

# MOUNTAIN DOIN'S

Central Office Newsletter  
AUGUST 2004



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

NCMCO@bellsouth.net

Phone (828) 254-8539

## DISTRICT 70 GSR EATING MEETING

Marion, NC August 8, 2004



St. John's Parrish House  
Marion, NC

(Across from the Marion Police Department)

**GSR Meeting: 2:30 PM**  
**Eating Meeting: 4:00 PM**  
**Speaker: 5:00 PM**

*Join us...*

for an evening of food, fun, and  
fellowship

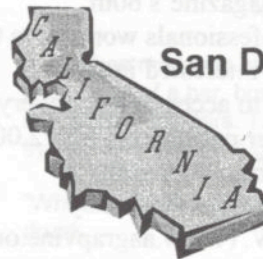
For more info: call (828) 724-1635

Sponsored by:  
**Marion Group**

Co-sponsored by:  
**Surrender Group of Black Mountain, NC**

## 53rd Southern California Convention

September 25th– 26th, 2004



San Diego, CA

**All AA's and AI Anon's are invited.**

For more information visit [www.aasocal.com](http://www.aasocal.com) or call  
Chris N. at (310) 398-3044 x13

## 2004 International Big Book Step Study Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous

July 29—August 1, 2004

Speaker Meetings on all  
12 steps of recovery

Register online at [www.bbstepstudy.org](http://www.bbstepstudy.org)  
or call (828) 296-0202

Registration \$15

Asheville-Buncombe Technical College  
Campus

Laurel Auditorium—340 Victoria Road— Asheville, NC

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.



# Fellowship News

Things we cannot change:

**June 2004:** Clyde H. has passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with friends and family.



New AA resource:

On June 1, the AA Grapevine, the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, launched its new Digital Archive to coincide with the magazine's 60th anniversary. AA members, professionals working in the field of alcoholism, and others interested in the Fellowship of AA will be able to access almost every Grapevine article and letter ever published—all 12,000 of them— on subjects ranging from anonymity to spirituality and including 150 essays written by visionary AA cofounder Bill W. ([www.aagrapvine.org](http://www.aagrapvine.org))

THE TWO MOSLEM GENTLEMEN were neatly dressed and very shy; they sat quietly through the entire Friday afternoon meeting of the Jerusalem Shalom AA Group while the rest of us caught up with each other after the trials and celebrations of the Easter/Passover holiday. Our chairman, a young Jew who had come into AA as an alcoholic child, noticed that they hadn't spoken and asked them if they wanted to say anything before the meeting closed.

The response was heartfelt outpouring of warmth and love, which almost overwhelmed them. We had had Arabic literature waiting for the first people who might need it. A Catholic nurse offered to help set up an Arabic language meeting, and I volunteered to participate since I live on the West Bank. We closed with the Serenity Prayer, which is posted in English, Hebrew, and Arabic in our meeting room, and I stood holding hands with a Moslem on one side and an Orthodox Jew the other. The Moslems asked for telephone numbers, and nearly everyone in the room gave theirs. When I left, the two men were exchanging numbers with a grizzled Jewish West Bank settler.

I've been reading a lot about AA in North America, where the trend seems to be toward fission: AA for atheists, AA for women, AA for Christians, etc. Here, because we are so few, we move toward fusion. We know we have to hang together in order to be viable. We have only 400 AA members in all of Israel, Two in the Palestine areas, and a couple more in Jordan, both of them Loners. (There must be more drunks in the area—and in fact there are—but with all the division of culture, religion and ethnicity in our region, reaching out is very limited and difficult.) As a result, we've all needed to learn tolerance and acceptance of one another. We've discovered it can be done and been enriched by the discovery. We've learned that God is indeed operating in Jerusalem meetings and doesn't seem to care much whether we call him God or Allah or HaShem. So why should we? Perhaps this is a lesson that can be used elsewhere, even when the divisions among people are not so great as they are here.

*Linda W., October 2000 Grapevine*

## 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 6/1/04 - 6/30/04

Answering Service Calls.....	231
General Information.....	12
A.A. Help.....	0
Family Help (Al-Anon).....	0
Meeting Information.....	85
Central Office Business.....	11
P.I. Calls.....	0
Medical Help (Hospital, Detox, etc.).....	0
Others.....	4
Visitors.....	88



**Acceptance Group**

Brent R	8-25-00	4 years
Sandra	8-9-03	1 year

**Asheville Big Book Group**

Jan F	8-5-84	20 years
Harry S	8-6-84	20 years
Mary T	8-24-87	17 years

**Conscious Contact Group**

Sue D	8-6-90	14 years
Wayne F	8-11-84	20 years
Rita V	8-17-92	12 years
Liz D	8-12-85	19 years

**Cumberland Group**

Linda M	8-6-85	19 years
---------	--------	----------

**Daily Decisions Group**

Frank H	8-28-89	15 years
Liz S	8-21-02	2 years
Michael C	8-28-00	4 years
Ziggy S	8-21-02	2 years

**Edneyville Group**

Greg G	8-15-89	15 years
Tom P	8-15-95	9 years

**Grace Group**

Rob A	8-4-89	15 years
Rich S	8-5-02	2 years
Eddie B	8-27-02	2 years
Doug H	8-29-02	2 years
Sue T	8-6-03	1 year

**Hendersonville Happy Hour Group**

Tom P	8-15-95	9 years
Greg G	8-15-89	15 years
Joyce S	8-13-03	1 year
Nancy S	8-11-95	9 years

**Hendersonville Midday Group**

Joyce S	8-13-03	1 year
Bill J	8-19-79	25 years
Don	8-?-74	30 years
Charlene O	8-20-84	20 years
Karen B	8-6-03	1 year
Bill T	8-18-87	17 years
Greg G	8-15-89	15 years

**Hendersonville Women's Group**

Jeannie M	8-18-85	19 years
Joyce S	8-13-03	1 year
Debbie	8-22-02	2 years
Diane B	8-25-85	19 years

**Maple Grove Group**

Libby B	8-15-92	12 years
Jill B	8-24-02	2 years
Ken T	8-23-90	14 years

**Tryon Tuesday Nite Group**

Ray J	8-15-93	11 years
Rick S	8-4-03	1 year
Darren V	8-10-03	1 year

**Upward Group**

Joyce S	8-13-03	1 year
Debbie B	8-22-02	2 years
Sara S	8-7-02	2 years

**West Asheville Group**

Charlene Z	8-12-74	30 years
Elizabeth	8-19-01	3 years
Bill	8-?-85	19 years



Please email A.A. birthdays to [NCMCO@bellsouth.net](mailto:NCMCO@bellsouth.net) by the 1st of the previous month.  
 (Please submit names, dates, and years in above format.)



# TREASURER'S Report

*N.C. Mountain Central Office, Inc. Financial Report for the month of June 2004.*

## Group Contributions

Acceptance Group.....	50.00
Bethyl Up the River.....	50.00
Blue Ridge Group.....	100.00
Brevard Group.....	72.00
Burnsville Group.....	50.00
KISS Candler Group.....	30.00
Edneyville Group.....	20.00
Fellowship Group.....	200.00
Goodlivers Group.....	150.00
Hendersonville Group.....	52.13
Hendersonville Midday Group.....	25.00
Hendersonville Happy Hour Group.....	60.00
Just For Today Group.....	25.00
Leicester Group.....	25.00
Marion Group.....	25.00
Mountain View Group.....	40.00
Newcomer Flat Rock Group.....	210.00
Six O'Clock Group.....	200.00
Traditional Group.....	750.00
Tryon Group.....	110.00
Tuesday Nite Men's Group.....	25.00
Women's First Step Farm.....	100.00
Sunshine Group.....	25.00



BEGINNING BANK BALANCE (5/25/04)..... 1639.61

## Income

Total Group Contributions.....	2394.13
Cash on Hand.....	26.27
Bank Interest.....	0
Sales Income.....	2047.92

**TOTAL..... 6107.93**

## Expenses

Rent.....	156.00
Salary.....	600.27
Payroll Tax.....	298.35
Telephone: Bell South.....	162.53
Telephone: MCI.....	47.84
Answering Service.....	184.50
Printing: Where and When.....	200.00
Printing: Mountain Doin's.....	151.51
Editor.....	150.00
Sales Tax.....	143.35
Books & Chips.....	2450.06
Postage.....	71.53
Postage: Mountain Doin's.....	74.60
Bank Service Charges.....	0
Office Supplies.....	.94
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES.....</b>	<b>4691.98</b>

**END BANK BALANCE (6/25/04)..... 1538.52**

To help Central Office maintain a healthy cash flow we request that groups pay their bills for material every two weeks. Thanks for your help.

*The presenter was John K., a general service trustee who spoke from his perspective as a director of A.A. World Services and as an A.A. member about some of the challenges that face our Fellowship, ...*

Our co-founders were pragmatists—try something, test it, change it, review it, test it, then change, review, test it again. As a result, our knowledge as a Fellowship is based not on logic, or revelation, or authority—it is based on experience, on what works, and as such, it is always subject to change.

Our basic vision of the future is simple: It is to carry our message of recovery from alcoholism to the still-suffering alcoholic, and to do so through the efforts of each and every one of our members. The object of service in A.A. is not just to get the job done, but to get it done by working with others. This may not always be the most efficient way, but for us it is the best way, because the benefit to us is in making the effort to carry the message, whether or not the objective is ever attained.

Co-founder Bill W. wrote frequently about his vision for A.A.'s future. In April 1959, he said: "Maybe we have a policy or plan that still looks fine and is apparently doing well. Nevertheless we ought to ponder very carefully what its longtime effect will be. Will today's nearby advantages boomerang into large liabilities for tomorrow? The temptation will almost always be to seize the nearby benefits and quite forget about the harmful precedents of consequences that we may be setting in motion."

And further, in November 1960: "As we contemplate the Traditions we see that they have two main characteristics, and that each of these aspects reinforces the other. The first aspect of the Twelve

Traditions is protection; the second aspect is progress. We are first reminded what our Fellowship's temptations really are and by what means we may best deal with them. This is our basis for a continuous moral inventory of our collective behavior—the first step to actively casting aside our roadblocks."

A "continuous moral inventory of our collective behavior" is the challenge we face.

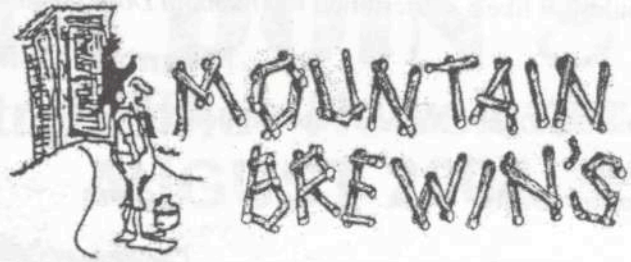
Sometimes there comes a point in the life of a movement when most of its institutional energy is directed only toward preserving the administrative structure of the organization. We are not at such a point, but it may be hard to avoid in the long run unless we continue to take a collective moral inventory.

**International A.A.:** The Most exciting growth in A.A. today is occurring abroad, and those who have participated in that growth have been privileged to have what some have called "mountaintop experiences." Perhaps we now need to build on the Fellowship's overwhelming interest in our international expansion to broaden the range of such experiences, and the numbers of recovering alcoholics to whom such experiences are available.

The U.S./Canada structure cannot in this area be seen as a deep pocket or project the attitude that we know best on all issues. We must proceed with the same humble purpose of looking to each other for help in staying sober.

The Internet has brought us meetings without borders. Perhaps it could lead to A.A. *group-to-group* partnering on an international basis. Not sponsorship, but partnering, so that extraordinary experiences are expanded to include the greatest number of service entities and individuals. One way or another, we need to creatively explore ways to use technology to decentralize and broaden service opportunities, rather than permit the reverse to happen by default.

Reprinted from the Box 459 Bulletin Board  
(News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.)



Life is like wrestling a gorilla. You don't stop when you get tired, you stop when the gorilla gets tired.

XXXX

"I can't find a cause for your illness," the doctor said. "Frankly, I think it's due to drinking." "In that case," replied the patient, "I'll come back when you are sober."

XXXX

A drunken man was wondering around the parking lot of a bar, bumping into then rubbing the roofs of the cars. The manager comes out of the bar and stops the guy.

"What the heck are you doing?" he asks the drunk.

"I'm looking for my car, and I can't find it." he replies.

"So how does feeling the roof help you?" asks the puzzled manager.

"Well," replies the drunk earnestly, "MY car has two blue lights and a siren on the roof!"

XXXX

McQuillan walked into a bar and ordered martini after martini, each time removing the olives and putting them in a jar. When the jar was filled with olives and all the drinks consumed, the Irishman started to leave.

"S'cuse me", said a customer, who was puzzled over what McQuillan had done, "what was that all about?"

"Nothin'", said the Irishman, "my wife just sent me out for a jar of olives."



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

*Pick up from Central Office*

*Deliver by mail*

10 additional copies

\$10.00 per year

\$20.00 per year

15 additional copies

\$20.00 per year

\$35.00 per year

20 additional copies

\$25.00 per year

\$45.00 per year

\$60.00 per year

#### Individual Members:

Single copy monthly

\$6.00 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.

Clip and mail with check or money order to:

**N.C. Mountain Central Office**

**107 Park Place Offices**

**70 Woodfin Place**

**Asheville, NC 28801**

Group of Individual Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street/P.O. Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

Town and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

North Carolina Mountain Central Office  
107 Park Place Offices  
70 Woodfin Place  
Asheville NC 28801

Address correction requested

Place  
Postage  
Stamp  
Here