

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,

I want to thank all of you who *participated* in the Texas East Area 53 Fall Assembly (Assembly)! A special BIG thank you to all the Group Representative (GRs) who showed up and participated in the business meeting. It was a great affair and we had 100 hundred voting Group Representative (GRs) at the business meeting. This was up 18% from the Spring Assembly for Texas East Area 53 ("Area")! YAHOO!!! The sad news is that only represents 25% of the groups in Texas East. Said another way, 25% of our groups in the Area, through a collective group conscience, decided how the Area's money is to be spent in 2016. With that being said, if your group did not send a GR, please encourage your group to send a GR to the Assembly in Kerrville, TX, **May 13-15, 2016**. The theme is *Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything (PEACE)*. Also, if you have never been to an Assembly, please come and try it out! Everyone is welcome, Assemblies have the mixture of fun, fellowship, business and lots and lots of recovery! I also want to give a shout out to District 12 and the Area World Service Committee ("AWSC") for their hard work in putting on the Assembly.

Although only 25% of the Area came to the Assembly business meeting, I know from visiting with the GR's during the Assembly that we have an active and vibrant Area. This is wonderful as carrying the message of Al-Anon about how we are recovering from the effects of the disease of Al-Anon is our primary purpose. The AWSC will meet in February 6, 2016 in Pearland. If you have a concern that the Area needs to address please feel free to talk to your District Representative or email me at etaaa.panel55.chair@gmail.com with that con-

cern. Everyone is welcome to attend the AWSC, but only members of the AWSC have voice and/or vote. Members of the AWSC are listed in the contact page of the *Beacon*. The purpose of AWSC meeting in between the assemblies is to address any urgent business and plan the business meeting for the next assembly using knowledge based decision making (KBDM). It is the Area's policy that all matters to be discussed at the AWSC business meeting and from that meeting, we decide if more information is needed to resolve the information (e.g., a task/thought force is formed), etc. It is the Area's policy that all items presented at the Assembly business meeting are published in the *Beacon* prior to the next Assembly. This allows the groups to discuss the items with their District Representative who is their link to the AWSC. One item that we will be discussing at the February AWSC is the impact of accepting three (3) counties (Kinney, Val Verde and Edwards Counties) from Texas West into Texas East. This request came from Texas West as a result of their redistricting Thought/Task Force. We have formed a Thought Force composed of people from Districts 1, 2, 13 and 12. Another Thought/Task Force we have formed is one to update the Guidelines to put on an assembly. This Thought/Task Force is composed of past area chairs and delegates.

Group Representative Rollcall at the Business Meeting. During the Group Representatives interchange on Saturday morning, we had a suggestion to have the DRs call roll. We did this and it was well received so we will continue with this roll call method.



Calendar of Events

ETAAA Spring

Assembly

May 13-15, 2016

Kerrville, Texas

AWSC Meeting

Feb. 6, 2016

Pearland, Texas

ATAAC

Feb 19-21, 2016

Irving, Texas

P.O.S.S.E.

March 18-20, 2016

Gonzales, Texas

TEA. AC

April 29, 30 May 1, 2016

Gonzales, Texas

ETAAA Fall Assembly

Nov 4-5, 2016

Corpus Christi, Texas

Deadline for Submissions

for the next issue of

the Beacon March 1, 2016

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AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2015-2017



East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen (ETAAA)

Spring Assembly 2016

May 13-15, 2016



P.E.A.C.E.

Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything!



Bring your favorite Tie
Dye for great fun and
prizes!

Inn of the Hills

1001 Junction Hwy

Kerrville, Texas 78028

Hotel Telephone: 830-895-5000 * Fax: 830-895-6091

Hotel Reservations: 1-800-292-5690

Ask for ETAAA rates:

\$109.00 for Single or Double

\$119.00 Triple ; \$129.00 Quad

Reservation Cut off Date: April 13, 2016



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

No Banquet Dinner-- Free time to enjoy the Hill
Country and the Guadalupe River

Make Checks Payable To AFG--District 13

Mail to: Attn: ETAAA Registration

PO Box 2141

Uvalde, TX 78802-2141

Email questions to: texasmiracle@hotmail.com

When registering, all Alateen 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.

We use this number of GRs who respond to roll call to establish a majority or 2/3 vote at the business meeting. Thank you to all the GRs who provided me their feedback on this idea! It was SOOOO appreciated.

Group Representative Participation at the Assembly. I would like to hear from the GRs either directly or through your DR, what you would like to see at the assembly business meeting or at the conference portion of the assembly.

In closing, contrary to my dread last November of being the Area Chair, I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The experiences of the last year gave my recovery a boost into the next dimension of recovery! I am truly humbled and honored to be a leader in Texas East Area 53, which is so full of love, recovery and compassion for the families and friends of alcoholics! Thank you for allowing me to practice my program in a safe and loving place.

Delegate Report ~ Joyce Y. ~

Greetings to all. As we wrap up our first year of our three year term as Area trusted servants, the words from When I Got Busy, I Got Better (P-78), pages 55-56 "*Reaching Out to Others*" certainly ring true for me in service, personal opportunity and growth. "In giving, we receive."

Service is gratitude in action. So many opportunities of service are available at all levels beginning with the group level. This includes opportunities to serve at the WSO level on various committees with at-large members.

Forum Editorial Advisory Committee (FEAC) is one example. This committee recommends editorial policies for our monthly magazine, considers articles for publication and seeks to place *The Forum* in the hands of every Al-Anon and Alateen member. WSO has asked for your help to attract candidates to serve on this committee. Partial requirements include: have been active in Al-Anon continuously for at least the past five years and are not also members of AA. These candidates who apply should be energetic, dependable, and adept at using e-mail and the Internet. Committee conducts business via conference calls, e-mail, and e-Communities. If interested, please contact me for Resume Form and further details and requirements.

Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM) is another opportunity. The Board of Trustees delegates to them the oversight and the management of the real property owned by the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. in accordance with Motion 6 of the 2011 World Service Conference. Résumés were due at the WSO by November 30th. But If you or someone you know might be interested in the future, please contact me for Resume Form and further details and requirements.

2016 World Service Conference (WSC) - Realizing our Spiritual Potential - Monday, April 11 through Friday, April 15, 2016 at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel - 5700 Atlantic Avenue - Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451.

Anniversary Celebration! Time to Party!!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 16, 2016. Al-Anon members and their guests are invited to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of Al-Anon Family Groups by attending an open house at the World Service Office followed by a banquet at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel. The open house, which is free of charge, includes tours between 1:00pm and 3:00pm; the office will close at 4pm. The ticketed dinner banquet, from 6:00pm to 10:00pm, includes speakers. Tickets for the banquet will go on sale in December 2015—please note that space at the banquet is limited. Details are to come via *Group e-News*, *The Forum*, and the Members' Web site al-anon.org/members.

Chosen Agenda Item

Each year, Conference members are invited to submit a Chosen Agenda Item (CAI) for consideration. The purpose of this is to give Conference members an opportunity to discuss items that shape Al-Anon as a whole. There will be one 60-minute CAI session at the 2016 Conference. CAI submitted, if chosen, is for the purpose of a discussion, *not for the purpose of taking an action*. Brainstorming the following question could provide some thought-provoking CAIs: "***What are the important items of concern to your Area that could shape Al-Anon as a whole that you believe need to be discussed at the World Service Conference?***" So if you or your group or district have a question you would like considered, *please send to me by December 10 for consideration for submission*.

Delegate's Visits to the Districts

One of the things I have enjoyed as your Delegate, is the opportunity to visit the districts and get to meet more Texas East members and see what you do. This summer I visited District 4 and District 6. District 5 has invited me in December, District 1 in January and District 12 in October. Joy of Service has been a part of every visit so far. If you would like to schedule a visit for your district, please let me know. Smaller districts perhaps could consider a combined meeting with another district or my staying in a member's home to reduce expense as a fun option. Thank you for your consideration.

Chair of the Board Letter Highlights:

<http://al-anon.org/members/pdf/COB/2014/Nov2014Letter.pdf>

- Clearly define and augment our current activities (e.g. Trustee/Delegate calls, TEAM and Meet the Board events) to provide more information about the role of a Trustee.
- Since last year, the Board has been discussing succession planning for the Executive Director and Director of Business Services. The timelines for recruitment, formation of a Search Committee, process for interviewing, hiring, and orienting for these positions are being established so the Board can be prepared well in advance of a resignation or retirement.
- A big thank you to the 21 Areas that submitted a request to host the 2016 "Meet the Board Event." The Board agreed that the decision on location should be our Higher Power's, since all Areas met the requirements. The Area was drawn and once the hotel/site logistics are finalized, Conference members will be informed of the choice. This event is scheduled for October 22, 2016.

- World Wide Fellowship of Al-Anon
 - ♦ European Zonal Meeting (EZM). The purpose of the EZM is to bring evolving and established structures together to discuss issues of concern, and offer experience in solving them using good business practices.
 - ♦ Chairperson of the Board and the Executive Director had meetings with the General Secretaries of both Spain and Portugal.
 - ♦ Meeting with France's Board of Trustees
 - ♦ Meeting was held at Belgium's (French speaking) General Service Office
 - ♦ The new AFG Connects is proving to be a significant resource of communication for all service volunteers.
 - ♦ Continued discussion of Alateen each quarter. Our question this quarter, "What is needed to support our Al-Anon members so that teens are welcome in Al-Anon meetings?"
- Mark the Date - July 6 - 8, 2018 - Al-Anon's Sixth International Convention - Baltimore, Maryland

Spiritual Connection of being a Registered Group - One of the Thought Forces at the 2015 World Service Conference used the following Spiritual principles or core values they felt were enhanced by being a registered group. *Unity - Participation - Accountability - Responsibility*. For presentation and Strategies for encouraging groups to register can be found in the *2015 World Service Conference Summary*, Pages 69-72.

"Service, a vital purpose of Al-Anon, is action. Members strive to *do* as well as to *be*. *Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017*, Groups at Work - Pg 19.

Concept 4 - Participation is the key to harmony.

Alt. Delegate Report ~ Margaret F. ~

Where did the time go? A New Year has arrived and hopefully peace and serenity for all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve Texas East Area 53. It has been eye opening for me with much growth and more appreciation for all the groups that are represented in Area 53.

I would ask that district coordinators and/or groups let me know what you are doing to promote CAL in your district or group

As the person responsible for the Group Representative Orientation at Assembly, I would like some feedback and ideas how to make it better and more interesting. The group representatives information is now on the Texas website. The Guidelines for a group representative, Officers Welcome Letter, Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM), and voting procedures at Assembly. Change is good and everyone can be involved.

Now for the Literature news:

New e-book: As just announced in the Announcements—WSO Structure community of AFG Connects, our first e-book version of a daily reader will be available beginning Monday, December 7th. *Courage to Change* (eB-16) will be available electronically in English, Spanish, and French from the following electronic media providers: Apple iBooks, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Kobo. On Apple iBooks, the electronic book is priced at \$13.99 (U.S.). On Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Kobo, it is available in two parts, each for \$6.99 (U.S.). The reason why the e-book is being offered in two parts by these three companies is to ensure most of the purchase price goes to Al-Anon, instead of to outside entities. This announcement is informational only, and not an endorsement of any electronic media provider, e-reader, or other products sold by electronic media providers

2016 CAL Catalog (S-15): The January issue of *The Forum* will also include the new catalog as an insert. It will also be available for free download on the Al-Anon Online Store and will be included in all literature orders from the WSO during the year

"CAL Corner": November's "CAL Corner" in *The Forum* included the cover story, "The turkey on the floor," about how a sharing in *From Survival to Recovery* (B-21) made a lasting impression on a member. The December articles focus on *Many Voices, One Journey* (B-31), and the January articles, tying in with the CAL Catalog insert, will be about Conference Approved Literature in general.

CAL Sample Chapter: Each quarter a sample chapter of Conference Approved Literature is posted on both the Public Outreach site, al-anon.org and the Members' site, al-anon.org/members. January through March, it will be *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8).

The following information was announced during the October Literature Coordinator conference call:

At this point, we've received over 1,159 sharings for the *Intimacy* piece, about 176 sharings for the *Parents/Grandparents* pamphlet, and 515 sharings for the new daily reader. We still would like more sharings—especially Step sharings for the *Parents/Grandparents* pamphlet, and sharings for the daily reader. A new writing guideline for the daily reader can be found on the Members' Web site, in addition to the original one. All of the other writing guidelines are already there in the library section in the "Guidelines & Procedures" folder under the folder icon.

Al-Anon Declaration

Let It Begin With Me

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there,
and – *Let It Begin With Me*

Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Norma W. ~

Greeting to all! As the first year of my term comes to an end, I have to say it has been a great experience to serve as your Texas East Area Alateen Coordinator! I am looking forward to the next 2 years.

Anyone interested in becoming an Alateen Sponsor can find the complete AMIAS (Al-Anon Members Involved with Alateen Service) package on the texas-al-anon.org under the members section. You will also find the Alateen Registration/Group Records change Form (GR-3) and the instructions (GR-3 Instructions) both in English and in Spanish. Permission and Medical Forms are also available here.

An Alateen Sponsor Training Workshop will be held Austin TX, on December 12, 2015 hosted by District 6 and 12.

P.O.S.S.E (Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything) will be held on March 18-20, 2016 in Gonzales Texas. This is a full weekend of sharing experience, strength and hope with other Alateen sponsors. Attendance at P.O.S.S.E will also count for your AMIAS training. The cost is \$125.00, includes four meals and two nights lodging. There has been a **change of Registrar** for P.O.S.S.E. new fliers and registration have been sent out and it is also available at texas-al-anon.org. **REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY March 04, 2016.**

TEA-AC (Texas East Area 53-Alateen Conference) will be April 29-May 1, 2016 in Gonzales Texas. TEA AC is an Alateen Conference offering Alateens, along with their group Sponsors and other AMIAS an opportunity to increase their understanding of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Alateen through the sharing of ideas, fun and fellowship. Additionally, attendees enjoy increased sharing experience of a wider Alateen fellowship. The cost is \$90.00 per person; Alateens must be 13—19 years old and be regularly attending Alateen meetings for at least 6 weeks prior to Conference. All Alateens and AMIAS must register with an active Alateen group. Fliers have been sent to all Alateen groups. Registration will be sent out after January 1, 2016, it is also available at texas-al-anon.org

Area Alateen Process Person ~ Bennie P. ~

As of now, we have **85 Certified AMIAS (Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service) and 26 Alateen Groups**. We have three Districts that are looking into starting new Alateen Groups! I'd like to think that it's because the certification process is a lot simpler to become sponsors and to start an Alateen group!

Look at how simple it is by using the Links of Service!

You want to be an Alateen Sponsor? Check with your District Representative, District Alateen Coordinator, AAC (Area Alateen Coordinator) or AAPP (Area Alateen Process Person). You can also go to our Texas Website <http://texas-al-anon.org> to download the Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) Guidelines and Registration Forms.

Please read the Instructions carefully to ensure you meet all of the Safety and Behavioral requirements before submitting your application.

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

AMIAS Certification is done year-round. Anyone interested in serving as an AMIAS (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. If you are thinking of recertifying and you are due for training, please try to get it done before or during Recertification period. Recertification period starts March 1, 2016 through June 1, 2016.

I believe, I have notified everyone on their training status but if missed you, please check with me. Training workshops are underway now and our Area Coordinator will be coordinating and informing our Area on the time and locations.

Love in Alateen Service



Please join Al-Anon members and their guests in celebration of the extraordinary work started by two ordinary women! In recognition of 65 years of Al-Anon Family Groups and the beginnings of the Clearing House, the World Service Office (WSO) will host an Open House followed by a banquet at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel on Saturday, April 16, 2016. Download the information and order form:

<http://al-anon.alateen.org/members/item/518-al-anon-s-65th-anniversary>

Web Coordinator ~Lisa W. ~

The website coordinator serves as a "virtual link of service" between existing and prospective members, groups, and districts in the East Texas Area.

Action Items Completed:

- Encouraged website navigation and event posting at a District 2 workshop on October 10 in Laredo
- Provided a Website Coordinator job description to Area Chairperson, Kay C. as requested on October 28
- Attended the ETAAA Fall Assembly in San Antonio, November 6 – 8
- Updated four plug-ins on the Website on November 29
- Coordinated reading and responding to approximately 70 Texas East Area inquiry emails regularly (at least every 48 hours) with Texas West Website Coordinator, Marcia H.
- Updated the website with relevant online and printable meeting schedule information

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Share information received from the WSO via e-Communities by emailing AWSC members and/or posting to the Texas Website. ***Confession:** I have not been doing this because I found all the emails from e-Communities to be very annoying and I unsubscribed without realizing this is part of my job description. I've spent a year listening and learning and I will re-subscribe and with patience, learn about this.*
- **e-Communities is now listed as "AFG Connects"**
- Since last assembly, I have been working closely with Joyce Y. and Margaret F. on putting all of the GR forms from the assembly packets onto the website and making the link available to all of the DRs as soon as available. Found a glitch in the printable meeting schedule information (thank you Bennie P. for your keen eye) and I am updating it for all of Texas East Districts on December 1.

Announcements:

To all members, I encourage you to submit events for posting to the Texas Al-Anon calendar to increase attendance by all members. <http://texas-al-anon.org/events/>

All East Texas district meetings that are housed on the Texas Al-Anon website may now be printed and reproduced with confidence for distribution within your district cities and areas. <http://texas-al-anon.org/meetings/>

Questions for the board/larger group:

I feel that it is time to make the suggestion that we move forward regarding housing all of the East Texas District meetings on the Texas Al-Anon Website and having the other websites (as follow below) link to us. This would eliminate a lot of work and confusion all the way around.

- Greater Austin Area
- College Station
- Houston Area
- Greater Houston/Galveston/Huntsville/La Grange Area
- Bellville/Bryan/College Station/Huntsville/Schulenburg Brenham Area

Notes: Not too sure how to proceed from here regarding

Newsletter Editor ~ Lynn S. ~

The AWSC voted to try a change of months for the 4 issues of the *Beacon*. The next *Beacon* deadline will Dec 1, 2015 for the first issue of 2016. The next issues will be March, June and September. The goal is to get the paper copy of the *Beacon* in the hands of the groups in plenty of time before the area assemblies.

A paper copy of the *Beacon* is mailed to each registered Al-Anon and Alateen group. If your group is not receiving this copy please check with your Area Group Records Coordinator, Candy N., to inquire as to your group Current Mailing Address (CMA) information.

To the groups that send a \$6.00 contribution for their "free" subscription to help defray the cost of the *Beacon*, **"Thank You"**.

Groups wishing to receive an email copy of the *Beacon* should use the subscription form on the address page of this *Beacon* sending the form with your \$6.00 check or money order to the Area Treasurer, Tricia L.

Personal subscriptions are \$6.00 for U.S. mail or \$6.00 for email. The subscription year is Jan. 1 to Dec 31.

Making amends: The fourth issue of the *Beacon* was not delivered to all of the groups due to a mistake in the mailing labels. Many of the groups that meet in clubhouses the street number was omitted on the label causing the *Beacon* to be returned to me. If your group did not receive your copy please send me an email and I will send the group an email copy. I cannot US mail the returned *Beacon* but I can email it. beaconnewsletter@yahoo.com.

this matter.

District Reports

District 1 ~ Alicia (Licha) T. ~

My name is Flor P., I'm filling in for District Representative, Alicia T. who was unable to attend the assembly.

The October 10th district meeting hosted by Harlingen AFG well attended. Thank you Harlingen AFG for being such a gracious host. Our district has 21 Al-Anon Groups and 2 Alateen groups. Twelve group representatives were present, as well as other intergroup, district officers and coordinators. There was a lot of participation.

- It was decided at this meeting to add both district treasurer, Everica R. and Bennie P. will serve as signers at the bank. This will make it easier to coordinate and carry out banking duties. This was put to a vote and GRs unanimously approved it.
- Everica reports that the banking issues have been taken care of and we are now in business once again!
- Everyone brought a gift for the "basket" that we were asked to bring to the Area Fall Assembly. Good Luck to the winner! Hope you enjoy a taste of the Valley!
- We also discussed inviting Joyce Y., our Area Delegate to visit our district at our next district meeting which will take place at the AA Jamboree at South Padre Island, January 16, 2016. Gracie, past DR., will be the Al-Anon speaker at the AA Jamboree!

Public Outreach Activities:

Adriana, Public Outreach Coordinator, has been working with some local churches to carry out the Al-Anon message. Members are stepping up to speak at these events. We are hoping to attract some new members.

Our meeting schedules are in several local papers and we have had some positive results from it.

Grupo Esperanza celebrated their 34th Anniversary Monday, November 2, 2015. They had a big celebration which was a great success!

District 2 ~ Myrthala C. ~

Hello from District 2, ***A SEA OF MIRACLES !***

Happy, Joyous and Free!!

We are excited to report District 2 will be hosting the next Fall Assembly 2016. We are working our way in the planning for this assembly. The assembly will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas on November 4-6, 2016.

We had our District meeting October 10th, 2015 hosted by Libertad group in Laredo. Lisa our website coordinator gave us a presentation on how to navigate the Al-Anon website. Afterwards, we had fellowship and cake as Libertad celebrated their 7th anniversary.

Our quarterly speaker was Roy C. from Step Together Step

group, it was well attended. I am excited to report half of our GRs attended the Fall Assembly in San Antonio. It was a good opportunity to experience service in Al-Anon.

District 3 ~ Jocelyn B. ~

No Report

District 4 ~ Mattie T. ~

No Report

District 5 ~ Anita C. ~

Greeting to All.....

It is good to express my joy to you as I come to the end of my first year serving District 5. I have had enormous experiences during this year of which I am grateful to all. I have used the 12th step in my life this year more than the other eleven and asking my Higher Power to please help me to set aside everything I think I knew about people, places or things so I could have an open mind and a new experience.

The secret to recovery is service as stated in the great books of Al-Anon. I was so inspired by the attendance of our group representatives at the San Antonio assembly, there were 17 members experiencing this spiritual event.

The groups show the responsibility as servants by participating fully at the district level.

District 5 had the privilege of sharing part of a day of recovery with the Links of Service, Joyce Y., our delegate presented.

As a district we have the opportunity to share with the Hispanic community by translating most of our information for them to take back to their groups.

All of the district coordinators and officer positions have finally been filled. We have had Alateen members participating in the district meeting showing a desire to service as the Area Alateen Liaison.

The first District 5 meeting will be in February and continuing every other month after that.

Here is wishing all a happy prosperous full-filled joyful and fortunate new year ahead.

District 6 ~Lori L. ~

No Report

District 7 ~Jane M. ~

Greetings from District 7. We've recovered from the Spring Assembly. To reward our hard work, we scheduled a district-wide family picnic at Royalty Pecan Farm Oct. 24th. That turned out to be the weekend the drought ended in the Brazos Valley with 8" of rain. A small brave group came and enjoyed good food and beautiful surroundings.

A number of our groups are growing and trying new ideas. The Montgomery AFG had a writing workshop this fall with a good turnout. Harmony Alateen in Conroe welcomed guests from the Spring Branch Alateen group. A new meeting, Traditions AFG, was begun in College Station. The group meets Thurs. evenings at 7:30 pm at Christ United Methodist Church.

Eight GRs were present at the Fall Assembly in San Antonio Nov. 6-8th. Our hats are off to district 12 for a great assembly. The next district meeting will be Feb. 20th, 804 Texas Ave, Bryan. Registration is at 9:30, meeting 10-12:00. We will then travel a few miles east to Kurten for the AA Unity Conference with Al-Anon participation. George and Robbie E. are the Al-Anon speakers in the afternoon. Lunch will be at Unity Conference.

District 8 ~ Jennifer S. ~

Greetings from District 8!

I'm so excited to get going as the new District 8 Representative! Service work has meant so much to my continued growth in recovery. We are blessed to have some dedicated service workers in District 8. I am grateful for their guidance and I look forward to meeting more people outside my district. I plan on making the rounds in the new year and introducing myself at all the meetings in our district. In January I will be attending SETA and I can't wait to attend my first assembly in May!

District 9 ~ Beverly C. ~

No Report

District 10 ~ Susan L. ~

Greetings from District 10.

Our last district meeting was October 3, in Marshall, Texas hosted by Trinity 12-Step AFG.

Three members were able to attend Fall Assembly in San Antonio, representing two of our area groups and our district. Crystal, represented Clean Air Step Study AFG, Christy T. represented Spring Hill AFG and Mary A. represented District 10.

Our Public Outreach coordinator, Vera S. gave copies of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2016* to visitors at a service fair held at Kilgore College. Public Outreach for Al-Anon/Alateen was also present at a Recovery Fair and Expo held in Teague Park on September 19. Mary A., Jan H., and Barbara M. were present to hand out pamphlets and flyers, as well as answer questions. Public Outreach is alive in District 10.

Our next district meeting will be December 12, at 10:30. It will be at Vicki W.'s home in Longview, Texas at 10:30 am, with an ornament exchange.

We have a new meeting starting in Karnack on Monday nights at 7 PM at the Karnack Methodist Church.

District 12 ~ Dolores W. ~

District 12 held it's last meeting of the year 17th of October 2015, we were hosted by Just for Today AFG and Hill Country AFG at a new location 408 Gruene Road, New Braunfels TX 78130 with 13 voting GRs.

Now that our district's responsibility of the Fall ETAAA is

just about over I am tremendously excited to visit with as many of the district groups this coming year.

In the October district meeting we decided to hold a Day In Al-Anon workshop March 12, 2016. The planning committee for this event has already been hard at work to organize and provide a fun and informative day reaching out to area service members to lead some of the workshops.

The ETAAA Fall Assembly had good attendance well over 150 people with 100 voting members. Heard several good things about District 12's choice of meeting site, program and hospitality room. Our final committee meeting is in a couple of weeks and will have more to report when I have more information.

I will close for now with my hopes and prayers to you my Al-Anon family members a joyous holiday season of family and fellowship.

District 13 ~ David S. ~

Happy New Year from District 13!!!

District 13 is working away on our plans for hosting the Spring 2016 ETAAA Assembly.

The dates for the event are May 13-15, 2016 and it will be held at the beautiful Inn of the Hills Resort and Convention Center in Kerrville, Texas. See the registration flyer in this issue of the *Beacon* for contact information and rates for the hotel. Our theme is P.E.A.C.E. "Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything!"

The San Antonio Literature Distribution Center will be providing literature for the assembly. Bill P. from the San Antonio LDC will be taking pre-orders as was done at the last three assemblies. The March issue of the *Beacon* will have full details.

Our next business meeting will be hosted by the New Beginnings AFG, January 16th, 2016, in St. Paul's Methodist Church, Kerrville, at 2 p.m.

AWSC Meeting

Area World Service Committee will meet

February 6, 2016

New Life Lutheran Church

3521 E Orange Street

Pearland, Texas 77581

Group Records ~ Candy N. ~

A positive note is that an editable version of the Group Records Change form (GR1) is readily available on the Texas website thanks to Lisa, our Area Website Coordinator. 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)**. Type in the information, save the edited form as a .pdf file and e-mail it to me.

My challenge is to coordinate group changes throughout all the districts and information services. During the first week of October I will be sending out updated lists to all of the District Representatives. I will ask them to provide the latest contact information for others in their districts who need to be notified of group changes. I want to be sure that everyone in the East Texas Area who uses or maintains group information has the latest information available. Gratefully in Service.

Public Outreach ~ Judy W. ~

Great to see everyone in San Antonio for the Fall Assembly. District 12 did a great job hosting!

Sunday morning we had seven districts representatives meet to share their challenges and successes. I shared a summary of bullet points from the WSO Area Public Outreach Coordinator's conference call which was held on October 17th.

Ideas from the WSO call included how to carry the message during the holidays. Best practices with Public Service Announcements (PSAs) were discussed. The 2015 PSA campaign is about to wrap up in December and the 2016 campaign will begin.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2016 (AFA) orders are available for purchase until 5 p.m. ET, Wednesday, February 3, 2016. WSO shared how this could be shared along with TV and radio stations to help carry the message. Two coordinators mentioned use of the AFAs in movie theaters. Awesome!

Hope to see everyone at the Spring Assembly in Kerrville!

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO - EAST TEXAS AREA 53**

(Please attach this form to your check or money order)

District Number: _____

Group Name: _____

Group # _____

City: _____

ST: _____

Zip: _____

Amount: _____ CK/MO #: _____

Sent by: _____

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

Mail to: Treasurer – ETAAA, PO Box 34102, San Antonio, Texas 78265

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

Please send this form through your Area Process or the WSO

1. Group Record

WSO I.D. 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 Information Center Board Meeting was held on November 16, 2015, at 6301 Manchaca Road at 6:30 P. M. Elections were held, motions were made and passed, committee reports were given, and several other business items were discussed. Eleven voting members were present as well as several non-voting members. New officers for 2016-2017 are as follows:

Chair: Joyce L., Secretary: Charlotte T., Treasurer: Peggie F. and AIS Liaison: Paula H.

The literature and volunteer committees still need chairpersons, but chairs of the Finance Committee are Julie K., and Meeting List Committee Carolyn K. The Finance Committee is working on a manual for office procedures, and it will be presented for approval at the next Board Meeting. Job duties for positions related to financial matters will be outlined.

The following motions were voted upon and were approved:

1. Motion for Chair Joyce L. to send out an appeal letter to all groups requesting donations for the Austin Information Center by December 1 was approved.
2. Motion to approve the 2016 budget was accepted as amended.
3. Motion for a change in wording of the By-Laws, Section 9.7, was approved. The wording changed from "prudent reserve" to "excess funds."
4. A motion was made to give the Austin Information Center employee a Christmas bonus by December 1.
5. District 6 has a massive public outreach project to place Al-Anon public service announcements on Capital Metro buses. The District wanted to know if it could make a donation to the Al-Anon Information Center and have the Information Center make a payment to Capital Metro using its 501 (c) (3) status, thereby receiving a discount on the posters. WSO approved these posters, and WSO was contacted regarding this question. WSO said that it would be legal to use this procedure. After much discussion, the motion to have District 6 donate the money to the Austin Information Center for purchase of these advertisements was approved.

Other items discussed were the lease for the current location of the Austin Information Center, a computer for the office, yellow page advertisements, a section on the Austin Al-Anon website for policies, and literature sales and donations. The new lease for the Austin Information Center is effective from September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2021. Research is continuing for a computer, a router, and Internet access for the information center. The Austin Al-Anon yellow pages advertisement has been cancelled, and the Board will need to vote to reinstate the advertisement if wanted. A section for information center policies to be added to the Austin Al-Anon website was discussed. The webmaster can make the adjustments, but the Board needs to approve any changes to the website. Literature sales and donations to the center have decreased the last quarter.

Austin Information Center Board Meeting is February 16, 2016, at 6:30 P. M. at Northland AFG.

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. We now have volunteers for these days and are looking for substitute volunteers if someone needs to be out.

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/LDC in your area.

Our web address is www.setxalanon.org. There is an updated meeting list for District 8 on this website.

Our challenge—Our office manager sent out appeal letters asking each group to dig a little deeper into their pockets to send a little more, or give for the first time. This makes them feel a part of our AIS/LDC and district. Thank you District 8 for your support. Please keep giving to the four arms of service, help you AIS/LDC, District, Area, and WSO. This is how we keep Al-Anon strong.

Houston Al-Anon Intergroup ~ Ann R. ~

Board members are happy to announce the addition of a part time staff member and a second computer to the Houston Intergroup Office and Bookstore in November. Our new office manager appreciates all the volunteers that help in the bookstore and answer the phone for those that need them.

From Hopelessness to Hope, our annual day of Al-Anon inspiration and fellowship was a great success and raised over \$3000 for the Houston Intergroup.

South Texas AIS/LDC ~ Bennie P. ~**I'll start out to talk about the most challenging:**

We were having both District and Intergroup meetings together, however, at break time, we would lose a lot of our members! We tried switching them around but it still wasn't working. We tried combining them and just kept going with just a short break and we were able to retain all of our members until both meetings were over! We do have separate officers and different agendas and since we began having Intergroup Quarterly meetings, it's working really well for us and our meetings are not as long as they used to be.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

- We are still waiting on the UT-RGV approval to proceed with the Al-Anon meetings on campus.
- A local church requested Al-Anon information for all their Sunday services from 12 noon to 7pm on October 11. Several members stepped up to talk and hand out literature.
- The telephone problem we had been having has been resolved and we decided to stay with the same service and are now getting better service.

37th All Texas Al-Anon Alateen Conference



Love IS.....



February 19th - 21st, 2016



Speakers:

Aaron J. - Al-Anon NC

Ellen F. - Al-Anon FL

Deb H. - AA CA

Larcine G. - Al-Anon CA

Ric B. - Al-Anon VA

Christina A. - Spanish Al-Anon TX



Westin DFW Airport Hotel

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Reservations: 1-800-937-8461 Locally: 972-929-4500



Roomrate \$94.00 - King or Double

Name: _____	<input type="radio"/> Al-Anon <input type="radio"/> Alateen <input type="radio"/> A.A.
Name on badge: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____	
Al-Anon & A.A. \$25 (\$30 at the door) Alateen \$5 (Alateen must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times)	
Name of responsible adult accompanying Alateen: _____	
Make check or money order payable to ATAAC	Send registration to: ATAAC Karen Brown 2010 Cordova Bend Irving, TX 75050 (confirmation to be sent)
For more information contact: Rene Dymale 972-979-6385 ATAAC2015@outlook.com	

ETAAA Financial Report 11/30/2015							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	2016 Budget
Income														
Assembly Surplus							3,263.20	0.00	3,238.60	0.00	6,501.80			
Fall 2014							3,263.20				3,263.20			
Spring 2015									3,238.60		3,238.60			
Beacon Income							30.00	36.00	66.00	270.00	402.00	200.00	202.00	200.00
Group Subscription							18.00	24.00	24.00	84.00	150.00			
Personal Subscriptions							12.00	12.00	42.00	186.00	252.00			
Contributions Income							5,372.22	3,217.55	6,077.32	2,250.43	16,917.52	20,820.00	(3,902.48)	22,800.00
Fall Gratitude Basket										643.30	643.30			
Miscellaneous Income											0.00			
Total Income							8,665.42	3,253.55	9,381.92	3,163.73	24,464.62	21,020.00	3,444.62	23,000.00
Expenses														
Travel / Expenses							961.54	2,676.62	822.65	2,422.38	6,883.19	11,000.00	(4,116.81)	1,200.00
Alateen Coordinator								723.48		138.55	862.03	800.00	62.03	1,000.00
Alateen Liaison											0.00	400.00	(400.00)	400.00
Alateen Process Person							135.43	312.11	214.72		662.26	800.00	(137.74)	1,000.00
Alternate Delegate									231.61	340.17	571.78	600.00	(28.22)	600.00
Archives								183.30		245.13	428.43	500.00	(71.57)	500.00
Beacon Editor								104.35	158.31	151.74	414.40	500.00	(85.60)	500.00
Chair							74.83	202.63		381.82	659.28	800.00	(140.72)	800.00
Delegate								121.69		8.86	130.55	1,500.00	(1,369.45)	1,500.00
Group Records								275.31		191.33	466.64	500.00	(33.36)	500.00
Public Outreach							68.60		218.01	282.09	568.70	600.00	(31.30)	600.00
Past Delegates							98.40			90.25	188.65	1,500.00	(1,311.35)	1,500.00
Past Area Chairperson											0.00	500.00	(500.00)	500.00
Secretary							197.34	200.62		333.89	731.85	500.00	231.85	800.00
Spanish Coordinator							33.83				33.83	500.00	(466.17)	500.00
Treasurer							291.34	326.88			618.22	500.00	118.22	800.00
Website Coordinator							61.77	226.25		258.55	546.57	500.00	46.57	500.00
Other Expenses							2,682.30	1,216.35	1,017.70	1,010.00	5,926.35	4,420.00	1,506.35	4,400.00
Beacon Publishing							1,122.60	613.66	732.70	730.00	3,198.96	3,100.00	98.96	3,100.00
Storage Unit for Archives							270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	1,080.00	1,080.00	0.00	1,080.00
Transitional AWSC Meeting							1,220.03				1,220.03			
Web Hosting Fee											0.00	240.00	(240.00)	120.00
Audit Committee Expense								317.69			317.69			
Miscellaneous Expense							69.67	15.00	15.00	10.00	109.67			100.00
World Service Conference							300.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,300.00	3,200.00	(900.00)	3,200.00
Area's Gifts to WSC							300.00				300.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC										2,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	(500.00)	2,500.00
Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC											0.00	400.00	(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)	3,400.00
Delegate	193.81				193.81	600.00	(406.19)	600.00
Chair	319.68				319.68	600.00	(280.32)	600.00
Immediate Past Delegate		427.01			427.01	600.00	(172.99)	600.00
Active Past Delegate								1,000.00
Alternate Delegate		199.32			199.32	600.00	(400.68)	600.00
Total Expenses	4,457.33	4,519.30	1,840.35	5,432.38	16,249.36	21,020.00	(4,770.64)	23,000.00
Net Income Less Expenses	4,208.09	(1,098.14)	7,541.57	2,973.58	13,625.10	21,020.00	8,215.26	
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		3,500.00		5,500.00			
Received Attn. Background Checks	39.00	454.50	62.00	6.50	562.00			
Spring Birthday Basket		696.56			696.56			
Returned Beacon Advance	1,122.60		331.86		1,454.46			
Total Extraordinary Income	3,161.60	1,151.06	3,893.86	6.50	8,213.02			
Expenses								
Seed Money	3,500.00	3,500.00		3,500.00	10,500.00			
Fees paid Attn Background Checks	65.00	370.50		6.50	442.00			
Spring Birthday Basket to WSO			696.56		696.56			
Total Extraordinary Expenses	3,565.00	3,870.50	696.56	3,506.50	11,638.56			
Net Extraordinary Income Less Expenses	(403.40)	(2,719.44)	3,197.30	(3,500.00)	(3,022.14)			
Profit/(Loss)	3,804.69	(3,817.58)	10,738.87	(1,721.93)	9,004.05			
Checking Account Balance	42,094.00	6/60/2015	42,277.00	42,338.00				
Beginning Balance	27,996.21	31,384.14	27,398.82	38,048.03				
2014 Expenses Reconciled in 2015	(416.76)							
Increase/(Decrease)	3,804.39	(3,817.58)	10,738.87	(2,228.73)				
Ending Balance	31,384.14	27,398.95	38,048.03	35,819.30				
Ample Reserve Fund (CD)								
Beginning Balance	13,764.52	13,783.13	13,801.97	13,805.45				
Increase/(Decrease)	18.61	18.84	3.48					
Ending Balance	13,783.13	13,807.97	13,805.45	13,805.45				

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen AWSC Minutes November 6, 2015 San Antonio, Texas

Chairman: Kay C. opened the meeting at 9:18 pm.

Secretary: David S. called Roll. 27 voting members of the AWSC present. A motion was made and approved to accept the Meeting minutes from the AWSC Meeting in Smithville on September 17, 2015 as sent out by email.

Treasurer: Tricia L. reported on the Area's bank balances. Requested that all officers and coordinators turn in all unpaid expense reports to her by December 1, 2015.

Area Delegate Report: Joyce Y. reported that the 2016 World Service Conference is to be held April 11-15, 2016. The theme is "Realizing Our Spiritual Potential". Service opportunities are available on *The Forum* Advisory committee and on the Executive Committee for Real Property Management. She read qualifications, November 30, 2015 deadline. Her full report will be given tomorrow at the Business Meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Assembly Guidelines Task Force: Diane B. reported that the task force is reviewing the guidelines from a practical standpoint and will present suggestions at the next AWSC meeting.

Conflict/Resolution (Leadership Support Committee): Kay still needs job descriptions from several of the officers/coordinators. Requested all remaining officers/coordinators to send her a description of your job to her.

New Business:

Area 53 Business Meeting Agenda: The proposed Agenda for the November 7, 2015 Area Business Meeting was presented. After discussion a motion was made to accept the agenda as presented and corrected. The motion passed.

Roll Call: Kay went over instructions for GR Roll Call at Business Meeting. DRs to collect sign in sheets at registration table at 1 pm. Go over the sign in sheet for correctness, total up voting GRs and present sheet to Area Secretary.

Upcoming AWSC Meetings:

- February 6, 2016 (District 4-Pearland)
- August 2016 (District 5)
- January 2017 (District 7)
- August 2017 (to be determined)

Request from West Texas: Kay has received a request from the West Texas Area to accept groups from Del Rio and 3 counties currently in West Texas into the East Texas Area. After discussion, a task force was created to look into this request. Task force members are: Lynn S. (Dist 12), David S. (Dist 13), Myrthala C. (Dist 2) and Benny P. (Dist 1).

Assembly Reports:

Fall 2015 – San Antonio, Dolores W. reported that were 137 currently registered.

Spring 2016 – Kerrville, David S. reported dates of assembly are May 13-15, 2016 plans are proceeding. Registration fliers to be available at tomorrow's business meeting.

Fall 2016 – Corpus Christi, Myrthala C. reported dates of assembly are November 4-6, 2016 in Corpus Christi at the Holiday Inn Downtown. Theme to be "Sea of Miracles". October 14, 2016 hotel reservation cut off.

Meeting was closed with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.

Respectfully Submitted,

David R. S.

World Service Conference Love Gifts

Each year many groups create small gifts for our delegate to share with other delegates from across the country and around the world. These small gifts are brought together in a room and the delegates come and take them as mementos of their experience. They can be anything that represents Al-Anon or your group, for example; bookmarks, note holders, refrigerator magnets, etc.

If you would like to send letters, notes of encouragement or love gifts for conference members to support our delegate, please send them anytime between April 9-15, 2016 as follows:

Joyce Yoder

(Hold for WSC 4/9 through 4/15/16)

Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel

5700 Atlantic Avenue

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

Be sure to use Joyce's home address on the return address should your package or card not be received during the conference time.

Al-Anon Declaration

Let It Begin With Me

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there,

and – *Let It Begin With Me*

WANTED



PARTICIPANTS

Program Of Sponsors Sharing Everything

**TEXAS EAST AREA TWENTY-SECOND ROUND-UP WEEKEND FOR
ALATEEN SPONSORS, ADULTS INTERESTED IN SPONSORING AN
ALATEEN GROUP, AND DISTRICT ALATEEN COORDINATORS**

WHEN: MARCH 18, 19, 20, 2016

WHERE: DISCIPLES CONFERENCE CENTER, GONZALES, TX

**WHAT: WORKSHOPS ON: SETTING BOUNDARIES, ATTENDING
CONFERENCES, SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES, STARTING NEW
GROUPS, PROGRAM IDEAS, AVOIDING BURNOUT**

**COST: \$125.00 PER PERSON - Included in the cost is two nights lodging,
Saturday meals, Sunday brunch & registration.**

REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY March 04, 2016

Chairman: Norma W.

Registrar: Lynn S.
etxposse@yahoo.com

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA)**San Antonio, TX – November 7, 2015****Business Meeting Minutes**

Opening: Kay C., Chairman opened the meeting at 9:15 am. The 12 Traditions and the Concepts were read and a time keeper was appointed.

Delegate's Report: Joyce Y. introduced herself and read from "When I Got Busy I Got Better", Reaching out to others Pg 55 & 56.

Shared that there were service opportunities available as part of the Forum Advisory Committee and also as Member at Large on the Executive Committee for Real Property Management. She has requirements and information. Information also available on website.

She announced that the next World Service Conference will be April 11-15, 2016. Theme is "Realizing Our Spiritual Potential". Conference will be held at the Wyndam Virginia Beach Ocean Front Hotel at 5700 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451.

Joyce will be submitting by December 30, a chosen agenda item from our Area for the conference. She requested suggestions be to her for this by Dec. 15th. She will select one for submission.

Reported that 21 areas have made submissions to host the WSO to host the "Meet the Board" in 2016, including our Area. The chosen Area has not yet been announced.

Trustees at WSO are looking at the World Service Office structure to make sure their capabilities are being fully utilized. Also looking at the procedures for replacing the board chairperson when they retire or need replacing.

She offered clarification on Alateen Structure discussed at 2015 World Service Conference. The topic is centered around trying to determine if we are reaching Alateens. Do we need more electronic connection. What do they want? Let them make decisions.

A skit was presented about registering groups and accepting group conscious.

Complete Delegate report will be in the *Beacon*.

Chosen Agenda Items:**1.) Payment of Expenses for Past Delegates active in the area to attend the South Central Region Area Delegates meeting.**

Rosie M. presented the topic to the Area. Explained that the South Central Region Area Delegates meeting is held annually and is attended by Delegates and is hosted by Past Delegates. Our Area has only been paying the Immediate Past Delegate's expense to this meeting for the first year of the panel. Our Area has several past delegates attend who attend this meeting. The AWSOC is proposing adding a line to the 2016 Area Budget in the amount of \$1000 to help pay the expenses of all active past delegates to attend. Meeting helps prepare current Delegate for attendance to the World Service Conference. Other Areas who attend this meeting pay expenses for all Past Delegates. Discussion followed.

2.) 2016 Budget

Tricia L. presented the budget to the assembly. Explained recommended increases to 2015 budget for Area Alateen Process Person, Area Alateen Coordinator, Secretary and Treasurer as well as proposed reduction in the Web Hosting fee to line up with actual expenses for the service. After discussion and changes to budget presented the total proposed budget for 2016 is \$23,000.

Coordinator Reports:

Coordinator reports were given by: Becky F. (Archives), Judy W. (Public Outreach), Norma W. (Alateen Coordinator), Lisa W. (Website Coordinator), Anita C. (Spanish Coordinator), Bennie P. (Area Alateen Process Person), Candy N. (Group Records Coordinator), Lynn S. (*Beacon* Editor). Their reports are on record and will be printed in the *Beacon*.

Meeting adjourned for lunch.

Meeting resumed at 1:15 pm with Roll Call. 100 voting Group Representatives were present. By consensus, the voting method will be by simple majority. (51 needed for simple majority).

Secretary: Motion was made, seconded and approved to waive reading and accept the Minutes from the June 6, 2015 Assembly Business meeting as published in the *Beacon*. (Vol. 47, Issue 3).

Treasurer: Tricia L. passed the gratitude basket (\$643.30 was contributed). Contributions will remain in the Area.

Area has \$38,048.03 in bank account and \$13,805.45 in the ample reserve fund. An updated financial report will be published in the next *Beacon*. She then went over the numbers for the proposed 2016 Budget again.

Alternate Delegate/Literature Coordinator's Report: Margaret F. encouraged sending sharings to the World Service Office (WSO) for future literature. Announced Nov. 14 Dear Abby column will publish a report from a teen dealing with parental drinking. Encouraged Districts to send a copy of their District Newsletters to the WSO. There is a new Table Card with the Al-Anon Declaration on one side and a message to leave out other affiliations on the other. There are two new DVD's available for rental from the WSO: AV-1, "Lois' Story" and AV-24, "Lois W. and the Pioneers". Made appeal to subscribe to the *Beacon* and *The Forum*. Encouraged reading the *Beacon*, has lots of information from the area. WSO needs pictures for *The Forum*, animals, landscapes, no faces.

No Unfinished Business:**New Business:****1.) Payment of Expenses for Past Delegates active in the area to attend the South Central Region Area Delegates meeting.**

Floor was opened for any further discussion. After a brief discussion a motion was presented.

Motion No. 1: I, Rich Mate, move that the ETAAA add a line item to the 2016 budget in the amount of \$1000.00 to

defray the expenses paid by the past active delegates who attend the South Central Regional Delegates Meeting (SCRDM) on a yearly basis. The motion was seconded by Rosie Morin and passed with a vote of 91 for 8 against and 0 abstaining.

2.) 2016 Budget

Floor was opened for further discussion. Chair explained equalized expenses for Delegates.

With no further discussion a motion was presented.

Motion No. 2: ***I, Barbara E. H., make the motion that the proposed 2016 ETAAA Budget be approved as presented.*** The motion was seconded by Waverly Jones and passed with a vote of 95 for 3 against and 1 abstaining.

AIS/LDC Reports:

AIS/LDC reports on successes and challenges were given by Nancy M. (San Antonio AIS/LDC), Paula H. (Austin AIS/LDC), Carole L. (Beaumont AIS/LDC), Ann R. (Houston AIS/LDC), Bennie P. (South Texas AIS/LDC). Their full reports are on record and will be in the *Beacon*.

Assembly Reports:

Spring 2015 – Franklin – D7. Jane M. reported final attendance was 138. Returned seed money and an additional \$3,278.

Fall 2015 – San Antonio – D12. Dolores W. reported approximately 150 registered.

Spring 2016 – Kerrville – D13. David S. reported the theme is PEACE (Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything). May 13-15th in Kerrville at the Inn of the Hills convention center. March 30, 2016 cut off date for registrations. Fliers available today.

Fall 2016 – Corpus Christi – D2. Myrthala C. reported the date is Nov. 4-6. The theme is "A Sea of Miracles". Location will be the Holiday Inn Downtown Marina. October 14 cut off date for reservations. Fliers available today.

District Representative Reports:

Reports were given on successes and challenges by each of the following Districts:

D1- Flor P., D2-Myrthala C., D3-Jocelyn B., D4-Sherry, D5-Anita C., D6-Judy W., D7-Jane M., D8-Diane B., D9-Debbie C., D10-Mary, D12-Dolores W., D13-Becky F.

Full reports are on record and will be in the *Beacon*.

Ask it Basket Questions:

Q: Is it okay to take pictures of people or archive material at assembly?

A: Do not take pictures of people at the event without their permission and don't post them on social media. Taking pictures of archive material and people who have passed is okay.

Q. Why were the AWSC meeting minutes removed from the Beacon? Can they be added back in? As a past AWSC member I find it important to keep up with what is happening.

A. The minutes from the June AWSC meeting were not published as the only business was setting agenda for business meeting. The minutes from the AWSC meeting last night will be in the *Beacon*.

Q. What is the recommended terms of service for each groups officers, GRs, treasurers, etc.?

A. See Pages 46, 62 and 133 of the Service Manual for guidance. The Area encourages 3 year terms for the Group Representative to coincide with the Area's 3 year panels for continuity.

Meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration

Respectfully Submitted,

David S.

Area Secretary

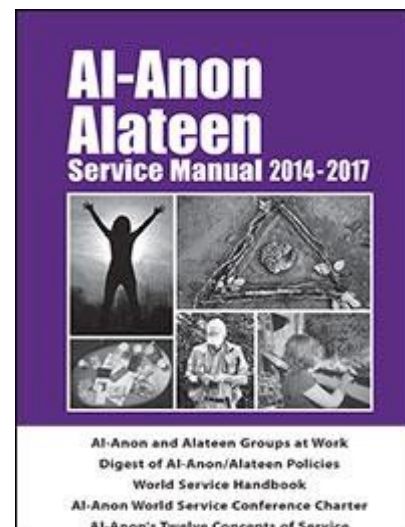
Ask-It-Basket Question

What is an AIS/LDC and what are their purpose?

AIS is the acronym for Al-Anon Information Service and LDC is acronym for Literature Distribution Center. *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017* pages 63 and 64 have a detailed description of what the AIS/LDC does. A brief summary is given below.

An AIS is a local service established and maintained by one or more districts or by groups located close enough to one another for easy access and communication. The AIS purpose is to serve as a link to the community and groups for meeting information and other information about Al-Anon, Alateen and sometimes AA. The AIS is often the first contact a newcomer has with Al-Anon.

An LDC is registered with the World Service Office (WSO) and is approved to sell conference approved Al-Anon/Alateen literature in the local area. The purpose of the LDC is to provide conference approved literature (CAL) in a timely manner to the local area. Typically, the AIS is the LDC, but this is not required as they can be separate entities.



ETAAA

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