

# MOUNTAIN DOIN'S

Central Office Newsletter

# August 2008



Published by the North Carolina Mountain Central Office (Districts 70, 71, & 80)  
206 Park Place Offices, 70 Woodfin Place, Asheville, NC 28801  
Phone: 254-8539 or 1-800-524-0465 Email: ncmco@bellsouth.net

Please ask for an electronic copy of the new Bylaws & Advisory Actions of the Central Office. We want your input for the final version to be given out to the groups in September.

If you would like to receive the Mtn. Doin's and the Where & When by E-mail in PDF format, send your e-mail address to ncmco@bellsouth.net with the subject as e-mail list.

This is your Central Office. Thank You!

## Calendar



### Sunday, August 3, 2008

**District 80 Eating Meeting**  
Maggie Valley Methodist Church  
4192 Soco Rd (US19) Maggie Valley, NC  
3:00 PM, Bring a covered dish.  
Speaker Stacy M. Jr., Winston-Salem  
Contact Sandy M. 828-926-3766 or Margaret G. 828-452-7517

### Saturday, August 9, 2008

**WNC Regional Service Rally**  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
60 Church St.  
Asheville, NC  
10:00AM - 2:00PM

### Sunday, August 10, 2008

**District 70 Business Meeting**  
St Luke's Episcopal Church  
219 Chunn's Cove Rd  
Asheville, NC  
2:30 PM  
All GSR's please plan to attend

### Saturday, August 23, 2008

**District 70 Picnic/BBQ**  
Lake Julian Park  
Noon - 4:00PM  
Contact Ruthie C. for information  
828-668-9861

### Sunday, September 14, 2008

**District 70 Eating Meeting**  
Marion, NC, More info TBA

### Saturday, September 27, 2008

**District 70 & 71 Meet & Greet**  
Your Area Delegate & Grapevine Chair  
Pot Luck Dinner to follow  
More Info TBA

### Sunday, September 28, 2008

**District 80 Eating Meeting**  
St. Williams Catholic Church Pavilion  
765 Andrews Rd (Bus 19), Murphy, NC  
Eating at 2:00 PM  
Speaker at 3:00PM  
Newton P. (NC State Delegate)  
Bring a covered dish


### November 21-23, 2008

**2008 Southeast Regional Forum**  
Crown Plaza Knoxville  
401 W. Summit Hill Dr.  
Knoxville, TN, 37902  
865-522-2600  
No Registration fee

The Mountain Doin's is your newsletter. We are asking for contributions of articles, jokes, poems, and any other material or suggestions you have. We especially ask that you provide us with any events your group or district is having so we can inform all about it. Also remember to send in your group member's anniversaries including the date. The deadline for submissions is the first of the month prior to the issue month. For example, the cutoff for the March issue is February 1st. If you have flyers for your event please submit an electronic version in MS Word, Adobe Illustrator, PageMaker, or Acrobat PDF or call to discuss. Our e-mail is NCMCO@bellsouth.net or call Jim at 828-275-6280. Thanks for you help.

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 the N.C. Mountain Central Office. Material reprinted from A.A. World Services Incorporated, or from *The Grapevine* is published with permission.





# Treasurer's Report



*Announcements*

## NEW MEETINGS and CHANGES

The **Dix Creek Group** has disbanded and will no longer have a meeting on Wednesday nights.

The new **Three Alarm Group** in Leicester will have an Open Discussion meeting at 7:00 PM Thursdays at the Leicester VFD, 2853 New Leicester Hwy. Please support this new meeting.

The **Leicester Group** has changed its Wednesday night meeting at 8:00 PM to a Closed Discussion meeting.

The **Bone Dry Group** of Mars Hill has disbanded, listings in the July W&W were incorrect.

All **Prison** meetings have been removed from the W&W since attendance is only for State DOC approved volunteers. If you wish to be approved for attendance, call Byron B. at 828-350-8774.

The **Mountain View Group** in Brevard has changed its name to **Fireside Group**.

The **Sunday Brunch Bunch** would like for you to join them at 12:30pm at the YANA Club for food and fellowship. A Speaker meeting follows at 1:00pm.

The **Women of Courage** meeting was listed incorrectly in the W&W, they meet at 218 Patton Ave, Saturdays at 10am and 11:30am.

The new **Bread of Life** meeting meets at 5:30pm on Tuesday at 248 S Caldwell in Brevard. Please help support this meeting.

The Wednesday night **Columbus Women's** meeting at St. Lukes hospital is *no longer* an A.A. meeting. It has become a 12-Step meeting for ALL addictions.

## N.C. Mountain Central Office, Inc.

### June 2008 - Profit and Loss

INCOME	April	YTD
Group Contributions .....	1635	10899
Individual Contributions .....	100	782
Sales Income .....	2053	15429
Interest Income .....	4	9
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>27119</b>
EXPENSE		
Answering Service .....	394	1928
Other Telephone .....	405	2329
Rent .....	420	2460
Payroll Taxes .....	0	1352
Literature, Chips, Medallions .....	1731	11771
Postage .....	142	879
Copier Costs .....	201	1138
Maintenance .....	0	190
Supplies .....	92	675
Fees, Consultant, Legal .....	0	115
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>4095</b>	<b>23547</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b> ☞	<b>-303</b>	<b>3572</b>

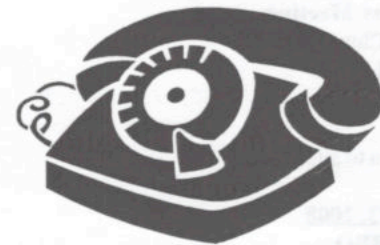
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Did you know that NC Mountain Central Office has a PI lending library with TV and radio public service announcements from the General Service Office?  
Come on by.

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### Treasurer's Note

Historically the central office second quarter is the yearly weakling in terms of both sales and contributions. This year is no exception, and as shown elsewhere, June produced a loss. But our financial condition remains solid and we expect an upturn in the next months. We're grateful to the groups who increased their contributions almost 15 percent over the first six months of last year. And individual giving almost tripled. Thank you!

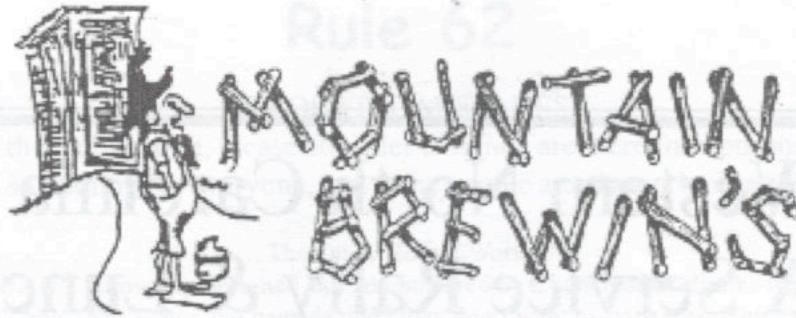


## Phone Log June, 2008

### Answering Service Calls

A.A. Crisis .....	4
General Information .....	23
Family Help .....	3
Meeting Information .....	85
Central Office Business .....	21
Medical Help/Detox, Hosp, etc .....	0
Visitors .....	49





## Hey, How Many Groups Can I Belong To (and Vote In)?

Some of us are sure that we can belong to, and vote in, as many groups as we want to participate in. Others of us are equally sure that we should only belong to one group. Still others of us are just plain confused.

This came to a head in one group – call it Group X – which recently changed from a meeting (no GSR and thus no participation in the AA service structure) to a true AA group. Primarily this was accomplished through the efforts of several AAs who belonged as well to another group – call it Group Y – that met at the same hour but on alternate days of the week from Group X. As they had hoped, the newly autonomous Group X flourished, creating new rotating service positions, becoming involved through their new GSR in the affairs of AA as a whole, and supporting the AA entities such as district, GSO and central office with regular donations when the group treasury exceeded what the group required as a prudent reserve. And, not coincidentally, attendance at its meetings doubled and then tripled.

So far, so good. But then conflict arose when a couple of new Group X members objected to the voting privilege of those members who belonged also to other groups (notably Group Y). “You can only join and vote in one group,” they cried. “No,” retorted those others, “we can belong to more than one group. And we can vote in the business meetings of any group that we belong to. We do know that we can only vote on those group conscience matters that affect AA as a whole in our home group.”

Nerves were frazzled. Those of us who were sure of our positions clung to them tenaciously. Those of us who were confused felt more justified in being confused. Indeed, confusion reigned.

It was decided to discuss the matter with GSO in New York. So the group secretary and a representative from the central office got on the speakerphone with the GSO staff member responsible for answering questions from the Southeast.

### Here's what we learned:

1. The informed group conscience is the highest authority in AA.
2. It is nowhere specified that AAs cannot belong to, and vote in, more than one group. But the first paragraph on Page S24\* (reproduced at the end of this article) of the Service Manual does make it clear that any individual AA may vote only once on any matter involving the Fellowship as a whole.

3. So it is acceptable for individual AAs to belong to more than one group. If the group agrees they can vote at business meetings of the group. But they can only vote in their Home Group on matters of group conscience affecting AA as a whole.
4. But each group is autonomous. Some groups may, and some groups may not, want to have as voting members AAs who have not chosen that group as their Home Group. In any group where this is in question it would be worthwhile to decide this at a group conscience meeting, and newcomers to the group should be apprised of the group's position.

It seems likely that Group X will convene a group conscience meeting to see if it's appropriate to reaffirm their desire to accept as full voting members those AAs who consider another group to be their home group. At the same time they may want to draw to the affected members' attention that it is each individual member's responsibility to abstain from voting on any matter affecting AA as a whole unless they consider that group to be their home group.

**\*From Page S24 of the A.A. Service Manual:** “For most A.A.s, membership in a home group is one of the keys to continuing sobriety. In a home group, they accept service responsibilities and learn to sustain friendships. The home group affords individual A.A.s the privilege of voting on issues that affect the Fellowship as a whole; it is the very basis of the service structure. While most A.A. members attend other groups regularly, the home group is where they participate in business meetings and cast their vote as part of the group conscience of the Fellowship as a whole. As with all group conscience matters, each member has one vote.”





# Western North Carolina AA Service Rally & Lunch

*Join us for fellowship, fried chicken, sharing, and coffee.*



**“Both you and the new man must walk day by day in the path of spiritual progress. If you persist, remarkable things will happen. When we look back, we realize that the things which came to us when we put ourselves in God’s hands were better than anything we could have planned. Follow the dictates of a Higher Power and you will presently live in a new and wonderful world, no matter what your present circumstances!”**

*Chapter 7 Alcoholics Anonymous*

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>

**Anyone Interested in AA’s message of Recovery is welcome.**

**This is an opportunity to hear speakers and talk about finding sobriety and carrying the message. There will be committee members from corrections, treatment facilities, and CP/CPI from around the region.**

Trinity Episcopal Church (downstairs meeting space), 60 Church Street, Asheville (Corner of Church and Aston) Entrance is on Aston Street; you will find parking at the Aston Street Parking lot Entrance.

#### **Directions...**

**From the East:** Take I-40 W to I-240 W. Take Exit 5A. Turn Left at light onto Merrimon Ave (RT 25) Go 0.5 mile and take right onto Aston Street. Go 2 blocks and take left on Church St; Trinity Church is on the Left.

**From the South and West:** Take I-26 W to I-240 E. Take Exit 4B (Patton Ave) From the first light go 0.6 mile. Take a right onto Church street. Trinity Church is 2<sup>nd</sup> block on left.



## TIPS ON MAKING 12<sup>TM</sup> STEP CALLS

When a 12<sup>th</sup> step call is received, we begin with the assumption that another human being's life is at stake, literally. This means that, without delay, this call is to be answered at once...

- 1<sup>st</sup> Arrange for another AA member to go with you.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Have a quiet time, read chapter 7 in the big book.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Maintain Anonymity
- 4<sup>th</sup> Talk to the prospect alone, without his family or friends there, if possible.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Congratulate him on wanting to do something about his drinking.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Give him some AA literature.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Note well what the big book says at the bottom of page 94:  
*"On your first visit, tell him about the fellowship of alcoholics anonymous". If he shows interest, lend him your copy of the book".*
- 8<sup>th</sup> Each of you tell him "what you used to be like, what happened, and what you are like now".
- 9<sup>th</sup> If he wants to talk let him.
- 10<sup>th</sup> At the top of page 95, It advises, *"Give him a chance to think it over"*. Sometimes a man is anxious to proceed at once, and you may be tempted to encourage that, this sometimes is a mistake. If he has trouble later, he is likely to say you rushed him. If he is sincerely interested and wants to see you again, ask him to read the book in the interim. (Ask him to read the first 164 pages.) After doing that, (reading the book), he must decide by himself if he wants to go on or not.
- 11<sup>th</sup> When you are ready to leave, tell him you will call on him the following day if he wants and he will have had time to read the first 164 pages, or had time to think about your conversation.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Note that the second paragraph on page 96 says "suppose you are now making your second visit to a man, he has read this volume, and he is prepared to go through with the steps of the program of recovery". At this point you review the 12 steps with him, and arrange to bring him to your group meeting. If he does not want to go on, or feels that he can do it some other way, pick up your copy of the big book and invite him to call on you again if he changes his mind and decides that AA can be of help.

FINALLY: Note how the book at the top of page 96 says: *"WE find it a waste of time to keep chasing a man who can not, or will not, work with you. If you leave such a person alone, he may soon become convinced that he cannot recover by himself."*

GAIL W., KANSAS CITY

## Procrastination

One of my faults has been procrastination. I find it easy to put off some necessary task that I know I must eventually do.

Dale Carnegie put it well when he wrote "One of the most tragic things I know about human nature is that all of us tend to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon instead of enjoying the roses that are blooming outside our window today."

When I took my inventory in the program early on, I had a tendency to hang on to the more difficult items to deal with. I was great at half measures at that point, and at times today I have to remind myself if I am going to attain the level of happy sobriety, half measures avail us nothing. I guess I am still looking for an easier way.

The strange part is that when I do accomplish these things I know I must, regardless of how unpleasant I have it pictured in my mind, a certain peace comes to me and my fears disappear as is promised in our program.

At times it is very difficult for me to try to make amends, and it becomes more difficult for me the longer I let it go. I seem to forget the word, "promptly", and procrastination sets in. My only solution is to ask God to remove my desire to postpone things and do what I know must be done in following our program. As the Big Book says in the chapter *Into Action*: *"It's easy to let up on the spiritual program of action and rest on our laurels. We are headed for trouble if we do. We are not cured of alcoholism. What we have is a daily reprieve."*

Being a problem drinker for years, I had some excellent training to put off today what I should be doing. Now, I have a program. God help me to follow it to the best of my ability, guide me over the hump of procrastination.



# Origins of the Preamble, and other FAQs

**Q. Who wrote A.A.'s Preamble? And when was the word "honest" dropped from it (i.e. "honest desire to stop drinking"), and why?**

**A.** The Preamble first appeared in the Grapevine in June 1947, and was written by Tom Y., the Grapevine editor at that time. The aim was to offer a concise definition of A. A. Shortly thereafter, the Preamble began appearing in each monthly issue of the Grapevine, and later on in much of our A.A. Conference approved literature.

It came to be called the preamble because it is so often read at the opening of A.A. meetings.

The original version of the Preamble contained the wording, "an honest desire to stop drinking." However, since the adoption of the short form of the Traditions in 1950, the Third Tradition has always read, "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking" and this form was used by Bill in writing the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

In 1958 the expression "honest desire" was discussed at great length at the General Service Conference. It was felt that it was impossible to determine what constitutes an "honest" desire to stop drinking, thus the word was dropped. The version of the Preamble without the word "honest" first appeared in the September 1958 issue of the Grapevine.

There have been other versions of the Preamble, written by A.A. members for their local groups' use, which were then circulated around A.A.; for example: the "Texas Preamble," the "Wilmington Preamble," etc. Many A.A. members find these interesting, though they have never been adopted by the Fellowship as a whole.

**Q. I've heard it said that Bill always wished he could change the beginning of "How It Works" to read "Never have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path" (rather than "Rarely have we seen..."). Is this true?**

**A.** No. A rumor has persisted for years that Bill wished he could have changed "rarely" to "never." But we know through Bill's own words that is not the case. In a letter to Les V., dated May 25, 1961 Bill W. wrote:

*"...Concerning your comment about the use of the word 'rarely' in Chapter Five of the Big Book. My recollection is that we did give it considerable thought at the time of writing. I think the main reason for the*

*use of 'rarely' was to avoid anything that would look like a claim for a 100% result. Assuming of course that an alcoholic is willing enough and sane enough, there can be a perfect score on such character. But since willingness and sanity are such illusive and fluctuating values, we simply didn't like to be too positive. The medical profession could jump right down our throats...I do remember thinking about it a lot."*

In addition, the following question and response were made at the 1970 General Service Conference, as part of the "Ask-It" Basket questions. Bill was, of course, still living at this time and was able to respond:

*Has Bill ever said, "If there was any change he would make in the Big Book, it would be to change the word 'rarely' to 'never' at the start of Chapter Five"?*

*"No, Bill said he had never considered this" (1970 General Service Conference Report, p. 31).*

*Those involved in writing "How It Works" chose the word "rarely" (as in "rarely have we seen") as opposed to "never" to avoid seeming to make oversized claims for A.A.*

**Q. What is the history behind A.A.'s Responsibility Statement?**

**A.** The Responsibility Statement reads:

*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.*

It was written by former A.A. trustee Al S. for the 1965 A.A. International Convention in Toronto. In the souvenir book for the 1965 Convention, Dr. Jack Norris writes: "...We must re-member that A.A. will continue strong only so long as each of us freely and happily gives it away to another person, only as each of us takes our fair share of responsibility for sponsorship of those who still suffer, for the growth and integrity of our Group, for our Intergroup activities, and for A.A. as a whole. It is in taking responsibility that real freedom and the enduring satisfactions of life are found. A.A. has given us the power to choose—to drink or not to drink—and in doing so has given us the freedom to be responsible for ourselves. As we become responsible for ourselves, we are free to be responsible for our share in A.A., and unless we happily accept this responsibility we lose A.A. Strange, isn't it?"



*In a Grapevine article in October 1965, the Responsibility Statement is discussed, and Bill W. expresses his views:*

*Two major thoughts stood out in the remarks of the many speakers, alcoholic and nonalcoholic, at A.A.'s July Toronto Convention. The first was admiration and gratitude for A.A.'s startling success in sobering up hundreds of thousands of lost cause drunks. The other was concern that the success which has come to A.A. over the thirty years since its start in Akron, Ohio, in 1935 would not lead us to any complacency about the size of the job still to be done.*

*A.A.'s co-founder, Bill, in his talk to over 10,000 attending the major sessions of the Convention, stressed the need for cooperation with all who work on the problem of alcoholism, the more than 100 agencies in the United States and Canada alone now engaged in research, alcohol education and rehabilitation.*

*"Too often, we have deprecated and even derided these projects of our friends just because we do not always see eye to eye with them," Bill said. "We should very seriously ask ourselves how many alcoholics have gone on drinking simply because we have failed to cooperate in good spirit with these many agencies. No alcoholic should go mad or die merely because he did not come straight to A.A. in the beginning."*

*There have been two Advisory Actions from the General Service Conference regarding the Declaration of Responsibility since it was introduced. In 1971, the Conference recommended that:*

*The Literature Committee, following the general feeling of the Conference, reaffirm both the spirit and the wording of the "I am Responsible" Declaration from the International Convention held in Toronto in 1965.*

*And in 1977, the Conference recommended that:*

*The Responsibility Declaration not be changed, as it was made at the 1965 International Convention in Toronto.*

*The Responsibility Statement was written by a former A.A. trustee for the 1965 A.A. International Convention in Toronto as the theme for the gathering. The Convention met at a time when some were voicing concern that the extraordinary success achieved by A.A. could lead to complacency.*

***Q. What is the history behind A.A.'s Unity Declaration?***

***A. The Unity Declaration reads:***

*This we owe to A.A.'s future: to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.*

*It was written for A.A.'s 35th Anniversary International Convention held in Miami Beach, Florida, in July 1970.*

*Documents in our collection indicate that the statement was composed as a combined effort of both the Committee on International Conventions and former A.A. trustee, Al S. The correspondence alludes to Al's involvement as a consultant in composing the statement. Al wrote the "Responsibility" Statement that had been introduced at the 1965 International Convention.*

*The "Unity" statement was read by delegates from different countries on Saturday night during the Unity Ceremony. Below are highlights from that night's ceremony, as led by former General Manager, Bob H.:*

*"As you know the theme of this Conference is Unity Within Our Fellowship. We have asked several of our ex-delegates and members from overseas to be on stage and participate with us adopting our new Declaration of Unity.*

*"A.A. unity is the special quality that makes our Fellowship unique. It is the cement that holds our society together, the platform which makes A.A. 'Service possible. It is more than agreement on basic principles, more than freedom from destructive strife. It is a bond fashioned of shared experience, such as this one we share tonight.*

*"Unity is our most precious possession, our best guarantee of A.A.'s future. May we all value and preserve it, today and all the tomorrows to come."*

*Bob H. then asks all participants on stage to recite the Unity Declaration, which was led by Dr. Norris.*

*Following the International Convention (1973), the General Service Conference recommended that:*

*The Unity Declaration be added to all A.A. Literature when feasible and economical, and be referred to A.A. World Services, Inc., for follow through.*

*From the Summer 2008 Markings - Your Archives Interchange. Volume 28 No. 2. Reprinted with Permission.*





### NCMCO Happenings

Central Office hours of operation are from 10:00am - 1:00 pm, Monday - Friday. The office is no longer open on Saturdays but in a dire emergency, you may contact Dick J., Office Mgr., at 828-689-2853 or John G., Alt. Chairman, at 828-253-9935, at least 24-hours in advance to schedule a Saturday pick-up.

The Central Office decided to become the collection point for literature for Correctional Facilities. Only soft cover books and other literature can be taken into these facilities. Please drop off any soft cover A.A. literature to the Central Office between the hours of 10 AM and 1 PM, Monday thru Friday.

The Central Office Board is revising its Bylaws. The new bylaws and Advisory Actions of the NCMCO General Committee are available for review and comment by e-mail. Please e-mail [ncmco@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncmco@bellsouth.net) with the subject of "Bylaws" to receive a PDF file by e-mail.

Please submit any information you would like to see in the Mountain Doins. Otherwise we will have to continue borrowing from other sources. Thank you!

Please submit all anniversaries, meeting changes, and any submissions by the first of the preceding month. i.e. items must be received by September 1st to be included in the October issue.

### District 70

District 70's Treatment Coordinator, Eleanor D. has married and moved away from District 70. Thurman has volunteered to act as Eleanor's temporary replacement. E-mail or phone NCMCO for contact information.

Greetings from District 70. Once again, the annual Service Rally is scheduled for August 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am - 2pm, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Asheville. Lunch will be served to all who attend. We are planning a summer picnic/BBQ and auction of AA memorabilia at Lake Julian Park on Saturday, August 23, 2008, from 12-4pm. There will be a \$3.00 suggested donation for the event. The park offers fishing, boating and volleyball nets are up, you'll need to bring volleyballs and your own sports equipment. The Meet & Greet your Area Delegate and Area Grapevine Chair is scheduled for September 27, 2008; there will be a potluck dinner to follow. We will be co-sponsoring this event with District 71. Flyers will be forthcoming. We have an Eating Meeting scheduled for September 14, in Marion; more will be revealed as flyers become available. There is talk in the air about a dance to be held either around Halloween or the Holidays, no definite plans yet. The committee meets monthly and is looking for a central place that would best serve both the committee and the district. Feel free to email me with any ideas you may have. Each of you is needed to make these events a success. Anyone looking to have fun and do some much needed service work please contact me @ 828.668.9861 or by email - [ruthiec@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthiec@hotmail.com).

In Love & Service, Ruthie Colburn

### District 71

No information submitted.

### District 80

No information submitted.



# Rule 62

## IF YOU FIND MISTAKES

in this publication, please consider that they are there for a purpose.  
We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.

### The Other How It Works

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship designed and administered by a bunch of ex-drunks whose only qualifications for membership are that they can't hold their liquor and have decided they don't want to learn how. Not that they could anyway, they never could, and it's highly unlikely that they ever would. It has no rules, dues or fees, nor anything else that any sensible organization seems to require. At meetings, the speaker starts on one subject, winds up talking about something entirely different, and concludes by saying he doesn't know anything about the program except that it works. The groups are always broke, yet always seem to have money to carry on. They are always losing members but seem to grow. They claim AA is a selfish program but they always seem to be trying to give it away and to do something for others. Every group passes laws, rules, edicts and pronouncements that everyone blithely ignores; members who disagree with anything have the privilege to walk out in a huff, quitting forever, only to return as if nothing has happened and be greeted accordingly. Nothing is ever planned 24 hours ahead, yet great projects are born and survive magnificently. Nothing in AA is according to Hoyle. How can it survive? Perhaps it's because we have learned to live and laugh at ourselves. God made man. He made laughter too. Perhaps He is pleased with our disorganized efforts and makes things right no matter who pushes the wrong button. Maybe He is pleased, not with our lack of perfection, but with our sincerity. Maybe He is pleased with our trying to be nobody but ourselves. We don't know how it works, but it does, and members keep receiving their dividends from their AA investments. It is smart to be sober, and much easier, my friends, to stay sober than to get sober.

### **12-Step List Request**

Please fill out the following information if you are interested in being placed on the Central Office 12-Step call list.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Type \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Available \_\_\_\_\_ Home Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Sobriety Date \_\_\_\_\_ Any Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Call Dick at Central Office if you have any questions. 828-254-8539

***Only your first name, last initial, phone number, restrictions, and times available will be listed on the published list.***

**ALL INFORMATION IS KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

Only answering service operators will be calling you with the number of the Alcoholic in crises. You will make the call to the Alcoholic in crisis.

Your full address is needed for placement on the zone map.





## August Birthdays

### Acceptance Group

Bill S.	08/11/75	33 years
Jeannie M.	08/28/85	23 years
Julie W.	08/13/91	13 years
Marian B.	08/01/05	3 years
Jacob S.	08/01/05	3 years

### Andrews Group

Croft D.	08/12/91	17 years
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### Asheville Big Book Step Study

Harry S.	08/06/84	24 years
Mary T.	08/21/87	21 years
Lee W.	08/17/91	17 years

### Black Mountain Group

Mitch	08/25/2005	3 years
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### Blue Ridge Group

Don F.	08/18/70	38 years
John G.	08/??/90	18 years

### Conscious Contact

Sue D.	08/06/90	18 years
Rita V.	08/17/92	16 years

### Fletcher Group

Kari K.	08/20/87	21 years
Debra N.	08/18/07	1 year

### Grace Group

Tom W.	08/05/80	28 years
Bobby E.	08/02/98	10 years
Brent R.	08/25/00	8 years
James M.	08/15/02	6 years
Sue T.	08/06/03	5 years
Laura C.	08/15/05	3 years
Ray S.	08/07/06	2 years
Elizabeth	08/23/06	2 years
Wendy S.	08/30/06	2 years
Nancy	08/19/07	1 year

### Hendersonville Group

Carol P.		14 years
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### Hendersonville 'Midday' Group

Bill J.	08/19/79	29 years
Charlene O.	08/20/84	24 years
Ed L.	08/31/89	19 years
Mark M.	08/05/95	13 years
Eric J.	08/10/03	5 years
Bob P.	08/02/05	3 years

### Leicester Group

Ann I.	08/06/89	19 years
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### Serenity Service

Bob G.	08/08/81	26 years
Dena H.	08/08/83	24 years
Liz D.	08/12/85	22 years
Doug G.	08/20/87	21 years
Ann I.	08/06/89	19 years
Martha R.	08/22/01	7 years
Lance B.	08/25/05	3 years
Pat R.	08/02/07	2 years
David G.	08/06/06	2 years
Stephen T.	08/13/06	2 years
Katie W.	08/23/06	2 years
Kristal T.	08/05/07	1 years

### Traditional Group (July)

Mary M.	07/04/06	2 years
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### Traditional Group

Herb C.	08/11/83	25 years
Richard T.	08/07/84	24 years
Billy H.	08/14/87	21 years
Susan D.	08/15/00	8 years
Donna 'Lee' R.	08/01/05	3 years
Wayne B.	08/16/05	3 years
Daniel S.	08/12/06	2 years
Susanne V.	08/17/07	1 year

### Upward Group

Debbie B.	08/22/02	6 years
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## GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS 2008

	June	Total YTD		June	Total YTD
<b>District 70</b>			<b>District 71 (Cont.)</b>		
Acceptance .....	50	682	Early Birds .....	80	80
Asheville Big Book SS .....	11	32	Edneyville .....	0	80
Back to Basics .....	0	350	Fireside .....	200	200
BoneDry .....	130	130	Hendersonville .....	0	80
Burnsville .....	0	100	Hendersonville Happy Hour .....	0	160
Candler KISS .....	0	300	Joy of Living .....	0	25
Chunns Cove Men's .....	0	180	Kanuga .....	22	112
Conscious Contact .....	0	934	Mid-Day .....	75	365
Daily Decisions .....	0	118	Mill Spring .....	0	50
Day By Day .....	0	370	Plan B .....	0	225
Fellowship .....	0	218	Principles .....	0	75
Good Livers .....	370	419	Seniors on sobriety .....	0	65
Grace .....	0	700	Speed Bump .....	50	125
High Noon .....	0	90	Sylvan Valley .....	0	200
Llmbda .....	100	100	Thursday Afternoon Ladies .....	0	50
Leicester .....	0	50	Tryon Tuesday .....	0	150
Marion .....	0	50	Upward .....	0	60
Marshall .....	100	109	<b>Subtotal District 71 .....</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>2321</b>
Mars Hill .....	0	200	<b>District 80</b>		
Recovery By the River .....	0	149	AWOL .....	13	27
Safe & Sound .....	0	200	Cashiers Valley .....	0	206
Serenity Seekers .....	0	75	Common Sense .....	0	150
Serenity Service .....	0	250	Cullowhee Valley .....	0	10
Six O'Clock Open .....	250	775	Hayesville .....	0	35
Spruce Pine .....	25	50	Hayesville Lunch Bunch .....	25	75
Library .....	0	45	Locked in Forward .....	0	155
Traditional .....	0	125	Mountain View .....	0	470
West Asheville .....	0	80	Murphy Big Book .....	0	85
Women of Grace .....	0	30	No Name .....	0	50
Young Peoples .....	0	115	No Place Like Home .....	0	59
<b>Subtotal District 70 .....</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>7026</b>	Sunshine .....	30	90
<b>District 71</b>			Sylva .....	0	126
Big Town .....	0	55	<b>Subtotal District 80 .....</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1538</b>
Blue Ridge .....	0	40	<b>Individual Contributions .....</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>537</b>
Brevard Sylvan Valley .....	54	54	<b>Total Contributions .....</b>	<b>1598</b>	<b>9687</b>
But for the The Grace of God .....	0	20			
Columbus .....	50	50			

### Office Manager's Report

Helped by a number of wonderful volunteers – notably Bob, Dave, Jack, Martha, Myra, Tim - the office continues to run smoothly. While our official office hours continue to be 10 am to 1 pm on weekdays we're almost always open for business by 8:30 and we rarely close right on the dot. We'd like to know if our not being open on Saturday mornings is causing any difficulties for you. We can almost always find a way to open up for you when it's necessary outside regular office hours or on Saturdays as long as you give us a call in advance.

Most of our sales are the longtime staples published by AA World Services: the Big Book (hard and soft cover, large print, pocket edition), 12 & 12 (same selection as Big Book), Daily Reflections, Came to Believe, Living Sober, As Bill Sees It (all available in large print). Of course we sell all of the AA pamphlets. We stock the wonderful AA history books – Pass It On, Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers, AA Comes of Age – which are great to read if you want to know more about AA's past. We sell the service manual and we sell the AA Guidelines and we sell all other AA publications and items (what are these? we'd be happy to send you an AA catalogue of conference-approved material as long as our supply lasts).

Of course we sell Grapevine stuff too. Grapevine has some wonderful publications, such as Emotional Sobriety, Thank You for Sharing, Spiritual Awakenings and the super-wonderful Language of the Heart (a chronological compendium of Bill's Grapevine writings from 1944 to his death in 1970). As with the conference-approved stuff we'd be happy to send you a Grapevine catalogue while supplies last.

And we sell non-conference-approved items – chips, medallions, bumperstickers, the 24 Hours a Day book (hardcover, softcover, large print) and any number of other things which are at the office for your perusal.

Please call us or just come by the office, to see what we have and to find out what we do. We're here to serve the groups in Districts 70, 71 and 80 and you can tell us more about your needs. And we always need volunteers!

Dick J.



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