
Essay

November 1989

Post Office Box 300
Simi Valley, California 93062

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNITY CONFERENCE October 1989

It was a very good convention. I thought the highlight of the convention was the two meetings on the Traditions where people wrote about the Unity Tradition and what worked against it and what worked for unity... There were... probably 250 there. Of these, there were 61 S-Anons there... a record for S-Anon attendance in any convention... I felt the general tone of the convention was excellent and very fruitful and productive and that the emphasis on the Traditions and taking SA inventory is a milestone and a first, and a breakthrough that should, under God, help SA in the future.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW GROUPS

Hudson, AL
Sherman Oaks, CA
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
Ft. Myers, FL
Ft. Walton Beach, FL
Crystal Lake, IL
Richmond, IN
Chanute, KS
Newton, KS
Ulysses, KS
Minden, NE
Long Branch, NJ

Yonkers, NY
Bartlesville, OK
Corvallis, OR
The Dells, OR
Allentown, PA
Rapid City SD
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
Richmond, VA
Virginia Beach, VA
Lewis County, WA
Seattle, WA

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by ESSAY or the Central Office.

SA/S-Anon International Convention

January 12,13,14, 1990 Nashville, TN

Please call the Central Office, (805) 581-3343, if you did not receive the special mailing announcing this convention to be held at Holiday Inn Briley Parkway and Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN 37210, (615)883-9770.

Baltimore, MD/Washington, DC

July 13,14,15, 1990

Further details forthcoming in ESSAY.

FROM THE EDITOR

Every November, the *AA Grapevine* has what is called its "Classic Issue," reprinting articles from AA's past that are relevant to today. The November 1989 issue of the *Grapevine* has two articles that may be of interest to us in SA. One is, "*Little Rock Plan Gives Prospects Close Attention.*" The Little Rock Plan for newcomer alcoholics was a very interesting experiment in 1947 AA. It was a structured plan that claimed a lower slip rate than the national average. I'd like feedback on what SA members think of trying a modified version of such a plan in SA. The other article is, "*Our Primary Purpose and the Special-Purpose Group,*" from the 1977 *Grapevine*. This article discusses the concept of special-purpose meetings versus special purpose groups, which are a controversial topic. What do members think about the issues raised in these articles as they may apply to us in SA?

NOTES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

We are once again asking that checks sent to the Central Office be accompanied by a brief note or explanation on the check telling us the purpose of the check, money order, or cash. For example, group donation, personal donation, or literature order.

We have acquired additional office space, which was sorely needed. Sincere thanks to the local members who came in on a Saturday and helped with the big move.

We are still receiving inquiries from the "Dear Abby" letter, but not in the quantity we did in months past.

All groups that have Post Office Boxes or answering services, please keep us up-to-date. We can then send this information to first inquiries without fear of anyone losing their anonymity.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Foreign Meetings?

We have heard there are SA meetings in India and Egypt. If anyone has particulars, please let us know at the Central Office.

First-Timers Meetings?

We ask that any groups that have come up with special formats for first-timers meetings share them with the Central Office. We have no suggested guidelines for conducting special meetings for inquirers, but there is a growing need for this. If your group has one that is working for you, please send it in. In other words, what is your procedure with newcomers (inquirers) meetings? How do you conduct the meeting and who leads and participates?

Recovery Continues

It is anticipated that *Recovery Continues* and *Member Stories - 1989* will be available from the Central Office in February 1990.

GROUP NEWS

Nashville, TN: "....We are just about to add one more women's stag meeting and another Friday meeting, too. Our 'original' Thursday meeting just moved its site to accommodate the steady 30+ attendance plus an S-Anon running between 10-15 each time. This program is a miracle." D.M.

Milwaukee, WI: "....Milwaukee has been experiencing explosive growth. Between the aftermath of the conference and the referrals to our phone line, we all have been Twelve Stepping. Our Friday night group that had five people when I started two years ago is being forced to move because we need more space. Last week we had 23, and we keep getting more Twelve Step calls. Thank God the word is starting to spread in Milwaukee that there is hope, there is help for sex addiction." C.C.

Plainville, MA: "Greetings from the group in Providence, RI. We are alive and well. Our meeting is growing and now has a basic group of regulars who have some sobriety. It is really exciting to see the group grow. Our meeting is a Big Book (SA) meeting. It is amazing to see the newcomers surprise when the Big Book 'speaks' to them at their first meeting. One of the differences in our meeting is that we have a ten-minute period to think about the passage we just read and several thought provoking questions one of our members has made up. The book is so well written and addresses the issues in such a manner, that it stimulates a great deal of thought among our members about their own situation. For myself, the section on a husband and wife being spiritually bonded together has helped me get through some rough decisions about my own marriage. The group is really excited about the revised Big Book that we have had a glimpse of at the Boston meeting...." C. K.

San Diego, CA: "Greetings from our San Diego Friday night men's meeting...When I first came into the program 14 months ago, there were four or five at this meeting. Now we average 23 or 24 and sometimes have 30. Working the Steps, coming to meetings and sharing, the fellowship works...." G.A.

Winnipeg, Canada: "In the last month, the group has grown from three regular members to what looks like will be an additional four new members." K.J.

Watertown, WI: "The Lord my God and Savior has been doing an awesome work in the Watertown area SA group. It's so awesome to see people healed in their own bondage finally break free with honesty and working the Steps. People have been

showing up from out of the blue. Prayer and God's time is so wonderful." **The Watertown group**

Chicago, IL: "...Our attendance has fallen somewhat in the past two months, but our spirits are growing and recovery is still spreading in the West Suburban area...." **M.F.**

Syracuse, NY: "This letter is to let you know we have an SA meeting in **Syracuse, New York**. This letter is quite late, for we have been meeting for over two years! We have some good sobriety, two members well over a year, and some with four to six months. We have 15 members and a strong support group. We have had **Rochester** members come participate in a few meetings and some of us have made the trip to a few **Rochester** SA meetings. We all thank our Higher Power for this program and support group. We are getting stronger..." **J.B.**

Atlanta, GA: "SA is officially started in **Atlanta**. I'm so excited. All of my fellowship experience and strength is coming in handy for starting new groups...." **M.H.**

Rochester, MN: "We would like to announce the formation of a new SA group in **Rochester, MN**. We welcome newcomers and appreciate any referrals SA can send our way...." **T.T.**

San Luis Obispo Group: "Our group here in **Central California** is doing well. By the patience of God, I've been able to maintain my sexual sobriety for over two years now, so our little meeting here is certainly serving its purpose--or my purpose, that is. There are three of us and our meetings consist of reading literature or listening to a taped speaker from one of our many semi-annual SA conventions, and then discussing how it applies or does not apply to us. The others seem to be doing okay as well; one of the guys just celebrated his ninety-day birthday.

"I'm grateful to the fellowship of Sexaholics Anonymous for allowing me a second opportunity (or first, for that matter) to participate in the gift of life. Though I have my struggles and trials and fears and discouraging moments, I also have my joys and some truly almost miraculous moments of happiness. I've had some consistency with 'emotional sobriety' that I have never experienced before! It's both scary and wonderful. If I've been blessed with all this in only two years of sobriety, what beauty will develop in the many years to come?..." **R.G.**

Casper, WY: "SA is alive and well in **Casper**. Two of us have been meeting each Monday night for several months now, and we have just had the first response to our notice in the newspaper...." **L.E.**

Glen Ellyn, IL: "Hello again from **Glen Ellyn SA**. I'm pleased to report three weeks of attendance over 20...S-Anon, which meets in the same building at the same time, has been running around 12 on meeting night. The participants' level of sobriety has attracted several, and the 'old timers' benefit from the reminders of their origins as many have given their First Step to the group. The feelings of true fellowship are being formed and firmed. It's a good group. I'm glad to be a part of it. Last Thursday marked the first anniversary of the group begun by two from the Wednesday night **Elmhurst, IL** group. One of the two is now in **Atlanta**, the other still involved at both Thursday and Wednesday night meetings...." **J.R.**

Nashville, TN: "Another progress report from **Nashville**. Things are just going great here. As I had mentioned, we are up to 11 meetings a week and the remarkable part is that many of these meetings are averaging from 15 to 25 people. At some of these meetings I attend, I can't believe my eyes. We get many calls every week on our answering service, and one man in particular in our group has handled this quite adequately. Our recovery base continues to grow and with each new generation of people coming in their recovery appears to grow exponentially from the previous generation...." **H.A.**

Pine Bluff, AR: "I'd like to express my utmost appreciation to the Central Office for the vast help in providing books and other materials for us to use in our SA recovery program here at the Diagnostic Unit. There is absolutely no way we could have made it without this help as we do not have the financial wherewithal to purchase the needed materials...." **J.N.**

Niles, IL: "...I, myself, have almost 11 months sobriety. Our group averages out to about 15 to 20 each week. We had a lady in our group who is going to be celebrating one year of sobriety..." **B.M.**

Centralia, WA: "I would like to formally announce the beginning of our **Lewis County SA**. We just completed our second formatted meeting of Sexaholics Anonymous. We have expanded from three to six members by the second meeting...." **C. G.**

Staunton, VA: "The LORD is good. We have gotten a meeting place...Two, sometimes three, and yes, there are times I meet alone, but those are rare..." **B.F.**

Sherman Oaks, CA: "Here is a donation from the Monday noon SA meeting in Sherman Oaks. We have five to seven members with sobriety from two and one-half years to two and one-half days...." **S.B.**

Akron, OH: "We are averaging about eight to ten people per meeting as of late. We get some people who drift in and out. But still there are a lot of people in the **Akron** area who have been touched and helped by SA. We hope someday to get more than one meeting in the area so that we addicts can connect more often. God bless you in your work." **P.O.**

Ft. Valley, GA: "The **Warner Robins 12 by 12 Group** is a year and a half old, and we now have four regulars attending. Growth has been slow and sometimes discouraging, but, looking back, I can see how much the group has grown in spirit and commitment. I'm so grateful to have an 'oasis' where I can go once a week and be refreshed and strengthened--where there's honest sharing and support from other sex addicts..." **A.B.**

SA Rochester, NY: continues to have four meetings a week attended by an average of better than ten persons per meeting..." **T.N.**

"(the donation) is sent with much love and care because that's what I have found most of all. Not only God's love for the first time in a beautiful new way, but love of others and love of myself also, with all my character defects, compulsive talking, etc. I'm the me I am today because of God and SA. We only have today. If I have tomorrow, I hope each new day becomes a new life of joy, of love, peace, but also a lot of work on me--which I need and accept more openly now." **A.L.**

Aurora, IL: "Enclosed is a contribution of...on behalf of the **Chicago Wednesday night group**. Much recovery is happening for us as a result of the program. We have at least four to five members with more than one year of sobriety each. Although I have only a matter of months sobriety, I cannot begin to express my gratitude for this program." **D.N.**

Chanute, KS: "We have only been meeting since April 24, 1989. Monday night, May 15, we had our first visitor. We all felt that we were brought together by the

Higher Power. Keep up the good work. There are so many people that need SA. I believe that the Higher Power will bring them to us. We are small, but we are there every Monday night for those who are looking for help. Thank you for your great program." **B.S.**

"Our Monday night **Boulder, CO** group read Roy's letter concerning the expected deluge of requests due to the 'Dear Abby' column. We happened to be having our monthly business meeting last night, and so decided to send this check to help out. We have moved our meetings into a larger room because they have been consistently growing. We usually have between 20 and 30 folks now and those that come are more often staying. There is increasing sobriety in our fellowship and we thank you for your help in that." **S.K.**

San Angelo, TX: "We are up and struggling again. Two, maybe three members." **A.A.**

Bartlesville, OK: "I was thrilled to receive the kit for the **Bartlesville, OK** group so quickly. We are having one scheduled meeting per week...Last week **Tulsa** group had a visitor from **Los Angeles** (hello, Dick). He was given a contact number in this area by the horfie office (thank you). We were all so glad to know we could be of assistance. It was as if we were already friends. After attending the meeting, we parted comrades. ('We had made the real connection, we were home'). It is such a relief to know the network of meetings is growing and I can go anywhere and be greeted by a friend. Thanks again. SA has saved my life and my sanity." **D.O.**

Huntsville, TX: "In November we are planning on having our Fifth Anniversary here and are hoping to have some outside guests and, hopefully, some of our former members who have been able to get out and through SA, stay out.

"At the present time we have about 20 members in our active group. So far, we have had approximately ten members who have gotten out of **TDC**, found groups to attend on the outside and have been able to stay out. We know we won't always be able to keep our 100% mark, but I do believe that this does show that our program works for the people that are sincerely honest with themselves...." **E.N.**

Ann Arbor, MI: "After meeting for one and one-half years in a member's home, we were finally able to rent a church facility for our weekly meetings. We're all thrilled with our new location! We have several new members coming plus the usual

12-15. So we are slowly growing and working our sobriety thanks to the SA program!" J.K.

Ellisville, MO: "We are excited about the growth of SA here in St. Louis. Our Friday men's group now consistently has 20 to 25 members each week! There are eight of us in this group with over 18 months sobriety. We appreciate your efforts and good works." J.R.

Winnipeg, Manitoba: "Thank you for the newsletters. Our group has about 10-11 people come and go. There are three regular attenders to the weekly meeting. The sobriety ranges from two months to 11 months...." K.J.

Gooding, ID: "Here is...for the coffers! Glad we are growing nationally. Gooding/Twin Falls meetings are continuing to grow also. V.R.

Salt Lake City, UT: "We had a picnic potluck last Saturday in celebration of SA of Utah. One six-year medallion, two four-year, and several under one year. It was fun." B.T.

FEEDBACK CORNER

(In the October 1988 issue of ESSAY, we began running items from groups and members requesting feedback on various topics. In the intervening ESSAY issues, we have printed member and group responses. With this issue, we are making this a regular feature of ESSAY and calling it FEEDBACK CORNER. Mail your feedback requests and/or responses to these topics to Central Office. Identify the item you are responding to and whether your response represents your own personal experience or that of your group. -- Ed.)

Two women members ask: "We are very interested in knowing the experiences of other groups and members on the matter of hugging between members."

MEMBER NEWS

Baltimore, MD: "...I haven't written you for a considerable time. I had joined SA when a prison chapter was begun at the Medium facility of the Kansas State Penitentiary in May, 1986, and I was a loyal participant there, got to know **Matt** well, until I was transferred to Wichita, KS, in 1988. I then became acquainted with the good dedicated SA members in Wichita, introduced to the group through **Betty**, who was so loyal to pick me up at the work release facility where I lived for nearly a year. Then on house arrest status, I attended meetings on my own.

"...I paroled to **Baltimore** where I'm now located. I have met **John** who has introduced me to two good SA groups. Unfortunately, my work schedule has caused some difficulties in attending meetings, but the grace of God just got me transferred to a new time schedule and I will be seeing those good supportive SA people now...."
W.B.

Smyrna, TN: "I have recently gotten into the SA fellowship, and my life has changed. I am so grateful...." **A.T.**

Rochester, NY: "...I just came back from church and I feel so blessed to be in a program of recovery. I waited 38 years to find such a life-saving and changing place for me to work on life itself. I still take control too often and forget like I've been doing almost all 40 years of my life that God's in charge. Today is my second anniversary of sobriety in SA and I got such a warm and wonderful feeling during and after church thanking God and thinking of all the things God has pulled me through by working the Steps...." **A.L.**

Loveland, CO: "First of all, I want to tell you that I'm very grateful that SA exists. I first came into the program in March of '89. I now have six months and six days of sobriety as of today. Sexaholics Anonymous has literally saved my life and from going to the meetings and working the Steps, I am beginning a relationship with a power greater than myself. It's hard to put into words how much SA has changed me...." **D.G.**

Seattle, WA: "...I've been given a life better than any one I imagined by looking on the outside of all the 'happy, wealthy, normal, people' out there. They may never know a victory like ours. Wow. We are SPECIAL, CHOSEN. WOW....It seems the past seven months have passed so quickly, almost effortlessly. I truly believe

that the more I give to others in the program, the more I *get* from them. Thank you all for giving to me, who you never met." J.H.

Wichita, KS: "I am enclosing a personal gift. SA has come to mean so much to me. I've been involved since Dec. 13, 1988 and sober since January 18, 1989. I've been a Christian for 20 years, but was never able to figure out how to stop the acting out. Needless to say, I'm very grateful to God for today and to SA." M.B.

Twentynine Palms, CA: "God is giving me many opportunities to surrender my impatience and need to control everything around me--including the rate at which I can 'attract' members here...." S.M.

Bethany, OK: "....We appreciate all your efforts. In the year and ten months I've been in SA, I've seen a lot of people come and go. However, there are those who stay and they're the ones who really seem to want what we have to offer. I'm really grateful for this program." S.L.

Welland, Ontario: "I have just recently joined an SA group in **Buffalo**. My life is already deeply affected by this group of very sincere and dedicated blood brothers...." J.F.

Berkeley, CA: "On October 7, 1989, at the Southern California Regional Convention (held in Orange County October 6, 7, and 8), the Women's Willingness Group was born. This was a joint meeting of SA and S-Anon women. An S-Anon woman shared her (my) story in a more open way than I had ever been able to share my story in the SA meetings I've been attending for four years. We found that our issues are not separate; we are not separate. If I'm an SA, I'm also an S-Anon. Recovery is not isolated, separated, or divided; it is the end of failure to connect with ourselves and others. This gave me an opportunity for more rigorous honesty in my sharing and an appropriate place for it. (The Women's Willingness meeting has already started in the **Los Angeles** area.)" Bonnie

Newburg, OR: "I can't do recovery by myself. That's for sure. I have tried it often enough and failed. At the same time for me to be in recovery, and stay in recovery, I must do my own inventory. No one else can do it for me. As a matter of fact, no one else can even be certain that I am doing it -- fearlessly and searchingly -- when I do share it. No one else dares to pretend to know me well to do it. Therefore, these two things are true for me: I can't do my own recovery, I must do my own inventory.

"Other-people-doing-my-inventory was one of the elements I employed to get here (i.e., into my addiction to lust). Any criticism that was offered I took in, even if at the same time I argued most profusely. Others-doing-my-inventory was always a grand opportunity for me to flee from reality into my secrecy and shame. I'm sure that whenever this happens, no matter how long I live, I could do the same.

"Our meeting format and guidelines are essential safeguards against our ingrained tendency to give and accept Other Peoples Inventory. 'No cross talk, please' and 'No advice.'

"I must do my own inventory only, in order to begin, continue, and remain in recovery. For me, other people doing my inventory can be a huge stumbling block upon which I can trip and fall. It is equally as dangerous and slippery for me to do another's. I'm so good at it. I have been doing it for so long. Practice makes perfect. In addition, it's been such a powerful force in keeping my addiction going.

"I am aware that when I form my lists against another, whoever that may be, I can replenish my resentment bank account. As with many other careful investments there is always the cherished increase through interest (compounded, in fact). I was not in the program very long before I was forced into the awareness that resentment is as great or perhaps a greater addiction than lust, as destructive as lust is.

"My doing another's inventory is a fine tool, honed sharply, for maintaining my self-justifying skills. In fact, all aspects of my mental system are sharpened. I use it to blind myself to my own negative behavior. I find it handy for minimizing my actions, especially when compared to some people. There is a game people play called 'Wooden Leg.' What do you expect from someone with a wooden leg? That works fine until you watch that Canadian who ice skates on one. So what do you expect from someone who has put up with all these things on my list? Poor Me!

"An added harvest I've come to expect from my doing another's inventory is that the other is almost certain to feel compelled to return the favor. We may get into an argument and become abusive, or go quiet and run away. Once more I have a set-up for returning to my addictive thinking, feeling, and acting. Through the years, I've noticed that relationships become strained or broken whenever another person and I exchange inventories. Much suffering, pain, and isolation comes out of such behavior. We have been invited to a new freedom and joy by the words of Jesus when he said, 'Judge not,' and, 'Why do you look at the speck of sawdust that is in

your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank that is in your own eye?"

"Now, in this Spiritual program given us by God, I have experienced how healing it is when I do my own inventory, no one else's and no one else does mine. Recovery is possible only when I focus on the plank and let the others deal with their specks.

"Keep coming back, It's working." B.C.

Anonamous: "This is the story of a Lust-aholic leading two incompatible lives and at the same time almost cracking up while doing so. I grew up in a Christian family. My father died when I was three, and as a result my mother stayed depressed for many years. In a way we children grew up alone. It was during my childhood that I closed up inside and turned by heart away from family and friends. Being shy and over-sensitive I felt inferior to others and disconnected, hiding real feelings behind a 'sunny boy' facade. Often I felt helpless and lonely, especially when not the center of attention.

"At sixteen I discovered sex with self. At first it was an innocent experience of felling high but within weeks it became a remedy for everytime I felt discomfort, like fear, anger, loneliness, or depression. Being insecure, oversensitive, and touchy, I needed such a powerful drug to 'overcome' the daily disappointments.

"When leaving home at eighteen, I had been a lust addict for almost two years. Within a couple of months on my own, I had discovered new forms of lust: magazines, movies and relationships. I had filled the newly gained independence almost totally with self-destructive lust. The disease had progressed.

"Ten years of continuous acting out went by before I hit bottom. Hitting bottom was not one certain experience but, a time span of total orientation towards lust, while at the same time acting on the outside as a 'normal' person. It was splitting me in two. I was a student and visiting my family at Christmas time. It was a pleasant loving family atmosphere, yet I couldn't connect. Being not the center of attention, I felt this emptiness and loneliness inside. This seemed unbearable. I used an excuse to leave alone and go downtown. Going to porno movies in this kind of situation had been the usual thing. This time, however, I headed for a peep-show. I had never visited one before, and it was revolting to me. I left immediately, feeling guilty and even more lonely. I knew I would never go there again. Twenty ninutes later I was back and stayed there until all my money was spent. Later that evening, having

returned to my family's house, I lied about where I had been. The double life was becoming harder to bear.

"As the disease was progressing, the rationalizations for acting out became more distorted. Not having a girlfriend, or having the wrong girlfriend, feeling hurt or alone, etc., these were my excuses for acting out in the beginning. In the last years before recovery my reasons had totally lost contact with reality. I started to blame the women I was exploiting. 'If she wouldn't have treated me that way I wouldn't have had to . . . ' During the time I hit bottom my mind was totally occupied with lust and I thought that everybody's mind was working like mine. I thought everyone wanted the same sick things that I wanted. Demonic thoughts with criminal impact!

"Eight years ago I had a chance to work in a spiritual-therapeutic community, where it was easy to be open and to feel at home. It seemed like a part of paradise, and I thought I would never need to act out again. Three months later I went back out there. My double life had become unbearable. Being part of a spiritual community and at the same time acting out sexually was tearing me apart. I was full of fear and nearly cracking up. For the first time it started to dawn on me that my rationalizations for acting out were not true. Something was wrong with me and I needed to stop it.

"Although nonalcoholic, I started to occasionally attend AA meetings. Intuitively I threw away my magazines and quit going back out there. This was the beginning. Most of my motivation to stop came out of my fear of discovery. I was still acting out in relationships, and sex with self had been uninterrupted since the beginning. I was attending AA meetings irregularly and not working the program. I still did not really know what the problem was.

"Six years ago I got hold of an SA brochure. I immediately indentified. I now knew that lust was my problem. I was finally able to stop sex with self and acting out in relationships. More importantly, SA showed me the way to God. I was beginning to learn to bring my lustful mind into God's presence, asking Him to bear what I could no longer bear alone. This is where I am still today. It is a miracle to me that it is my lust which is the constant motor for union with my Higher Power.

"Even though God removes my lust when I admit to him what I am, I still want to hang on to some of it. Sometimes I deliberately turn away from God and towards lust. Although abstinent from sex with self, in times of prolonged sexual abstinence with my wife, I have emissions in my sleep. They occurred during lustful or fearful

dreams or no dreams at all. It has been my experience that I need to reset my sobriety clock every time one of these emissions occurs. In the beginning when I hadn't done that, they began to occur more often. Without being consciously aware, it seems that I had transferred the unsundered lust of the day to my sleep. In the last five years I have had about ten of these nightly emissions and it has been a humbling and necessary experience to share these in my group. It told me and still tells me today who and where I really am. (My last emission was five months ago.)

"The changes God has put me through since coming to SA are not short of a miracle. Even though the changing of character defects is a slow and sometimes painful process, it is getting better day by day. As lusting and day-dreaming have lessened, my line of thought has become clearer and more realistic. Concentration and effectiveness have increased. Work is done in a more mature and responsible way. The world doesn't shake anymore when I feel criticized. Since my guilt feelings have diminished, so has my fear of people. Jealousy has lessened in proportion to my surrendered lust. I have begun to see the needs of others and feel compassion for my fellow man. I feel the obligation to provide for my family. Sometimes I am getting a glimpse of what love is. But, above all, God has come into my life. Prayer has again become possible. The peace of mind I get from praying is something I would have never thought possible before.

"Today I have been married more than five years. We have two little children and thanks to God and SA, our marriage has been blessed. The darkness of the peep show and the light I see when looking into my children's eyes are things I never want to forget." **Anonymous**

LITERATURE SALES

Second Quarter 1989

Books	812
Meeting Guides	75
Brochures	3520

Third Quarter 1989

Books	2188
Meeting Guides	26
Brochures	3561

THIRD QUARTER DONATIONS 1989

Albuquerque, NM	104.35	Newton, KS	80.00
Alhambra, CA	100.00	Niles, IL	20.00
Anaheim, CA	81.70	North Hollywood, CA	336.37
Appleton, WI	51.00	Northern Virginia	25.00
Atlanta, GA	25.00	Oklahoma City, OK	78.00
Baltimore, MD	390.49	Palm Desert, CA	15.00
Bloomington, IL	23.00	Pine Bluff, AR	37.00
Bozeman, MT	30.00	Pittsburgh, PA	175.55
Camarillo, CA	177.78	Portland, OR	213.25
Cambridge, MA	5.00	Redlands, CA	51.17
Castanea, PA	15.00	Riverside, CA	108.50
Chicago, IL	252.53	Rochester, MN	10.00
Cleveland, OH	140.00	Rochester, NY	511.19
Connecticut	80.00	Salem, OR	16.00
Denver, CO	26.80	Salt Lake City, UT	32.00
Erie, PA	40.00	Santa Barbara, CA	26.55
Fairfield County, CT	50.00	Santa Cruz, CA	28.05
Ft. Collins, CO	30.00	Saskatoon	50.00
Glen Ellyn, IL	40.00	Seattle, WA	113.50
Gooding, ID	155.00	Stamford, CT	200.00
Great Falls, MT	10.00	Staunton, VA	20.00
Hacienda Heights, CA	50.00	Syracuse, NY	322.00
Houston, TX	90.00	Tacoma, WA	11.60
Huntsville, AL	5.00	Tulsa, OK	7.50
Inglewood, CA	115.00	Vancouver, B.C.	170.00
Irvine, CA	298.00	Villa Park, IL	50.00
Kansas City	240.00	Washington, DC	235.00
Lancaster, CA	27.00	Watertown, WI	64.05
Laurel, MD	95.58	West Los Angeles, CA	240.15
Long Beach, CA	106.00	Westport, CT	120.00
Los Angeles, CA	5.00	Wichita, KS	68.00
Lynnwood, WA	48.54	Yukon, OK	103.82
Milwaukee, WI	429.88		
Milwaukee Convention	661.85	Group Donations	\$8,444.95
Nashville, TN	247.00	Individual Donations	\$4,325.40
New York City	345.00	Total Donations	\$12,770.35

STATEMENT OF INCOME \$ EXPENSES

July 1 to September 30, 1989

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
INCOME		
Gross Receipts	32,552.59	75,511.59
Total Income	32,552.59	75,511.59
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Accounting	300.00	500.00
Advertising	72.53	72.53
Automobile Expenses	271.50	507.50
Bank Charges	8.00	29.00
Charity	20.00	20.00
Deliveries	76.27	76.27
Miscellaneous		16.56
Postage	2,171.25	4,641.94
Patents	200.00	200.00
Printing, Etc.	9,154.58	30,800.58
Professional Services	11,201.55	25,280.55
Refunds		115.00
Repairs		121.00
Rent	2,054.55	3,944.55
Sales Tax	437.00	437.00
Supplies	1,362.03	3,515.88
Taxes-General		35.00
Telephone	<u>1,523.81</u>	<u>4,494.81</u>
Total Operating Expenses	28,853.07	74,808.17
NET INCOME OR LOSS	<u>3,699.52</u>	<u>703.42</u>

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as endorsement by SSSAT or the Central Office.

SAF 2000 International Convention

January 12, 13, 14, 1990 Nashville, TN

Please call the Central Office, (800) 531-3043, if you did not receive the special mailing announcing this convention to be held at the Nashville International Airport and Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN 37210, (615) 961-9770.

Baltimore, MD/Washington, DC

July 13, 14, 15, 1990

Further details forthcoming in SSSAT.

FROM THE EDITOR

Every November, the AA Magazine has what is called its "Open House" reprinting article from AA again. As you know, the magazine is the voice of the Grapevine. The last of the magazine has been called "The Little A-Z File (Over 1000 Pages) Over 1000 Pages." The Little A-Z File is a newcomer's almanac and a very interesting experiment in 1990 AA. It was a significant plan that resulted a lower ship rate than the national average. I'd like feedback on what SA members think of trying a modified version of such a plan in SA. The other article is "Our Primary Purpose and Our Special Purpose Group" from the 1977 Grapevine. This article discusses the concept of special purpose meetings versus special purpose groups, which is a new concept. What do members think about the issues raised in these articles or any other topics in SA?

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