

Archives Report

Fall Assembly
September 19, 2026

In May 1951 Lois W. and Anne B. formed the AA Family Group Clearing House. Fifty-six out of 85 AA Auxiliary Groups and lone members responded to a landmark letter from Lois and Anne that proposed creating a unified central office (the Clearing House,) unifying the Groups while allowing for local autonomy, formally adopting AA's 12 Steps as the Fellowship's spiritual framework, and choosing "Al-Anon" as the official name of the Fellowship.

Although not among those original 85 groups, Utah's AA Auxiliary Groups began corresponding with Lois and the Clearing House as early as June 1951. The Archive display presented at the Fall Assembly exhibits examples of this correspondence.

Preserving these letters and other equally valuable documents, is the reason our Area offers the service position of Archives Coordinator.

On a more personal note, I must admit seeing Lois' correspondence with Marie G. (co-founder of the Utah Alcoholism Foundation in the 1950s) filled my heart with joy and brought tears of gratitude to my eyes for the efforts of our earliest members, who sought to ease the suffering caused by alcoholism.

Since the last Assembly, I have also been engaged in:

1. Attending quarterly meetings with the WSO Archivist and Area Archive Coordinators
2. Visiting the Utah Area Physical archive (safe and sound with Norma in Ogden)
3. Updating and adding to our electronic archives (if you have any Area documents hidden in forgotten files on your computer or elsewhere, please send them to me—in another 75 years someone may be grateful to find them)

I remain grateful for this opportunity to serve,

Patrick M.
Archivist