



## *Indianola Anniversary*

Saturday, Jan. 29

Annual anniversary celebration of the Indianola A.A. meeting. First United Methodist Church, 307 W. Ashland Ave., Indianola. Potluck and fellowship. 5 p.m. doors open; 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. speakers Linda (Al-Anon), Don M. (A.A.).

## *Intergroup Banquet*

Saturday, Feb. 5

Vittoria Lodge, 7200 NW 2nd St., Ankeny. 1 p.m. doors open; 2 p.m. history of A.A.; 3:30 p.m. future A.A.; 5 p.m. dinner and raffle; 6 p.m. Alateen speaker; 6:30 p.m. Ala-non speaker Pat Y; 8 p.m. A.A. speaker Jill J.

# Sick & Tired of Being Sick & Tired

My drinking career started when I was 14 years old while living in Houston, Texas. My first experience with alcohol was slamming strawberry Boone's wine from a plastic tumbler with a friend of mine. Not sure whose idea it was to chug it but I remember liking the effects produced by it. Having a buzz brought me out of my shell, made me feel funnier, made me feel prettier. The friend of mine I was running with at the time lived an adventurous life. We would sneak out of her parent's house in the middle of the night, run the neighborhood and take out her parents car for a spin. I loved the excitement of it all. While cruising, we'd meet up with other kids in the neighborhood and smoke pot and try cocaine.

My behavior was spinning out of control quickly with my attitude towards my parents. I felt very independent and came home smoking a cigarette after being out ALL night. They had no idea where I was and wanted answers. I felt I didn't owe them any. My dad thought I was living life in the fast lane and decided to ship me back to Des Moines to live with my grandparents, right in the middle of my freshman year. I was appalled! I couldn't believe it.

The kids at my new school in Iowa seemed very snobbish. I didn't fit in. I didn't know anyone but my older cousins. Most of them were partiers. I was introduced to hallucinogenic mushrooms, LSD, keg beer, Greenwood Park, Grateful Dead, Led Zeppelin and Rolling Stones. I thought I had arrived! Not only did I enter a new world of drugs and alcohol, I was parent free! My grandparents didn't seem to know what was going on. I would skip school and spend all of my free time at the park, enjoying nature and the company of anyone else hanging up there. Blackout drinking was common for me. I truly didn't realize there was another way to drink.

After having been sexually abused by a family member during a blackout, things in my mind started change. I had an incident one night where I was hearing his voice and prayed to God to make it stop. I heard God speak back to me and tell me to go kill myself to end it. So, I got up from the bed, went into the bathroom to grab a bottle of aspirin. I then sat at the kitchen table with a glass of water and swallowed a handful of pills before going back to bed. The next morning I woke up on my 15th birthday. I went to school as if nothing happened. I knew this was not good. Something made me go tell the school counselor. She strongly suggested that I go to treatment to get help. Back in the 80s, there was a program called Our Primary Purpose (OPP) for teenagers.

Coincidentally, my cousin Theresa lived with our grandparents as well. She went through the program at OPP and attended A.A. meetings. She was able to introduce me around to other people and show me the ropes. It was an exciting time. I went to a lot of meetings, did a lot of fellowship and attended dances. I was able to stay sober for two years and life was good.

However, I never got a sponsor. At least a sponsor who I called. I didn't work the steps. And at 17, I decided that I wanted to drink again. So I did. My first night involved blacking out, passing out in my friend's bed after I puked in it. The big book says you'll pick up right where you left off. That was definitely my experience after two years of sobriety. I drank for the next 16 years.

When I turned 18, I started using methamphetamine. It started as a weekend party drug. It prevented me from blacking out as much. It was great! I met like-minded people along the way. I went to college and graduated with honors. I landed a job in the hotel industry. Within two years I had been promoted to sales manager and doubled my income. I lived with my parents for a couple of years to save money for a house. I bought a house, drove a nice car, had nice things, and traveled all over the country. Life was good. But eventually, my weekend party drug lifestyle consumed my life to a daily habit. I was taking bad actions to help support my habit. Always broke. Always behind on my mortgage payments. Credit card debt stacking up. I was late all the time to my job. Eventually, they let me go from the hotel I was working at. I had no idea what I was going to do or how I was going to make ends meet. I immediately started a waitressing gig at an Irish bar. My boyfriend left me. My friends were done with me. I ruined friendships. My parents didn't know what was going on with me. But they knew something was going on.

December 16, 2005, I decided to quit the drugs. It wasn't fun anymore. Plus, I didn't have the funds. And I've stayed drug free since. I asked my boyfriend to move back in. He did. He helped me get clean. It wasn't easy. I attended NA meetings but would come home angry and rude to my boyfriend. Adjusting was not comfortable. I needed something more. I ended up going to Powell Chemical Dependency Center. While going through outpatient treatment, I was still drinking. Both my dad and boyfriend told me I should use alcohol as a crutch while I got clean. So I did. One night I got drunk and the cravings kicked in. I threw a temper tantrum in my bedroom, smashing everything with anger. After that, I knew I couldn't get drunk again. So, I tried drinking socially. One night after my shift at the bar, I sat on the bar stool by myself, drinking my two shift drinks. I remember thinking how unhappy I was with my life. How did I get to this point? I was truly sick and tired of being sick and tired.

The word "Honesty" is written in a large, elegant, black cursive script. The letters are interconnected and flow together, with a prominent 'H' and 'y'.

While attending treatment, I once again got introduced to A.A. One of the meeting topics was honesty. I was not being honest with anyone. I was claiming to be "clean" because I was drug-free. But I was still drinking. I knew if I wanted to get the most out of the program, I needed to quit all mind-altering substances. That was a tough pill to swallow. Getting clean was awful. I knew I never wanted to go through that again. I also knew if I didn't quit drinking, I risked the chance to go back to the drugs. I told my counselor and changed my sobriety date to February 12, 2006. I've been sober since.

Since then, the journey has been quite the ride. I ended up leaving that boyfriend. He still drank. And I realized we had nothing in common. My recovery became the most important thing. I felt as if I wasn't growing spiritually being in that relationship. So after five years, we ended it and he moved out. At six months of sobriety, I started school at Grand View College. Luckily, it was located within a couple of miles of the White House, a local AA Clubhouse. While going to school, I still worked at the Irish bar. I told all my coworkers I was sober and wouldn't be partaking in any drinking. And they supported me. My work schedule allowed me to attend 9-11 meetings a week. I went to meetings all over town. I got to meet so many wonderful people. I was like a sponge, soaking up all kinds of great tools and tips on how to live my life without drugs and alcohol. I went through a few sponsors before I picked April. I was committed to work all 12 steps with her. And I did. Working the steps helped me to grow a relationship with my higher power, learn who Lisa truly was, making the wrongs I had made right. I went to AA conventions, dances, retreats, banquets and conferences. I dove all in!

My next sponsor, Sarah Jane, took me through the big book. She helped the words on the pages come to life. We broke it down so I could understand the basic text of AA. Soon, I was sponsoring several women from House of Mercy and taking them through the Big Book and the steps. I got a home group and gave rides to newcomers frequently. I was keeping busy. And most importantly, clean and sober. In 2009, I graduated with honors with my B.A. and eventually started a job in graphic design, something I always wanted to do. In November 2009, my mother passed away unexpectedly. I was able to walk through her death with grace and dignity. I had no desire to drink or use. I knew she didn't want that for me. She got to see me get my first few medallions and was very proud of my recovery. The day she died, I was at a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. The day of her visitation, I was at a meeting. And the day of her funeral, I was at a meeting. The fellowship helped guide me through it. I was not alone!

After her death, for the first time ever, I felt the need to have a child and settle down. I was an only child. My mother wanted to be a grandmother so badly. But I was too selfish and not suitable for a marriage before the program. I soon met my husband at an AA meeting. He had a 7-year-old daughter who I fell in love with instantly. We got married in 2012 and had a child in 2013. We got involved in a church, where we are of service too. I've done several service positions in the program from serving as GSR for my home group, taking meetings to institutions (county & federal), serving on the Intergroup Banquet committee, to name a few. It's been a pleasure and honor to serve in and out of the rooms of AA.



The promises have come true for me. Today, I have a wonderful relationship with God. It continues to grow. And when I hear Him speak to me today, it's nothing but love and positivity. I have found that guided meditation works the best for me. I'm aware of my character defects and continue to ask for help on a daily basis to have them removed. I try to remain humble and true to myself and others. I have a group of ladies who I keep current with and share the journey of recovery with. The inner peace and serenity I have today is priceless. I've had to put in a lot of work into my recovery, not only in the beginning, but when I hit a rough patch two years ago. Action has been the key to survival. I've been around long enough to see what happens if I

don't stay in the middle of the program. So plant your stake! Plant it deep! And grow with us!

God Bless!  
Lisa H.

## Meetings in the Spotlight

GLBT on Ingersoll

Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Plymouth Congregational Church

4126 Ingersoll Ave, Des Moines.

LGBTQ. Open. Wheelchair access.

Freedom & A New Happiness

Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Freedom for Youth Ministries

2301 Hickman Rd, Des Moines.

Park in East Lot - Enter double doors.

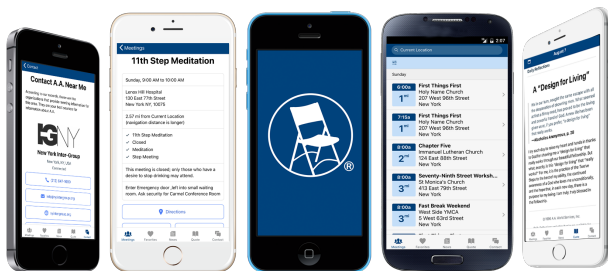
Open. Step meeting. Wheelchair access.



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](#)

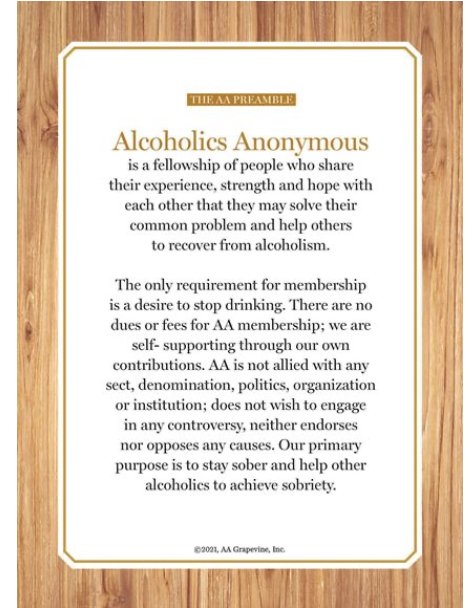
## Fellowship of People

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So... did you hear... the preamble changed? WHAT! That's right, the Preamble of A.A. changed!

Hello all, it's your friendly neighborhood A.A. history nerd Chris V. again. This month it was suggested that we take a look at the history of the Preamble. One may be asking "I thought A.A. did not change its literature?" To a certain extent, that is true, BUT not for all of our literature. It was not until a 1995 General Service Conference Advisory Action that the fellowship codified "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion,' 'Dr. Bob's Nightmare,' and the Appendices remain as is." At the time, this action was a mere formality, cementing a belief that the Big Book should remain "as is."

So how did we get to a new preamble? Let's look at the record. The original preamble was first published in the June 1947 issue of the A.A. Grapevine Magazine and is not the same preamble we know today. This version lasted until 1958, which brought two changes. The first change came in the sentence "The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking," with the removal of the word honest. The second change of '58 expanded the "AA has no dues or fees" to its current iteration "There are no dues or fees for AA membership." Some might argue that the removal of the word honesty was controversial, but in a review of background material around this change, it was found the word was removed as it was not included in the 3rd Tradition.



Well, happened between 1958 and 2021? I really had to dig to find good info on this, but our answers come from a review of how our service structure operates. In review of the background material of the 71st General service conference reveals that in 1986 (maybe before, but that was the best I could find), a movement in A.A. gains steam to neutralize gender in our literature. I should note, NOT all our literature, there is still widespread support to maintain the original language of the first 164 pages of the Big Book, as well as all of Bill W. writings. As mentioned above, action was taken in 1995 around changes to the Big Book. Nothing around the preamble changes until the issue is revisited during the last several General Service Conferences. The upside-down triangle was in full effect as groups from Area 13, 27 and 49 continued a push to change the preamble language to its new form, replacing the words "men and women" with the word "people" in the first sentence of the Preamble. The motion from these Area's started again in 2019.

A.A. also has a wonderful tradition of autonomy. Over the years some meetings have chosen to create their own preambles! There are two alternative preambles of particular note, The Wilmington Preamble (sometimes called the Baltimore Preamble) and the Texas Preamble. The Wilmington version pre-dates the standard 1947, while the Texas version was more of a reaction to the 1947 version, everything is bigger in Texas, so they had to "beef it up!"

As we see from a quick peek at our past, the fellowship is no stranger changes and controversy around the Preamble, its just our turn! One fun fact is that this really overshadows the BIG development from the 71st General Service Conference and truly history making, the continued development of the 5th Edition of our Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous.

If you would like to read any of the versions they may be found at these links:

- [New Version & Background](#)
- [Wilmington Preamble](#)
- [Texas Preamble](#)

Both from our friends at the Cleveland District Office.

In Love and Service,

Chris V.

Feel free to contact me at [cvanme6758@yahoo.com](mailto:cvanme6758@yahoo.com) if you ever have questions or wish to discuss sources.

## Faithful Fivers

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What Is a Faithful Fiver? A.A. Members who support the Des Moines Central Office and 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 sign up as a Faithful Fiver.

What's affordable? Five dollars per month, one dollar per week, 15 dollars per month. Any amount that fits your budget and level of gratitude. Faithful Fiver contributions neither replace nor affect group contributions!

How do you contribute? Set up regular 'recurring' contributions at the link [Faithful Fivers](#). Simply look for the Faithful Fivers contribution line and fill in the amount and the rest of your payment information! Or you can mail 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. Services 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](http://aadsmco.org)
- ✦ Publishes ODAATimes 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        \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule:     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

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## Traditions Checklist

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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 One*

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into argument?
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

### *Tradition Two*

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

### *Tradition Three*

The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

1. In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers.
2. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?
3. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?
4. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message.
5. Am I overly impressed by a celebrity? By a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?
6. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he had been to AA before? What his other problems are?

## Party Line - From the Archives

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He was interested and conceded that he had some of the symptoms, but he was a long way from admitting he could do nothing about it himself. ~ Big Book, pg. 40

I can think of no more uncomfortable spot than to be half way into Step #1. That miserable spot where you know you have a problem that is destroying your life and health, but you are a far cry from wanting to depend upon anyone or anything else to change things for the better. It takes what it takes what it takes. Some people will get this quickly, while other take years of more misery before they drop to their knees in pain and desperation. I call that G.O.D. = **Gift of Desperation**. I sat across from a guy this week who was just miserable. His pain was apparent to even himself. He was haunted day and night with the desire to drink. We could all relate. I gave what was given to me for free: **H.A.L.T**. When I am obsessed; one or more of these factors are at play: **hungry, angry, lonely, or tired**.

Our brains cannot handle all that stress. It will demand relief. I just got up from a nap. I had spent 1.5 hours on hold with a medical center's billing department. They had lost my payment. My anger does not boil over as quickly as it has in the past. Thank goodness for that. I have learned to handle my emotions more sanely. I did what I needed to do. I hung up, called a different phone rep, presented my concerns, and then went to take a nap. Nothing and no one is worth my serenity and peace. No one, no situation, and no thing has the right to waste my precious life. A good nap is worth a great deal more than bottle of pills or a bottle of booze. At least I do not have to pile on guilt, shame, or remorse on top of my upset. AA offers simple solutions.

First published November 18, 2019

### Party Line

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

## Book Review

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### Voices of Women in AA: Stories of Experience, Strength and Hope from Grapevine

From *Grapevine*, the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, find inspiration from generations of courageous women devoted to sobriety and wellness.

Spanning the decades from the 1950s to the dawn of the 21st century, the editors of *Grapevine* have collected 61 personal stories, articles, and anecdotes by or about women who contributed to AA early in its history.

Covering a wide range of topics, including spirituality, sponsorship, life changes, relationships, family, careers and friendships, this unique and moving collection concludes with a chapter devoted to the power and comfort of women's meetings.

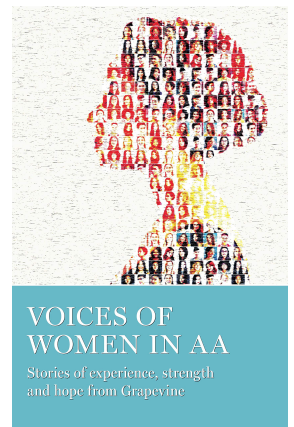
*Voices of Women in AA* demonstrates the diverse ways that women dealing with alcoholism find sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous and live rich and rewarding lives.

[Central Office Literature](#)

## Anniversaries

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If you have an upcoming Anniversary and would like to be recognized here, email us at [Sobriety Anniversaries](#). We print only first name and last initial, and sobriety date.



## Something to Consider

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"To this day, I am amazed at how many of my problems - most of which had nothing to do with drinking, I believed - have become manageable or have simply disappeared since I quit drinking."

— Alcoholics Anonymous

## AA Volunteers

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.aadsmco.org)



# December 2021

# This Day in A.A. History!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			<b>1940</b> Chicago Daily Tribune begins a series of articles on AA by Nall Hamilton.	<b>1943</b> Bill speaks to 300 at meeting inside San Quentin (Sometimes dated 11/28/43).		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>1985</b> Dave B, founder of Montreal Group dies weeks before 50th anniversary. Now his story is in the 4th Edition Big Book.	<b>1939</b> - Bert the Tailor lends Works Publishing \$1000. <b>1979</b> - Akron Beacon reports death of Henrietta Sieberling.	<b>1949</b> Sister Ignatia accepts Poverello Medal of St Francis on AA's behalf.			<b>1975</b> - "Birds of a Feather" AA group for pilots is formed. <b>1941</b> - Dallas Morning News reports 1st AA group formed in Dallas.	<b>1934</b> Bill admitted to Towns Hosp 4th/last time (fall '33, '34 in summer, midsummer and final admittance).
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>1934</b> - Bill has Spiritual Experience at Towns Hospital <b>1937</b> - Bill meets with Rockefeller Foundation and tries to get money	<b>1934</b> - Ebby visited Bill at hospital, brought William James's book, "Varieties of Religious Experience". <b>1937</b> - Rockland State Mental Hospital takes patients to meeting in New Jersey.		<b>1952</b> First Alcoholic patient admitted to Rosary Hall Solarium.			<b>1934</b> Bill W. leaves Town Hospital and begins working with drunks.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>1939</b> Drunks in Los Angeles hold their 1st AA meeting.	<b>1945</b> Rowland Hazard dies (he carried the Oxford Group message to Ebby).					
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	<b>1893</b> Rev Samuel Shoemaker is born.					
2	3	<b>Other significant events in December for which we have no specific date:</b> <b>1934</b> - Bill & Lois start attending Oxford Group meetings. <b>1938</b> - Using Oxford Group principles, Bill closes the loopholes and changes the 6 steps to 12. <b>1939</b> - First AA group in mental institution, Rockland State Hospital, NY. <b>1939</b> - 1st home meeting in Los Angeles at Kaye M.'s house. <b>1939</b> - Matt Talbot Club has 88 members, uses wagons to collect old furniture to recondition & sell, not A.A., used A.A. program, material, marked 1st effort reach alcoholics outside married middle-class category. <b>1940</b> - 1st AA group formed in St. Louis, Missouri. <b>1940</b> - group started Ashtabula, Ohio due to Plain Dealer articles. A.A. Cleveland has about 30 groups. <b>1948</b> - Dr. Bob's last major talk, in Detroit. <b>1950</b> - Grapevine article signed by both Bill and Dr Bob recommend establishing AA General Service Conference. <b>1955</b> - 'Man on the Bed' painting by Robert M. first appeared in Grapevine. Painting originally called 'Came to Believe'. <b>1982</b> - Nell Wing retires from GSO after 35 years of service.				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
						<p><b>1943</b> - Columbus Dispatch reports 1st Anniversary of Columbus AA.</p> <p><b>1946</b> - The A.A. Grapevine increased the cost of a year's subscription to \$2.50.</p> <p><b>1948</b> - "Columbus Dispatch" reported first anniversary of Central Ohio A.A. Group.</p> <p><b>1948</b> - First A.A. meeting was held in Japan. (English speaking.)</p> <p><b>1988</b> - West Virginia A.A. began first statewide toll-free telephone hotline.</p>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p><b>1889</b> - Bridget Della Mary Gavin (Sister Ignatia) was born in Ireland.</p> <p><b>2003</b> - Mid-Southern California Archives moved to new location in Riverside.</p>	<p><b>1939</b> - First sale of Works Publishing Co. stock was recorded.</p> <p><b>1941</b> - Jack Alexander told Bill Wilson the Oxford Group would be in his Saturday Evening Post article on A.A.</p>	<p><b>1939</b> - Dr. Bob stated in a letter to Ruth Hoek that A.A. had to get away from the Oxford Group atmosphere. (May be January 5th or 10th)</p> <p><b>1940</b> - First A.A. group was founded in Detroit, Michigan.</p> <p><b>1941</b> - Bill and Lois Wilson drove to Bedford Hills, NY, to see Stepping Stones and broke in through an unlocked window.</p>	<p><b>1941</b> - Bill and Lois visited Bedford Hills again.</p> <p><b>1941</b> - Bill Wilson told Jack Alexander that Jack was "the toast of A. A. -- in Coca Cola, of course."</p>	<p><b>2000</b> Stephen Poe, compiler of the Concordance to Alcoholics Anonymous, died.</p>	<p><b>1984</b> "Pass it On" was published on this date.</p>	<p><b>1938</b> New York A.A. split from the Oxford Group.</p>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	<p><b>1940</b> - 1st AA meeting not in a home meets at King School, Akron, Ohio.</p>		<p><b>1943</b> Press reported the first A.A. group in Pontiac, Michigan.</p>		<p><b>1988</b> - Jack Norris, M.D., Chairman/Trustees of A.A. for 27 yrs. died.</p> <p><b>2003</b> - Dr. Earle Marsh, author of "Physician Heal Thyself," sober 49 years, died</p>	<p><b>1937</b> - Fitz M brings AA meetings to Washington DC.</p> <p><b>1941</b> - A.A. Bulletin No. 2 reported St. Louis group had ten members.</p> <p><b>1941</b> - Bill Wilson asked Ruth Hoek to get him "spook book," "The Unobstructed Universe."</p> <p><b>1945</b> - First A.A. meeting held in Springfield, Missouri.</p> <p><b>1948</b> - Polk Health Center Alcoholic Clinic for Negroes started operations with 14 willing subjects. The Washington Black Group of A.A. cooperated with the clinic.</p>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	<p><b>1919</b> 18th amendment, "Prohibition," became law.</p>		<p><b>1940</b> - First A.A. group met in Detroit, Mich.</p> <p><b>1943</b> - Canadian newspaper reported eight men met at "Little Denmark," a Toronto restaurant, to discuss starting Canada's first A.A. group.</p> <p><b>1943</b> - 1st discussion for starting AA group in Toronto.</p> <p><b>1943</b> - Wilson's returned from 1st major A.A. tour started in Oct 24 1943.</p> <p><b>1999</b> - Frank M., A.A. Archivist since 1983.</p>	<p><b>1954</b> Hank Parkhurst, author of "The Unbeliever" in the first edition of the Big Book, died in Pennington, NJ.</p>	<p><b>1951</b> - A.A. Grapevine published memorial issue on Dr. Bob.</p> <p><b>1954</b> - Hank P who helped Bill start NY office dies in Pennington, New Jersey.</p>	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<p><b>1961</b> Bill W. sent an appreciation letter, which he considered long-overdue, to Dr. Carl Jung for his contribution to A.A.</p>	<p><b>1918</b> - Bill Wilson and Lois Burnham were married, days before he was sent to Europe in WW I.</p> <p><b>1945</b> - 1st black group St. Louis</p> <p><b>1971</b> - Bill Wilson died in Miami, Florida, only weeks after sending a postcard to Senator Harold Hughes of Iowa, saying he wanted to live long enough to see Hughes become President.</p>	<p><b>1915</b> Dr. Bob Smith married Anne Ripley.</p>	<p><b>1971</b> New York Times published Bill Wilson's obituary on page 1.</p>	<p><b>1971</b> The Washington Post published an obituary of Bill Wilson written by Donald Graham, son of the owner of the Washington Post.</p>		
30	31	<p><b>Other significant events in January for which we have no specific date:</b></p>		<p><b>1938</b> - Jim Burwell, author of "The Vicious Cycle," a former atheist, gave A.A. "God as we understand Him."</p> <p><b>1939</b> - 400 copies of manuscript of Big Book circulated for comment, evaluation and sale.</p> <p><b>1940</b> - First AA meeting not in a home meets at Kings School, Akron, Ohio.</p> <p><b>1942</b> - "Drunks are Square Pegs" was published.</p> <p><b>1944</b> - Dr. Harry Tiebout's first paper on the subject of "Alcoholics Anonymous".</p> <p><b>1944</b> - Onset of Bill's 11 years of depression.</p> <p><b>1946</b> - Readers Digest does a story on AA.</p> <p><b>1948</b> - 1st A.A. meeting in Japan</p> <p><b>1951</b> - The A.A. Grapevine published a memorial issue on Dr. Bob.</p>		
<p><b>1961</b> Dr. Carl Jung answers Bill's letter with "Spiritus Contra Spiritum."</p>						

## Events

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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](#).

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## About

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Des Moines Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office  
1620 Pleasant St., Ste. 228  
Des Moines, IA 50314

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