



# Digging into IDAHO AREA 13 ARCHIVES

## GROUP HISTORY

*Answer the following questions about your group and update annually:*

- *What is the name and registration date of your group?*
- *Who started the group?*
- *How many members were there at the beginning?*
- *Has the group ever moved?*
- *How has your membership increased?*
- *Was your group one of the first in your area?*
- *Did the group split from another meeting that was too large?*
- *Did you have beginners' meetings?*

- *Area you able to provide a list of your Group Representatives (GRs)?*
  - *Do you have anniversaries? Birthdays?*
  - *Do you have a lending library?*
  - *Does your group sponsor Alateen?*
  - *Does your group volunteer at the Al-Anon Alateen Information Service Center?*
  - *How are you finding ways to keep longtime members active?*
  - *Is your group active in the district?*
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*Are you ready to “Let Go” of materials and donate them to Area Archives... contact us soon and find out if your items would enhance the Area’s collection!*

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## ARCHIVES MINI-QUIZ (answers below)

1. What year did Al-Anon start?
  2. When did Alateen start?
  3. What is the Archives question groups most frequently ask the WSO?
  4. Who was Annie S.?
  5. Why is it more important than ever to preserve and protect our past?
  6. What items are suggested for retention in area archives?
  7. Discuss what “Look to the Past to Protect the Future” means to you.
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## LOIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ARCHIVES

*(the following memo was found in WSO Archives)*

We have an archives in part to provide a record of our development for future historians...but also because, as time passes and our fellowship continues to grow and expand, we find ourselves further and further away from the events of our past...we must be assured that the facts will always be available to guard against a misunderstanding of what has taken place.

*--Lois W., October 12, 1986*

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ANSWERS in reverse:

7. Any answer to this will be correct, but you might consider the following: That we must preserve the past to have anything to pass on to future members.
6. Minutes, flyers, posters for assemblies, newsletters and audiotapes of longtimers.
5. We are losing our pioneers. Area must record their memories and wisdom in some manner before it's too late. And because the World Service Office (WSO) no longer keeps area holdings, the areas must protect their own histories.
4. She was Dr. Bob's wife. She died in 1948 prior to Al-Anon's beginnings. However, she was always a comfort to the families and friends of alcoholics who came to her in despair.
3. When did my group start?
2. The *AA Grapevine* printed an article in 1957 concerning a teenager in California who was urged by his parents to try the principles of their program in his own home.
1. In 1951 when Bill suggested that Lois write to the 87 groups who had contacted AA's Central Office wanting to be registered. This is when she asked Anne B. to help her. They worked out of the upstairs room at Stepping Stones, Lois and Bill's home in Bedford Hills, NY.