704) 254-8840.

A Christmas Memory

Our family traditions include get-togethers on Christmas Eve. Several Christmases ago I was already enjoying a period of contented sobriety and we were heading out of town to my sister's country home. In the warmth of the car, with the windshield wipers tapping a regular rhythm and Christmas songs pouring from the radio, I noticed there were not many people outside that evening. I had a vision of warm families shutting out the weather and enjoying the festive season together as we were about to do.

Then I saw him. He was standing on the old canal bridge. He was bareheaded, clothed in a thready brown overcoat buttoned to the chin. As we passed him I saw a look of anguish on his face as he stared at the closed liquor store on the other side of the bridge. The store that had closed ten minutes earlier.

In one brief moment I shook hands with the man's emotions—the feeling of utter desperation that grips the practicing alcoholic when he or she *must* have a drink was only too familiar to me.

Many Christmases have come and gone since I saw that man, but the memory of him has stayed with me. Today this vision is my favorite Christmas ornament, a mental decoration that reminds me what I once was like and what I am blessed to be today.

Excerpted from the *Grapevine*, December 1990

Christmas is the season when the rest of the world tries to practice what A.A. practices all year long.

MOUNTAIN BREWINS



During the Christmas holidays a woman came to a meeting in a furious mood and shared how angry she was at her sponsor. She said she had a problem that she urgently needed to talk about. She phoned her sponsor, only to be told that the sponsor had moved—a year ago!

x x x

The alky was at a Christmas office party and brought a girl a drink. He said: "Here's your drink. Scotch with a chaser."

Said the girl, "Thank you, but where's the chaser."

Said the alky: "Speaking!"

x x x

Said the minister to the alky at the local Christmas party, seeing him a little the worse for wear, "Don't you know that brandy is your worst enemy?"

"Yes, sir," said the alky. "But just last Sunday you said we should love our enemies."

x x x

The couple had been at the Christmas party for about an hour when the wife said to her husband, "That's your seventh trip to the drink table for refills. Aren't you embarrassed to ask our host for so many drinks, so quickly?"

"Not at all," replied the husband. "I keep telling him they're for you."

x x x

A fella and a girl had joined in the neighborhood Christmas party. "How many drinks does it take to make you dizzy?" said the fella to the girl.

"Oh," she said. "Any number. Or none at all, for that matter. And please don't call me Dizzy!"

x x x

A drunk arrived late for the Christmas party, where his wife sat patiently waiting for him to arrive.

"Where have you been all this time, Henry?" she asked.

"I was held up by two men," said her husband.

"Good heavens! Where?" asked his astonished wife.

"All the way here."

Would you like a subscription to *Mountain Doin's*? Just fill in the form below and mail to the address below

Mountain Doin's Order Form

Mountain Doin's Annual Subscriptions:

Groups:

3 copies monthly	No charge
5 additional copies	\$7.80 per year
10 additional copies	\$15.00 per year
15 additional copies	\$19.80 per year

Group or Individual Name _____

Street/PO Box No. _____

Town and Zip Code _____

Individual Members:

Single copy monthly \$10.00 per year

Please circle which of the above you wish to receive and make out check or money order accordingly. Subscription rates are subject to change, dependent upon USPS rates.

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70 Woodfin Place
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