

A HISTORY OF THE NACCCA JOURNAL

Vol. 1 No. 1 of the NACCCA JOURNAL was issued during the month of March 1978. At that time the president was Joe Griggs. He and the "Executive Council" appointed Robert L. (Griff) Griffiths as Executive Director. In 1977, Griff took an extended eight-month travel trailer trip throughout the United States and, after returning home he pushed for the formation of a national organization and was rewarded with the chartering of the National Association of CCC Alumni (NACCCA) in Sacramento, California in July 1977.

This first and second issues of the Journal were on "letter sized" plain white paper - the first having 2 pages and the second 5 pages. Then with the issuance of No. 3 the paper got a "fancy look", still letter sized, but being on a light greenish paper. Numbers 3 and 4 each even included a picture. The "NACCCA JOURNAL" heading was in large letters quite similar to what you see in your journals today. There were only 4 issues of Volume 1 the fourth being for June 1978. So that indicated that our NACCCA operations were on a "fiscal year bases" -- running from July 1 of one year to June 30 of the next year. But a change was made effective January 1982 changing the issue numbering system to start with "1" in January. During the "start-up years there were months in which publication did not happen so there were some years with less than 12 issues.

The green paper apparently was in short supply because Vol. 2 No. 3 was back on white paper. Then there were two issues on greenish paper and then back on white. BUT, now the print was no longer black but green. Then onto greenish paper again, but now with green ink. The last issue on this letter sized paper was Vol. 3 No. 1 (July 1979).

Starting with Vol. 3 No. 2 and running through Vol. 5 No. 2 (March 1982) the Journal became a "midget" as the size was only 5 1/4 " by 8 1/4" and averaged 12 pages. Back to the "letter size" with the April 1982 issue the paper - using various colors and several changes in the NACCCA JOURNAL heading - continued through Vol. 5 No. 5 (May 1983). White letter sized paper and black ink were employed beginning with Vol. 6 No.6 and continuing through Vol. 14 No. 1 January 1991.

(Oh yes, I must report to you that Vol. 9 No. 6 (June 1986) contained the following headline: ST. LOUIS, WE ARE HERE!)

With the February 1991 issue the Journal's size was immensely increased to "newspaper size" 11 1/2" x 17". That first issue was a "disaster" as it had been printed on what appeared to be the cheapest newsprint available. The mistake was immediately recognized and the next issue was on "high quality" newsprint. However, beginning with the February 1995 our Journal was downgraded to the use of "regular" newsprint, - apparently required to save on printing cost and this "grade" of paper has been used to the present time. But, back to 1991: At that point in time the first "slight mistake" happened with the print numbering of the publications (Volume and Issue numbers).

Several of these "slight mistakes" --resulting in a "temporary loss" of over 4 years - happened, until as of January 1, 1997, when the numbering system got "back on course" so as you read your latest Journal (October 2004), the stated "Vol. 27 No. 10" (Just short of 28 years) is correct. So between March 1978 and October 2004, many thousands of the NACCCA Journal has been issued it to members and others over a period 145 months and, BOY, that's a lot of paper and good reading!

By Robert Robeson, 2004