

Your Group's History – What, When, Why, How, and to Where

Any Group's history can uncover facts and recollections that will strengthen its foundation, when viewed in the context of experience and local A.A. history. The facts can be relevant, humorous, eye-opening, and significant: 1) to your Group itself, 2) to your Intergroup Archives, 3) to your District and Area Archives, and 4) to the GSO Archives. Assembling a group history is easy.

Group History Project Questionnaire

- 1. For starters, please provide the Group name, the A.A.W.S. Group Identification Number, the name of the person preparing this history and the date this history is being written.**
- 2. The estimated date the Group started meeting.**
- 3. The place, day of week, and time of the first (or earliest) meetings, and the number of members.**
- 4. Did the group separate from another Group? If so, why?**
- 5. The place, day of the week, and time(s) your group meets presently and the number of members?**
- 6. Has the Group moved? To what different sites, and under what circumstances? Please be specific as to locations, building name or church, the street address, town, and years the group occupied each address. If you can provide photographs of those locations, they would be appreciated.**

- 7. Has the Group changed names? If so, why?**

- 8. The type of meetings: speaker-led; closed discussion; open discussion; Big Book study or other Literature study; Step meeting; Traditions Meeting; etc... or all of the above. Has the format changed over the years? Please describe:**

- 9. Who were your early members and what are your Group's recollections of them?**

- 10. Do any Group members participate with the Intergroup committees? Who and what committee?**

- 11. What kinds of growing pains, problems, or any "feuds" happened, and what were the solutions? Did any specific member lead the Group out of difficulties toward any resolutions?**

- 12. How did/does your Group cooperate with outside agencies: for example, Treatment Centers, Courts, Probation and Parole Boards, and has this changed over the years?**

- 13. Did/do you ever assign sponsors? Do you maintain a list of group members and their contact information to use for newcomers? How did/do you welcome newcomers?**

14. Does your group participate in the 12-step call list managed by Central Office?

15. How did/does your Group celebrate anniversaries, for both individuals and the Group? Any annual dinners, picnics, or special events over the years?

16. How did/do you change the jobs for set-up (making coffee, setting out literature) and clean-up? How did/do you change who chairs the meetings? Did/do you have “greeters” at the doors? Snacks at meetings?

17. Your Group’s Seventh Tradition practices: have the “passed basket” contributions changed over the years? What amount of rent did/do you pay? Do you give away any books? Does your Group make any special contributions for events like parties or A.A. Conferences?

18. On our Seventh Traditions of sharing funds, how did/do you contribute to Intergroup, District, Area, and the General Service Office (“GSO” aka A.A. World Services in New York)? (e.g. 10% to District, 10% to Area, 30% to GSO, and 50% to Intergroup as recommended in GSO pamphlet Where Money & Spirituality Mix, p. 13)

19. Did/do you contribute literature to any libraries, hospitals, jails, or treatment centers? What items and pamphlets are in your Group’s packets for newcomers?

20. In your Group's business meetings, how were/are your trusted servants elected or selected and how often (for example, your IGR, GSR, Treasurer, Secretary, or Greeters)? Outside of the regular finance discussion and votes, are current Intergroup, District, Area, and General Service Conference agenda items discussed for a Group consensus at your business meetings?

21. Does your Group do a Group Inventory? Tell us about the process.

22. What makes your Group unique?

23. How does your Group keep long-timers involved?

24. How did your meeting change during and after Covid?

Please include any other thoughts or memories not covered in the above questions. This history record is considered confidential and "For A.A. use only."

Once completed, you can email your Group's history to archives@louisvilleaa.org, turn it back in at an IGR meeting or deliver it to the archivist, the archives chair, or an archives committee member. We will put it in your Group's history folder.

If you have questions, contact JoAnn E. at 502.424.9556.

Anything else you want to include?