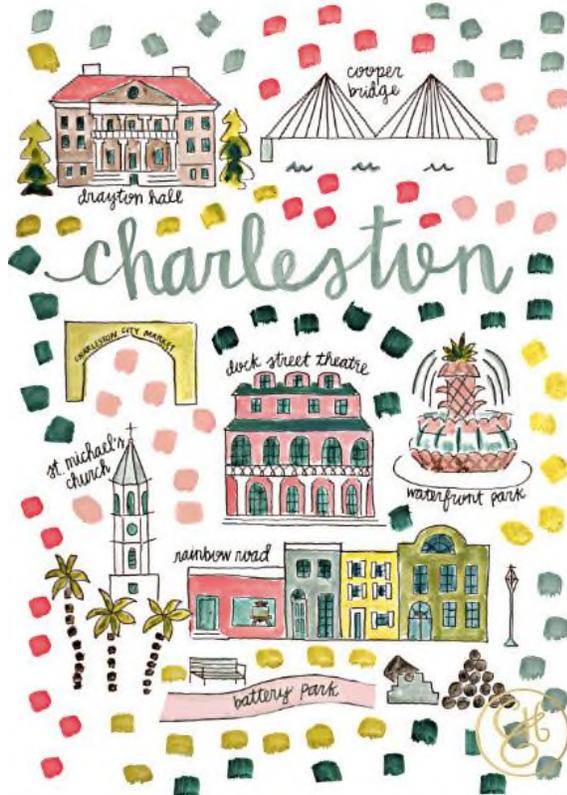


ILAA NEWSLETTER – SPRING, 2018

ILAA 2018 - CHARLESTON, SC The Home of Southern Hospitality



Our next conference is scheduled for September 28 to September 30, 2018 in Charleston, South Carolina. The conference is being hosted by the South Carolina Bar. Charleston is a wonderful city and my wife and I are looking forward to a return visit. I can think of no better way to describe it than what I found on the website:

“Charleston, the South Carolina port city founded in 1670, is defined by its cobblestone streets, horse-drawn carriages and pastel antebellum houses, particularly in the elegant French Quarter and Battery districts. The Battery promenade and Waterfront Park both overlook Charleston Harbor, while Fort Sumter, a federal

stronghold where the first shots of the Civil War rang out, lies across the water.”

Another thing to consider is coming Thursday, September 27th to attend the COLAP Conference Dinner. The cost is \$75 and will require registration through COLAP. The COLAP Registration Form can be obtained at *2018 national conference for lawyer assistance programs*.

We continue with our idea and hope that we can “cure” the issue of our aging Membership and declining numbers by recruiting more new, young members. Often, we have quite a few newcomers from the host city, but it was my experience and that of many others, that you need to attend at least two conferences to become “hooked” on ILAA. The Trustees floated the idea to raise funds for scholarships to be available to younger members of our profession who cannot afford to attend because of the cost, particularly hotel and transportation costs. This would be beyond our current policy of granting scholarships for registration fees, and little else. We agree with the suggestion made at the last Business Meeting that our members canvas their local LAP’s and Bar Associations to see if one-time donations could be made for this purpose. We encourage you to do so – soon. The power of connection through ILAA is amazing, and if we can attract younger members we will continue to grow.

Your Trusted Servant, Barry Kerfoot



CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA

Information on our 2018 Conference

The I.L.L.A. 44th Annual Meeting will be held at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston, SC on September 27-29, 2018. The Humility Cup Golf Tournament will take place on Friday. Other activities available throughout the weekend will include carriage and walking tours of Historic Charleston, a tour of Middleton Place National Historic Monument; a tour of Fort Sumter National Monument and Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum, which currently houses the Medal of Honor Museum.

The registration form and additional information on the events for the weekend will follow. Please contact Robert Turnbull with any questions. He can be reached by phone at 803-576-3781 or by e-mail at rturnbull@scbar.org.



Love. Grow. Serve.

I.L.A.A. - A SUCCESS STORY 1975 TO THE PRESENT 2017

An idea was born in the early 1970's, i.e., "lawyers helping lawyers" with the real or suspected issue with alcoholism - specifically an introduction to AA.

The problem: how to overcome the stubbornness (refusal) to accept the help of A.A. in overcoming the addiction and obsession - most fearful of the loss of anonymity - one could run into a client, judge, neighbor, etc., IT could further affect my practice, reputation or whatever - the fear of exposure was paramount.

A Judge (nonalcoholic) an alcoholic (non-lawyer) carried the message of A.A. to an alcoholic disbarred lawyer who in turn carried the message to others. In California (originally 7 members) spreading to New York (leaping to Canada (Toronto) and on-and-on.

The thought - idea - was that a lawyer (active or not) could best "talk" to the problem lawyer who hopefully would listen and be willing to attend an A.A. meeting. In actuality the lawyers' meeting became the anchor (vestibule) to the A.A. movement and commitment to sobriety.

By the late 1970's the movement had cells spanning the world, at one time there were 1000 plus registered members who subscribed to the following motto: "we will share our experience, strength and hope" with others of our profession.

The concept was adopted by doctors in A.A., nurses in A.A., clergy in A.A., and so on.

The American Bar Association "piggy backing" on ILAA and created COLAP and has become a welcomed partner in the education, treatment and rehabilitation of lawyers "in trouble."

The logo of our association is a bridge, i.e., “a bridge over troubled waters.” The “bridge” has succeeded beyond our expectations. Lawyers meetings can be said to exist in every hamlet, town and city where two (or more) lawyers with a like deposition meet and share. The fear of exposure has largely been abandoned - lawyers attending regular A.A. meetings is the new normal; the original goal (introduction to AA) has been met.

Our member lawyers have been and continue to be, *The Bridge Over Troubled Waters*.

Eli G



Note: John H., from Boston and Eli G. and Ted C from California are our three longest surviving members of ILAA. Their attendance dates back to 1977.

A Bit of History

The following article is a reproduction of the article written by one of the first attendees at ILAA, Igor S. The article was published in the Grapevine and helped to spread the word of ILAA’s existence to recovering lawyers around the world.

International Lawyers in AA

They are regular AAs, but they search for opportunities to serve through their profession

IN A PLUSH, sophisticated office in downtown New York, six attorneys gathered one evening in mid-April. Their subject was not some colossal corporate merger or antitrust litigation; it was individual sobriety. They shared their experience, strength, and hope to reinforce and deepen their sobriety. Out of this meeting, another group of International Lawyers in

Alcoholics Anonymous (ILAA) would, they hoped, carry the message to other alcoholic lawyers that they were not alone.

ILAA was founded in September 1975 at a meeting in Niagara Falls, Ont., at which twenty lawyers were present: sixteen from Canada and four from the United States. This was the first opportunity for members of the legal profession to share their AA experience.

The second annual convention was in Buffalo in September 1976, and again there were about twenty. The convention started on Friday evening with a real down-to-earth sharing session. We talked about a lot of things--ourselves, our drinking, and what we were looking for in such a group. Insofar as our drinking stories were concerned, there was a lot of good, solid, relevant identification. We were not alone. All kinds of difficulties experienced in the practice of law, as a result of booze, were shared.

On Saturday morning, we focused on problems encountered in our practices when AA principles or policies were involved. When and under what circumstances should we divulge our affiliation with AA? What can or should we do if we see another lawyer or colleague in difficulty as a result of booze? Or perhaps it is a client who is in difficulty. One central thread was the many opportunities for service that lawyers have in carrying the message of AA. The conclusion was that with caution, sensitivity, and a keen eye on AA principles, we could do much to carry the message, without risking our professional reputations or practices.

From the outset, ILAA was heavily indebted to International Doctors in AA for advice and inspiration. We learned from the IDAA members that IDAA is not a special-purpose group--that these doctors belong to regular AA groups in their home communities and get together annually in IDAA for supplementary sharing, identification, fellowship, and support.

Like IDAA, the lawyer groups can serve as a vestibule of AA for lawyers who have developed a drinking problem. Initially, they would find it easier to go to a group where there were other lawyers. Later, it would be natural for them to enter the mainstream of AA. Another advantage is that ILAA provides an opportunity for discussing certain matters of common interest to AA members in the legal profession, an opportunity not really available in one's home group.

We in AA are not the only ones concerned with the problems of the drinking lawyer. Around the nation, various state and local bar associations have turned their attention toward the problem of alcohol and drug abuse in the profession. These include: bar association committees designed to educate association members on the problem; in some states, grievance procedures mandating treatment; and in some states, active groups of lawyers finding self-help and hope as recovering alcoholics.

The official efforts show that there is concern on the public level. On the private, personal level, ILAA seeks to be there to provide the helping hand of AA when an attorney hits bottom. ILAA emphatically does not seek to form a separatist or elitist group. Instead, it serves as a sharing community, demonstrating to the frightened, guilt-laden lawyer that he is not alone. It is a bridge to regular AA, rather than a closet for self-proclaimed professionals.

ILAA is still a fledgling organization. Through correspondence and a periodic newsletter, it shares information on the alcoholism field of concern to lawyers. A third convention will be held in Toronto in September.

Those who wish to be added to the mailing list may write to: Secretary, ILAA, Room 202, 111 Pearl Street, Hartford, Conn. 06103.

-- I. S.

Hartford, Connecticut

Today we communicate mostly by email: If you have any questions about ILAA please contact Lisa R. at ilaaregistration@live.com or contact us through our website: www.ila.org,



TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report for ILAA, prepared April 7, 2018

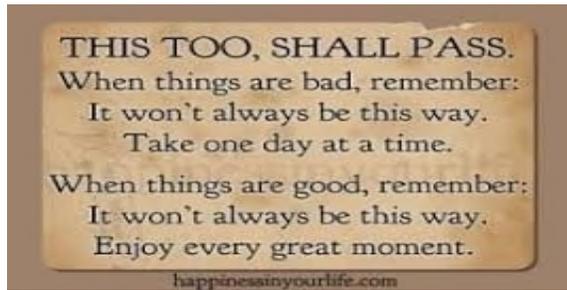
On March 13, 2017, we sent Anne McDonald of Kansas LAP the requested seed money of \$5,000.00 for the planning and facilitation of the 2017 ILAA Conference in Kansas bringing the current balance at that time to \$4,353.31.

On June 14, 2017, we paid check #107 in the amount of \$500.00 to Clockwork Logic for website hosting, bringing our balance to \$3,853.31 where it remained until April 4, 2018.

On April 4, 2018, I received and deposited \$10,717.36 from Anne McDonald of Kansas LAP (\$5,000 was a return of the seed money for 2017 ILAA and of the \$5,717.36, Anne stated that "the majority of the deposits from 10/18-10/24 were scholarship donations, amounting to \$3,704.00).

The current balance of the ILAA account is \$14,570.67 of which \$3,704.00 is earmarked for scholarships.

We are in very good financial standing



ILAA TRUSTEES

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**JOIN US IN CHARLESTON, SC
SEPTEMBER 28 – 30, 2018**



**Make ILAA a part of your annual plans.
It's a commitment that will bring you
years of joy, memories and wonderful
lifetime friends throughout the US and
Canada**

**For information about our 2018
conference please visit our website:**

www.ilaa.org

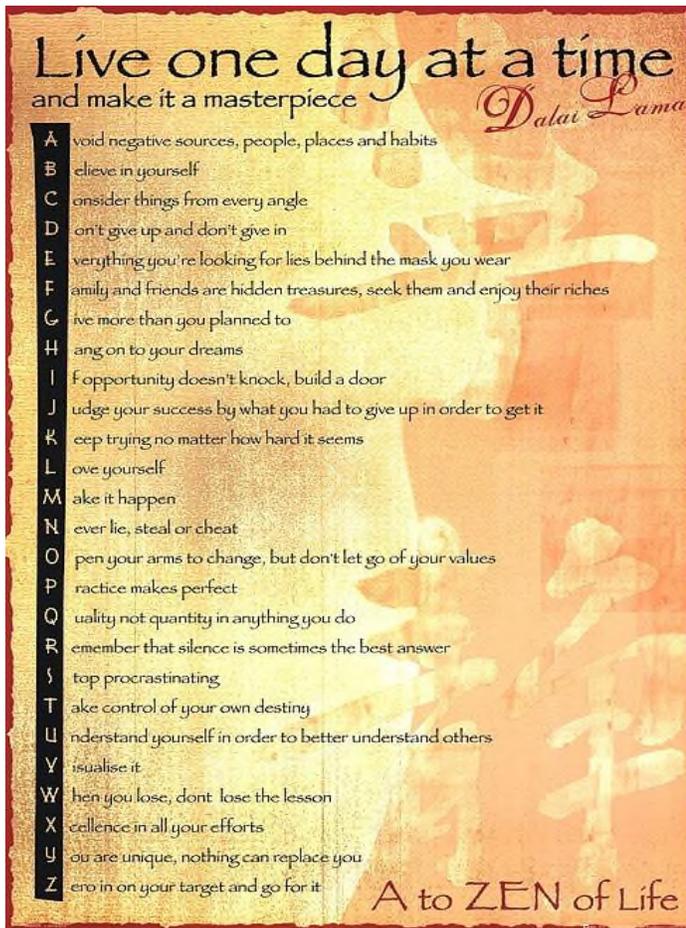
Fellowship was the key

A group of lawyers attending the 1975 International in Denver, CO had so much fun and fellowship that they decided to put on a weekend for themselves. The meeting in Niagara Falls, CN in 1976 was the first ILAA. We have met every year since. Keep the tradition alive. Plan on joining us this year in Charleston, SC.



Hope to see you in September!

A thought to help you through the day



One for the road:

Due to increasing product liability litigation, beer manufacturers have accepted the FDA's suggestion that the following warning labels be placed immediately on all beer containers:

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may make you think you are whispering when you definitely are not.

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol is a major factor in dancing like a douche.

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell the same boring story over and over again.

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol has been known to cause people to begin thaying shings like thish.

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may lead you to believe that you ex-lover is dying for your phone call at four o'clock in the morning.

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may leave you wondering what happened to your pants.

WARNING: Consumption of alcohol is likely to make you think you're flirting with the opposite sex when you're actually borderline-yelling at and spitting on them.