

March 1959

HOW AA WORKS: Loosely Knit — Closely Related

How does AA as a whole "hang together"? On the next page, one of our volunteer artists has made a 3-dimensional design of the answer to this puzzle. Instead of the usual pyramid outline with rank-and-file on the bottom and "brass" at the top, AA's structure can be seen as a continuous circular design....

Its vital forces flow in both directions back and forth between the 250,000 members of 7,000 groups in 70 countries—the General Service Conference—and the three service bodies located under one roof in New York.

AA Publishing, Inc. issues the books "Alcoholics Anonymous," "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," and "AA Comes of Age," as well as other Conference-approved literature.

AA General Service Office answers inquiries, corresponds with new and

established groups and loners, issues an annual World Directory and "The Exchange Bulletin," handles public relations questions, and maintains necessary records. A paid staff of 7 AAs and 23 non-alcoholics shares the work of GSO and AA Publishing. Since the AA staff is drawn from the whole membership, inquiries about employment are welcomed.

The AA Grapevine, Inc. publishes AA's official international monthly journal of opinion and experience, written largely by and for members. The paid editorial and circulation staff includes 3 AAs and 6 non-alcoholics. Numerous volunteer writers, artists, and editors also serve.

To make a 3-dimensional model of AA's circular structure, simply lift out the center fold (pages 24-5) and join the edges together with the design turned outward, as shown below. THE EDITORS

