



May 2019

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The Scoop

Some AA History

Bill W.'s letter to Dr. Carl Gustav Jung dated January 23, 1961

"My dear Dr. Jung:

"This letter of great appreciation has been very long overdue. May I first introduce myself as Bill W., co-founder of the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous. Though you have surely heard of us, I doubt if you are aware that a certain conversation you once had with one of your patients, a Mr. Rowland H., back in the early 1930's did play a critical role in the founding of our Fellowship.

"Though Rowland H. has long since passed away, the recollections of his remarkable experience while under treatment by you has definitely become part of AA history. Our remembrance of Rowland H.'s statements about his experience with you is as follows:

"Having exhausted other means of recovery from his alcoholism, it was about 1931 that he became your patient. I believe he remained under your care for perhaps a year. His admiration for you was boundless, and he left you with a feeling of much confidence.

"To his great consternation, he soon relapsed into intoxication. Certain that you were his "court of last resort," he again returned to your care. Then followed the conversation between you that was to become the first link in the chain

of events that led to the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous.

"My recollection of his account of that conversation is this: First of all, you frankly told him of his hopelessness, so far as any further medical or psychiatric treatment might be concerned. This candid and humble statement of yours was beyond doubt the first foundation stone upon which our Society has since been built.

"Coming from you, one he so trusted and admired, the impact upon him was immense. When he then asked you if there was any hope, you told him that there might be, provided he could become the subject of a spiritual or religious experience – in short, a genuine conversion. You pointed out how such an experience, if brought about, might remotivate him when nothing else could. But you did caution, though, that while such experiences had sometimes brought recovery to alcoholics, they were, nevertheless, comparatively rare. You recommended that he place himself in a religious atmosphere and hope for the best. This I believe was the substance of your advice.

"Shortly thereafter, Mr. Rowland H. joined the Oxford Groups, an evangelical movement then at the height of its success in Europe, and one with which you are doubtless familiar. You will remember their large emphasis upon the principles of self-survey, confession, restitution, and the giving of oneself in service to others. They strongly stressed meditation and prayer. In

these surroundings, Rowland H. did find a conversion experience that released him for the time being from his compulsion to drink.

"Returning to New York, he became very active with the "O.G." here, then led by an Episcopal clergymen, Dr. Samuel Shoemaker. Dr. Shoemaker had been one of the founders of that movement, and his was a powerful personality that carried immense sincerity and conviction.

"At this time (1932-34) the Oxford Groups had already sobered a number of alcoholics, and Rowland, feeling that he could especially identify with these sufferers, addressed himself to the help of still others. One of these chanced to be an old schoolmate of mine, Edwin T. ("Ebby") He had been threatened with commitment to an institution, but Mr. H. and another ex-alcoholic "O.G." member procured his parole and helped to bring about his sobriety.

"Meanwhile, I had run the course of alcoholism and was threatened with commitment myself. Fortunately I had fallen under the care of a physician – a Dr. William D Silkworth – who was wonderfully capable of understanding alcoholics. But just as you had given up on Rowland, so had he given me up. It was his theory that alcoholism had two components – an obsession that compelled the sufferer to drink against his will and interest, and some sort of metabolism difficulty which had then called an allergy. The alcoholic's compulsion guaranteed that the alcoholic's drinking would go on, and the allergy made sure that the sufferer would finally deteriorate, go insane, or die. Though I had been one of the few he had thought it possible to help, he was finally obliged to tell

me of my hopelessness; I, too, would have to be locked up. To me, this was a shattering blow. Just as Rowland had been made ready for his conversion experience by you, so had my wonderful friend, Dr. Silkworth, prepared me.

"Hearing of my plight, my friend Edwin T. came to see me at my home where I was drinking. By then, it was November 1934. I had long marked my friend Edwin for a hopeless case. Yet there he was in a very evident state of "release" which could by no means accounted for by his mere association for a very short time with the Oxford Groups. Yet this obvious state of release, as distinguished from the usual depression was tremendously convincing. Because he was a kindred sufferer, he could unquestionably communicate with me at great depth. I knew at once I must find an experience like his, or die.

"Again I returned to Dr. Silkworth's care where I could be once more sobered and so gain a clearer view of my friend's experience of release, and of Rowland H.'s approach to him.

"Clear once more of alcohol, I found myself terribly depressed. This seemed to be caused by my inability to gain the slightest faith. Edwin T. again visited me and repeated the simple Oxford Groups; formulas. Soon after he left me I became even more depressed. In utter despair I cried out, "If there be a God, will He show Himself." There immediately came to me a illumination of enormous impact and dimension, something which I had since tried to describe in the book "Alcoholics Anonymous" and in "AA Comes of Age", basic texts which I am sending you.

"My release from the alcohol obsession was immediate. At once I knew I was a free man. Shortly following my experience, my friend Edwin came to the hospital, bringing me a copy of William James' "Varieties of Religious Experience". This book gave me the realization that most conversion experiences, whatever their variety, do have a common denominator of ego collapse at depth. The individual faces an impossible dilemma. In my case the dilemma had been created by my compulsive drinking and the deep feeling of hopelessness had been vastly deepened by my doctor. It was deepened still more by my alcoholic friend when he acquainted me with your verdict of hopelessness respecting Rowland H.

"In the wake of my spiritual experience there came a vision of a society of alcoholics, each identifying with and transmitting his experience to the next – chain style. If each sufferer were to carry the news of the scientific hopelessness of alcoholism to each new prospect, he might be able to lay every newcomer wide open to a transforming spiritual experience. This concept proved to be the foundation of such success as Alcoholics Anonymous has since achieved. This has made conversion experiences – nearly every variety reported by James – available on an almost wholesale basis. Our sustained recoveries over the last quarter century number about 300,000. In America and through the world there are today 8,000 AA groups.

"So to you, to Dr. Shoemaker of the Oxford Groups, to William James, and to my own physician, Dr. Silkworth, we of AA owe this tremendous benefaction. As you will now clearly see, this astonishing

chain of events actually started long ago in your consulting room, and it was directly founded upon your own humility and deep perception.

"Very many thoughtful AAs are students of your writings. Because of your conviction that man is something more than intellect, emotion, and two dollars worth of chemicals, you have especially endeared yourself to us.

"How our Society grew, developed its Traditions for unity, and structured its functioning will be seen in the texts and pamphlet material that I am sending you.

"You will also be interested to learn that in addition to the "spiritual experience" many AAs report a great variety of psychic phenomena, the cumulative weight of which is very considerable. Other members have – following their recovery in AA – been much helped by your practitioners. A few have been intrigued by the "I Ching" and your remarkable introduction to that work.

"Please be certain that your place in the affection, and in the history of the Fellowship, is like no other."

Gratefully yours,
William G. W.

Co-founder Alcoholics Anonymous"

Dr. Jung's answer to Bill's letter will be printed in the June issue of the Scoop.

Step Five

"Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

Tradition Five

"Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Winner of the Central Office Birthday Raffle

March Winner: Mary B.

Drop into Central Office during your birthday month and get your ticket for your free Birthday Raffle.

Become a Faithful Fiver

Quotable Quotes

Collected by Dano B, Dano has given up this space so that Bill W.'s letter to Dr. Jung can be printed in whole.

Business Meetings

A.V. Intergroup: 1st
Thursday of each month at 7pm
at Central Office, 43619 17th
Street West, Suite 106,
Lancaster

District 7 (General Service):
2nd Saturday of each month at
9am at the Agua Duce Women's
Club, 33201 Agua Dulce Canyon
Road, Agua Dulce (link located
on AV web site)

H&I: 2nd Sunday of each
month at 10am at the Alano Club
104 E. Ave K-4, Suite J,
Lancaster (Orientation at 9:30am
for newcomers.) (link located on
AV web site)

Coming Events

Local Events

Take Your Sponsor to Breakfast
Fundraiser for Central Office
May 4 at 9:00am, cost \$10
41843 50th St W., Quartz Hill

Cinco de Mayo Spiritual Brunch
Speaker: Angeline, May 5,
11:00am, cost \$5 (at Open Door)
509 W. Ave H-8, Lancaster

Yard Sale Fundraiser for Central
Office; May 19, 8:00am
38887 Juniper Tree Road,
Palmdale, Cost: no charge

Nearby Events

Woodstock West, May 17 –
May 19; Cost: \$40
9750 Airport Blvd, Los Angeles
Four Points by Sheraton, LA

31st Indian Wells Valley Round-
up; May 17 – May 19
520 S. Richmond Rd, Ridgecrest
Desert Empire Fairgrounds –
Sage Hall; Cost: \$25

46th Annual Golden Empire
Roundup; May 24 – May 26
801 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield
Bakersfield Marriott at the
Convention Center; Cost: \$30

Tri-State 35th Annual Round-Up
May 16 – May 19; Cost: \$30
1650 S. Casino Dr
Laughlin, NV

**For additional and up to date
information, go to:**

www.avcentraloffice.org

May 2019 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Mar '19	Apr '19	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$14,994.02	\$7,216.55	\$22,210.57
Expenses	(\$11,195.66)	(\$5,949.56)	(\$17,145.22)
Cost of Goods	(\$9,083.65)	(\$2,440.75)	(\$11,524.40)
Contributions	\$7,219.49	\$3,054.24	\$10,273.73
Net Income	\$1,934.20	\$1,880.48	\$3,814.68



Contributions

Group	Jan - Mar '19	Apr '19	2019 Total
A Gathering of Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
AM Mod	\$842.20	\$500.00	\$1,342.20
Anonymous	\$602.46	\$319.52	\$921.98
Any Lengths Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
AV Hospital - Rm #CR7	\$0.00		\$0.00
AV Men's Stag	\$291.00	\$132.00	\$423.00
AV Round-Up	\$0.00		\$0.00
AVYPBYOC	\$40.00		\$40.00
Birthday	\$5.00	\$76.00	\$81.00
Came to Believe	\$0.00		\$0.00
Clubhouse Meeting	\$0.00		\$0.00
Crown Valley Grp	\$400.00		\$400.00
Dare to be Different	\$0.00		\$0.00
Faithful Fiver	\$430.00	\$336.82	\$766.82
Friday Noon - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Gathering of Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
H & I	\$10.00		\$10.00
High Desert BB Grp	\$1,400.00		\$1,400.00
High Desert Hospital	\$0.00		\$0.00
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$0.00		\$0.00
Into Action	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Lake Hughes Group	\$0.00	\$81.00	\$81.00
Last Call	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Little Red Book	\$0.00		\$0.00
Mid-Day Mod	\$483.38	\$121.96	\$605.34
New Beginnings	\$0.00		\$0.00
Open Door	\$0.00		\$0.00
Palmdale Grp	\$564.36	\$809.89	\$1,374.25
Pearlblossom Grp	\$360.00		\$360.00
PM Mod	\$697.15		\$697.15
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$360.00	\$240.00	\$600.00
Rainbow Grp	\$14.00		\$14.00
Rosamond Sun Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
Sat AM Men's Stag	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sat Spkr Mth - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sobriety Rocks - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Spiritual Sunday - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Steps Weorkshop - Alano	\$132.44		\$132.44
Sun Night BBS	\$40.00		\$40.00
The Promises - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Tuesday Topic Mtg - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
We Care Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Wed Night BBS @ Grange	\$217.50		\$217.50
Westside Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women in Progress	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women in Recovery	\$20.00		\$20.00
Women Seeking Serenity	\$210.00	\$187.05	\$397.05
TOTALS	\$7,219.49	\$3,054.24	\$10,273.73

Adolfo T.	5/3/2015	4	James S.	5/12/2000	19
Erica B.	5/9/2015	4	Liz K.	5/30/2000	19
Jaclyn W.	5/13/2015	4	Stephanie H.	5/27/2000	19
Terry B.	5/16/2015	4	Carl F.	5/27/1999	20
Joel	5/11/2013	6	Scott T.	5/30/1998	21
Andre' A.	5/31/2013	6	Terry M.	5/30/1998	21
Brice C.	5/22/2012	7	Bob H.	5/27/1997	22
Frank M.	5/4/2012	7	Kathy D.	5/5/1997	22
Tom K.	5/1/2012	7	Paul M.	5/29/1997	22
Brian W.	5/6/2011	8	Rav R.	5/17/1997	22
Diane M.	5/29/2011	8	David P.	5/30/1995	24
Karen M.	5/10/2011	8	Erich R.	5/15/1994	25
Mario G.	5/17/2011	8	Linda M.	5/31/1994	25
Tammy S.	5/15/2011	8	Ron H.	5/14/1994	25
Theresa B.	5/7/2011	8	Ron J.	5/9/1994	25
Valerie Jo H.	5/25/2011	8	Tom H.	5/7/1994	25
Ernesto H.	5/3/2010	9	Earl W.	5/16/1993	26
Kevin G.	5/10/2010	9	Marsha Y.	5/15/1993	26
Paul B.	5/20/2010	9	Steve W.	5/9/1993	26
Wendell F.	5/27/2010	9	Tom M.	5/14/1993	26
Amy M.	5/2/2009	10	Betty C.	5/27/1992	27
Danielle G.	5/29/2009	10	David G.	5/16/1992	27
Edward S.	5/20/2009	10	Laura E.	5/17/1992	27
Eric M.	5/31/2009	10	Lee M.	5/25/1992	27
Kathi D.	5/6/2009	10	Cathy R.	5/1/1991	28
Kathryn M.	5/29/2009	10	De Andre M.	5/29/1991	28
Kathy S.	5/19/2009	10	Kevin Mc	5/16/1991	28
Lisa K.	5/20/2009	10	Sharon L.	5/10/1991	28
Yvonne E.	5/5/2009	10	Deto	5/21/1990	29
Chris G.	5/21/2008	11	Joh F.	5/22/1990	29
Georgia A.	5/21/2008	11	Robert G.	5/9/1990	29
Jonie R.	5/21/2008	11	Scott T.	5/5/1990	29
Michael S.	5/13/2008	11	Walt B.	5/13/1990	29
Rickey C.	5/17/2008	11	Robin K.	5/6/1989	30
Robert M.	5/13/2008	11	Bill M.	5/20/1988	31
Ashley A.	5/8/2007	12	Kim C.	5/18/1988	31
Bayla	5/15/2007	12	Sandy C.	5/1/1987	32
Brian O.	5/21/2007	12	Gene S.	5/7/1986	33
Cathleen K.	5/30/2007	12	Lou B.	5/1/1986	33
Melissa G.	5/14/2007	12	Michele R.	5/26/1986	33
Rive C.	5/10/2007	12	Tom K.	5/27/1986	33
Stan V.	5/9/2007	12	Kim T.	5/12/1985	34
Dave K.	5/14/2006	13	Beverly M.	5/12/1984	35
Charlie P.	5/26/2005	14	Paul E.	5/4/1984	35
Kevin M.	5/4/2004	15	Barbara	5/8/1983	36
Steve H.	5/2/2004	15	Dawn E.	5/22/1983	36
Sylvia	5/7/2004	15	Herbert H.	5/12/1983	36
Cathy W.	5/9/2003	16	Lori H.	5/15/1983	36
Dave M.	5/15/2003	16	John C.	5/3/1982	37
Debbie T.	5/7/2003	16	Jose T.	5/3/1982	37
Patti B.	5/21/2001	18	Loretta R.	5/25/1978	41
Robert B.	5/27/2001	18	Don M.	5/2/1976	43
Tomas C.	5/29/2001	18	Ken L.	5/7/1976	43

Get your groups birthday list to Central Office . . . That's how they appear here!

Total Years = 2,085

Managers Corner

Congratulations Jill R. . . April's Birthday Raffle winner!!

Thank you for joining the growing Faithful Fivers Club ~ Brook S., Carmen R., Charlie E., Christina M., Debbie R., Kathy P., Karen M., Leslie G., Lori D., Luke W., Monti B., Pat T., Richard S., Sean C., & Wendy W. for being part of the SOLUTION!

Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

1st ~ Larry W. & Lori D.
2nd ~ Wendy W. & Jon C
3rd ~ Debbie L. & Cindy D.
4th ~ Stephanie S. & Karen M.
5th ~ Christine F. & Richard C.

Scoop 4

Thank you for allowing me to be of service!!

Jeffrey Harlow

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

