A Day of Service: What is Beyond my Group?

By: Chris Clark, Texas West Delegate, Panel 55

The fundraiser started at 2 o'clock with fun, food, and fellowship. With a $5.00 donation at the door, the attendee received a ticket for a door prize: a new purple Service Manual. Members of District 12 wore purple in honor of that wonderful piece of literature and so our guests could recognize us!

Fifty-four members attended, coming from 18 groups from the 13 cities surrounding District 12. Some came from as far away as Ft Worth and McKinney. Thanks to all for coming!

The day started off with an ice breaker by Donna B. who recognized the oldest and the youngest Al-Anon member. The oldest member had 40+ years, and, in fact, the last remaining three members had to narrow down their tenure to the month in Al-Anon to pick a winner. The youngest member had three months. The book When I Got Busy, I Got Better was given to each.

We had a speaker panel consisting of: Harry F., former Delegate; Patti H., former District Representative; Susan S., former Group Representative; and Evelyn T., former ISR; and Darla S., current Alateen sponsor. They each gave a ten minute talk and answered questions from the audience. The questions concerned the positions, growth, and fun-time in service.

We had six baskets donated by the groups in District 12 that were raffled at the end of the day. With the food, raffle, and speakers everyone who attended had a great time. At the end of the day, District 12 collected $260.00 in donations at the door, and sold $270.00 in raffle tickets! The total will be divided between the ATAAC 2015 Conference and the next Delegate meeting in Area 54.

Thanks to all who attended, and thanks for the hard work from the District members who helped set-up and provided food, literature, raffle baskets, and thanks to those who just filled up the seats. A fun time was had by all!!
Welcome Panel 55

Every three years a new panel of officers is elected at the Fall Assembly. At this year’s Fall Assembly, November 7-9, 2014, new officers were elected for Area 54. Their complete contact information is listed on page 13.

Delegate: Chris Clark
Area Chair: Debbe Pangburn
Alternate Delegate/Alternate Chair: Deborah Morgan
Secretary: Norma Mathes
Treasurer: Brandy Pagett

Please welcome our new Officers as they begin their rotation of service for Texas West, Area 54.

Coordinators for Panel 55 will be selected at the Spring Assembly being held May 15-17, 2015.

Area 54 has nine Coordinator positions: Alateen, Alateen Area Process Person, Archivist, Finance Chair, Literature/Forum, Pipeline Editor, Public Outreach, Spanish, and Web Site.

If you are interesting in standing for any of these positions, please bring your service résumé to the Assembly.

A service résumé is a compilation of your service experience, time in Al-Anon, home group, and any other information relevant to the Coordinator Position.

New Mailing Address for WTA Treasurer
Make checks payable to “WTA” and mail to:
Brandy Pagett
West Texas Area Treasurer
3504 W. Shandon
Midland, TX 79707

This is the last Pipeline newsletter that will be printed and mailed.
All future newsletters will be emailed and available online at texasal-anon.org.

Make certain your group’s email address is up-to-date so you don’t miss an issue!
You also may access current and past issues of the newsletter at www.texas-al-anon.org.
Due to a conflict with another conference I am attending, I will be unable to attend this weekend. I want to thank Cindy for reading this report to you. Texas West Area 54 currently has 197 active Al-Anon groups and 23 Alateen groups. There are 178 English-speaking Al-Anon groups with a total of 411 meetings and 19 Spanish-speaking Al-Anon groups with a total of 46 meetings registered with WSO. Since May 2014, we have opened four new Al-Anon groups and closed four. And, for the first time, there are no groups on the "no mail" list. However, there are 13 groups with bounced e-mail addresses.

I want to commend everyone for sending me your Group Changes on a regular basis. I want to encourage all new DRs and GRs to send me your group changes. You no longer have to send the changes to WSO. You can email group changes and new group registrations to me. If you have a GR or Current Mailing Address (CMA) change, be sure to include the full name with address, phone number and email address. I cannot enter a new GR if I do not have their last name. A Group Registration form is posted on the web. Any Alateen group changes must be sent to the Area Alateen Process Person. It is very important that every group has an email address with the Current Mailing Address. WSO sends the monthly Group e-news to the groups by email. Also, beginning in April 2015, the Pipeline newsletter will only be sent by email.

I made four additions/changes to the WTA Guidelines that were voted on during the AWSC meeting last May 16, 2014. The West Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly Guidelines are posted on the Texas Al-Anon / Alateen website (www.Texas-Al-Anon.org) under the protected “Members” section (password:anonymity). These guideless are updated after each assembly. Please be sure to remind the new GRs and group members that they can download their own copy at no charge.

Since I am not able to attend this Assembly and oversee the Action Committees, we have decided to have a Coordinators Workshop. This is a great opportunity for members to understand what the Coordinator positions are and what to expect. Hopefully, several new members will submit a resume for these positions that begin in the Spring 2015. Cindy Kuykendal will moderator the workshop.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service for the Al-Anon and Alateen groups in Area 54 for the last three years and then some. It has been an awesome experience!

Yours in service,
Patti Haynes
Alternate Delegate/Alternate Chairman
Texas West, Area 54, Panel 52
District Reports from the Fall West Texas Assembly, November 7-9, 2014

District One

Having been elected as District Representative this summer, I have set several goals for reviving District 1 in the Panhandle. Since the District has been without leadership or meetings for several years, it is imperative to start at the base level, the groups and their leaders. Thus, my first objective is to make contact with or visit as many of the groups as possible. By doing so, I can extend an offer of help and information, and I can establish connections with other Al-Anons in the area. The Panhandle area is sometimes called “The Golden Spread.” It is just that: very large and spread out, with long distances between towns. Travel times and costs are significant. By using computer technology, cell phones, and traditional mail, we can more readily make those connections.

Second, we will try to have at least two District 1 meetings or events per year prior to the Assemblies. We may combine them with the Amarillo AIS to more efficiently use members’ time and resources.

Third, as one result of the meetings, we hope to encourage more Twelfth Step participation and more contributions to the West Service Office, West Texas Area, District 1, and the AIS. To ensure viability of the District, we are currently seeking members to volunteer as District officers. Further, we plan to arrange at least two Al-Anon outreach to treatment centers, schools, clinics, or family support organizations in the area.

Finally, as a result of the meetings and outreach, we will work with the Amarillo AIS to distribute Al-Anon information, such as “How Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism” or newcomers’ packets. By extending the hand of help in Al-Anon Twelfth Step work, we can pass on the program of recovery to those in need in the Texas Panhandle.

As of this writing, I have been able to visit a number of groups or meetings in the Amarillo area. It is encouraging to see and hear how Al-Anon continues to touch many lives. Many meetings are small, but the members make up for size with enthusiasm and commitment. We have been able to see two groups re-activated—one is preparing to get registered. I have made contact with the Spanish-speaking group.

Technology is great, but there is nothing like person-to-person contact and face-to-face conversation.

With appreciation,
Kathy Wade
DR, District 1

District Two

Good Morning,

Districts 1, 2 and 3 have joined forces to host the assembly this weekend. District 1 provided the speakers, District 2 provided the programs and the Hospitality Room provisions, and District 3 was responsible for the Registration. It was a great experience working with the other two districts. We had one combined meeting in Lubbock, and I appreciate District 1 for driving in from Amarillo and District 3 for driving in from Odessa.

Al-Anon presence has been asked for by the Managed Care Center for Addictive Behavior and Prevention Resource Center and Building Strong Families. We also liaison with Texas Tech University Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery with meeting schedules and Al-Anon Updates.

District 2 AFGs have a strong working relationship in Family Recovery at the Dove-Tree Treatment Center. An Introductory meeting is chaired by volunteers from District 2 AFGs. CAL is distributed each week, along with meeting schedules, slogan booklets, and “Where to Find Al-Anon/Alateen” information sheets.

District 2 AFGs had great participation in the Group Surveys and Group Representative Surveys for the Texas West Restructuring Task Force Survey. Terri F., Margie R., and Pam A. serve on this committee.

We had an election at our District Meeting on October 25, 2014 for District Representative and, after this Assembly, Kay Robertson will take over this position. I will serve as Alternate and Treasurer. The Secretary position has not been filled at this time.

Kaye Pevehouse
DR, District 2

District Three

Hi, I am Terri Edmiston, District 3 Representative. The past six months have been a story of “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly” for District 3. Being program people, my district has applied our Al-Anon slogans to help deal with all our changes, and the slogans have worked.

First, let me address The Ugly: Our Alateen group folded due to lack of attendance and our Tanglewood An-Anon group folded for the same reason. But, like our slogan says, we had to “Let Go and Let God” because it’s all in his hands.

Second, The Bad: Our District 3 Anon group folded due to lack of attendance and our Tanglewood An-Anon group folded for the same reason. But, like our slogan says, we had to “Let Go and Let God” because it’s all in his hands.

Finally, The Good: The slogan “Keep an Open Mind” has been at work here. With us keeping an open mind, He has shown us the way He wants things to be—and it has been incredible.

My district jumped right in to help with the co-hosting of this weekend’s assembly.

Several members from District 3 attended the organizational meeting for the Permian Basin AIS. We thank Brandy, DR for District 4, Midland, for inviting us to join them in getting this project going.

With the help of Cristina, our Area Spanish Coordinator, we had a new Spanish-speaking group in Odessa register with WSO. This group’s name is Valor Para Cambiar AFG, which I understand means Courage to Change. They meet twice a week.

District 3 enjoyed a visit from Debbie P. last month. We took her to dinner at a famous, historically-located steak house, and then we enjoyed her talk the next morning at our Al-Anon meeting. Debbie, we want you to know our doors are always open and the rare steak awaits.

Some of our groups are reporting growing attendance at meetings. Some meeting attendance has doubled from the norm. I only have one word for those groups, and, even though it is an overused word, it applies: AWESOME.

After the recent elections, we now have several newbies in service positions in our district. I can’t help but believe this is due to our groups having meetings where service work was the topic for discussion, a challenge from our Membership Outreach Action Committee.

Last, but definitely not least, we have had wonderful members and public outreach in District 3. In addition, our Al-Anon members participated in the Andrews Chat & Chew, the 40th Annual West Texas Roundup, and the Medical Center Hospital Health Fair.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri E.
DR, District 3

Please remember that assistance is available for newly registered groups who need literature.

If you attend a new group that doesn't have the financial resources to purchase literature, please contact Sheri Sutton, Finance Committee Chair, sheril@nottussenenergy.com
West Texas Assembly District Reports continued,

District Four
The Sherwood AFG in San Angelo began a newcomer meeting that meets every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. Sherwood AFG also began giving How Al-Anon Works to every newcomer.

Life Recovery AFG in Ballinger has noticed that many young people in their area need Alateen and is working on starting an Alateen group. Life Recovery also gives an ODAT to every newcomer.

Amistad AFG in Del Rio has also started a daytime meeting every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

Seven Ten AFG in Midland is now a non-smoking group and has worked very hard to improve their group with the purchase of new chairs and by being more cooperative with the Seven Ten A.A. members.

In June, The Serenity AFG in Midland held a special meeting on Service and the resources available on the Texas and World Service websites.

12 Step AFG in Midland is no longer an active group.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Texas West Area.
Respectfully submitted,
Brandy Pagett
DR, District 4

District Five
No report available

District Six
I am Maria Ramirez District Representative for District 6. We have 8 active groups in our district, which covers Wichita Falls, Henrietta and surrounding towns.

Groups that had no GR now have a GR and an alternate GR, and they are attending the Assembly for the first time. Even though some of our groups are struggling with low membership, the groups continue to be active. Other groups continue to have speaker night, and the Alateens were motivated to participate with their experience, strength, and hope. What a spiritual awakening experience that was for our members. This has given our groups the opportunity to grow in service, and continues to attract newer members to participate in service.

We participated in a “Friendship Community Event” in a rural area where there’s no Al-Anon groups. Pamphlets and water bottles with labels listing our meeting/time information were handed out. We had a projector displaying our public outreach CD for everyone to view and listen to in English and Spanish. It was a beautiful day of fellowship and we were able to experience the joy of service in action.

We held an election for DR and Alt. DR. They are Elsa Rueda, DR., and Mel Martinez Alternate DR.

Congratulations to everyone.

I have enjoyed the last 3 years being a DR for District 6. It has been an honor, and I am truly blessed with this experience. Thanks for all the GR’s and their service.

Yours In Service,
Maria Ramirez
DR, District 6

District Seven
No report available

District Eight
This is my last report as District 8 Representative, and I just remembered to look up my DR duties in the Service Manual. I would recommend looking at those when you begin your DR service, not afterwards.

Since I became DR, one of the changes to our Area Guidelines is that the DR can now submit his report to the AWSC electronically. That alone will save several trees a year.

The Weatherford group has struggled to remain open. In July, a member agreed to be the CMA. Recently, I received a call that a new GR and CMA had been chosen. I was very thankful that we didn’t lose this group.

I reminded the District 8 groups of the elections. Each group is to elect new group officers and attend the District election, and, finally, the new GRs and DR will attend the November assembly to elect new Area officers.

Recently, members of two groups asked if they could meet with me concerning problems in their groups. In one case, a member who attends a noon meeting was disrupting the meeting. The second case involved a group step study lead by a member of A.A., who is not a member of Al-Anon. In both cases I tried to help members find solutions to their respective problems by using the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual.

District 8 had a District Meeting on Saturday, October 19th at Pathway AFG. Our theme was Rule 62 “Don’t take yourself too seriously”. If you wanted to, you could have worn a costume or just come as your usual scary self.

We played “As the Group Turns” using our Service Manual to answer questions. We also had a surprise celebrity guest appearance from HANZ and FRANZ. They were there to “Pump Us Up”!

After all the fun and games we got down to business and elected new District officers.
Respectfully submitted,
Johnny J.
DR, District 8

District Nine
No report available

District Ten
Hello to Everyone.

I am Rene Dymale District Representative for District 10. Within our District we have 5 GR’s at this Assembly. They are from Stonebench, Duncanville, Oak Cliff, The Gift, and Waxahachie AFGs.

I want to welcome Waxahachie AFG to District 10. They take meetings to Homeward Bound Family Center once a week. A number of our groups celebrated their anniversaries: The Gift, 26 years; Oak Cliff, 5 years; Stonebench, 20 years; and the Duncanville group celebrated 40 years in November.

Our Alateen group Opening Doors in Irving is doing well. The Dallas Alateen coordinator Pam M. shared that the upcoming Harvest Bash on November 15th will be at the Preston Group. Everyone is invited.

Our District is making a $50.00 donation to WTA and a S100.00 donation to the Dallas Al-Anon Information Service for their copier fund.

We had an election for DR, Alt. DR, Secretary and Treasurer. They are Deborah Morgan, DR; Debbie Marshall, Alt-DR.; Pam Morison, Secretary; and Rene Dymale, Treasurer.

Congratulations to everyone.

I have enjoyed being a DR for District 10 for the last 5 years. Thanks for all the GRs and their service.

Your Trusted Servant,
Rene Dymale
DR, District 10
West Texas Assembly District Reports continued

District Eleven

While having a relatively quiet 2014, we have been quietly busy. Several of District 11's groups “forgot” copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2015 all over Dallas. Laura, our DR, visited several groups and talked about the importance of Service work; what the District does, why a GR is important, and what their group could do to help “Always be there.”

Addison AFG was the location of the 2014 Dallas AIS/LDC annual fundraiser, and Preston AFG will be the location of the Alateen Harvest/Holiday Bash being held in November. Preston Group celebrated its 49th Anniversary last month!

We held District elections and almost have a complete panel of officers: BJ M. from Lambda will serve as District Rep, Dave W. will be Alternate District Representative and Treasurer. We are hoping that Evelyn T. will serve as our Secretary, all we need to do is vote her in. We will be asking for volunteers to serve as Coordinators (Alateen, Public Outreach, Literature, etc.).

Lambda AFG is starting a “Legacies Study” using the new workbook Reaching for Personal Freedom (P-92) to be held on Tuesdays at 6p.m., and “Concept Night” to be held at 8 p.m. on the second Monday of each month in 2015.

“Thanks!” to Richardson AFG for hosting the 2014 District 11 meetings and to Aquarius AFG for volunteering to host them in 2015. Aquarius AFG is valiantly trying to get Dallas Area radio/TV stations to play Al-Anon PSAs. On a sad note, Lake Highlands AFG closed its doors on November 2nd. On a personal note, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the GRs in District 11. I accomplished quite a bit in my “redo” second term as District Representative because they gave me strength, hope and courage when I needed it by showing up regularly at meetings, Assembly, and other District functions, and by sharing through service their experience, strength and hope with each other. I truly could not have done it without them. I am looking forward to watching the growth and recovery that District 11 will experience with the new panel of officers and group representatives.

As always, District 11 is proud to part of the DFW Metroplex and West Texas Area 54, and we look forward to continue to be of service in 2015. Respectfully submitted,
Laura DeBusk
Outgoing DR, District 11

District Twelve

District 12 consists of nine Al-Anon groups. Our Alateen group at Freedom AFG hosted WTAC. A new Spanish-speaking Al-Anon group has opened their doors in Mesquite and meets in the Freedom AFG room on Thursday evenings. All groups are still active in their neighborhoods to carry the message of Al-Anon and Alateen. We have a wide variety of scheduled meetings times in our area that is growing in leaps and bounds.

Freedom AFG is now holding a literature study on the book Discovering Choices on Saturday mornings. Bruton Terrace celebrated 46 years of open recovery with their A.A. family this past year. Earlier this year, Rowlett AFG held a step study led by Jackie P. that was very well attended. Rockwall Serenity continues to have four meetings a week and is currently studying the conference approved literature book As We Understood on Friday at noon. Casa Linda AFG is growing in membership with recent attendance up to nine.

There are several individuals from District 12 who are participating in the ATAAC 2015 Conference. We also have members on the Restructuring Task Force. Several members continue to serve at the Nexus Recovery Center by taking meetings to family members.

District 12 held a fundraiser in August with the theme “A Day of Service – What is beyond my group?” There were 54 in attendance from AFG groups in 13 cities throughout the Dallas and Fort Worth area. Speakers Harry F., Patti H., Susan S., Evelyn T., and Darla S. shared their experience, strength and hope about service. Funds were raised in the amount of $527 and were donated to ATAAC 2015 and South Central Regional Delegate’s meeting. Groups in District 12 also donated baskets to the DAIS fundraiser in October.

I am very proud of District 12 with all that they do to carry the message of Al-Anon and Alateen to others and to make sure that the legacy is carried in our part of Texas.

Yours in Service,
Rhonda Schmid
DR, District 12

District Thirteen

District 13 has 5 groups with only two groups active above the group level.

Lake Whitney AFG added a Wednesday 7 p.m. Tradition Study meeting that uses the Al-Anon book Reaching for Personal Freedom.

Hillsboro AFG continues to have consistent members and also newcomers.

A member of Lake Whitney AFG recently revisited the Clifton AFG meeting. She talked about participating above group level and the Assembly. The Clifton group continues to have consistent members. I hope they will decide to participate above the group level.

District 13 is revamping our bookmarks to include ways the younger generation looks for help, i.e. web, social media, QR codes.

District 13 continues to grow and to encourage others in the program to participate above the group level.

Yours in Service,
Norma Mathes
DR, District 13

District Fourteen

District 14 has 17 groups (including 2 Alateen groups and 2 Spanish-speaking groups). Various groups have added new meetings or have changed meeting times to better accommodate today’s needs. A Primary Purpose AFG member reported they are struggling with attendance and have no GR or ALT GR at this time. Please keep them in your prayers.

District 14 participates with District 8 to make up the Fort Worth Al-Anon Information Service (FWAIS).

District 14 continues to take Al-Anon meetings to The Right Step Treatment Center every Saturday. Choices AFG continues to take meetings to Valley Hope, a treatment center in Grapevine. Valley Hope has reached out to Al-Anon to see if they can get our support on a Thursday evening meeting. District 14 is discussing this opportunity, trying to get everyone educated and see what volunteers we have to support it. Also, District 14 started reviewing our District Guidelines and job descriptions for Committee members. It appears they have not been updated in over 10 years and are in need.

District 14 struggles, as I believe many Districts do, to get EVERYONE to participate. It is my hope that more folks will involve themselves in service work and educate themselves at the District and Area levels. I love my home group, but the District and Area levels have educated me in ways that I had not anticipated.

Thank you, God, and my service sponsor for leading me into these unknown service roads of adventure and learning.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Blair
DR, District 14
District Fifteen

The Al-Anon Family Groups and Alateen Groups in District 15 of Texas West are doing well. We anticipate having 14 AFG representatives present at the November 2014 WTA, which represents about half of the groups in our District. There will also likely be Alateen representation from our District. For our District, this is a pretty usual turnout for WTA. Of the thirty AFGs in District 15, we still have several that do not have a Group Representative, and even some groups that do have a GR, but the GR cannot attend WTA for various reasons.

For the past seven years, District 15 has hosted a fall workshop. We had another successful annual Fall Workshop on October 4th. The three-hour interactive workshop attracted nearly fifty participants who “played along” as short skits of holiday season behavior were presented. One of our workshop co-chairs, Melissa L., actually wrote all three of the skits presented that afternoon. After the workshop participants watched all three skits, small groups were assigned to examine a particular skit and come up with suggestions for what Al-Anon tools could be used to smooth over the rough spots of the given situations—or even to avoid the situation completely. The small groups then presented “new” versions to the rest of us. We had a 50/50 raffle to generate funds to help cover expenses. The 2014 Fall Workshop was within the pre-established budget that District 15 set for itself. Connie Mc. created a delicious assortment of holiday goodies and refreshments for this “Gathering With Grace: Solutions for the Seasons” Fall Workshop.

With regard to this particular workshop, something we had never done before was to offer complementary child care for those attending the conference. The only stipulation was that anyone wanting to take us up on our offer had to reply to our contact person (this information was noted on our workshop flyer) by the deadline so that the church facility where we presented the workshop could have sufficient staff for that day. Due to the expense of paying for certified child-care workers (even those who have a minimum number of children in order to justify the financial expenditure that we were willing to make. We only had ONE person wanting to use the childcare service, so we canceled the reservation for childcare workers and asked the parent requesting this service to make other arrangements. It was surprising and disappointing for us not to have had more takers for our childcare offering.

The insurance policy for “if something happened during one of our gatherings,” as the church’s policy did not cover outside groups that meet at the church. This is something that we are exploring.

Our district had a request to donate Alateen books to a treatment facility within our District, so we donated a case of each of the two CAL book titles requested.

Yours in Service,
Sandra Lynn Pulley
DR, District 15

District Sixteen - English

District 16 continues to meet every two months. In the past six months, we have been working with the GR’s to motivate the groups to update their information in the Area and WSO through email so they can become more familiar with the technology. We continue to unite the Hispanic groups because with the language it is easier to communicate and work with each other. By having a group conscience, Camino a la Felicidad GFA has decided to join District 16. Also a new Spanish-speaking group opened, but it has yet to identify which District they belong to. We have been motivating the GRs to work with their groups to complete the challenge to visit other groups as proposed at the last Assembly. Most of the groups in District 16 completed the surveys for the groups and the GRs. When applied, the Traditions bind us together in unity in the Al-Anon and Alateen programs. The Traditions are a shield that protects these programs from everything that interferes with getting help from the fellowship. We will study the Traditions and Concepts because they keep the groups in perfect harmony. This workshop will be for GR’s, RIS, and all Al-Anon members that would like to participate in this study.

In this new term of service, we decided that the new committee will be the following: Irma L(DR), Lucy A(Secretary), Alfredo H. (alternate), Elizabeth V(treasurer), Mary G(alternate). Our goal for this new term is to have committees. Thanks to my Higher Power and the GRs in Area 54 for trusting me with this service that has helped me get to know myself better and learn my capability and limitations. These are all the updates for the moment.

Thank you for letting me serve,
Irma Leza,
DR, District 16

District Sixteen-Spanish

Como Distrito seguimos teniendo nuestras reuniones cada dos meses. En los últimos 6 meses estuvimos trabajando con los RG tratando de motivarlos para que actualizaran la información de su grupo al Area y a la OSM mediante su correo electrónico, haciendo que se familiaricen con la tecnología....Seguimos trabajando para unir a los grupos hispanos ya que por el idioma nos es mas facil. El grupo Camino a la Felicidad por conciencia ha decidido pertenecer al Distrito 16 y ser conciencia del mismo, tambien se abrio un nuevo grupo hispano pero aun no se sabe a donde pertenecieran. Se motivo a los RG para trabajar con su grupo el reto que se propuso en la Asamblea pasada, asi como tambien trabajar con las encuestas del RG y de GRUPO y completando casi en totalidad todos los grupos. La aplicacion de las tradiciones persevera la unidad de al-anon, son el escudo protector para evitar todo aquello que interfiera con la ayuda que el programa al-anon y al-ateen brinda a cada uno de sus miembros, al ser mas importante los principios que las personas perseveramos la armonfia en los grupos.. con este fin se propuso un estudio de tradiciones seguido por los conceptos para los RG, RSI y miembros de al-anon que gusten ser parte de este estudio.

En este nuevo periodo de servicio se decidio q el nuevo comite quedaria de la manera siguiente: Irma L (RD)
Lucy A. y Alfredo H. (Secretarios) Elizabeth V. y Mary G (Tesoreras) y trabajando para tener comites dentro de nuestro distrito.....Agradeciendo a mi Poder Superior y a los RG que depositaron su confianza en mi y gracias al area 54 para que yo realizara este servicio el cual me ha servido enormemente para conocerme y seguir mi recuperacion, conocer mis alcances y limitaciones....Muchas gracias por darme la oportunidad de server........Sin mas que informar por el momento
Irma Leza
Distrito 16 RD

Por favor recuerden que hay asistencia disponible para grupos recientemente registrados que necesiten Literatura.Si eres un Grupo nuevo y no tienes fondos para comprar Literatura, por favor de comunicarse con Sheri Sutton del Comite de Finanzas, sheril@nottusenergy.com
AIS Liaison Reports from the
Fall West Texas Assembly, November 1-3, 2014

Amarillo AIS Liaison
We had another quiet 6 months in Amarillo. Amarillo Information Service is still active and supporting our 24-hour answering service, phonebook listing and Website.

A local outpatient chemical dependency program has requested Al-Anon to speak once a month on family night starting on Nov. 20th. We now have one volunteer and are working on recruiting additional members to fill the rotating slots.

Our annual Round-Up was held at the Clarion Hotel in Amarillo on Oct. 3rd, 4th, and 5th. During the event, Top of Texas AFG provided literature and information at the Al-Anon table. Al-Anon had two fantastic speakers: Aaron J. from Charlotte, North Carolina, and Kelly R from Omaha, Nebraska. Aaron spoke on Saturday afternoon, and Kelly spoke Sunday morning—Two great Al-Anon men.

Our website www.amarilloarealaanon.org has increased its hits from 2295 in April to 3541 in October. We averaged 22 visits per day in April. We are now at 43 per day for October. Last May we were anticipating the possibility of electing a new DR for District 1. I am proud to say we were able to do so. Kathy W. is here with us at this Assembly and is helping to co-host. Thank you for your support. We are hoping for a bright future.

Yours In Service,
Marilyn Lawhon
Amarillo AIS Liaison

Fort Worth AIS Liaison
FWAIS is made up of 33 Al-Anon groups and 4 Alateen groups. It meets the last Sunday of each month, except in December and April.

The telephone answering service receives an average of 100 calls per month. The public outreach has supplied literature and pamphlets to the Back to School fair, police stations fairs and Tarrant County Community Colleges. District 14 takes Al-Anon meetings to the Right Step (a treatment facility) Saturdays and Sundays. District 8 takes Al-Anon meetings to the Mesa Springs treatment facility on Saturdays.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Hendrix
Fort Worth AIS Liaison

Lubbock AIS Liaison
The Lubbock AIS serves District Two and is composed of 23 counties in West Texas. In addition, it assists other Districts in our area that are not served by a local AIS. As always we consider it a privilege and responsibility to keep the lines of communication open and flowing with information regarding the Al-Anon program, meetings, literature, and we provide a 24-hour Hotline for those seeking to learn more about Al-Anon and living with the effects of alcoholism.

Our Hotline has experienced an uptick in calls in recent months. It has been one year since we switched to a new answering service format, and we are pleased to report that the new service is working well for callers and volunteers. Currently, new avenues of reaching those affected by alcoholism as well as educating our members on the opportunities available for service are being explored.

Our website, www.lubbock-al-anon.org, is a valuable tool for local, state, and international links to Al-Anon resources. Thank you for the privilege of serving,
Terri Fanning
Lubbock AIS Liaison

### S C R D M
South Central Regional Delegate’s Meeting
March 6-8, 2015
DFW Holiday Inn South
Hosted by Texas West

Come learn how new and current Delegates prepare for Conference and how past Delegates contribute.
Dallas AIS Liaison
The Dallas Area Information Service (DAIS) serves West Texas Assembly Districts 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 15 and some parts of WTA Districts not served by adjacent Al-Anon Information Services. There are almost 80 Al-Anon groups in DAIS, and another 9 Spanish-speaking groups in our Directory and on our Web site. We have 15 Alateen groups (two of which are Spanish-speaking). A new Alateen meeting in Irving, TX, (District 10) named Irving Alateen, was started last month, which meets Thursday nights at 6:30 pm.

Our business arm is the Dallas Area Al-Anon Information Center, Inc. It is managed by a 2-person paid staff (and wonderful volunteers!). Our 3-room office on East Mockingbird Lane is also a Literature Distribution Center (LDC). In the first 10 months of 2014 we have sold $64,000.00 of CAL (Conference Approved Literature). The DAIS office handles a monthly average of 200 phone calls, 200 emails, and frequent walk-ins each month as people seek help and information about Al-Anon and Alateen. Our Web site, www.dallasal-anon.org, provides meeting information and schedules to innumerable internet visitors. Office business affairs are overseen by an executive committee of the Board of Trustees, which meets on the first Tuesday evening of each month at the DAIS office. (Our 11-member Full Board meetings take place quarterly.) Four of our board members will be rotating off this December, opening up an equal number of positions. We will miss the experience and wisdom of those leaving us, but we welcome fresh insights and talents of new members who are willing to serve.

AWSC Coordinator Reports from the
Fall West Texas Assembly, November 1-3, 2014

Spanish Coordinator

Dear Al-Anon members,

Texas West Area 54 currently has 18 Spanish-speaking groups. Of those 18 groups, one is for Alateens.

In September, the group “Valor para Cambiar” in Odessa registered. This group has been meeting for a while but never registered. Terri E., District 3 Representative, made this possible.

“Un Nuevo Amanecer AFG”, a group in Mansfield, opened on September 1st and is in the process of getting registered. Unfortunately, the Spanish-speaking Alateen group in Plano “El arte de vivir” has closed.

Through attraction our groups have continued to grow and attract newer members to participate in service. Our public outreach consisted of:

- placing Al-Anon flyers in public places with our local group addresses and meeting schedule
- attending health fairs including the 16th Annual Hispanic Wellness Fair at Will Rogers Center in Fort Worth and the 2014 Crime Prevention Fair, North Division, in Fort Worth
- hosting open meetings
- attending group birthday celebrations

As a result from last Assembly’s Action Committee, the Spanish groups participated in visiting other groups, starting with the most isolated and newest groups.

By accepting the challenges from the action committee, we were able to promote unity and to share experience, strength and hope among the groups.

I am now serving on the Board for the All Texas Al-Anon Alateen Conference (ATAAC) and have been attending planning meetings. I have added one more volunteer to translate at the Conference, and I am working on conducting a training session. There is so much to improve! Our translation equipment doesn’t do the job by itself, it requires the work and energy of a willing member to be able to translate from English to Spanish and from Spanish to English!

Somehow we have accomplished this task, and we are looking forward to being able to share our recovery experiences in the future.

It has been an honor to serve this Assembly, and I am truly blessed with this experience.

Yours in service,

Cristina Arenivar
Spanish Coordinator

Area 54, Texas West
AWSC Coordinator Reports from the Fall West Texas Assembly, November 1-3, 2014

Website Coordinator

I am filled with gratitude and joy in my ability to serve as the Web Coordinator for Area 54, Texas West.

Email Correspondence: The East Texas Web Coordinator and I receive emails daily at web@texas-al-anon.org from prospective members seeking meeting information, members of committees corresponding on project updates, and existing membership seeking to post events or news to the website.

Website Revisions and Statistics: There are now separate pages in the West Texas Area pages for Alateen, Assembly Information, New Groups / Changes, Pipeline, and Public Outreach so that the information on each page is less cluttered.

How can you contribute?

• Send me details and flyers for events in your District or group so I can post these online for anyone interested to see and attend. Email: web@texas-al-anon.org
• Share the links to our website with your groups so that they can use it as a resource and wealth of information.
• Send me suggestions for things you’d like to see posted in our members section, such as reports, updates, etc. and we can collaborate on how that might look.

Tutorial Videos to help you get familiar with the site are published at http://texas-al-anon.org/webtutorials/.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to our fellowship, area, and state.

Marcia Hensley
817-939-8267
web@texas-al-anon.org
Website Coordinator
Area 54, Texas West

Visit today for information about Al-Anon, meeting times and locations, Assembly reports, Pipeline newsletter, Area 54 Guidelines, tutorials, etc.

Our website statistics show the following numbers of unique visitors and visits to the website since it was published in June of 2013.

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AWSC Coordinator Reports continued,  

Literature Coordinator

I encourage everyone to use all the literature—not just the three daily readers—in personal meditation and in meetings. We have a book that focuses on grief: Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses; a book on how to improve relationships by using the tools of our program: Discovering Choices; a book on Al-Anon’s own story of growth, challenges and change with personal stories spanning sixty years: Many Voices, One Journey. And, I say once again, it comes from us. If someone thanks you for sharing at a meeting, or if you hear something that touches your heart, please write it down and send it in.

Three notes of clarification from WSO concerning some of our basic literature:

- The Forum and Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism: Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism is designed to help families and friends of alcoholics to find out about Al-Anon, to address the denial that keeps them from asking for help, to help them face the fear of going to Al-Anon because of the possibility that it is religious, to assure them that their situation will be understood and accepted. The Forum focuses its sharings on personal recovery through the Twelve Steps, Traditions and Concepts of Service, with language not so easily understood by potential members. We share The Forum with one another and share How Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism with the community.

- Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work :Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work is for use by members on the group level: how to start a meeting, help it grow, discover how other groups have solved problems common to groups, to nurture the feelings of harmony with shared responsibilities. It is also printed in its entirety as the first section of our service manual. Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual contains policy statements that grew out of questions and experiences from the worldwide Al-Anon fellowship. These statements interpret and encourage the use of our Traditions and Concepts of Service; this manual is designed to be used for members’ service outside the group: district, area, regional, national.

- How Al-Anon Works (soft cover) and How Al-Anon Works (hard cover) – The soft cover is less expensive to produce for the purpose of being purchased in bulk ($6.00 each) to be given to people new to the program. All members would benefit from purchasing a new copy of this book because the newest edition has been revised; the most significant changes are the addition and explanations of the Twelve Concepts of Service with real-life applications.

I am including instructions on how to write and share online. Not everything can be written and shared electronically, but writings for The Forum, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, the proposed book on intimacy in alcoholic relationships, and the proposed book on parents and grandparents of alcoholic children or those affected by alcoholism can. There are guidelines for all the writings, possible topics and questions to help guide our sharings. Again, we are the ones who write our literature. If we can share in a meeting, we can write that down and send it in. If we have been able to grow by using the tools of this program in an alcoholic relationship or situation, then why not share that experience with others who are suffering.

Go to the Members site: www.al-anon.alateen.org/members. (You can also reach it by clicking on the “Members” box in the upper right corner of the Public Outreach Web site, www.al-anon.org.)

Enter your password—any variation of your group name followed by AFG (e.g. Easy Does It AFG or mondayafg).

Once on the home page, click on the “Individuals” tab.

Then click on “Features Publications.”

Then click on “Send Your Sharing.”

There you will find a list of publications and projects, including The Forum, Alateen Talk, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, INTIMACY IN ALCOHOLIC RELATIONSHIPS (working title), and PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG PROBLEM DRINKERS (working title). Each of these separate pages will give information about the project, downloadable sharing guidelines, and an opportunity to send a sharing directly on-line.

I encourage you to encourage others to use all our literature; I can almost guarantee that you will find other favorites. Use The Forum in meetings. My sponsor gave me old issues from the eighties and early nineties, and we were able to use several to study Step 10. They do not go out of date. So…

KEEP IT SIMPLE! KEEP IT AL-ANON! KEEP IT CAL! Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Carrington
Literature Coordinator
Area 54, Texas West
Our current Public Outreach Challenge is to put our QR Codes into communities so people can access our worldwide website. Now you can download a new Slogans Bookmark with the reverse side showing our Social Media and QR codes from the TX website. You can also download a half-page sheet with social media and QR codes. All these can be edited to show your group meeting or a website. Please use and lose in your community. Others can find Al-Anon help and hope only if they know where we are.

Our current Public Outreach Project is contacting local TV/radio stations asking them to play our Public Service announcements or saying “Thank You” for playing them. One of our 16 districts has contacted every station in their district! Chris Clark, District 12, where are you?! On behalf of WSO, Thank you so much! Question: How close is your district to reaching all its stations?

For a complete list of Television and Radio Stations in your area, visit texas-al-anon.org.

The Pipeline newsletter is making progress in the conversion to an electronic format. The January issue will be the last one printed and mailed to groups. Since most groups in Area 54 currently have a CMA with an email address, the West Texas Al-Anon groups appear to be ready for the e-newsletter.

The WSO has requested for each group to create a CMA (Current Mailing Address) trusted servant position. The July 2014 issue of the Pipeline covered this subject with a front page article explaining the CMA position and its duties. In addition, instructions for setting up a group email address were recently posted on the website.

An issue I was asked to bring up is whether or not Area 54 wants to continue to have a newsletter? With the new, redesigned website we do we even need the Pipeline? This is a valid question. The District, Coordinator, and Liaison reports are available on the web, along with the Assembly minutes. But the newsletter contains many items not found on the website. For instance, it contains a complete list of all the Area World Service Committee member’s addresses and phone numbers. It also lists all the past Delegates for Area 54. It has information on the Assembly, such as the agenda, the hotel location and reservation information, along with the Assembly dates and times. The last few issues have also included personal sharings from Al-Anon members within our Area. It has announcements and basic Al-Anon information not available on the website.

Even though the DR, Coordinator, and Liaison reports are available on the website, many members receive their information about the Area from the Pipeline. Not long ago, I was in a Dallas Intergroup meeting that referenced the Pipeline’s Hispanic Intergroup report regarding the Spanish-speaking member’s activities. While the reports are available on the internet, the newsletter arranges them in an easy-to-read format and a uniform structure.

I don’t believe the Pipeline newsletter should be eliminated. It has a place. But my term ends with the April 2015 issue. The future of the Pipeline rests in the hands of the person who stands for this position at the Spring Assembly.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as editor of the Pipeline, Deborah Morgan Editor, Pipeline Newsletter Area 54, Texas West
Area World Service Committee: Panel 55

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### Area World Service Committee: Panel 55 continued,

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<tr>
<td>Public Outreach:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay Robertson</td>
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<tr>
<td>3213 40th St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lubbock, TX 79413</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Publicoutreachwta54@yahoo.com">Publicoutreachwta54@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Spanish Coordinator:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cristina Arenivar</td>
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<td>511 Fossil Hill Dr.</td>
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<td>Arlington, TX 76002</td>
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<td>682-351-7456</td>
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<td>Web Site Coordinator:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcia Hensley</td>
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<td>P.O. Box 470202</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Worth, TX 76147</td>
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<td>AIS Liaison Officers:</td>
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<td>Amarillo AIS Liaison:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marilyn Lawhon</td>
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<tr>
<td>3807 Westlawn</td>
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<td>Amarillo, TX 79102</td>
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<td>Dallas AIS Liaison:</td>
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<td>Agnes Lopez</td>
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<td>8634 Old Oak Dr.</td>
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### Past Delegates:

| Panel 1: | Arbutus O’Neal – Deceased |
| Panel 4: | Dorothy Fancher – Deceased |
| Panel 7: | Marce White – Deceased |
| Panel 10: | Louise Cleary - Deceased |
| Panel 13: | Blanche Robb Miller– Deceased |
| Panel 16: | Mary Hawkins – Deceased |
| Panel 19: | Mary Nell Sorelle |
| Panel 22: | Jean Hendrix – Deceased |
| Panel 25: | Ruthie Owens – Deceased |
| Panel 28: | Margaret Nixon |
| Panel 31: | Harry Fairley |
| Panel 34: | Mary Dickson |
| Panel 37: | Diane Hastings |

### Panel 43:

| Panel 43: | Margie Rhoades |
| Panel 46: | Sue Merritt |
| Panel 49: | Cindy Kuykendall |
| Panel 52: | Debbe Pangburn |
| Panel 55: | Chris Clark |

### Al-Anon Tidbits

The mind is like a parachute—it only works when it’s open
Hello everyone, so glad to see you all at this Assembly.

I want to thank all of the Alateen sponsors for working on getting recertified. I also would like to thank you once again for serving the Alateens in the West Texas Area. Kudos on a job well done.

I have received a few requests for information and also a single request for permission to start an Alateen group in an institution. I have worked with the District, and I am waiting to see how this develops.

To the Alateens: did you hear about or participate in WSO’s on-line Alateen Survey?

Take a look at the new Alateen service e-manual on the member’s website at www.al-anon.alateen.org/members. The password is any form of your home group’s name followed by the letters “AFG”, and then follow the Alateen section link to find it.

Cindy K. has asked the Alateens to be greeters at the SCRDM to being held on March 6th-8th at the Holiday Inn DFW South, as well as furnish “Warm and Fuzzies” for all.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve you and our Alateens.

Yours In Service,
Billy Martin
Texas West, Area 54
Alateen Coordinator
Renew your 2015 *Pipeline* subscription for $5.00.

Subscriptions run from January 1 - December 31
Newsletter published quarterly on the first of January, April, July, and October

Contact Name______________________________________________________________

Group Name______________________________________________________________District:____________

Address____________________________________________________________________

City___________________________________ State___________ Zip_______________

☐ Yes, we/I would like to receive the *Pipeline* newsletter via email

Email: ___________________________________________________________

Personal Only:  ☐ New  ☐ Renewal  ☐ Address Change

Make checks payable to “WTA”

*Each registered group receives one complimentary copy. However, if the group can afford it, it is suggested they pay the $5.00 fee to help the Pipeline newsletter be self-supporting.*

*The Pipeline is mailed 3rd class, non-profit permit, and it cannot be forwarded.*