

# CENTRAL BULLETIN

UNSELFISHNESS — HONESTY — TRUTH — LOVE

VOL. I-No. 1

BOX 1638, STATION C, CLEVELAND, OHIO

October, 1942

## Editorial . .

For some time it has been the conviction of several A.A. members as the result of the expansion of our fellowship in Cuyahoga County, that some means of wider communication of our activities to our members is needed.

To that end, the efforts of this bulletin will be dedicated.

Many of our members are leaving the city to take jobs elsewhere and many are going into the armed services.

To these members we think we can fill a definite need.

We shall strive to maintain an interesting and lively contact between these absent members and us at home.

Letters from men in the services all beg for news of happenings within the various groups. We hope to meet this plea.

We hope, through this bulletin to bring you news of general interest to A.A. members, such as notices of parties, anniversaries ( ? ), picnics, special meetings, activities of the various committees, formation of new groups and other work of the organization in Cleveland.

News items will be welcome from members of all groups, on questions relating to improvement of the A.A. technique. Someone may be able to suggest a better hospitalization plan, a better way to approach a prospect, or some other improvement.

We expect to include in this bulletin suggestions for reading, prayers, discourses on various phases of re-education under the A.A. program.

We shall remember A.A.'s second A. No member's name will be used in this publication without his unqualified consent. Nothing will be published that will be embarrassing to any member. We shall operate always in a spirit of Love and Unselfishness.

The chief justification for this bulletin will be to further the work of A.A.

There are 6500 active members of A.A. in the United States, a report from the national office in New York says. However, there are many unattached members, because of out-of-town defense work, and Bill Wilson's office estimates that the total membership in the nation today is between 8,000 and 9,000.

## WE HONOR BILL WILSON

The Annual Dinner will be held in the Rainbow Room of Hotel Carter, at 2 P. M., Sunday, November 8th.

Bill Wilson, our founder, will be the principal speaker.

Tickets for the dinner can be bought from group secretaries at \$2.10 each. The speaking program will start promptly at 4 P. M. Those unable to attend the dinner but wish to attend the after dinner meeting at which Bill Wilson will speak, may buy admission tickets for 40c.

## A Plea to the Secretaries

To enable the Bulletin to compile a mailing list of all men in service, group secretaries are requested to send names and addresses of all service men. Individual members may send names and addresses of service men to the A.A. postoffice box, P. O. Box No. 658, Church St. Annex, New York City.

This first edition of the Bulletin is merely an outline of what we intend to produce in the future. It is not intended

to be a monthly report of only central committee's activities, but is intended to be a reporting service of all groups in Cuyahoga County.

In order to make this paper truly interesting to every member, it will be necessary to get news items from every group. And if it is to be a success, it will be the necessary duty of every secretary to transmit his group's news to the editors before the first Tuesday in each month.

For the sake of economy of space, all news items, interesting articles and correspondence which would be of interest to all members may be edited or condensed if necessary.

To start, this bulletin will be printed on both sides of an 8½x11 sheet. If it is warranted, another page will also be used. This size was recommended by the editors, because all issues can be assembled in standard loose-leaf binders.

For the present time, sufficient copies will be mailed to each secretary for voluntary distribution at meetings. A plan will be submitted, whereby all members will receive the bulletin by mail in an envelope bearing only the box number of the Central Committee. No further identification will appear. If this plan is adopted, it will assure every member of receiving a copy. Naturally this will entail some expense and a nominal charge for a year's subscription may be charged to cover cost of printing, envelopes, addressing, inserting and mailing. This is a tentative plan and subject to the will of each group.

Norman Ebert's compilation of the membership of Cuyahoga County, made just before he died, shows an active list of 1400. Counting those who have had to leave because of work in other cities, or for other reasons, there are about 1800 practicing A.A.'s who belong to our community.

## GIVE US A NAME

This first bulletin is called the "Central Bulletin". This name does not convey its purpose. Put on your thinking cap and submit a name to your secretary and the committee of secretaries will adopt a new title from your suggestions. Please do this at once so we may select it before the next publication.

## GROUP MEETINGS

## Monday

Borton Group .....	13331 Euclid Ave. . . . .	8:45
Lee Road Group .....	1637 Lee Road _____	8:30
Orchard Grove . . . . .	Townsend Hall, 15003 Detroit Ave. _____	8:30
Lake Shore _____	Lake Shore Hotel, Dinner at 7:30, Meeting at. _____	8:30
Lorain Ave. _____	Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain. . . . .	8:30
Miles Ave. _____	12907 Union Ave. . . . .	8:30
Shaker Heights _____	Shaker Jr. High, S. Woodland and Woodbury. . . . .	8:30

## Tuesday

Wade Park _____	82nd and Wade Park _____	8:30
West Side Men's. . . . .	Pilgrim Church, W. 14th and Starkweather _____	8:30

## Wednesday

Crawford Men's .....	8920 Euclid Ave. . . . .	8:30
Brooklyn _____	K. of P. Hall, Broadview and Pearl Rd _____	8:30
Lee Road _____	1637 Lee Road. . . . .	8:30
Collinwood _____	14707 St. Clair Ave. . . . .	8:30
Women's _____	12214 Detroit Ave _____	8:30
Lorain, Ohio _____	Antlers Hotel _____	8:30

## Thursday

Lee Road .....	1637 Lee Road _____	8:30
Avon Lake .....	1112 W. Erie, Lorain _____	8:30
West 25th St. . . . .	Schmotzer's Hall, W. 25th and Erin Ave. . . . .	8:30
Glenville .....	E. 105th and Marlowe _____	8:30

## Friday

Lee Road .....	1637 Lee Road. . . . .	8:30
Berea .....	Bagley and Seminary _____	8:30
Gordon Square . . . . .	CIO Hall, 6221 Detroit Ave _____	8:30

## Sunday

Crawford Training .....	8920 Euclid Ave _____	8:30
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## Morning Meetings

<b>Wednesday Mornings</b> Collinwood .....	14707 St. Clair Ave . . . . .	10:00 A. M.
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<b>Thursday Mornings</b> West 25th St. . . . .	Schmotzer's Hall, W. 25th and Erin Ave.,	10:00 A. M.
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1st Tuesday every month

Central Committee .....	8920 Euclid Ave _____	8:30
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## ALCOHOL BARS MILLION

A newspaper clipping called to our attention that chronic alcoholism was keeping 1,000,000 persons out of the war effort, and that 60,000 new chronic cases were being discovered each year. These figures would indicate that in proportion to the entire country, about 10,000 Greater Clevelanders are waiting for the same message that brought us back to sanity and a rightful place in the community.

The national A.A. office in New York is compiling a list of A.A. members that are in the service. If group secretaries will send all the names of service members to New York, many members now in the service will be able to establish A.A. contacts they now miss.

The Bulletin will be published on the 15th day of each month. News for the Bulletin should be in the hands of group secretaries not later than the first Tuesday of each month.

ATTEND THE

ANNUAL

A. A.

MEETING

Honoring

BILL WILSON

Founder of A. A.

\*

RAINBOW ROOM

CARTER HOTEL

Sunday, November 8, 1942

\*

Dinner at 2 P. M.

Only 750 can be served. Get your tickets early. Ticket includes the meeting.

Price \$2.10, includes tax.

Meeting at 4 P. M.

This meeting will start promptly. Entrance can only be made with ticket.

Price 40c, including tax.



# CENTRAL BULLETIN

UNSELFISHNESS — HONESTY — TRUTH — LOVE

VOL. I-No. 2

BOX 1638, STATION C, CLEVELAND, OHIO

November, 1942

## Editorial . .

The Founder called it "a Miracle of Transformation."

So it was. There were doctors, lawyers and mechanics, business executives and clerks: men of many stations of life and of many creeds.

Not so long ago they were chained almost inescapably to an obsession that defied determination and willpower, that progressively destroyed their usefulness to themselves, their families and to society.

They and their wives, numbering nearly 1000 persons, filled the great Rainbow Room of Hotel Carter. They were there to pay tribute to the Founder. Yet the Founder's inspiring message was overshadowed by the audience itself. There were many hundred personal triumphs, and many hundred triumphs of missionary zeal.

The Founder himself saw this great audience as a miracle. He paid tribute to the work of the members of Greater Cleveland, who had shown how ordinary men, with Divine inspiration, could succeed in an effort that would be accounted too great for professionals.

The Founder led a meeting. He told us about his personal problem. He told us how, after he had received the inspiration that led to the development of the method, his problem still remained. It remained as long as resentment, intolerance and self pity remained. He put strong emphasis on the destroying effect of resentment.

He met his crisis as most of the rest of us have learned to meet our crises: by acceptance of the guiding hand of the Creator, and by working with others.

He spoke of humility and patience and love and honesty and unselfishness. But particularly, he spoke of the destructive effects of resentment, intolerance and self pity.

There were two other speakers. The guest of honor of last year's dinner meeting spoke of the necessity of passing the work on to others, of correcting our thinking, of finding a new plan for living, and of making use of the opportunity to gain happiness.

The other speaker was a Clevelander, a member for five years. He spoke on the individual nature of the problem and the individual's own responsibility for its solution.

Members from 20 other cities were present: Lorain, Akron, Uhrichsville, Ashtabula, Youngstown, Dayton, Columbus, Geneva, Mountainview, Kent, Canton, Cuyahoga Falls, Mount Vernon, Belleview, Mansfield, Berea and Toledo in Ohio; Erie, Pa., Pittsburgh, Pa., and Jackson, Mich.

ABSOLUTE HONESTY—One of the four absolutes of A. A. means that we **MUST** be honest with ourselves first, last and always if we are to succeed in this New Way Of Life.

## Responsibility of Sponsors

The greatest responsibility any man or woman assumes as a member of A. A. is the treatment or sponsorship of the new prospect.

Upon how thoroughly and conscientiously this job is done by us depends the future happiness and security of the individual concerned.

It is, therefore, important that we assume this responsibility in its entirety, not only for the benefit of the prospect, but for our own protection as well. Our own safety and security depends upon how unselfishly we give of ourselves to others.

It is our duty to be certain beyond the shadow of a doubt that the prospect once left on his own has such a complete understanding of the principles and practices of this movement that he will know what to do under any and all conditions.

This is accomplished only by painstaking effort on our part to the extent that we must be sure that the prospect has received the proper instructions from a great number of contacts, thru the reading of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, and by our showing the way properly to make a contact with others. All this having been done, it is important that we impress upon the prospect the fact that he must then do this job himself for his own security.

All these things are vitally necessary and it is the sponsor's responsibility to follow thru on

this to the point where the prospect is able honestly to recognize the fact that regardless of what the condition or circumstance with which he is confronted a drink is never the solution to his problem.

## SUNDAY EVENING MEETINGS

At a round table discussion meeting it was suggested that a Sunday evening group be started and that it preferably meet regularly downtown or within easy reach of all districts of Cleveland. We suggest that the secretaries bring this up for discussion at regular meetings, and if sufficient interest is aroused, steps will be taken to create a new group.

## BULLETIN RETAINS NAME

In the first Bulletin it was suggested that everyone put his thinking cap on and submit a name for the subsequent Bulletins. Only one other name was suggested and the delegates to Central Committee expressed a preference for the original name, so the name stands. A new masthead is being drawn by one of our artist members, so for the Christmas issue you may see us with a different "dress" on.

### God's Love

Let the thought of Love be with you:

Pass it not one single day:

It will ever be your sunshine.

Health and joy in every way.

Use it when dark clouds may gather,

And all trouble soon will cease:

Just know God's great Love forever—

It will bring you lasting peace.

## GOSSIP

Gossip is one of the cardinal sins. It is not a single act, like murder, that stops one's life and falls back to punish the offender. It is the breath of the Devil, soiling every ear it touches. It is the most deadly of poisons. It blights many lives, it smites the innocent with the guilty.

An old Italian legend tells the following:

In the old days, a peasant confessed to a priest that he had slandered an innocent man. The priest said to him, "For your penance do this now: Take a bag of chicken down. Go to every yard in the town and drop one bit of down into each garden. Do not miss *one* yard. When you have finished, return to me."

The sinner believed his punishment was light. With his bag of down he made the circuit of the village and carefully dropped one soft feather into each garden. Then he reported to the priest, saying: "I have done my penance."

"No, my son," replied the old abbe. "You will not have done your penance until you take this bag, go again on your rounds, collect every feather you have dropped, and bring it here to me."

The gossip protested that it would be impossible: he could not find the bits of down in a lifetime; many of them had blown far away.

"So it is with gossip," replied the priest. "It is easily dropped. But never again, no matter how hard you try, can you rather back the words you have so thoughtlessly scattered."

*"Create in me a clean heart, O Lord!"*

## A. A. MALE CHORUS

The Male Chorus has finally been launched, and rehearsals are held every Sunday afternoon at 4 P. M. in the Old Arcade (Superior entrance). There is still an insistent demand for first tenors and low basses, and a plea is now made for an early response to further this worthy endeavor.

This chorus is considering a suitable name for itself—a name which will not in any way denote A. A. connection. It will be available for Cleveland's community activities and only the members themselves will know its origin.

Francis Sadlier, a teacher of voice and a well-known figure in Cleveland's musical circles, will direct and train the group. His personal acquaintance with several of the members prompted him to practically donate his services and facilities to the cause. (He is not a member of A. A.)

## LAKWOOD GROUP

The Lakewood Group, parent of the West Side groups, will celebrate its third anniversary, at the semi-monthly party Saturday, November 21, 1942. This group was founded November 20, 1939.

The second annual dinner and reunion of the founders of the Lakewood Group, first West Side group, will be held at Cousin's Restaurant, 15001 Detroit Ave., Lakewood on Saturday, November 28th.

The Group has reinstated its "every other Saturday" evening get-togethers. Cards and games provide entertainment and the membership feels it engenders a greater social activity than is possible on meeting nights.

## GORDON SQUARE GROWTH

On July 21, 1942, the Gordon Square Group started with two members. The Group now numbers forty-one. This shows that the location selected was wise and also that some splendid work has been done by the members. Fine cooperation was given by the West 25th-Erin Group and the Lorain Avenue Group. The fine response from the Women's Group also was a great factor in its success.

-B. H.

A farewell party and dance was held in honor of Clarence Snyder on Saturday evening, October 3rd, C. I. O. Hall, 6221 Detroit Ave., with the Gordon Square Group as hosts. He was presented with a beautiful service wrist watch as a gift from all West Side groups who acclaimed him for his pioneer work in Cleveland and particularly the West Side. The large crowd wished him Godspeed and his parting speech was well received.

## CRAWFORD MEN'S TRAINING

The Crawford Men's Training System has been highly acclaimed by many. Older A. A.'s are asked to come to these meetings with or without new prospects where new prospects will be given individual attention just as though they were in a hospital. Visiting a prospect in his home has always been handicapped by interruptions: by the prospect not daring to unburden himself completely for fear of being overheard by his relatives, and by the A. A.'s reticence for the same reason. Hospitalization without question is the ideal answer to where the message will be most effective, but the Crawford Training Plan strikes us as being the next best.

This group has even had regular visitors: from Pittsburgh and surrounding small towns.

## LEE ROAD GROUP

A goodly number of the Wednesday night Lee Road Group spent a very pleasant Sunday afternoon and evening last month at the Hinckley Lake home of our Group Secretary and enjoyed a delicious chicked dinner.

-B. E.

## WOMEN'S GROUP

We of the Women's Group feel that we are not entitled to a great deal of space in our "Central Bulletin," being so much in the minority. However, we proclaim far and wide the success we have attained, against many odds. We were told over and over, that when it came to organizing and trying to educate a "Bunch of Alcoholic Women" that it would be hopeless. To our great satisfaction and pride, our able organizer and first Secretary did not let that discourage her. She believed in her idea of a Group for women only. Our success and constant growth proved her point better than anything we can say.

Of course, with all of us, the Women's Group comes first, but we are always glad to co-operate in any way we can with the Men's Groups, as many of them have been very kind and helpful to us.

Here's to the immediate success of your paper—whether it is "Central Bulletin" or "Good News From The Home Front."

## WADE PARK GROUP CHANGES LOCATION

The Wade Park Group has just changed its meeting place from East 82nd and Wade Park to the Parish House of Emmanuel Church, 8614 Euclid Ave. An enthusiastic group of about 100 persons welcomed the change on the first meeting night.

No mention was made to the editors as to whether the group changed its name, and our efforts to certify the information were unsuccessful. However, if there is a change, it will be announced in the next bulletin.

## THE MAN IN THE MIRROR

When you get what you want, in your struggle for self,  
And the world makes you king for a day—  
Then go to the mirror and look at yourself,  
And see what THAT guy has to say.

For it isn't a man's father or mother or wife  
Whose judgment upon him must pass:  
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life  
Is the guy staring back from the glass.

He's the fellow to please—never mind all the rest,  
For he's with you clear up to the end,  
And you've passed your most dangerous difficult test  
If the guy in the glass is your friend.

You may be like "Jack Horner" and "chisel" a deal  
And think you're a wonderful guy,  
But the man in the glass thinks you're only a heel  
If you can't look HIM straight in the eye.

You can fool the whole world down the pathway of years,  
And get pats on the back from your friends,  
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears  
If you've cheated the guy in the glass.

**GROUP MEETINGS**

**Monday**

**Borton** .....13931 Euclid Ave. .... 8:45  
**Lee Road** ..... 1637 Lee Road ..... 8:30  
**Lnkewood** ..... Townsend Hall,  
 15903 Detroit Ave. .... 8:30  
**Lake Shore** ..... Lake Shore Hotel,  
 Dinner at 7:30, Meeting at ..... 8:30  
**Lorain Ave.** ..... Banater Hall Annex,  
 W. 120th at Lorain ..... 8:30  
**Miles Ave.** ..... 12907 Union Ave..... 8:30  
**Shaker Heights** ..... Shaker Jr. High,  
 S. Woodland and Woodbury..... 8:30  
**South East Group** ..... 10203 Miles Ave . .... 8:30

**Tuesday**

**Wade Park** ..... Emmanuel Church (Rear),  
 8614 Euclid ..... 8:30  
**West Side Men's** ..... Pilgrim Church,  
 W. 14th and Starkweather ..... 8:30  
**Douglas, Mansfield O.**.....North Lake Park, Sec. Address,  
 147 W. First St., Mansfield, O. .... 8:30

**Wednesday**

**Crawford Men's** ..... 8920 Euclid Ave ..... 8:30  
**Brooklyn** ..... K. of P. Hall,  
 Broadview and Pearl Rd. .... 8:30  
**Lee Road** ..... 1637 Lee Road..... 8:30  
**Collinwood** ..... 14709 St. Clair Ave ..... 8:30  
**Women's** ..... 12214 Detroit Ave ..... 8:30  
**Lorain, Ohio** ..... Antlers Hotel . . . . . 8:30

**Thursday**

**Lee Road** ..... 1637 Lee Road ..... 8:30  
**West 25th St** ..... Schmotzer's Hall,  
 W. 25th and Erin Ave . .... 8:30  
**Glenville** ..... E. 105th and Marlowe ..... 8:30

**Friday**

**Lee Road** ..... 1637 Lee Road \_\_\_\_ . .... 8:30  
**Avon Lake** ..... 1112 W. Erie, Lorain ..... 8:30  
**Berea** ..... Bagley and Seminary ..... 8:30  
**Gordon Square** ..... CIO Hall, 6221 Detroit Ave . . . . . 8:30  
**Brooklyn-Parma** ..... 4421 Pearl Rd..... 8:30

**Sunday**

**Crawford Training** ..... 8920 Euclid Ave ..... 2:00

**Morning Meetings**

**Wednesday Mornings**  
 Collinwood ..... 14709 St. Clair Ave ..... 10:00 A. M.

**Thursday Mornings** ..... Schmotzer's Hall,  
 West 25th St ..... W. 25th and Erin Ave., 10:00 A. RI.

**1st Tuesday every month**

**Central Committee** ..... 8920 Euclid Ave..... 8:30

**TELEPHONE LISTING**

At the last regular meeting of the Central Committee it was decided to list Alcoholics Anonymous in the telephone directory. A twenty-four hour service will be maintained. Since the deadline for listing was near, it was decided to act immediately rather than approach each individual group for support, which the delegates present felt could be assured.

That the listing is important and necessary goes without saying, as many groups in other cities will attest, where listing has been in effect for some time.

A six-point dispatching service is being worked out by a committee and will be presented to the delegates to Central Committee to be taken to their groups for explanation and approval. Then tentative plan provides for three east side and three west side outlets.

**ACCREDITED A. A. HOSPITALS**

Approved by Hospital Committee of Central Committee

	Doctor's Fee and Medicine	Room Rate	Cash Deposit
*Charity Hospital Central at East 22nd Main 9400	\$10.00	Regular Rate	\$5.00 per day
*Deaconess Hospital 4233 Pearl Road Florida 0070	\$10.00	Regular Rate	\$5.00 per day
*East Cleveland Clinic. 13240 Euclid Ave. Glenville 3244	Dr. \$10.00 Med. 5.00	\$6.00	\$45.00
Farguharson's Home 6037 Pearl Road Shadyside 8374	Dr. \$5.00 Med. 5.00	\$7.00	\$45.00
Harmony Home 9711 Lamont Ave. Randolph 2703	\$10.00	\$6.00	\$40.00
*Nottingham Hospital 18920 Nottingham Road Ivanhoe 0133	Dr. \$10.00 Med. 5.00	\$6.00	\$45.00
*Al Webster's Inc. 3730 Euclid Ave. Express 0180	Included	per day over 5 days	\$5.00 \$45.00
Women's A.A. Hospital. 12214 Detroit Ave. Academy 4688	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$40.00
Wright Nursing Home 15315 Detroit Ave. Academy 4879	Call for information		

\*Hospitalization recognition.

**NEWS FROM CAMPS**

Letters and news of AA's are greatly appreciated. Every effort will be made to pass on information as space will allow. No address will be given without consent, and excerpts from letters will be published whenever possible.

EDITOR.

\* \* \* \*

Word was sent to all secretaries that Glen R. Wadick was ill in the infirmary, and a letter brought this reply,  
*"Thanks for your letter and am back in the pink again. Had a touch of the flu I guess. You may use my name and address in the Bulletin if you wish. Give my best regards to the old bunch. Hope to get away from here soon, as I really want to get in this war and see some action. Am awaiting orders to go to Ft. Benning for officers training—hope it comes soon.*

*Best regards to all my AA friends,  
 Sgt. Glen R. Wadick,  
 Co. D, 29th Eng. Tr. Bn.,  
 Fort Leonard Wood, Mo."*

\* \* \* \*

Clarence Snyder writes us that  
*"The going is tough but I don't hear anyone hollering UNCLE. My only regret is that I am not 15 or 20 years younger, but I feel that I can offset that by application of other advantages I may have.*

*I received a copy of the first edition of the newspaper and enjoyed it much. Here's hoping the best for its success. I will anticipate receiving it each month.*

*If any of my friends wish to write me, address me as follows—*

*Pvt. Clarence H. Snyder,  
 Co. B, 8th Bn. A.F.R.T.C.,  
 Fort Knox, Ky."*

\* \* \* \*

*"... but I miss the association of the groups. I haven't run across any other AA's altho I'm inquiring around. I'm still keeping my chin up and I pray God I won't have any trouble. I don't think I will. My best to you and the whole Glenville Group.*

*Pvt. F. M. Orpse,  
 Flight A-565 T.S.S. (SP)  
 Atlantic City, N. J."*



## Editorial . . The First Step

When we became members of A. A., we admitted that we were powerless over alcohol and that our lives had become unmanageable.

This was the most important step in our getting dry. We had to admit to ourselves that we were alcoholics. We had to recognize that all our efforts to control our use of alcohol had failed. We had to recognize that our periodic spells of not drinking had not given us the ability to control the use of alcohol. We had to recognize that we could make our lives manageable only when we had given up alcohol entirely.

Habits are tricky. They are the result of years of doing some thing under certain conditions. They have associations that we often are not aware of, which tend to lead us back to the path of that habit despite our efforts. The Devil within us is the prompting of our nerves, which leads us either to act without thinking or to think up excuses for denying the lessons we have learned.

The single act of confession that made us dry is not enough to keep us dry. The Devil within us prompts us anew in many mysterious ways. The habit that prompts us is an unconscious body yearning, which calls now and then for that "one little drink" that will line up the tracks for twenty drinks and a blackout.

To stay dry we have to continue to recognize that we are powerless over alcohol. We have to recognize that we can escape alcoholism only by not drinking.

There have been enough of us in the seven and a half years of A.A. who have been tempted to believe that through A.A. one could regain control over alcohol. The experiences of those thus tempted have been tragic.

Some men have had difficulty at the start, because they never really admitted that they were powerless over alcohol. They had a mental reservation. They kept debating with themselves and finally reached the wrong answer.

But some men get into difficulty long after they think that their troubles are over. They work hard. They pray. They attend meetings and work with new candidates. But the Devil of old habit, sleeping in the nerve cells, sneaks up on them and begins to whisper that they have themselves under control and it would be all right to take a drink now and then.

When a man begins to tell himself "I know I can take a drink right now and nothing will happen," his old habits and body yearnings are prompting him to think dangerous thoughts.

That is the seed of disaster. Call the roll of those you know who have had to have this bitter experience of learning all over again that they were powerless over alcohol.

Strange, too, how some members sometimes get the notion that because they have gone off to another city that the rules no longer apply. They couldn't drink in Cleveland, but they think it would be all right in New York or Chicago or Detroit or Akron! Of course we are just as powerless away from home as at home. Devil habit may prompt us to forget that first lesson, and may whisper in our ear that "no one will know!"

Well, call the roll, here, too.

Wherever we are and regardless of the passage of time, we are alcoholics. We are powerless over alcohol. We cannot use alcohol and successfully manage our lives.

We learned that painfully.

But our whiskey-hungry nerve cells have sly ways of working on the mind. If we yield, disaster awaits us.

That first step is important always: at the beginning, after the passage of time: at home and away from home. We are powerless over alcohol.

"Lord, I am powerless over alcohol. Whenever I yield to it, my life is unmanageable. Whenever I yield to it, I no longer am a man, and I harm my family, my neighbors and myself.

"Lord, deliver me from temptation, and strengthen me as I cast drink from my life!"

### Prayer at the Turning of the Year

*At the close of another year, O Lord, and at the dawning of the new, we come before Thee with our prayers of thanksgiving. Throughout the past twelve months Thou hast again been with us with Thy boundless mercy, blotting out all of our transgressions in the blood of our divine Redeemer. We know that Thou wilt be with us also in the coming year, forgiving us our many sins because of the merits of the Savior.*

*O Lord, as we contemplate the unknown year which stretches out before us, we recognize our weakness. As we view its endless problems, we humbly confess: "With might of ours can naught be done." At this solemn hour we therefore bring the difficulties and perplexities of the coming year to Thee—imploping Thee that, according to Thy promise, Thou wilt be with us and wilt share our many burdens and will finally lead us out of darkness into light.*

*Bless this year, O heavenly Father, to Thy glory and to our good, for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

### NEW YEAR'S EVE JAMBOREES

New Year's Eve parties are scheduled for both East Side and West Side. Last year's celebrations were so well received that both augur large participation.

The pattern for these respective parties is similar. Committees representing each group are working hard on preparing their programs. These programs will include floor shows composed of acts contributed by the talent in each Group, dancing to the melodic strains of accomplished orchestras, buffet suppers, cards and other entertainment.

The East Side party will be held at Sommers Hall, 13931 Euclid Avenue, and the West Side party will be held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Hall, 4421 Pearl Road.

Tickets may be purchased for these jamborees from the committee members of each group.

To those who have not attended these grand A.A. parties, let them be assured that they are high class and far more joyous than any New Year's Eve party they have previously participated in.

## NEWS FROM THE CAMPS

Letters and news from A. A.'s are greatly appreciated. Every effort will be made to pass on information as space will allow. No address will be given without consent, and excerpts from letters will be published whenever possible. A few minutes a week spent writing our boys will certainly help them and be a means of calling on them at camp. So for your A. A. calls this week write the fellows, whether you know them or not, a Xmas Letter.

Soldiers, in your monthly letter keep us informed of your address.

EDITOR.

Central Bulletin— \* \* \*

"Acknowledging receipt of my copy of the Bulletin, I keep with the policy of anonymity no names appeared therein, except my own and a couple of other members of our armed forces, so I will have to tender my thanks to A. A. in general as I have so often done in the past. May I congratulate the person or persons responsible for the birth of the Bulletin. Good luck and carry on.

Sgt. G. R. Wadick,  
Co. D, 29th Eng. Tr. Bn., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo."

Leslie Clapper who is in the hospital writes:

"Sorry not to be able to write sooner, but have been in the hospital having a tumor removed from inside my ear. Hope you and all our A. A. members are O. K. Thanks for the Central Bulletin and good luck.

Pvt. Leslie A. Clapper,  
Hdq. Co. 25th Arm'd Engr. Bn.  
Desert Maneuvers,  
A. P. O. No. 256  
Postmaster, Los Angeles, Calif."

Karl Murton meets Frank Orpse in Denver. His letter in part follows:

"Met Orpse in Denver . . . Frank came over to see me last Sunday and I surely was glad to see him. I tried to get over to his hotel this week but we were on the firing range and it is pretty late when we get in. I hope to see him for we don't know when we'll be shipped. May God bless you and the new Southeast Group. Please give them my heartfelt wishes for their success. Write as often as you can. As always, your first alky-baby.

Pvt. Karl R. Murton,  
AAF 10th Tech. Sch. Squadron,  
Barracks No. 875, Lowry Field No. 2  
Denver, Colo.

From Clarence Snyder, a letter, which we publish in its entirety:

"Greetings to you and the Mrs. and thanks a million for Copy No. 2 of the Bulletin. I like the other boys receive half the kick out of receiving the Bulletin that I did, its existence is more than justified. In addition I have received a number of letters and cards from various persons who found my address in the Bulletin.

Since being here I obtained special leave one night several weeks ago to speak at the Louisville meeting. It is the only meeting I have been able to attend since being here. Today some of the Louisville A. A.'s brought a couple of fellows out here for me to talk to. Hope I did some good.

My daily schedule never runs less than sixteen hours and in many instances longer. The pace is terrific and I am losing considerable weight, which I can ill afford to lose. 177 addition to my regular basic training which all troops take, I am a squad leader; also act on occasion as instructor on trucks, rifle range, maps and map drawing, first aid, sanitation, 45 cal. pistol, 30 cal. M.G. and Thompson M. G., scouting and patrolling, drill, and various and sundry other things. Also I attend officers' preparation school Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:45 to 9:30 and Saturday afternoons from 12:30 to 5:30. Other nights, of course, are taken up with study and squad reports and various other details. When I am ready for bed, I then do whatever is necessary in cleaning my clothes and self and trying to keep some semblance of order with my clothes and other minor possessions.

Sunday is the only day I can hope for any respite. However, today I am corporal of the guard and have been somewhat occupied by that assignment since 12:30. The real work begins about 8:30 tonight, which is about one hour from now, and I must get my guards on their posts and see

that they are relieved all night until 6 u. m, tomorrow. Then I must go right on without any sleep tonight, so I imagine I will be a little weary by tomorrow night when I have about three hours of homework to do. So it goes.

I am certainly thankful for all the blessings I have received since becoming associated with A. A. The principles of A. A. have taught me how to live and in so living I have found on countless occasions that seeming impossible things have come to pass. My feeble efforts at trying to live this plan of life has taught me much that has stood me in good stead in many circumstances. My many happy memories of my association with all my fellow A. A.'s in Cleveland is a source of much pleasure to me here.

Before leaving Cleveland I told . . . that I would try to write something for the Bulletin every month, but you can see how things are here with me. If there is any part of this letter or all of it that you want to use for that purpose, go ahead.

By the way, as a suggestion, you might keep reminding the folks through the Bulletin to write to the fellows in the service. It does help them so much. Mail call is about the only bright spot of the day for a good many of them and the fellows are always so eager to receive mail, and it is quite a pathetic scene on occasion to see the dejection of some of them when they go on duty after day without word from anyone. Publish the names and addresses of the different fellows and keep reminding people in each issue. I know I probably receive my share of mail and consequently, if people wish to write someone have them write to someone other than me, as there may be a chance that they may pick a fellow who gets very little. Since I have charge of the mail in my platoon, I know whereof I speak in connection with this mail situation. You will be filling the real need if you can put that idea across.

Give my best to everyone and continue your good work. Please extend my compliments to your very able staff. I will be looking forward to the next issue—don't forget me.

Pvt. Clarence H. Snyder,  
Co. B, 8th Bn. AFRTC, Fort Knox, Ky.

"We are down here where it is pretty hot so going through our training it sure does make us tired. Standing it pretty good for an old man as I am. I sure hope that I get the stiffness out of my body pretty soon.

Say, I left 177 such a hurry that I could not find the list of addresses which I had of the group. I wish that you would send them to me. If there are any of the fellows down here that you know of I wish you would send me their names and addresses. I just wrote a letter to Clarence Snyder.

Well, I do not know any more now and have to get high as out so had better get ready to close. You see we have to be very careful about lights being on?? the coast. We are in a dim-out all the time. It sure seems funny—the street lights are all painted with just a little light showing, no bright lights on the cars or busses. Even when we turn our lights on in the room we have to have our shades down. So you see we have to be very careful.

Pvt. Spencer W. Powell,  
So. 1124 Tech. Sch. Sq. (SP)  
Flight No. 19 Spec. Tr. Unit, Miami Beach, Fla."

Thanks to Lt. Russ for his subscription. We wish to stress however, that the Bulletin is mailed free to all service men, PO Lt. Russ's dollar has been forwarded to the Lorain Ave. hospitalization fund, as he requested.

"I have been in the Army for about three months and was surely glad to read a little news about A. A. in Cleveland. I noticed that the back of your bulletin was used to good advantage, but would like to suggest using that space as a listing column for some of the men in service.

The situation I am in at present prevents me from doing more in the way of direct approach. In civilian life the worst a prospect could do would be to throw you out of his home; in the Army a superior officer might resort to more drastic measures.

I am enclosing a buck and if you can mail me the next Bulletin will try and make it five. If you don't need money, give it to the Lorain Avenue Group for their Hospital Fund.

Please use my name and address in the Bulletin. Yours in spirit,  
Lt. H. C. Russ,  
Sta. Hospital, Camp Maxey, Texas."



**A new address for Frank Orpse :**  
*"My sincere appreciation for mailing me the November issue of the Bulletin. I just received it as it was forwarded to me from the last post I was stationed at, Atlantic City, where I made contact with a couple of A. A. members. It is very interesting to read about the different activities in the Bulletin and it almost makes me homesick, as that is one of the things I miss at camp—the fellowship and association of all my friends of the different groups. Sorry that I had to miss the dinner to Bill Wilson, so the next best was the enjoyment of reading the editorial in the Bulletin and a clipping from newspapers my sister sent me—also the fine article 'Responsibility of Sponsors.' I received word that two of my 'babies' have been inducted—hope that they can keep on the beam' as we say in the Air Corps.*  
*Put. Frank M. Orpse,*  
*793 Tech. Sch. Squad, Bar. 335*  
*Seymour Johnson Field,*  
*Goldsboro, N. C."*

**NEW GROUP FORMED IN ROCKY RIVER**

Gas rationing has prompted members of Lake Shore and Lakewood Groups who live in and near Rocky River to start a new group which will meet Friday evenings at St. Christopher's Hall, Detroit Road and Lakeview, beginning Friday, December 11th, at 8:30. Visitors with "C" ration books nil! be welcome, this editor believes.

**OFFICIAL APPRECIATION**

The editors of Central Bulletin wish to thank artist member (name on request) for his excellent design of our present masthead. He has properly portrayed the idea that the four basic fundamentals of A. A. will permanently permeate the articles appearing in Central Bulletin. Thanks again. Artist—

The editors also wish to thank the members who have already contributed to the support of the paper to the extent that one-third of the first year's budget has already been secured. Several groups have subscribed practically 100% of their active membership and it is hoped that other groups will also do the same. If every A. A. who can afford it subscribes, more missionary work can be done by mailing the Bulletin to soldiers affiliated with other than Cleveland groups. The subscription price is \$1.00 per year, mailed first class on or about the 15th of each month. There is no charge to members in the armed forces.

**ACCREDITED A. A. HOSPITALS**

Approved by Hospital Committee of Central Committee

	Doctor's Fee and Room Medicine Rate	Regular Rate	Cash Deposit
*Charity Hospital . . . . .	\$10.00	Regular Rate	\$5.00 per day
Central at East 22nd Main 9400			
*Deaconess Hospital . . . . .	\$10.00	Regular Rate	\$5.00 per day
4223 Pearl Road Florida 0070			
*East Cleveland Clinic. . . . .	Dr. \$10.00		
13240 Euclid Ave. Med. 5.00		\$6.00	\$45.00
Glenville 3244 Farquharson's Home. . . . .	Dr. \$5.00		
6037 Pearl Road Med. 5.00		\$7.00	\$45.00
Shndyside 8374 Harmony Home . . . . .	\$10.00	\$6.00	\$40.00
9711 Lamont Ave. Randolph 2703			
*Nottingham Hospital . . . . .	Dr. \$10.00		
18920 Nottingham Road Med. 5.00		\$6.00	\$45.00
Ivanhoe 0133			
*Al Webster's Inc . . . . .	\$6.00		\$45.00
3730 Euclid Ave. Included		per day	5 days
Express 0180		over 6 days	
Women's A.A. Hospital. . . . .	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$40.00
12214 Detroit Ave. Academy 4688			
Wright Nursing Home. . . . .		Call for information	
1531% Detroit Ave. Academy 4879			

\*Hospitalization recognition.

**GROUP MEETINGS**

**Monday**

Borton . . . . .	13331 Euclid Ave. . . . .	8:45
Lee Road . . . . .	1637 Lee Road . . . . .	8:30
Lakewood . . . . .	Townsend Hall, 15903 Detroit Ave . . . . .	8:30
Lake Shore . . . . .	Lake Shore Hotel, Dinner at 7:30, Meeting at . . . . .	8:30
Lorain Ave. . . . .	Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain . . . . .	8:30
Miles Ave. . . . .	12907 Union Ave. . . . .	8:30
Shaker Heights . . . . .	Shaker Jr. High, S. Woodland and Woodbury . . . . .	8:30
South East Group . . . . .	10203 Miles Ave . . . . .	8:30

**Tuesday**

Wade Park . . . . .	Emmanuel Church (Rear), 8614 Euclid . . . . .	8:30
West Side Men's . . . . .	Pilgrim Church, W. 14th and Starkweather . . . . .	8:30
Douglas, Mansfield O. . . . .	North Lake Park, Sec. Address, 147 W. First St., Mansfield, O. . . . .	8:30

**Wednesday**

Crawford Men's . . . . .	8920 Euclid Ave. . . . .	9:00
Brooklyn . . . . .	ii. of P. Hall, Broadview and Pearl Rd . . . . .	8:30
Lee Road . . . . .	1637 Lee Road . . . . .	8:30
Collinwood . . . . .	14709 St. Clair Ave . . . . .	8:30
Women's . . . . .	12214 Detroit Ave. . . . .	8:30
Lorain, Ohio . . . . .	Antlers Hotel . . . . .	8:30

**Thursday**

Lee Road . . . . .	1637 Lee Road . . . . .	8:30
West 25th St. . . . .	Schmotzer's Hall, W. 25th and Erin Ave . . . . .	8:30
Glenville . . . . .	E. 105th and Marlowe . . . . .	8:30

**Friday**

Lee Road . . . . .	1637 Lee Road . . . . .	8:30
Avon Lake . . . . .	1112 W. Erie, Lorain . . . . .	8:30
Berca . . . . .	Bagley and Seminary . . . . .	8:30
Gordon Square . . . . .	CIO Hall, 6221 Detroit Ave. . . . .	8:30
Brooklyn-Parma . . . . .	4427 Pearl Rd . . . . .	8:30
Rocky River . . . . .	Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit Rd . . . . .	8:30

**Sunday**

Crawford Training . . . . .	8920 Euclid Ave . . . . .	2:00
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**Morning Meetings**

<i>Wednesday Mornings</i>	Collinwood . . . . .	14709 St. Clair Ave . . . . .	10:00 A. 31.
<i>Thursday Mornings</i>	West 25th St. . . . .	Schmotzer's Hall, W. 25th and Erin Ave.,	10:00 A. M.

**1st Tuesday every month**

Central Committee . . . . .	8920 Euclid Ave . . . . .	8:30
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**A PLEA TO SECRETARIES**

Please mail to Box 1638, Station C, an up-to-date list of men in the armed forces. Two Bulletins were returned to us because of faulty addresses. So if you will contact the relatives of your A. A. members as soon as you get through reading this Bulletin, get their correct and latest addresses and send them to us, we will mail this Bulletin to the new address immediately.

The two Bulletins returned were sent to Capt. Paul F. Siegel and Pvt. Norman Gavin. Any information concerning their new addresses please forward.

## THE CORINTHIANS

In September, 1941, eight members of the Lee Road groups formed a social club composed of A. A. members who had been total abstainers for a year or more.

Since then, this club, the "Corinthians", has had continued growth. It was formed to encourage complete abstinence indefinitely, to further social activity and to contribute toward the better understanding of the essential principles of A. A.

To be a member, an A. A. must have had absolutely nothing to drink for more than a year, and must continue to carry on his active membership in his regular A. A. group.

The Corinthians have outgrown their original quarters at Tudor Arms Hotel and are now quartered in Channing Hall, Euclid avenue and East 82nd street, where they meet every Tuesday evening.

The members' wives are entertained at least once a month.

Some of the group's recent social affairs have been group attendance at the Navy-Notre Dame football game and at the Ice Follies.

One coming event is an entertainment for the ladies, with refreshments served by the men. A New Year's Eve party also is planned.

## THE CENTRAL CORIRIITTEE

Each group in A. A. is completely self-governing. Each group is completely free to meet in its own way the problems of helping its members to keep dry.

There are in Greater Cleveland 26 groups, each meeting its own problems in its own way.

The Central Committee has been formed as a means of exchanging information between the groups, and as a means of co-operation in the development of various phases of the work.

It makes no attempt to lay down rules or to determine policy. It makes no attempt to set up a governing body.

Each group is invited to send two members to the Central Committee. Such delegates, who are the entire membership of the Central Committee, have no special powers or authority. They may be instructed by their groups to place certain problems before the Central Committee for discussion, and they may report back to their groups the results of the discussion. But no suggestion of the Central Committee is binding on any group.

The Central Committee has grown out of the feeling on the part of many members that it would serve useful functions. The rapid growth of A. A. in Cleveland presents many problems in method. These problems may be met best by the existence of a central clearing house that can pass on to others the experience of the various groups.

The Central Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month, at 8920 Euclid avenue.

## YOUNGSTOWN MEETS SUNDAYS

The Youngstown groups have a combined meeting every Sunday evening, which virtually every member in the Youngstown region has been attending. The Sunday meetings usually are led by members from out of town: Cleveland, or Pittsburgh or Akron. At these discussion meetings the usual discussion period is omitted, so as to leave the speaker's message fresh in the minds of the members. The first Sunday of every month, the Lisbon group also attends. Several members from the Cleveland area have recently led the Youngstown Sunday night meeting. They report the membership in Youngstown doing fine work and holding to high standards.

If you can't attend meetings (because you are in the armed forces or working evenings in defense factories), don't let that get you down. If you've gotten the fundamentals of A. A. and observe them every day, wherever you are, and if you don't forget the Man Upstairs, you won't get into trouble.

Don't feel sorry for yourself. A. A. is not a shackle: it is a means of setting your spirit free from the shackles of sensuality.

The annual dinner at Hotel Carter cleared \$5 after all expenses were paid.

## LAKWOOD CELEBRATES

Thirty-seven men and women attended the annual reunion and dinner of the founders of the first West Side Group at Cousin's Restaurant, Lakewood, Saturday evening, November 25th. After the turkey dinner there was an informal discussion and talks by all the members. The future welfare of A. A. work was thoroughly discussed. Guests of honor were the man and woman at whose home the first meetings were held in Cleveland and from which meetings the first Lakewood Group was created. What wondrous works God has wrought!

The third annual party celebrating the founding of the Lakewood Group, parent of all West Side Groups, was held at their meeting hall, Saturday evening, November 21st. A pot-luck supper was served and cards and games followed. A large crowd enjoyed the festivities.

The Lakewood Group regrets very much that its third anniversary party interfered with the Women's Group party and dance. It wants the Women's Group to know that they can be called upon at any other time in the future and they assure full cooperation.

In the record, as compiled by Norman Ebert, there is a slight error which should be rectified. The Lakewood Group originated from the Golrick Group, not from the Borton Group as the record indicates.

An unusually large group met at the newly instituted stag meeting of the Lakewood Group on the first Monday in the month. It met with hearty accord as was indicated by the surprising number of members who got up on their feet and talked who never before had done it—evidently the ladies scared 'em.

## A. A. ON RADIO

A. A. is going on the radio. The publicity committee, composed of members from both east side and west side groups, is working on a script for the organization's first radio program, which is designed to let those who have a problem know that there is something they can do about it. Naturally, the broadcasts will be completely anonymous.

## WOMEN'S GROUP

The Thanksgiving dance given at the Gordon Square Group's hall, 6221 Detroit avenue, was a whopping success, the Women's Group reports. They wish to thank all members of A. A. who helped put it over. The food and orchestra were excellent as was the "punch" and a good time was had by all with an urgent request for another one soon on the parting lips of the guests.

## TELEPHONE SERVICE

A. A. now is listed in the phone book as A. A. Associates giving us the first position in the book, and also as Alcoholics Anonymous. In the first week, before the dispatching system could be worked out four telephone calls were received, by out of town visitors, and persons wishing to contact A. A. by calling information, to see if we were listed.

A dispatching system has been set up, so that these calls will be received twenty-four hours a day, with three members on the east side and three members on the west side, as centrally located as possible. Another big step ahead, by your central committee.

## JUST FOR TODAY

Lord, for tomorrow and its needs I do not pray;  
Keep me, my God, from stain of sin just for today;  
Let me no wrong or idle word unthinking say.  
Set thou a seal upon my lips, just for today.  
Let me both diligently work and duly pray.  
Let me be kind in word and deed, just for today.  
Let me in season, Lord, be grave, in season gay;  
So for tomorrow and its needs I do not pray.  
But keep me, guide me, love me, Lord, just for today.