

# OIG NEWSLETTER

Special Edition - July 2024

## Founders Day June 10, 2024 89th Anniversary

Many of us know the story about Bill W. and Dr. Bob found in the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, a.k.a. *Da Big Book*. But do you know the relationship between Dr. Bob's last drink and Founders Day? And Bill W. gave him the beer to steady his hand and drove Dr Bob to the hospital so he could do surgery? June 10, 1935, is the day AA members consider to be the founding date of AA.

Around the world, many gather to recognize the Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous. This year marked the 89th anniversary. On Oahu, the fellowship got together with meetings, food, fun and fellowship at Palama Settlement and through your contributions to Oahu Intergroup the event remained open to members, family and friends. E komo mai! Come all the way in, and sit all the way down.

All the way across the pond, in Akron Ohio, 9,000 plus participants gathered to hear speakers share their experience, strength and hope. Stops at The Gate Lodge, Dr. Bob's Akron home, museum and a Sunday morning motorcycle ride from University of Akron campus to the gravesite are just some of the activities visitors enjoy. The annual gathering usually starts the weekend closest to June 10th.



Gate Lodge at Stan Hywet Hall is where Bill W. and Dr. Bob first met, one alcoholic talking to another, putting together the founding principles of the organization and the rest is history. The preface, forwards to the first, second and third edition introduce us to key people that helped these "erstwhile erratic alcoholics". *Alcoholics Anonymous*, pg. xvii.

A brief history is written in the pages of *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age* and now available at Central Office, 1110 University Ave, Suite 310 for \$12.00.

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Central Office hours  
Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Closed on State and Federal Holidays  
808-946-1438

The Central Office is always looking for volunteers. Contact the office and the OIG Volunteer Coordinator will get back to you.

Please keep your homegroup contact information updated. Contact us for any changes.



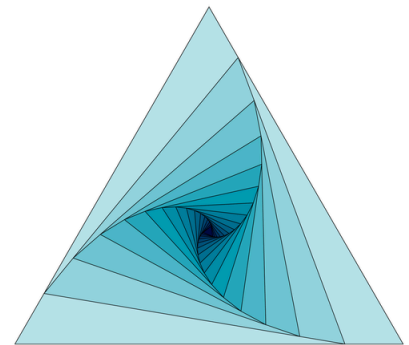
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775 N. Main St., Akron OH 44310  
Phone: (330) 253-8181 | Website: <https://akronaa.org>  
Located in the Birthplace of Alcoholics Anonymous, The Akron Area Intergroup Office started in 1954 and serves Holmes, Medina, Portage, Summit, and Wayne Counties.

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## Spirit of Rotation

Rooted in the 9th tradition, the spirit of rotation is a spiritual, practical, and organizational principle in Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) that ensures a constant supply of people willing to serve the AA Fellowship. Important at all levels of the organization, from home groups to the General Service Office. The Hawaii Area 17 rotates on the even year with service beginning in the odd year. The Central Office will be observing the spirit of rotation this year. OIG Business meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at Susannah Wesley Community Center, 1117 Kalihi Street, Honolulu. All groups are encouraged to send a representative. The Steering Committee meets the 1st Tuesday of each month via Zoom.



# NEITHER CO-FOUNDER

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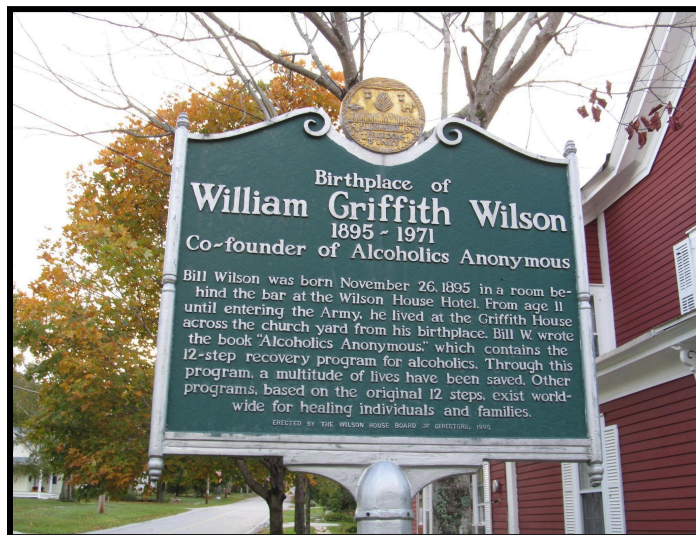
of the Alcoholics Anonymous Fellowship is with us any longer,  
and we, their survivors, are on our own.

*Both men filled the vacuum of their own souls with their  
"language of the heart"  
to find sobriety, and then passed on what they had found  
to hundreds of thousands (perhaps millions by now) of other alcoholics.*

*A.A. Grapevine March 1971*



Dr. Bob's home in Akron, OH. Dr. Bob passed away on November 16, 1950.



Bill found eternal peace on January 24, 1971.

By permission of the family, Bill's anonymity may be broken at the public level.  
As a gesture of unity with our Twelfth Tradition we maintain his anonymity.

Long Form Tradition Twelve - And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

# *74th General Service Conference Connecting with Love, Unity and Service*

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## Delegate Report Back

Hawaii Area 17 Delegate Tommy G., a local boy from Hilo, spent the last weekend of June on Oahu visiting the various districts to inform the fellowship on the Agenda Items that were discussed during the week-long event held in New York traditionally in April.

## What is the General Service Conference?

*The General Service Conference is the collective conscience of AA Groups across the US and Canada which guides our Fellowship. That conscience acts through the General Service Conference, where matters of importance to AA as a whole are considered and discussed.*

## Wanna know more about the role Hawaii Area 17 has in the service structure?

Visit [hawaiiarea17aa.org](http://hawaiiarea17aa.org)

## How does it help to carry out our primary purpose?

Visit [aa.org](http://aa.org) and download a copy of the A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service or ask your group's General Service Representative (GSR).

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## TO BILL,

*who taught me that the AA way of life is*

Humble, *not necessarily meek;*

Accepting, *not necessarily passive;*

Loving, *not necessarily possessive;*

Honest, *not necessarily ruthless;*

Moral, *not necessarily righteous;*

Enviably, *not necessarily smug;*

Spiritual, *not necessarily religious;*

*and*

Attractive, *not necessarily irresistible.*

*Anonymous*

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# Around the Island of Oahu

Visit the OIG website at <https://oahuaa.org> . Submit your event on the Events tab.

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## International Events

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### First International Convention

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By 1950, 100,000 recovered alcoholics could be found worldwide. Spectacular though this was, the period 1940-1950 was nonetheless one of great uncertainty. The crucial question was whether all those mercurial alcoholics could live and work together in groups. Could they hold together and function effectively? This was the unsolved problem. The New York headquarters spent much time corresponding with thousands of groups about their questions.

By 1950, the earlier chaos had largely disappeared. A successful formula for A.A. unity and functioning had been achieved and put into practice.

A.A. held its first International Convention in Cleveland. There Dr. Bob made his last appearance and spoke in his final talk of the need to keep A.A. simple. He saw the Twelve Traditions enthusiastically adopted for the permanent use of the A.A. Fellowship throughout the world.

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*\* From Dr. Bob's brief remarks on Sunday, July 30, 1950, at the First International A.A. Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.*

<https://www.aa.org/dr-bobs-farewell-talk>

\* My good friends in A.A. and of A.A.,

... I get a big thrill out of looking over a vast sea of faces like this with a feeling that possibly some small thing I did a number of years ago played an infinitely small part in making this

meeting possible. I also get quite a thrill when I think that we all had the same problem. We all did the same things. We all get the same results in proportion to our zeal and enthusiasm and stick-to-itiveness. If you will pardon the injection of a personal note at this time, let me say that I have been in bed five of the last seven months and my strength hasn't returned as I would like, so my remarks of necessity will be very brief.

There are two or three things that flashed into my mind on which it would be fitting to lay a little emphasis. One is the simplicity of our program. Let's not louse it all up with Freudian complexes and things that are interesting to the scientific mind, but have very little to do with our actual A.A. work. Our Twelve Steps, when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words "love" and "service." We understand what love is, and we understand what service is. So let's bear those two things in mind.

Let us also remember to guard that erring tongue, and if we must use it, let's use it with kindness and consideration and tolerance.

And one more thing: None of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to do numerous little kind and thoughtful acts on our behalf. So let us never get such a degree of smug complacency that we're not willing to extend, or attempt to extend, to our less fortunate brothers that help which has been so beneficial to us.

Thank you very much.

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## 2025 International Convention

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Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention scheduled in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Taking place once every five years, the A.A. International Convention marks the anniversary of Bill W.'s first meeting with Dr. Bob and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. A.A. members and their families and friends from around the globe attend the event. At the International Convention people attend meetings, workshops, dances and events. A highlight is the traditional flag ceremony to celebrate sobriety worldwide.

Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention. This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding. The International Convention will take place from July 3 - 6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium.

As the Convention approaches, we will update our website with registration information. Let's celebrate sobriety together in Vancouver in 2025!

Visit <https://www.aa.org/international-convention>

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### 7th Tradition Contributions

In keeping with our Seventh Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

We of the Oahu Central Office accept the responsibility to pay our own way.

Send your group or individual contributions to:

Oahu Intergroup  
1110 University Ave., Suite 310  
Honolulu, HI 96804

We accept in-person cash, by mail check, or money order. Credit cards are not accepted.

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## SAVE THE DATE

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Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego  
1 Market Place  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 232-1234

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## The 36th Annual International AA Men's Conference

April 11-13 2025  
Double Tree  
6200 Quarry Ln.  
Independence Ohio 44131

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St. Louis to Host 2030 AA International –  
Celebrating the 75th Anniversary

