



Cover 2 Cover: Anniversary Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 5:30 p.m. coffee and cake; 6 p.m. speaker Lindsey L. 10025 NW 62nd Ave, Johnston.

Chapter 12: 24th Anniversary Meeting

Friday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. Potluck, meat and drinks provided, bring a covered dish to share. 7 p.m. speaker Cat R. St. Mark's Discipleship Center, 1105 Grand Ave., West Des Moines.

The Deal: Annual Picnic

Sunday, June 5, 11 a.m. Lunch served at noon, bring a covered dish to share, meat and fixings provided. Columbus Park Shelter House, 1921 SE 1st St., Des Moines.

Founder's Day Picnic

Saturday, June 11, 11 a.m. Lunch at noon. Bring a dessert of side dish to share. Kids games, bouncy houses, face painting. Hosting by Intergroup/Central Office. Union Park Shelter 3, Des Moines.



In the early days of my sobriety, I had difficulty with the spiritual part of the program, specifically prayer - because "I didn't know the words." I struggled with this for quite a while and finally talked about it in a meeting one night. After shamefully talking about "not knowing the words," a railroad man named Frank shared a story about a train accident. It was a cold, snowy, icy, foggy night and a crew was backing a train into a siding to pick up cars of coal. One brakeman was working high on top of a car and he had a flare. The catwalk was slick with ice and the ladders going up one side of the car were icy. And as they were backing down in the siding, the brakeman at the back was signaling the brakeman who was working high to stop, but as he waved his flare, he didn't see the guy on top of the car. The train was headed for a derail block, so the brakeman at the back reached over and pulled the anglecock to reduce the air pressure and the train ground to a halt. After it stopped, he started toward the front of the train and the fireman at the front, wondering what was wrong, started toward the back. The met in the middle and, I lying between the rails was a member of their crew who had fallen down between the two cars. It was obvious he was pretty critically injured. His crew knew he probably wouldn't make it. One of the other crew members put his jacket on the ground and laid the brakeman on it, carrying him to a yard shanty. Several people were dispatched to summon an ambulance, call a doctor and write a report. The conductor leaned over the man and asked him what he could do to help. The injured man asked if anyone knew a prayer and the Conductor shuffled forward, removed his cap and said this prayer. After listening to this story, I never again had a problem with "the words."

Ed E., Des Moines, Iowa

We Want YOU!

The ODAAT Times is looking for personal story submissions! Please send your 500+ word story to dsm.central.office@gmail.com.



Conductor's Prayer

O God, us railroad men live pretty much by the signals and sometimes, when it's foggy and snowy and rainy, we don't see 'em too clear. And then when we do, God, we don't always call them across the cab to our brother. And so it 'tis with our friend here, God. We don't know if he can see the signals because of the rain and the snow that was in his life. Nor do we know, God, if he seen them, did he pass them along to his friends across the cab. But God, it looks like he's getting ready to pull out on the main line now and we'd like to ask you, God, if you'd line up the switches into your yard limits and give him a clear board into your kingdom.

Amen

It's Your Birthday!

If you have an upcoming Anniversary and would like to be recognized here, email us at SobrietyAnniversaries.

We print only first name and last initial, and sobriety date.

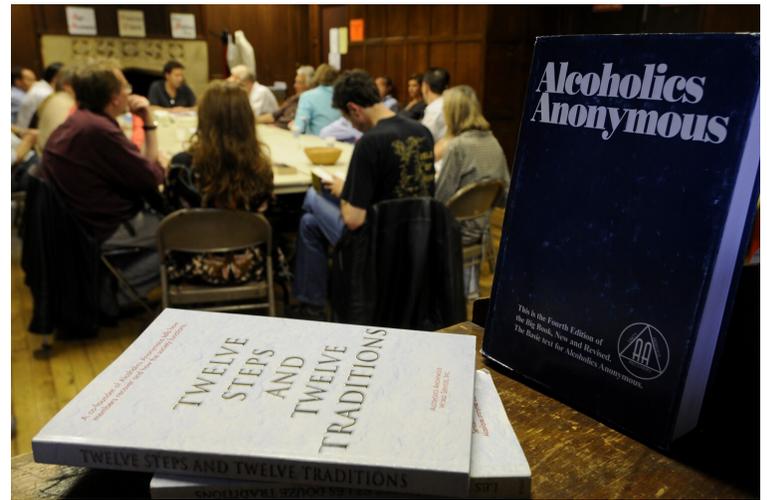
Angela P., May 5, 2007

Meetings in the Spotlight - Steps & Traditions

Broken Elevator Group - Hybrid
Tuesday, 6:30 a.m.
Faith Lutheran Church
10395 University Ave., Clive

East Side Study Group
Monday, 7 p.m.
St. Marks Episcopal Church
3120 E 24th St., Des Moines

Open meetings are available to anyone interested in the Alcoholics Anonymous program of recovery from alcoholism. Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers.



Meeting Guide



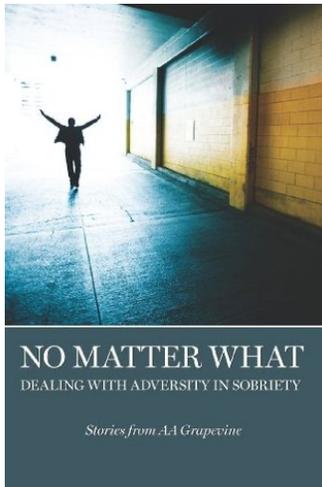
Brought to you by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., Meeting Guide is a free of charge app that provides meeting information from A.A. service entities in an easy-to-access format.

Over 100,000 A.A. meetings are currently listed. The information is refreshed twice daily by relaying meeting information from more than 300 A.A. service entities; area, district, intergroup/central offices, and international General Service Office websites.

[Download on the Apple App Store](#)

[Download App on Google Play](#)

Book Review: No Matter What; Dealing with Adversity in Sobriety



All recovering alcoholics have had to deal with adversity throughout sobriety ... a serious illness, an ugly divorce, the death of a child, the loss of a house to fire or to the bank.

Despite the fear, pain or self-pity we are in when these tragedies strike, drinking is not an option.

The stories in this book show how AA members use the tools of the program and embrace the Fellowship to deal with tough issues.

[Central Office Literature](#)



Autonomy in Alcoholics Anonymous

Hello all, Chris V. back again with some more history snippets for your enjoyment. During the time I have been able to contribute thoughts to this forum, I have spoken a few times on how historical events have contributed to autonomy in Alcoholics Anonymous. In prior issues, we covered two significant events, one being the founding of A.A. in Des Moines, and two the changes to various pieces of our literature. Recently I have the blessing to attend the Ray Harrison Dinner Group, aptly named after the founder of Alcoholics Anonymous in Des Moines. One tradition they have carried on is handing out marbles to celebrate sobriety. What a great way to get our marbles back (and practice the principle of autonomy)! Lots of groups prefer to give out chips to help celebrate milestones, some give out poker chips, some go big with fancy metal varieties and yet others choose to celebrate with a round of applause. One of my regular groups in Florida had the marble tradition as well, just may have come from Des Moines! Groups have lots of traditions that bring a diversity of experiences to our A.A. lives.

One common tradition amongst meetings is the reading of How It Works at the start of meetings. My experience is that this is probably one of the most common readings, but how did we get there? We must look to the west for the answer. A drunk named Mort J. was trying to get sober through A.A. in March 1940, in Los Angeles. The beginning of A.A. in L.A. was not easy, with multiple attempts by drunks and “normies” alike. Finally, Mort J. decides it is time to get busy living and, after connecting with some who had failed to get A.A. going, decided to clean out their trash can of the contacts which New York had sent to help them get started. That’s right, straight out of the trash can come a lifeline, what a great story! After a discouraging talk with the previous would-be founder, armed with his list, Mort realized he was close to a drunk and got busy. Mort ends up talking with Cliff W. and after some back and forth asks if Cliff will attend a meeting if he can get one together. Well, after some serendipitous events, Mort, Cliff and 10 other alxies end up at the Cecil Hotel. It’s funny that a meeting ended up at the Cecile, given its sordid history, A.A. seems to fit right in.

Given that A.A. had not been around terribly long at that time, groups were still figuring out how to best operate. Mort was looking to make an impression on his 11 other fellows and since there was no rule book, he used the only reference he had, the Big Book. During early attempts at meetings in L.A., chairpersons had chosen to read the first few pages of the book itself. If you recall from previously articles, the Preamble did not come around until 1947. According to the Los Angeles Archives, having only read the book and never actually attending a meeting prior, Mort decided How It Works would be a good reading to kick off with.

Other practices seem to stem from Southern California as well. While researching for this article I came across a wonderful September 1961 Grapevine article that give the Formula For An AA Meeting In Southern California: Some warm and friendly customs have spread from the Golden State. These meetings had a “certain distinctive flavor which might be called the “Hi!” flavor.” This “Hi flavor” was the practice of introducing oneself as an alcoholic with the rest of the room responding “Hi <insert name here>!” The article also reports [w]hoever is chosen to read the excerpt from Chapter Five is also greeted with the “Hi!” when he (or she) gives his name, applause as he walks to the podium and applause when he concludes.” Sounds familiar to me.

I am not sure how you or your group feel about the different readings, but I can report that my experience is when I sit down in a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous and have the opportunity to hear these introductory words and claim my spot by admitting my alcoholism, I sure do feel at home when you respond with a warm welcome. In Love and Service,

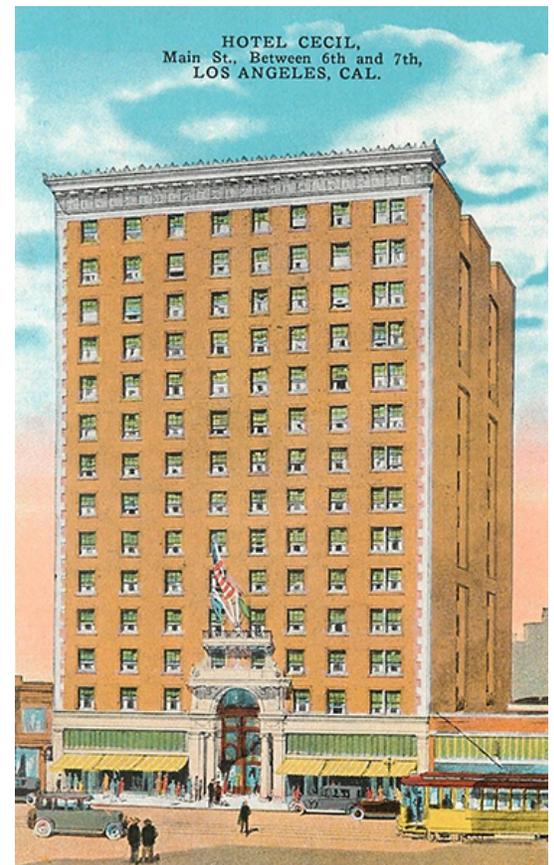
Chris V.

Feel free to contact me at cvanme6758@yahoo.com if you ever have questions or wish to discuss sources.

[How AA Came to Los Angeles](#)

[Cecil Hotel Suicide](#)

[Formula for an AA Meeting in Southern California](#)



Party Line

Understanding is the key to right principles and attitudes, and right action is the key to good living.

~Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 125

There came a time in my program of recovery when the third stanza of the Serenity Prayer — “The wisdom to know the difference” — became indelibly imprinted in my mind. From that time on, I had to face the ever-present knowledge that my every action, word and thought was within, or outside, the principles of the program. I could no longer hide behind self-rationalization, nor behind the insanity of my disease. The only course open to me, if I was to attain a joyous life for myself (and subsequently for those I love), was one in which I imposed on myself an effort of commitment, discipline, and responsibility.

I love this reading from our Daily Reflections. I believe commitment is such a hard thing to do/accomplish, or “commit to” etc... Some of the definitions I found from Oxfords is “dedicated to a cause,” “obligation restricting freedom of action,” “pledge to do something in the future.” When it comes to staying sober I think commitment cannot really be done alone. I have to be willing to go to meetings, disciplined to show up for my family, friends, and work-sober, call my sponsor, read our AA literature, pray, do service work and help others. I have to be responsible to myself and others to basically do the opposite of my short-comings and character defects that I exhibited when actively using AND while sober. They don’t magically disappear – we have to work at this thing called quittin’ drinkin’, that will help us toward emotional sobriety. The key is to ask for help. The word wellness has the word “we” in it. It’s working and deciding together, dealing with conflicts/obstacles that arise in our lives. In addition to all the work we have to have fun and play together – don’t take ourselves so seriously, appreciate and respect one another’s program, challenge each other to “take the next step.” By doing this, even in a small way-we’re building relationships-sharing our wins and learning from our mistakes and set-backs. I spoke to a sponsee today, who basically is shining a mirror in my face and helping me grow-and doesn’t even realize it. I know I need to set a better example of commitment by doing what I say I am going to do in a timely manner, and following through with it-even when it’s hard. I love this program!

~ Angela E

First published April 27, 2022

[Party Line](#)

If you would like to submit a story, have questions, or comments, just send an [email](#).

Right Actions and Right Attitudes

“ We are a problem people who *have found a way up and out*, and who wish to share our knowledge of that way with all who can use it.”

For it is only by accepting and solving our problems that we can begin to get right with the world about us, and with Him who presides over us all. Understanding is the key to right principles and attitudes, and right action is the key to good living; therefore the joy of good loving is the theme of A.A.’s Twelfth Step.”

Third Legacy of Service

A.A. service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer — ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent phone call and a cup of coffee, and to A.A.’s General Service Office for national and international action. The sum total of all these services is our Third Legacy of Service. ~Bill W.

Click on the links below, or visit aadsmco.org then Menu, then Volunteer Sign-Up!

All the forms are there!

The links below take you directly to each form!

[12 Step List - Sign Up Link](#)

[Phone Army - Sign Up Link](#)

[Central \(In\)Office Volunteer - Sign Up Link](#)

The below link is not a Volunteer form, but a handy, and hopefully informative Newsletter! You will automatically get the next issue in your in-box when it’s Posted to the website!!

[ODAAAT Times Newsletter - Sign Up Link](#)

**WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS**

Faithful Fivers

What Is a Faithful Fiver? A.A. Members who support the Des Moines Central Office/ Intergroup with direct contributions. These contributions help stabilize our Budget. In addition to Contributions from Groups and Literature sales, Faithful Fivers can be a source of funds that help provide a predictable operating budget.

We invite A.A. members to contribute affordable, tax deductible amounts directly and regularly as supporting members or Faithful Fivers. You are a Faithful Fiver if you are an A.A. member and you say you are a Faithful Fiver.

What's affordable? \$5 per month, \$1 per week, \$15 per month. Any amount that fits your budget and level of gratitude.

Faithful Fiver contributions are not to take the place of, nor affect Group Contributions!

How do you contribute? You may set up regular 'recurring' contributions through our website: [Donate Here](#)

Simply look for the Faithful Fivers contribution line and fill in the amount and the rest of your payment information!

Or you can simply send a check, or if you prefer, bring in cash or a check. Please note 'Faithful Fivers' on your check/money order!

Every A.A. service is designed to make 12th Step work possible. They include:

- 24/7 phone answering (by A.A.'s) inquiries from those seeking help
- Direct callers to your AA Meetings
- Publishes an AA Meeting Directory
- Maintains a current 12th Step list to help the still suffering Alcoholic
- Maintains an informative and up to date website: aadsmco.org
- Publishes ODAAT Times Newsletter every other month
- Acts as an information exchange for all Greater Des Moines Metro (and Southern Iowa) meetings
- Contributions are limited to \$5,000 per member per year.

YES! I want to be a Faithful Fiver!

I am a New member Current Member Returning Member

Amount \$ _____ Monthly Quarterly Annually

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to or set up automatic bill pay to:

A.A. Central Office
1620 Pleasant St., Ste. 228
Des Moines, IA 50314

AA Volunteers

A variety of activities and service opportunities are available! Complete the Gratitude with Service form below.

Des Moines Central Office / Intergroup - Gratitude with Service (10/21)

Return to: dsm.central.office@gmail.com or DSM Central Office - 1620 Pleasant St., Ste. 228, Des Moines, IA 50314

Date _____ *First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ *Phone _____

*City _____ *State _____ *Zip _____ *Gender _____

*Sobriety Date _____ Home Group _____

*email _____ *Alt Phone _____

*Required for inclusion in 12-Step list

Check your selections below!

ODAAT Times Newsletter - email only

12th Step List Volunteer

Weeknights

Weekdays

Weekends

Or complete online at [12-Step sign up](#)

Phone Army Volunteer

Weekday mornings

Weekday Evenings

Weekends

Or send email to dsm.central.office@gmail.com. You will receive a schedule, pick your time(s) instructions and info to follow.

Central Office Volunteer

Office Phone Volunteer

Other Office Help

Literature Sales Help

www.aadsmco.org

Traditions Checklist

These questions were originally published in the Grapevine in conjunction with a series of articles on the Twelve Traditions that ran from November 1969 to September 1971. While they were originally intended as suggestions for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

Tradition Five

Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

1. Do I ever cop out by saying, "I'm not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn't apply to me"?
2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the limitations of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
5. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
6. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

Tradition Six

An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

1. Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?
2. Is it good for a group to lease a small building?
3. Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?
4. Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?
5. Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities

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What are we likely to receive from Step Five? For one thing, we shall get rid of that terrible sense of isolation we've always had. Almost without exception, alcoholics are tortured by loneliness. Even before our drinking got bad and people began to cut us off, nearly all of us suffered the feeling that we didn't quite belong. Either we were shy, and dared not draw near others, or we were apt to be noisy good fellows craving attention and companionship, but never getting it—at least to our way of thinking. There was always that mysterious barrier we could neither surmount nor understand.

~ Step Five, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 57

April 2022

This Day in A.A. History!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
					<p>1939 - Alcoholics Anonymous AA's Big Book was published.</p> <p>1940 - Larry J. of Houston, wrote The Texas Preamble used to open AA meetings in Texas.</p> <p>1966 - Sister Ignatia died at the age of 77. She worked with Dr. Bob in treating many early AA members at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron.</p> <p>1970 - GSO moved to 468 Park Ave. South, NYC.</p> <p>1984 - 12 Coconuts Group, Kapiolani Park, Waikiki, Hawaii, was founded.</p>	<p>1966 - Harry Tiebout, M.D. died.</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>1941 - First Florida AA meeting was held.</p> <p>1960 - Fr. Ed Dowling, S.J., died. He was Bill W's "spiritual sponsor."</p>	<p>1960 - The Chicago Daily News reported that Fr. Edward Dowling, Jesuit Priest who helped start the first AA group in St. Louis, had died at age 62.</p>			<p>1941 - Ruth Hock reported there were 1,500 letters asking for help, as a result of the Saturday Evening Post Article by Jack Alexander.</p>		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>1939 - The first ten copies of the Big Book arrived at the office Bill shared with Hank Parkhurst in Newark, New Jersey.</p>	<p>1938 - Alcoholic Foundation held its first meeting.</p> <p>1939 - Marty Mann attended her first meeting at the home of Bill and Lois Wilson in Brooklyn.</p> <p>1941 - Bill and Lois Wilson moved into their new home, Stepping Stones.</p>	<p>1942 - The Windsor Daily Star in Ontario, Canada, reported that over 400 AA's attended a testimonial dinner for Dr. Bob.</p>				<p>1940 - A sober Rollie Helmsley caught the only opening day no-hitter in baseball history since 1909.</p> <p>1973 - Dr Jack Norris Chairman of the AA General Service Board, presented President Richard Nixon with the one-millionth copy of the Big Book at the White House.</p> <p>2005 - Nancy Flynn (Independent Blond died in Kennett Square PA</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>1941 - 2nd group in Los Angeles, the "Hole in the Ground Group" was formed.</p>		<p>1940 - First AA group in Little Rock, Arkansas, was formed.</p>			<p>1940 - Bill Wilson transferred his Works Publishing Stock to the Alcoholic Foundation. The date on which Hank Parkhurst transferred his stock is uncertain.</p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	<p>1939 - Morgan R interviewed on Gabriel Heater radio show.</p> <p>1951 - AA's first General Service Conference was held.</p>	<p>1939 - Bill & Lois Wilson moved in with Hank Parkhurst after the bank foreclosed on 182 Clinton St. This was the first of over 50 moves before they acquired Stepping Stones.</p>				<p>1989 - The film "My Name is Bill W.," a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation, was broadcast at 9 p.m. on ABC TV.</p>
1	2	<p>Other significant events in April for which we have no specific date:</p> <p>1935 - Dr. Silkworth told Bill to quit preaching at drunks & tell them of obsession & allergy.</p> <p>1940 - The first AA pamphlet was published, entitled simply: "AA."</p> <p>1950 - Saturday Evening Post article "The Drunkard's Best Friend" by Jack Alexander.</p> <p>1958 - The word "honest" was dropped from "an honest desire to top drinking," in the AA Preamble.</p> <p>1960 - Bill Wilson refused to be on the cover of Time Magazine.</p> <p>1966 - Change in ratio of trustees of the General Service Board; now two thirds (majority) are alcoholic.</p> <p>1988 - Cybil C., the first woman member in Los Angeles and archivist, died.</p>				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>1939 - Lois and Bill Wilson left their home at 182 Clinton St., Brooklyn.</p> <p>1940 - Rollie H, Cleveland Indians, first anonymity break on national level.</p> <p>1941 - First Wisconsin AA meeting was held in a Milwaukee hotel.</p>	<p>1941 - Jacksonville, FL, newspaper reported start of a new AA group.</p> <p>1941 - First meeting was held in San Bernardino, California.</p> <p>1941 - The first AA group in New Orleans, Louisiana, was formed. (sometimes dated as May 2, 1943) by New Orleans Times</p>	<p>1941 - First AA group formed in New Orleans, Louisiana.</p> <p>1943 - Democrat Chronicle in Rochester, NY, reported first annual AA dinner at Seneca Hotel with 60 attending.</p>	<p>1940 - Sunday Star reported founding of first AA group in Washington, DC.</p> <p>1946 - Marty Mann explained Alcoholics Anonymous and the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism on the "We the People" radio show.</p>	<p>1940 - Washington, DC, Sunday Star reported formation of first AA group in the District of Columbia.</p>	<p>1939 - Clarence S of Cleveland told Dr. Bob, his sponsor, he would not be back to Oxford Group meetings in Akron and would start an "AA" meeting in Cleveland. (Also reported as 4/10/1939.)</p> <p>1946 - The long form of the "Twelve Traditions" was published</p>	<p>1956 - The first English AA Convention was held in Cheltenham, England.</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>1943 - Akron AA group had its 8th anniversary celebration with 500 present and sober.</p> <p>1971 - Bill Wilson was buried in private ceremony, East Dorset, Vermont.</p>		<p>1946 - Searcy W. had his last drink. (Searcy died September 30, 2003.)</p>	<p>1935 - From the Mayflower Hotel, Bill Wilson called Walter Tunks who referred him to Henrietta Seiberling who introduced Bill to Dr. Bob.</p> <p>1939 - Ffirst group to officially call itself Alcoholics Anonymous met at Abby G's house in Cleveland. (some sources say the 18th)</p>	<p>1935 - Mothers' Day - Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith met for the first time in Akron, Ohio, at the home of Henrietta Seiberling.</p>		<p>1948 - Long Beach, California. Central Office was opened.</p> <p>1998 - Sybil C., first woman to enter A.A. west of the Mississippi, died. Her date of sobriety was March 23, 1941. Her name at the time was Sybil Maxwell, though she later opened her talks by saying, "My name is Sybil Doris Adams Stratton Hart Maxwell Willis C., and I'm an alcoholic."</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>1961 - Bill Wilson's mother, Dr. Emily Strobell, died.</p>	<p>1941 - Ruth Hock learned that Joe W. (credited with coming up with the name Alcoholics Anonymous) had a "wet brain."</p>	<p>1942 - The Journal-Herald in Dayton, Ohio, ran a story on A.A. with photos of members in Halloween masks to protect their anonymity.</p> <p>1942 - New Haven, Conn paper has article on AA. Picture shows faces of members sitting in a circle.</p>	<p>1950 - Dr. Bob told Bill "I reckon we ought to be buried like other folks" after hearing that local A.A.'s wanted a huge memorial.</p>	<p>2000 - Dr. Paul Ohliger died at the age of 83. His story, "Doctor, Alcoholic, Addict," was retitled "Acceptance Was the Answer," in the 4th edition.</p>		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>1948 - Atlantic City Group celebrated its second anniversary with Dr. C. Nelson Davis of St. Luke's Hospital, Philadelphia, and other A.A.s speaking.</p>						<p>1974 - The first World Service meeting of AA outside of America was held in London.</p>
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
<p>1980 - "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers," AAWS biography of AA co-founder and a history of early Mid-west AA, was published.</p>		<p>1938 - Bill and other AA's began writing the Big Book.</p>				
5	6	<p>Other significant events in May for which we have no specific date:</p> <p>1919 - Bill returns home from service.</p> <p>1935 - Bill works with alcoholics, but fails to sober any of them. Lois reminds him HE is still sober.</p> <p>1938 - Bill begins writing the book Alcoholics Anonymous.</p> <p>1939 - Lois W Home Replacement Fund started at Alcoholic Foundation</p> <p>1942 - Richmond Walker, author of "Twenty-Four Hours a Day," had his last drink.</p> <p>1946 - Long Form of Twelve Traditions was published in the AA Grapevine.</p> <p>1946 - The AA Grapevine announced: "AA has 6,000 members in 180 groups."</p> <p>1947 - Avalon, California (Catalina Island Group) was formed.</p> <p>1948 - The AA Grapevine reported \$2.00 was sent to the General Service headquarters of AA in New York, asking for a bottle of Alcoholics Anonymous.</p> <p>1949 - The first AA meetings in Scotland were held in Glasgow and Edinburgh.</p> <p>1950 - Nell Wing became Bill W's secretary.</p> <p>1951 - Al-Anon was founded by Lois Wilson and Anne B.</p>				

June 2022

This Day in A.A. History!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			1949 - Anne Smith, Dr. Bob's wife, died.			2002 - Caroline Knapp, author of "Drinking: A Love Story" died sober of lung cancer.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1940 - Ebby Thatcher took a job at the NY Worlds Fair.	1940 - The first AA Group in Richmond, VA, was formed. 1979 - AA gave the two-millionth copy of the Big Book to Joseph Califano.	1941 - The first AA Group in St. Paul, Minnesota, was formed.	1941 - Three AA's started a group in Kalamazoo, Michigan.		1935 - The date that is celebrated as Dr. Bob's last drink and the official founding date of AA. There is some evidence that the founders, in trying to reconstruct the history, got the date wrong and it was actually June 17.	1945 - Twenty-five hundred attend AA's 10th Anniversary in Cleveland, Ohio. 1969 - Dr. Bob's granddaughter, Bonna, daughter of Sue Smith and Ernie Galbraith (The Seven Month Slip in the First Edition). 1971 - Ernie Galbraith died.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	1945 - Morgan R. gave a radio appearance for AA with large audience. He was kept under surveillance to make sure he didn't drink.		1940 - First AA Group in Baltimore, MD, was formed.	1938 - Jim Burwell, "The Vicious Cycle" in Big Book, had his last drink.	1942 - New York AA groups sponsored the first annual NY area meeting. Four hundred and twenty-four heard Dr. Silkworth and AA speakers.	1940 - One hundred attended the first meeting in the first AA clubhouse at 334-1/2 West 24th St., New York City.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1942 - Columnist Earl Wilson reported that NYC Police Chief Valentine sent six policemen to AA and they sobered up. "There are fewer suicides in my files," he commented.		1944 - The first Issue of the AA Grapevine was published.			1938 - Two Rockefeller associates told the press about the Big Book "Not to bear any author's name but to be by 'Alcoholics Anonymous.'"	1939 - The New York Times reviewer wrote that the Big Book is "more soundly based psychologically than any other treatment I have ever come upon."
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
1935 - Bill Dotson. (AA #3) entered Akron's City Hospital for his last detox and his first day of sobriety.		1935 - Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson visited Bill Dotson at Akron's City Hospital.	1995 - 56,000 attend 60th Anniversary of AA in San Diego. What a party! June 29 - July 2	1941 - Ruth Hock showed Bill Wilson the Serenity Prayer and it was adopted readily by AA. 2000 - More than 47,000 from 87 countries attended the opening meeting of the 65th AA Anniversary in Minneapolis, MN.		
3	4	<p>Other significant events in June for which we have no specific date:</p> <p>1948 - A subscription to the AA Grapevine was donated to the Beloit, Wisconsin, Public Library by a local AA member.</p> <p>1981 - AA in Switzerland held its 25th Anniversary Convention with Lois Wilson and Nell Wing in attendance.</p>				

Events

If you have an upcoming Event you would like showcased in the next issue, email us at [Events](#).

Events can still be found at the [Des Moines Central Office Website](#). Continue to send your events to [The Manager](#).

About

The ODAAT Times is a local newsletter published by the Des Moines Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. This publication provides current information about new meetings, upcoming AA-related events, and articles of interest submitted by local members. For more information and for submissions please email the office. Opinions contained herein are strictly those of the author(s). We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, language, length, and any content which may violate the AA Traditions, etc. Publication of opinions, articles, and announcements does not represent, express, or imply endorsement or approval by AA at any level. AA literature reprinted with permission of AAWS.

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