

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (NCCAA)

The CNIA Delegate and the CNIA Chairperson attend the three NCCAA Conferences each year and serve on the steering committee of NCCAA. They also work with the California Northern Coastal Area (CNCA) Delegate and Chairperson in formulating General Service Meetings at such conferences. CNIA presents a General Service Conference report at the June NCC Conference in odd-numbered years.

Purpose of NCCAA

Following is the "Original Resolution Resulting in the Northern California Council of A.A. Resolution of Purpose of Northern California and Nevada Council of A.A."

"Whereas, it is believed that the interest of the work of Alcoholics Anonymous in Northern California and Nevada can be furthered by the creation of the Council which will act as a medium of exchange between member groups for the dissemination of ideas and experiences of mutual interest and to provide whatever services those member groups may deem advisable.

"Whereas, membership in the Council will be open to all A.A. groups in Northern California and Nevada who indicate in writing their desire to participate and that representation in the Council will consist of two representatives from each member group.

"Whereas, in conformity with the Principles of A.A. it shall be incumbent upon the council to provide maximum usefulness with a minimum of organization, and that at no time will the Council take any action that will be mandatory, conflicting or in any way restrictive of the complete freedom of the participating member groups as indicated in points 2 and 4 of the TWELVE POINTS OF TRADITION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS which states:

- (2) "For our group purposes there is but one ultimate authority - a loving god as he may express Himself in our group conscience."
- (4) "With respect to its own affairs, each group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighborhood groups, those groups should be consulted. And no group, regional committee or individual should ever take action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the Trustees of the Alcoholic foundation. On such issues our common welfare is paramount."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that a Northern California-Nevada Council of Alcoholics Anonymous is hereby created under the terms and conditions heretofore set forth."

We all come to A.A. with one objective: to learn how to overcome and control our drinking problem. While there are some "Loners" who find sobriety through A.A., the very great majority are unable to attain that which we all seek, without the help of others. Therefore, we have banded together "Groups" and hold Group Meetings.

But we also learn that groups as isolated units are often unable to solve problems, such as conflicts in personalities, dissensions, and type and handling of meetings. The solution to these problems is often beyond the abilities of the Group within its own membership. We know that our Group future will be fashioned in accord with today's unity or discord.

As a result, we take another big step forward. We learn that the solution is sharing Group Experiences, Strength, and Attainments with each other. We can be eternally grateful that there were a few wise members who realized the importance to the individual of intergroup relations and took steps to develop this relationship.

During 1945, all the groups in Northern California (about 30) sent delegates to a meeting in Oakland. This was the first Group Conference in Northern California. Later the Groups in Nevada were invited to participate.

These group delegates found that each Group, through a Group conference, could share their experience, faith, and hope with each other. In this manner, they were able to solve the common problems which presented themselves in the course of the life and growth of a Group in the Alcoholic fellowship called Alcoholics Anonymous.

We have found no mechanical device through which an A.A. member or group of members can project his individual or collective experience into another member or group of members. Experience is the result of time spent in any objective endeavor. We can share the results, but we are limited to words to describe to our listener. If he listens with an open mind and believes us when we tell him that the stove is hot, he may avoid the burned hands that left scars, the price we paid for our experience.

With slight introspection, we can clearly see that the Northern California Group Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is but an enlarged picture of the problems which confront the individual alcoholic in his relation to his own Group. Through the exchange of ideas, our individual understandings mutually increased. The success of the individual is measured by the love or dissension he brings to his Group. The Group is but an enlarged picture of the individuals who compose it. The Northern California Council is a further enlargement of the same picture of the Group who participates in this Council.