

Stepping Stones

Historic Home of Bill & Lois Wilson

Diary



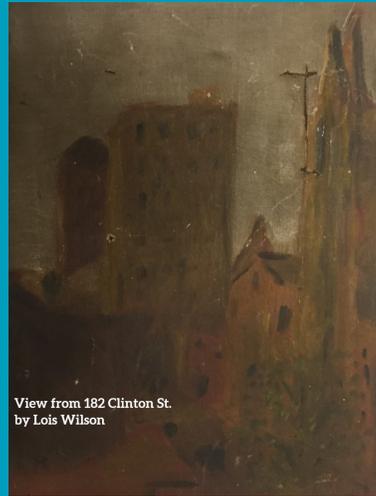
"Objects of Affection" Appeal - A Success Thanks to Many

Thank you to 272 donors from Canada, Israel, Mexico, Holland, New Zealand, and 34 U.S. states and territories for contributing to the successful completion of the Spring / Summer 2019 Special Preservation Appeal, "Objects of Affection." We are especially appreciative of the anonymous donor who gave the \$10,000 matching challenge gift.

Surpassing the \$25,000 appeal goal and instead raising a total of \$34,690 makes possible the specialized care of more objects than originally anticipated.

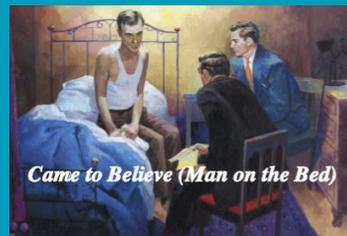
Object preservation, display, and storage projects now under way include: repairing and cleaning Lois' painting (pictured here) of the rooftop view from 182 Clinton St., Brooklyn; preparing for proper display of the painting *Came to Believe (Man on the Bed)*, by Robert M., 1955, copyright Grapevine, used with permission); restoring the weather-beaten New York State Historic Marker; repairing historic lighting from last century; and more.

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View from 182 Clinton St.
by Lois Wilson

For all who gave to the 2019 special appeal for object preservation, thank you for your commitment and generosity.



Came to Believe (Man on the Bed)

Inspired by Gratitude - Artists Give Back to Stepping Stones

The first ever "Inspired by Gratitude - Artists Give Back to Stepping Stones" event was held on August 24. This intimate tour and artmaking opportunity included visual artists in 12-Step recovery from New York and Connecticut. Information about Lois' love of the arts and a chance to see her paint sets and palettes were tour highlights. After capturing indoor and outdoor scenes in their own drawings and paintings, the visiting artists had a sharing session about their experience.

Stepping Stones is thankful to Jen H. for organizing this event, and for the artists who contributed their creations to Stepping Stones, including M.H.'s multimedia depiction of Bill's writing studio *Finding Inspiration at Wit's End* (pictured here).

To participate in similar events or to share your creative talents with Stepping Stones, email office@steppingstones.org.



finding inspiration at wit's end

Bill & Lois Wilson: In Their Own Words - Play Reading, September 27, New Hampshire

In time for **National Recovery Month**, a staged reading of Stepping Stones' play, *Bill & Lois Wilson: In Their Own Words*, will take place in **Peterborough, NH**, on **Friday, September 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.** The reading is presented by Recovery Ministries of the Episcopal Church NH in cooperation with Stepping Stones.

In Their Own Words is based on the writings of the Wilsons from Stepping Stones Archives. The staged reading includes historic photographs and music.

Seating is limited (first-come, first-served). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for this non-ticketed event (donations welcome) in **Reynolds Hall, 52 Concord St.**, Peterborough, NH, 03458.

For more information, email office@steppingstones.org.



Visitor Views - 2019

This year Stepping Stones has already welcomed more than 1,500 visitors. Some of their recent comments follow.

*Loved taking the tour today...when we went upstairs, I really loved knowing that Lois' hand had held on to the same bannister I was holding. **And as I was ascending the stairs, I realized it was a beautiful metaphor, because Al-Anon has helped me climb out of despair...**Thanks again for making this available to all of us. - Barb, GA*

***We liked learning about how the house is conserved to keep it as original as possible...**the amount of photos in the gallery, and the understanding of the program of recuperation. - Juan & Yolanda, Mexico*

***I felt welcome immediately. It felt like a real home. What a journey!** - Madelyn, PA*

***It was a wonderful visit...I loved seeing all the stuff!! I love knowing my sobriety is tied to this little plot of land.** I find it interesting Lois had a tchotchke thing - I have a tchotchke thing too! I gained a renewed interest in seeing AA historical sites...- Alison, NY*

*This is the third time I've been to Stepping Stones and I've learned something new every time I come here. **It is a spiritual moment for me being at Stepping Stones.** - Anonymous, CA*



***I am blown away with today's visit. I have read some things about A.A. history but this really brought it home just how amazing people and events coincided to make it possible for me to get sober...I and a few million others too...**The kindness, knowledge and humor of our guide James was awesome and Danielle's contribution immense. I am so overwhelmed with gratitude at the moment I can't tell you what I may have gained except for hopefully a lot of humility. - David, UK*

***We were all impressed with John's love and knowledge of Stepping Stones. He really brought the visit alive...** - Kevin, NJ*

Special Opportunity for History

Enthusiasts to Volunteer Online

Stepping Stones is accepting volunteer inquiries for a special archive project that can be worked on from any computer with internet access. If you are interested in applying to be a member of this archive project volunteer team, please email SSFAandC@gmail.com for more information on qualifications, application process, and the time frame and volunteer commitment.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

For information, email
office@steppingstones.org

Off-Site / Remote Service:

Designing Graphics & Products
Editing & Writing
Helping with Social Media
Raising Awareness

On-Site Service:

Assisting in the Office
Gardening & Maintaining Walking Trails
Hosting Events
*Landscaping & Tree Maintenance
Leading Tours
Photographing the Site
Providing Technology Support
*Plumbing, Carpentry, Painting & Other
Trades
Researching

**Indicates opportunities that may require licensing and insurance.*

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Photo credits: 2019 garden photos are by Julie H., volunteer