

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") in San Antonio! A special BIG thank you to all the Group Representative (GRs) who showed up and participated in the business meeting and to District 12 for hosting the event. As I discussed in my last report we had about 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** as we have more money items and "boundaries" changes to the Borders in East and West Texas to discuss. The theme is *Participate! Everyone's Attitude Changes Everything (PEACE)*. A flyer is available in this issue of the *Beacon*. 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! In November, we travel to Corpus Christi. One of the best things about East Texas Area 53 Assemblies is that we move the Assembly all over East Texas so that everyone one gets a chance to participate.

We had a very fruitful discussion at the AWSC meeting in Pearland, February 6, 2016. 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. The items we discussed at the AWSC were 1) updating the Assembly Guidelines, Conflict/Resolution at the AWSC level, 2) posting all meetings in the Area on the Area web site (texas-al-anon.org), 3) Alternate Group Records Coordinator, 4) South Central Regional Trustee Candidates, 5) reimbursement of printing handouts on a home computer, 6) Area 53 Finances, 7) motions handbook, and 8) changes in the format of Area and AWSC meeting minutes 9) Fall Assembly shortage. We also heard reports from DRs about future Assemblies, District Representative (DR) reports, and Information Service Liaison reports. We formed a thought force to look at the posting of meetings on the Area website. Lisa W, the Texas East Area 53 website coordinator is the chair of the committee. Details of these discussions are in the minutes of the AWSC in this issue of the *Beacon* and in the framing statements for some of the chosen agenda items. It was a long day, but a lot was accomplished. I want to give a big thank you to all of the AWSC members for coming and District 4 for being our host!

I am planning on attending the South Central Region Delegates meeting with other members of our Area. I hope to get different/new ideas to bring to our Area concerning Assemblies and WSO.

In closing, I encourage everyone in the Area to give feedback to your DR or to me concerning the Assemblies. I look forward to seeing everyone in Kerrville.

Email: etaaa.panel55.chair@gmail.com



Calendar of Events

**World Service
Conference (WSC)**
April 11-15, 2016

Joyce Y.
(Hold for WSC 4/9 thru 4/15)
**Wyndham Virginia
Beach Oceanfront Hotel**
5700 Atlantic Ave
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Use Joyce's home address on
the return label.

TEA AC
April 29, 30 May 1, 2016
Gonzales, Texas

ETAAA Spring Assembly
"P.E.A.C.E."
May 13-15, 2016
Kerrville, Texas

AWSC Meeting
August 6, 2016
Zion Lutheran Church
3606 Beauchamp
Houston, Texas 77009

Deadline for Submissions
for the next issue of
the *Beacon* June 1, 2016

Inside this issue:

2015 AWSC Roster	2	District Reports	8-9	Financial Report	14-15
Fall Assembly Flyer	3	Change Form GR-1	11	AWSC Minutes	18-19
Delegate/Alt. Delegate	4-5	AIS/LDC	12	ETAAA Agenda	16
Coordinator Reports	6-7	Chosen Agenda Items	13	Spring Assembly Flyer	17
Alateen Reports	5			Area Contribution Form	19



AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2015-2017

For Contact Information for East Texas Area 53 Area World Service Committee Members
Contact your Group Representative or Send a Request to: web@texas-al-anon.org

AREA CONTRIBUTIONS

Mail to: ETAAA Treasurer

P.O. Box 34102

San Antonio, TX 78265

See contribution form on page 19

65 Years
of
Miracles

East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen (ETAAA)
Fall Assembly 2016
November 4 – 6, 2016



“A Sea of Miracles”

Holiday Inn Downtown Marina

707 N. Shoreline Blvd, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Hotel Telephone: 361-882-1700 ♦ Hotel Reservations: 1-888-726-5058

ETAAA Rates

Standard King - \$109.00 + tax

Two Double - \$112.00 + tax

Reference Group Code: ETA

Hotel Reservation Cut-Off Date: October 14, 2016

*Parking is \$10 for Weekend (covered parking garage). Hotel Amenities Include
On-Site Fitness Center, Complimentary Wireless and Business Center*

First Things First Easy Does It How Important It Is **JUST FOR TODAY** Live & Let Live

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	Make Checks Payable to District 2 ETAAA
___ \$25 AA Registration	Mail to: Attn: ETAAA Registration
___ \$5 Alateen Registration	PO Box 10022
___ \$20 Luncheon	Corpus Christi, TX 78460

Email questions to: fallassembly2016@gmail.com

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

KEEP AN OPEN MIND Principles Above Personalities Progress Not Perfection

Keep It Simple BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD Let It Begin With Me TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT One Day At A Time Listen and Learn

Delegate Report ~ Joyce Y. ~

"Realizing our Spiritual Potential" is the theme for the 2016 World Service Conference (WSC), April 10-16. As we celebrate the 65th year of Al-Anon and the 56th year of the World Service Conference, I am reminded of the tremendous Spiritual Potential we have been given in the past to prepare us for more Spiritual Potential in the future and to assure undiluted Al-Anon/Alateen will be there for future generations.

What is the World Service Conference? Al-Anon's annual business meeting. The voice of world Al-Anon through the fellowship's largest group conscience.

Who attends Conference? Delegates (with voice and vote), Board of Trustees (with voice and vote), Executive Committee (with voice and vote), World Service Conference WSO Staff (with voice and vote), other attendees (voice and vote varies with each participant's role).

Brief overview of 2016 World Service Conference

Four Trustees at Large, three Regional Trustees, three Board officers, and one Executive Committee for Real Property Management nominees will be presented to the WSC for traditional approval. Congratulations to Rosie Morin, one of our past Texas East Delegates, who is one of the nominees for Trustee at Large.

Sharing Area Highlights meeting is an opportunity for Delegates to come together at the WSC to share successes, concerns and challenges. This year the format for the 3 hour session has changed and will include 15-20 minute discussions with 6-8 people followed by brief report back of group discussion highlights to all Delegates.

The 2016 WSC agenda also includes audit and budget, annual report, two agenda items, and Tasks Force reports. Three minute talks by outgoing Panel 54 Delegates will be interspersed throughout the Conference. I look forward to the nuggets of wisdom while visiting with the other delegates and staff during the week.

"Many decisions are not made at just one Conference, but rather are debated and well thought out, using Knowledge-Based Decision-Making. This ensures everyone has a voice and presents information that offers opinions that provide positive responses or present concerns related to the questions at hand. Some discussions may continue for the full term of the Delegates, which is three years. The growth and stability of the Al-Anon program depends on all of us practicing our Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. " *Area Highlights, Winter 2015, Page 6.* *Area Highlights* can be found on the member's website at www.al-anon.org/members under Service Structure/District Resources.

The South Central Regional Delegate's meeting will be in Oklahoma City, Ok. March 4-6. The meetings are always very informative. I enjoy meeting the other current Delegates from our Region so I will know some familiar faces when I arrive at the WSC. The love, wisdom, and encouragement the past Delegates share is awesome.

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"Meet the Board" will be held October 22, 2016 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. This sounds like a great road trip opportunity full of service and fun.

Thank you for the love gifts you have given this year for sharing with Delegates and for sharing with their areas. Thank you for your love, support, and encouragement through cards, notes, texts, emails and phone. This helps me stay focused on my responsibility to be the best delegate I could be in representing your Texas East voice in this worldwide fellowship. TEXAS EAST – YOU ARE AWESOME!! My goal this year is to have you be a part of the WSC by sharing a brief daily update of the day's events by email to AWSC.

Realizing Our Spiritual Potential

1. What am I doing to help other members create spiritual potential?
2. What can I do to help others reach their spiritual potential?
3. What ways am I making real my spiritual potential?
4. What can I do to reach spiritual potential of our program?

Love and gratitude through Service, Joyce Yoder

Texas East Delegate – Panel 55

Concept 4 – Participation is the key to harmony.

Alt. Delegate Report ~ Margaret F. ~

Hello to everyone!

Finally- we made it! The big move to the barn dominium has happened. Well, most of it anyway. Have to finish a few things to be totally complete but at least we aren't tripping over one another.

Group Representatives~ we are going to try something new in May. Information before you come! The GR information is loaded to the website (texas-al-anon.org). Go to the Texas Al-Anon website. Click on the members tab and log in. Look for heading TexasAreas. Find your Area and/or click the necessary links below for documents specific to Access Area 53 (Texas East). Be prepared to ask questions and give some answer/suggestions in the Group Representative workshop.

Al-Anon's daily reader *Courage to Change* is now available as an audiobook (eA-16)! Contact your favorite audio vendor for more information. Listening length is nine hours and 14 minutes. The audio book is sold as a downloadable MP3 file through these vendors, rather than directly from Al-Anon, because they have the technology that can provide copyright protection for our literature. In accordance with our policy on anonymity, the narrators are not identified.

Individual copies of *The Forum* are now available on Amazon and Kobo for \$1.49 (U.S.) and Apple iTunes for \$1.99 (U.S.). At this time, annual subscriptions are not available from these electronic bookstores.

An annual electronic subscription to *The Forum* continues to be available from Nook, the Barnes & Noble electronic bookstore. The cost of an annual subscription is \$11 (U.S.). Individual copies can be purchased for \$1.49 (U.S.).

This announcement is informational only, and is not an endorsement of any electronic store, reader, or other

products sold by electronic bookstores.

As always sharings are needed for new literature. You may mail it to WSO or use the website.

Hope to see you in May in Kerrville.

Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Norma W. ~

Greetings to All. Alateen is off and running for 2016. Jayne G. from district 6 held the 1st Alateen Sponsor Training for the year on January 9, with 9 in attendance. District 4 is holding an Alateen Sponsors Training as well on April 2, 2016 in Missouri City, TX. The flier is on the Texas website.

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 in the next week or two. Fliers also available at texas-al-anon.org

Area Alateen Process Person ~ Bennie P. ~

GREETINGS TO ALL AREA 53 MEMBERS

As of now, we have 85 Certified AMIAS (Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service) and 26 Alateen Groups. We have three districts who have started new Alateen groups! Since the beginning of the year, I have received multiple AMIAS registrations. People are now stepping up to Alateen service. I'd like to think it's because the certification process is a lot simpler to become sponsors and to start an Alateen group! Not only the process but WSO is also delegating some of the data entry to the Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP).

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, Area Alateen Coordinator (AAC) or Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP). You can also go to our Texas Website <http://texas-al-anon.org> to download the **Texas East Area Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) Requirements and Registration Forms.**

Please read the instructions carefully to ensure you meet all of the Area Safety and Behavioral Requirements before submitting your application forms:

1. **AMIAS Registration Form – make sure you note the date of your training, where or who did the training.**
2. **Criminal Record Release Authorization**
3. **Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service.**

(cont'd on pg 6)

(cont'd from pg 5)

AMIAS Certification is done year-round. Anyone interested in serving as an AMIAS (Alateen Sponsor) must participate in an 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 of their training status but if missed you, please check with me. Training workshops are underway now and our Area Alateen Coordinator will be coordinating and informing our Area on the time and locations. Don't forget POSSE is definitely the way to get off to a good start! You get a full weekend of information with members with lots of experience, strength and hope! You can get it all done there, the training and submit your application. **I will be there to notarize your Criminal Record Release Authorization. POSSE weekend, as always will be held in Gonzalez March 18 – 20th.** In Alateen Service.

Group Records ~ Candy N. ~

I am happy to report that many of the technical difficulties I was having last fall have finally settled down. The worst part was that a lot of the procedures/processes I had set up at the beginning of 2015 had to be redone. At least it was a learning experience that helped me better understand my job. And I have also noticed that the use of the GR-1 is increasing.

During January, I provided an Area Group Records Coordinator description to Kay C (although I have to admit, I waited until she gently prodded me by e-mail).

One of my favorite duties is encouraging new groups to register. I have begun providing the following information to those who inquire.

"The Al-Anon/Alateen Groups At Work (The Service Manual) Page 30 provides an abundance of information about starting a new group. A downloadable version of the manual is available from the Members page of the Al-anon website www.al-anon.org or you should be able to purchase a copy from your local Al-Anon Bookstore. Once you have all the information together about your new meeting, it is time to fill out and submit a Group Records Change Form (GR-1).

An editable version of the GR-1 is available on the Texas website. Go to texas-al-anon.org, click on the Members tab* (*password is [afg](#) or [anonymity](#)), 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 as an attachment. I will enter the information in the database and turn it over to the World Service Office (WSO) for approval. WSO will notify you when your new group has been approved."

Gratefully in Service.

Spanish Coordinator ~ Anita C. ~

Coordinadora de Grupos Hispanos,
No mucho que reportar. Por lo pronto ya tenemos un coordinador para Distrito 1 – Luis de Laredo. Esta oportunidad de servicio ha sido lento por no experimentar la buena voluntad de servir. Espero verlos en la proxima Asamblea en Kerrville.

Intergrupala Hispana de Houston ~ Virginia L.~

Antes que nada les enviamos un profundo agradecimiento a todos los que tuvieron a bien en hacer la Unidad en nuestra Información Pública el día 20 de Febrero. Muchas personas se vieron beneficiadas. La respuesta de los Grupos no se hizo esperar y se hizo de manifiesto en la concurrida asistencia. Tuvimos la oportunidad de escuchar la experiencia de una Joven de Alateen, Al-Anon, AA, y un profesional. Se considera la posibilidad de concretar mas eventos como este durante el año. Les invitamos a estar pendientes.

Les compartimos que el Comité de Información Pública apoyó a la apertura de el **Grupo Amor y Paz** que se encuentra ubicado en la dirección 5401 Fannin St. 77004. También este Comité ha estado dirigiendo sus esfuerzos para entrar a pasar la información en el Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Galveston/Houston. Después de varios intentos por fin han recibido respuesta.

Aprovecho para recordarles que el Comité de Literatura mantiene un surtido permanente de (LAC) folletos, pamfletos y otros. La demanda por parte de los Grupos y miembros fluye constantemente. Pueden enviar sus pedidos por correo electrónico, llamando o haciéndose presentes en la Reunión de asuntos de Intergrupo el último Domingo de cada mes a las 11am en la dirección 6160 Glenmont Dr. Houston, Tx. 77081 Apt 155.

Re-comenzaremos nuestro recorrido de visitas a los Grupos del área de Houston y lugares circunvecinos. Así que pronto estaremos por allí haciendonos presentes con información actualizada de lo que estamos haciendo. De antemano agradecemos el amor con que nos reciben.

Estamos entusiasmados de que el Distrito 4 esté dispuesto a trabajar en unidad con nosotros. Se avecinan proyectos en conjunto através del Comité de Información Pública y demás servidores.

Sigamos Adelante por un propósito en común: Llevar el mensaje de esperanza a los amigos y familiares de los alcohólicos.

Reunión de asuntos de Intergrupo: Ultimo Domingo de cada mes de 11:00am – 1:00pm.

Dirección física: 6160 Glenmont Dr. Houston, Tx. 77081

PO BOX: 1975 Bellaire, 77402

Pag web: alanonhispano.org

e-mail: intergrupohispanohouston@gmail.com

Tel: 713-6811296

Public Outreach ~ Judy W. ~

Lots of great activities going on by the District Public Outreach Coordinators (DPOCs)! Some reported activity highlights over the last quarter (December to February 2016) include:

District #2: Distributed Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) booklets to the Justice of the Peace precincts & treatment centers; distributed posters, flyers & literature to all high schools within the district about a new Alateen meeting; shared literature with health centers, private therapy offices & even a couple of halfway houses; continued networking with District #1's DPOC.

District #3: Added group meeting times as labels on Forums before distribution; started a new Alateen group.

District #4: Began reviewing donated CAL material; continued follow-up with miscellaneous Al-Anon questions from treatment centers & business referrals that originated from health fairs and other Al-Anon members; began preparing info packets for churches and physician offices.

District #5: Worked with a key focal point to assist coordination with professionals from judicial, legal, and law enforcement to attend a "Day in Al-Anon" for professionals; same focal point is assisting with leads for community fairs (e.g. Health & Education); working details of invitation to speak on radio station about the disease of alcoholism.

District #6: Two district projects are underway; a) Worked with School Health Advisory Committees (SHACs) to get approval for poster distribution to 90 junior and high schools in & around the Austin Independent School District; Effort includes distribution of 10,000 pamphlets (S-20s) ordered to leave 100/school for students (stamping party underway); b) Placed 100 placards in the Austin Metro buses from mid-Feb to mid-March.

District #7: Continued to support parents group meeting in Woodlands which is having successful attendance (25 to 40 members) & now considering adding another meeting or splitting original meeting; also networking with Wimberley, TX (District 6) to start a similar meeting.

District #8: Shared experience, strength & hope with rehab center including meeting location info & miscellaneous literature; distributed literature to doctor's offices, hospitals, MHMR facilities, & YMCA

District #10: Worked on "Day in Al-Anon" scheduled for 5/7; using newspaper to announce Longview meetings; placed Alateen meeting time in newspaper & on TV.

Also asked the DPOCs to begin thinking of ways to use surplus funds in the area that could best help carry the Al-Anon message at both the area and district levels. This topic along with our district best practices and challenges will be the agenda topics for our Sunday morning networking session at the Spring Assembly in Kerrville.

Love in Service.

Archives Coordinator ~ Becky F. ~

Hello ETAAA members!

Archives is still a process in construction. Lots of duplicates and hoping to have a new and interesting display in May. Not much news for now but learning from the WSO Archives discussion board. Getting volunteers to help with a scrapbook. Will have a display of pictures of unknowns to search through and "name that person/event". See you in May!

Newsletter Editor ~ Lynn S. ~

A complimentary paper copy of the *Beacon* is mailed to each registered area 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 "complimentary" 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.

Website 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:

Texas West paid the website charges for 2016.

Attended the AWSC meeting on Saturday, February 6th in Pearland, TX

Presented on the Web housing of all meeting lists to help eliminate confusion.

Coordinated reading and responding to approximately 117 Texas Al-Anon website emails with Texas West Website Coordinator, Marcia H.

Added 2 events: District 12 A Day in Al-Anon and Hey Day
Updated 2 events: P.O.S.S.E. & ETAAA 2016 Fall Assembly Flyer

Added 2 new meetings: 1 each, Al-Anon and Alateen and updated the maps with icons for directions to the new meetings. Made several other meeting changes that came down from WSO group records

Corrected the dates on 3 Alateen pdfs that exist on the website as per Bennie P.

Updated a website plug-in

Asked Marcia H to cover East TX area website emails for me as I retreated February 17 – 21

(cont'd on pg 16)

District Reports**District 1 ~ Alicia (Licha) T. ~**

No report

District 2 ~ Myrthala C.~

Greetings from District 2.

District 2 is busy planning the Fall Assembly 2016, ***"A Sea of Miracles"***. Please make plans to attend Fall Assembly and **share with District 2 your miracle in Al-Anon**. You will find the flyer in this issue of the *Beacon*.

District 2 started 2016 with first district meeting January 24th during Jamboree, it was well attended by most of GR's.

Some of the district groups remain the same and some growing. Our District Public Outreach coordinators from Corpus Christi and Laredo are doing an excellent job at reaching out to both communities.

I had the privilege to share my experience, strength and hope at the first quarterly speaker meeting for 2016 hosted by Monday Night Step Together Step AFG in Corpus Christi.

Our challenge continues with some groups without group representatives

Our next district meeting will be held on April 16 in Corpus Christi and will be discussing district business with an emphasis on Fall Assembly 2016. Yours in Service, Myrthala.

District 3 ~ Jocelyn B.~

Happy Spring, All. We are thankful for good weather & the colors of the season.

We also are grateful for an answered prayer. District 3 is happy to announce that an Alateen group has been established in Victoria. Hope for Today Alateen meets on Sunday afternoon at 4 pm. Maria D. is the coordinator. Our Al-Anon groups have been most generous in providing materials. Our Higher Power is sooo good!

Our district meeting will be held on April 2. We will welcome our delegate and alternate delegate (Joyce & Margaret). We look forward to our next assembly and seeing all of you!

Serving with a grateful heart.

District 4 ~ Mattie T. ~

Most importantly to me is to thank all the Group Representatives and officers in District 4 for the support, hugs and love in my first year as DR. This position has made me more humble and continues to teach me that I do not have to do anything alone. This position would not be possible without all of you.

During our last district meeting (December 12, 2015), we approved our budget for year 2016 and set the quarterly meeting schedules with host AFGs:

February 27, 2016. - Surfside AFG

June 18, 2016. - Courage To Change AFG

Love in Service.

September 10, 2016. - Margaret F's Home

December 10, 2016. - Eldridge AFG

A big Thank You to District 4 for your financial support of the Alateens that will attend the Texas East Area Alateen Conference in April 2016.

Thanks to everyone who came out on January 10th, 2016 to help sew, cut, snip, etc. for the WSO Delegate Love Gifts and a big thank you for the Taylor Street Club for their support for allowing us to use their facility. This project was completed after our district meeting on February 27, 2016.

I attended my first ISR meeting on January 31, 2016 and found it very enlightening and informative. Thank you to all the AFGs in our district that so generously support our Houston Intergroup.

We hosted the AWSC (Area World Service Committee) meeting on February 6, 2016 at the Pearland AFG. Thanks to everyone that came and made this a successful event. The Taco Salad Bar and desserts were delicious.

District 4 will host the ETAA Spring Assembly 2017. I have looked at several locations and have a tentative spot. The T.E. Harmon Community Center, located in Sugarland, TX would serve our needs. I have submitted forms to be completed so that we can get approval for its use. During the coming months we will focus on preparing for the Spring Assembly 2017. During our district meeting we selected committee chairs for the various positions.

SAVE THE DATE: A Day In Al-Anon "WHAT A CONCEPT - LET'S CELEBRATE", JULY 30, 2016, 9:00AM - 3:00PM 207 South Taylor Street, Alvin, TX 77511.

The Rose Rich Group has moved to River Pointe Church. New name: **Richmond Book Study AFG**, meeting time is still Tuesdays at noon

The Woods Road AFG filled several service positions and their Sunday afternoon meetings are running smoothly. Beginning March 6, new time will be 3:30PM

Please support the groups that have low attendance, I have spoken with some GRs and they have voiced their concerns.

District 5 ~ Anita C.~

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I serve you as a district representative. I bring to our meetings all the lessons learned from others who have gone before me and, also, that I will leave with our next elected servant. It has, so far, been an excellent spiritual journey along with all of you.

Although, I have committed myself to several other tasks in Al-Anon and Alateen, it has been an amazing adventure. When I decided to take these responsibilities, my life changed from seeing myself going nowhere to turning my vision of my future to reality. I am very grateful today for all the problem drinkers in my life. I have committed myself the process of setting goals to help me choose where I want to go in life. I have directed myself through all of you. I thank all of you for your support and am looking forward to the remaining days of our lives together.

I have to come to know lots of honest and hardworking servants in the program. Even being an Alateen group sponsor has given me the opportunity to grow once again as a teen.

Also, being DR has given me the ability to participate in the Area World Service Committee. Being around these amazing trusted servants gives me a wide view of what Al-Anon and Alateen offers to all who truly want it.

Thank you once again, Area 53, District 5
Anita C.

Saludos a Distrito 5

Es con gran placer y con gratitud que yo les sirvo como su representante del distrito. Puedo traer a nuestras reuniones todas las lecciones aprendidas de otros que han pasado antes que yo y también que dejare con nuestro servidor que será elegido en el futuro. Ha sido, hasta ahora, un excelente viaje espiritual a lo largo de todos ustedes.

Aunque, me he comprometido a varias otras tareas en Al-Anon y Alateen, ha sido una aventura increíble. Cuando decidí tomar estas responsabilidades, mi vida cambió de verme ir a ninguna parte a convertir mi visión de mi futuro a la realidad. Estoy muy agradecida hoy por todos los bebedores problema en mi vida. Me he comprometido el proceso de establecimiento de objetivos para ayudarme elegir donde quiero ir en la vida. Me he dirigido a mí mismo a través de todos ustedes en el distrito. Doy las gracias a todos ustedes por su apoyo y estoy deseando que lleguemos el restante de nuestras vidas juntos.

Tengo la oportunidad de conocer muchos funcionarios honestos y trabajadores en el programa. Aun siendo un patrocinador de un grupo de Alateen me han dado la oportunidad de crecer una vez más como un adolescente.

Como RD me ha dado la capacidad de participar en el Comité de Servicio Mundial de Área. Estar cerca de estos servidores de confianza sorprendentes me da una visión amplia de lo que Al-Anon y Alateen ofrece a todos los que verdaderamente lo quieren. Gracias ante mano,

District 6 ~Lori L. ~

Our last District 6 meeting was held on January 23, 2016, in Round Rock, Texas, hosted by Seekers of Serenity AFG. They performed a skit on referring to the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* when groups had issues or questions and not be the Al-Anon Sheriff or the Sheriff's Deputy! I had a few members comment to me that they had not laughed so much at a district meeting and that it was not so stiff! They really had a good time!

We began the business meeting with Alice M., the Secretary, taking roll call to which we had 24 voting Group Representatives (GRs). The Treasurer, Doon R., presented the Proposed 2016 Budget, to which she made some corrections as the budget for the District Alateen Coordinator was reduced by \$500 at the suggestion of our former District

Alateen Coordinator (DAC), Jayne G. In the end, there was a motion to approve the budget as amended and it passed unanimously.

Judy W., the Alternate District Representative (Alt DR) and myself, came up with a survey to hand out to the GRs on increasing attendance at district and assembly meetings. There were two (2) short paragraphs on the meeting purpose and other reasons why members may attend the meetings. The three (3) questions that was asked were: 1] What do you like about attending District and Assembly meetings; 2] What do you dislike about attending district and assembly meetings; and 3] What are some improvements that can or could be made to increase the attendance by Al-Anon and Alateen members. At this time we are still reviewing the surveys.

Under old business, Anna A. gave an update on the Cap Metro (bus transit in Austin) placards for public outreach from the unallocated funds thought force. It paid for 110 placards and printing of the placards to go on 110 buses. Once our session ends with Cap Metro, the placards will be discarded. We will possibly look to the cab system in a second phase of public outreach. Peggy H. gave an update from the thought force of how she identified the Student Health Advisory Council coordinators (SHAC) to approach them with the Alateen posters to put in the schools. She has a script to call the schools with and needs volunteers to call the schools and for delivery of the posters. She has eight (8) schools on the list. The posters will go into the school districts where there are already active Alateen meetings being held in those areas. Judy W. did a follow up on ordering 250 more posters for \$155 and 1,000 pamphlets for \$300 for the Alateens. There was a motion made to order the posters and the pamphlets and it was passed unanimously.

Under new business, our former DAC, Jayne G., gave a brief summary from reading her report on pages 9-10 in the district newsletter about the job duties of the DAC and had a Q&A in hopes of an Al-Anon member being willing to stand for the position. At this time, the DAC position is still open. The last item discussed was District 6 hosting the Fall Assembly in 2017. The location has been determined which will be at the Holiday Inn Austin Midtown on Middle Fiskville Road in Austin, on November 3-5, 2017. The contract has been signed and returned to our contact, Theresa Campos. The Area Assembly Guidelines that was voted on and approved at the last AWSC in September 2015, was handed out. We briefly discussed the different committees that must be formed and which committees our co-host district will be responsible for. District 7 is our co-host district. The GRs decided that we needed to table further discussion of the committees that needs to be formed at the next district meeting in April. We closed with the Al-Anon Declaration.

District 7 ~Jane M. ~

Spring is just around the corner in District 7. At the Feb. 20th meeting, we discussed the AWSC winter 2017 meeting we are hosting. Several sites were proposed and one hopefully will be chosen at the April meeting. Joyce Y., WSO delegate, will visit the district's July 16th meeting. All are welcomed to come meet her. Most of our groups are doing well. The Waller Hope for Today AFG has had three potlucks with the AA group

that meets in the same place. The Bryan Tues. AFG changed (cont'd on pg 10)

(cont'd from pg 9)

their meeting time from 7:30 to 7:00 pm. They now have a babysitter. College Station Freedom Alateen group meets 5:30 pm Mondays at A&M United Methodist Church. Right now they have one Alateen. Conroe Harmony Alateen group has allowed younger youth (as young as 8 yrs. old) to join. The older youth are leading the group and modeling good behavior. The district has five Alateen sponsors. Regrettably the Columbus Gratitude AFG has closed. The Juvenile Justice group in Conroe has been suspended until a Spanish translator can be found. The Hearne AFG has not been meeting because of members' health issues. They hope to revive the meeting soon.

Also, on Feb. 20th, George and Robbie E. spoke at the AA Unity Conference with Al-Anon participation in Kurten. It was a very inspiring story. Next district meeting will be Apr. 23rd at 804 Texas Ave, Bryan.

District 8 ~ Jennifer S. ~

Hello from District 8! I am getting ready to tour our district and visit all our meetings over the next few months. My hope is to introduce myself and encourage participation in our district. I plan on delivering a current meeting list (to encourage members to check out all the wonderful meetings in our district) and a note with the current addresses for the 4 Arms of Service. I am also going to introduce the idea of a new calendar system for volunteering at our AIS. Hopefully we will have more volunteers when they are able to sign up for open dates as opposed to committing every week at set time frames. As a result of these visits, I will ensure our meeting lists are up to date with meeting addresses, contacts, codes, etc.

Our next district meeting is April 23rd. I'm feeling a little more confident now that I have one under my belt! I continue to learn so much about the different levels of service and the various positions. Attending my first AWSC meeting was exciting! I received such a warm welcome, thank you all. Now I get to look forward to my first Assembly in Kerrville!

District 9 ~ Debby C.~

District 9 is struggling with the loss of our DR Beverly Crossly, she has had some family and other issues that required her to resign. As alternate DR, I will be fulfilling the duties of DR until such time as we elect someone else or the term is up. I guess my HP decided I needed some more practice with good personal leadership.

OK, as to district news. We are hoping to hook up with District 10 this year to have a joint fundraiser and invite our Delegate to come and share her story and World Service News!

Our next district meeting will be in Winnsboro on April 16th. We will meet at 10AM. Hope to have a good turnout there. We usually try to have a nice meal after the meeting and this time will be no different.

out and they will now be listed in District 9, so WELCOME (finally) to Crossroads AFG, we look forward to working with you as well as all the groups in our District to continue to bring the message of Hope to those who need to hear it. I am working to get all the current GR email addresses updated so I can increase communication with ALL the groups in our District. There were at least two new GRs from the Palestine/Nacogdoches area at the July 2015 meeting. Thank you for your support and remember...when I got busy, I got better.

District 10 ~ Susan L.~

District 10 is alive and well.

Our last meeting was held on December 12 and was an ornament exchange as well as a district meeting. Next district meeting is in March.

District 10 is planning an Al-Anon workshop to be held on May 7 in Marshall, at Margot L's home.

There are two new groups in District 10, one meeting in Karnack and one at Lake of the Pines. I have not yet visited these new groups but am keeping them invited to district meetings. We continue to have an Alateen meeting on Thursday evenings at 8 PM, at Church of Christ Pinetree in Longview.

District 12 ~ Dolores W.~

Hello Area 53. District 12 is happy to invite you all to our "A Day In Al-Anon" this March 12th, 2016. Please look for our flyer on the Texas website <http://texas-al-anon.org/events/a-day-in-al-anon-3/> fee is 5\$ or 10\$ at the door.

Our district has filled the Literature Coordinator position however we currently have two service opportunities open for someone in our district, Public Outreach and Spanish Coordinator.

Our district also continues to work on communication and conflict resolution within the service positions.

District 13 ~ David S.~

Howdy Area 53! 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!"

Bill P., Literature Distribution Coordinator for the San Antonio Literature Distribution Center, will be providing literature sales at the assembly. Groups or individuals wishing to pre-order may do so by contacting Bill at whpridgen@gmail.com.

Our next Business meeting is going to be hosted by the Changed Attitudes AFG and will be held March 12th, 2016 in Kerrville at La Hacienda Community Outreach Center 2 p.m.

Yours in Service.

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 Al-Anon Information Center held its quarterly meeting on February 16, 2016 at 6:30 P. M. The Chairperson, Joyce L., announced that a search is still being conducted for a computer for the Austin Information Center. If possible, a donation of a Mac laptop is preferable. If no one can donate, Joyce will search for reasonably priced used laptops. A modem, router, and printer have been donated. Joyce is still working on updating the AIC office manager guide with roles, responsibilities, and procedures.

Committee members are still needed for the literature, finance, volunteers, and meeting list committees. A committee member can be any Al-Anon member who is willing to serve.

The finance committee developed an AAIC Financial Policies, Procedures, and Responsibilities Guide. A vote was made to accept the document, and it will be posted on the Austin Al-Anon website, www.austinalanon.org. Also, our treasurer, Peggie F., mentioned that since the AIC is a 501c3, the IRS tax returns must be posted on the Austin Al-Anon website, as that is public information. Complete financial information was provided to board members. Please contact me if you would like to see that information. Literature sales and donations are doing well, and our office employee, Kitty G., estimates that a little over \$2000 was donated as a result of the appeal letter that was sent to groups in December.

In an effort to communicate better, the board voted to add a section to the Austin Al-Anon website. The label reads AAIC Board, and posted under that section are the following: Meeting Minutes; Policies, Guides, and Other Documents; and By-Laws. A review of the By-Laws was made.

VERY IMPORTANT—It was announced that if a group gives a money order to the AIC for literature purchases or donations, NO money orders over 30 days old will be honored. Several money orders have recently bounced, and this has created extreme difficulties for our treasurer.

The board was informed of the TX Website Meeting List Thought Force. KBDM questions were distributed, and input from the meeting list committee and board members was requested by April 1, 2016.

Future meetings of the AIC Board are as follows: May 16, 2016 at the Austin Al-Anon Information Center at 6:30 P. M.; August 16, 2016 at Northland at 6:30 P. M. and November 14, 2016 at the Austin Al-Anon Information Center at 6:30 P. M.

With love in Al-Anon service,

Beaumont AIS/LDC ~ Carole L. ~

Our AIS-LDC Board Chairman Suzanne R. has announced that our Office Manager has tendered her resignation, and has agreed to stay on until April 30 to give us additional time to find a successor, and for her to train this person for the job. If you or someone you know is interested, please call the AIS/LDC Office for qualifications and details. We are actively looking for someone to take the position.

The office is also asking for volunteers to work at the office in 3 hour shifts on certain days, we also need substitute volunteers to work when someone needs to be off. Call the office

for details.

Houston Al-Anon Intergroup ~ Ann R.~

Houston Intergroup will be hosting a speaker meeting at the Spring Branch Club on May 14. See our website for further details.

New board members will be elected in April as two board members' terms expire.

More volunteers could be used to answer phone calls after hours (the calls are just transferred to your personal phone for the duration of your shift).

Could these be your ways to be in Al-Anon service?

South Texas AIS/LDC ~ Bennie P. ~

Intergroup Quarterly meeting was held on Jan 16, 2016 at the AA Jamboree at South Padre Island. We had the pleasure of welcoming our Area Delegate, Joyce Y. who lead a wonderful service workshop.

Bennie reported that we will be responsible for selling literature at the Fall 2016 Assembly to be held in District 2 at Corpus Christi, November 4-6. Have to ensure that we have enough literature and will need help with the inventory and volunteers to help at the Assembly.

New business was to elect a new treasurer due to current treasurer, Sandra G, resignation. Everica R., current District Treasurer volunteered to take the position. Barb D. made the motion to accept Everica R. as treasurer and Gladys seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bennie and Everica went to the IBC bank and took care of removing Sandra from the account and adding Everica. This time, everything went smoothly.

Gladys, Secretary also resigned due to personal reasons. However, Bennie asked if she would reconsider staying on as Secretary. Gladys accepted as long as there was an Alternate Secretary when she could not attend meetings. Mandy volunteered to be the Alternate Secretary. Dolores made the motion to accept Mandy as Alternate Secretary and Margaret seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Outreach Activities:

Adriana V. , Public Outreach Coordinator reported that several TV and Radio Stations have been passing the WSO Al-Anon message and she asked the groups to please choose a station from the list she passed around to send a thank you note to.

Placing an order for the Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism magazine before Feb. 8 cut-off deadline in English and Spanish.

Bennie P., Chairman

Chosen Agenda Items for Fall 2016 East Texas Al-Anon Alateen Assembly (ETAAA)– As recommended by the Area World Service Committee (AWSC).

Reimburse AWSC members 5 cents (5¢) per page of printed material for copies made on a home printer.

Background:

An AWSC member asked to be reimbursed for copies made on their home printer ("home copies"). ETAAA has no approval from the GRs to reimburse the AWSC for home copies. Some AWSC members do not live close to a business that will make copies. In keeping with Tradition 7, that the Area be fully self-supporting, AWSC discussed the amount for home copies reimbursement at the February 6, 2016 AWSC meeting. Based on their collective knowledge concerning the price of paper and different ink toners, the AWSC decided that 5¢ per page of printed material (i.e., 10 ¢ for a double sided copy) would be a reasonable amount of money for reimbursement. A recommendation was passed by the AWSC to ask the Group Representatives (GR) at the Fall 2016 Assembly to propose this recommendation for a vote.

Proposed GR Motion for Motion Slip: I _____ move that the AWSC member be reimbursed 5¢ per page of printed material for home copies made for Texas East Area 53 business purposed (e.g., Assemblies, workshops, AWSC meetings).

Area Finances

Background:

Upon review of the 2015 books, the AWSC noticed that ETAAA has a significant amount of money in their checking account (\$32,964.99). Our Reserve (CD) has a balance of \$13,808.93, and our operating budget is \$23,000.00. At the February 6, 2016 AWSC meeting, in keeping with Tradition 10, the AWSC proposed the two recommendations below to lower the amount of money in our checking account to be closer to our operating budget and one operating motion. This will reduce the monies in our checking account to about \$24,773.92. The AWSC also charged the ETAAA Public Outreach Coordinator to go back to the Districts and find out if there was interest in an Area wide Public Outreach campaign and what that would look like.

Transfer of monies to Ample Reserve to Increase Reserve to \$20,000. The AWSC recommends that we increase our Ample Reserve to about 1 year of operating expenses (about \$20,000).

Proposed GR Motion: I _____ that the ETAAA increase our Ample Reserve to \$20,000.

Allow the ETAAA Treasurer to roll over the CD in June or invest the Ample Reserve in a Money Market account, whichever one pays the most interest. Currently our Ample Reserve is held in a CD. The ETAAA Treasurer needs approval to roll over the CD in June or invest it in another account (e.g., a Money Market account). The AWSC would like a motion that allows the ETAAA Treasurer to place our money in an interest bearing account with approval from the AWSC. This would allow the Treasurer to conduct business in a more timely matter.

Proposed GR Motion: I _____ move to allow the ETAAA Treasurer to place the Ample Reserve in an interest bearing account to be decided by the Treasurer and agreed upon by the AWSC (e.g., money market, CD, etc.)

Donation of \$2,000 to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. As discussed in the Spring Assembly, the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. is operating under the premise that they will have a \$52,000 deficit at the end 2015. The AWSC recommends that ETAAA make a donation of \$2000 in addition to the monies collected in the Gratitude baskets at the Assembly.

Proposed GR Motion: I _____ move that the ETAAA make a donation of \$2000 in addition to the monies collected in the Gratitude baskets at the Assembly to the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

Change in Boundaries between Texas East Area 53 and Texas West Area 54.

Background:

Texas West Area 54 ("Texas West") is in the process of changing their District boundaries to better serve the groups in Texas West. During this process, they identified several groups that are in border counties that are currently reside in Texas West that want to move to East Texas Area 53 ("Texas East") for various reasons. Two groups in Del Rio have petitioned Texas West to allow such a move. Since the groups reside in Val Verde county, Texas West asked Texas East to take responsibility for Val Verde County, Edwards County and Kinney County. Edwards County and Kinney County are between Real County and Uvalde County (District 13), respectively. Texas East thinks Kinney County was part of Texas East. A thought force was formed and it was decided through Knowledge Based Decision Making and contact with one of the two groups that this was in the best interest of the groups. This decision does not require a vote by the GRs in the Area, but we would like to put a consensus in the ETAAA business meeting minutes concerning this move. During this process it was discovered that the Crossings AFG Group in Edgewood, TX, Van Zandt county has been associated with Texas West. We have received a request from the group that they be associated with Texas East District 9 as they participate in District 9 events. Texas East also supports another group in Van Zandt county, Van AFG. This will put all the known registered groups in Van Zandt county in Texas East.

I will be requesting a consensus concerning this matter during the Business meeting.

While this thought force was meeting, Texas West came to Texas East and asked defining the border between the two Areas by county instead of cities, as was the original way to define the Area. Defining the border by cities makes it difficult for the WSO and the Area Group Records Coordinators to determine what Area the group should be initially assigned. Ultimately, it is the group's decision as to what Area they belong to and the groups should be given a choice when they are formed. A task force between Texas East and Texas West was formed to study the entire border issue. The Area Task forces met with Joyce Y, Area Delegate, and Kay C., Area Chair representing East Texas. The task force has recommended that a working border between the Areas will lie along the county lines of Red River, Franklin, Hopkins, Rains, Van Zandt, Henderson, Freestone, Limestone, McLennan, Coryell, Williamson, Travis, Blanco, Gillespie, Kerr, Edwards and Val Verde.

ETAAA Financial Report 12/31/2015							
	1 st Qtr 3/31/15	2 nd Qtr 6/30/15	3 rd Qtr 9/30/15	4 th Qtr 12/31/15	Total YTD	2015 Budget	Over/(Under) 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	324.00	456.00	200.00	256.00
Group Subscription	18.00	24.00	24.00	96.00	162.00		
Personal Subscriptions	12.00	12.00	42.00	228.00	294.00		
Contributions Income	5,372.22	3,217.55	6,071.32	3,537.93	18,199.02	20,820.00	(2,620.98)
Fall Gratitude Basket				643.30	643.30		
Miscellaneous Income					0.00		
Total Income	8,665.42	3,253.55	9,375.92	4,505.23	25,800.12	21,020.00	4,780.12
Expenses							
Travel / Expenses	961.54	2,676.62	822.65	3,386.40	7,847.21	11,000.00	(3,152.79)
Alateen Coordinator		723.48		138.55	862.03	800.00	62.03
Alateen Liaison					0.00	400.00	(400.00)
Alateen Process Person	135.43	312.11	214.72	334.65	996.91	800.00	196.91
Alternate Delegate			231.61	340.17	571.78	600.00	(28.22)
Archives		183.30		245.13	428.43	500.00	(71.57)
Beacon Editor		104.35	158.31	151.74	414.40	500.00	(85.60)
Chair	74.83	202.63		381.82	659.28	800.00	(140.72)
Delegate		121.69		134.98	256.67	1,500.00	(1,243.33)
Group Records		275.31		191.33	466.64	500.00	(33.36)
Public Outreach	68.60		218.01	282.09	568.70	600.00	(31.30)
Past Delegates	98.40			344.43	442.83	1,500.00	(1,057.17)
Past Area Chairperson					0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Secretary	197.34	200.62		333.89	731.85	500.00	231.85
Spanish Coordinator	33.83				33.83	500.00	(466.17)
Treasurer	291.34	326.88		249.07	867.29	500.00	367.29
Website Coordinator	61.77	226.25		258.55	546.57	500.00	46.57
Other Expenses	2,727.84	1,216.35	1,017.70	1,059.42	6,021.31	4,420.00	1,601.31
Beacon Publishing	1,168.14	613.66	732.70	774.42	3,288.92	3,100.00	188.92
Storage Unit for Archives	270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	1,080.00	1,080.00	0.00
Transitional AVSC Meeting	1,220.03				1,220.03	0.00	1,220.03
Web Hosting Fee					0.00	240.00	(240.00)
Audit Committee Expense		317.69			317.69	0.00	317.69
Miscellaneous Expense	69.67	15.00	15.00	15.00	114.67	0.00	114.67
World Service Conference	300.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,300.00	3,200.00	(900.00)
Area's Gifts to WSC	300.00				300.00	300.00	0.00
Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC				2,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	(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)
Immediate Past Delegate		427.01			427.01	600.00	(172.99)
Active Past Delegate							
Alternate Delegate		199.32			199.32	600.00	(400.68)
Total Expenses	4,502.87	4,519.30	1,840.35	6,445.82	17,308.34	21,020.00	(3,711.66)
Net Income Less Expenses	4,162.55	(1,265.75)	7,535.57	(1,940.59)	8,491.78	0.00	8,491.78
Extraordinary Income/Expense							
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	1,168.14		331.86		1,500.00		
Total Extraordinary Income	3,207.14	1,151.06	3,893.86	6.50	8,258.56	0.00	
Expenses							
Seed Money	3,500.00	3,500.00		3,500.00	10,500.00		
Fees paid Attn Background Checks	65.00	370.50	143.00	6.50	585.00		
Spring Birthday Basket to WSO			696.56		696.56		
Total Extraordinary Expenses	3,565.00	3,870.50	839.56	3,506.50	11,781.56	0.00	
Net Extraordinary Income Less Expenses	(357.86)	(2,719.44)	3,054.30	(3,500.00)	(3,523.00)	0.00	
Profit/(Loss)	3,804.69	(3,985.19)	10,589.87	(5,440.59)	4,968.78	0.00	
Checking Account Balance							
Beginning Balance	27,996.21	31,800.90	27,815.71	38,405.58	27,996.21		
Increase/(Decrease)	3,804.69	(3,985.19)	10,589.87	(5,440.59)	4,968.78		
Ending Balance	31,800.90	27,815.71	38,405.58	32,964.99	32,964.99	0.00	
Ample Reserve Fund (CD)							
Beginning Balance	13,764.52	13,783.13	13,801.97	13,805.45	13,764.52		
Increase/(Decrease)	18.61	18.84	3.48	3.48	44.41		
Ending Balance	13,783.13	13,801.97	13,805.45	13,808.93	13,808.93	0.00	

(Website report cont'd from pg 7)

Action Items In-progress/Pending: As a result of my presentation at AWSC a "thought force" committee was formed regarding Web Housing of meeting lists

Thought Force members include: Anita C (District 5 - DR), Allyn D (Houston AIS/LDC), Paula H (Austin AIS/LDC), Jennifer S (Beaumont AIS/LDC), Candy N (Group Records), Kay C (ad hoc) & Lisa W (Thought Force Chair/East TX Web Coordinator)

Emailed thought force committee the KBDM questions for consideration with the recommended return date set for April 1st.

Our website host, In Motion Hosting, experienced a server failure on February 23rd and website is unavailable until the failure is repaired. So far it has been 5 full days. According to Marcia H with Texas West, this is the first major technical failure experienced with this host since the site was transitioned in summer 2013. She does not believe there to be cause for alarm just yet or cause for action to investigate other hosts. We just want to pro-actively make everyone aware in case they attempted to access the site and saw that it was down. We will send another update as soon as back in operation. Website navigation presentation scheduled for District 12 Day in Al-Anon on Saturday, March 12th.

As a result of my paying more attention to "AFG Connects" - "Welcoming New Practices" has been added to the website:

*Printable PDF - The New Practices - Handout

*The New Practices - Social Media Skit

Working closely with Joyce Y. and Margaret F. all of the GR forms from the ETAAA 2015 Fall Assembly packets are now on the website and the *link is available to the District.

I continue to encourage you to submit events for posting to the Texas Al-Anon website 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. The "printable meeting list link is located just below the map of your area to the left corner.

* <http://texas-al-anon.org/meetings/>

*Links unavailable at the time of this report as the website is down.

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA)

Kerrville, TX - May 14, 2016

Business Meeting Agenda

(All times are subject to change)

8-9 a.m. **GR Interchange - Margaret F. Alternate Delegate**

(all GRs are requested to attend - this is not mandatory)

8-9 a.m. **DR Interchange**

9:10 a.m. **ETAAA Business Meeting Opens - Chairperson - Kay C.**

9:15 a.m. **Delegate's Report** - Joyce Y. - Panel 55

10:30 a.m. **Chosen Agenda Item - See more details in the Beacon**

Reimburse AWSC members 5 cents (5¢) per page of printed material for copies made on a home printer (15 min)

Area Finances -3 subjects:

Transfer of monies to Ample Reserve to Increase Reserve to \$20,000.

Allow the ETAAA Treasurer to roll over the CD in June or invest the Ample Reserve in a Money Market account, whichever one pays the most interest.

Donation of \$2,000 to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

Change in Boundaries between Texas East Area 53 and Texas West Area 54.

11:30 a.m. **LUNCH BREAK**

1:00 p.m. **ETAAA ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING RESUMES**

1:15 p.m. **Non-election roll call: Group Reps (GRs) MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE !!!!!**

Determine VOTING PROCEDURE

Secretary's Report - David S.

Treasurer's Report - Tricia L.

Alternate Delegate Report/Literature Coordinator Report - Margaret F.

Coordinators Reports (2 minutes) Please report on 1 challenge / 1 success

Unfinished business None:

New Business

Chosen Agenda Items: Further Discussion if necessary.

Reimburse AWSC members 5 cents (5¢) per page of printed material for copies made on a home printer (15 min)

Area Finances -3 subjects:

Transfer of monies to Ample Reserve to Increase Reserve to \$20,000.

Allow the ETAAA Treasurer to roll over the CD in June or invest the Ample Reserve in a Money Market account, whichever one pays the most interest.

Donation of \$2,000 to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

Change in Boundaries between Texas East Area 53 and Texas West Area 54.

Gratitude Basket Total -Tricia L.

AIS/LDC Reports (2 minutes each) - Please report on 1 challenge / 1 success

Past, Present, and Future Assembly Reports (2 minutes each please)

DR Reports (2 minutes each)- Please report on 1 challenge / 1 success

~3:30 pm **Close ETAAA Business Meeting with Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration**

~3:45 pm **WORKSHOPS / INFORMATION SHARING SESSIONS -to be announced**

Announcements

Beacon Deadline - June 1, 2016

AWSC Meeting - August 6, 2016 - Houston

ETAAA Fall Assembly, November 4-6, 2016 - Corpus Christi, TX



East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen (ETAAA)

Spring Assembly 2016

May 13-15, 2016



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Ask for ETAAA rates:

\$109.00 for Single or Double

\$119.00 Triple ; \$129.00 Quad

Reservation Cut off Date: April 13, 2016

Speakers:
Friday — Nancy H. — AA
Saturday — Lynn P. — AFG



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.

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen AWSC Minutes February 6, 2016 Pearland, Texas

Chairman: Kay C. opened the meeting at 10:30 am.

Secretary: David S. called Roll. 24 voting members of the AWSC present. The following AWSC Officers or Coordinators were not in attendance: Archivist. The following districts had no representative in attendance: Districts 1 and 11. The following AIS/LDCs had no liaison in attendance: Beaumont AIS/LDC, Houston Hispanic AIS, and Waco AIS.

Secretary then read the meeting minutes from the AWSC Meeting in San Antonio on November 6, 2016. The minutes were approved as corrected. Correction: Under Assembly Reports, Fall 2015, Dolores W. reported that *there* were 137 currently registered.

Treasurer: Tricia L. asked Diane B. to report on Interim Audit for 2015. Diane reported that an audit was conducted during the preparation of the Area financial report for the February 2016 AWSC meeting. All entries were deemed correct and an obvious audit trail was established. Corrections to the spreadsheet were completed to allow for proper reconciliations and validations. The final report for YTD 2015 was found to be complete, accurate and valid. A meeting was also held with the Area Treasurer to review accounting practices and these were found to be reasonable and understandable. The auditor made a few suggestions for future practices; make non-substantive design changes to the 2016 spreadsheet for better readability and validation, continue using Quicken bookkeeping system and current ledger journal entries, provide a summary of contributions by district, put contributions made with *Beacon* subscriptions under individual contributions, provide for back-up information to be accessible for an ETAAA member in event treasurer is unable to fulfill their duties. Full report on file.

Tricia then presented the latest Area Financial Report. (On file and in *Beacon*) The Ample Reserve Fund (CD) rolled over in the 3rd quarter. Interest rates changed downward. May want to look into another place to put the money. Requested when making group contributions to the area that the district # be put on the form for tracking purposes. If no district # is given, the donation is credited to the individual not the district. Donations are still being sent to past treasurers, DRs please contact groups to give them current address. A suggestion was made to place the treasurer's address on the AWSC list page in the *Beacon* in the redacted online version of *Beacon*.

Area Delegate Report: Joyce Y. talked about being involved at all levels of service, and rotation of service. Sharing our ES&H with those that follow in positions we have held. To date she has visited 4 districts and is scheduled to visit 4 more. Would like to visit all districts. Information will be in upcoming *Beacon* on how and where to send Love gifts to the World Service Conference. It is time to elect new regional trustees for our region, Trustee at Large and Regional Trustee. She has information and forms available if interested in serving. The next *Beacon* deadline is March 1, 2016, if you want to be considered as nominee for Regional Trustee, get your information in the *Beacon*. Her full report is on file and will be in the *Beacon*.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:42 am.

Meeting resumed at 12:35 pm.

Unfinished Business:

Assembly Guidelines Committee Report: Diane B. reported she and Nancy M. are working on a presentation but have nothing new to report at this time. Rosie M. had to resign from the committee for personal reasons.

West Texas Request Thought/Task Force: Lynn S. read report answering 5 KDBM questions regarding Texas West's request that Texas East accept Kinney, Edwards and Val Verde counties into our area. After reading the report and discussion, a recommendation was made that Texas East accept the three counties into our area. By consensus, this item will be put on the agenda for the Spring Assembly.

Area Chair, Kay C., informed the AWSC that she had received an email from Texas West to also accept Hopkins, Rains and Van Zandt counties into Texas East. Our area has already been supporting these 3 counties but Texas West believes that these counties are in their area. WSO also shows the 3 counties as being in Texas West. During discussion it was pointed out we are still in the WSO's "trial period" for making alignment changes to our areas, so all changes are possible WSO just needs to be informed. Joyce Y. and Kay C. by consensus approval will work on a map in conjunction with Texas West to present at the Spring Assembly.

Some discussion followed about individual district realignments. Chairperson advised districts to discuss these issues between districts for now. After the area lines are set, then the area can address district changes in September.

Conflict/Resolution (Leadership Support Committee): Kay has received job descriptions from all officers and coordinators. She will keep these on file and they may be posted to the Website. A suggestion was made to create an Operations Manual with a compilation of job descriptions, advice from past position holders and qualifications.

New Business:

Posting meetings on the ETAAA Web site: Lisa W., website coordinator, discussed the benefits of "housing" all meeting lists for Texas East on the Area website. As things exist today, some meeting information is housed on Area Website and some meeting lists are administered by individual districts or AIS. Links are then created to these other data sources. This can cause confusion and out of date meeting information to be available on the internet. After discussion a thought force was created composed of Tricia L., Anita C., Paula H., Jennifer, Candy N., and Lisa W. This thought force will be on Housing all East Texas meeting lists on the Texas Al-Anon Website.

Call for South Central Regional Trustee Candidates: If interested in serving in this capacity please send to Kay for publication in the *Beacon*. No resumes will be in the *Beacon*.

Alternate Group Records Coordinator (AGRC): Currently Joyce Y. is the Area's AGRC. As such she has access to the

WSO's group records database and serves as the backup to the Area Group Records Coordinator. Joyce would like for someone else to take over this position. Diane B. volunteered to assume this responsibility and was unanimously accepted by the AWSC.

Reimbursement for printing handouts on a home computer: Chairperson was approached with the question of reimbursement of expenses for someone making printouts for Area business on their home printers. After discussion, a consensus was reached to make a recommendation at the Spring Assembly to pay 5 cents per printed side for home printing of Area related handouts.

Upcoming AWSC Meetings:

August 2016 (District 5)

January 2017 (District 7)

August 2017 (District 3)

Discussion of Area Finances: Due to the amount of funds in the area's checking account discussion was held regarding possible uses of the funds. After discussion, a suggestion was made and passed by consensus that a recommendation be presented at the next assembly that an amount be transferred from the checking account into the Ample Reserve Fund (CD) to bring the balance of this up to \$20,000.

Another suggestion was made to make a donation to the WSO. After discussion a suggestion was made and passed by consensus that a recommendation be presented at the next assembly to donate \$2000 to the WSO.

By consensus it was also approved that the Public Outreach Coordinator work with District POCs to come up with some suggestions for the possible use of funds for public outreach projects.

Motion Notebook: Chairperson presented the idea that the area needs a process to keep an updated motion book, and asked if this responsibility falls under the duties of the secretary. David S. agreed to pull motions from 2015 and send them to Kay C.

Chair Report: Kay C.

- **Raffles vs Drawings:** Since the area is a 501.3c, State law says you can have up to two raffles per year. So it is okay for our Area to have raffles at our two assemblies.

- **Speakers at Assemblies:** Our Fall Assembly usually has a speaker from the WSO. There is a process to follow and form to be filled out to request a speaker. Please contact Kay for help with this.

- **Feedback from Assemblies:** Chair has not received a lot of feedback. Someone questioned why they were required to attend GR meeting, some people prefer "hotel type" assemblies where they don't have to do a lot of walking. Positive feedback from having District Representatives do roll call at last assembly. Chair also decided that due to feedback she has received, the "Spirit Stick" will be done away with at assembly.

- **Change in Minutes Format:** Chair would like the minutes from the AWSC meetings to include who was in attendance. After discussion, Secretary will include this information in

some format. Also minutes from the Area Assembly, will include the total number of groups from each district.

Assembly Reports:

Fall 2015 – San Antonio, Dolores W. reported 150 Al-Anon and 5 AA registered. 89 Group Representatives. Assembly had a shortfall of -\$525.47.

Spring 2016 – Kerrville, David S. reported dates of assembly are May 13-15, 2016 plans are proceeding. Registration fliers are available.

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.

Spring 2017 – District 4, Mattie reported tentative date is May 19-21, 2017, possibly to be held at Community Center in Sugarland at no cost for facility. Holiday Inn Express 7 minutes away.

Fall 2017 – District 6, Lori reported date is November 3-5, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Midtown. \$108 room rate.

Reports: District Representatives, Coordinators and AIS/LDC Liaison reports are on file and will be in the *Beacon*.

Meeting was closed at 4:40 pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.

Respectfully Submitted,

David R. S.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO - EAST TEXAS AREA 53

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

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