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**Website:**  
fayaa.org

# The Common Bond

The Newsletter of the Cumberland and Robeson Central Office

April 2015

## Upcoming Events

### March 28

District 51 will host the Central Preconference from 1-5 p.m. at Hope Mills United Methodist Church, 4955 Legion Road, Hope Mills (home to Keep It Simple group). It will go over the General Conference agenda. There will be food, breakout sessions and a reporting and wrap up session.

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### May 9

Spring Fellowship and District 51 meeting will be hosted by The Turning Point Group at the Keep It Simple meeting space, 4955 Legion Rd., Hope Mills. The committee meets that Saturday at 1 p.m., program and fellowship from 2-5 p.m.

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### May 15-17

Area 51 Spring Assembly and Committee meeting. North Raleigh Hilton, 3415 Wake Forest Road (Exit 10 on I-440). Map, directions, reservation number at [aanorthcarolina.org](http://aanorthcarolina.org).

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### May 20

BCR-CO Council meets at 6:30 p.m. in the board room at the office, 310 Green St., Fayetteville.

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### June 10

The 80th anniversary of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous, marked as Dr. Bob's first day of sobriety.

## 80th Anniversary Founders' Day celebration June 14 at Paradise Acres

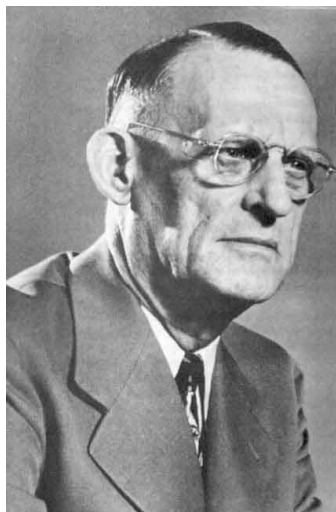
The 80th anniversary of Founders' Day will be celebrated June 14 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Paradise Acres at 1965 John McMillian Rd., Hope Mills.

The Founders' Day committee reported on plans during the BCR-CO Council meeting on March 18.

The speaker will be Jana L., the Wilmington area district committee member, who has "29 years of Experience, Strength and Hope." Her speech will be at 2 p.m.

Fellowship and fun will begin the day at 1 p.m. Food and the raffle drawing will the speaker at 3 p.m. Tickets for the annual raffle have been prepared and will be available to groups soon.

The raffle's grand prize will be a 32-inch TV, 2nd prize is a Kindle and 3rd prize is a FitBit. Raffle tickets again will



AA's founders, Bill W., above, and Dr. Bob left (photos from Bing).

be \$10 each. The money from the raffle pays for Founders' Day, leftover funds will go to the Central Office's budget.

A 50/50 raffle will also be held at the celebration. Those tickets will only be available that day and will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. The committee is looking into getting more prizes for the raffles and group's that wish to contribute a prize should contact

Amanda K. of Freedom in Growth, who is chairing the committee or the Central Office.

The committee also reported coffee will be furnished through the KIS group and Freedom in Growth will handle the dessert table.

For those not familiar Paradise Acres it is off Chickenfoot Road (which crosses Interstate 95 at Exit 40) south of Hope Mills.

## Central Office Board

Chairman  
Rocky O.  
Vice chairman  
Jim B.  
Treasurer  
Kate S.  
At-Large members  
Cumberland  
Audrey C.  
Robeson  
Thomas E.  
Office manager/secretary  
Linda C.

## Council

Central Group  
Dorothy C.  
Sandalwood  
Wayne C.  
Back to Basics  
Dan. A.  
Bare Bones  
(vacant)  
ODAT  
Cathy M.  
Fort Bragg  
Michael  
Freedom in Growth  
Amanda K.  
Keep It Simple  
Liz M.  
Principles Group:  
Charles K.  
Little Group  
Cass C.  
Pine Run  
Craig  
Seekers of Sobriety  
Darlene D.  
Spring Into Action  
Anne S.  
Turning Point  
John L.  
Walking the Same Path  
Alexis L.

## Services

Hotline  
Dorothy C.  
Webmaster  
Jim H.  
Common Bond editor  
Dave C.



## District 51 committee

# State seeks ideas for funds, two meetings to move

At the beginning of March, I went to the Area 51 Committee meeting up in Raleigh. We learned that our Area (NC) is in good shape.

The Area had a \$3,800 surplus during the last delegates term. The Area would like to hear from you with proposals to use this money for AA in our Area. Two years ago, our Area had a surplus and that money was used to buy literature, including Grapevine subscriptions, for NC prisons; a digital projector for use at Area functions; and equipment to digitize our state's archives.

### Pre-conference

There was also a mock conference Saturday afternoon similar to the Central Area Pre-Conference our district will be hosting Saturday, March 28 at 1 pm at the Keep It Simple



meeting place.

This will be a gathering of AA members from the central districts of the state. We'll have a late lunch at 1:30 and break into six groups to discuss the issues our delegate will be voting on at the General Service Conference in April in New York.

Your GSR has an outline and the background information will be available at the Pre-Conference.

### March reports

The Pre-Conference was discussed at our District meeting on March 15. Other items discussed included progress on the Bridging the Gap program and our Spring Fellowship. GSRs that attended reported their

groups were doing well, there was no mention of any other events coming up. If you know of any events in our district, let me know at sdonaghy1961@gmail.com.

Our treasurer reported that our finances will continue to be okay as long as the pace of group donations continues as it is.

### Meetings moving

Two groups are moving; the **SOS** group and the **Freedom in Growth** group will be at MacPherson Presbyterian Church starting at the beginning of April. SOS meets Friday at 7:30 p.m., the women's group will continue to meet Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

My sobriety is broadened by attending different meetings! Yours in AA love and service,  
**Scott D.**

## Make contact with the Central Office

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# Big summer AA events are nearby

Several special AA events within easy driving distance of Fayetteville are coming up this summer.

The biggest of which will be the 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous in Atlanta July 2-5.

The theme for the celebration will be "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free." Big meetings are planned for Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. The Sunday event is a closed meeting. Hundreds of other scheduled and informal meetings will be held throughout the weekend at the Georgia World Congress Center and at area hotels.

Convention activities will kick off with a "Party in the Park" on Thursday night at the Centennial Olympic Park.

The spring Box 459 newsletter notes that hotel rooms were still available in Atlanta and outlying areas through the Convention Housing Bureau. It also noted that bus shuttles or a MARTA (train) station are available at hotels booked through the bureau. "Dorms have been added to our housing mix for those who are interested in lower room rates and information can be accessed through a link on the housing page through our website," Box 459 reported. The dorms, however, must be booked through the dorm facility and not the Convention Housing Bureau. The dorms will be at George State University and Georgia Tech in Atlanta.

Registration information and brochures are available on the AA website – [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). Registration will remain open throughout the convention.



Atlanta will host this year's International Convention in July. (Photo courtesy of HD Walls and Bing)

If you're looking for something closer to home, the 68<sup>th</sup> North Carolina State Convention will be held in at the North Raleigh Hilton (the same place where the Spring Assembly will be held) in Raleigh from July 30 through Aug. 2. The theme will be "There is a Solution."

Convention pre-registration is available for \$15 per person through June 22. After that, it will cost \$20 each. Speakers will come from North Carolina and across the country. An Old-Timers Panel, workshops, round the clock marathon meetings and open discussion meetings are planned. A dance will be held on Saturday night, and of course there will be plenty of coffee. Information is available on the state website – [aanorthcarolina.org](http://aanorthcarolina.org) – events section including a flyer with hotel registration information and codes, a registration slip and other contact information. It also contains maps and will give you directions to get there.

Another popular event is Akron's Founders' Day weekend, which this year will be June 12-14. Events will be at the University of Akron and will include a flag parade this year. Registration is available through May 15. For registration information go to [akronaa.org](http://akronaa.org) then click on the Founders Day tab at the top of the page.

Basic registration is \$40 and you're on your own for finding lodging and food. Although you can buy some meal tickets as add-ons. On campus lodging is available through Plan A and Plan B registration. Plan A costs \$180 and includes meal tickets. Plan B is \$130 and some meal tickets will cost extra. An additional cost is charged for RV parking.

In case you're wondering, Akron is about 550 miles from Fayetteville and Google estimates it will take 8 hours and 29 minutes to drive there.

Of course, the BCR-CO will have its own celebration, cutting the need to travel.

## A.A. BIRTHDAYS

**April 1**  
Russell J. – 19 years

**April 4**  
Victoria J. – 10

**April 8**  
Frank N. – 14  
Jerry T. – 14

**April 11**  
Donny W. – 27  
Paula B. – 20  
Kay C. – 18  
Willie B. – 7

**April 13**  
Cliff B. – 24  
Ann H. – 16  
Ron H. – 7

**April 14**  
Mark P. – 31

**April 15**  
Bill D. – 10  
Neysa 'Renee' L. – 6

**April 18**  
Jennifer C. – 5

**April 21**  
Bernard – 6

**April 22**  
Tom Mc – 11

**April 23**  
Jim C. – 17

**April 24**  
Anni – 14  
Jason S – 6

**April 28**  
Wayne C. – 25



### Celebrate sobriety

Would your group like to add its members to our birthday celebration list? Send your sobriety dates to us at commobond2011@gmail.com.

Include name, date and year of sobriety. (We'll do the

**May 1**  
Kenny F. – 14

Joyce L. – 8

Royce – 7

**May 5**

Rae E. – 38

Gerry L. – 9

**May 7**

Mike B – 16

**May 10**

Jack L. – 31

William – 31

**May 14**

Grady – 23

**May 15**

James H. – 9

Sonja H – 15

**May 17**

Ty G. – 21

**May 19**

Brandon L – 7

**May 20**

Stephanie F. – 10

**May 21**

April F. – 6

**May 22**

Aaron J. – 6

**May 24**

Eric E. – 11

**May 27**

John B. – 16

**May 28**

Audrey – 5

**May 31**

Megan G. – 15

## Online Resources for Sobriety

Here are some website that can provide information on sobriety, meetings, AA history and such.

Bladen, Cumberland and Robeson Central Office: [fayaa.org](http://fayaa.org)

District 51 meetings schedule: [fayaa.org](http://fayaa.org)

Alcoholics Anonymous (Everything AA. including online meetings): [aa.org](http://aa.org)

Grapevine (includes info on subscriptions, also national events calendar): [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org)

Area 51 (State committee): [aanorthcarolina.org](http://aanorthcarolina.org)

Silkworth.net (Not affiliated with AA, some AA history):

## Sober thoughts

*(Helpful quotes for the AA way of life)*

I love you so much, I will teach you how to leave me. Because if I've done my job well, you'll always come back.  
– Steve Madden

The Promised Land always lies on the other side of a wilderness.  
– Havelock Ellis

## Financial Report for March 2015

Beginning Balance	\$2,221.63	02/20 Wilmington Intergroup	13.84	Contributions	Sept.	Oct.	Year
<b>Date Contrib Sales Tax Total</b>		02/23 Paradise Acres (deposit)	500.00	Bare Bones Group	0	0	0
02/05 123.28 18.00 1.26 142.54		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,267.76</b>	Campground Grp	0	0	0
02/12 818.69 59.25 4.16 882.10		<b>Expenses: Debits</b>		Central Group	76.25	107.28	183.53
02/26 55.00 290.66 20.35 366.01		02/02 Straighttalk (Hotline)	46.81	Freedom In Growth	0	0	0
<b>Total 1,390.65</b>		02/09 AA World Service	508.07	Fort Bragg	0	0	0
<b>One time transfer</b>		02/11 Staples (Common Bond)	4.33	Kiss Grp	74.14	0	74.14
02/10 From Founders' Day funds		02/12 AA Grapevine	59.46	Little Grp	0	16.00	16.00
to Office expenses	500.00	02/17 CenturyLink (Office)	120.85	Turning Point	0	0	0
<b>Expenses: Checks Paid</b>		02/23 AA World Services	26.00	Principles Grp	0	0	58.76
02/02 US Treasury	111.76	02/27 Deposit Correction Fee	6.00	Spring Into Action	250	0	250.00
02/02 US Treasury	53.73	<b>Total</b>	<b>771.52</b>	SOS Grp	0	0	0
02/06 CCF (Rent)	240.83	<b>Prudent Reserves/Saving</b>	<b>2,141.47</b>	Sandalwood Grp	0	0	0
02/05 Recovery Emporium	16.50	<b>Founder's Day</b>		ODAT	0	759.93	759.93
02/06 Wilmington Intergroup	81.40	Leftover	500.00	Walking Same Path	0	50.00	50.00
02/10 Payroll	105.12	checking account	1,641.00	Faithful fivers	5	5	15.00
02/26 Payroll	105.13	<b>Ending balance</b>	<b>4,224.63</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>405.39</b>	<b>996.97</b>	<b>1,407.36</b>
02/11 Recovery Accents	39.45						