

Bell Ringers – Spring Assembly – May 20-21, 2023

1. Before Al-Anon Family Groups filled the Gap...Chicago Family Group Aims and Principles 1. We Accept and apply A.A. principles for self-betterment. 2 To let A.A. work out the destinies of its members unhindered, while we work out ours in the same manner. 3. We do not give advice on family issues. 4. We try to practice humility and tolerance in our daily living. 5. We never attempt A.A. twelfth step work as such. 6. Anonymity of the alcoholic and family should be at all times respected. Through faith and understanding we hope to accomplish our aims and purposes.

I'm Dianna, and that's the way it was!

First Steps, Al-Anon, 35 years of Beginnings, pg. 20

2. Lois talks from the heart...Early in 1941, she and Bill bought Stepping Stones, Lois was ecstatic. "How wonderful it was to have a home of your own! At that time in our lives a home was first of all a refuge from wanderings. And it gave us a chance to enjoy such interests as music, reading and gardening. All these perfectly normal activities had been denied us for a long time. It gave us the particularly, an opportunity to be alone together and to plan for the future..."

I'm Dianna, and that's the way it was!

First Steps, Al-Anon, 35 years of Beginnings, Lois W. Al-Anon Co-founder, pg 42

3. Years Ago...I was at a meeting where a longtime member bought one of the very early issues of The Forum to introduce a topic. It was about the writer's favorite slogan, "TTT" meaning, 'Things Take Time.' That has been an important lesson for me to learn and apply to my service.

I'm Dianna, and that's the way it was!

World Service Conference Summer 2005, Glen B., Conference Chairperson, Trustee

4. Just for Today...The 1942 version of Alcoholism, The Family Disease also included a version of "Just for Today," as did a local booklet from Arizona Triple A Family Groups. Around this time, the Clearing House also began printing a Just for Today wallet card(M-10). The popular excerpt is in the public domain and its exact origins are unknown, but its philosophy is similar to that of Al-Anon Family Groups. In a very short time, it became strongly associated with the program.

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Many Voices, One Journey, pg. 60

5. Non-Alcoholic Group...The Alcoholic Foundation, forerunner to A.A.'s General Services Organization (GSO), registered its first Non-Alcoholic Family Group on March 1, 1945. Since Al-Anon was not yet a program that was separate from A.A., this family group was actually an A.A. group, even though its members were "non-alcoholic." The group, which later became the Westside Al-Anon Family Group, located in Long Beach, California published its own pamphlet, which explained the Aims and Purposes of the Non-Alcoholic Group.

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Many Voices, One Journey, Pg. 24