



March 2022

Districts 7, 8 and 13

Serving the AA Community One Day at a Time

HAPPY JOYOUS FREE

A Note from the DCM – Roger Z

The BIG MEETING

I had been sober for a few years when I first became aware of an AA World Convention. Apparently, I wasn't paying close attention back then. A few of the people who went to the convention in Seattle, WA told of how rewarding the experience was for them. The next year, I heard about the Founders' Day Conference held annually in Akron, OH. I made plans to go to it the following year.

Driving with another AA, we arrived at the University of Akron campus on Friday afternoon. On the way to registration, we were met & greeted by folks from all over the Midwest & beyond. I had never seen so many vendors with recovery swag. A priority of the weekend was a visit Dr. Bob's House on Ardmore Street. This was where it all started. While in the house, I could easily imagine Bill & Dr. Bob sitting in the kitchen, talking about how to stay sober & help another alcoholic. The house is maintained to look the same as it did in the 1930s & 40s. I have a picture of me in front of Dr. Bob's house hanging on the wall in my office.

Similar to our own March Roundup & Tri-County Conference, that Founders' Day conference had speaker meetings, panel meetings, workshops & special interest events. The first speaker meeting was at 10:30 am on Saturday & the third speaker was at 10:30 am on Sunday. The main event was on Saturday night at 8:00 pm. I knew it was going to be something special because when my registration packet arrived in the mail it included a ticket to the "BIG MEETING". I was advised to apply for registration early to insure getting a ticket. The J.A.R. Arena capacity is about 5,500 people & around 8,000 were expected to register for the conference. For those who didn't get a ticket, there was an auditorium with a teleconference screen. This was about 20 years before ZOOM was even created.

While waiting outside the arena, I briefly chatted with an older AA who had travelled to Akron from California. The doors opened at 6:30 & the place was mostly filled by 7 pm. The arena was buzzing with anticipation. People were talking, laughing, waving to familiar faces in the crowd & just having a great time. I think it was the most exciting event that I had ever attended in my life. A group called the "Serenity Singers" provided a pre-meeting musical performance.

After the formalities of starting the meeting, there was a sobriety countdown. It turned out that the guy from California whom I had met outside was the same person with the longest time in sobriety at 58 years. The speaker entertained us, delivering a humorous account of his alcoholic misadventures before & after he got sober. I remember the weekend being rich with AAs sharing the good life of sobriety.

Since that time, I have been to some other big meetings & a few thousand regular sized meetings. I have also been fortunate to attend three AA World Conventions. All of these big special events started with some AA groups meeting together to exchange ideas & agree to make things happen

Information & Upcoming Events:

Flyers and More Information at [Flyers - Alcoholics Anonymous \(aa-semi.org\)](http://Flyers - Alcoholics Anonymous (aa-semi.org))

- March Round Up – March 4-6th, 2022 at Motor City Casino
- Michigan Mock Conference March 26th, 2022
- Area Assembly Meeting will be held at March Roundup Saturday March 5th, 1pm

To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world – Bill W

Sobriety Trivia

According to a membership survey:

27% of AA's have 0 to 1 year sober

24% of AA's have 1 to 5 years sober

27% of AA's have 5 to 20 years sober



There is a Solution!!

Is your meeting not listed in the directory?
Is the information about your meeting incorrect?

You can update your meeting information by contacting:

Area 33 Registrar (It's on the Area 33 Website)
Email: area33registrar@aa-semi.org

AA of Greater Detroit "The Ferndale Office"
Website: office@aaferndale.org
Office & Bookstore 248-541-7490
Mon, Tue, Thurs 9am-5pm
Wed, Fri 9am-7pm

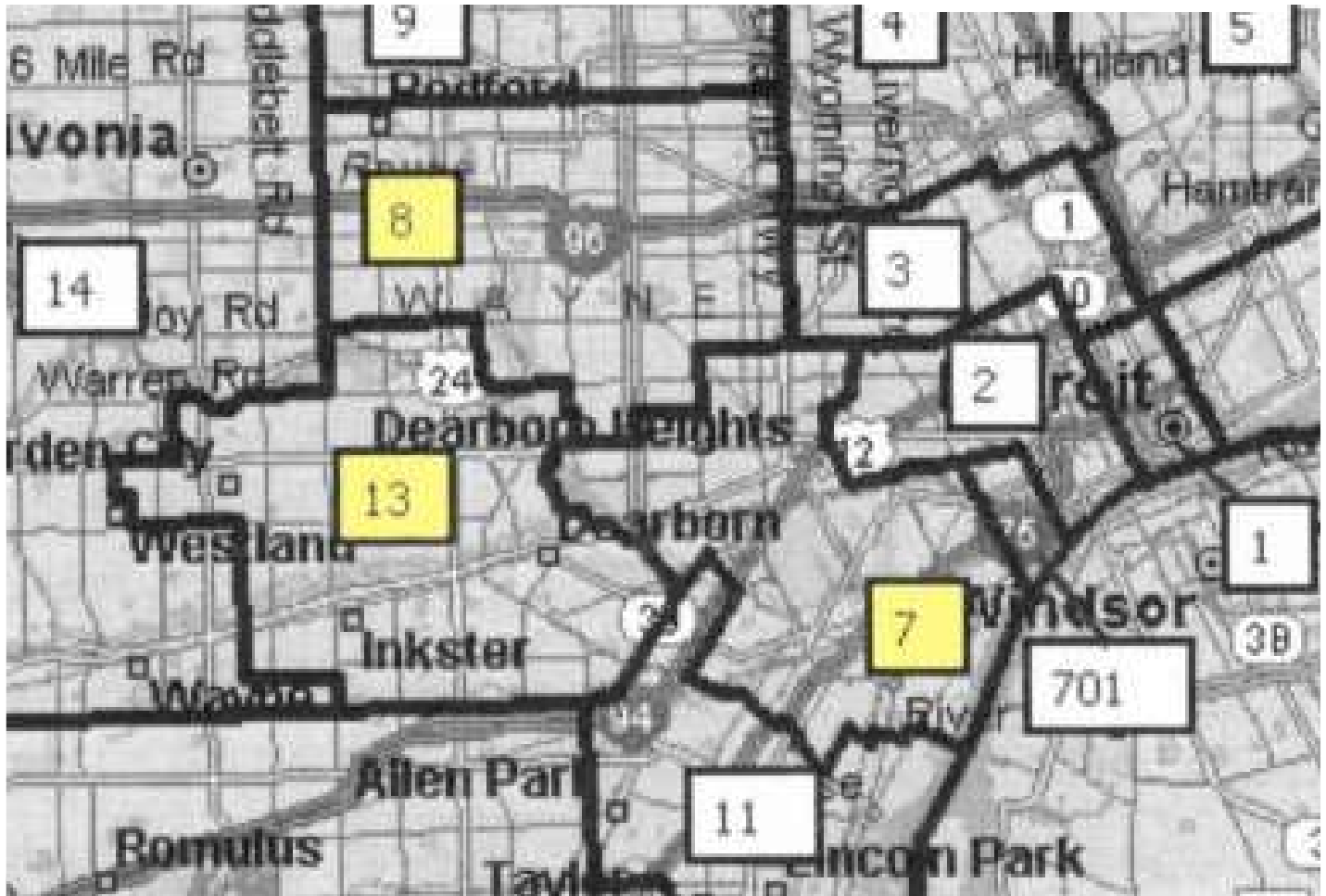
Area 33 Districts

District 7, 8 and 13 – Our Cities!

District 7- Melvindale, East Dearborn, River Rouge, SW Detroit

District 8 – West Detroit, South Redford

District 13 – West Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster



3 of the 12 AA Concepts

1. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.
3. To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”