

Oral History Questionnaire

It is extremely important that the interviewer state their full name, the date, and where the interview is being conducted to include the city or town and specific location.

1. What is your full name and sobriety date?
2. How did you yourself get to A.A.?
3. How did you hear about A.A.?
4. Did you have a sponsor and if so, who were they and how did it help you as a newcomer?
5. What contributions did you yourself make to the fellowship's growth (do not be unnecessarily modest)?
6. When was A.A. started in your town or area, and by whom?
7. Where were A.A. meetings held: Homes, churches, etc.?
8. Who were the early members who especially contributed to the growth and success of the group?
9. How were the early groups or meetings started? Was it an offshoot from the parent group, a quarrel or split with the first or main group, one person starting a group, etc.?
10. What was A.A. like in the early days?

11. How did you contact new members?

12. How was 12th Step work done?

13. Did you seek cooperation of local community and professional agencies: Ministers, doctors, law enforcement agencies?

14. Who were the founders and group officers of the early groups?

15. How often were A.A. meetings held and what was the meeting format: Speaker, open, closed, discussion, literature based, etc.?

16. Were there any special problems that arose during the early years, growing pains, etc.?

17. What were some of the group names, did they change? If so when? Was there more than one name change? What are the present names of the groups?

18. Do you know how the first group was received by the community when it started?

19. Do you think your group or groups had influence in your community; has the attitude of your local professional community, particularly towards alcoholism been changed by contact with the local members?

20. Where conferences or conventions held? When did they start, how often were they held, were they well attended?

21. Did you ever attend any conferences or conventions?

22. When did clubhouses start (if you have one), and under what circumstances? Any problems developed? How were they solved?

23. Was there any opposition to A.A. or intergroup in your area?
24. Is there an intergroup or central office in your area? When was it started? How? Were there any problems?
25. Do you celebrate anniversaries (individual or group)? How?
26. Is there AlAnon or AlAteen in your area? How are their relations with the groups?
27. Have you experienced growth in your group or area?
28. Who approaches A.A. today: more young people, women, minorities? Are there any problems?
29. Were there problems with outside issues in the early meetings: drugs, gambling, treatment center lingo, etc.?
30. Are there any "outside Agencies" in your area? What is the group's relationship with them? Any referrals? Any problems with these?
31. How has A.A. changed since you first encountered it? How?
32. Did your group have contact with GSO? District, Area 62?
33. Is there anything else you would like to relate?