

Excerpts from TUCNA history document (Letter from Bob M. dated April 14, 2007)

Gino, Gary and Mary Van Every, Steve Montrose, Lonnie and Laura Hebert, Gary Homan, myself and some others, agreed to meet at Gary and Mary Van Every's house in Alvin, for what we called, "The Regional Investigating Committee". We weren't a Region; we were a committee that was formed to discuss what we had to do to create a Region in Texas.

IN THAT MEETING, Gino said he would try get the okay for us to meet at Redwood Lodge, at Lake Whitney. By then, there were 3 Areas in Texas, that we knew about; HASCONA, The Dallas Area, which started up at the same time as HASCONA, and The Tri-County Area, which had broken away from HASCONA. The idea was to get these 3 Areas to send representatives to Redwood Lodge, to vote on a course of action.

We got permission to meet at Redwood Lodge, the weekend of Oct. 14th thru Oct. 16, 1983. Gino set about forming another committee, to take effect after we became a Region. One had to have, at least, 2 years clean time and had to agree to a 3-year commitment, in order to be on the committee. Gino saw that I had been able to start up HASCONA when no one before me had been able to, by the use of a mailing list, so he wanted me to be in charge of "Registration and Mail-out". I barely had the clean-time requirement, so I became the member with the least amount of clean time to serve on, what became the original "Whitney Committee".

We decided to make a colored flyer like we did for the dances. Since I had done the artwork for most of those flyers, I wanted to do the artwork for the front of this flyer. Notice that we called it a "Conference" and that the lettering was hand-drawn. The design for the artwork mostly came out of my head. It was meant to represent the dawning of NA, as a Region, in Texas. The plane, pulling a banner with an American flag, was Gino's idea.

Notice also, that I put, "THAT NO ADDICT SEEKING RECOVERY **IN TEXAS** NEED EVER DIE". There was a member from out of state that was laughing about that. And last but not least, notice that the schedule includes Regional Meetings.

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We committee members met on Thursday, Oct. 13, 1983 to have a "Get Acquainted" meeting in the evening. After that meeting, a lady who came all the way from Corpus Christi, closed the meeting by having us sing the Lord's Prayer. I, then, went out into the cool night air and looked up at the stars, which appeared pretty bright for this old boy, and a funny feeling came over me. It was as if I could feel the energy that was to build, in that location, from then on.

We had about 100 members attend that first NA "Whitney". I brought my sound-motion - picture camera and the film was later converted into a tape and I understand someone has now converted it into a DVD.

On Saturday, Oct. 15, 1983, I made the motion that we declare ourselves a Region. That got seconded and the 3 representatives voted it in. Then they wanted to know what we should call this new Region. I suggested "Lone Star", That got voted in also.

Now comes the part that we didn't plan on and what you've probably been wondering about.... the members who wanted to be involved with the new Lone Star Region didn't want to hold their meetings at Redwood Lodge. They decided to make 2 committees..... [Redwood Lodge became The Lodge at Serenity Cove some years later)

Yours in Service, Bob Mendel
