

THE BEACON

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS AREA AL-ANON/ALATEEN ASSEMBLY

A Message from the Chair ~ Kay C. ~

Hi Texas East Area 53,

We had fantastic Area Assembly on June 5-7, 2015!!! Thank you to District 7 with support from District 8 for the great event. From past experience, I know it takes a lot of time and effort to put on an Assembly. I was nervous and made mistakes, but everyone gave great guidance and support. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to grow in my spiritual journey.

Business Meeting. We did some things different at the business meeting, which were met with positive feedback so we will continue those things and try new things at the November Assembly. My goal is to move the business meeting along so it is not so tiresome. Two new things we did that were very well received were the Chosen Agenda Item and the paper balloting. The morning Chosen Agenda Item discussion gave everyone sufficient time to discuss the Alateen proposal before a motion was made and voted on in the afternoon. The paper balloting ensured everyone voted their conscience.

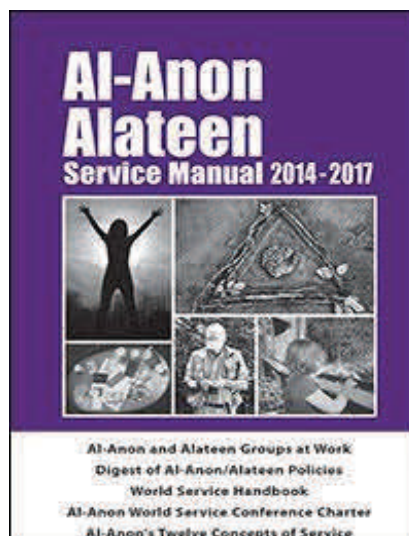
Participation. We had about 23% of the groups in our Area participate in the Assembly. District 7 won the Spirit stick for having 62% of their groups represented at the Assembly. **WAHOO!!** I challenge you to represent your group and help your District win the Spirit Stick at the Assembly in San Antonio (Nov. 6-8). Joyce, our Area Delegate, during her presentation asked us to write down our dream. My dream is to have more participation in the business meeting in San Antonio. I invite all of you to contact me and let me know your thoughts on increasing participation at the Assembly business meetings.

E-mail Use. E-mail is efficient and a great way to communicate with people in the fellowship. If you use email to communicate with others in the fellowship, I would encourage you to read page

92-93 of the *Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual* involving the use of e-mail communication inside and outside the fellowship. It is important to guard our member's anonymity at all times. The World Service Office recommends using the blind carbon copy (bcc) for all communications. Also, the use of your business or work e-mail could imply affiliation with that entity (See, Tradition 3 for more information about Affiliation). Wondering where to find the Service Manual? Your group should have one or you can download it from the member's site of the World Service Office web page (www.al-anon.alateen.org/members). The password is your group's name followed by afg (no spaces in the password).

Please feel free to contact me with your ideas and/or concerns about the Area.

Service is Love in Action,



Calendar of Events

AWSC Meeting

September 19, 2015
Smithville, Texas

ETAAA Fall Assembly

Nov. 6-8, 2015
San Antonio, Texas

P.O.S.S.E.

March 18-20, 2016
Gonzales, Texas

TEA. AC

April 29, 30 May 1, 2016
Gonzales, Texas

ETAAA Spring Assembly

May 13-15, 2016
Kerrville, Texas

Deadline for Submissions
for the next issue of
The Beacon
October 1, 2015

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**East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen (ETAAA)
Fall Assembly 2015
November 6 – 8, 2015**



"Can We Talk?"

The 3 C's: Commitment, Communication and Cooperation

STAYBRIDGE SUITES

123 Hoefgen Boulevard
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Hotel Telephone: 210-444-2700 ♦ Hotel Fax: 210-448-5110
Hotel Reservations: 1-800-238-8000

ETAAA Rates for a Studio Suite: \$109.00 + tax

Reference Group Code: AAG

Reservation Cut-Off Date: October 6, 2015

*Hotel Amenities Include Complimentary Breakfast Buffet, Reduced parking of \$5 for weekend,
On-Site Fitness Center, Complimentary Wireless and Business Center*

*Studio Suite Includes: 2 Telephones, a Fully Equipped Kitchen, HD Plasma TV/DVD Player and a
Fold-Out Sofa/Sleeper – Room will accommodate Up to 5 Guests.*

No Banquet This Assembly – Time to Enjoy the Riverwalk

GR _____ DR _____ AMIAS _____ FIRST ASSEMBLY (Y/N) _____ # of Yrs in Program _____

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Group Name _____ District # _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

_____ \$25 Al-Anon Registration

_____ \$25 AA Registration

_____ \$5 Alateen Registration

Make Checks Payable To District 12 ETAAA

Mail to: Attn: ETAAA Registration

PO Box 701436

San Antonio, TX 78270

Email questions to: amias@earthlink.net

Registration opens Friday @ 4pm, Speaker Friday night starts @ 7:30pm, and Business meeting starts @ 8am Saturday

When registering, all Alateens must turn in a completed Behavioral Guidelines Form and be accompanied by a responsible, registered adult. Notarized Permission and Medical Forms are to be kept by the responsible registered adult. Forms can be obtained from an Alateen Sponsor or Alateen Coordinator.



Delegate Report ~ Joyce Y. ~

Thank you Texas East for allowing me the privilege and honor to serve as your delegate at the World Service Conference, the largest group conscience. Your love and support with cards, letters, texts, phone calls, prayers and gifts was amazing. Thank you for handmade love gifts and candy for sharing with other delegates to carry back to show this is a worldwide fellowship of gratitude.

“Living Our Spiritual Principles – Expanding our Vision”. This theme of the 2015 World Service Conference (WSC) encouraged us to dream expansively while being guided by our spiritual principles. There were many discussions and decisions that were balanced by what is best for Al-Anon Family Groups worldwide – now and in the future – that demonstrated compassion, generosity and understanding.

The Board’s big question to Conference members was “How do we envision responsible service leadership in Al-Anon—a vision that inspires today’s members to be tomorrow’s leaders who are motivated by spiritual principles?” “What is your Area doing to prepare our leaders of tomorrow?”

Thought Force presented strategies to Spiritual Connection of being a registered group – **Unity, Accountability, Responsibility, Participation.**

The Finance presentation asked us to dream, and then presented a process to help Areas build a plan to make their dreams come true. As the Conference dreamed about the future needs of the fellowship, and services provided by the World Service Office, a deficit budget was approved with trust in Spiritual Abundance. Average cost of services per group is \$256.67, Average US/Canada group contribution was 118.01. By groups contributing only \$5.50 more a year, the \$52,000 deficit could be covered. For only \$20 more a year, the entire budget would be covered, and \$25/year more (**that is \$.50 per week**) would cover entire budget plus extra for carrying the message. Big Dream – Abundant and Grateful Giving.

The Conference affirmed by consensus for Policy Committee to draft language for a proposed policy change to allow family members to make a one time memorial contribution in memory of a deceased Al-Anon member with safeguards as a spiritual gesture of love and gratitude, not a monetary contribution intended primarily as financial support.

“Meet the Board”, a three year trial basis 2013-2016, is an opportunity for local Al-Anon members to meet and interact with the 19 Trustees and three Executive Committee members. Our Area will be submitting a request for October, 2016 by on or before deadline of September 15, 2015. If accepted, further details will be shared as they become available.

Conference members approved the following description of family recovery to be used in outreach to professionals: *Family recovery is a process of healing and growth for family members affected by someone’s drinking. This process helps these individuals make healthier life choices and develop relationships that are more positive and supportive.*

During the Conference and open Board meeting, there were conversations about the current model of Alateen and whether this is the best model for the future of both Al-Anon and

Alateen. The focus was on finding ways to encourage more attendance and participation by teens to ensure the future of Alateen. An overview of the home page for the Alateen Web site was also presented. Check it out at <http://al-anon.org/members/alateen>. Did you know Alateens can now chat live with other teens and Alateen Group Sponsors? Details can be found on this link.

AFG Connects was announced during the World Service Conference. This communication system will replace e-Communities and is more user-friendly. The Conference gave approval to allow Al-Anon members to sign up to receive general announcements when it is feasible.

A more comprehensive report of the World Service Conference can be found in the 2015 World Service Conference Summary when it comes out in late August or September. It will be available in hard copy or can be viewed and/or downloaded from the WSO members website. www.al-anon.org/members

Following the conference, I had the opportunity to visit Stepping Stones in Bedford Hills, New York. Stepping Stones was the home of the Wilsons: Bill (cofounder of Alcoholics Anonymous - 1935) and Lois (cofounder of Al-Anon Family Groups - 1951). What an awesome opportunity to view our early beginnings and growth. “...It is so important to keep Al-Anon alive and to keep past growth as well as future growth.” Lois W., Al-Anon cofounder.

SERVICE VOLUNTEERS AT WSO LEVEL

As part of the twice yearly solicitation for service volunteers at the WSO level, a reminder was received Potential candidates’ résumés must be postmarked, faxed, or e-mailed to the WSO on or before **August 15, 2015**. A letter with more details (including specific requirements, qualifications, and the specific resume’ form that must be used for submission) has been distributed to the Area World Service Committee. You may contact me, Area Chair, or your District Representative for further details.

RETIREMENT AT WSO

With both joy and sadness, the WSO has announced that Barbara O., Director of Member Services, is retiring at the end of this year and transitioning into the next phase of her life! After 13 years at the WSO, she will surely be missed and we wish her happiness in her retirement.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT WSO

(See Members’ Web site in the “WSO” navigation tab on the “Inside the WSO” page for description)

Director of Member Services - Ten years active Al-Anon membership and Al-Anon Area leadership experience are required.

Associate Director of Member Services – Groups

Event/Project Manager

Requests for Proposals by Al-Anon members who are experienced, professional freelance writer/editors to work on two new pieces of literature in development: **INTIMACY IN ALCOHOLIC RELATIONSHIPS** (working title) and **PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG PROBLEM DRINKERS** (working title)

One of my responsibilities to the Area as Delegate is to give Conference reports to the Area World Service Committee and GRs to carry back to their groups. *"As often as possible, he makes his report in person at group or district meetings; nothing is more impressive than an eyewitness account."* (Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual P-24/27, Page 161.) I visited District 4 in mid June, and scheduled to visit District 6 in July and District 1 and District 12 both in October. If your district would be interested in having me visit, please let me know. This gives me the opportunity to gain a better viewpoint of the Area and act as a bridge between the Area groups and WSO. A joint meeting of districts might be an option, especially for the smaller outlying areas. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Service – Gratitude in Action

Alt. Delegate/Literature/Forum Coordinator **~ Margaret F.~**

Coming to you from the Area Highlights and E-Groups News available online on the members Website. This is only a tidbit – log on and read all about everything going on!

Podcasts about group concerns are available on the Members' Web site in the Group Navigation tab under Group Resources. Discover how other groups increase their membership, conduct group business and solve their common problems. Interested in learning how other groups function as a community? Members from groups share on this topic as well as on the structure of Al-Anon, becoming a Group Representative, and the need for a GR and their duties.

The 2015 Membership Survey results are in!

A record 8,517 Al-Anon members participated in the survey, compared to 3,232 in the last Membership Survey in 2012. With this larger sample, we can be even more confident about the reliability of the findings. In 2015, results show the average age in Al-Anon reached 60, the highest yet; while, the percentage of females in Al-Anon fell to 83%, the lowest yet. Across the board, Al-Anon members reported improvements in their health and functioning, after attending Al-Anon.

Ninety-two percent of the survey respondents said their lives have been very positively affected from being an Al-Anon member, and an additional 6% said their lives have been somewhat positively affected. Full results are available on the Members' Web site as well as on the [Public Outreach Web site, al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org). Please use this information as an aid in your public outreach to professionals and the media, or to anyone who is seeking information about Al-Anon Family Groups.

We made it – 15,000 Likes!

The WSO Facebook Page recently reached a milestone: we now have over 15,000 Likes! Over the past four weeks, these "likes" have brought Al-Anon's message of hope to more than 140,000 Facebook readers around the world. If you haven't visited our Face-

book Pages, you can find them by searching for "[Al-Anon WSO](http://www.al-anon.org)" (English), "[Los Grupos de Familia Al-Anon OSM](http://www.al-anon.org)" (Spanish), and "[Les Groupes Familiaux Al-Anon BSM](http://www.al-anon.org)" (French). "Sharing" and "Liking" Al-Anon's Facebook pages are a quick and easy way to carry the message in Twelfth-Step service. When you "share" and "like" our posts on social media, you are sharing our collective experience, strength, and hope with those who are still suffering from a loved one's alcoholism. If you have any questions about this or other public outreach projects, please contact the Public Outreach Department at the WSO.

Do you know why we use only use Conference Approved Literature (CAL) in our meetings? Look in our pamphlet, Why Conference Approved Literature (P-35). This can be obtained at your local Literature Distribution Center or you may download the pamphlet at www.al-anon.org/onlinestore or the Members' Website at <http://al-anon.org/members/pdf/P35.pdf>.

Please use all our literature in your groups. Maybe pick one night a month to read and discuss a pamphlet or a passage from one of the hardback publications. Explore new things and changes could happen in your group and your life.

Yours in service.

Group Records ~ Candy N. ~

Numerous changes were received at the Spring Assembly. We tried to make the changes while there, but the internet was not co-operating. But I am happy to say all have been processed through the WSO database and are currently up to date.

Based on my experience thus far I would highly recommend using the GR-1 (Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form) for your group changes. The use of this form makes it much more likely that the changes you are requesting will be accurate and done in a timely manner. An editable version of the GR-1 can be found on the Texas website: Go to texas-al-anon.org, click on the Members tab*, scroll down to **Access Area 53 (Texas East)**, scroll down to **GR Information**, and click on **Editable Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form (GR-1)**. Then just type in the information, save the edited form as a .pdf file and e-mail it to me. (*If asked for a password, just enter AFG.) It helps if you give me as much information as possible, so I can verify all information is current.

I look forward to serving the groups in Area 53 by maintaining accurate group records.

Gratefully in Service.



Public Outreach ~ Judy W. ~

I enjoyed meeting and visiting with everyone at the last Spring Assembly in Franklin, Texas. We had 9 out of 13 District Public Outreach Coordinators (DPOCs) attend this event....woo, hoo!

On Saturday at the assembly, a Public Outreach Workshop was held and well attended. We talked about the basics of public outreach and how our Traditions, Concepts, and Service Manual can help us with guidelines. We also discussed the importance of using our principles in conducting our outreach activities at the district, group, and individual levels. On Sunday morning, a smaller group of DPOCs and members met for a "Meet & Greet" breakfast to further discuss more specific district outreach activities. Each DPOC shared their current efforts as well as where they want to place more energy going forward. Other Al-Anon members attended the "Meet and Greet" and expressed interest in getting more involved with their districts. New ideas were shared by all. Action items were taken from the weekend and updates provided in June.

Some of the area's DPOCs are new, but exchanging contact information and knowing our district neighbors with their efforts can help us leverage more ideas on how we can help each other going forward. I am excited about our public outreach efforts and the amount of work everyone has already started in their districts. It's going to be a great 3 year term and I look forward to getting to know each of you better as we build a strong outreach team across our area.

I hope to see more DPOCs in San Antonio at the Fall Assembly for another possible breakfast of sharing best practices, challenges, and more ideas. Keep your ideas and questions coming and please continue to let me know what I can do to help support you.

Love in service.

Spanish Coordinator ~ Anita C. ~

Hola,
Gracias por la oportunidad de servirles como Coordinadora de los Grupos Hispanos de Area 53. Por la gracias de mi Poder Superior he conocido unos de los propositos de mi vida, hoy, que es Servicio a los demas.
Como su servidora tengo la posibilidad de comocer mas miembros de esta hermandad que es Al-Anon y Alateen. Aunque solo por hoy son como cuatro mas Coordinadoras Hispanas de esta area es un gran comienzo. Durante la Asamblea en Franklin, TX., algunos miembros, de la comunidad Hispana, se unieron a un taller para compartir las ideas positivas de mejor servir ala comunidad Hispana de Al-Anon. Mi sueño es que asistan mas miembros ala Asamblea en San Antonio para escuchar cuales son. Anelo motivar a la comunidad Hispana en tener mas participacion es las Asambleas de Otoño y Verando de la Area 53 ya que tememos el apoyo de exponer de los aparatos para traducir todo en Español. Al-Anon/Alateen es para todos que son afectados por la bebida de otra persona, tambien nos recuperamos con la ayuda de otros compartiendo fortaleza, experiencia y esperanza en Al-Anon y Alateen.

Beacon Editor ~ Lynn S. ~

The **Beacon** is published four times a year. January, April, July and October.

Each registered Al-Anon and Alateen group receive a complementary paper copy each quarter.

If an individual would like to receive a paper or an email copy of the **Beacon** the cost of the annual subscription is \$6.00 per type of subscription. The annual renewal date is November for the next year. When you send your subscription to the area treasurer she will forward your form on to the area newsletter editor and your name will be added to the appropriate subscription list.

In the past Al-Anon and Alateen groups that have been able, have contributed \$6.00 to the **Beacon** to help defray the publishing expenses, i.e. printing, postage, etc. If your group would like to make this contribution please mark the **Group Contribution** box on the subscription form and mail it to the address on the subscription form.

The **Beacon** is now being mailed **Nonprofit Standard Bulk Mail**. The post office requires with this rate that the statement **ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED** be above the address. This means if you have moved and not sent a GR-1 to the area group records coordinator the newsletter will go to your old address then the post office will forward it to your new address and the area will pay an additional postage fee for that forwarding.

If your forwarding address has expired the newsletter will be returned to the area newsletter editor. A postal fee will be charged for this service too.

Your area newsletter editor cannot change your address without the official word from your area group records coordinator and cannot re-mail your newsletter.

Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Norma W. ~

Greetings to all! Spring has been busy with a lot of Alateen activities. P.O.S.S.E. in March, TEA-AC in April, and three Alateen Sponsor Training Workshops in May, to prepare the sponsors for certification/re-certification that ended on June 1st. Bennie and I worked together and presented a proposal to extend the 1 year trial Alateen Sponsor Certification Process ending June 1, 2015, to a 3 year trial ending June 1, 2017. A motion was presented and passed at the June 6, 2015 Assembly.

There were 3 trainings held in Texas East the weekend of May 16-17, 2015, one in Austin, second in Alvin, and third in Corpus Christi. We did have 3 sponsors use the Self-Guided Alateen Sponsors Training Manual, followed by a phone interview with an approved trainer. I also used this manual for the sponsor training workshop I held in Alvin. I made copies for all who attended to keep for reference.

I encourage everyone to check out the E-manual on the WSO member's website. There is a wealth of information there. My plan for this year is to update the Self-Guided Alateen Training Manual by adding some things from the e-manual. I want to provide as much information as possible, that is available for all Alateen Sponsors.

I am very passionate with the Alateen program. My vision for the future of Alateen is filling these rooms with teens. I plan to focus on ways we can all do public outreach to make this happen.

I am open to any ideals or suggestion you may have. Please fill free to contact me in person, by email, or phone.

Yours in Alateen Service.

Area Alateen Process Person ~ Bennie P. ~

GREETINGS TO ALL AREA 53 MEMBERS

AMIAS RECERTIFICATION period is officially over, as of June 1! However, there were many applications that I processed after the due date. The good thing is that overall, everything was ok with WSO data that all AAPP's were required enter it! It was challenging and time consuming, having to do a lot of data entry, updating and creating new AMIAS records, as well as group records. After this experience Recertification should be a lot easier next year. Our Area ended with **84 AMIAS and 26 Alateen Groups.**

Recertification process for East Texas Area Alateen Safety & Behavioral Requirements forms and Instructions can be found at www.texas-al-anon.org. I find it easy to find, however, I did have numerous members telling me they were unable to download the forms or couldn't find them. If you have any trouble please let me know and I'll be glad to help you.

AMIAS Certification is done year-round. Please read the instructions carefully to ensure you meet all of the Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements.

Anyone interested in serving as an Alateen sponsor must participate in AMIAS Sponsor Training prior to submitting their application. Training is required for the first two consecutive years and every three years thereafter during continuous service as an Alateen Sponsor. Once you meet this requirement, you may proceed to fill out the 3 page certification application which consists of the following forms.

- **AMIAS Registration Form**
- **Criminal Record Release Authorization**
- **Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service**

Remember to include your background check fee in the amount of \$6.50. Make check payable to ETAAA and mail with your three forms to me your Area Alateen Process Person.

TOPIC: Extend the New Trial Alateen Sponsor Certification Process

Area Alateen Coordinator, Norma W. and Area Alateen Process Person, Bennie P. presented during the 2015 Spring Assembly in Franklin, the proposal to extend the New Trial Alateen Sponsor Certification Process for another two years. Following discussion a motion was made, voted on by the group representatives present and motion passed. Thanks to everyone for their help and support.

Love in Alateen Service.

Web Coordinator ~Lisa W.~

I am filled with gratitude and joy in my ability to serve as the Web Coordinator for Area 53.

Email Correspondence

The Texas West Web Coordinator Marcia H. 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 Texas East Area for the following sections:

Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS)

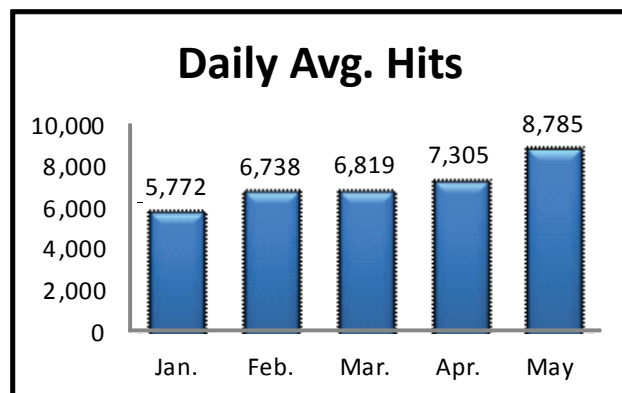
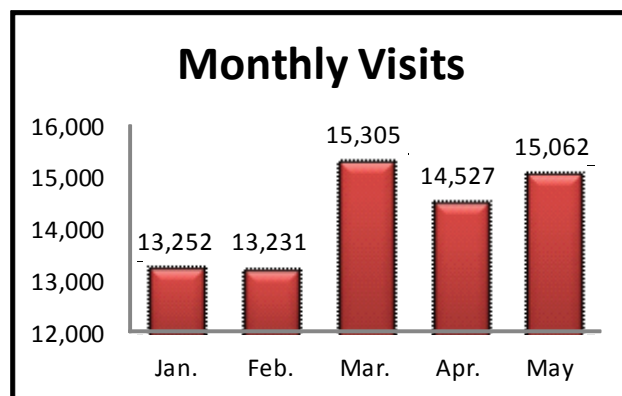
Delegate's Corner

Group Representative (GR) Information

GR Contribution and Expense Forms

Now all section titles have been alphabetized for easy navigating. The revisions were made to decrease the clutter of the page overall.

Our statistics show the number of monthly visits and daily average hits to the website starting this year.



(continue on page 8)

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 get used to using 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.

Our website address: www.texas-al-anon.org.

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.

District Reports

District 1 ~ Alicia (Licha) T.~

Once again, we had a newly elected DR resign and had to elect a new one at our last District meeting. Luckily the Alt. DR did step up to fill the position. However, we still do not have an alternate.

We also elected a Public Outreach Coordinator, Adriana I. and a District Spanish Coordinator. She got right to work by working with two of the local churches to carry the message of Al-Anon and had good participation from both English and Spanish members that paired off to share and distribute literature.

We also elected a new Spanish Coordinator, Rosa G. from the Brownsville Fortaleza y Esperanza Group. Carmen, a McAllen member volunteered to be the alternate. A new Spanish group was opened in Harlingen, Nueva Vision, Araceli P. is the new GR.

Upcoming Events

Area Fall Assembly Theme "Can We Talk", will be held in San Antonio, TX Nov 6-8, 2015. We are excited about having this Assembly so close to the Valley and hope to encourage participation.

Our next District meeting will be in July 18, hosted by New Life AFG in Laguna Vista. We hope to get everyone to bring an item for the basket, District 12 host committee has asked each District to bring to the Fall Assembly.

Fall District meeting will be Oct 18, 2015 hosted by Harlingen AFG.

Your trusted servant.

District 2 ~ Myrthala C. ~

I am filled with gratitude and joy in my ability to serve as the Alternate District Representative for Area 53. Our DR, Myrthala C., in Laredo and I in Corpus Christi are approximately 150 miles apart. We have agreed to share the responsibility of our District each willing to drive up to 75 miles to offer our help and support to the AFG groups in our District.

Our quarterly speaker meeting on May 18th was well attended.

Fall Assembly 2016

We received the guidelines to start preparing for the Fall Assembly 2016 that District 2 will be hosting along with District 3. In our next District meeting we will start asking for volunteers to be on this committee.

New in Our District

2 newly certified Alateen Sponsors

new GRs stepping up in service and 2 are here today for their first assembly

we have a new Alternate Public Outreach person for the Laredo area

a new men's Al-Anon group will start in our district on Sunday, June 7 at 7 pm at Parkway Christian Church in the Scout Hut on Santa Fe

Submitted In Service, Lisa G. W.-Alt. DR2

District 3 ~ Jocelyn B. ~

Hey everyone. We are grateful for the lush green in our yards and our pastures along with full ponds. Hope all have been as blessed.

District 3 has 6 active groups; each has good reports. We have interest in Alateen. So Maria B and myself attended P.O.S.S.E. in March. We are now certified sponsors and are proud to say we are. Now we are looking for our Higher Power's guidance and direction one day at a time.

We truly enjoyed the Spring Assembly in Franklin. The host district kept us busy with workshops with great presentation and good information. Thank you all for your dedication of service.

We are looking forward to the next event which will continue our recovery in this awesome program.

Happy Summer! Serving with a grateful heart.

District 4 ~ Mattie T.~

Greetings from District 4! Welcome to our Group Representatives and Spanish Coordinator (Esperanza L).

Excitement is building as we finalize plans for our Day In Al-Anon "Expand Your Vision: Using the Traditions", July 25, 2015, Alvin Taylor Street Club, 204 S. Taylor, Alvin, TX 77511, 8:45am - 3:00p.

During our quarterly meeting, Joyce Y, Texas E Delegate Panel 55, gave an update from the WSO Conference; she challenged each and every one of us to DREAM BIG with Spiritual Abundance.

Public Outreach: May 12th Delia B and Norma W presented to the Brazoria County judicial system, the Al-Anon program alongside a member of Alcoholics Anonymous (following Tradition 6) followed by Q&A. It was a great way to show both sides of the family disease they see daily in their professions. They passed out literature and meeting schedules.

In Service

District 5 ~ Anita C. ~

Greetings!

The following quote is a positive point that was brought to our recent April district meeting at the top of the agenda for our GRs to read.

"The district is the link in the service chain that connects the groups with a geographical boundary with worldwide Al-Anon. One of the primary means of communication from group to group is the district meeting. Good district meetings can improve the health of the groups within its boundaries and lead to the growth of Al-Anon and Alateen as a Whole." G-15

D5 implemented a useful tool to have a show and tell presentation at our district meeting. It appeared to be very informative to have a projector and screen so that everyone could follow everything that was presented by our coordinators and officers through their reports. D5 is working to make small workshops to help new GRs get acquainted with the different forms that are used by our Group Records coordinator both in the district and Area. There is also a section where we provide a question and answer session which involves everyone present.

The Spanish group attendance is growing in our district with translations being provided which also helps with the primary means of communication from group to group. D5 has a new Alateen group on Tuesday evenings, a much needed group by the Paso a Paso Spanish Al-Anon group.

We had several Al-Anon members attend one of the Alateen group sponsor meeting to be a certified AMIAS. We always welcome visitors, so if you are ever in the Houston area please come so that we can give you our warm welcome.

District 7 ~Jane M.~

Greetings from District 7. Hope you are having a great summer. District 7 started the season off with an inspiring Spring Assembly Jun. 5-7th in Franklin. About 137 people came, including 4 Alateens, 3 AA's and our South Central Regional Trustee. The theme was **"Where to Turn"**. Business meetings went smoothly. Two Al-Anon speakers and the Alateens told moving stories. Annette T., our trustee, led a workshop titled, *"The Concepts, Al-Anon's Best Kept Secret"*. A number of people took part in a skit with the workshop. The food was delicious and included a dessert contest and catered BBQ. We were well fed the whole weekend, thanks to the hospitality committee. A blue grass band serenaded us in the evenings. Sunday morning, there was a memorial service when we remembered

the Al-Anon mentors who have helped us along the way. Many dedicated Al-Anons in District 7 & 8 made the event a success. Thank you to those who gave time, talent, donations, support, and prayers. Thank you to all who came.

Next regular district meeting is July 19th in Bryan at 804 Texas Ave. Registration is at 9:30 am; meeting starts at 10:00 am. Potluck lunch to follow.

District 8 ~ Diane B. ~

We had a blast in Franklin. They did such a great job of putting on the Assembly and made it so much fun.

What's new in our District is our Public Outreach Coordinator Melanie. She has organized us and given us the tools to spread the message.

Our Challenge is finding ways to retain the groups that we have. Numbers of members has decreased over time and in some groups it has created difficulty in keeping the doors open.

Our solutions include Group Inventory Meetings. Small changes can make a huge difference in being attractive to the Newcomer and to those of us who have been around awhile. Some suggestions include: Open the door on time; have greeters at the door; assign a chairperson for the entire month who has the responsibility of finding someone to chair the meetings; limit sharings to one time and for a set time (i.e. 2 minutes); and offer to stay after the meeting for those more individual discussions.

Our most pressing need at this time is to find a replacement for me. It's time for a new District Representative for District 8. Also, for all of us we need to be thinking about the Area elections in 2017. It's not too early to watch and learn from the best.

Reach out and be present for those who reach out. Love in Service to Al-Anon.

District 10 ~ Susan L. ~

Greetings from District 10.

Our next district meeting will be held on July 18.

I attended the Spring Assembly in Franklin. Four of our eleven groups were in attendance, for business meeting.

Vera S and Mary A have been recertified as Alateen sponsors. District 10 has an Alateen meeting on Thursday evenings in Longview, at the same location and time as an Al-Anon and AA meeting.

District 12~ Dolores W.~

Hello! At the June Area assembly for our reports we were requested to note "one good thing" or something that is working for us in the District. Well I feel that this would be District 12 hosting the East Texas Al-Anon Alateen Assembly (ETAAA) in November 6-8, 2015, at Staybridge Suites 123 Hoefgen Boulevard, San Antonio Texas 78205. Our Assembly theme is **"Can We Talk?" the 3C's Commitment, Communication, and Cooperation**. The host committee chairpersons are an enthusiastic group of folks and bring many years of service

(Web report continued)

experience to the committee. Also, with many new GRs this will open additional doors of "service opportunities" for our district members.

District 13 ~ David S.~

District 13 is excited to announce that we are at P.E.A.C.E! We are working away on plans to host the Spring 2016 assembly. We have committees formed and have secured a post office box, bank account and a venue. The assembly will be held at the beautiful Inn of the Hills in Kerrville, Texas on May 13 -15, 2016. Our theme for the conference is **P.E.A.C.E.** which stands for: **Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything!** Please see Save the Date flier with more information elsewhere in this Beacon. Start gathering your P.E.A.C.E. Gear!!

The District is pleased to announce we 3 new Alateen Sponsors and a new Alateen group, Hope for Change Alateen! These brings our District up to 4 Alateen Sponsors and 2 Alateen groups.

Our next District meeting will be held on July 18 in Ingram. We will be having a luncheon and discussing district business with an emphasis on the Spring 2016 Assembly. I am hoping to have a big turnout!

At our last District meeting we finally had someone step up to take the title of District Representative. Well actually we had two! I have agreed to serve as District Representative along with my co-District Representative, Becky F. We are doing this in effort to make sure we have leadership during this next year of planning for hosting an assembly and in the hopes that at the end of our term, we will have some newly qualified Group Representative that would be interested in stepping up. As our district membership stands now, we have very few people who have met the requirement of having been a GR for three years, to stand for DR.

Hope to see everyone in San Antonio! Yours in Service.



Dear East Texas Al-Anon:

Thank you so much for inviting me to attend your Spring Assembly in Franklin, it was an experience to remember. The welcome, from the time we stepped into the hotel, the desk attendant said, with much excitement I have something special for you, and out came the flowers, then the room, was just perfect.

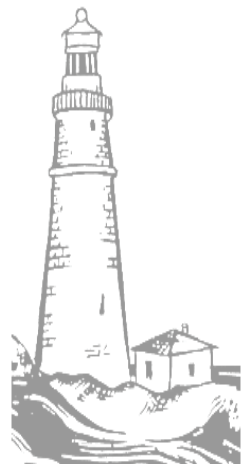
As some of you may know, my daughter drove me from Houston to Franklin. I registered her, paid for a banquet ticket, "just in case" she would like to partake of our wonderful extension of Love, Laughter, and Fellowship. Her first remarks to me when I suggested she could come to eat and do whatever she would like. "Oh Mom, I don't think that I should come",Oh OK, if you would like to eat with us here is the schedule, you would be welcomed...she came to eat...stayed for the speakers Friday night, and was very moved...she came Saturday afternoon, and visited while I was in your very informative AWSC meeting. We had dinner, and again, she stayed for the speakers, and was moved by the speakers. You see she is a teacher, and she understands the Alateens. Over the years I have sent the *Letter to Teachers* to her school. She tells me that the teachers really like receiving them.

Now back to your Assembly week-end, when we walked into the room and saw the decorations, drawing baskets, WOW!! Then, the meetings, it was great to hear what you are doing to keep Alateen's involved, and allow us to share our understanding and love. It was so apparent the Alateen speakers had found a place to trust, receive without conditions, and not having people criticizing them, they spoke so appreciative for their sponsors.

A Big Thank You, the week-end was a memory to remember. I went to my first "Area Assembly" in Oklahoma "just in case" I might someday be asked to attend if our GR could not go, and I have ended up in many places and now Franklin, Texas is on my list. Thank you to District 7 and all their work, it was Love, Laughter, Fellowship Great Food, Meeting, making new friends....Oh, yes my necklace..."I Won" I get many complements every time I wear it, and I remember vividly where I got it. It was a WIN!! WIN Weekend! You all really know how to do it!!

Love to all East Texas Members

Annette T.
South Central Regional Trustee
WSO Volunteer



Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form (GR-1)

Please send this form through your Area Process or the WSO

1. Group Record

WSO ID Number _____

District Number _____

Area Name (Abbreviation) _____

2. Status

- ☐ New
☐ Change
☐ Inactive
☐ Not Sure If Registered

3. Changes (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Group Name
☐ Current Mailing Address (CMA)
☐ Mtg Place
☐ Mtg Day ☐ Mtg Time
☐ GR ☐ Contact

4. Group/Registration Overview

Group Name _____ Mailing Language _____
Reflects Al-Anon principles and is inviting to all. See Instructions to fill out the GR-1 Form. Please note that group names not in compliance with the Al-Anon policy will delay processing of the registration. Contact your Area Group Records Coordinator or the WSO for further information.

Location: Meeting Place _____

Meeting Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Group e-mail _____

Contact First Name _____ Phone Number _____

Contact First Name _____ Phone Number _____

5. Meeting Details

Day _____ Time _____ ☐ AM ☐ PM

Type: ☐ Open ☐ Closed

Spoken Language _____ Member Count _____

☐ Beginners* ☐ Introductory** ☐ Limited Access***

☐ Handicap Access ☐ Babysitting ☐ Fragrance Free

☐ Smoking Permitted ☐ Sign Language

Location Instructions _____

Additional Meeting

Day _____ Time _____ ☐ AM ☐ PM

Type: ☐ Open ☐ Closed

Spoken Language _____ Member Count _____

☐ Beginners* ☐ Introductory** ☐ Limited Access***

☐ Handicap Access ☐ Babysitting ☐ Fragrance Free

☐ Smoking Permitted ☐ Sign Language

Location Instructions _____

* Held in conjunction with a regular Al-Anon group meeting; not considered an Al-Anon group. Provide newcomers a simple introduction to Al-Anon.

** Attendance changes frequently; not considered an Al-Anon group. Attendees are invited to go to regular Al-Anon meetings.

*** Meeting access is limited due to the facility's entry restrictions. These groups meet at sites such as military bases, institutions, industrial plants, or schools.

6. Current Mailing Address (WSO mail for the group is sent to the CMA postal and e-mail addresses)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street/PO Box _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

CMA e-mail address is entered here. Please enter Group e-mail address in section #4 (See instructions for more information)

7. For Area Use

☐ Group Rep ☐ Other _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street/PO Box _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

The WSO will register any group designating itself as an Al-Anon Family Group with the understanding that it will abide by the Traditions and that meeting will be open to any Al-Anon members. Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies"

Submitted by: _____ Date: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Austin AIS/LDC ~ Paula H. ~

The Austin Al-Anon Information Center is doing well financially. We are in the process of defining our prudent reserve, and more work may have to be done on the by-laws regarding this topic. More information will be discussed at the August 18 meeting.

In order to make the center information more accessible to groups, documents from the board meetings can be posted on the Austin Al-Anon Information Center website, www.austinalanon.org. Minutes are currently posted.

A policy regarding Al-Anon literature sales to AA conferences with Al-Anon participation was voted on at the May 18 information center meeting. Literature can either be purchased by the AA conference, or if the center employee knows the Al-Anon liaison to the conference, literature may be distributed to that person with a signed agreement. (I have a copy of what was voted upon.)

Coordination between the District 6 DR and Alternate DR is being made regarding keeping the Austin area Al-Anon meeting list current. Also, the information center is working with the district to find more volunteers for the information center.

The rent at the current location is being raised. At the August board meeting discussion will take place on either to approve the new rent or to look for another location for the information center.

Also, at the August board meeting, the possibility of obtaining Internet for the information center will be discussed. Currently we have only a phone, an answering machine, and a fax machine. The information center employee, Kitty G., does a fantastic job of keeping the center running efficiently.

At our January 20 board meeting, the board voted to have the information center meetings four times a year vs. seven times a year. It was also decided to have them in different months than the district meetings and to rotate the meeting locations between north and south to encourage more participation. Our next board meeting is scheduled for August 18 at the Northland Al-Anon Room, 2809 Northland Dr., Austin, TX 78757, at 6:30 P. M.

Beaumont AIS/LDC ~Carole L.~

The Beaumont AIS/LDC office is located at 6640 Eastex Frwy. Suite 144, Beaumont Tx. 77708. Hours of operation are 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Monday - Thursday. Phone 409 899-3343.

Our office carries all Conference Approved Literature, in both English and Spanish. We will ship to you, or meet you 1/2 way to your location if you don't have an AIS in your area.

Our web address is www.setxalanon.org. There is an updated meeting list for District 8 on this website. Our website is a helpful tool when on call forwarding duty after hours and on holidays.

Thank you District 8 for your support!

South Texas AIS/LDC ~Bennie P.~

Since the inception of Intergroup, the meetings have been held on the same day and time as our District meeting. We have tried having the District first and break for lunch and we lose a lot of the attendees. We tried having it first and same thing happens. So we are trying something else, starting at our next District meeting, July 18, the Intergroup business will be conducted as an agenda item during the district business meeting. Hope this works better. If anyone out there has an easier solution that has been tried and proven to work, please share it with us!

STX-AIS Old Business

Telephone business: STX-AIS telephone service still the same. Need discussion or table it for now.

Things are going very well with the Intergroup activities. We have a full stock of literature and had to purchase a literature cabinet to store the new order we got earlier this spring. If anyone needs literature you may call Bennie 956-975-7303, Gladys 956-286-4044 or Sandra 956-821-0216. You may also come by before or after our noon meeting on Wednesday and we will be glad to fill your orders. We can also deliver or ship it to you.

Public Outreach Activities

University of Texas PAN-AM has communicated with us about starting an Al-Anon meeting on campus. They asked us to meet with them last week and both Gladys and myself met with two of the people in charge of this program. They are very eager to start the Al-Anon meeting as soon as possible or by the beginning of Fall classes. This will be mainly for the students, we will not introduce Alateen at this time. They are very interested in purchasing our Public Outreach Magazine in bulk quantity and books, unfortunately, they do not have the funding approval to purchase it at this time.

Since they will not be getting the approval before the expiration date to purchase this magazine, the AIS staff discussed and agreed to purchase at least \$1400 worth of these magazines before the July 8 deadline. We will meet again on July 20, to further discuss the details of starting this new group. A lot of help from the members will be needed once we start the meeting, we don't have details as to how often they want to have the meetings.

South Texas AIS
P O Box 720178
McAllen, TX 78504

Houston Al-Anon Intergroup ~ Eddie G.~

Office and Bookstore Hours

Monday-Thursday 10 am – 3 pm

9800 Northwest Freeway, Suite 201 Houston, TX 77092

o 713-683-7227 fax 713-683-7377

www.houstonalanon.org

Intergrupala Hispana de Houston ~ Virginia L.~

Antes que nada quisiera decirles que les deseo un día mejor que ayer. Yo me encuentro cada vez mas bendecida y maravillada de los resultados que se logran trabajando en unidad, amor y enfocados en el único propósito de nuestro programa. Definitivamente el mantenernos conectados unos con otros sirviendo para llevar el mensaje de esperanza al que aún sufre, es de vital importancia.

Primeramente les comparto que estuve participando por primera vez en la asamblea del Este de Texas que se llevó a cabo en Franklin Texas en Junio 5,6 y 7. Mi función como coordinadora de la Intergrupala Hispana de Al-Anon en Houston significa a la vez servir como enlace hacia la asamblea. Fue una experiencia de mucho aprendizaje y crecimiento espiritual. Además de todo el protocolo que ya muchos sabemos, se dió la oportunidad de reunirme con otros enlaces de diferentes Servicios de Información. (Intergrupos) Austin, El Paso, y de Houston el Intergrupo Anglo y el Hispano y otros; en fin, Intercambiamos ideas, llevamos acabo un espacio para resolución de conflictos y también hubo espacio para preguntas y respuestas. Fué muy significativo para mi encontrar personas que me preceden no solo en el programa sino como servidores dentro de un Organó de servicio como lo es un Intergrupo.

Todavía estamos haciendo nuestro recorrido de visitas a los grupos del área de Houston y lugares circunvecinos. Asi que si no hemos ido a su Grupo, pronto estaremos por allí y de antemano agradecemos el amor con que nos reciben. Por supuesto. Las reuniones ambulantes también continúan. Recordemos que estas son el seguimiento despues de una información Pública para luego referirlos a un Grupo. Para localizar una reunion ambulante favor de contactarse al 713-6811296 ó al e-mail: intergrupohispanohouston@gmail.com

Aunque se han enviado cartas, les comunico que el Intergrupo atraves del Comité Eventos y Festejos estará llevando a cabo un *Taller de Conceptos* el 26 de Julio de 9:00 a.m a las 4:00 p.m en 12525 Fondren Rd. Houston, Texas. 77035 Suite I. Les esperamos!

Aprovecho para recordarles que el Comité de Literatura mantiene un surtido permanente de (LAC) libros y folletos, La demanda por parte de los Grupos y miembros es constante; sobretudo del mas reciente libro traducido en español: *Muchas voces, Un solo viaje y En busca de la libertad personal*. Pueden enviar sus pedidos por correo electrónico, por teléfono ó haciéndose presente en la reunión de asuntos de Intergrupo el 3er Domingo de cada mes de 11:00a.m-1:00a.m

Nos estamos expandiendo. Una muestra de ello es que se le ha enviado un correo al Distrito 4 explicandoles los roles que cada uno de los comités desempeña y compartiendoles las actividades que envuelve el servicio dentro del Intergrupo. El Distrito 4 esta mas que dispuesto a trabajar en unidad con nosotros.

También hemos recibido una invitación de parte del Intergrupo Anglo para ser partícipes en el evento *Face to Face*. Si se diese la oportunidad, les informamos que habría audífonos para traducir del ingles al español y viceversa. Es importante la participación de los Grupos sobretudo en un evento de este auge. Les invitamos a estar pendientes, pues de ser así, confiamos en su disponibilidad y buena voluntad.

Llevar el mensaje a los amigos y familiares de los alcohólicos: Un único propósito.

INTERGRUPAL HISPANA DE HOUSTON - AIS Virginia L.
Dirección física: 6160 Glenmont Dr. Apt. 191 Houston, Tx. 77081

P.O. BOX: 1975 Bellaire, 77402

Pag web: alanonhispano.org

e-mail: intergrupohispanohouston@gmail.com

Tel : 713-6811296

P.O.S.S.E. Report ~ Anita C.

The 21st Round-up P.O.S.S.E. weekend was held in March 20-22, 2015 in Gonzalez, Texas.

The weather seemed to want to damper the event but it turned out to be one of the best. Everyone seemed to focus on having a great three days.

One of the first workshops to begin the event was "getting to know you" it is a spiritual experience that opens the hearts of all who attended. It facilitated to keep an open mind to allow the knowledge of new ideas to help one another. The vision was to have no one leave without unanswered questions. The extent of sharing experience, strength and hope proved P.O.S.S.E. to be an enhancement to learning about Alateen.

We had 25 in attendance from difference cities which was an increase once again. There were DACs along with our AAPP and AAC. We got to see new Al-Anon members interested in becoming an AMIAS and, of course, Al-Anon members who just wanted to enliven the Alateen program once again.

Districts are urges to support their DAC or other representatives to attend. The cost is well worth all the information and new ideas we all receive during the weekend.

As we already should know, starting an Alateen group is a spiritual undertaking. It takes time, commitment, the support of one or more Al-Anon groups, and patience.

We need to remember to let's keep Alateen going, growing, and glowing.

P.O.S.S.E. weekend is held every year during the month of March, so please mark your calendars for the next event on March 18-20, 2016.

In Alateen Service,
Anita C., P.O.S.S.E. Chairperson 2015

ETAAA Financial Report 7/5/2015		1 st Qtr 3/31/15	2 nd Qtr 6/30/15	3 rd Qtr 9/31/15	4 th Qtr 12/31/15	Total YTD	2015 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Income								
Assembly Surplus		\$3,263.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,263.20		
Fall 2014		\$3,263.20				\$3,263.20		
Spring 2015						\$0.00		
Beacon Income		\$30.00	\$36.00	\$54.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$200.00	(\$80.00)
Group Subscription		\$18.00	\$24.00	\$12.00		\$54.00		
Personal Subscriptions		\$12.00	\$12.00	\$42.00		\$66.00		
Contributions Income		\$5,372.22	\$3,217.55	\$1,883.07		\$10,472.84	\$20,820.00	(\$10,347.16)
Fall Gratitude Basket						\$0.00		
Miscellaneous Income						\$0.00		
Total Income		\$8,665.42	\$3,253.55	\$1,937.07	\$0.00	\$13,856.04	\$21,020.00	(\$7,163.96)
Expenses								
Travel / Expenses		\$961.54	\$2,676.62	\$231.61		\$3,869.77	\$11,000.00	(\$7,130.23)
Alateen Coordinator			\$723.48			\$723.48	\$800.00	(\$76.52)
Alateen Liaison						\$0.00	\$400.00	(\$400.00)
Alateen Process Person		\$135.43	\$312.11			\$447.54	\$800.00	(\$352.46)
Alternate Delegate				\$231.61		\$231.61	\$600.00	(\$368.39)
Archives			\$183.30			\$183.30	\$500.00	(\$316.70)
Beacon Editor			\$104.35			\$104.35	\$500.00	(\$395.65)
Chair		\$74.83	\$202.63			\$277.46	\$800.00	(\$522.54)
Delegate			\$121.69			\$121.69	\$1,500.00	(\$1,378.31)
Group Records			\$275.31			\$275.31	\$500.00	(\$224.69)
Public Outreach		\$68.60				\$68.60	\$600.00	(\$531.40)
Past Delegates		\$98.40				\$98.40	\$1,500.00	(\$1,401.60)
Past Area Chairperson						\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)
Secretary		\$197.34	\$200.62			\$397.96	\$500.00	(\$102.04)
Spanish Coordinator		\$33.83				\$33.83	\$500.00	(\$466.17)
Treasurer		\$291.34	\$326.88			\$618.22	\$500.00	\$118.22
Website Coordinator		\$61.77	\$226.25			\$288.02	\$500.00	(\$211.98)
Other Expenses		\$2,682.30	\$1,216.35	\$270.00	\$0.00	\$4,168.65	\$4,420.00	(\$251.35)
Beacon Publishing		\$1,122.60	\$613.66			\$1,736.26	\$3,100.00	(\$1,363.74)
Storage Unit for Archives		\$270.00	\$270.00	\$270.00		\$810.00	\$1,080.00	(\$270.00)
Transitional AWSC Meeting		\$1,220.03				\$1,220.03		
Web Hosting Fee						\$0.00	\$240.00	(\$240.00)
Audit Committee Expense			\$317.69					
Miscellaneous Expense		\$69.67	\$15.00					
World Service Conference		\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$3,200.00	(\$2,900.00)
Area's Gifts to WSC		\$300.00				\$300.00	\$ 300.00	\$0.00
Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC						\$0.00	\$ 2,500.00	(\$2,500.00)
Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC						\$0.00	\$ 400.00	(\$400.00)

SC Regional Delegate Meeting	\$513.49	\$626.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,139.82	\$2,400.00	(\$1,260.18)
Delegate	\$193.81				\$193.81	\$600.00	(\$406.19)
Chair	\$319.68				\$319.68	\$600.00	(\$280.32)
Past Delegate		\$427.01			\$427.01	\$600.00	(\$172.99)
Alternate Delegate		\$199.32			\$199.32	\$600.00	(\$400.68)
Total Expenses	\$4,457.33	\$4,519.30			\$8,976.63		
Net Income Less Expenses	\$4,208.09	(\$1,098.14)				\$21,020.00	(\$7,163.96)
Extraordinary Income/Expense	1st Qtr 3/31/15	2nd Qtr 6/30/15	3rd Qtr 9/31/15	4th Qtr 12/31/15	Total YTD		
Income							
Returned Seed Money	\$2,000.00						
Received Attn. Background Checks	\$39.00	\$454.50	\$62.00				
Spring Birthday Basket		\$696.56					
Returned Beacon Advance	\$1,122.60						
Total Extraordinary Income	\$3,161.60	\$1,151.06	\$62.00				
Expenses							
Seed Money	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00					
Fees paid Attn Background Checks	\$65.00	\$370.50					
Spring Birthday Basket to WSO			\$696.56				
Total Extraordinary Expenses	\$3,565.00	\$3,870.50	\$696.56				
Net Extraordinary Income Less Expenses	(\$403.40)	(\$2,719.44)	(\$634.56)				
Profit/(Loss)	\$3,804.69						
Checking Account Balance	3/31/2015	5/31/2015	9/30/2015	12/31/2015			
Beginning Balance	\$27,996.21	\$31,384.14	\$27,398.95	\$0.00			
2104 Expenses Reconciled in 2015	(\$416.76)						
Increase/(Decrease)	\$3,804.69	(\$3,985.19)					
Ending Balance	\$31,384.14	\$27,398.95	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Ample Reserve Fund (CD)							
Beginning Balance	\$13,764.52	\$13,839.52					
Increase/(Decrease)	\$75.00						
Ending Balance	\$13,839.52						

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly Minutes June 6, 2015 Franklin, Texas

Opening: Kay C., Chairman opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Two volunteers read the 12 Traditions (Barbara G.) and the Concepts and Warranties (Candy N.). She welcomed everyone and introductions of officers and coordinators were made. Kay went over general procedures including Ask-it Basket. Appointed Margaret F. as time keeper. She then read the primary function of the Area World Service Committee from page 162 of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual.

Delegate's Report: Joyce Y. thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as the East Texas Area Delegate, Panel 55 at the 2015 World Service Conference (WSC). She shared that she felt prepared to perform her duties as Delegate due to the strong service structure in our East Texas Area. Joyce gave a presentation highlighting her time at the WSC. The theme for the Conference was "Living Our Spiritual Principles – Expanding Our Vision". She thanked everyone for all the cards, texts, emails and love gifts. She brought back love gifts from other delegates from the conference and invited all to take them.

She explained the structure of the World Service Office. E-Communities will be replaced with AFG Connects which promises to be a more user-friendly system. She has been appointed to be a part of the WSO's literature committee, which is responsible for all Conference Approved Literature. They are charged with revision and approval of pamphlets and books. Two new books they are currently working on are: Intimacy and the Alcoholic Relationship and Parents and Grandparents of Young Problem Drinkers.

Each delegate was given two minutes to share a success and a concern from their Area. For our success she shared the District 6 Billboard Campaign and for the concern she shared what we can do when we have issues or concerns about members being able to fulfill the responsibilities of their service position.

The WSO's budget for 2015 was approved with a \$52,000 deficit. The hope is that the deficit will be overcome by increased group contributions rather than having to get funds from the prudent reserves and increased literature sales. The average cost of support given to each group by the WSO is \$256.67. Encourage groups to give in gratitude.

Shared that Texas East decided at AWSC meeting held 6/5/15 to put in a bid to host the "Meet the Board" event which will be held in October of 2016. Explained that putting in a bid doesn't mean we will get to host the event. The hosting Area is determined by putting the names of all Areas willing to host the event in a hat and drawing one out.

A definition of Family Recovery was approved to be used in outreach material sent to professionals: "Family Recovery is a process of healing and growth of family members affected by someone's drinking. This process helps these individuals make healthier life choices and develop relationships that are more positive and supportive."

Discussed chosen Agenda Items:

Alateen's future model was discussed. What changes if any, should be made.

-How to clarify Al-Anon's primary purpose while welcoming members who need our program who may have a drug addicted friend or family member. How do groups maintain the focus of Al-Anon as a program for friends and families of alcoholics to keep from possible dilution of the program due to the focus on addiction rather than alcoholism? How are groups handling this?

She made a trip to Stepping Stones, home of Bill and Lois W.

Encouraged everyone to have a Big Dream about the Area or their group. Asked members to write their dream on a card and drop it in the Dream Bag which she will compile and share at a later date.

Joyce answered questions from the floor:

Q. Are submissions still being received for the books under development?

A. Yes

Q. Will her presentation be available?

A. The highlights of her presentation will be posted on the Texas Al-Anon website, and she would be happy to come to Districts to share the information.

Q. Has a name been assigned for the upcoming new daily reader?

A. No.

Complete Delegate report will be in the Beacon.

Chosen Agenda Item:

Extension of Alateen Recertification process to a 3 year trial.

Bennie P. and Norma W. introduced the topic by reading from Page 8 of the 2nd Quarter 2015 issue of the Beacon, the recommendations presented and approved for one year at the 2014 Spring Assembly. (see Beacon) The Area Alateen Task Force is recommending to the Area to extend the one year trial period for an additional two years to allow further evaluation of the new process.

Kay C. added that the consequences of not passing an extension of the trial period would result in the Area Alateen Recertification Process reverting to old requirements.

The floor was opened for discussion. Old requirements were generally described. Discussion revolved around how the trial period has been working so far, pros and cons and also how the old process had worked.

It was pointed out that, since the one year trial period had already expired (June 1, 2015), any motion to continue with the trial procedures would have to be to reinstate the process not to extend the process.

After discussion concluded, meeting adjourned for lunch.

Assembly Meeting (continued)

Roll Call: 82 Voting Group Representatives were present (42 needed for simple majority).

Kay C. went over voting method. Vote will be by ballot. By consensus, the method of voting was determined to be Simple Majority.

Secretary: Motion was made, seconded and approved to waive reading and accept the Minutes from the November 1, 2014 Assembly Business meeting as published in the Beacon. (Vol. 47, Issue 1).

Treasurer: Tricia L. passed the gratitude basket. Contributions will be sent to the WSO. Area has regained its 501.c tax status.

Reported that Area bank balance through May 31, 2015 is \$30,292 in checking account with \$13,839.52 in the ample reserve fund.

Alternate Delegate/Literature Coordinator's Report: Margaret F. reported that each group should be getting a Forum. If not check with Group Records Coordinator. Encouraged support for the Forum by members/groups. Cost of subscription is just for postage it is not published to make a profit. Subscriptions are down by 4000 since 2010. WSO needs submissions for new daily reader. Encouraged the use of Alateen literature. CAL workshops on writing are on the WSO website. WSO has received 1100 sharings for Intimacy book, 150 for Grandparents book and about 216 for the new Daily Reader. Please send in more shares for these works in progress. New Conflict Resolution tool is available in Spanish and French and is a very good tool. Conceptual approval has been given to begin work on another Forum Favorites book. This will be the fifth such book.

Margaret shared how important she believes the Area and District newsletters are for all groups to spread the message. Changes are coming to the E-Communities.

Coordinator Reports:

Group Records - Candy N. has processed all group changes received up to date. Please use the GR-1 form to submit changes. Forms are in the Beacon and an editable version is online at the Texas Al-Anon website.

Alateen Coordinator - Norma W. has been busy holding Alateen sponsor training workshops. Has been using online training manual. Use E-Manuals for more information on Alateen program.

Program of Sponsor's Sharing Everything (P.O.S.S.E) Report - Norma W. reported on the 21st roundup in Gonzales. 25 in attendance. Urged Districts to support and encourage their District Alateen Coordinators to attend.

Texas East Area Alateen Conference (T.E.A.A.C.) Report - Norma W. reported attendance was about the same as last year and is below expectations. Small group bonded well. Sponsored by Hill Country Alateen. Everyone had a great time.

Archives - Becky F. challenged Districts to put together scrap books of their history. Announced that the archives display at the Spring Assembly in Kerrville is going to be interactive.

Spanish Coordinator - Anita C. has only been able to communicate with 5 District Hispanic Coordinators and is reaching out to get communication going between the Area and the Districts.

Houston Hispanic AIS - Virginia L. gave her report in Spanish.

Beacon Editor - Lynn S. explained Beacon expenses for the year. Explained that Beacon will be returned to her if undeliverable at additional expense. Encouraged groups to pay for subscriptions.

Public Outreach Coordinator - Judy W. explained her role as link between the Districts and the WSO. Also wants to help district's establish networks to talk about best practices and challenges.

Website Coordinator - Lisa W. reported that the Texas East portion of the Texas Al-Anon website has been revised to make it easier to read. 15,000 hits on website in May. Send her event details and fliers to be posted on the website.

Area Alateen Process Person - Bennie P. re-certified 70 AMIAS with 7 pending. Instructions in Beacon on how to submit paperwork to her for certification.

Unfinished Business:

Audit Committee Report - A skit was performed by Lynn S. and Diane B. reporting that all documentation was present, and that the beginning bank balance from January will be used going forward.

New Business:

Extension of Alateen Re-certification process - Floor was opened up for any further discussion. With no further discussion, Kay C. read motion presented by Julie A. seconded by Dana S.

Motion: "I, Julie A., move to re-instate the 1- year trial Alateen Certification Process from June 1, 2014 – June 1, 2015 to an additional 2 years starting June 6, 2015 through June 1, 2017".

Voting by ballot: Motioned passed with 75 for, 4 against and 2 abstentions.

Gratitude Basket - Tricia L. reported that \$696.56 was collected which will be sent to World Service Office as a donation from the Area.

AIS/LDC Reports:

Beaumont AIS/LDC - Book store running smoothly, all volunteer positions filled. Phone service has volunteers to man phone calls. Appeal letter going to groups asking for contributions.

San Antonio AIS/LDC - Mark read Nancy M's report from 2nd quarter Beacon.

Austin AIS/LDC - Lori read for Paula H. that they doing well financially; working on process of prudent reserve; more work may need to be done to by-laws. Board meeting minutes posted on their website.

Houston Inter-group - Paul reported Jeannie's and Jay's time on the board has come to an end. Barbara P. new chair for inter-group.

South Texas AIS/LDC - Bennie P. reported looking to get some public outreach activities organized. Looking into new phone service. Getting literature inventoried and organized.

Assembly Reports:

Fall 2014-Tyler (Dist 9) - Debby C. reported income of \$5,928.44 returned to the Area. Registration numbers were: 161 Al-Anon, 5 AA.

Spring 2015-Franklin (Dist 7) - Jane M. as of noon, 129 total in attendance. Thanked everyone for being here and all the help.

Fall 2015-San Antonio (Dist 12) - A skit was presented to inform all those in attendance about the upcoming assembly theme (Can We Talk), dates, location, etc. AWSC will be the support group. Had fliers and registration forms.

Spring 2016-Kerrville (Dist 13) - David S. reported the theme (P.E.A.C.E. - Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything). Gave date, location, etc. Passed out save the date flier, Registration flier's coming.

District Representative Reports:

District 8 - Diane B. reported they have a great public outreach coordinator. Challenge is retention of groups.

District 4 - Mattie T. reported public outreach showed different sides of Al-Anon to some judicial representatives in the community; passed out literature and information. Challenge to get all the groups in the district to have group representatives.

District 5 - Anita C. reported that she wants to bring a lot of GRs to assembly in San Antonio. Challenge is to get information for all the groups in her District updated.

District 1 - Bennie P. reported district has a new DR, Alicia.

District 9 - Debby C. reported the district has had several groups previously in District 11 join their district due to a lack of activity at the District level in District 11. Challenge is to try to get some groups in the District to elect group representatives.

District 12 - Dolores W. reported preparing to host fall assembly. Challenge is they had a group close.

District 3 - Jocelyn B. reported that P.O.S.S.E. was attended by district members and they are hoping to get an Alateen group in their district soon.

District 7 - Challenge has been hosting the assembly, however, it has increased participation in the District.

District 2 - Alt. DR Lisa reported they have two new Alateen sponsors and new GRs. Challenge is size of the District, and

that they are hosting Fall 2016 assembly.

District 10 - Susan L. reported they have an Alateen meeting on Thursday evenings and two sponsors. Challenge is to get new members active in service so that all groups will have GRs.

District 13 - Becky F. reported District now has 3 new Alateen sponsors and a new Alateen Group bringing District up to 2 Alateen groups. Challenge is finding more people to be involved in service work.

District 6 - Lori L. reported they have shortened District meetings. Challenge is lots of new people in service learning their positions.

District Representative Interchange Workshop - Presented suggestions to update assembly guidelines and hosting procedures, DR responsibilities. Discussed procedures for groups wanting to change districts and updating Area map.

Ask it Basket Questions:

Q. Ever since my home group's inception it has been extremely active in service in the district and in the area. However, since the last GR's term expired, no one has been willing to be the GR. What are some ideas to encourage the group to have representation?

A. - Have a meeting on "When I Got Busy, I Got Better" and read Pg 47 of service manual fully describing the position.

- Invite people in the group to fill in or accompany you to a District Meeting or Area Assembly so they can experience it first hand.

- Share Experience, Strength & Hope on how District level service has helped your personal recovery.

Q. Are Al-Anon meeting members allowed to inform the group about Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA) meetings? Someone trying to start an ACA group was announcing this at a meeting and another member stopped her because she said it was not Al-Anon.

A. -Yes, as long as the ACA group is registered with the WSO and has a group ID#.

-Clarification was given that there are other Adult Children of Alcoholic groups that are not Al-Anon and would not be announced. A group conscious meeting can decide what can or cannot be announced at meetings.

Q. Members of my group conscious say that I should not be making the group copy of the Beacon available in the meeting room as these copies contain the names, numbers and addresses of our officers which betrays their anonymity. My thinking is this information is in the Beacon so that the officers can be contacted. What is the position of the Area?

A. -See Pg 93 of the Service Manual under "Anonymity in Service".

-Past Beacons have had full contact information for Officers, etc. Starting this panel, the Beacon will only be putting the name, phone number and email address for contact information. The WSO has also requested that, when doing Al-Anon business, that we use email addresses that don't have our names in it.

-Another solution might be to tear the page with personal information out of the Beacon.

Q. I occasionally attend a meeting where there is often no leader. Because of my job I show up late for the meeting and find 1 or more people just sitting, there often newcomers. This disturbs me. What is the responsibility of the group to have someone there? Should we be sending newcomers to a meeting where there is no leader?

A. -The Service Manual on pages 37,41 & 45 has information on newcomer meeting.

-One group has a calendar and they choose a chairperson for the month and a meeting leader every week. Encourage service work.

Q. Is it okay to have a column on the sign in sheet indicating if you can sponsor?

A. Yes, this is a group conscious decision.

Q. Is it okay for me to deny my expense money since the group does not have enough resources?

A. Yes. You could donate the money back to the group or not ask for it at all.

Q. Is it okay to use the word qualifier in Al-Anon in relation to their Alcoholic?

A. This is a personal preference.

Q. If someone comes into a meeting with a drug addict what would we do?

A. Al-Anon is for friends and families of Alcoholics. As long as the meeting focus is kept on Al-Anon anyone may attend.

Q. How do you get speakers for my group?

A. Ask other groups in your area. Contact District Representation. Remember the group should offer to pay the travel expenses of the speaker.

Meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration

Respectfully Submitted,

David S.

Area Secretary



CONTRIBUTIONS TO – EAST TEXAS AREA 53

(Please attach this form to your check or money order) **PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

Group Name: _____ Group # _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Amount: _____ CK/MO # _____

Sent by: _____

Send Self Addressed Stamped envelope (SASE) or

Email Address for receipt: _____

Make checks payable to: ETAAA. Please do not send cash by mail

Mail to: ETAAA - Treasurer, PO Box 34102, San Antonio, TX 78265

ETAAA

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San Antonio, TX 78247

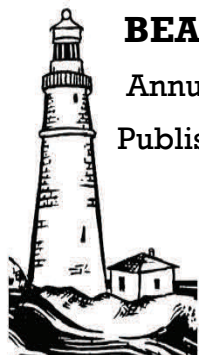


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