

Archives Committee 30 Carew Street, South Hadley, MA

Meeting Date/Time: 5/2/2023, 7:30pm

Archives email: archives@area31aa.org

In attendance:

Archives chair: Melissa G, After Work Group

Archives co-chair: Chris K, Hand in Hand Group

Archivist for Area 31: Carl

Area Chair: John G

Archives Reps

Chris H, Haydenville Sunday Night Life Group

Matt, Do or Die

Cody, Thursday Suffield Men's Group

Aiden, Cold Spring Group (via zoom)

What is Archives? (from area31aa.org)

Archives collects and stores items of significance to the history of AA. The committee arranges to record the stories of 'old-timers' to preserve the oral history of AA. Additionally, the committee arranges displays of archive items at Area Assemblies, the Area Round-Up, and area group anniversaries.

The Archives boards are a visual presentation of A.A.'s early history, as well as the history of A.A. in Area 31, Western Massachusetts. The Archives display boards are available for A.A. functions such as, Group Anniversaries, Area Assemblies, or various conventions, etc. If you would like to schedule the Archives Boards for an A.A. event you can contact the Archives Committee at archives@area31aa.org.

Archives Workbook <https://www.aa.org/archives-workbook>

For AAs interested in service in AA archives, this workbook offers shared experience on committee activities, setting up a repository, preservation work, copyright, collecting oral histories and more. Also provides information about accessing materials in the GSO Archives.

Group History Form https://www.area31aa.org/files/archives/Group_History_Form.pdf

Meeting Notes

- The Area 31 webmaster created a fillable PDF for group histories that can be posted to website. Group reviewed and agreed to have it put up on the website, both under the Archives standing committee page and under the Archives documents page. Reps can announce at meetings to encourage groups to complete their own group history
- Wilbraham Friday Night group requesting Archives boards for their anniversary on 5/12. Chris H is tentatively able to bring.
- Archives boards needed at the Round Up. Chris K will bring on Friday May 19th and Cody will pick up the boards on Sunday May 21st.
- Archives has a meeting slot for the Round Up on Saturday May 20th 4-5pm, Came to Believe format. Matt will chair, Melissa and Chris K will be present as well.
- Matt updated the Deed of Gift from the Archives workbook to fit our area's needs. Matt will send out for committee review.
- Chris H interviewed Tom C and submitted it to Carl to be added to the Archives.
- Next Archives event will be in July - at next meeting, the committee will listen to different archived speaker tapes to determine which ones we will play at the next event

To Be Discussed at Next Meeting

- Listen to archived speaker tapes to determine which ones we will play at next event, further plan next event for July
- Review Round Up, Archives boards, Deed of Gifts, interviews

Archivist's Report

- Area history can be found at area31aa.org
- Carl works to catalog AA history at 30 Carew Street - you can reach out to Carl at archivist@area31aa.org if you would like to schedule a time outside of the Archives Meeting to view the archives
- Carl showed the committee multiple Archived documents, including the area's first When & Where, and signatures/picture of man who started AA in Western Mass.
- Carl stressed importance of paper archives - electronics change (floppy disc, CD, MP3) but paper is constant!
- Previous archivist has USB with many archived speakers and will give to Carl

Area Chair's Report

- Round Up is 5/19 to 5/21 at the Clarion in West Springfield - come to hear the Delegate's report!