



THE LEGACY

Volume 47/ Issue 3

Aug-Sept 2010

North Florida Area Website: www.northfloridaal-anon.org

CHAIRPERSON: SHELLEY C.

Hello North Florida!

The weekend of August 21 the Area World Service Committee met in Ocala. You may already know that your District Representatives and Area Information Service Liaisons, as well as the Area Event Chairs, Area Coordinators, Area Officers, and Past Delegates spent the weekend exchanging information, planning upcoming events, and preparing for the Fall Assembly in December. Our Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual 2006-2009, page 149 says, "The primary function of the Area World Service Committee is to plan for the general improvement of both the Assembly and the Groups.....These meetings, called and chaired by the Area Chairman, may be held at stated intervals to hear and discuss the Delegate's report, to consider Area matters, to suggest items of interest for the Area newsletter, all with the purpose of informing and unifying the groups in the Area."

Our agenda, I believe, supports these goals. On Friday evening we divided into two groups that met with either the Delegate or Chair to discuss successes and obstacles in the Districts and in the Area. This helps us all to see we are not alone and that we can reason out our common problems with others who have experienced similar situations. On Saturday we heard reports from our officers, coordinators, and event chairs. My favorite part is our working lunch when we divide into Thought/Task Forces to brainstorm specific topics. Here are the results from those committees:

The Finance/Budget Task Force presented our 2011 Budget that was accepted and will go to Assembly for approval by the Group Representatives.

The Public Outreach Task Force sug-

gested that we conduct "how to" workshops at Assembly to help the GRs implement ideas in their groups. We will do that in December!

The Convention Guidelines Task Force updated the Meeting Specifications that guide the Convention Committee when negotiating with the host hotel.

The Flow of Information Task Force created a form/template to help members at Assembly and AWSC take information back to their districts and groups. If this sounds familiar, this was a suggestion from our Group Services Area Thought Force at Spring Assembly. We are listening.

The GR Orientation Task Force is in the process of updating the orientation that we do at every Assembly.

The Area Processes Task Force discussed two policies/procedures to put in place at the area level. The first is a procedure to enable decisions to be made between the four area meetings in the event of an emergency. The second is a policy that death notices of N FL Area panel members be placed in the Legacy with permission of the families.

Last, but certainly not least, the Alateen Task Force put in place a plan to "train the trainers" so that individual districts can be empowered to complete the requirements for their Al-Anon Members involved in Alateen Service.

In these ways I think we did in fact "plan for the general improvement of both the Assembly and the Groups." Please contact me if you have other ideas that will help us fulfill our function as stated in the Service Manual.

Love in Service
Shelley C.
Panel 49 Area Chair
chair@northfloridaal-anon.org

When emailing please use "Panel 49 NFA" in the subject line

SECRETARY: LOIS M.

Sometimes an area business meeting gets into quick sand. An issue is presented that may seem clear and logical to the presenter, but the Area takes off in a different direction. And just like quick sand, the more you struggle, the more mired you become. It seems as though as time passes, the discussion becomes more befuddled and unclear. There are so many personalities with so many interpretations of what is really meant or how we need to solve the issue.

Some are thinking "How much longer are we going to discuss this?" "Who will say the one thing that makes it all make sense?" "**Who will save us?**" The answer is no one. We are the adults (doesn't that just makes you so mad)!

However, in my experience, we **always** come out on the other side. I have never seen the process fail. Even if it appears we aren't moving, even if the outcome is not exactly right, we do get to a point of moving on.

The most important part, in my opinion, **is** the uncomfortable stage. A business meeting isn't safe like home. Usually in public we're on our best behavior. Until the business day runs into late afternoon and there's confusion all around.

Service work is what helps me to grow. Service work helps me hone my good traits and look at my weaker self. Service work helps me discover my gifts and admit those character traits that would not serve me in any way. It pushes me to the brink and helps me keep my feet on the ground. May I always be challenged and never become complacent. What do you want?

COORDINATORS: I asked that all Area

Coordinators save their reports in **1997 – 2003 Word** before you e-mail them to me, because my computer is old and **cannot read** docX. Almost every one of you did that for me and I am grateful to you. You are the best!

NOTE: I am asking when you're hand writing anything, please put the name of the report at the top of the page, make sure it is legible, explain your acronyms, and if you would personally hand me a copy I would appreciate your effort. It's hard for me to chase you down for all the above mentioned reasons.

Yours in service,

Lois M.—Secretary

AREA DELEGATE: TERRY F.

Hello again to the North Florida. I hope you have enjoyed your HOT summer in our balmy North Florida Area!!!!

Have you taken the information regarding cultural diversity and diversity in general shared from the 2010 World Service Conference (WSC) back to your groups? Since as we discovered at the spring Assembly, many of us do not fit into the 56-year-old, Caucasian, female category noted in the 2009 Membership Survey, hopefully you are staying conscious of this fact in your "public outreach" and "outreach to professionals" projects and your contacts with new members in your groups. In the 2010 Conference Summary, on pgs. 42-43, is the presentation of Culteral Competence given at this year's World Service Conference. Pg. 43 highlights some other diverse groups. Perhaps you and your district/group members have identified others. In our meetings, these may include members of non-Christian faiths, or with no faith belief systems, younger members, older members, etc. How are you reaching out to these diverse people both in and out of our fellowship? Please let me know. If you haven't as yet sought to reach out, please let me know how you and your districts/groups plan to do so over the next few months. Send me an email and let me know how it's going, successes and barriers.

I recently received a question regarding property ownership. As you may remember, the 15-year trial for property ownership by WSO, will end in 2011. At that time, the World Service Conference having looked at all the information obtained during the trial will vote to end the trial and keep the property, end the trial and sell the property, or continue the trial for another period of time. On the WSO website, is the link information regarding the background information related to property ownership. Also, on pgs. 52-55 of the 2010 Conference Summary is the Property Ownership Task Force Report given at the 2010 WSC. The Summary includes some points of property ownership of Motion 12 of the 1994 World Service Conference (pg.53). The question I was most recently asked is one often asked that is a common misconception. It too, is listed in the Conference Summary on pg. 54: Question-"What is the connection between the Alateen requirements and the ownership of property?" Answer-"The property was never an issue in the discussion about Alateen. The ownership, including the property, staff, and volunteers, is covered under the WSO's indemnity insurance. We don't have to worry about being sued." On pg. 52, The Chairperson of the Property Ownership Task Force states, " As I researched the information about owning property, I found, much to my surprise, that over 30 years ago the Conference was getting reports from the Board of Trustees and the Long Range Study Panel about the idea of owning property, and how it might affect the fellowship. Various issues of the Conference Summary show that follow-up discussions and annual reports were given at regular intervals, with no decision made on relocation and purchase until 1994." Please read all the information regarding property ownership from the Conference Summary and on the Members website at www.Al-Anon.org/members then type in a home group followed by AFG. If other questions arise after you read the material provided, please contact your District Representative (DR) as your district trusted servant and he/she can contact me and I'll find out if I don't know the answer. In the spirit of Knowledge Based Decision Making to reach an informed group conscience, it's important that all information is given BEFORE the 2011 vote.

Other items currently on the members website:

- Fact sheet on putting on a TEAM (Together Empowering Al-Anon Members) event, (which we are!)
- All three Legacy (Steps, Traditions, Concepts) Blogs are open for comments
- Chairman of the Board letters (Inside the WSO) link
- Sharing your experience strength, and hope in writing (Submitting a Sharing) link
- 2010 Conference Summary order form

Speaking of the Chairman of the Board letter, I will share part of the letter sent after the July Board meeting:

"Dear Conference Members, One of the speakers at the 75th Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous in San Antonio talked about the value of our Twelve Step programs and how they brought peace and serenity to our lives. He went on to say that the world would be a wonderful place if everyone worked the Twelve Steps. What a wonderful thought! How might that look within our own Conference structure?

From my personal observations, I would say that the members of the World Service Conference have succeeded in bringing this peace and serenity to the Conference during the past few years. How has this been accomplished? Members have requested and been given all the background information that could be gathered to prepare for any subject that was on the agenda. Members of the Conference were devoted to reading the materials received and were given an opportunity to submit additional questions.

When a discussion was brought to the Conference floor, everyone had the same background information and was invited to participate in the discussion. Whether they chose to actively participate or not, they were present for the discussion. Did everyone always agree on the issue? Absolutely not! Why? Because the Conference is a body of very diverse members with independence of mind and spirit. What was agreed upon was to respectfully listen to each member's comments before making a decision, and whatever the outcome of the discussion, to agree to

accept and to be able to articulate the decision. This process is called Knowledge-Based Decision-Making to reach an informed group conscience. I see this process as a way to practice the Twelve Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service to help us restore order, peace, and serenity to our lives.

As we begin to prepare for the 2011 World Service Conference, we trust that our Higher Power will be present, helping us to make the best decisions for both the fellowship and the WSO. With that in mind, let me introduce next year's Conference Theme: Expanding our community of hope by embracing:

Yesterday's foundations
Today's successes
Tomorrow's possibilities

Ampliamos nuestra comunidad de esperanza al acoger:

los cimientos del pasado
los éxitos del presente
las posibilidades del futuro

Élargir notre communauté d'espoir en intégrant:

Les bases d'hier
Les succès d'aujourd'hui
Les possibilités de demain

This year, Al-Anon Family Groups celebrates its 60th Anniversary with a banquet dinner to be held on April 16th at the Virginia Convention Center. This event is being held on the day following the Conference. More information will follow for those of you who may wish to attend."

The letter goes on to say, "One of the Board's responsibilities is to decide whether the funds are available to support our various outreach programs such as the IAGSM. You may ask why this is a Board responsibility? Concept Six talks about the Board of Trustees having actual administrative responsibilities. The Board serves and preserves the organization and is held chiefly responsible for all service activities, as well as for Al-Anon's worldwide public relations. The Board is the active legal guardian of the Twelve Traditions, as the chief service arm of the Conference, and has ultimate responsibility for the preservation and prudent management of all Al-Anon's financial assets. Because the Board is responsible for prudent management of funds, the Board asked itself: "What strategic decisions should the Board consider to increase the revenue stream for the

World Service Office?" Some of the factors to consider were: that the sale of electronic books is beginning to exceed hard copy sales; that the WSO is dependent upon the sale of literature to maintain its services; that the number of groups contributing in 2009 equal 57.39%, 2.4% higher than in 1960; and if the WSO moves away from printing literature, what impact will that have on our service arms like LDCs and the GSOs that also depend upon revenue from the sale of literature to support their offices? When the Board is making decisions, it is important to consider the effects those decisions will have on worldwide Al-Anon. The Board has committed to gathering more information and continuing this conversation." As I stated above, the entire letter is on the members website, including the Finance update, and the Policy Committee update.

At our December Assembly, we will have our WSO visitor coming to share the weekend with us and possibly a Delegate and Area Chair person from another Area. The WSO visitor is a past Trustee At Large (TAL), and a current at large member of the Executive Committee. She's agreed to let us put her to work and to also share her story, so please come and get the word out in your districts and groups, encouraging all who can to come.

Please feel free to invite me to your district(s) over the coming months. As we continue to grow and work together through the second half of our Panel, I look forward to hearing your successes and challenges. Ask the questions to seek clarity as we "expand our circle of hope."

Love in service,

Terry F.—Delegate

ALT. DELEGATE: TERRY K.

This fellowship is truly amazing. I'm always in awe of the people I serve with and the wisdom of those that came before me. Thank you, Legacies.

Now the fun part: At assembly my trivia question was: "Al-Anon reminds us to place the focus on us. But it suggests there are two things we should

do when it comes to the alcoholic. What are they?"

How many of you got it? We read the answer at almost every meeting where we read either the suggested preamble to the 12 steps, or the Traditions. In both cases we are told to "give encouragement and understanding to the alcoholic." (Part of Tradition 5)

You know, I sometimes forget that.

Okay, this one's a little tougher. But it can cause some discussion of the three Legacies...

We've all heard that each side of the Al-anon triangle represents one of our Legacies; Recovery, Unity, and Service. Which side is Recovery? Which side is Unity? Which side is Service?

Terry K.-Alt. Delegate

ALATEEN: ELSA C.

Hello Fellow Members of Al-Anon,

You might not know it, but part of my job description is to be available to give training to the 12 districts in the North Florida Area. I have spent some of my summer weekends visiting different districts to give Alateen Sponsor training. I am proud to say the number of people interested in promoting Alateen is greater than I expected. The participants are awesome and willing to car pool to the nearest district hosting training. Districts 11, 4, and 7 were hosts for the training this summer. Participants came from Districts 5, 6, 8 and 9. There were a combined total of 59 attendees at these trainings. Thank you to all attendees for your willingness! You are loved and your willingness to serve is appreciated!

The Panel 49 Task Force Committee for Alateen Training worked during lunch at AWSC on August 21, 2010, to revise the document guidelines regarding how to "Train the Trainers." Recommendations were made and the document evolved into its completed form. The document was presented to AWSC once the changes were approved by the committee. The document was discussed and a motion was made and seconded for a vote for approval. The

plan and requirement guidelines were accepted. I am excited and thrilled to announce that we have approved the plan and requirement guidelines to "Train the Trainers." All DR's at AWSC were given a CD copy of the Power Point Presentation and the written guidelines to train trainers within their districts. It is my hope that Alateen sponsors pray about becoming willing trainers within their districts. The task force committee worked hard to make this opportunity available to our districts. The districts have been empowered to choose to do training within their districts or ask me as the NFA Alateen Coordinators, to conduct training in their districts.

On September 24-26 we will have our NFA Convention at the Hilton in St. Petersburg. It is my pleasure to announce that we will be conducting Alateen Sponsor Training Certification on Saturday, September 25 at 9:30-11:15 in Harborview Hall. I am also happy to announce that after this training we will have additional training to "Train the Trainers." It will follow the Alateen Sponsor Training Certification in the same room from 11:45-12:30 pm. It is my prayer – if it is God's will – that we have at least one Alateen Certified Sponsor from each district willing to become a trainer.

I have enjoyed and experienced much growth during these nine months of service as the NFA Alateen Coordinator. My Higher Power is taking me to higher places in my recovery. Places I would never had the courage to go without the support of my program. I have been able to work through my fears and my Higher Power has set me free from some of my shortcomings. In conclusion, I hope that my experience, strength, and hope help you to walk through your fears and set your spirit free.

Until my next report, in love your grateful and trusted servant,

Elsa C.

NFA Alateen Coordinator

**AAPP:
BOBBI M.**

Hello North Florida Al-Anon/Alateen Family,

Once again and always, thank you for

allowing me to serve North Florida Area as your AAPP.

One lesson learned from World Service Office is when a member who is "inactive" desires to become "active" once again with the Alateen program, they are "required" to complete an Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service form. The member's original WSO ID# will remain the same.

Current Area Certified AMIAS Members

131-active-area certified

19–new AMIAS forms at WSO for processing

1-AMIAS form at WSO to "activate" member

Total = 151

Current Registered Alateen Groups

39-active

3-new Alateen registration forms at WSO for processing

Total = 42

Love in service, Bobbi M.

Area Alateen Process Person

GROUP RECORDS: TERRY A.

Hello North Florida!

We currently have 405 Active Groups in the 12 Districts making up our North Florida Area according to our Online Group Records access page. This new development has been wonderful for me to verify what WSO has before I report something they are already aware of, saving me and WSO much work.

I am pleased to report that the idea of sending all that paperwork back to the groups has been a valuable asset to those that I have heard from. I'm glad that others are now learning how the information travels from Group to District to Area and World Service and back again. It is very important for each level of service arm to have the proper information. You know the old saying for any data base, "Garbage in, garbage out". We certainly want to keep the garbage out, so let us input current and accurate data.

This time I've printed out the reports indicating the Active Al-Anon Groups as I am able to pull up at anytime online at WSO. I've printed separate reports for each of the Districts. These should be very useful for getting any information you want to check figured out quickly. I can print a detailed report for any group. Let me know if you feel that is necessary with any of the groups you are responsible for. I can now check and verify information on the data that I keep for the Area as well as WSO's most updated list. I feel very special to be able to use this new technology.

Please keep in mind that every registered group has an ID number issued by WSO. The number is given when the group is registered, and sent in the new group package to the Current Mailing Address. It is also written on the original form that was sent to register the group. The original form is sent back to me at Area level usually the following month, in my monthly mailing from WSO. When I return all that lovely paper to the Districts, they will also have the new number printed usually in red on the form that WSO received.

With great gratitude in service,
Terry A. –Group Records

LITERATURE: NANCY G.

Hello North Florida,

Have you read any good books lately? They're out there just waiting for you.

REMEMBER THE CONTEST!!! What contest, you ask?

I'm sponsoring an Area contest for the best PowerPoint presentation on a piece of literature. The deadline is Nov. 30 so I can announce the winner at Dec. Assembly. **There will be a prize!** So far, I have received no entries so the field is wide open. You can email or snail mail the presentations to me. (Just for the record, WSO already has a PowerPoint presentation on *Discovering Choices* so I, personally, would like to see you do a PowerPoint on a different piece of literature but doing a presentation on *Discovering Choices* does not disqualify you.) You may enter more than once.

YOUR SHARINGS ARE NEEDED IN WRITING as a new Legacy workbook is in progress. Members are encouraged to post sharings on any of the three blogs on the Members' Web Site. There will also be an invitation for members to share for this workbook in the September issue of the "Forum." The workbook will be developed from the blogs and sharings.

MORE SHARINGS NEEDED as WSO is starting a workshop and skit collection. If you do workshops or skits in your district, please share. Write them down and send them to me or send them to WSO and CC me.

At this time, workshops are available on *As We Understood (B-11)*, *Discovering Choices (B-29)*, *Opening Our Hearts*, *Transforming Our Losses (B-30)* and *Sponsorship, What It's All About (P-31)*. There are also skits for *Discovering Choices*. I sent the workshops and skits to the District Literature Chairs and DR's so they should be available in your District.

The July "Forum" had two items of particular interest concerning the Literature. Since July 4th weekend was the 25th anniversary of *As We Understood (B-11)*, the July "Forum" featured an expanded edition of CAL Corner which included both members' sharings and some interesting facts about *As We Understood*. Also in the July "Forum" was an "Inside Al-Anon Family Groups" article on the history and origins of CAL entitled "Conference Approved Literature Comes of Age."

The CAL Corner selection in the "Forum" for September will be "When I Got Busy, I Got Better" (P-78). Be sure to look for it.

The latest update on *Tracing our Growth* is that WSO hopes to have it ready for the 2011 World Service Conference. This will be a recovery book as well as a history of our fellowship for the last 60 years. It will include sharings from members on how the events they experienced in our fellowship's history affected their personal recovery.

I will be participating in another Literature Coordinator Conference Call with WSO and other Area Lit. Coordinators on Sept 29. If you have things you want me to bring up let me know before September 29. I'll be reporting on that call in Dec. at Assembly.

Nancy G.

LEGACY: TONI C.

Hello North Florida,

Have you ever noticed that Shelley, NFA Area Chair and Lois, Area Secretary do not give a report at AWSC or Assembly? Did you know that you can read Shelley and Lois' reports in The Legacy? Did you know that Terry K. - Alt. Delegate submits a different report than what he gives at the podium at AWSC or Assembly? In this issue of the Legacy, Elsa C.-Alateen, Nancy G.-Literature, and Kathy H.-Public Outreach, have written a different report than their AWSC report in August.

Thank you for suggesting at Spring Assembly that the Legacy be placed on a pdf file and sent out in an email to read our newsletter. The feedback was very positive.

Thank you for allowing me to grow through service as your newsletter editor.

Toni C.

PUBLIC OUTREACH: KATHY H.

Hello Good People in North Florida,

It was heartwarming at AWSC to hear the reports from your AISL's and District Representatives as they highlighted your group, member and district public outreach efforts. There certainly are many *Hands Reaching Out Across North Florida!* I look forward to seeing many more *Hands* delivered to Fall Assembly...there is plenty of room on the banners.

At the Spring Assembly, the group representatives and members of the PO task force were asked to identify three Public Outreach activities that districts in NFA could focus on throughout the remainder of the panel to carry the Al-Anon message of hope. The consensus was to focus on;

First Responders (Police and Sheriff offices, EMTS, Special Victim Units etc)

Health Fairs

Families of children in coordinated health care (state and federal funded facilities)

GR's were asked to take these concepts

back to their District and identify how any or all of these activities could best be implemented by members in their respective Districts. I am looking forward to meeting with the task force members who will be reporting back at the Fall Assembly their findings, activities and results to share with other Districts.

A suggestion was made at AWSC that we conduct a Public Outreach workshop during the next assembly. That a manual be created that would allow districts to collect and share more specific information as to how to conduct PO activities without having to re-invent the wheel from panel to panel. The consensus of the thought force was that attracting leadership in the area of PO is difficult for many districts and creating a format of education, direction and guidelines might inspire more members to have the confidence to step into these positions. So friends, with the help of our HP and the input of many experienced members, we will have a workshop at the Fall Assembly.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2011 is delivered and in full circulation. Thank you to all that have reported in about your district and group orders. Clearly, NFA orders are substantially higher than in the past. What a great testimony to our GR's for communicating not only the importance of this PO effort, as well as creating the enthusiasm to have such significant member participation.

This is WSO'S most important outreach project and a tremendous opportunity for "Groups in Service". This publication is written for the most part by health care professionals. There is a certain credibility individuals perceive when they see the message carried by a professional. *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2011, (in exciting new full color) our annual public outreach magazine, helps potential newcomers understand the benefits of Al-Anon. This public outreach tool empowers you and every Al-Anon member to bring hope to those still suffering in isolation.*

Thanks for all you do to help families and friends of alcoholics find hope in Al-Anon.

Handful of Hugs,

Kathy H.- Public Outreach

WEBMASTER: SHARON E.

What's happening with the Website?

As most of you know, our website was down for a while. Our webhost dropped the ball and let our domain name (northfloridaal-anon.org) expire and it took quite a bit of working with the company they resell for to get the name back. We have a lot of exposure under this name and it was a fight worth fighting.

In June, we moved to a new web hosting service, one that I have used in the past with very positive results. Unfortunately, I had to rebuild the website after the move because I wasn't able to access the old servers (where the website files reside) to get the latest version of our website. This is a blessing and a curse, as I had wanted to clean up some old files and give the website a new look, but this is a time-consuming process. Plus, I had a learning curve as I learn some new software.

Currently, there are only a couple of pages up for our new website; the bare-bones. Labor Day weekend, I hope to launch the new site. That's my plan- we'll see what God has in mind...

Until then,
I remain grateful for the opportunity to be of service.
Your Web Diva
Sharon E.

DISTRICT 1 REP: GEORGE G.

Greetings from Tallahassee,

We have been growing in service and in numbers for which I am very grateful. We had over a dozen attend our last district meeting. That is the most in recent history including three first time group representatives.

We have a volunteer to chair a day of workshops sometime in November. I will ask our web diva to post the date, the format and guests as plans are confirmed.

One of our new meetings is held at a treatment facility that refuses to accept

money for rent. The members were concerned that they might need to move in the interest of being self-supporting; however, they have been able to work out a deal whereby they purchase Al-Anon literature for use in the library and to give to family members that come to visit their loved ones.

Our group that had meetings on two separate nights and a recently retired group representative now has formed two separate groups and each has their own active GR. I am especially grateful that the growth in service seems to be a natural outgrowth of working the steps with a sponsor for those involved.

I appreciated the input from Darla, DR #11, concerning doing a district inventory and have provided our GR's with copies asking them to fill them out either individually or with their group. I have received four back so far and am waiting for more (hopefully) before collating the results. This could be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about how the district can be helpful to the groups. I must admit to having some fear about doing it, as it could reflect badly on me, but the desire to be of service and do the next right thing helped me overcome it.

I asked for volunteers to help with the raffle at the next assembly and was concerned that there might be no one interested so close to the holidays. I am grateful to report two immediate volunteers and possibly more. I am often times overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of others and looking forward to a fabulous assembly.

On a more personal note, you may have noted an article in the July Forum written by someone named George G. in Florida.

Thanks to all of you for all you do for Al-Anon and for helping me to be of service to others as well. It is a great blessing for me to know that some of my most difficult experiences in life can help others in similar situations.

George G.
DR-District 1, Tallahassee

DISTRICT 7: KIMBERLY P.

Hello NFA Al-Anon Family Members,

In District 7 we are "Crusin' on Serenity" September 24-26, 2010. You can find us at the St. Petersburg Bayfront Hilton, 333 1st Street South, St. Petersburg FL 33701. I hope to see you all there.

Service is a big part of our recovery and I am so proud to have District 7 hosting this year's convention. We have a great team of people throughout the district, in our meetings and trusted servants, helping to put this great event together. I think you will find service is in full swing in District 7. We can always use more help, so give us a call There is always something to be done that needs your help. And if you are not involved in service, you are missing out on part of our recovery program.

Our AIS has "blossomed into a new era, breaking from the past and moving forward in Al-Anon/Alateen service by introducing, Telephone Conferencing, communication into our meeting format", states Andy, our AISL for district 7. Yeah, go Andy. I love it when we branch out and try new things.

Our district, aside from the convention, will have a Gratitude Dinner November 13, 2010. The time is yet to be determined and we just found a new chairperson to finish that project, Beth M. Now we will be looking for someone to chair the Day of Workshop in the spring. So many opportunities.

Hope to see you "Crusin' on Serenity
Many blessings,
Kimberly P.
District 7 District Representative

DISTRICT 9: MARILU MCG.

District 9 has enthusiastic members willing to do service work. Groups report increasing attendance including newcomers and veteran members who are snow birds.

On our Day of Workshops in March, we walked into a room adorned with

flowers made by members using Sunday's drug store ads which were cut, pleated and transformed into colorful flowers on pipe stems in decorated pots. Each participant received a list of trivia questions, whose answers could be found in at least one piece of Conference Approved Literature. The name tags each person wore had the answer to one of these questions. People met and greeted each other while searching for answers to the trivia questions. The theme of the workshop was Recovery: One Page at a Time, and each session focused on a topic from a specific piece of literature. Nancy G., the North Florida Area Literature Coordinator, told her story, relating how each stage of her recovery was bolstered by a certain piece of CAL. Of course we had delicious food, beautifully served, to nourish our bodies and our fellowship. The raffle consisted of a donated handmade quilt and Conference Approved Literature which had been donated by the groups. When we returned to the wrap up session, each chair had a sheet of paper with all the answers to the trivia questions. Many hands helped restore the meeting rooms to their original condition, but we walked out with bouquets of wisdom and fellowship in our hearts.

The buds of Alateen are beginning to sprout. We had to close the two existing Alateen meetings, but we now have many AMAISs ready to open new meetings or to support Group Sponsors. As one of our books states, we want to grow slowly and well.

Our Public Outreach Chairperson does an awesome job with help from members all over the district.

- Three members attended the Healthy Start Team meeting of 40 professionals sponsored by the Polk County Health Department. The Public Outreach Chairperson spoke to the group and was well received.
- We've had representatives at three health fairs
- We continue to have members go to the Furlough Class at Polk Bridge once a month to talk to the families of clients.
- In October, we will have an ad in the monthly Health insert in our local paper, THE LEDGER.

Marilu McG.
District Representative #9

DISTRICT 11: LLEW E.

District 11, also known as Brevard County, has been busy:

- Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) Training was held July 24th and we had almost 20 participants! Not all are ready to put on the AMIAS hat, but they were interested enough to come and find out what it's all about.
- Two (2) NEW Alateen meetings are opening in the month of September. That puts us up to four in the district and they are all in different locations of our very long county.
- We have had some address changes on two (2) of our meetings and one meeting has closed. There has been a hint of a new meeting opening soon. More to be revealed.
- A billboard contract has been signed and check delivered so that the new bookmark artwork can be put up to let people passing by know about the Al-Anon program with contact information. Location will be moveable over the next year – perhaps two.
- We will be having our Gratitude Dinner in the month of November, hosted by one of our newer groups. They are very excited about this upcoming opportunity.
- Other opportunities will be revealing themselves with District 11 handling the Hospitality room at the Fall/Winter Assembly in December, not to mention the 2012 Convention. Concept 4 will be one of the slogans that gets pulled out quite often over the next several months, I'm sure.

Respectfully submitted,
Llew E.
District Representative #11

Al-Anon Acronyms

AAPP—Area Alateen Process Person
AFG—Al-Anon Family Groups
AIISL—Al-Anon Information Service Liaison
AMIAS—Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service
AWSC—Area World Service Committee
CAL—Conference Approved Literature
CMA—Current Mailing Address
CPC—Cooperating w/the Professional Community
DR—District Representative
GIP—Growth Investment Person
GR—Group Representative
HP—Higher Power
KBDM—Knowledge Based Decision Making
LDC—Literature Distribution Center
PI—Public Information
PO—Public Outreach
PSA—Public Service Announcement
WSO—World Service Office

World Service Office Information:
AFG Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Prkwy, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617
www.al-anon.org/members
 Group Meeting Information Only:
1-888-4AI-Anon
 Group Record inquiries only:
(757)563-1600
 Forum Subscription Info.
(757) 563-1600
 FAX: (757)563 1655
Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-6 p.m. EST

TREASURER: BRIAN B.

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