

THE BEACON

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

A Message from the Chair ~ Kay C. ~

Hi Texas East Area 53,

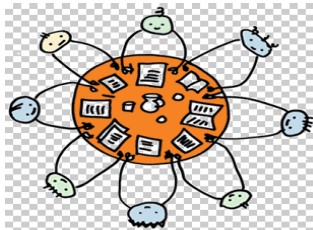
We have started our third year of this panel and the May Assembly will be my second to last time to chair the East Texas Area 53 Assembly. It has been an honor and a joy to serve everyone in the Area. My spiritual growth has taken on new dimensions. Of course, all of you have made my job very easy as you show respect at our Area Assemblies. We have done a lot over the last two years, but have more to accomplish. We will be voting on new Alateen Sponsor Certification Requirements as the trial period ends in May. Norma W., Area Alateen Coordinator, and Bennie P, Area Alateen Process Person, have developed some new requirements for training of Area Alateen Sponsors, which we will vote at this assembly.

This year we will be discussing and possibly voting on creating an Assembly Liaison and re-aligning Districts 4, 5 and 7. Do not forget that we have elections in November. We will elect a new panel of trusted servants. Check out the job descriptions on the Texas East Area 54 members section on the Texas Web site www.texas-al-anon.org. Check out the job descriptions in this *Beacon* and the Summer and Winter *Beacons*.

Assembly Liaison is a person who would provide continuity with the DRs in the planning based on previous assemblies' information and answering questions, clarifying procedures, and knowing who to ask if additional assistance is needed based on their experience. The Area World Service Committee (AWSC) decided that this would be beneficial to the Area as a whole. A Task Force was formed to develop roles and responsibilities for the Assembly Liaison, how the Assembly Liaison is determined, and if financial funding is necessary. However, before we do all that work, we are going to take a vote to see if the GRs think the Area needs an Assembly Liaison at the May Assembly. If the vote is positive, we will continue to develop the position and report back to the GRs on our progress.

Realignment of Districts 4, 5 and 7. The AWSC has formed a task force to realign Districts 4, 5, and 7 into more districts to change the number of groups and/or travel of the District Representatives in these areas. Because of the population growth of the Houston area, District 5 has approximately 135 AFG groups, which is too large for one District representative to serve. A Task Force was formed to look at this realignment. Since the May Assembly is in Sugar Land, there will be time in the morning and/or afternoon to discuss this realignment. Please come and speak for your group.

Love to you all-Kay



Calendar of Events

POSSE

March 24-26, 2017
Gonzales, Texas

2017 WSC

April 24-28, 2017
Wyndham Virginia
Beach Oceanfront Hotel
5700 Atlantic Ave
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

TEA AC

May 5-7, 2017
Gonzales, Texas

Spring Assembly 2017

May 19-21, 2017
Hyatt Place Hotel
16730 Creekbend Dr.
Sugar Land, Texas 77478

AWSC Meeting

August 12, 2017
Victoria, Texas

Deadline for Submissions
for the next issue of
The Beacon JUNE 1, 2017

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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

Opportunity to Experience the Joy of Service at the Area Level as:

Area Archivist

TERM LENGTH: Three Years (Beginning January 1, after election)

PURPOSE: *The purpose of an area archives is to preserve the experience, history and memorabilia of the Al-Anon fellowship from the beginning of the family movement in that locale. This history should be preserved so as to be available to the membership and the serious researcher, within the framework of our Traditions, for the good of Al-Anon as a whole.*

QUALIFICATIONS: Regularly attends Al-Anon Meetings.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS: Votes at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings but not at Assemblies UNLESS he/she is also a Group Representative.

RESPONSIBILITIES: (Reference Al-Anon Guidelines Area Archives (G-30).

- Maintain archives in the Climate controlled storage room for the Texas East Area Archives.
- Keep in contact with District Archivists.
- Send information to Districts.
- Write an archive article for each *Beacon* issue (4 issues a year) by the deadline
- Keep copies of *Beacon*, *Conference Summary* and the *Forum*.
- Organize and arrange archives for viewing at Area Meetings.
- Collect long timers and group history sheets.
- Look to the Past to Protect the Future.
- Turns in Area related expenses to the Area Treasurer within 2 weeks of the event (e.g., Assembly, AWSC, etc.)

Area Alateen Coordinator

TERM LENGTH: Three Years (Beginning January 1, after election).

PURPOSE: *According to the WSO Guideline, G-24, the role of the Area Alateen Coordinator (AAC) is to "communicate educate, facilitate and coordinate". This is accomplished in many ways, and can be best understood by reading the Guideline.*

QUALIFICATIONS: Regularly attends Al-Anon Meetings. It is important to note that any member can fill the position of AAC. It is not necessary to be an AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) in order to be elected, however, according to G-24, the "first step...is to become certified as an AMIAS yourself". Generally speaking, all that is truly necessary is that a member has a passion and dedication to serving Alateen in our Area.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS: Votes at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings but not at Assemblies UNLESS he/she is also a Group Representative.

RESPONSIBILITIES: In addition to the WSO Guideline, Responsibilities of the Area Alateen Coordinator (AAC) are as follows:

- Administer & maintain AMIAS Training Program.
- Update Training Workshop Presentation and Training Manual as needed.
- Approve all Area Trainers. Recommended qualifications for Trainers include being an active Alateen Group Sponsor for a minimum of 2 years, having attended a minimum of 2 Training Workshops. Qualifying Area Trainers is at the discretion of the AAC, including any exceptions or changes to the recommended qualification. Typically, once a Trainer has been approved by a current AAC, they can continue in service as a Trainer as the position of AAC rotates.
- Distribute the Training Workshop Presentation to Trainers and (DACs) District Alateen Coordinators upon request.
- Approve all Training Workshop fliers, provide the Website Coordinator with approved fliers for posting, and distribute fliers to all districts by providing to DACs or District Representatives (districts without a DAC).
- Communicate regularly with all AMIAS, directly and also via the DAC, providing updates from the World Service Office.
- Facilitate AMIAS meetings and workshops at the Area Events.
- Work with the (AAPP) Area Alateen Process Person regarding any situations requiring special attention.
- Attend WSO Teleconferences.
- Provide a quarterly report for Area Newsletter (*The Beacon*) and AWSC.
- Participate in (P.O.S.S.E) Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything, the annual weekend provided for training and fellowship and provide report to AWSC
- Participate in (TEA AC) Texas East Area Alateen Conference and provide report to AWSC.

Delegate Report ~ Joyce Y. ~

As I prepare to serve in my third and final year as Texas East Delegate to the World Service Conference, I am filled with much gratitude and the growth opportunities it has offered. This is truly a gratitude in action program for me through the "JOY OF SERVICE". This quote pretty much sums it up: *"Today I like to think that I get to take an active part in the growth of Al-Anon through service. I'm not doing Al-Anon a favor; Al-Anon is doing me one. It actually thrills me to remember that I'm allowed to take part. You let me!"* **Courage to Change, Page 336**

A special thanks to the groups of East Texas Area for your contribution of \$3,342.47 to the World Service Office in 2016.

Here is a special thank you to the districts for inviting me to visit in your district to share Delegate's report as well as the opportunity to meet more people in the districts. I visited District 8 on January 28. District 9 and 10 have invited me to share at a joint district gathering on May 6.

2017 Conference theme is "Our Members: Our Hope for the Future" and will be held **April 24-28, 2017 at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel - 5700 Atlantic Avenue - Virginia Beach, VA 23451-2236**. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. On Saturday, April 29, I will make the presentation for Texas East bid for 2023 International Al-Anon Convention in Houston to the Site Selection Committee.

The Nominating Committee did not nominate a candidate for our US South Central Regional Trustee. This allows for seeking of candidates within the South Central Region for the remaining two years, thus adding the US South Central Region to the 2017 World Service Conference and Regional Trustee Presentation and selection of Regional Committee of members. As outlined in the Regional Committee on Trustees (RCT) Plan, candidate résumés for the two-year term will be due by August 15, 2017. Candidates from our Area must submit qualifying resumes to the East Texas Area Assembly for selection by GR vote at the May, 2017 assembly so that the Area nomination can be submitted to WSO before the August 15, 2017 deadline. If interested in submitting for this two-year term beginning after the April 2018 World Service Conference, please contact me at txepanel55jy@gmail.com for requirements and resume forms.

Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Letter – February 2017

- **2018 International:** Plans continue to evolve for our 2018 International Convention, to be held in Baltimore, Maryland on July 5-8. ***Celebrating One Day at a Time 2018 International Convention.*** Registration Fees approved by the Board are: Before December 31, 2017: \$130.00, Before May 31, 2018: \$165.00, After May 31, 2018: \$195.00. You can stay connected to "breaking news" related to the 2018 International on the International Convention Web site: www.al-anoninternationalconvention.org
- In an effort to apply the use of emerging technology and communication options, to assist in decreasing budgeted expenses, and reduce costs, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommendations from the Finance Committee:

World Service Conference Summary (P-46) The Board voted to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation to discontinue the complimentary printed copy of the World Service Conference Summary (P-46) to all World Service Conference (WSC) members, past WSC members, and Area World Service Committee members beginning in 2017. *A digital copy will continue to be available on-line. Printed copies will be available for purchase for those who desire a hard copy.* The Conference Summary will be priced to cover the costs of printing and shipping.

Complimentary printed copy of the Service Manual (P24-27) The Board voted to discontinue the complimentary printed copy of the Service Manual (P24-27) in English, French, and Spanish to groups within the World Service Structure beginning in 2018. *A digital copy of the most current version will continue to be available on-line to each registered group. Printed copies will be available for purchase.* All newly registered groups will continue to receive a complimentary printed copy as part of the registration process.

How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friend of Alcoholics (B-32) Both as an outreach tool and as a contributor to revenue, the softcover version of How Al-Anon Works is considered a success. Based on these facts, the Board approved to end the trial of selling the softcover version of *How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friend of Alcoholics* (B-32) as a Public Outreach project within the World Service Structure and to adopt printing the soft cover version in English, French, and Spanish for general sales. The price will remain at \$6 per copy and no discounts offered.

Looking forward to the May 2017 Assembly to share the happenings of the 2018 World Service Conference with all of you.

Service = Gratitude in Action Joyce Yoder, Texas East Delegate – Panel 55 and Spiritually Alive

Alt. Delegate Report ~ Margaret F. ~

Question - How many sharings have been received for new "books". Is there any deadline?

Answer - There is currently no deadline for submitting sharings for these projects. So continue to send more sharings--particularly those that will reflect the many faces and wide variety of Al-Anon members and their approaches to recovery.

Currently received sharings for each new piece are:

Intimacy book - 1,283 sharings

New Daily Reader – 981 sharings

Parents and Grandparents piece - 244 sharings

New from Al-Anon! *Paths to Recovery Workbook* (P-93)

Introducing this wonderful companion piece to one of Al-Anon's most treasured books! Contains the thought-provoking questions on each Step, Tradition, and Concept of Service found in *Paths to Recovery* (B-24), with space to write answers. Available for \$10 U.S.—or buy the book and the workbook for only \$25 U.S. Contact your local Literature

Distribution Center or visit the Al-Anon Online Store, al-anon.org/onlinestore.

Alateen Service e-Manual is now updated!

The *Alateen Service e-Manual* provides information about Alateen service to all Al-Anon members including tips and topics for Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS). Now the *Alateen Service e-Manual* can be downloaded and/or printed from a PDF format and it has interactive links to pages and content.

The time has come to start the process for the elections (officers and coordinators) for 2018-2020 at the Assembly in November 2017. Let's get prepared! Go to the Texas website and get the job descriptions to bring to the Assembly in May. Need some motivation??? Read Chapter 14 on Service in *How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friends of Alcoholics*. There is no better way to give back what you have received than to commit to give of yourself through service work. I did it, you can do it too! What a wonderful experience I have had and such eye opening moments. I never thought before Al-Anon that I could accomplish the things I have because of service work. Come learn what you have to look forward too.

Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Norma W.~

I have asked a member, who works with Graphic Design, to redo the Self-Guided Alateen Sponsors Training Manual. I am currently reviewing the 1st draft and it looks great. I hope to have it on the Texas Website as soon.

WSO has updated the E-Manual on the member's page of the website into a downloadable pdf. This is also a great tool for training.

Bennie and I have been working on preparing recommendations for the Trial Alateen Sponsor Certification Process ending on June 1, 1917, to be voted on at the upcoming May Assembly. See page 10 of this *Beacon* issue.

P.O.S.S.E. (Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything) was held on March 24-26, 2017 for those interested in training to be an Alateen Sponsor. Over the next 2 months there will be other opportunities to attend Alateen Sponsor Workshops within the Districts.

TEA AC (Texas East Area Alateen Conference) will be held May 5-7, 2017 at the Disciples Oaks Camp & Retreat Center in Gonzales TX. This information will be sent out to all Alateen Groups in Texas East Area 53.

Announcement from WSO: In 1957, the World Service Office (WSO) registered the first Alateen group and within a year there were 45 groups registered. Alateen adopted the Twelve Steps and adapted the Twelve Traditions of Al-Anon to fit the needs of teenaged children of alcoholics. Today there are almost 900 Alateen groups in the World Service Conference (WSC) structure which includes US, Puerto Rico, Bermuda and Canada. There are also approximately 700 Alateen groups in other countries.

How will you, your group, your District, and/or your Area celebrate Alateen's 60th Anniversary? We invite Alateen members, Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS), and Al-Anon members in general to celebrate this

milestone by supporting Alateen. Contact your District Representative, your Area Alateen Coordinator or other Area trusted servant to start the conversation!

Area Alateen Process Person ~ Bennie P.~

Hi Area 53 Members: Once again, we are at the beginning of the last AMIAS Recertification I will be conducting since this is the last year of the current term.

Recertification started March 1st and will be over June 1st. **It is very important to understand that ALL AMIAS must recertify by June 1st!, no exceptions.** Everyone will be notified of their training status by the time this is published. If you need training you will have to do it before the deadline.

Currently, we have two training opportunities:

Training by Jayne G. on March 18th in Cedar Park, 9am – 2pm and POSSE, March 24-26, which is a weekend filled with training and sharing experience, strength and hope with other AMIASS!

I have a WSO Teleconference call that I need to participate in on March 14, 2017 6:30pm to kick off the recertification period. I hope that this year will go a lot smoother and easier.

Group Records ~ Candy N.~

Several groups sent in GR-1s since the last assembly to change their group status concerning "Open" and "Closed" meetings. I am supposing several more checked their status and verified with their groups. Please bear with me from mid-April through mid-May as I will be travelling with several family members (thanks to Al-Anon that they would even consider travelling with me!!) I will have very few opportunities to maintain group records while I'm gone but till make every effort to catch up as soon as possible when I return.

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 anonymity), scroll down to **Texas Areas** and click on **Access Area 53 (Texas East)**, scroll down to **Group Records Change Forms**, and select either the English or Spanish **Group Records Change Form GR1**. Type in all available information, mark what is to be changed, save the edited form as a .pdf file (be sure to remember what you name it and where you save it). Then e-mail it to candyn07@icloud.com as an attachment The form can also be sent by regular mail. Gratefully in Service.

Public Outreach ~ Judy W.~

Great activities continue throughout East Texas Area 53 by our District Public Outreach Coordinators (DPOCs)! Reported highlights over the last quarter (December 2016 to February 2017) include:

From Area Public Outreach Coordinator: All posters and starter kits were received Spanish. Surplus English and Spanish materials are still available on a first come first serve basis. Work with your DPOCs to justify additional material needs. Also, WSO's new Public Service Announcements (PSAs) are expected to be available soon.

District #1: Completed team efforts to send "Thank You" notes to TV stations for airing PSAs. Distributed *Al-Anon*

Faces Alcoholism (AFA) to "Mujeres Unidas" (Women United) function during the domestic violence workshop at Ruben Hinojosa Elementary school event. Also distributed "Open Letter to Spiritual Leaders" & Al-Anon pamphlets to Bishop's Office in Brownsville.

District #4: Met with Brazos Port's Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) committee members to discuss Alateen & provide literature. Began discussions with Fort Bend County also.

District #5: Received approval on "A Day in Al-Anon for Professionals" in 2017; task force formed to implement. Posters & starter kits from Area 53 surplus funds are being used for this event. Submitted order for 2017 *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* (AFA) pamphlets which will be distributed to GRs. Continued responding to other requests including literature needs.

District #6: Work continued by the Alateen Literature Distribution task force throughout the entire district. Continued to support speaker meetings in Spicewood. Continued working with Austin Drug & Alcohol Abuse Program for family members.

District #8: Responded to public speaking invitations and distributed literature to hospitals, grocery stores, waiting rooms, etc.

District #9: Cooperated with AA in their 70th Annual AA celebration in Tyler where Al-Anon members responded to questions at the registration booth. The Beaumont AIS sold Al-Anon literature.

District #10: Began assembling the recently received English & Spanish materials that were purchased with the area surplus funds.

District #12: Welcome new Public Outreach Coordinator, Heidi D!

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.

Last Report Submitted: December 3, 2016

Current Report Submitted: February 28, 2017

This is the 3rd Quarter for us to track the 'Open' rate for 3 pages on the website. It's encouraging to see an increase in visits to the website and will be even better NEXT year when we can track quarter to quarter looking for creative ways to increase traffic.

Results are as follow:

1st Quarter 2017 Website Visits to date

- Website Home Page 39,076 *(205) quarterly open rate average is 12,957
- Members Home Page 5,219 *(110) quarterly open rate average is 1,703
- Members Area 53 is 1825 *(73) quarterly open rate

average is 584

*(Number of times Webmasters East/West opened the page)

Action Items Completed:

- Attended the AWSC Meeting in Waller, TX on Saturday, February 2nd
Presented a challenge and a success as a website committee report. Challenge was regarding website plug-in and widget updates and losing data such as the Google Maps meeting calendar. With all due respect to my recovery my personal business has doubled since taking the web coordinator's position and I find it challenging to make the time to reload the calendar. Probably need some help with this.
- Coordinated reading and responding to approximately 65 Texas Al-Anon website emails with Texas West Website Coordinator, Marcia H.
- Uploaded and/or managed edits of 7 upcoming events with West TX web coordinator Marcia H <http://texas-al-anon.org/events/>
- Uploaded new meeting lists as provide in Excel format by WSO records coordinator Candy N for Districts 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 13 and created printable lists for distribution purposes as needed.
- Made several other meeting changes that came down from WSO group records updating printable meeting lists each time.

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- The Google Maps plug-in went down for our meeting lists due to a system update. Marcia H and I are still finding the time to look for a new plug-in and the maps will have to be rebuilt. This is still pending with a goal to have the maps up on or before I leave this position in the fall.

Announcements:

"AFG Connects" offerings added to the website include the following:

- Updated Group e-News for December in 3 languages <http://goo.gl/cl6lk1> Scroll down to GR Information divider for this information

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 above the meeting list in the left corner. <http://texas-al-anon.org/meetings/>

Spanish Coordinator ~ Anita Camargo ~

Coordinadora De Grupos Hispanos,

Se necesita mas participacion de la comunidad Hispana para server mejor a los grupos Hispanos de Al-Anon en nuestra Area.

Espero que se tomen la oportunidad de poder participar en la proxima asamblea de Mayo para poder conocernos mejor.

No tengo mucho que informar, solamente, es una invitacion y espero verlos en Sugar Land, TX.

Envite un amigo con usted

Newsletter Editor ~ Lynn S.

The next *Beacon* deadline is June 1. Please send your reports for *The Beacon* to beaconnewsletter@yahoo.com, using this email address helps with the possibility of a report being missed in another email account. If you don't have Word send your report in the body of an email and I will copy it to a Word document. Also, when you are referring to multiple GRs there is no apostrophe. Thank you.

Archives Coordinator ~ Ann R. ~

From our East Texas Area #53 archives a little inspiration and a little "wow how times have changed!"

Struggling Man

Always just behind you

Comes another struggling man,

Turn around, take the time

Reach out your helping hand.....

Stepping from our bottoms

The past where we have been

We need to climb together

Alone, it's easy to fall back again.....

Remember where we started

Our first steps where we began,

Once not long ago, remember

How we were struggling man!

Timothy J

The July 1978 *Beacon* informs us that groups were asking to be moved from one district to another, there was discussion about the feasibility of having an All State Al-Anon Convention, and the Area bank account balance was \$976.44.

Currently our area archives --- all one thousand pounds of them---have been moved from Ingram to the west side of the Houston area and I'm looking forward to each of you visiting

our archives display at the Spring Assembly in Sugar Land.

Please let me know if there is anything in particular that you are interested in seeing.

District Reports**District 1 ~ Flor P. ~**

We are having our District meeting at the Jamboree at South Padre Island, where we're discussing the public outreach information. Adreana updated where things stand and let us know if she needs help. We also will discuss the problem with the telephone service we're having. We are planning on celebrating two anniversaries from two groups in Harlingen, one which was started way back before Al-Anon was officially started. Alateen meetings have really cut down so what public outreach is planning is to go to schools, libraries and church to notify them of this program. See you in May.

District 2 ~ Myrthala C.~

Greetings from District 2, Thank you to all Area 53 who attended our Fall Assembly in Corpus Christi. It was a great success, thank you!!

District 2 had the first District meeting for 2017 on 01/28/17 hosted by Southside Comfort AFG. We had two GR attend their first district meeting. It is always exciting to see new members step up in Service.

From our group reports they continue to different meeting formats and literature. Some of the challenges some of the groups are facing is the attendance of double winners to Al-Anon meetings.

A Day in Al-Anon is in the works for 2017 in the Corpus Christi and Laredo area. District 2 continues with quarterly speaker meetings.

The final numbers for the Fall Assembly that our District hosted in Corpus Christi were in and we sent to Area Chairperson our final assembly report. District 2 sent a check to the Area Treasurer to return \$3500.00 seed money plus an additional \$ 3,842.36. Final attendance numbers were 193 Al-Anons, 14 AA members and 1 Alateen. 97 Group Representatives were present.

Our next District meeting will be held April 22, 2017.

District 3 ~ Jocelyn B.~

Happy pre-spring! Loving the weather & colors these days.

District 3 is well & trekking along in 2017. We recently held our District Meeting. We discussed the events of the coming year; one being to host the AWSC meeting on August 12, 2017 in Victoria. We are looking forward to doing so.

District 3 has 5 active groups. Our Hope for Today Alateen Group turned 1 year old this February. Congratulations!

We hope to see everyone in Sugar Land!

Grateful in service.

District 4 ~ Mattie T.~

What a great way to start the first quarter of the New Year. It's Election Year!!!! These past 3 years has been a wonderful growth in service for me Thank God this is a we program and thank you District 4 for all of your support. With that said "What A Joy In Service"

I attended the quarterly AWSC meeting hosted by District 7 in Waller, TX and they provided a wonderful lunch. Much discussion was held regarding the Alateen sponsorship certification trial period ending June 2017. It is being recommended that sponsorship certification be annually.

Our District Alateen coordinator met with 8 people from Brazos Port's Student Health Advisory to educate them on Alateen. She encouraged them to let her know of student interested in Alateen and left literature with them. She also sent literature to the Fort Bend school district. We continue to have low Alateen participation in District 4.

I was also given the opportunity to Chair a taskforce regarding the redistricting of District 5 with participation of District 4 and 7 and whether it would be feasible to have a Spanish District. We had our first meeting on February 24, 2017. We are using the KBDM "Knowledge Based Decision Making" model as our guide based on past history to come to an agreement to make recommendations.

I also attended the All Texas Al-Anon Alateen Conference in San Antonio, TX, February 17-19, 2017 and for those who did not attend; what a wonderful weekend of fun, food and fellowship. District 4 has approximately 40 members in attendance and we had a wonderful time presenting our District skit "What A Concept", we received a standing ovation. The speakers shared their EHS, but the most impressive for me were the Alateens Panel. They shared based on questions that were asked at registration time. To hear them share how Alateen has helped them cope with life at such a young age is truly inspiring. Just a reminder of how important it is to have Alateen Sponsors.

We held our Spring Assembly 2017 meeting on February 26, 2017 in Alvin, TX, planning is coming along nicely. We have updated the flyer to include the speakers and corrected the hotel rates for the Hyatt Place. Third time a charm, my apologies for the confusion of the hotel rates.

Hyatt Place:

\$105. King with a sleeper sofa (can sleep 4)

\$125. Double with sleeper sofa (can sleep 6)

Holiday Inn Express located at 14444 Southwest Frwy, Sugarland TX.

Room rates \$99.00/night + tax double occupancy, breakfast included. Guests must reserve by **May 5, 2017**.

Our next Spring Planning meeting will be March 19, 2017 at 2:00pm, 2425 FM 1092, Missouri City, TX.

March 11, 2017 - District 4 Quarterly Meeting Taylor Street Club 204 S. Taylor Street Alvin, TX

July 29, 2017 - A Day in Al-Anon

Many Voices, One Journey Joyce Y – Workshop Leader

District 5 ~ Anita C. ~

Hope and smiles on the threshold of the events to come as we are preparing to be the co-host with District 4 next spring assembly in May.

Group representatives are coming in small numbers with interest in service. New suggestions have been presented and waiting for more participation. Two new English Al-Anon groups have registered since my last report and one new Hispanic group. This district has over 100 groups and still growing.

Encouragement has been made on the use of our Service Manual so that we may be able to play a part in service outside of the group. I believe if I have it, give it away.

As always we like to involve the Hispanic community to our district meetings. Translation is the key word for draw in. We still have approximately 20 Hispanic groups very much active in the community.

Alateen is also ongoing with seven groups in the district.

New project are coming to District 5 and are being well received.

Esperamos los eventos por venir mientras nos preparamos para ser el co-anfitrión con la próxima asamblea de primavera junto con el Distrito 4 en Mayo.

Los representantes del grupo vienen en pequeños números con interés en el servicio. Se han presentado nuevas sugerencias y se espera una mayor participación. Dos grupos nuevos, habla ingleses de Al-Anon se han registrado desde mi último informe y un nuevo grupo hispano. Este distrito tiene más de 100 grupos y sigue creciendo.

Se ha fomentado el uso de nuestro Manual de Servicio para que podamos desempeñar un papel en el servicio fuera del grupo. Creo que si lo tengo, es mejor regalarlo.

Como siempre, nos gusta involucrar a la comunidad hispana en nuestras reuniones de distrito. La traducción de los informes es la clave para atraer. Todavía tenemos aproximadamente 20 grupos hispanos muy activos en la comunidad.

Alateen también está en curso con siete grupos en el distrito.

Nuevos proyectos están llegando al Distrito 5 y están siendo bien recibidos.

District 6 ~ Lori L.~

Our last District 6 meeting was held on January 28, 2017, in Harker Heights, Texas, hosted by Central Texas Serenity Seekers AFG. They prepared a workshop on Step 1, Tradition 1, and Concept 1. I would like to share a question from each one for you to reflect on and maybe it will be just what you needed to read! Step 1: What would happen if I stopped trying to change the alcoholic or anyone else? Tradition 1: Am I willing to accept and appreciate what others are able to give? Concept 1: What does the World Service Office (WSO) do for us? Give at least 3 examples. These particular questions jumped out at me and stopped me to THINK! Barbra broke everyone into 3 groups and then after the time was up, asked them to share. When no one seemed to be willing, she

"motivated" them into action by saying, "I can read name tags!" That yielded her a volunteer or two!

I was not able to facilitate the meeting due to recently being diagnosed with shingles in my mouth two days before the meeting. Ouch! You betcha! It really aggravated the condition to talk so our Alternate DR, Judy W., was willing to step in to run the meeting. Thank you Judy! But I took notes and this is my report!

We had 49 in attendance with 28 voting GRs. I am happy to report that of the 28, 3 were new GRs and 1 Alateen GRI! We had a lot of great Ask It Basket questions which generated a healthy discussion. Please see the District 6 newsletter for the questions and answers!

We began the business meeting with the Officers' and Coordinators' reports. Our AIS Waco Liaison, Cindy J., announced that her spouse is retiring in March and at the end of April they are making a move to the Northwest. She is looking for a replacement but currently there is not an interest and she may have to close down.

Pat E. is the chairperson for 2017 TEAC, which will be May 5-7th in Gonzales, Texas. She will be sending out registration packets the first of February to the Alateen groups. \$90 is the cost for the weekend which covers room and food. There is the Kristi Fund scholarship which covers 50% of the cost to go for the Alateen member. If the Alateen member wants to try for the scholarship, he or she must submit in writing why they should get a scholarship to attend. Pat also shared the dates for P.O.S.S.E. (Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything) which is March 24-26, 2017, in Gonzales, Texas. The cost is \$125 for the Alateen sponsors to attend. Please note this is not an Alateen event. This is only for the Alateen sponsors to receive their training. This is a great weekend for Alateen sponsors to come together to share their experience, strength and hope with one another as well as for those who are considering it or would like to have more information so they can make an informed decision (a/k/a Knowledge Based Decision Making, KBDM). I would highly encourage you to attend!

Rosemary gave the District an update on getting the Alateen posters for Public Outreach into surrounding school districts in District 6. She stated there are 163 middle and high schools. Distribution in some of the larger districts was no easy feat. She stated that you really had to jump through hoops and with really no guarantee that the posters would be placed. One district wanted \$100 to accept the posters with no guarantee that the posters would be put up! Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) will take the posters and get them distributed and overcome "the issues". Rosemary is looking for volunteers to handle getting the posters distributed while she will be out of town for 2 months. This topic sparked some healthy discussion.

For the topic of distribution of the unallocated funds, Anna came back with a report from Cap Metro on running the placards: 150 placards for 1 month; 100 placards on 100 buses for 2 months; 70 placards on 70 buses for 3 months; and 50 placards on 50 buses for 4 months. She said that Cap Metro will try to accommodate us if we wanted to select a route but no guarantee. Anna said there is no way to figure out if this measurement of this public outreach tool is

working. I made a suggestion to set aside spending the unallocated funds until after the Fall Assembly that District 6 is hosting. I asked some members who had more experience than me to share how much it is to put on an Assembly and the response was \$10,000-\$11,000. They shared that with the sales from registration, banquet tickets, and fundraisers/raffles, that this would cover our expenses. My point was to play it safe and have the money there should we need it. There was no motion made at that time. We did, however, form a Thought Force of three members to come up with new ideas for public outreach on how to spend the unallocated funds.

The GRs voted on the proposed 2017 budget and it passed. There was also a motion to reimburse our Treasurer for going over budget and it passed.

Our next District meeting will be held April 8th and will be hosted by San Marcos AFG in San Marcos. Typically we have our District meetings on the 3rd Saturday but with Easter being the weekend of April 15th, we had to look at other dates and the 8th was available. Thank you for letting me share what is happening in District 6 with you!

District 7 ~ Jane M.~

Spring seems to have come early this year in District 7. We successfully hosted the AWSC meeting Feb. 4th in Waller. Thank you to all district 7 helpers and those who attended from across Area 53.

Waller Hope for Today group recently celebrated its 4th birthday. They look forward to moving into the Waller Recovery House (former parsonage of Waller United Methodist Church). Tradition group in College Station is starting a study of As We Understood. Wed. Gratitude in College Station has moved to Aldersgate Methodist Church 2201 Earl Rudder Freeway South. Gay D. from College Station spoke at the Unity Conference in Kurten, Feb. 11th.

The district plans to send birthday cards to the Harmony Alateen group and Freedom Alateen group for Alateen's 60th birthday. Two of our sponsors are going to POSSE in March. College Station school district will be provided with Al-Anon and Alateen outreach information.

The next district meeting is Apr. 22nd at 804 Texas Ave, Bryan.

District 8 ~ Jennifer S.~

We had a wonderful district meeting on January 28th which included our Delegate Joyce Y. She shared about the different levels of service as well as how service has been for her personally. We had a nice turnout for her and lots of great comments.

Our district has grown! We have 3 new meetings (including one Spanish speaking). Our challenge is we currently have no Alateen sponsors in our district. I'm praying someone will find it in their heart to become a sponsor so we are ready for any Alateens.

We have updated and improved our website (setxalanon.org). This is funded by our AIS but is used by our district as well. It has general information on Al-Anon, upcoming events and of course our meeting list.

(cont from pg 9)

Our next district meeting is April 22nd along with our AIS meeting. AIS meeting starts at 9 am with the district meeting to follow at 10:30. Potluck lunch is served after district meeting concludes. In Love and Service.

District 9 ~ Debby C.~

We are very happy in District 9 to report that plans are coming together for the Day with the Delegate Joint Fundraiser on May 6th 2017. The day, location, times and agenda have all been finalized. The Texas website has the flier and we are all looking forward to a recovery filled day.

We received our posters and the makings for our professional kits from Judy W. at the last AWSC meeting. We will distribute these at the next District Meeting which will be 10am Saturday April 22nd at the Lake Street Clubhouse. We will also be discussing agenda items for the Spring Assembly 2017 in Sugar Land, TX and future opportunities for service as District 9 is the support District for D-8 Spring Assembly in 2018.

That is all the news for now. Enjoy the pretty weather and may all your allergies be non-existent this season. Joy In Service.

District 10~ Susan L.~

Service is alive and well in District 10. Planning meeting held January 14 in Longview. District 9 & 10 were present and planning for upcoming "Day with the Delegate" to be held May 6 in Longview at St. Mary's Church starting at 9:30, with registration. Next District meeting 3/25. Flyer on Al-Anon website.

District 12 ~ Dolores W.~

No Report Submitted

District 13 ~ David S.~

District 13 held its first District Meeting of the year on January 21, 2017. The meeting was held in Camp Wood, Texas and was hosted by the Nueces Canyon AFG. Nueces Canyon is one of the new groups that recently transferred to the Texas East and joined our District 13. This was the first District 13 meeting ever in Camp Wood! We had a great turnout and were treated to some delicious BBQ! We learned that our last Alateen group in the District was forced to go inactive due to lack of attendance.

We are trying to get the word out around the District about the upcoming elections at the end of the year to try to encourage participation at the District level of service. We are ordering Spanish Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism for distribution to our Spanish groups in the District. Also going to try getting public service announcements on local radio stations.

Our next meeting will be on April 8, 2017 in Kerrville, Texas hosted by New Beginnings AFG. Yours in Service.

Area 53 Alateen Certification Process Recommendations

We recommend that the Trial Alateen Certification Process 2014-2017 become a permanent process with the recommendation that follows.

Area 53 Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) Certification Process

Section 7 of the Area 53 Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) Certification Process requirements: All AMIAS must participate in AMIAS Training. Training is required for the first two consecutive years as an AMIAS and every three years thereafter during continuous service as an AMIAS.

Change Number 7: All AMIAS must participate in AMIAS Training annually. First time AMIAS must train in a workshop setting with an approved trainer. Thereafter they will need to train every year either in an Alateen Training Workshop or by the Self-Guided Alateen Sponsor Training Manual by an approved trainer.

The process of keeping track on who needs training each year during recertification period is difficult and causes a lot of confusion. We believe this will be a positive change going forth for the future Alateen.

Motion required from the floor by a GR only:

I _____ move that the Trial Alateen Certification Process 2014-2017 become a permanent process with the changes to number 7. All AMIAS must participate in AMIAS Training annually. First time AMIAS must train in a workshop setting with an approved trainer. Thereafter they will need to train every year either in an Alateen Training Workshop or by the Self-Guided Alateen Sponsor Training Manual by an approved trainer

Norma W. and Bennie P.

GOD GRANT ME THE SERENITY
TO ACCEPT THE THINGS
I CANNOT CHANGE,
COURAGE TO CHANGE
THE THINGS I CAN,
AND WISDOM
TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

aphelionworks.com

Opportunity to Experience the Joy of Service at the Area Level as:

AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON

TERM LENGTH: Three Years (Beginning January 1, after election)

PURPOSE: *The AAPP receives correspondence relative to Alateen certification and group registration; it is essential that the Alateen Coordinator and AAPP work cooperatively, share Alateen information, and work closely to evaluate the Area process annually and other responsibilities as needed. (World Service Organization Guideline, G-24).*

WSO REQUIREMENTS: Must have internet access and be able to enter information into a database.

QUALIFICATIONS: Regularly attends Al-Anon Meetings.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS: Votes at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings but not at Assemblies UNLESS he/she is also a Group Representative.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Outgoing AAPP must submit AREA ALATEEN PROCESS FORM to WSO notifying them of the newly elected AAPP. The form must be signed by either the Area Chair or Area Delegate.
- Immediately after being elected, the AAPP and immediate past AAPP must review Background check process, as well as the WSO on line procedure to register Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) in order to generate reports for distribution to Area Alateen Coordinator, District Alateen Coordinator, District Representatives and Assembly registration person.
- Computer knowledge is essential, all AMIAS data is done on line.
- Attend WSO Teleconferences prior to recertification.
- Process initial certification and annual recertification of all AMIAS and submit paperwork to the WSO to certify Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS). Must meet the Area June 1 deadline and WSO July 1 deadline for the annual Area recertification of all AMIAS.
- Provide each applicant of the Alateen Service certification with a notarized confidentiality statement.
- Notify each applicant of his or her certification/recertification and assigned WSO ID Number.
- All Alateen Group Registrations or Changes go through the AAPP who will provide the Alateen Registration/Group Records Change Form (GR-3) The Alateen Group Sponsor completes the form, and submits to the AAPP. AAPP will submit to WSO and will notify each Alateen group of their registration or changes submitted.
- Notify the Area Group Records Coordinator, Area Website Coordinator, District Representative, District Alateen Coordinator and local Al-Anon Information Services of the registered meeting.
- Review Texas Al-Anon/Alateen website and District websites to ensure all Alateen Groups are listed correctly.
- Notify All AMIAS individually of their training status during recertification period.
- It is the Area's AAPP responsibility to safeguard personal information and dispose of certification information properly. After certification, the individual AMIAS contact information (name, address, phone numbers, and e-mail) and current certification status is available in the On-Line Group Records application to the Area Alateen Coordinator, the AAPP, and District Representatives (for their district only). Any lists of AMIAS generated should be treated as any confidential list of trusted servants, and be dated.
- The AAPP has the discretion to decide on an individual basis the eligibility of an AMIAS. Any questions or circumstances requiring special attention can be directed to the AAPP.
- Provide Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) registration forms.
- Provide a quarterly report for Area Newsletter (*The Beacon*) and AWSC.
- Participate in (P.O.S.S.E) Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything, the annual weekend to provide support for completing AMIAS registration/certification forms, training and fellowship.
- Participate in (TEA AC) Texas East Area Alateen Conference as needed.
- Turns in Area related expenses to the Area Treasurer within 2 weeks of the event (e.g. Assembly, AWSC, etc.)

SPANISH COORDINATOR

LENGTH OF TERM: Three years (Beginning January 1st, after election).

PURPOSE: *To encourage the Spanish –Speaking Al-Anon/Alateen groups to participate in Area activities and to coordinate and bring information to those groups from the Area.*

QUALIFICATIONS: Regularly attends Al-Anon Meetings. Speaks and writes Spanish and English.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS: Votes at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings but not at Assemblies UNLESS he/she is also a Group Representative.

RESPONSIBILITIES: The duties of an Area Spanish Coordinator are as follows:

- Attends all the Area AWSC meetings and Assemblies and
- Provides a report to the Area and the GRs of Spanish-speaking activities in the Area.
- Works with all the Spanish Coordinators in the Area, may be visiting as many districts as possible during the year.
- Offers translation when possible during the Area meetings.
- Offers translation of agenda/minutes, etc., where possible.
- Creates and maintains a Spanish district Area Coordinator name listing with emails and contact information.
- Encourage attendance to the Spanish-speaking GRs in the area to attend Area Assembly.
- Turns in Area related expenses to Area Treasurer within 2 weeks of the event (e.g., Assembly, AWSC, etc.).

Austin AIS/LDC ~ Paula H. ~

The Austin Al-Anon Information Center Board met on February 21, 2017. Officers for 2017 are as follows: AAIC Board Chair is Carolyn K., Secretary is Mary Evelyn, and Treasurer is Peggie F. Committee Chairs were elected for four standing committees. The Literature Committee Chair is Don C. The Finance Committee Chair is Joyce L. The Volunteer Committee is Marilyn C., and the Meeting List Committee still needs a Chair.

Expenses for 2016 exceeded the Austin Information Center's income. Several suggestions were made for improvements. One was to ask the groups for more donations, and another was to raise the cost of literature. A written policy is needed on how literature is priced.

There was a survey created by a task force. The survey seeks input on how groups and individuals utilize the Information Center, and it seeks suggestions for improvement. That survey will be sent to groups in the near future and will be put on the Austin Information Center website. From the time the survey is sent to groups, groups will have one month to complete the survey, and hopefully, the survey results will be presented at the next Information Center Board meeting.

Since the last Board meeting, the Information Center had an income of \$20,020.23 from debt repayment, literature sales, and donations. Literature expenses were \$9518.45. Over the past 62 days there were 236 calls made to the Information Center and 123 walk-ins. There was no information on after hours' calls, and the Board would like statistics on after hours' calls.

At a previous District 6 meeting, the GRs asked for statistics on how many times the Austin Information Center website was visited. Here are the results: 49,329 visits to the website; Austin meeting schedule viewed 27,227 times; Waco meeting schedule viewed 1398 times; Information Center Board page viewed 492 times; District 6 page viewed 940 times. Visitors to the site that were directed from search engines produced the following results: Google-15,486 times; Yahoo-878 times; Bing-758 times. Visits from the WSO AFG site linked to the Austin site were 802, and visits from the Texas Al-Anon website were 663. There were also many District Newsletters viewed on the Austin website.

Future Board meetings are as follows: May 15, 6:30 P. M. at the Austin Information Center; August 22, 6:30 P. M. at Northland; November 13, 6:30 P. M. at the Austin Information Center.

With gratitude in Al-Anon service,

Houston AIS/LDC ~ Ann R.~

New Board member elections on Sunday, April 30, is high on the priority list for the Houston Al-Anon Information Service at this time. Jennifer R. and her nominating committee would like to hear from you if you are interested in serving for the next three years. A letter and application are online at www.houstonalanon.org. Our Board of Directors meets once a month at Chapelwood Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. The next Board meeting is Wednesday, March 29 from 6:45 to 8:45pm.

Thanks to well attended speaker meetings, a fall Penny Drive, and regular donations from many Houston area groups, our AIS is on good financial footing.

We continue to serve by answering well over 100 phone calls per month, helping about 30 bookstore visitors per month and selling over \$3,000 of literature per month. Phone:713-683-7227

Waco AIS~ Cindy J. ~

The Waco Information Service is not a Literature Distribution Center. We pay the bills for the Al-Anon pager, the local post office box, and the Yellow Pages and online ad. These cost \$19.24 for the pager monthly, \$33.00 for the post office box biannually, and \$317.52 for the Yellow Pages and online ad annually. Our current balance is \$425.41. We pay our bills from contributions we receive from local groups and occasionally groups outside Waco. These are greatly appreciated. We cooperate with Public Outreach when doing Health Fairs, etc.

It has been a pleasure to serve the greater Waco community for the past fifteen plus years. Cindy, our AIS Chair and Steve, our AIS Treasurer have served these two positions with gratitude. However, we are moving to Oregon in April, 2017. We will not be here to carry on the functions these positions require once we step down, at the end of March 2017.

We have made two appeals to the Waco groups (there are four) with no response so far. If no one steps up to fill these positions, there will be no ad in the phone book or online, and no pager to take someone's call trying to find a meeting. We will be forced to close the AIS for the Waco area if no one volunteers by the first of April.

With Gratitude,

San Antonio AIS/LDC ~ Nancy M.~

The San Antonio Al-Anon Information Service/Literature Distribution Center business meeting was held on Dec, 2016 with Eight (8) voting members and three (3) guests in attendance.

The San Antonio Al-Anon/Alateen Information Service (AIS) exists to aid the groups it serves in the common purpose of carrying the Al-Anon message to the suffering families and friends of alcoholics. Services to the public and the groups include: a 24 -7 telephone service; maintains a list of Al-Anon and Alateen meetings for District 12 and 13; channels local Alateen and Public Outreach inquires to the district coordinators; and maintains a San Antonio website:

www.texas-al-anon.org/sanantonio

The report from the telephone answering service showed 16 calls from December 7 to December 30 there were 16 calls from Jan. 2 to Jan. 30. There were 16 calls returned for a total of 32 calls in a 2 month period of time.

Contributions from the Al-Anon and Alateen groups, as well as fundraisers, such as the SAAIS Monthly Speakers Meeting and the annual Serenity Celebration Speaker Dinner, support these and other expenses.

Committee chairs are being formed for the October 7, 2017 14th Serenity Celebration.

A Day in Al-Anon will be September 16, 2017 with Ric B. from Virginia Beach leading a Concepts of Service/Leadership workshop. Location is Schertz United Methodist Church 3460 Roy Richard Dr. Schertz, TX. Check the area website for more information.

April 29, 2017 will be the next SAAIS business meeting.

South Texas AIS/LDC ~ Bennie P. ~

We had our quarterly meeting at South Padre Island on January 28, 2017, which was well attended. We have been busy with Health Fairs and leaving literature in doctor's offices.

District 1 Public Outreach Coordinator reached out to the Catholic Diocese to let them know about our program and she was given the opportunity to have some members share their Experience, Strength and Hope at one of the churches and multiple masses.

Our District wants to thank Judy, Area Public Outreach Coordinator, and the area for the donation of Public Outreach material. This will be very helpful to reach out to a wider audience. We plan to be able to start utilizing it right away.

Meetings at UTRGV are going very well. They are well attended and students are very pleasant to work with. This is an open meeting so anyone can attend if they wish to.

We did get the volunteers needed to help with the inventory. We have been going for the last 4 weeks and we are almost done.

Sales are a bit slow but were sparked with the sale of *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming our Losses!* All of a sudden this book is in demand! If you haven't gotten your copy, hurry because we are fast running out!

We have started the discussion of Fall elections of officers and coordinators by reviewing and updating Job Description for each position. Start Thinking about service, it will soar your recovery much quicker!

Intergruppal Hispana de Houston ~ Virginia L. ~

No Report

Beaumont AIS/LDC ~ Carole L.

No Report

CONTRIBUTIONS TO - EAST TEXAS AREA 53

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

District Number: _____ Group # _____
 Group Name: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
 City: _____ CK/MO #: _____
 Amount: _____
 Sent by: _____

Please do not send cash by mail.

Make checks payable to: **Treasurer- ETAAA.**

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

ETAAA Financial Report 12/31/2016							Total YTD	2016 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Income									
Assembly Surplus							244.13		
Fall 2015							(524.47)		
Spring 2016							768.60		
Beacon Income							378.00	200.00	178.00
Contributions Income							16,355.25	22,800.00	(6,444.75)
Fall Gratitude Basket							865.05		
Miscellaneous Income							25.00		
Total Income							17,867.43	23,000.00	(5,132.57)
Expenses									
Travel / Expenses							6,615.76	12,000.00	(5,384.24)
Alateen Coordinator							517.24	1,000.00	(482.76)
Alateen Liaison							0.00	400.00	(400.00)
Alateen Process Person							715.55	1,000.00	(284.45)
Alternate Delegate							500.18	600.00	(99.82)
Archives							0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Beacon Editor							390.72	500.00	(109.28)
Chair							939.02	800.00	139.02
Delegate							366.89	1,500.00	(1,133.11)
Group Records							431.14	500.00	(68.86)
Public Outreach							470.42	600.00	(129.58)
Past Delegates							148.17	1,500.00	(1,351.83)
Past Area Chairperson							0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Secretary							622.17	800.00	(177.83)
Spanish Coordinator							0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Treasurer							785.58	800.00	(14.42)
Website Coordinator							728.68	500.00	228.68
Other Expenses							4,294.32	4,400.00	(105.68)
Beacon Publishing							3,265.12	3,100.00	165.12
Storage Unit for Archives							810.00	1,080.00	(270.00)
Transitional AWSOC Meeting							0.00		0.00
Web Hosting Fee							126.95	120.00	6.95
Audit Committee Expense							0.00		0.00
Miscellaneous Expense							92.25	100.00	(7.75)
World Service Conference							2,700.00	3,200.00	(500.00)
Area's Gifts to WSC							300.00	300.00	0.00
Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC							2,000.00	2,500.00	(500.00)
Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC							400.00	400.00	0.00

SC Regional Delegate Meeting	1,276.69	734.20	0.00	0.00	2,010.89	3,400.00	(1,389.11)
Delegate		379.20			379.20	600.00	(220.80)
Chair		505.82			505.82	600.00	(94.18)
Immediate Past Delegate					0.00	600.00	(600.00)
Active Past Delegate		770.87			770.87	1,000.00	(229.13)
Alternate Delegate		355.00			355.00	600.00	(245.00)
Total Expenses	4,044.46	5,724.76	1,981.66	3,870.09	15,620.97	23,000.00	(7,379.03)
Net Income Less Expenses	866.36	(3,256.57)	2,850.69	1,785.98	2,246.46	0.00	2,246.46
Extraordinary Income/Expense	1st Qtr 3/31/16	2nd Qtr 6/30/16	3rd Qtr 9/30/16	4th Qtr 12/31/16	Total YTD		
Income							
Returned Seed Money	3,500.00		3,500.00		7,000.00		
Received Attn. Background Checks	52.00	279.50	292.50		624.00		
Spring Birthday Basket		836.00			836.00		
Total Extraordinary Income	3,552.00	1,115.50	3,792.50	0.00	8,460.00		
Expenses							
Seed Money		3,500.00		3,500.00	7,000.00		
Fees paid Attn Background Checks	52.00	312.00	253.50	6.50	624.00		
Spring Birthday Basket to WSO				836.00	836.00		
Contribution to WSO				2,000.00	2,000.00		
Total Extraordinary Expenses	52.00	3,812.00	253.50	6,342.50	10,460.00		
Net Extraordinary Income Less Expenses	3,500.00	(2,696.50)	3,539.00	(6,342.50)	(2,000.00)		
Profit/(Loss)	4,366.36	(5,953.07)	6,389.69	(4,556.52)	246.46		
Checking Account Balance	3/31/2016	6/30/2016	9/30/2016	12/31/2016			
Beginning Balance	32,278.29	36,644.65	24,507.37	30,897.06	32,278.29		
Increase/(Decrease)	4,366.36	(5,953.07)	6,389.69	(4,556.52)	246.46		
Transfer to CID		(6,184.21)			(6,184.21)		
Ending Balance	36,644.65	24,507.37	30,897.06	26,340.54	26,340.54		
Ample Reserve Fund (CD)							
Beginning Balance	13,808.93	13,812.36	20,000.00	20,052.75	13,808.93		
Increase/(Decrease)	3.43	3.43	52.75	52.31	111.92		
Ending Balance	13,812.36	20,000.00	20,052.75	20,105.06	20,105.06		

Area World Service Committee Meeting**February 4, 2017****Waller, Texas****Chairman:** Kay C. opened the meeting at 11:55 am.

Treasurer: Tricia L. presented the 2016 end of year financial report. The Area had a deficit of income compared to the 2016 budget, but finished out the year \$246.46 ahead of total expenses for the year due to less expenses incurred than was budgeted. Past Delegates were reminded to turn in their expenses as there is money budgeted. An update of current 2017 budget was also presented. Tricia also reported that the balance in the POSSE account is \$6,460.30 and the balance in the TEA AC account is \$6,233.05.

Area Delegate Report: Joyce Y. reported that the WSO has accepted for consideration Area 53's bid to host the 2023 International Al-Anon Conference in Houston. The choice will be made on April 29th, 2017 at 3 pm. The WSO decided not to accept any of applications previously turned in to fill the South Central Regional Trustee position. There is an opportunity again if someone is interested in this position. Area has to approve the interested applicant at the May Assembly to turn in resume by August 15, 2017. Reported on move of Kimble County from West Texas to East Texas. West Texas was unable to address this item at the November 2016 assembly but it will be on the agenda again at their May Assembly. Joyce has visited all but one of the Area's Districts. Leaving April 22, 2017 to attend the World Service Conference in Virginia Beach. Full report is on record and will be in the Beacon.

Alt Delegate/Literature Report: Margaret F. reported that there is a new Paths to Recovery Workbook. She received a complimentary copy from the WSO which she is supposed to make use of herself to be able to share her experience with it. Encouraged everyone to subscribe to the Forum. Informed everyone that there is no deadline for submitting sharings for upcoming literature and that to date 1283 sharings have been received for the new Intimacy book, 981 for the new Daily Reader and 244 for the Parents/Grandparents book. The Alateen Service Manual has been updated. Al-Anon is now being made available on Instagram to attract "millennials". WSO website has new links to get to electronic literature. Sign up on WSO website for AFG Announcements. Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism next deadline to order is February 8th, 2017 postmarked by 5 pm EST.

Secretary: David S. called the roll. 22 voting members of the AWSC present. All AWSC Officers and Coordinators were in attendance. The following Districts had no representative in attendance: Districts 1 and 3. The following AIS/LDC's had no Liaison in attendance: Beaumont, Houston Hispanic and Waco AIS.

Minutes from the November 4, 2016 AWSC meeting in Corpus Christ were read and accepted as corrected.

Corrections: Under Treasurer, third sentence so read ".....same numbers as 2016 budget.". Under Approval of ETAAA Business Meeting Agenda, second sentence should read "There was discussion of each of.....".

Unfinished Business:

1. District 2 Report on Fall Assembly 2016 with District 3 as Support: Myrthala's report read by Lisa W. Reported there were 193 Al-Anon, 1 Alateen and 14 AA members in attendance. There were 97 Group Representatives at the Assembly. All Al-Anon meetings were well attended. There was \$800 in Literature sales. The District was able to return the \$3,500.00 in seed money to the Area and an additional amount of \$3,842.36.

2. District 4 Report on Spring 2017 Assembly: Mattie T. reported the District had their last planning meeting on January 15. Registration is to open at 5 pm on May 19-21 in Sugar Land at the T.E. Harman Senior Center. Speakers are being lined up. Hotel is providing breakfast and both lunch and dinner will be provided Saturday. Support District 5 will be hosting Saturday night meetings. The District has set up its own bank account with their own EIN number.

3. District 6 Report on Fall 2017 Assembly: Lori L. reported that they have speakers lined up. The banquet will have a Little Italy theme. October 15th is cut off date for banquet and Hotel rates. April 8th will be next planning meeting. A bank account has been set up for the Assembly. Can register online with ETAAA rates. 70 rooms have been blocked.

4. Alateen Sponsorship Certification Trial Period: The current trial Alateen sponsorship certification process ends in June 2017. Norma W. and Bennie P. gave a report recommending that the AWSC suggest to the Area that the trial process be made permanent with recommended changes. This will need to be voted on at the next Area Assembly. The recommended change to the trial re-certification process would be to require all AMIAS to attend training annually instead of the current requirement which states the first two years and then every three years there after. The change would require that the first year's training be in a workshop setting with an approved trainer there after the annual training could be in a workshop or with the self-guided training. After discussion Joyce Y. made a motion seconded by David S that the topic of the trial Alateen sponsorship certification period be made permanent with recommended changes be brought to the May 2017 Assembly for approval. Motion was approved by the AWSC 21 For, 1 Against, 0 Abstentions.

5. Discussion on Area Assembly Guidelines/Format: Nancy M. and Diane B. gave an update from the Assembly Guidelines Task Force. The task force was concerned that the current Assembly Guidelines in fact do not meet the spiritual principals of the fellowship. That the primary purpose of an Assembly is to enable as many group representatives to attend as possible and that the Area Business meeting should be held separate from the AWSC meeting and any Convention like meetings. The task force believes the current model for an Assembly which combines the Assembly with a Convention does not meet the spiritual principals of the fellowship and that it is no longer financially prudent to continue to combine them as one event. A possible solution was presented which would be to hold the ASWC and the Assembly business all on Saturday then close the assembly. The host district would then decide if they wanted to have any other events and they would be responsible for non-assembly costs. After discussion by the AWSC a motion was made by Lynn S. seconded by Lori L. moving that the Area go forward with keeping with spiritual principals of an area assembly

New Business:

1. AWSC Meeting time at Spring Assembly: After discussion, it was decided the AWSC meeting at the Spring Assembly will be held at 8:00 am on Saturday May 20, 2017. Area Business meeting will start at 9:30 am.

2. November Elections: Kay reminded everyone elections are coming up in November. To serve as an Area officer need to have been a District Representative for 3 years and not have missed more than 4 AWSC meetings and not more than 2 Assemblies during the last 3 years. Anyone may run for a position as an Area Coordinator. Job descriptions are posted on the Texas Al-Anon website.

3. South Central Regional Delegates Meeting: A motion was made that Area 53 support Area 53 past delegates when they host the South Central Regional Delegates Meeting in March of 2018. The motion passed 22 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

4. Archives Update: Ann R. reported she has obtained the archives from Kerrville and has stored it in a room in an AA Club house for \$50/month. Ann reported there are a lot of things in her opinion that do not really relate directly to the history of Area 53 and discussed the possibility of getting rid of some of these things. After discussion, it was decided that the archives would be moved to a climate controlled storage facility. Also a motion was made by Nancy M. that a committee be appointed to review the archives items before discarding them. This motion passed 18 for, 0 against, 3 abstaining. Kay appointed Mattie T. and Pat E. to be on the committee.

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

Next *Beacon* deadline is March 1, 2017.

Meeting was closed at 4:48 pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.

Respectfully Submitted, David R. Scheel

Cards, letters, emails, texts of encouragement can be sent to:

Joyce Y. (Hold for WSC 4/24-28/2017)
Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront
5700 Atlantic Ave.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Remember to write Joyce's name and address in the return address section in the event that mail delivery is delayed. Please plan to have your cards, packages, etc. arrive after April 19. It would be appreciated if you include name and address of the group or person sending the love gifts so they can be acknowledged by the delegate.

Opportunity to Experience the Joy of Service at the Area Level as:

NEWSLETTER (*BEACON*) EDITOR

TERM LENGTH: Three Years (Beginning January 1, after election).

PURPOSE: A newsletter is a vital communication link to help keep groups and members informed. The *BEACON* Texas East Area 53 Newsletter.

SKILLS: Working computer skills; especially knowledge of computer word processing program, desktop publishing program, and digitizing programs (e.g., Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, Adobe PDF)

QUALIFICATIONS: Regularly attends Al-Anon meetings.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS: Votes at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings but not at assemblies UNLESS he/she is also a Group Representative.

RESPONSIBILITIES: (Reference: World Service Organization (WSO) Guideline G-30)

- Provide up-to-date Service Information to all groups within the Texas East Area 53 and to subscribing individuals using articles from Area Officers, Coordinators, and Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Liaisons and Al-Anon/Alateen members to share Service news for publishing and sharing with others.
- Check for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and uniformity of terms as defined in *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* including the correct spelling of "Al-Anon" and "Alateen", with hyphens in the proper place.
- Publish newsletter master quarterly (January, April, July, October) with word processing program and provide to printer for copying and collating.
- Prepare (fold, tape, apply address labels, sort and bundle) for non-profit permit bulk mailing for AWSC members, WSO, personal and exchange subscriptions, and Group addresses provided quarterly by Area Group Records Keeper.
- Encourage other Al-Anon/Alateen members to assist with preparation and distribution to keep on schedule.
- Maintain listing of subscriptions and/or mailing changes received for paid and exchange subscriptions.
- Forward all subscriptions monies to East Texas Area 53 Treasurer.
- Maintain up-to-date e-mail address lists for those preferring electronic distribution in lieu of U S Postal distribution.
- Attend four AWSC meetings (voting member) and two Area Assembly meetings a year and provide written and oral reports.
- Turns in Area related expenses to Area Treasurer within 2 weeks of the event (e.g., Assembly, AWSC, etc.).

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA)**Sugar Land, TX – May. 20 2017****PROPOSED Business Meeting Agenda Subject to Change**8-9 a.m. **GR Interchange –Margaret F. Alternate Delegate**8-9 a.m. **Area World Service Committee Meeting – Officers, District Representatives (DR), Area Coordinators (AC), Al-Anon Information Service /Literature Distribution Center (AIS/LDC) Liaisons, Past Delegates, Trustees, Area Chairs**9:30 a.m. **ETAAA Business Meeting Opens- Kay C. Chairperson**9:45 a.m. **Delegate's Report** – Joyce Y. – Panel 5510:45 a.m. **Chosen Agenda Item- Details are printed in *The Beacon***

1. Alateen Sponsor Certification Changes – Norma W and Bennie P.
2. Assembly Liaison
3. Realignment of Districts 4, 5, and 7 (information session only)
4. November elections (information session only)

12:00 p.m. **LUNCH BREAK**1:00 p.m. **ETAAA BUSINESS MEETING RESUMES**1:15 p.m. **Non-election roll call: Group Reps (GRs) MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE**

VOTING PROCEDURE: Determine by consensus the method of Voting for the Business meeting
2/3 vote or Simple Majority

- I. **Secretary's Report** – David S.
- II. **Treasurer's Report** – Tricia L.
- III. **Alternate Delegate Report/Literature Coordinator Report** –Margaret F.
- IV. **Unfinished business** None
- V. **New Business**

Chosen Agenda Items: Further Discussion if necessary. **Need a Motion for each item**

1. Alateen Sponsor Certification Changes
2. Assembly Liaison

VI. **Gratitude Basket Total** –Tricia L.VII. **Assembly Reports (2 minutes each please)**VIII. **Links of Service Reports- DRs, AC, AIS/LDC :** (2 minutes each) 1 challenge / 1 success~4:30 pm **Close ETAAA Business Meeting with Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration**~4:45 pm **WORKSHOPS / INFORMATION SHARING SESSIONS** To be announced**Announcements**

- 1) AWSC Meeting- August 12, 2017 (District 3) – Victoria, TX
- 2) Beacon Deadline – June 1, 2017
- 3) ETAAA Fall Assembly Nov. 3-5, 2017 Midtown Holiday Inn, Fiskville Rd, Austin-Elections

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.***

Que Empiece por Mi

Quando alguien, dondequiera que sea, pida ayuda,
que nunca falte allí la mano de Al-Anon y Alateen, y
Que Empiece por Mi



East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen (ETAAA)

Spring Assembly 2017

May 19 – 21, 2017

“MOVING FORWARD IN ALL OUR AFFAIRS”

ETAAA Rates – Includes Complimentary Breakfast

King - \$105.00 + tax Double - \$125.00 + tax

ETAAA Hotel Reservation Cut-Off Date: April 28, 2017

HOTEL	ETAAA
Hyatt Place 16730 Creek Bend Drive Sugar Land, TX 77478	T. E. Harman Senior Center 226 Matlage Way Sugar Land, TX 77478
Doors & Registration Open at 5:00 p.m.	

Hotel Reference Group Code: G-ETAA

To make your reservation you may call 888-492-8847 or book online by clicking the link below, enter date of arrival & departure, click on check availability and you will be directed to the group page with the discounted rate.

Al-Anon Speakers:

Friday: Patsy E of Austin, TX

Saturday: Jenny P of Eureka Springs, AR

AA Speaker Saturday: Dawn B, High Nooners,

Nassau Bay

http://www.houstonsugarland.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-ETAA

GR__ DR__ AMIAS__ FIRST ASSEMBLY (Y/N) __ # of Yrs in Program __

Name__ Name on Badge__

Address__ City/State/Zip__

Group Name__ District #__

Phone #__ Email__

Doors and Registration Open at 5:00 p.m. – No Earlier

___ \$30 Al-Anon Early Registration (Ends May 9th, 2017) **Make Checks Payable to District 4 ETAAA**

___ \$30 AA Early Registration **Mail to: Attn: ETAAA Registration**

___ \$5 Alateen Registration **P. O. Box 2811**

___ \$35 Al-Anon/AA at the Door **Pearland, TX 77588**

Email questions to: ETAAACreg_Spring2017@outlook.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.

ETAAA

4846 Corian Springs Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78247



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