

People afflicted with or affected by alcoholism, seeking or celebrating recovery, gain knowledge, inspiration, and healing at Stepping Stones. Join us in the experience.

*“Stepping Stones provides an experience as well as a message. Here, we live the story of two people who personified the tragedy of alcoholism and the hope for recovery. Bill and Lois Wilson were true innovators. We are their legacy. When I am at Stepping Stones, I am home.”*

*- Johnny Allem, Stepping Stones Trustee, 2008*



**Photos:**

*Top:* The driveway sign, Bill's handiwork, still welcomes visitors today.

*Middle:* Wit's End, Bill's writing studio.

*Bottom:* Stepping Stones in full bloom.



Drawing by Lois Wilson, depicting the Wilsons and their home.



# Stepping Stones

The historic home of  
Bill and Lois Wilson



Katonah, New York

Stepping Stones is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places and the New York State Women's Heritage Trail.

## Stepping Stones Foundation

62 Oak Road  
Katonah, NY 10536

(914) 232-4822

[info@steppingstones.org](mailto:info@steppingstones.org)

[www.steppingstones.org](http://www.steppingstones.org)

### Guided Tours

Monday - Saturday at 1 pm, by reservation  
and all other times by appointment

The Stepping Stones Foundation is dedicated to preserving the historic home of Bill and Lois Wilson, co-founders respectively of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon Family Groups, and to commemorating their achievements in the field of recovery from alcoholism.

The Foundation maintains the home, its contents and archives, and offers guided tours and educational programming.

## ONE HISTORIC TREASURE

**Stepping Stones** is the house Bill and Lois Wilsons shared for the last half of their lives. It is an experience, as well as an historic site that houses a precious archive. Just as they did during the Wilsons' lives, visitors come from all over the world to share the experience of hope and the message of recovery.

Here, you can learn about the Wilsons' day-to-day lives. Just as Lois left it, Stepping Stones is full of documents, photographs, and objects from the essential (the desk upon which the Big Book was written) to the everyday (Lois' eyeglasses and the books the couple read). Up the hill is "Wit's End", the studio where Bill Wilson sought inspiration and wrote important works including *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. The garden reflects the Wilsons' love of living things and beautifully complements the house. Walking paths grace the wooded hillside. The grounds offer refuge to birds, butterflies, and all who wish to spend time with the nature that Bill and Lois treasured.

The Stepping Stones Foundation maintains the Wilsons' house, its contents and archives, and offers tours of the house and grounds. Together with its community, the Stepping Stones Foundation continues to grow in promoting understanding and awareness of this historic treasure, and to welcome you home.

## TWO REMARKABLE PEOPLE

**Bill Wilson** co-founded Alcoholics Anonymous. Considered one of the most influential people of the 20th century, his

work helped millions worldwide. **Lois Wilson** co-founded Al-Anon Family Groups at Stepping Stones in 1951. She influenced Bill's recovery, and left the Stepping Stones Foundation to preserve their legacy. The Wilsons personified both the disease of alcoholism and the hope for recovery. Rising from tragedy, they dedicated their lives to helping others and nurturing the 12 step movement.

## THREE WAYS TO EXPERIENCE STEPPING STONES

### — Visit Stepping Stones —

Beautiful, comfortable, in harmony with nature, Stepping Stones provides great insight into the development of the recovery movement. Walk through places where history was made. Feel the emotional connection.

Stepping Stones is located in the village of Katonah, town of Bedford, in Westchester County, New York. It is accessible by Metro-North Railroad (Bedford Hills or Katonah stations), and by the Saw Mill River Parkway and Interstate 684. (See our Web site, [www.steppingstones.org](http://www.steppingstones.org), for a map and directions.)

**Tour:** Inside, you'll see Stepping Stones just as Lois left it: a humble home, filled with family heirlooms, memorabilia, and an extensive archive. *Guided tours are offered Monday through Saturday at 1:00 pm by reservation*, and at any other time by appointment. Educational events are held regularly.

Day-long or overnight excursions are easy to plan. Call Stepping Stones for information about transportation, discounted lodging, dining and more.

**Celebrate:** Stepping Stones is a special place to hold a group anniversary, picnic, workshop, meet with a sponsor or trusted friend, or host any other special celebration. The grounds are open sunrise to sunset, 365 days a year.

Experience a joyous celebration of unity or a quiet moment of reflection. Members of 12 Step groups, social and cultural historians, and the general community all came to see the Wilsons, and continue to visit their home today. Call to arrange your special event today.

**Traveling Presentation:** Can't make it in person? We offer a traveling presentation, "Bill and Lois Wilson and the AA Way of Life". Call or write for details.

### — Volunteer At Stepping Stones —

Helping at Stepping Stones is a great way to add to your legacy of service. Individuals and groups can help maintain the house and grounds, serve as tour guides, offer preservation assistance, make presentations in your area, or find another way to serve. Once a week or once a year, we need your help.

**For more information or to arrange your tour, visit [www.steppingstones.org](http://www.steppingstones.org), call (914) 232-4822 (M-F 9am-5pm) or email [info@steppingstones.org](mailto:info@steppingstones.org).**

## — Give to Stepping Stones —

Experience the joy of giving. Stepping Stones relies on contributions from its community to maintain and preserve the Wilsons' historic home, the grounds, and the archives. Current projects include:

**Building an Orientation Center** to provide permanent exhibits from the archives and presentations, thereby improving the visitor experience.

**Restoring and Preserving** over 20,000 archival items—from the very first love letters between Bill and Lois in 1915, to the first copy of the Big Book off the press—so that these treasures may continue to tell the story of alcoholism and recovery.

## TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT:

- ❖ Make a secure contribution online at [www.steppingstones.org](http://www.steppingstones.org), under "Support"
- ❖ Mail the enclosed pledge card or simply send a check or money order to:  
**Stepping Stones**  
62 Oak Road  
Katonah, NY 10536
- ❖ Call 914-232-4822 to discuss your gift



Seated at the desk in his writing studio, Bill answered every piece of mail: pleas from suffering alcoholics, questions from the medical community, and letters of thanks from alcoholics and families whose lives were transformed by the 12 Steps.

Bill and Lois enjoying each other, and the outdoors, at Stepping Stones.

One wall of the gallery, containing a montage of historical images, left as Lois' gift—to you. The kitchen table at which, in 1934, Ebby T. shared his hope for sobriety with Bill. Many feel that their conversation (held at 182 Clinton Street in Brooklyn, New York) sparked the development of A.A.