REQUEST FOR GROUP HISTORY

"Whenever a society or civilization perishes there is always one condition present; they forgot where they came from." – Carl Sandberg

Current Group Name:	STEP UP GROUP	Group Number	District: 47
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- 1. When was the group started? About 6 years ago, 2008.
- 2. Who were the early members who started this group? **7 original members: Tom K., Bob S., Phil H., Joan A., Jim R., Owen B., Roy T..**
- 3. Why was the group started? (Did it begin because of a split from the parent group? Because of some unresolved dispute among members? Because there was a need for a different type of meeting in your area... and so forth). Owen had a resentment because there were no close by noon meetings; had to travel to Doylestown or Lambertville. Ottsville only had 2 meetings. So approached Bob to start a noon meeting.
- 4. Where were the first meetings held? How often did the group meet? Where does the group meet now? First meetings were held in the food pantry at St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, Ottsville. Met weekly at noon on Tuesdays. Group now meets at noon at St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kintnersville.
- 5. What kind of meetings were held? Have there been changes in the type of meeting you group holds? Tuesday was a step meeting. Then we created the Thursday topic "Ice Cream" (I Scream), then added the Wednesday "Came to Believe" meeting.
- 6. Have any groups split off from your group? Details? None.
- 7. Has the group changed its name over the years? If so, why? The meeting at St. John's was known as the "Ice Cream Group". Owen thought it would attract more members.
- 8. Has membership grown/changed over the years? Has the group added additional weekly meetings? Group membership appears to be steadily growing, having tripled in size during the last 6 months (since September 2013). Yes, per above, two additional meetings were added for a total of three noon meetings per week.
- 9. Did the group encounter any special challenges or growing pains? (These can be anything from challenges in meeting place, meeting format, personality conflicts, too many or few in attendance, those with problems other than alcohol, etc.) The group needed to relocate from St. John's. Found a new church within 2 weeks. Rev. Rex at St. Luke's is very welcoming and enthusiastic about having our group.
- 10. Are there any amusing stories or anecdotes about your group's beginnings and subsequent growth? (Sometimes these incidents give the group its unique flavor, and set it apart a special for us.) One member, nicknamed Angry John got mad all the time due to someone's atheism. Angry John has changed and is now known as "Joyful John."

These questions are guidelines for a Group History. Please compile your group's information on a separate sheet(s) of white paper suitable for permanent archive records. Give your group history to your DCM who will forward the original to the Area Archivist for the Area Archives. You should retain copies for your group's and District records.

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