



SOBER DAZE

October - December 2023 A 12TH District Publication

Inside

Editor Thoughts

Page 1

Important Dates in

AA History

Page 2

AA Biography

Pages 3

ABC's of Life

Page 4

**Archives – Your
History Lesson**

Page 5

Group Meetings

Page 6

**Events/Service/Cent
ral Office**

Page 7

Anniversaries

Page 8

Poetry & Top Ten List

Page 9

**Pamphlet &
District Committee**

Page 10

Faithful Fivers

Page 11

Work is the curse of
the drinking classes...

Oscar Wilde

Editor Thoughts

A Hearty Thank You



This will be my last issue as the Editor of Sober Daze and I are in the process of moving to Roswell to take care of my father. You will be in good hands with the incoming Editor. Their knowledge of A.A. and dedication to service is great.

I do need to thank you as preparing these issues has made me learn more about A.A. I hope that the lessons learned will help me with my next service responsibility.

David J. (Editor)

If you have a topic, story, article, or ideas for Sober Daze, please send it in. This is a We program and we have a lot of recovery between us.

View AA Videos at:

http://www.augustaaa.org/public_service_announcement_videos.htm

https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/videos-and-audios

Read Sober Daze anytime by visiting

http://www.augustaaa.org/sober_daze.html

Important Dates in A.A. History

(Details from http://www.a-1associates.com/aa/HISTORY_PAGE/dates.htm and was collected & assembled by Nancy O. of Virginia. This is a Maryland AA History site.)

- October 1, 1957 – Alcoholics Anonymous ‘A. A. Comes of Age’ is published
- October 3, 1945 – AA Grapevine adopted as national publication of AA
- October 13, 1939 – Bill W. gets his drivers license
- October 20, 1928: Bill wrote promise to Lois in family Bible to quit drinking. By Thanksgiving added second promise.
- October, 1936 – Bill C. a Canadian alkie staying at Bill’s house, committed suicide using a gas stove.
- November 11, 1934 – Bill W’s final drunk begins on Veterans Day and lasts about a month
- November 13, 1939 – Bill wants to go back to work, NY drunks want him to stay on as head of the movement November 13, 1939
- November 16, 1950 – Dr Bob S dies in Akron, Ohio
- November 28, 1934 – Ebby T. carries message to Bill.
- November 28, 1939 – Akron group withdrawals from association with Oxford Group. Meetings moved from T Henry & Clarence Williams to Dr Bob and other members homes.
- November 28, 1943 – Bill guest speaker San Quentin Penitentiary.
(sometimes dated Dec 2, 1943)
- December 2, 1943 – Bill speaks to 300 at meeting inside San Quentin
- December 6, 1939 – Bert the Tailor lends Works Publishing \$1000
- December 7, 1949 – Sister Ignatia accepts Poverello Medal of St Francis on AA’s behalf
- December 8, 1934 – Bill admitted to Towns Hosp 4th/last time (fall ’33, ’34 in summer, midsummer and final admittance).
- December 12, 1934 – Bill has Spiritual Experience at Towns Hospital
- December 13, 1934 – Ebby visited Bill at hospital, brought William James’s book, “Varieties of Religious Experience”.

December 20, 1945 – Rowland Hazard dies (he carried the Oxford Group message to Ebby)

A.A. Biography

A Brief History of 855 Ardmore

This small, craftsman house, tucked away on a quiet street in Akron, Ohio, was the life-long home of Dr. Bob Smith and his wife, Anne Ripley Smith. Built in 1915, the house was where Dr. Smith brought his bride in 1916; and where they lived for the next 34 years until their deaths: Anne in 1949 and Dr. Bob in 1950. It was here, in this humble home, that Dr. Smith was to take his incredible journey through the twelve steps and into history as the Founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. It was in this house and surrounding neighborhood where the miracle of recovery began for many hundreds of men and women; individuals who went on to spread this welcome message of recovery around the world. Many visitors have spoken of a feeling of oneness with the spirit of AA as soon as they climbed the front steps and crossed the threshold. It is our hope and belief that you will too. Many once- hopeless alcoholics, Dr. Bob among them, made their first shaky steps toward recovery in this place. Walking through these rooms, we may reflect on those days in the 1930's and 1940's when the Smiths and their visitors spoke of spiritual matters, and reflected in gratitude, on how dramatically their lives had changed because of them.

The Home was named a National Historic Landmark on Oct. 31, 1985, Dr. Bob's Home was named a State Historical Site by Governor Richard Celeste. On October 17, 2012, Dr. Bob's Home was named a National Historic Landmark. Dr. Bob's Home is one of only two National Historic Landmarks in Summit County and one of 73 in the state of Ohio.



Source: Dr. Bob's Home, Akron, Ohio - <https://www.drbobshome.org/about/history/>

The ABC's of Life
(as found on an A.A. Group's wall)

I travel quite a bit and I try to visit different A.A. Groups while on the road. Each Group is autonomous, so each group looks and acts differently. I recently found the below in an A.A. meeting room.

A ccept Differences	N urture Hope
B e Kind	O pen Your Mind
C ount Your Blessings	P ack Lightly
D ream	Q uell Rumors
E xpress Thanks	R eciprocate
F orgive	S eek Wisdom
G ive Freely	T ouch Hearts
H arm No One	U nderstand
I magine More	V alue Truth
J ettison Anger	W in Graciously
K eep Confidences	X eriscape
L ove Truly	Y earn for Peace
M aster Something	Z ealously Support a Worthy Cause

The above is not approved A.A. literature. But it does give support to that A.A. statement of 'in all our affairs.'

The above are also great ways to show that we have 'gained interest in our fellows.'

Archives – Your History Lesson

‘Those who do not know the past will repeat it.’ A.A. members have been through a lot and have worked through lots of difficult times. If you are in a rough spot, help can be found at:

District 12 Archives - http://www.augustaaa.org/central_office_committees.html

This committee gathers, displays and stores historical information, which relates to AA and our recovering community. If you are one of those people that do not like the exposure but would like to give back a little to the community, please come join us!

Area 16 (Georgia) Archives - <https://www.aageorgia.org/archives.html>

Like any other A.A. service, the primary purpose of those involved in archival work is to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. Archives service work is more than mere custodial activity; it is the means by which we collect, preserve and share the rich and meaningful heritage of our Fellowship. It is by the collection and sharing of these important historical elements that our collective gratitude for Alcoholics Anonymous is deepened.

Akron Archives - <https://akronaa.org/history-and-archives/>

The Mission of the Akron AA Archives

- To preserve the A.A. message and carry it to other alcoholics.
- To preserve the history of our fellowship to prevent distortion.
- To cooperate with and support other A.A. archives and archivists working within A.A.'s service structure and the 12 Traditions.

New York (GSO) Archives - <https://www.aa.org/gso-archives>

The mission of the Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Office Archives is:

- to document permanently the work of Alcoholics Anonymous
- to make the history of the organization accessible to A.A. members and other researchers
- to provide a context for understanding A.A.'s progression, principles and traditions

Interested in District 12 History?

Contact the Archives Committee to learn more about our District 12 history, how to make contributions, or how to volunteer:

12thdistrictcentraloffice@comcast.net

.....Group Meetings Come Celebrate with Us!

If you are in need for a fun time with great friends, visit with a District Group and celebrate the miracles of recovery.

Group	Founded	Celebrates	Group	Founded	Celebrates
Alpha Group	2/27/1973		Liberty Street Group	12/6/2014	
Downtown Club	8/31/2009		Live and Let Live Group	4/13/2022	
Early Bird Group	1/1/2015		Lumpkin Road	12/6/2014	
Evans	2/3/1995	Every Thursday	Martinez	7/31/1980	
First Step	3/25/1974		Men's Group	7/31/1980	
Forest Hills	9/6/1963		Mid Day Group	6/1/2001	
Gratitude Group	1/16/2006	Last Friday @ Noon	National Hills	11/18/1985	
Grovetown Fellowship	7/25/2022	Last Tuesday	New Beginning	12/17/1982	Celebrant Chooses
Grovetown Sober Sunday			New Perceptions	3/ /2002	Last Friday: @ 7:00, Meeting
Happy Hour	8/31/1988	First Saturday at 8:00 P.M.	No Nipping Nooners	12/13/1989	Celebrant Chooses
Harlem	10/1/1989		Path to Freedom	3/ /2002	Last Friday: Chips @ 7:45, Meeting @ 8:00
Hephzibah	12/1/1989	Last Friday @ Noon	S.H.E. Group	1/ /1989	
Hill	12/27/1966	First Saturday at 8:00 P.M.	Thomson Group	9/6/1949	Last Saturday 7:00 Eating / 8:00 Mtg
In Step	2/5/1991		Too Sleepy to Drink	4/1/2008	
Just for Today	12/1/1989		Warrenton		
Last Call Group	3/6/2002		Washington	5/1/1982	Person Picks: 6:00 Eating

Leah Group

8/25/2009

West Town 4/1/2008

AA Group

/ 7:00 Meeting

Events of Interest to District 12

October 8, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting
October 12-14, 2023	Atlanta Men’s Workshop @ Rock Eagle
October 20-22, 2023	Georgia Prepaid Convention, Augusta
November 12, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting
December 10, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting

Recovery Center Update

At this time, Serenity Behavioral Health Center is not allowing A.A. meetings at the facility. This action has ended a Service opportunity for many Groups. However, there are many recovery facilities located in the Augusta area. Please contact Contact Tyrone at 917-860-8773 for questions and to volunteer.

Founders Day Celebration 2024

Founders Day was June 10th! The funding goal for 2024 is \$1,300 (including a \$300 Prudent Reserve). Donations are needed now to make purchases. Your Group or Individual support is requested for the \$1,300 needed. Small contributions today helps make easy planning in 2023.

GOAL: \$ 1,300

Please consider a contribution—the sooner we meet our goal, the easier planning will be.

12th District Central Office Activities

Central Office Activity	Past 12 Months Total	Monthly Average	Last 3 Months Total
Calls to Answering Service	870	73	219
AA Calls to Central Office	662	55	162
Al-Anon Calls to Central Office	25	2	7
Other Calls to Central Office	24	2	6
Visitors to the Central Office	832	69	209
Total Central Office Contacts	2,413	201	603
AA Literature/Items Sales	\$10,616.05	\$884.67	\$2,266.02
Other Literature/Items Sales	\$10,115.07	\$847.97	\$2,889.28
Total Central Office Sales	\$20,731.12	\$1,727.59	\$5,155.27
Web Site Activity			
Web Site Visits	39,736	3,311	10,782
Search Hits	162,133	13,511	42,538

Central Office Volunteer Opportunities are Available in the Central Office. Just call the Central Office at 706-860-8331. Service Committees need great people as well. If you have a special burning desire to be of service, one of our Service Committees has experiences just waiting for you. Call 706-860-8331 for details.

Announcement on Anniversaries

The Editor has worked, since assuming the position, to highlight sobriety celebrations in District 12. This takes assistance from District 12 Groups to provide sobriety date information. Upcoming Anniversaries are listed below.

Evans Group

Amy L	10/14/21
Chrissy J	10/15/20
Frank W	10/14/97
Heather H	10/02/21
John L	10/11/87
Kathleen T	10/27/19
Mark Z	10/01/13
Angel L	11/06/22
Beth C	11/17/13
Charlie J	11/27/98
kristen B	11/12/07
Mary Anne C	11/06/01
Misty S	11/01/19

Rachel B	11/24/20
Shawna L	11/29/12
Betty C	12/08/86
Carol B	12/25/17
Eric V	12/18/97
Luis D	12/01/22
Nash G	12/28/21

Thomson Group

David J. 10/21/05
Stan R. 10/15/95

The Poetry and Literature Section

Because, as we find on page xxx **“They are often able, intelligent, friendly people.”** (Editors note: I am, but humility keeps me from bragging about it.)

Ten Alcoholics

<p>10 Alcoholics, all in a line. One got to thinking, then there were 9.</p> <p>9 Alcoholics, one said, “Wait!” A near beer can’t hurt, then there were 8.</p> <p>8 Alcoholics, lookin up to heaven. One cut out meetings, then there were 7.</p> <p>7 Alcoholics, doing service for kicks. One started grumbling, then there were 6</p> <p>6 Alcoholics, glad to be alive. ‘Til one smoked pot – then there were 5.’</p>	<p>5 Alcoholics, Greeters at the door. One played the Big Shot, then there were 4.</p> <p>4 Alcoholics, for fun and for free. One’s case was different, then there were 3.</p> <p>3 Alcoholics, knowing what to do. One rewrote the Big Book, then there were 2.</p> <p>2 Alcoholics, having some fun. One started lying, then there was 1.</p> <p>1 Alcoholic, talking to HP. “If only one is sober – I’m glad it’s me.”</p>
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from Desert Lifeline, January 2021, pg. 3.

We all remember talking like that! “But we aren’t a glum lot. If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn’t want it.” pg. 132.

Top Ten List – The Progression of God (Reprint)

Twelve Tips for Staying Sober Over the Holidays (from A.A. Grapevine, Inc.)

12. Line up extra A.A. activities (help on the phones, speak, clean dishes)
11. Be honest with friends, especially newcomers, at home or at a coffee shop.
10. Keep your A.A. telephone list with you at all times.
9. Find out about holiday meetings or celebrations in your local Groups.
8. Skip any drinking occasions you are nervous about.
7. If there is one you can't skip, take an A.A. friend – or keep candy handy.
6. Don't think you have to stay late (plan an 'important date' in advance}
5. Go to church. Any church. And don't forget about extra meetings.
4. Don't sit around brooding; catch up on reading, museums, walks, letters.
3. Don't project about holiday temptations. "One Day at a Time."
2. Even if you cannot give material gifts, enjoy the beauty of holiday love.
1. Carry the message. Give the joy away, and it will be yours, to keep.

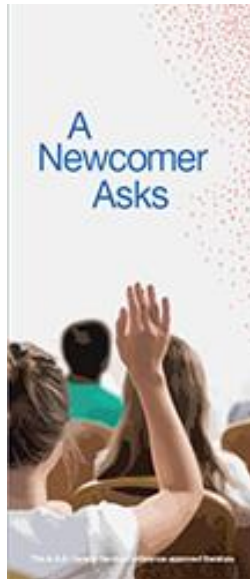
Grapevine

This committee participates in letting the community know about the wonderful recovering magazine offered by AA. We also help groups to build their own Grapevine displays and offer our Grapevine displays for community and group functions. If you would like to help get the word out, come join us!

For service opportunities, please email: 12thdistrictcentraloffice@comcast.net

I Get by With a Little Help From My AA Pamphlet

The Central Office is one of the few in the nation with full-time staffing and a wide variety of AA approved literature.



P-24 A Newcomer Asks

Straightforward answers to 15 questions that those new to Alcoholics Anonymous frequently ask about getting sober in A.A.

Discussion of the sixteen most asked questions from Newcomers.

Faithful Fivers

Thank you for supporting the Central Office!

Denney B
Jim & Billie B
Cathy C
Bruce/Kathy D
David W
Cleveland J
Traylor J
Katy & Fred I
Dan W
Neil T
AVAILABLE!!

Kathryn Z
Jimmy & Tammra H
David J
Pat J
Rosemary M
Tony B
Lisa S
Ellen W
Joe C
Gratitude Group
AVAILABLE!!

Al K
Linda S
Last Call Group
Gene/Judy T
Sara R
Frank W
Ranscine R
Margie S
Lumpkin Fellowship Gp
AVAILABLE!!

Enroll in the Faithful Fivers

“Faithful Fivers” are A.A. members who, in gratitude, contribute five dollars a month toward supporting the 12th District Central Office. With this support, the Central Office pays for the printing of this publication and making it available to the suffering alcoholic. When you enroll as a supporter, each issue will be delivered to your home.

Payment Plan

I agree to pledge, and here is my donation of \$ _____ for _____ months.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **Sobriety Date:** _____

Make checks payable to:
12th District Central Office
113 Camilla Ave.-Martinez
Augusta, GA 30907
(706) 860-8331

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**12th District Central Office
113 Camilla Ave- Martinez
Augusta, GA 30907-3406**