

A.A. History in January

January 1

- 1946: The A.A. Grapevine increased the cost of a year's subscription to \$2.50.
- 1948: *Columbus Dispatch* reported first anniversary of Central Ohio A.A. Group.
- 1948: First A.A. meeting was held in Japan, English speaking.
- 1988: West Virginia A.A. began the first statewide toll-free telephone hotline.

January 2

- 1889: Bridget Della Mary Gavin (Sister Ignatia) was born in Ireland.
- 2003: Mid-Southern California Archives moved to new location in Riverside.

January 3

- 1939: First sale of Works Publishing Co. stock was recorded.
- 1941: Jack Alexander told Bill W. the Oxford Group would be in his Saturday Evening Post article on A.A.

January 4

- 1939: Dr. Bob stated in a letter to Ruth Hock that A.A. had to get away from the Oxford Group atmosphere.
- 1940: First A.A. group was founded in Detroit, Michigan.
- 1941: Bill and Lois W. drove to Bedford Hills, NY, to see Stepping Stones and broke in through an unlocked window.

January 5

- 1941: Bill and Lois visited Bedford Hills again.
- 1941: Bill W. told Jack Alexander that Jack was "the toast of A.A. -- in Coca Cola, of course."

January 6

- 2000: Stephen P., compiler of the Concordance to Alcoholics Anonymous, died.

January 8

- 1938: New York A.A. split from the Oxford Group.

January 12

- 1943: Press reported the first A.A. group in Pontiac, Michigan.

January 13

- 1988: Jack Norris, M.D., Chairman/Trustees of A.A. for 27 yrs. died.
- 2003: Dr. Earle M., author of *Physician Heal Thyself*, sober 9 years, died

January 15

- 1941: A.A. Bulletin No. 2 reported St. Louis group had ten members.
- 1941: Bill W. asked Ruth Hock to get him "spook book," *The Unobstructed Universe*.
- 1945: First A.A. meeting held in Springfield, Missouri.
- 1948: Polk Health Center Alcoholic Clinic for Negroes started operations with 14 willing subjects. The Washington Black Group of A.A. cooperated with the clinic.

January 17

1919: 18th amendment, "Prohibition," became law.

January 19

1940: First A.A. group met in Detroit, Mich.

1943: Canadian newspaper reported eight men met at "Little Denmark," a Toronto restaurant, to discuss starting Canada's first A.A. group.

1999: Frank M., A.A. Archivist since 1983, died.

January 20

1954: Hank P., author of *The Unbeliever* in the first edition of the Big Book, died in Pennington, NJ.

January 21

1951: A.A. Grapevine published memorial issue on Dr. Bob.

January 23

1961: Bill W. sent an appreciation letter, which he considered long-overdue, to Dr. Carl Jung for his contribution to A.A.

January 24

1918: Bill W. and Lois Burnham were married, days before he was sent to Europe in WW I, weeks after sending a postcard to Senator Harold Hughes of Iowa, saying he wanted to live long enough to see Hughes become President.

January 25

1915: Dr. Bob S. married Anne Ripley.

January 26

1971: *New York Times* published Bill's obituary on page 1.

January 27

1971: The Washington Post published an obituary of Bill W. written by Donald Graham, son of the owner of the Washington Post.

January 30

1961: Dr. Carl Jung answers Bill's letter with "Spiritus Contra Spiritum."

Other significant things that happened in January (no specific date available):

1938: Jim B., author of *The Vicious Cycle*, a former atheist, gave A.A. "God as we understand Him."

1940: First AA meeting not in a home meets at Kings School, Akron, Ohio.

1942: *Drunks are Square Pegs* was published.

1951: The A.A. Grapevine published a memorial issue on Dr. Bob.

1984: *Pass It On, the story of Bill W. and how the A.A. message reached the world*, was published.