

THE ALMACAN

The most challenging problem we face in the field of occupational alcoholism is to bring about the bankruptcy of the alibi structure in the drinker long before it would occur in the ordinary course of events.

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PROGRAM SET FOR ALMACA CONVENTION

Further details of the program for the Sixth Annual Meeting of ALMACA at the Americana of New York City on October 26-29 are taking shape.

The featured banquet speaker on Friday evening, October 28, 1977, will be Harold Hughes, former Senator from Iowa.

Dr. Ernest P. Noble, Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism will be the keynote speaker. Delegates will be welcomed to New York by Paul O'Dwyer, President of the City Council of New York City. Dr. Paul A. Sherman, President of ALMACA and Director of Special Programs for ITT, will speak at the President's Luncheon on Thursday noon as well as greet members at the reception on Wednesday evening, October 26, 1977 at 7:00 p.m. The Special Awards Luncheon will take place on Friday noon. Recipients are announced in another news item in this issue of the ALMACAN.

Friday's Plenary Session at 8:30 a.m. will feature James S. Kemper, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Kemper Insurance Companies and Friday's luncheon speaker will be Leo Perlis, Director of Community Services, AFL-CIO. On Saturday, the general Plenary Session at 8:30 a.m. will feature Dr. LeClaire Bissell, Chief, Smithers Alcoholism Treatment & Training Center, The Roosevelt Hospital. Father Joseph C. Martin will conduct the general closing session on Saturday morning.

As indicated earlier there will be two tracks of concurrent programs in the following areas: Occupational Alcoholism (administration and consulting); research; treatment; the woman and occupational programs; and labor. A room has been set aside for the continuous showing of important and new films in the field of alcoholism. In addition, a number of conversation hours have been set aside and participants including Ross Von Wiegand, Director, Labor-Management Programs, National Council on Alcoholism, Inc.; Dr. LeClaire Bissell, Chief, Smithers Alcoholism Treatment & Training Center, The Roosevelt Hospital, New York City.

ALMACA TO HONOR THREE PIONEERS AT CONVENTION AWARDS LUNCHEON

Awards for outstanding achievement in the field of occupational alcoholism will be presented to three individuals at ALMACA's Sixth Annual Meeting. The presentations will take place at the Awards Luncheon in the Georgian Ballroom of the Americana of New York, on Friday, October 28, 1977 at 12 noon.

Recipients of these awards will be James S. Kemper, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Kemper Insurance Companies, for an award to a company program recognizing it's and his contributions to occupational alcoholism; Leo Perlis, Director of Community Services, American Federation of Labor and Congress of

Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), for his outstanding contribution to the field of occupational alcoholism; and Ross Von Wiegand, Director, Labor-Management Services, National Council on Alcoholism, Inc. (NCA), as a pioneer and leader in the field of occupational alcoholism and as one of the original founders of ALMACA.

In making the announcement of these awards, Dr. Paul A. Sherman, President of ALMACA and Director of Special Programs for ITT, said "we hope that these awards in some small measure reflect the gratitude of ALMACA to these outstanding leaders for their contributions to occupational alcoholism".

RIGHTS OF ALCOHOLICS TO BE AIRED AT MEETING WITH FEDERAL OFFICIALS

Federal law and regulations that include alcoholics among the handicapped and require affirmative action in their hiring will be discussed in detail at a meeting of the Ad Hoc Forum on Occupational Alcoholism in Washington in early October.

On hand to answer questions about the meaning and implications of the law—Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act—will be representatives of the Departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare.

The Labor Department recently reminded federal contractors and subcontractors that Section 503 prohibits discrimination against qualified handicapped people and requires affirmative action to hire and promote them.

HEW regulations, under Section 504, prohibit discrimination against handicapped people, including alcoholics, in any facilities or programs that receive federal funding.

"The key question here is how the word 'qualified' is defined. It has to be spelled out clearly so that the rights of alcoholics to jobs and services can be fully protected," said Jim Baxter, ALMACA Executive Director.

"There has been considerable misunder-

standing and exaggeration in press reports about this issue. We are concerned with setting the record straight and making sure everyone understands what is involved," Baxter said.

He recently attended a meeting at the Labor Department with Donald Elisburg, Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards, and others to explore the issue and arrange for representation at the September meeting.

Among those attending were Ward McCreedy, Associate Director of Labor's Veterans and Handicapped Workers Program of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs; Dave Drachsler, of the Office of the Associate Solicitor for Labor Relations and Civil Rights; and Don Phillips, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs Manager of the Civil Service Commission.

Similar discussions were being held with HEW and a representative of its Office for Civil Rights is expected at the September meeting.

The Ad Hoc Forum, organized last year, is made up of people interested in the field of occupational alcoholism. It includes representatives from NIAAA and other government agencies, academia, professional groups such as

"continued—pg. 2, col. 1—Rights"

"Continued from page 1—Rights"

ALMACA, voluntary organizations and other interested parties.

Because of limited seating and the high interest level in this topic it is recommended that anyone planning to attend, particularly from outside of the Washington area, contact the ALMACA office (703-620-2577) well in advance.

CAARD ANNOUNCES NEW PROJECT

CAARD, Inc., a California-based alcohol and drug abuse counselor association, has announced a new state-wide comprehensive project for Peer/Professional Certification and Credentialing of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors and other personnel.

Lack of decision on the part of state and national authorities demands action by the concerned private provider groups. . . according to CAARD President Kevin Lydon in Los Angeles.

Although CAARD initiated the first active certification process several years ago, our own state government now lags far behind several other states in establishing this vitally needed action. Nevada, Texas, Missouri, and Michigan, among others, have developed state credentialing for this "new profession." Now CAARD must proceed with this urgent need, added Robert T. Dorris, Executive Director

CAARD has published a manual completely detailing the policies and procedures for certifying and credentialing persons involved in working with victims of alcohol and other drugs liable to addiction. This handbook details the step by step process each applicant must take who seeks documented credibility of his/her expertise in chemical dependency problems.

CAARD will also become more vigorous in the review and assessment of appropriate educational, training, and research programs which direct themselves toward the advancement of this "new Profession."

CAARD "is here to help you to help." Write, CAARD, Inc., 6419 Coldwaater Canyon Boulevard, North Hollywood, California 91606.

CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ALMACAN Date Book | 7 |
| Chapter Activities | 6 |
| Chapter Meetings | 6 |
| Meet Your New Board Members | 5 |
| New Members | 8 |
| OPCA Spotlight. | 4 |

RECOVERED ALCOHOLICS SERVE AS VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer services and support for alcoholism counseling and treatment centers where they were helped are being provided by recovered alcoholics and their families in Pinellas County, Fla.

Members of the group, the Alcoholic Counseling and Treatment Association (ACTA), perform clerical tasks, build bulletin boards and provide similar services in addition to fund raising through bake sales, garage sales and solicitations.

Donald Plank, ACTA President, said the organization monitors legislation and alcohol

program funding, supports alcohol education programs for youth and seeks to establish trust funds with grants and matching funds to improve treatment services and to improve salary structures to draw high caliber professionals into the field.

"This concept of recovered alcoholics and family members returning services to the facilities to which they owe their recovery is an extension of the recovery process itself," said Plank.

For information: Donald Plank, President, ACTA, P.O. Box 15555, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33733.

CONFEREES AGREE ON FUNDING INCREASE 1978 NIAAA MONEY

Senate House Conferees agreed recently on a total of \$168,405,000 to fund NIAAA programs and operations during fiscal year 1978 that begins October 1. That's an increase of \$6.9 million over the amount appropriated for the Institute during the current fiscal year.

The only Institute money item in dispute before the conference was \$7.5 million more for project grants proposed by the Senate than the House had approved. The Conferees split the difference and added only \$3,750,000 for that item.

The NIAAA budget for fiscal 1978 will now include: \$78,758,000 for project grants and contracts, \$56,800,000 for state formula grants, \$16,179,000 for research, \$7,200,000 for training and \$9,468,000 for program support.

The NIAAA funds are part of the \$60 billion Labor-HEW appropriations bill that has still not cleared Congress because of a disagreement over whether federal funds should be used to pay for abortions. Once that issue is settled, the bill will go the President for signature.

NAVY COST BENEFITS STUDY AVAILABLE TO ALMACANS

Analysis of the world's largest alcoholism rehabilitation program following more than two years of data gathering shows that accrued benefits exceed program costs by an overall ratio of 2.2 to 1. The study analyzed costs vs. benefits of personnel replacement and training, hospitalization, accidents, jurisprudence and productivity aspects of Navy and Marine Corps operations. It is believed to be the first comprehensive study of this magnitude and depth made in connection with a single organization's alcoholism treatment effort. Navy facilities during 1976 served 5,077 inpatients and 12,609 outpatients, with load trends continuing upward during the current year.

The Navy study report also includes treatment effectiveness graphs for younger (age 25 and under) and older (age 26 and over) age groups

plotted as a function of time after treatment. Data on rehabilitees are shown at six month intervals up to two years following return to their jobs. The cost-benefits ratio for the older group—which includes a majority of career personnel—exceeds a 5-to-1 ratio due to the significantly higher treatment effectiveness for this group (83% effectiveness measured two years following rehabilitation). An as yet unexplained anomaly in accident rates for subgroups of alcoholics was also revealed by the study.

Single copies of the 31 page report summary (PRESEARCH INC. Technical Report No. 346) are available to ALMACA members by writing Captain S. M. Brownell, USN, Director, Navy Alcoholism Prevention Program, Bureau of Naval Personnel (Pers-64), Washington, D.C. 20370.

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REGISTER NOW FOR SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

Early registrations for ALMACA's Sixth Annual Meeting, October 26-29, 1977, at the Americana of New York City, are coming in rapidly.

Pre-registering for the meeting and purchasing of tickets, for the meal functions, in advance is urged in order to help the meeting committees plan, more effectively and efficiently, the room and seating areas for the various functions. It will also greatly reduce the time you need for picking up your badge, tickets, program and other materials for the meeting.

For meeting information and registration forms, contact: ALMACA, 11800 Sunrise Valley Dr., Suite 410, Reston, VA. 22091, (703) 620-2577.



ROCKFELLER CENTER. Surrounded by the colorful flags of the United Nations, the huge gold figure of Prometheus is located on the West wall of the lower plaza of Rockefeller Center. The statue, designed by Paul Manship, hovers over a cascading fountain which overlooks the outdoor Promenade Cafe in summer and ice rink in winter.

(Picture courtesy of: New York Convention and Visitors Bureau)



LINCOLN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS. Lincoln Center's Metropolitan Opera House draws throngs of New Yorkers and visitors alike. Facade of the New York State Theater is visible at left, Avery Fisher Hall at right.

(Picture courtesy of: New York Convention and Visitors Bureau.)

NIAAA RESEARCH CENTERS TO BE FUNDED THIS YEAR

The NIAAA Alcohol Research Center (ARC) Program is getting under way with \$2 million available for grants to be made before fiscal year 1977 ends on September 30.

Dr. Albert Pawlowski, Chief of the NIAAA Extramural Research Branch, said 33 letters of intent to seek grants had been received by the June 1 deadline. Final applications are due by July 1.

The Institute considers the initial grants as startup money for five-year renewable research programs, although Congress has not earmarked funds for the ARC Program in the fiscal 1978 NIAAA appropriation bill.

However, the funding bill does provide \$16.1 million for research, and an over-all NIAAA increase of \$3 million over the Administration's request. The House Appropriations Committee said "additional resources" are to support the ARC Program. Congress is authorized to appropriate up to \$6 million a year for the ARC Program in fiscal years 1977 through 1979.

The Institute's intention to continue the Program is indicated by its announcement which says applications received after July 1 will be considered in subsequent review periods with deadlines of November 1, 1977, and March 1 and July 1, 1978.

Pawlowski said the Institute has not determined the number of grants to be made this year, but that current thinking is the establishment of four Centers.

Any domestic public or non-profit private institution may apply for a Center grant, but it must be affiliated with an institution, such as a university, medical center or research center that has the resources to sustain a long-term coordinated research program around a central theme relating to alcoholism and other alcohol problems.

Applicants must show the ability to attract high-quality scientists from biomedical, behavioral and social science disciplines willing to make a long-term commitment to alcoholism research.

In addition to a detailed five-year plan, the applicant must assure that alcoholism related research and clinical training opportunities will be available.

Among the possible research themes for Centers are:

- Etiology of alcoholism.
- Effects of alcohol on the central nervous system.
- Pathological/toxic effects of alcohol on the body.
- Behavioral, sociocultural, genetic and epidemiological bases of alcohol abuse and alcoholism.
- Prevention of alcohol abuse and alcoholism, including areas such as the effects of laws relating to alcohol use; effects of the media, economic and social factors in the development of alcoholism.
- Treatment of alcoholism and alcohol problems, including various biological, behavioral and social modalities of treatment.

Training opportunities are an important part of the ARC Program. In addition to training of research and clinical personnel, the Centers are expected to provide opportunities for courses and research for undergraduate and graduate students and for other personnel in the prevention and treatment of alcoholism and other alcohol problems.

Support will be provided for an initial period of five years, renewable for subsequent five-year periods. Up to \$500,000 may be requested for the first year and up to \$1 million for each of four subsequent years.

The actual amount of support will depend on appropriateness of the proposed Center budget as well as availability of funds. Although grants are planned for five-year periods, NIAAA will conduct annual reviews of each Center.

For the ARC Program announcement and application guidelines, write to: NIAAA, Division of Extramural Research, Extramural Research Branch, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 16C-26, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

FATHER MARTIN PRESENTS NEW FILMS

Father Joseph C. Martin was the guest of honor at a reception on July 26, 1977 at the Long Beach Memorial Hospital, Long Beach, California. The reception was given by FMS Productions to present Father Martin's two newest films, "Alcoholism and the Family" and "Alcoholism and Industry." Some 1,200 people attended the reception including many ALMACA members, AA people, representatives of industries with Employee Assistance Programs, hospital personnel, and Alcoholism council representatives.

Both of Father Martin's new films will be shown at ALMACA's Sixth Annual Meeting at the Americana of New York City, October 26-29, 1977. Father Martin will also be the featured speaker at the general closing session of the meeting Saturday morning, October 29.



Father Joseph C. Martin, July 26, 1977, Long Beach, California.

OPCA SPOTLIGHT

An outstanding program is being developed for the OPCA Annual Meeting in New York, October 26, 1977. The meeting is planned to be held at the City Squire Hotel (across from the AMERICANA). The topics of the program include:

- the professionalism of occupational program consulting,
- the present status of OPC network within the states,
- a review of the state of the art of occupational program consulting that has evolved in the past five years, and
- Don Godwin Chief, Occupational Programs Branch, NIAAA is going to speak on the future directions of occupational programming.

Also planned is an open forum that will consist of active OPC's discussing current issues and activities vital to occupational program consulting. The program will be completed with a business meeting and election of officers.

All members of OPCA and many non-members will be receiving a mailing containing detailed information in the near future.

See you in New York at the OPCA & ALMACA Annual Meetings!

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For information, write or call Verlin Chalmers, Director of Alcoholism Recovery Program, St. Helena Hospital and Health Center, Deer Park, California 94576. 707/963-9455

