Al-Anon, Alateen, and Professional Studies of Alcoholism and the Family: A Chronology

Compiled by William L. White and Christopher K. Budnick

Introduction

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This year (2011), Al-Anon is celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of its founding. Over the course of these years, Al-Anon has emerged as the prevailing long-term support model for families facing alcoholism and other conditions—particularly chronic health disorders—that threaten their stability, health, and quality of life. Through its growth in North America and international dispersion and its wide adaptation to family problems other than alcoholism, Al-Anon has much to be proud of at this special time in its history.

The sixtieth anniversary of Al-Anon seemed a fitting time to review some of the historical milestones within Al-Anon and to set these milestones within the larger context of the evolving professional and scientific views on alcoholism and the family. The primary audiences for this chronology include addiction professionals, research scientists, and students who are interested in conducting research on Al-Anon and the history of worldwide responses to the impact of alcoholism on the family. The goal was not to list all relevant research, but to provide a representative sampling of publications that could convey the evolution of interest and understanding about alcoholism and the family.

For ease of use, the Al-Anon and Alateen milestones are indented once and the listing of scientific studies, other publications, and contextual milestones are indented twice.

To facilitate easier navigation of this document, the following hyperlinks in blue font will take the reader to specific years. Selecting the hyperlinked years in the document (also in blue font), will return the reader to this page.

1808 - 1919	Early 1940's	1956	1972	1987	1999
1842	1941	1957	1973	1988	2000s
1870s & 1880s	1942	1959	1974	1989	2001
1891	1945	1960s and 1970s	1975	Late 1980s	2002
1890s	Late 1940s	1960	1976	1990s	2003
1907	1949	1961	1977	1990	2004
1915	1950	1962	1978	1990 – 1995	2005
1918	1940s- Early 1950s	1963	1979	1991	2006
1928 - 1930	1950s & 1960s	1964	1980s	1992	2007
1934	1951	1965	1981	1993	2008
1935	1951 – 1953	1967	1982	1994	2009
1936	1953	1968	1983	1995	2010
1937	1954	1969	1984	1996	2011
1939	1955 - 1960	1970	1985	1997	
1940	1955	1971	1986	1998	

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To aid future historians, abbreviations used to note other sources include the following:

- **AF:** White, W., & Savage, B. (2005). All in the family: Alcohol and other drug problems, recovery, advocacy. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, 23(4), 3-37.
- **AAG:** Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine
 - **AT:** *ALATEEN—Hope for children of alcoholics* (1982). New York: Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.
- **CMAG** White, W. (2011). *Chronology of addiction recovery mutual aid groups*. Posted at www.williamwhitepapers.com.
 - FS: Al-Anon Family Groups (1986). First Steps: Al-Anon...35 years of beginnings. New York: Author.
 - **LR:** Wilson, L. (1994). Lois remembers: Memoirs of the co-founder of Al-Anon and wife of the co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. New York: Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.
- **MVOJ:** Al-Anon Family Groups (2011). *Many voices, one journey*. Virginia Beach, VA: Author.
 - **SD:** White, W. L. (1998). *Slaying the dragon: The history of addiction treatment and recovery in America*. Bloomington, IL: Chestnut Health Systems.
 - **TN:** Al-Anon: Then and now, 1986
 - **WRT:** Fitzpatrick, M. (2011). We recovered too: The Family Groups' beginnings in the pioneers own words. Center City, Minnesota: Hazelden.

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1808 - 1919

Concern about the effects of drunkenness on families is a constant motif within the American temperance movement, with temperance plays such as *The Drunkard*, *One Cup More*, and *The Doom of the Drunkard* portraying the alcohol-related violence, the economic hardship, and abandonment experienced by families (AF).

1842

Martha Washington Society founded to support wives and children of inebriates—particularly those whose husbands and fathers have joined the Washingtonian Temperance Society (SD).

1870s & 1880s

The "Women's Crusade" and "Children's Crusade" against alcohol is led by family members affected by the alcoholism of their family members (AF).

1891

Lois B., future wife of Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill W., is born to Clark and Matilda B. (March 4th).

1890s

Early evidence of wives being blamed by professional addiction specialists for the alcoholism of their husbands:

Palmer, in his 1898 treatise *Inebriety*, had the following to say about wives: "The universality of good wives to intemperate husbands suggests an inquiry into the connection they may bear and the influence they may exercise, however innocently, in the downfall of their husbands." (Palmer, C. (1898). *Inebriety: Its source, prevention, and cure*. Philadelphia: Union Press, p. 42.)

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1907

Cutten, in his *Psychology of Alcoholism* text, notes: "The kindest wife and most indulgent parents are very much in the way of numerous cures, and prove to be, instead of the best friends, the worst enemies the alcoholic has." (Cutten, G. (1907). *The psychology of alcoholism*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, p. 325.)

1915

Lois B. becomes engaged to Bill W.

1918

Lois B. marries Bill W. (January 24th)

1928 - 1930

Bill W. makes repeated pledges to Lois W. in the family Bible that he will stop drinking (October 20, 1928; November 29, 1928 [Thanksgiving]; January 12, 1929; and September 3, 1930).

1934

On November 11, Bill W. is re-admitted for the fourth time to Charles Towns Hospital for treatment of his alcoholism. It was during this last stay that he had a profound spiritual experience that marked the beginning of his permanent sobriety. Lois would later reflect that when she first saw Bill after this experience, she recognized that he had undergone a significant change and from that moment shared his hope for the future (LR, p. 89).

1935

In search of another alcoholic to talk to while on a business trip to Akron, Ohio, Bill W. meets Dr. Robert S. on May 12 (LR, p. 95). Their meeting and "Dr. Bob's" subsequent last drink in mid-June will mark the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous. Lois W. later described how Alcoholics Anonymous during this period was a "family affair" (LR, p. 171).

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1936

Anne S., wife of Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Dr. Bob, organizes a group for the wives of AA members (WRT, p. 8).

1937

Bill and Lois W. sever ties with the Oxford Group; Dr. Bob and Annie will do the same in 1939 (FS, 16).

Moore and Gray, in a 1937 article on alcoholism note, "the person with the greatest need of psychiatric treatment is the marital partner who has *not* become alcoholic" (pp. 381-388). (Moore, M., & Gray, M. (1937). The problem of alcoholism at the Boston City Hospital. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 217, 381-388.)

There is an emerging trend in the 1930s for therapists to see family members of alcoholics as possessing great pathology and interfering with the treatment of the alcoholic (e.g., Strecker, E., & Chambers, F. (1938). *Alcohol: One man's meat*. New York: MacMillan; Knight, R. (1938). The psychoanalytic treatment in a sanatorium of chronic addiction to alcohol. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *111*, 1443-1446.)

1939

AA's basic text, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, includes a chapter "To Wives" authored by AA co-founder Bill W. Lois later shared her disappointment that Bill had not asked her to write this and the "The Family Afterward" chapters (LR, p. 114).

1940

When AA members at AA's first clubhouse in New York City begin "alcoholics only" meetings, the wives begin meeting together and sharing their stories (September 12) (LR, p. 172).

Early 1940's

Wives (and later, wives and husbands) of AA members began to band together for mutual support in such places as Long, Beach California; Richmond, Virginia; and Chicago, Illinois (SD, p. 221).

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1941

Bill and Lois W. buy Stepping Stones – their home at 62 Oak Road in the village of Katonah in Bedford, New York.

1942

Lois and Anne B. – future co-founders of Al-Anon – first meet when Anne seeks help for her husband (MVOJ, p. 18; WRT, 160).

1945

The first family group is registered by the Alcohol Foundation (the latter will evolve into the AA General Services Organization (GSO) (MVOJ, p. 21). They first refer to themselves as AAA / Triple (Alcoholics Anonymous Auxiliary) and AA NAA (Non-Alcoholics Anonymous) (WRT, p. 21).

Landis-Benson, Y. (1945). Excessive drinking and the institution of the family. *Alcohol, science and society*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, p. 223-238.

Late 1940s

A.A. Grapevine articles (30 family-focused articles between 1945 – 1950) and news reports reveal considerable family activity (MVOJ, 33), including the following sources:

- Family groups make headway in California. (1947). A.A Grapevine, 3(12), May, p.1.
- Non-A.A. group formed in Austin. (1947). A.A Grapevine, 4(12), July, p.3
- Non-alcoholic wives form A.A. Auxiliary. (1948). A.A Grapevine, 5(2), May, p.7.
- Enthusiasm key word. (1948). A.A Grapevine, 8(3), July, p.5
- California THE San Diego AA Associate Group. (1951). A.A Grapevine, 19(9), August, p.38.
- The Al-Anon story. (1963). *A.A Grapevine*, *19*(9), February, p. 2-9.

Alcoholics Anonymous Associates organizes in San Diego, CA (AAG).

Family Groups organized in San Pedro and Sugar Hill, CA (AAG).

A.A. Auxiliary" (AAA) formed in Rome, GA (AAG).

"Non-A.A. Group" (NAA) created for family members in Austin, TX (AAG).

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Late 1940s

Rochester, NY Non-AA Group adapts AA's Twelve Steps for use by the husbands and wives of alcoholics (AAG).

Other names of early family groups include A.A. Helpmates, Al-Anon, Alono, and Onala (SD).

In 1949, Lois W. authors "One Wife's Story" in the A.A. Grapevine (AAG).

In 1949, Ruth G., a San Francisco Al-Anon member, develops the newsletter, the *San Francisco Family Chronicle* – later renamed *The Family Forum* – the forerunner of today's newsletter used as the primary instrument of communication among the nation's Al-Anon groups (LR, 173; WRT, p. 81).

In July 1949, a *Coronet Magazine* article entitled "New Help for Alcoholics" marks the first national publicity for the emerging family groups (MVOJ, 24).

A family group begins meeting weekly in Mount Kisco, New York; its membership includes Lois W. and Anne B.—future co-founders of Al-Anon (MVOJ, 28-29).

1949

Anne S., wife of Dr. Bob, dies June 1; her early work with families will serve as an inspiration for what will soon become Al-Anon (WRT, 203).

1950

Wives of still-drinking alcoholics not involved in AA begin participation in family group meetings (FS, 159).

Bill W. returns from visits to AA groups across the US and Canada; in response to his seeing so many family groups, he encourages Lois to open a service office to support these groups (LR, 173).

1940s- Early 1950s

Wives of alcoholics are increasingly depicted in the professional alcoholism literature as having chosen alcoholics in order to meet their own dependency needs, e.g., Futterman, S. (1953). Personality trends in wives of alcoholics. *Journal of Psychiatric Social Work*, 23, 37-41. Whalen, T. (1953). Wives of alcoholics: Four types observed in a family service agency. *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 12, 632-641.

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1950s & 1960s

Two themes that permeate family studies of alcoholism in the 1950s and 1960s: the personal and role adaptations that occur within the family in response to alcoholism and the alcoholism-related deterioration in the role performance of family members (AF).

Wives of alcoholics continue to be portrayed as choosing and remaining with alcoholic husbands as a result of their own psychopathology (See Corder, B., Hendricks, A., & Corder, R. (1964). An MMPI study of a group of wives of alcoholics. *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 25, 551).

1951

Lois W. and Anne B. set up a service office at Stepping Stones, Bill & Lois W.'s home – called the Clearinghouse Committee – to support the 49 and growing family groups meeting in tandem with AA (WRT, p. 91).

The Committee identified 87 groups operating in May, 1951 (WRT, p. 117).

145 groups have registered with the Clearinghouse (SD, p. 221).

Lois W. and Anne B. author *Purposes and Suggestions* (MVOJ, 42).

1951 - 1953

Lois W. adapts AA's Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions for Al-Anon; The Al-Anon Family Groups agree to accept the adapted Steps; there are 300 registered Al-Anon groups (LR, p. 199).

Anne B. and volunteers create the first Al-Anon World Directory (FS, 72; MVOJ, 78).

1953

There are 441 registered Al-Anon groups (LR, p. 178; WRT, 162).

Henrietta S. becomes Al-Anon's first paid worker in her role as General Secretary/ Executive Director (TN).

Futterman, S. (1953). Personality trends in wives of alcoholics. *Journal of Psychiatric Social Work*, 23, 37-41.

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1953

Whalen, T. (1953). Wives of alcoholics: Four types observed in a family service agency. *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 12, 632-641.

1954

The Clearinghouse Committee incorporates itself as Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. (MVOJ, p. 67).

There are 500 registered Al-Anon Groups (FS, 64).

Joan Jackson publishes her article, "The Adjustment of the Family to the Crisis of Alcoholism" in the *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*. Jackson went on to study how alcoholism elicited a wide variety of developmental problems in children of alcoholics (Jackson, 1964).

1955 - 1960

Al-Anon's growth is spurred on by articles in such publications as the *Saturday Evening Post* (July, 1955), *Christian Herald* (1953), *Life Romances* (April, 1953), *Life Today* (April, 1953), *Time* (May 16, 1960), *Life* (1961), and *Guideposts* (March, 1960) and by Abigail Van Buren and Ann Lander's positive treatment in their advice columns (e.g., March 24, 1960). Some of these publishing events generate more than 10,000 letters of request for help from Al-Anon (FS, 149). Al-Anon had been featured earlier in radio (e.g., Second Chance) and television programs (e.g., Lamp Unto My Feet) (MVOJ, 55).

1955

Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions, which Lois W. had begun drafting in 1952, are officially ratified in 1955 by the Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference (FS, 85).

First printing of the book *The Al-Anon Family Groups*, authored by Lois W. with assistance from Alcoholics Anonymous cofounder Bill W., Margaret D., and Ralph P., is distributed at the AA International Convention in St. Louis (LR, p. 180).

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1955

The first special session about children of alcoholics was hosted by Al-Anon at the AA International Convention in St. Louis (LR, p. 183); early signs of a rising Alateen begin as early as 1954 (WRT, 157).

J.E.S. (1955). It's a family disease. AA Grapevine, 12(3), August.

1956

Frank, J. D., Gliedman, L. H., Nash, H. T., & Rosenthal, D. (1956). Group therapy of alcoholics with concurrent group meetings of their wives. Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 17, 655-670.

MacDonald, D. (1956). Mental disorders in the wives of alcoholics. *Quarterly Journal of* Studies on Alcohol, 17, 282-287.

1957

On November 10, the story of Al-Anon is featured on *The Loretta Young Show* (FS, 141).

Alateen is started by a Pasadena, California adolescent whose parents were in AA and Al-Anon. Alateen provides a support-group structure for people ages 12 to 20 whose lives have been affected by the alcoholism of someone close to them, most often a parent. Within a year, there are 45 Alateen groups established (AT). This is the first organization for children of alcoholics since the Junior Washingtonian Societies of the early 1840s (SD).

C.W. (1957). What Al-Anon means to me. A.A. Grapevine, 14(1), May.

1959

Ross, A.B. (1959). Al-Anon help alcoholic's wives. *Hospital Progress*, 40(4), 70-72.

1960s and 1970s

A growing number of alcoholism treatment institutions begin to experiment with "family programs." The conceptualization of addiction as a "family disease" opened the door to exploring how this disease altered family structure (roles and subsystem interactions), family

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1960s and 1970s

rules, family rituals, and the family's boundary transactions with the outside world as a natural process of adaptation rather than from the psychopathologies of husband and wife (AF).

1960

At the AA International Convention in Long Beach, CA, Al-Anon members vote to hold a trial World Service Conference the following year (MVOJ, p. 93).

The growing visibility of women recovering from alcoholism and the related growth of men in Al-Anon is recognized by a new genre of Al-Anon literature bearing such titles as *The Stag Line*, *What's Next? Asks the Husband of an Alcoholic*, *My Wife is an Alcoholic*, and *Al-Anon IS for Men* (SD, p. 222).

A revision of Al-Anon's basic text, *The Al-Anon Family Groups*, is revised and published as *Living with an Alcoholic* (LR, p. 200).

There are about 100 Alateen groups (LR, p. 200).

Alateen article, "My Mother is an Alcoholic," is published in *Guideposts* magazine in March (MVOJ, 91).

Fox, R. (1960). Al-Anon's role in the alcoholic's home. AA Grapevine, 17(1), June.

McNamara, J. (1960). The disease conception of alcoholism: Its therapeutic value for the alcoholic and his wife. *Social Casework*, 41, 460-465.

1961

There are 1,500 Al-Anon groups (LR, p. 200); Al-Anon hosts its first World Service Conference (FS, 128; MVOJ 96); Since 1963, it has been held annually (WRT, 156).

The first autonomous Alateen convention is held in Philadelphia in June (LR, p. 186).

Alateen receives national media coverage in such magazines as *Life, Time, American Weekly, Seventeen,* and *Teen Etiquette*; there are 154 Alateen groups (AT).

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Bailey, M. (1961). Alcoholism and marriage: A review of the research and professional literature. Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 22, 81-97.

Day, B. (1961). Alcoholism and the family. *Marriage and Family Living*, 23, 253-258.

Dr. Ruth Fox presents The Effect of Alcoholism on Children, Alcohol Is a Family Disease at the Int'l Congress for Psychotherapy, 1961.

1962

Bailey, M.B. (1962). Family agency and social casework in treatment of the spouse and family of the alcoholic. In A. Kuhn, (ed.), What family agencies can do to help alcoholics and families (pp. 35-46). Springfield, IL: Illinois Division of Alcoholism.

Jackson, J. (1962). Alcoholism and the family. In D. Pittman & C. Snyder (Eds.), Society, *culture and drinking patterns* (pp.472-492). New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Kellermann, J. L. (1962). Guide for the family of the alcoholic. New York: Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters.

Cork, M. (1962). Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon as resources for the alcoholic and his family. In A. Kuhnn, What family agencies can do to help alcoholics and families. Springfield, IL: Illinois Division of Alcoholism.

Fox, R. (1962). Children in the alcoholic family. In W. C. Bier (Ed.), Problems in addiction: Alcoholism and Narcotics. New York: Fordham University Press.

1963

There are 1,500 Al-Anon registered groups (SD, p. 221).

The Al-Anon story. (1963). AA Grapevine, 19(9), February.

There are 262 Alateen groups spurring in part by many new groups outside the United States (AT).

Shipp T. (1963). Helping the alcoholic and his family. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

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1964

First studies appear that question the 1950s portrayal of the alcoholic wife as having selected and remained with her husband out of her own deep emotional disturbance.

Corder, B., Hendricks, A., & Corder, R. (1964). An MMPI study of a group of wives of alcoholics. *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 25, 551.

Blaine, H.T., & Meyers, W.R. (1964). Psychological test score changes from wives of alcoholics during periods of drinking and sobriety. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 20(2), 230-232.

Jackson, J. (1964). Drinking, drunkenness, and the family. In R. McCarthy (Ed.), *Alcohol education for classroom and community* (pp. 155-166). McGraw-Hill.

Presnall, L.F. (1964). *The wife of an alcoholic: A pattern to happiness*. Salt Lake City, UT: Utah Alcoholism Foundation.

1965

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism is published. Al-Anon's growth is reflected in 3 Spanish-speaking staff at the Al-Anon World Service Office who provide support to 3,000 Spanish-speaking and 800 Portuguese-speaking groups now meeting in 20 countries (FS, 123).

Bailey, M. (1965). Al-Anon family groups as an aid to wives of alcoholics. *Social Work*, 10, 68–74.

1967

The Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage is published.

The Al-Anon program is adapted by Nar-Anon and in subsequent years, Families Anonymous (1971), Co-anon (1985), and Recovering Couples Anonymous (1988).

Bailey, M.B. (1967). Psychophysiological impairment on wives of alcoholics as related to their husband's drinking and sobriety. In R. Fox (Ed.), *Alcoholism: Behavioral research*, *therapeutic approaches* (pp. 134-144). New York: Springer.

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1968

One Day at a Time in Al-Anon is published. By 1986, it will be in its 18th printing and have sold more than two million copies.

1969

There are 701 Alateen groups, sparked in part by dramatic growth of Alateen outside the United States (AT).

Cork, M. (1969). The forgotten children. Toronto: Addiction Research Foundation.

Joseph Kellerman's booklet, Alcoholism, a Merry-Go-Round Named Denial, is published.

1970

Al-Anon's Favorite Forum Editorials (by Margaret D.) is published.

Meeks, D., & Keely, C. (1970). Family therapy with families of recovering alcoholics. Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 31, 399-413.

1971

The film *Lois's Story* recounting the early years of Al-Anon is released.

Families Anonymous founded (CMAG).

Cheek, F.E., Franks-Cyril, M., & Laucius, J. (1971). Behavior modification training for wives of alcoholics. Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 32(2), 456-461.

Cohen, P.C., & Krause, M.S. (1971). Casework with wives of alcoholics. New York: Family Service Association of America.

James, J.E., & Goldman, M. (1971). Behavior trends of wives of alcoholics. *Quarterly* Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 32(2), 373-381.

Scott, E.M. (1971). Struggles in an alcoholic family. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas publisher.

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The "Three Cs" ("I didn't cause it, can't control it, and can't cure it.") first appear *Al-Anon Family Groups Forum* (MVOJ, 163).

Alateen groups reach 1,000 benchmark (AT).

Alcoholism: A family illness. New York: Christopher D. Smithers Foundation.

Courdet, J. (1972). The alcoholic in your life. New York: Warner Paperback Library.

Corder, B.F., Corder, R.F., & Laidlaw, N.D. (1972). An intensive treatment program for alcoholics and their wives. *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, *33*, 1144-1146.

Mueller, J.F. (1972). Casework with the family of the alcoholic. Social Work, 17(6), 79-84.

1973

Al-Anon Family Groups. (1979). How can I help my children? Asks an Al-Anon member (Revised).

New York: Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

K.G. (1973). I joined Al-Anon and found AA. AA Grapevine, 29(8), January.

Alateen's first book, *Alateen—Hope for Children of Alcoholics*, is published.

Bosma, W. (1973). Alcoholism and the family. *Addictions*, 2(5), 14-16.

Edwards, P., Harvey, C., & Whitehead, P.C. (1973). Wives of alcoholics: A critical review and analysis. *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, *34*, 112-132.

Reverend Vernon Johnson published *I'll Quit Tomorrow* and outlines a process of family intervention for alcoholism.

Seifert, M.H. (1973). Treating alcoholism, a family disease. *American Family Physician*, 8(4), 150-153.

1974

The first Al-Anon adult children of alcoholics group is registered (MVOJ, 175).

Ablon, J. (1974). Al-Anon family groups: Impetus for learning and change through the presentation of alternatives. *American Journal of Psychotherapy*, 28, 30-45.

Bowen, M. (1974). Alcoholism as viewed through family systems theory and family psychotherapy. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 233, 115-122.

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Bowen, M. (1974). Family systems approach to alcoholism. *Addictions*, 21(2), 28-39.

1975

Ann Landers column recommending Al-Anon generates 3,000 requests for assistance (MVOJ, 178).

R, N.H. (1975). Male Al-Anon. AA Grapevine, October.

Becker, J.V. (1975). Analysis and comparison of verbal and nonverbal behaviors in alcoholics and their wives and nonalcoholics and their wives. Ann Arbor, MI: University microfilms 75-22488.

Corenblum, B., & Fischer, D. G. (1975). Some correlates of Al-Anon group membership. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, *36*, 675–677.

O'Farrell, T.J. (1975). Marital stability among wives of alcoholics: Reported antecedents of a wife's decision to separate from or endure her alcoholic husband. Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms 75-21006.

Orford, J., Guthrie, S., & Nicholls, P. (1975). Self-reported coping behavior of wives of alcoholics and its association with drinking outcome. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, *36*(9), 1254-1267.

Swift, H.A., & Williams, T. (1975). *Recovery for the whole family*. Center City, MN: Hazelden Foundation.

Wadsworth-Allen, P., Wilson, O.W., & Barker, H.R. (1975). Determinants of marital happiness rated by alcoholics and their wives. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, *36*(5), 634-644.

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Blueprint for Progress: Al-Anon's Fourth Step Inventory is published and sells more than 90,000 copies in the next year (MVOJ, 185).

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There are 14,000 Al-Anon groups (LR, 194); the first Al-Anon groups in Japan begin meetings (MVOJ, 207).

The Stepping Stones Foundation is created with the mission of "preserving the historic home of Bill and Lois W., co-founders respectively of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon Family Groups, and to commemorating their achievements in the field of recovery from alcoholism" (FS, 152; quotation from http://www.steppingstones.org/).

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There are 2,200 Alateen groups (LR, p. 194).

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A growing focus on the special needs of children of alcoholics leads to the concepts of "co-alcoholism" or "para-alcoholism" (Greenleaf, 1981), the graphic description of the psychological and developmental consequences of parental alcoholism on children, and a focus on how these consequences continued to affect children of alcoholics in their adult lives. These spark full blown COA/ACOA and Codependency movements that become something of a social phenomenon.

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There are 2,000 Spanish-speaking Al-Anon groups meeting in Mexico, Latin America, and Spain (MVOJ, 208).

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There are more than 15,000 Al-Anon groups meeting worldwide (MVOJ, 219).

There are 2,300 Alateen groups meeting worldwide (MVOJ, 219).

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As We Understood... is published – Al-Anon's first book focused on spirituality.

Al-Anon has an annual budget of more than \$5 million and processes more than 50,000 literature orders per year (FS, 76).

There are Al-Anon groups in 81 countries (FS, p. 121).

Representatives from 54 countries who speak 23 different languages participate in Al-Anon's first International Convention in Montreal, Canada (FS, p. 159).

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1986

First Steps: Al-Anon – 35 Years of Beginnings is published; there are 27,201 Al-Anon groups, and Al-Anon literature has been translated into 24 languages (LR, p. 201, 126); Al-Anon hosts its first permanent International General Services Meeting.

There are 3,196 Alateen groups (LR, 201).

Co-Anon founded (CMAG).

Co-Dependents Anonymous is founded; 1,600 groups will register by 1990 (AF).

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1988

Lois W., Al-Anon co-founder, dies on October 5 at the age of 97. (Borchert, 2005; MVOJ, 262)

John Bradshaw publishes *Healing the Shame That Binds You*; a highly popular PBS television series is based on the book. A whole nation seemed to be riveted on the exploration of the "dysfunctional family" (AF).

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Late 1980s

Al-Anon members first begin to reach out to one another on Internet Bulletin Boards.

1990s

Al-Anon members communicate online in such Internet forums as *Tranquility; CyberSerenity; Al-Anon Chatters; Friends of Lois W.; American Families Online; Courage to Change; Experience, Strength and Hope, A Serenity Place, Men's One Day at a Time, Undernet Al-Anon Group, Awakenings, Key to Harmony, Saturday Night Butterflies, Al-Anon Beginners Chat, Heart-to-Heart Al-Anon Chat and Fifth Tradition.*

Stephanie Brown and Virginia Lewis conduct sustained research on the effects of alcoholism on the family and the further destabilization of the family during early recovery from alcoholism (AF).

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An Alateen membership survey reveals that 30% of Alateen membership is younger than age 12 (MVOJ, 273); there are more than 4,000 Alateen meetings worldwide (MVOJ, 279).

The National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA) grows to more than 1,500 local groups by 1990. (Brown, S. (1991). Adult children of alcoholics: The history of a social movement and its impact on clinical theory and practice. In M. Galanter (Ed.), *Recent Developments in Alcoholism* (vol. 9, pp. 267–285). New York: Plenum.)

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There are more than 32,500 Al-Anon groups meeting in 12 countries and distributing literature published in 30 different languages (LR, 201).

There are 3,300 Alateen groups (LR, 201).

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1996

Al-Anon World Service Office and its 56 staff move from New York to Virginia.

Courage to Be Me is published, containing Alateen members' stories of how they've applied the Steps and Traditions to their lives.

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Friedemann, M.L. (1996). Effects of Al-Anon attendance on family perception of inner-city indigents. *American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 22(1), 123-134.

Humphreys, K. (1996). World view change in adult children of Alcoholics/Al-Anon self-help groups: Reconstructing the alcoholic family. *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*, 46(2), 255-63.

Kelly, V.A., & Myers, J.E. (1996). Parental alcoholism and coping: A comparison of female children of alcoholics with female children of nonalcoholics. *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 74, 501-504.

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Kokin, M. (1996). Differentiating wives of alcoholics by family history of parental alcohol problems. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, *57*(6), 4090-B.

McBride, J.L. (1996). Family functioning and Alcoholics Anonymous attendance. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, *14*(3), 103-106.

Raymer, M. (1996). When death comes to the alcoholic family. *American Journal of Nursing*, 96(12), 58-60.

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Zuboff-Rosenzweig, L. (1996). Degree of similarity concerning abuse within the family backgrounds of Al-Anon members and controls. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, *14*(4), 81-101.

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Barber, J.G., & Gilbertson, R. (1997). Unilateral interventions for women living with heavy drinkers. *Social Work*, 42(1), 69-78.

Dassi, S., & Bocchia, M. (1997). Role of Al-Anon in the management of alcohol problems. *Alcologia: European Journal of Alcohol Studies*, 9(1), 23-27.

Hughes, J.M. (1997). Adolescent children of alcoholic parents and the relationship of Alateen to these children. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 43(5), 946-947. (Main finding was that children of alcoholics participating in Alateen have better emotional health than children of alcoholics who do not participate in Alateen.)

Leonard, K.E., & Jacob, T. (1997). Sequential interactions among episodic and steady alcoholics and their wives. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 11(1), 18-25.

Maynard, S. (1997). Growing up in an alcoholic family system: The effect on anxiety and differentiation of self. *Journal of Substance Abuse*, *9*, 161-70.

Rychtarik, R.G., & McGillicuddy, N.B. (1997). Spouse situation inventory: A role-play measure of coping skills in women with alcoholic partners. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 11(3), 289-300.

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In Salt Lake City, Utah, 4,500+ Al-Anon members participate in Al-Anon's Third International Convention. The book, *Having Had a Spiritual Awakening*, is introduced (MVOJ, 321).

Adger, H., Jr. (1998). Children in alcoholic families: Family dynamics and treatment issues. In A.W. Graham, T.K. Schultz, & B.B. Wilford (Eds.), *Principles of addiction medicine* (Second Edition, pp. 1111-1114). Chevy Chase, MD: American Society of Addiction Medicine, Inc.

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Prest, L.A., Benson, M.J., & Protinsky, H.O. (1998). Family of origin and current relationship influences on codependency. *Family Process*, *37*(4), 513-528.

Vetere, A. (1998). Family systems perspective. In R. Velleman, A. Copello, & J. Maslin (Eds.), *Living with drink: Women who live with problem drinkers* (pp. 113-127). New York: Addison Wesley Longman Limited.

Waldron, H.B., & Slesnick, N. (1998). Treating the family. In W.R. Miller & N. Heather (Eds.), *Treating addictive behaviors* (Second Edition, pp. 271-283). New York: Plenum Press.

1999

Grief After Substance Passing (GRASP) founded for family members who have lost a loved one to addiction (CMAG).

Brown, S., & Lewis, V. (1999). *The alcoholic family in recovery, a developmental model*. New York: Guilford Press.

Brown, S., & Schmid, J. (1999). Adult children of alcoholics: A multidimensional view. In R. Tarter, R. Ammerman, & P. Ott (Eds.), *Sourcebook on substance abuse: Etiology, epidemiology, assessment and treatment.* Allyn & Bacon.

Demers, A., Bisson, J., & Palluy, J. (1999). Wives' convergence with their husbands' alcohol

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use: Social conditions as mediators. Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 60(3), 368-377.

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O'Farrell, T.J., & Fals-Stewart, W. (1999). Treatment models and methods: Family models. In B.S. McCrady & E.E. Epstein (Eds.), *Addictions: A comprehensive guidebook* (pp. 287-305). New York: Oxford University Press.

2000s

Al-Anon telephone meetings begin (See http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/electronic-meetings). Telephone and online meetings are collectively referred to as "electronic meetings" to distinguish them from face-to-face meetings.

AA World Services. (2000). Box 1980 - Special Section: The family afterward - Now and not now - A long journey. The International Monthly Journal of AA. New York: The AA Grapevine, Inc.

Brown, S., Lewis, V., with Liotta, A. (Fall 2000). *The family recovery guide: A map for healthy growth*. Oakland: New Harbinger Publications.

Brown, S. (May 2000). ACA's today: A new idea all grown up. *New Times*. San Jose: Resource Alliance, 3-4.

Johnson, H. (2000). Role of alcohol in male partners' assaults on wives. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 30(4), 725-740.

Kinney, J. (2000). Effects of alcohol problems on the family. In J. Kinney, *Loosening the grip: Handbook of alcohol information* (pp. 209-225). Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.

McConnell, T. (2000). Military wives' recognition of alcoholism. *Journal of Addictions Nursing*, 12(2), 83-88.

O'Farrell, T.J., Murphy, C.M., Neavins, T.M., & Van Hutton, V. (2000). Verbal aggression among male alcoholic patients and their wives in the year before and two years after

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2000s

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Osterman, F., & Grubic, V.N. (2000). Family functioning of recovered alcohol-addicted patients: A comparative study. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 19(4), 475-479.

Richter, L., Chatterji, P., & Pierce, J. (2000). Perspectives on family substance abuse: The voices of long-term Al-Anon members. In J. Delva (Ed.), *Substance abuse issues among families in diverse populations* (pp. 61-78). New York: The Haworth Press, Inc.

Zvirbulis, L.M. (2000). Correlations of resiliency among adult children of alcoholics involved or noninvolved in Alateen, Al-Anon, or ACoA groups. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 60(8),4198-B.

2001

There are 24,000 Al-Anon groups meeting in 130 countries (MVOJ, 331).

Adult children of alcoholics groups that for a period considered organizing independently of Al-Anon are now mostly integrated within Al-Anon (MVOJ, 329).

Al-Anon Family Groups hosts a Family Recovery Luncheon in a U.S. Senate building in Washington D.C. Claudia Black is the keynote speaker addressing the U.S. Center for Substance Abuse Treatment's Recovery Month Planning Partners and executives from national non-profit organizations. Congressman and Senator Paul Wellstone, MN U.S. Senate and Congressman Jim Ramstad issue proclamations acknowledging Al-Anon Family Groups as a community resource that has helped countless Americans affected by a relative or friend's drinking in honor of Al-Anon's 50th anniversary.

Al-Anon Family Groups hosts a Family Recovery Luncheon in Ottawa, ON in cooperation with the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse in honor of Al-Anon's 50th Anniversary. Claudia Black is the keynote speaker. Executives from Canadian nongovernment organizations, government agencies, Members of Parliament Senators(MPS), and embassies attend. A Standing Order is read in Canada's Parliament record.

There are 2,300 Alateen groups (MVOJ, 331).

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Living Today in Alateen is published—a second daily reader for Alateen members.

Harkness, D. (2001). Testing Cermak's hypothesis: Is dissociation the mediating variable that links substance abuse in the family of origin with offspring co-dependency? *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 33(1), 75-82.

Harkness, D., Swenson, M., Madsen-Hampton, K., & Hale, R. (2001). The development, reliability, and validity of a clinical rating scale for co-dependency. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, *33*(2), 159-171.

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Lewis, V., & Allen-Byrd, L. (2001). Alcoholic family recovery typology: A new theoretical model. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, *19*(3), 1-17.

O'Farrell, T.J., & Fals-Stewart, W. (2001). Family-involved alcoholism treatment. An update. *Recent Developments in Alcoholism*, *15*, 329-56.

Stallings, M.C., Hewitt, J.K., Lessem, J.M., Young, S.E., Corley, R., Mikulich, S.K., & Crowley, T.J. (2001). Familial transmission of alcohol dependence symptom counts in clinical and control family pedigrees. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 63(suppl.1), s151.

Tarter, R.E., Schultz, K., Kirisci, L., & Dunn, M. (2001). Does living with a substance abusing father increase substance abuse risk in male offspring? Impact on individual, family, school, and peer vulnerability factors. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse*, 10(3), 59-70.

Thomas, C., & Corcoran, J. (2001). Empirically based marital and family interventions for alcohol abuse: A review. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 11(5), 549-575.

2002

48

Hope for Today, a meditation reader for adult children of alcoholics, is published and sells more than 110,000 copies in the next year (MVOJ, 339).

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Copello, A., & Orford, J. (2002). Addiction and the family: Is it time for services to take notice of the evidence? *Addiction*, 97(11), 1361-1363.

Johnson, P. (2002). Predictors of family functioning within alcoholic families. *Contemporary Family Therapy*, 24(2), 371-384.

Meyers. R.J., Miller, W.R., Smith, J.E., & Tonigan, J.S. (2002). A randomized trial of two methods for engaging treatment-refusing drug users through concerned significant others. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 70(5), 1182-5.

Rohrbaugh, M.J., & Shoham, V. (2002). Couple treatment for alcohol abuse: A systemic family-consultation model. In S. G. Hofmann & M.C. Tompson (Eds.), *Treating chronic and severe mental disorders: A handbook of empirically supported interventions* (pp. 277-295). New York: The Guilford Press.

Rotskoff, L.E. (2002). Sober husbands and supportive wives: Gendered cultures of drink and sobriety in twentieth-century America, 1910-1965. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 62(12), 4218A.

Rumpf, H.J., Bischof, G., Hapke, U., Meyer, C., & John, U. (2002). Role of family and partnership in recovery from alcohol dependence: Comparison of individuals remitting with and without formal help. *European Addiction Research*, 8(3), 122-127.

Velleman, R., & Templeton, L. (2002). Family interventions in substance misuse. In T. Petersen & A. McBride (Eds.), *Working with substance misusers* (pp. 145-153). New York: Routledge.

Walker, C.M. (2002). Wives' marital attributions: What are their relationships to husbands' drinking and personal marital satisfaction. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 62(8), 3818B.

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family support and outcome following treatment for adolescent psychoactive substance use disorders. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse*, 11(4), 67-81.

Wilens, T.E., Biederman, J., Bredin, E., Hahesy, A.L., Abrantes, A., Neft, D., Millstein, R., & Spencer, T.J. (2002). Family study of the high-risk children of opioid-and alcohol - dependent parents. *American Journal on Addictions*, 11(1), 41-51.

2003

Bloom, N.L. (2003). Family factors that influence self-resolution of alcohol problems: The drinker's perspective. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 63(8), 3904B.

Boyd-Ball, A.J. (2003). Culturally responsive, family-enhanced intervention model. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 27(8), 1356-1360.

Harkness, D. (2003). To have and to hold: Codependency as a mediator or moderator of the relationship between substance abuse in the family of origin and adult-offspring medical problems. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 35(2), 261-270.

O'Farrell, T.J., & Fals-Stewart, W. (2003). Alcohol abuse. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 29(1), 121-46.

Roberts, L.J., & McCrady, B.S. (2003). *Alcohol problems in intimate relationships: Identification and intervention. A guide for marriage and family therapists.* Bethesda, MD: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

2004

Brown, S. (July 2004). Addiction as a family disease. In D. Pinsky et al., *When painkillers become dangerous* (pp. 139-164). Center City, MN: Hazelden.

Meyers, R. J., & Wolfe, B.L. (2004). *Get your loved one sober: Alternatives to nagging, pleading and threatening.* Center City, MN: Hazelden Publishing & Educational Services.

Rouhbakhsh, P., Lewis, V., & Allen-Byrd, L. (2004). Recovering alcoholic families: When is normal not normal and when is not normal healthy? *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*,

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2004

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Smith, J.E., & Meyers, R.J. (2004). *Motivating substance abusers to enter treatment: Working with family members*. New York: Guilford Press.

Trim, R.S., & Chassin, L. (2004). Drinking restraint, alcohol consumption and alcohol dependence among children of alcoholics. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 65, 122-125.

2005

Al-Anon Family Groups host family recovery lunches in Washington DC and Ottawa, ON in honor of its 55th anniversary. Robert J. Ackerman is the keynote speaker. Representatives from national nonprofit organizations and federal government agencies attend the events in their respective countries.

Borchert, W.G. (2005). *The Lois Wilson story: When love is not enough.* Center City, MN: Hazelden.

Brown, S., & Abbott, S. (Nov/Dec. 2005). Children of alcoholics: Clinical update. *Family Therapy Magazine*, 46.

Meyers, R.J., Smith, J.E., & Lash, D.N. (2005). A program for engaging treatment-refusing substance abusers into Treatment: CRAFT. *International Journal of Behavioral and Consultation Therapy*, *1*(2), 90-100.

Rychtarik, R.G., & McGillicuddy, N.B. (2005). Coping skills training and 12-step facilitation for women whose partner has alcoholism: Effects on depression, the partner's drinking, and partner physical violence. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 73(2), 249-61.

White, W., & Savage, B. (2005). All in the family: Alcohol and other drug problems, recovery, advocacy. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, 23(4), 3-37.

2006

Al-Anon's new outreach magazine, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2007, is released.

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2006

Al-Anon WSO begins experiments with an online Alateen bulletin board to provide teens a safe and secure meeting room on the Internet (MVOJ, 368).

Fernandez, A.C., Begley, E.A., & Marlatt, G.A. (2006). Family and peer interventions for adults: Past approaches and future directions. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 20(2), 207-13.

2007

Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Lives is released; the book is focused on grief and loss and includes the shared experiences of more than 700 Al-Anon members (MVOJ, 370).

Meyers, R.J., (Author), & Yu, J. (Director). (2007). Getting an addict into treatment: The CRAFT approach [television series episode]. In J. Hoffman & S. Froemke (Producers), *The HBO addiction series: Why can't they stop?* New York: HBO.

Wainwright, A.T., & Poznanovich, R. (2007). *It's NOT okay to be a cannibal - How to keep addiction from eating your family alive*. Center City, MN: Hazelden Foundation.

2008

Al-Anon WSO launches its first blog (MVOJ, 371).

Discovering Choices, Al-Anon's book on relationships, is released.

Lovelidge G. (2008). *Recovery Today - Vol. 13, #5, May Issue - Recognizing family recovery.* Round Rock, TX: Institute of Chemical Dependency Studies.

Roth, J.D. (2008). Spirituality and recovery from familial aspects of alcohol and other drug problems: Analysis of an online Al-Anon meeting. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, 26(4), 399-426.

Smith, J. E., Meyers, R. J., & Austin, J. L. (2008). Working with family members to engage treatment-refusing drinkers: The CRAFT program. In O. J. Morgan & C. H. Litzke (Eds.), *Family interventions in substance abuse*. West Hazleton, PA: Haworth Press. (Co-published simultaneously as *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, 26(1/2), 169-193.)

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Al-Anon Membership Survey reveals an average of 14 members per Al-Anon group; 84% of members are female; an average age of membership of 56; 93% of membership is white; 99% graduated from high school and 56% have a college degree; the average household income is \$71,542; 58% are married; 29% of those who said they had a life partner report a same sex life partner; 95 percent who said they were married had a spouse of the opposite sex; average years of Al-Anon membership is 12.7 years; average weekly meeting attendance is 1.8 and 6% participate in a weekly on-line meeting; 75% have a sponsor and 50+% sponsor others; 44% of Al-Anon members were referred by a professional; 30% of members begin because of concern about a person with a drug problem; 42% of those persons whose drinking Al-Anon members are most concerned about are AA members and 49% are reported to be actively drinking; 95% of members surveyed report that Al-Anon participation has affected their lives "very positively."

Al-Anon WSO launches blog, "Using the Traditions in our Personal Lives," with audio podcasts and member comments (MVOJ, 377).

2010

The total number of Al-Anon and Alateen groups worldwide is 25,452.

"Using Al-Anon's Steps in Our Personal Lives" blog is launched (MVOJ, p. 379).

Gould, T. (Producer), & Harrison, J. K. (Director). (2010). When love is not enough: The Lois W. story [Motion picture]. Hallmark Hall of Fame.

Roozen, H.G., de Waart, R., & van der Kroft, P. (2010). Community reinforcement and family training: An effective option to engage treatment-resistant substance-abusing individuals in treatment. *Addiction*, *105*(10), 1729-38.

2011

Al-Anon Family Groups celebrates its 60th anniversary.

There are more than 25,500 Al-Anon groups regularly meeting in more than 130 countries (MVOJ, p.

3). There are 30 email Al-Anon meetings (English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Estonian, Russian,

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and German), 6 chat meetings (English, French, and Spanish), 7 bulletin board meetings (English, Danish, German, and Russian), and 42 telephone meetings (41 English and 1 Spanish).

Keller, P.S., Gilbert, L.R., Koss, K.J., Cummings, E.M., & Davies, P.T. (2011). Parental problem drinking, marital aggression, and child emotional insecurity: A longitudinal investigation. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 72, 711-722.

Velleman R., Orford J., Templeton L., et al. (2011). 12-month follow-up after brief interventions in primary care for family members affected by the substance misuse problem of a close relative. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 19(4), 362–374.

About the Author: William White is a Senior Research Consultant at Chestnut Health Systems and the author of *Slaying the Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America*. Christopher Budnick is Vice President of Programs for The Healing Place of Wake County and an Adjunct Instructor for the Department of Social Work at North Carolina State University.

Acknowledgment: Stephanie Merkle, research assistant at Chestnut Health Systems, and Barbara Weiner, Library Manager at Hazelden, provided assistance with the literature searches.

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