

UNIT NEWS

Membership Services

Synopsis

by Yasumasa Bray

Here's another fire branded, hot-off-the-coals interview with Fabulous Mark. Of course, he is once more being interviewed by the roving reporter, Yas Bray.

Well, here we go. The Thrift Store is doing very well. It averages about \$10 per day now. We have, in the last three weeks, raised \$300 for the Members Education Fund. The Member Services unit has pledged to raise \$600 by August 1st. This money will be used to help send members and staff to the International Clubhouse Seminar.

We are in the process of getting better coffee in the Snack Bar. As most members know, coffee has gone up to thirty cents for a large cup and fifteen cents for a small cup. This was done because the budget was going over its limits. The Bank continues to grow. We have approximately fifteen to twenty accounts. Loren McGeehan and Charles Moos are two outstanding members in this Unit. They'll be starting their new jobs at the University Hospital Housekeeping. They are doing well. We wish them luck and want to say we will miss them

here at Member Services.

Communications

Unit Report

by John Adams

ATTENTION: Club Members. Have we got news for you. So, fasten your space suit, this rocket is about to land on the planets. **At Stop #1:** Breakfast with the boss was an elegant affair. Everyone that attended praised the efforts of Denis, Irene and Jon. These three cadets served Potato Egg Casserole and Grapefruit.

At Stop #2: We have two new members working with us. Johnny McDonald, who is becoming proficient on the typewriter, and making posters on the computer. Our other new member is Jerry Anne Rowley, who has expressed interest in the computers. So, members, please come and make them welcome, and while you're up here in the Unit, please ask what you can do to help us out.

At Stop #3: We had our computers adjusted this week. We now have a new way of doing newsletters in WordPerfect 5.1. So, please come and check it out.

At Stop #4: Last, but not least, let's start getting those poems and articles in for the monthly. So, stop up and we'll help you. Do it soon, because we are in the process of pricing wall banks for our computers and typewriters. So, don't get lost in space; turn in those ideas.

Thanks for tripping with me. We are now returning back to earth. Have a nice day.

Cafe Unit Update

by Margaret Bonilla

The Cafe Unit is doing well. We really have tried hard lately to give it more than our best shot. We have a lot of participation. Everyone pitches in and does his and her fair share. At this rate, we should all get the medal of courage, because you really need to be courageous. I don't know if you've heard: Laurie Larsen is having her first baby. I hope he or she is a Scorpio.

Smile: You look good in smiles.

TEP/Independent

Employment Unit

by Margaret Bonilla

Interviewing Marjean Wood

We have four new positions. Two are at "Mother's Little Helper". This is a diaper service where we clean the diapers to go back out to the community. Gary Adkins and Nancy Johnson are on these new positions. Our other two jobs are at the U of U Medical Center, where we clean and sterilize equipment and rooms. Charles Moos and Loren McGeehan are going to be working these new positions.

There was a change at National Product Sales. I (Margaret) came off the position, and Jerry Boling is now working there; and doing well, I might add.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Why I Remain an Active Member

by Lorraine Dakan

I've been a member since February 1989. There are several reasons why I've stayed an active member. Several members only stay active when new TEP's open up. I stay active continuously because I emotionally thrive on the Clubhouse sense of ownership. I am active enough that I know of the changes each Unit makes, and basic whole house changes. I am now respected and asked for training and guidance by newer members. This is an excellent payoff for my self-confidence. The fact that all paid staff members, consumer members, and board members share equal input on most clubhouse issues helps my self-esteem. I KNOW I am really appreciated and needed here for more than Medicaid reimbursement.

I receive continuous prevocational psychosocial service here in an atmosphere which ignores my "sick patient" label. Even on my lower-functioning days, I switch Units or jobs and can still answer questions about skills I can't handle that day.

I know Clubhouse well enough now that I can go with Margaret Currin to train or present to the community. Sometimes my input is asked for more than the staff's. This really makes me feel like a responsible, contributing adult member of society. I also now help with lobbying at the Capitol for Alliance House. I've gone four times in two years. Since I'm active, I can answer questions that help reduce stigma. A student who earns credits here told me she thought I was a paid staff the first week she was here. When asked why Lydia stated "because you (take) control of situations and (solve) issues".

I take time out of the house about twice a year, if it gets too stressful for me; but, never more than two weeks. This is why working adults take vacations. I would not leave A.H. permanently the way I

predict my future now. Once a member; always a member. I am honored and proud to wear my Alliance House T-Shirts in the community and to say I am a recovered mentally ill member.

After Hours

February 12, 1993

by Carol A. Majers

On this date approximately nine members watched a violent video at the Club. Then, approximately seven of us went to the symphony. We were provided with some of the very best seats in the house. We were on the third level; up near those beautiful chandeleirs. The gold and crystal of them reflected the light, providing a perfect setting for the music which was to follow. We listened to a small segment of the Symphony and Chorus performing Mozart's "Requiem". It was just beautiful. The symphony provides entertainment in almost all the musical arts. Dionn Warwick is performing on February 16th. There will be another classical symphony this weekend.

Meeting of Western Regional Committee Members

by Leonard Raborn

The final meeting of the Seminar Committee was held at Diamond Lil's. Committee members had a selection of steak or halibut for lunch. During the meal, Committee Members summarized their thoughts about the seminar. They reported in Committees. Pam spoke of the work of the Registration Committee and praised the job done by workers. She said that Margaret did the open mike and that it was historic. She suggested that "we bid for the International Conference". "We have a lot to tell Fountain House", she

said. Korrie commented that there were not enough evaluations made.

Margaret, referring to the food served at the seminar, suggested that, if people wanted different food, then fees would have to be increased. Richard suggested that those who attend future conferences may buy their own food; but Pam observed that the hotel needs a package deal.

Margaret noted that there were complaints about the time it took to register, and Pam observed that some people were without a room until 6:00 p.m. They suggested that hosts and hostesses provide a room for guests who arrive early so that they "won't be sitting in the lobby".

CJ reported that it was helpful that others helped "people know where things were". Little poackets were provided by the Hospitality Committee so that each host and hostess had a packet. She stated that the training to familiarize the workers (with their duties) was useful, she also commented that the registration packets were helpful.

Margaret reported to those present on the Budget Committee. Although she and Pam were "talking about mortgaging their houses" to pay for the seminar, Margaret reported that after the repayment of \$3,000 for the seminar's seed money, there will be a profit of \$6,000 left. Margaret then informed the committee that "we need to entertain a motion..."so that the committee could decide what to do with the money". Daryl moved that the Committee place money in an interest-bearing account; C.J. seconded the motion. After that motion passed, Richard moved to send \$3,000 to the next conference; Pam seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Richard reported to the Committee

that two-thirds of the T-shirts had been sold. He reminded the Committee members that each Clubhouse must buy a share of the remainder. He, also, told Committee Members that all the large T-shirts had been sold on commission. Kevin made the Motion and Mike Hobson seconded the motion. Margaret asked that the motion be amended so that the T-shirts could cost \$5 each. The motion was passed. Richard also reported that 151 mugs remained. This is approximately 19 mugs for each clubhouse. The mugs will be sold for \$1.65 each.

Lori reported on the work of the Transportation Committee. She reported that the buses did well, but that "we were worried about the BBQ". There had been people who wanted transportation to the BBQ after the buses had left. Kevin spoke about the BBQ and reported that it was successful. He recommended that future BBQ's should be catered -- as this one was. The shoot-out was also a success. Kevin stated further that although some people were tired of standing in line, the weather was good and the food was good. Margaret commented that the BBQ was "uniquely Utah".

Margaret reported that the banquet "went smoothly; the decorations were great". She also praised the food. She observed that "I need to thank the people who gave us money". These included WIN and the State Division of Mental Health. Although Jan Harding had sent letters, Margaret stated that she would write to the directors of mental health centers.

Other issues addressed included: Sending \$30 to Emerald House; acknowledgement of a donation of \$20 by Kevin and Daryl; and, closing the Post Office box. Margaret said that she would send a letter to Oasis House to thank them for doing the buttons.

Margaret said that she would like to know how we will use the money that was earned at the seminar. She suggested that the Committee spend the money to build a coalition of Utah Clubhouses. It would help Utah Clubhouses so that they could bid for the 1995 International Seminar. Pam suggested that the coalition be called the "Utah Clubhouse Consortium". Margaret reported that the Directors at Alliance House vote to support having the seminar in SLC in 1995. "We must have a party for board directors throughout the world", she said. Margaret reported that Fountain House will pay most fees. Margaret also proposed to use the \$6,000 for the coalition and for training.

Kevin moved that the Committee use the money to establish the coalition and that the Committee pass by-laws; Richard seconded the motion. The Committee passed the motion.

Pam said that we need an ad hoc committee. Richard, Margaret, Korrie, Kevin and Pam -- among others -- said that they want to be Committee Members. The Committee will meet on the last Friday in February (February 26th) at 1:00 pm. Davis Place will host the meeting. There will be a \$2 for lunch.

Autobiography

by Johnny McDonald

My name is Johnny McDonald and I am new at Alliance House. I enjoy it here a lot. Right now I work in Communications. I am learning to type. I never tried it before, but I'm enjoying every bit of it. I hope to get a job later on. It gets me out of my house, where I get bored some days and having nothing to do. But now, I have plenty to do. I enjoy it here. There are plenty of people to meet and make friends.

