

## A.A. HISTORY IN OTERO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

"In early 1949, Art T. in Tularosa was having some trouble with his drinking. He was looking through some old magazines and ran across an issue of the Saturday Evening Post of March 1, 1941 which contained the Jack Alexander article about Alcoholics Anonymous.

After reading the article, Art T. wrote to Akron for some literature. By the time he received the literature he had contacted another man in Tularosa who was also having some trouble with his drinking. This man was Art B. The two of them contacted another one of their drinking friends named Jess T. The three of them started holding a meeting in Tularosa once a week in the Fall of 1949.

In 1950, Rowena H. of Alamogordo, was taken to Seminole, Texas where she sobered up. She was returned to Alamogordo by her friend, Bernard L. of Lovington, New Mexico who presented her with some literature and suggested that she try to start a meeting in Alamogordo. By this time two of the men in Tularosa had become drunk again. She contacted the other one and they decided to start a meeting in Alamogordo at Rowena's home.

In 1951 they had started meeting in the Church Annex on Indiana Avenue in Alamogordo, once a week. The membership had increased to include Rowena H., Art T., Jess T., Paul B., Jessie R., Louise A. and Morris R.

In 1952 I, Bill C., attended my first A.A. meeting at the Church Annex on Indiana Avenue. By 1954 the group in Alamogordo had grown to include Paul H., Paul C., Ralph M. and several others.

In 1957 Ralph M. started another meeting on the west side of Alamogordo. By this time the combined membership had increased to approximately 25 people.

By 1959 the group that Ralph M. had started on the West side moved back into Alamogordo and we only had one group again. The group in Tularosa was reactivated again, thus giving us two meetings per week. During this time the group in Alamogordo adopted the name "Alamo Home Group" due to the fact that the meetings were held in the homes of different members.

In 1958 our membership had increased to where we needed more room so we rented a house and moved to 1515 New York where we continued with three meetings per week. The group in Tularosa would be active for a few years more, then it would become inactive.

In 1971 the Alamo Home Group moved to 1011 Madison where we held three meetings per week. The group in Tularosa was started again and was known as the New Life Group that met on Thursday night of each week. About this time a group was formed, Holloman A.F.B., and held meetings on Sunday nights.

In April of 1976, some people from the Alamo Home Group decided to start another group in Alamogordo, which was known as the Alamo Serenity Group. There was another group started in Mescalero on the Apache reservation about the same time. It was the Mescalero Re-Hab Group that met on Thursday night.

In 1978 there was another group started in Alamogordo, known

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as the Brown Baggers that meets at noon every Wednesday.

At the present time we feel that Alcoholics Anonymous has made great progress in Otero County since the first meeting was held in 1949. We also feel that we have some of the best quality A.A. to be found anywhere."

Compiled and Contributed to the N.M.  
Archives by: Bill C., Alamogordo, N.M.

Courtesy of Sam Bowman, Alamogordo, N. M.

October 1981.

See attached schedule of meetings.

Schedule of meetings:

Tularosa New Life Group is not active at this time.

Alamo Home Group: 1011 Madison, Alamogordo, N.M. 8:00 P.M. Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

Alamo Serenity Group: 1512 Indian Wells, Alamogordo, N.M. 8:00 P.M. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.

Brown Baggers Group: 1011 Madison, Alamogordo, N.M. 12:00 noon, Wednesday.

Holloman Group: Old Education Center, Holloman A.F.B. 8:00 P.M. Sunday.

Mescalero Re-Hab Group: Mescalero, N.M. 7:00 P.M. Thursday.

Breakfast Meeting: Desert Aire Motel, Alamogordo, N.M. 3rd Sunday each month.