

EURYPAA – FACTS, AIMS AND PURPOSES 4/8/2013

Young People's Groups in Alcoholics Anonymous began appearing around 1945 in Los Angeles, CA, Cleveland, OH and Philadelphia, PA and now they can be found all across the world in countries like Sweden, England, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Malta, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Lithuania and more. These groups are in no way different than AA as a whole. They carry AA's vital life giving message and follow the well-known responsibility pledge of AA, "*I am responsible ... When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible*". In 2010 the first ever EURYPAA convention was hosted in Stockholm, Sweden where members of AA attended from across Europe and Abroad. Since then there has been an annual convention hosted in the countries of Ireland, Denmark and Malta. AA members from across Europe and Abroad regularly attend the annual convention. In keeping with a desire to best serve the European region, the scope of the Convention shall encompass the outlined: Albania, Andorra, Armenia Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belarus, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Herzegovina, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

EURYPAA was founded for the purpose of providing a setting for an annual celebration of sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous with emphasis on showing how young people can get sober, as well as be a vital part of AA as a whole. We also want to add that the EURYPAA convention is open to ALL that suffer from Alcoholism; we seek no separation from any part of AA. We welcome attendance from any member of AA. The number of young people suffering from Alcoholism who turn to AA for help is growing. EURYPAA is and will remain committed to carry AA's message of recovery to alcoholics of all ages. The annual EURYPAA convention offers the opportunity for AA members from Europe and Abroad to join in harmonious celebration by sharing their experience, strength, and hope. AA members who attend a EURYPAA Convention often return home better prepared to give & participate in all parts of AA Service.

In the spirit of cooperation with all of AA, EURYPAA provides visible evidence that large numbers of young people are achieving a lasting and comfortable sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous. The 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, Responsibility Pledge and The Three Legacies of AA -- Recovery, Unity & Service -- are the guiding foundations of EURYPAA as an AA event, just as they are throughout all of AA. EURYPAA will strive to cooperate with any AA area where the annual convention is held. We will also regularly contribute to the AA General Service Office, as well as to the Area Service structure in the local areas where the convention is held. EURYPAA convention attendees are most often participants of the local service areas where the convention is held or has been held. They can often be found serving at General Service Offices or Area Service structures in the EURYPAA region. Newcomers and all members of AA are shown by people of their own ages that using AA principles in their daily lives and getting involved in AA Service can have a significant and long lasting impact on their sobriety.

As further testament that Young Peoples events like EURYPAA are a part of AA as a whole, at the 1960 World AA Convention, Bill W. noted that the age of new members was much lower than when he and Dr. Bob founded AA 25 years earlier. In a letter to the International Conference of Young People in AA, dated June 15, 1969, Bill wrote "*... in recent years I have found nothing for greater inspiration than the knowledge that AA of tomorrow will be safe, and certainly magnificent, in the keeping of you who are the younger generation of AA today.*" Bill W's statement together with a 50+ year history of Young People in AA events across the world will comfort all that EURYPAA is and will continue to carry the life giving message of Alcoholics Anonymous.